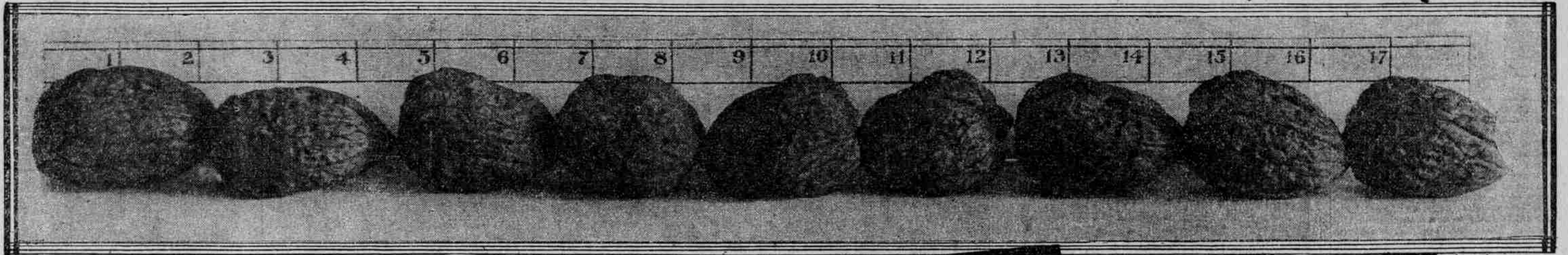


ALL FRUITS OF NORTH TEMPERATE ZONE REACH PERFECTION IN OREGON

Strawberries and Cherries Go From This State to All Markets, and Its Prunes Are Staple the World Over



By Wilber K. Newell, President State Board of Horticulture.

THE splendid condition of the fruit industry in Oregon is conclusively shown by a comparison of the yield and value of this year's crop with that of former years.

The following figures, compiled by the State Board of Horticulture, are very conservative, but were gathered with a great deal of care and are believed to show very closely the amount of fruit actually sold by the grower and the value received by him:

Apples, boxes.....	1,052,200	\$1,423,800
Dried prunes, lbs.....	25,450,000	1,208,873
Prunes and plums	2	
Shipped green fresh to canners and others, tons.....	4,183	90,058
Pears, boxes.....	247,200	280,830
Peaches, boxes.....	445,870	248,260
Cherries, boxes.....	3,428,000	259,500
Apricots, boxes.....	9,500	7,500
Strawberries, boxes.....	8,980,000	407,500
Blackberries, boxes.....	2,100,000	78,500
Raspberries, boxes.....	1,450,000	74,500
Loganberries, boxes.....	1,140,000	33,500
Currants, boxes.....	310,000	31,000
Gooseberries, boxes.....	375,000	12,000
Grapes, boxes.....	3,945,000	124,500
Other fruit.....		26,000
Value.....		\$4,375,185

This is an increase of 33 per cent over the crop of 1906, and in view of the fact that the apple crop over most of the state was very light, is a most encouraging showing.

Thousands of acres of fruit trees have been planted each year for several years past, and this year the planting will be heavier than ever. As a general rule care and good judgment are being shown in the selection of soil and location and of proper stock for planting, so that our output will increase by leaps and bounds each year and in a very few years should reach a value of \$50,000,000.

The apple will, of course, always be king of fruits, and the acreage will perhaps equal that of all other tree fruits combined. The most important centers of apple-growing at the present time are Hood River Valley, Mosier Valley, Rogue River Valley around Medford and Central Point, the Grand Ronde Valley, near La Grande; the Little Walla Walla Valley, near Milton and Freeewater, and numerous points in the Willamette Valley. But there are hundreds of other localities equally good and only needing the enterprising fruitgrower to develop them.

So generous has Nature been to Oregon in her gifts of soil and climate that all the fruits of the temperate zone can be grown successfully almost everywhere. The success depends upon the man, far more than the locality. Every citizen of Oregon knows that the Hood River Spitznberg is the highest-priced apple in the New York markets, and that the Rogue River Yellow Newtown brings the most money in London and Berlin, outstripping the California Newtown almost two to one.

A market for Oregon apples is being developed across the Pacific, several thousand boxes being sent annually to Vladivostok. As the Asiatic people gradually acquire the ability to buy there will be an unlimited market for our fruits over there.

The prune ranks next the apple in value of output. It is not so widely grown as the apple, but is confined practically to the Willamette and Umpqua Valleys, in western Oregon, and to a limited area around The Dalles, near Cove and Union, in the Grand Ronde Valley, and near Nyssa and Ontario, in the Malheur Valley. The French prune is largely grown in the Umpqua Valley, but all the other sections grow the Italian almost ex-

clusively. The western Oregon product is nearly all shipped to the Eastern markets in the fresh or green state. These shipments usually bring good prices and the orchards are very profitable to the owners.

The crop on a 60-acre orchard near Nyssa was sold this year for \$4890 on the tree, the buyer paying all expenses and taking all the risk. Dried prunes usually sell at from 2 1/2 to 3 cents, according to size, and pay from \$25 to \$150 per acre. Planted on suitable land, well drained and free from frost, they are steady and reliable bearers, and planting is sure to keep pace with the market demand.

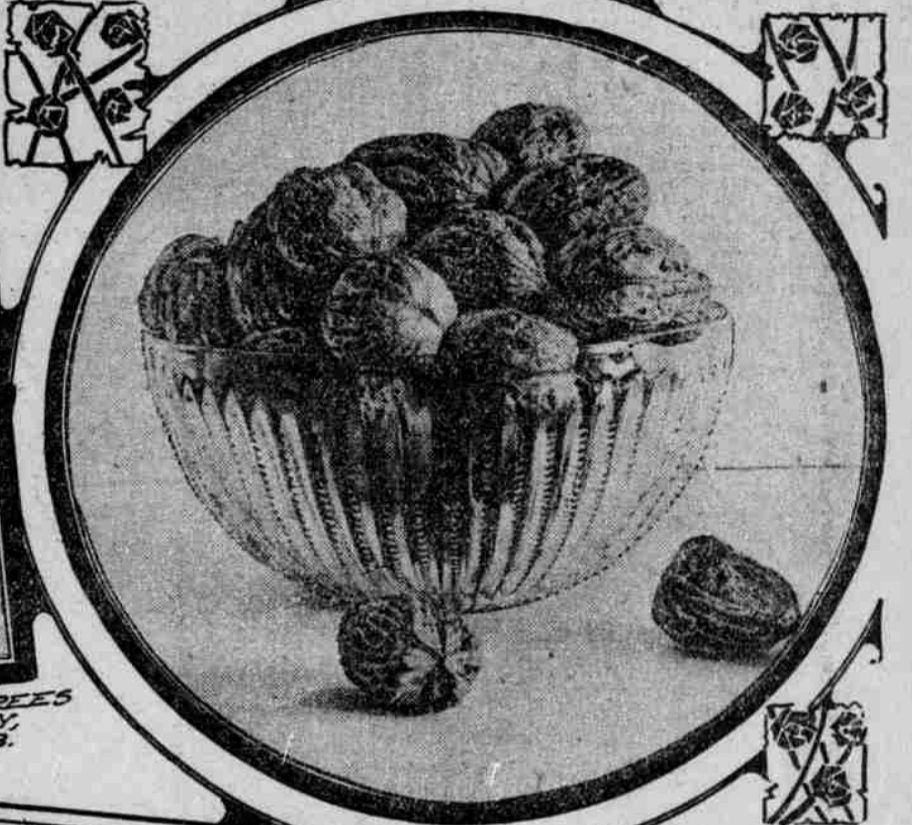
The pear seems to find its natural home in southern or western Oregon. Menaced by the dreaded pear blight in nearly all other fruitgrowing districts, it flourishes almost undisturbed in these favored districts. Although the blight has been found in some few instances, it does not thrive and spread, and there is no doubt that reasonable care will keep it entirely in subjection. A bountiful yield and a good seller, the pear is very profitable. Almost beyond belief are the prices received for the Comice pears shipped to New York from the orchards near Medford, and from the Wallace orchard, near Salem. Half boxes, containing only 40 to 45 pears, selling for \$1.25, or 10 cents a pear wholesale, and this for whole carloads, not just sample boxes. The Bartlett, the finest can-



HALF A YARD OF JAMHILL COUNTY WALNUTS



YEARLING PEACH TREES IN WEBER NURSERY, THE DALLES, OR.



OREGON WALNUTS TRAYS FOR THE GRAZE ACTUAL SIZE

FRUIT BRINGS ONE DISTRICT \$500,000

Freeewater-Milton Section Prospers Under Irrigation—Many Varieties of Berries, Peaches, Apples and Cherries.

By George F. Sanderson.

THE fruit season of 1907, just closed, has been the longest in the history of the Freeewater-Milton district and the fruit product in this district alone amounted to fully \$500,000. In consequence the ranchers are all well provided for, despite the scarcity of ready cash in the banks of the whole country, and nearly all are making great improvements on their ranches.

Beginning with the strawberry crop there were 15,000 crates of strawberries and 10,000 crates of dewberries, 7000 crates of cherries, raspberries and blackberries; 20 cars of pears, 50 cars of peaches, 100 cars of prunes, 150 cars of Winter apples, 80 cars of mixed fruit, and local freight and express shipments of fruit equal to 50 cars more. In addition to this the Freeewater cannery paid out over \$25,000 to ranchers for second-rate fruit for canning purposes. The cannery did not start operation until after the peach crop was nearly exhausted.

Combining the canned fruit with the other makes over 500 carloads of fruit for the season of 1907. The fruit crop was out of the grower's hands before the financial stringency occurred, thus giving them excellent prices for their produce. This fruit was shipped to all parts of the United States, Canada and England, more than 25 carloads of our prunes having been shipped to London, England. A large Walla Walla company which have a big packing-house here under the management of N. W. Mumford, did a trade over \$200,000 of business, employing over 200 persons, pickers and packers. Another similar concern did over \$50,000 worth of business. Another fruit company did nearly \$200,000 worth and the Milton Fruitgrowers' Union about \$70,000 worth. A Boise fruit and Kansas City fruit packer also bought prunes and apples amounting to nearly \$100,000 and large numbers of local shippers shipped in small lots to commission-houses in Spokane, Boise and other Northern points.

The crop of 1907 has never been equalled on this valley either for productiveness or for prices paid for our fruit. This is due in the first place to our fine climate the fruit season opening in April and lasting until the second week in November. John Keller picked a box of second-crop strawberries and sold them on the 8th day of last November.

In the second place the ranchers have realized that they can only get good results from their ranches by careful attention to the trees, bushes and plants and plenty of hard work. Last year the San Jose scale and the Codlin moth were especially conspicuous by their absence, the ranchers having carefully followed the instructions given them by Fruit Inspector Howard Evans, in regard to spraying. The result has been good, sound, clean fruit, which resulted in good prices.

A larger acreage is being given up to Winter apples and prunes and trees which have been unprofitable are being culled out and good growers and sellers being planted in their place.

Nowhere in the West is the soil better suited for fruitgrowing than here and our irrigation system cannot be excelled, the whole valley being well supplied with water. The Freeewater booth at the recent fair held by the Walla Walla County exhibitors in Walla Walla was awarded first prize for the best fruit exhibit, capturing the prize of \$250 cash.

Freeewater's fruit is now known all over the world and this district is able to compete with any section of country in growing good fruit and securing good prices for it.



ROGUE RIVER VALLEY PEAR ORCHARD PRODUCED FROM 52 ACRES IN 1906, 64-41 BOXES, WHICH SOLD FOR \$8,884



ROYAL ANNE CHERRIES, 238 ON 17 INCH STEMS



PICKING STRAWBERRIES, HOOD RIVER VALLEY



YOUNG PRUNE ORCHARD IN MARION COUNTY

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ing pear grown, grows to perfection and will be a source of great wealth in the future. Selling to the cannery at \$20 to \$40 per ton and yielding 3 to 10 tons per acre, it is easy to see a good profit.

The cherry, like the pear, seems peculiarly at home in Oregon. They have a size and flavor here, unequalled by any other region. Many of our best varieties have originated in Oregon, such as the Bing, Lambert and Black Republican. These are all splendid shipping cherries, and in refrigerator cars can be sent all over the United States. A very large acreage is being planted around The Dalles, and this point will probably lead in shipments

of fresh cherries. The Royal Anne, the great canning cherry, is grown everywhere in Western and Southern Oregon, and in many parts of Eastern Oregon, succeeding remarkably well at Cove and the Grand Ronde Valleys. So popular is the cherry as a canning fruit, that its production is bound to increase very rapidly.

It is only in recent years that the peach has become a prominent crop in Oregon. For many years Ashland has been famous for her beautiful peaches, but few were grown anywhere else. Recently, however, plantings have

been very heavy around Medford, Merlin, Roseburg, The Dalles, and in many places in the Willamette Valley. The home markets were generally supplied this year, many were exported, and large quantities sold to the canneries. Canned peaches, always regarded as a luxury, will soon be one of the staple products of Oregon. The free use of the lime-sulphur spray has been found a perfect remedy for all the diseases of the peach, and its culture is now a safe proposition.

For a great many years the idea was prevalent that the grape could not be grown successfully in Oregon, but a few such men as Peter Britt, of Jacksonville, and A. H. Carson, of Grants Pass; A. R. Shipley, of Oswego, and John F. Broetje, of Milwaukie, quietly went ahead and demonstrated the error of the opinion, until now the grape is one of our standards, and at the rate planting is being done, will soon be in the front rank as a money producer. Jackson and Josephine Counties are remarkably well adapted to the culture of some of the best European varieties, producing a Tokay, Muscat and Malaga

that are unequalled by the best districts of California. The market demand for these grapes seems unlimited, and will soon be covering the hills of southern Oregon.

These grapes also succeed splendidly along the Columbia River, from The Dalles eastward. The Willamette Valley produces the American varieties in abundance and of the finest quality. The home markets were abundantly supplied this year and several carloads of Concord were shipped to Seattle. A grape juice factory will pay well, and one is very much needed.

Space will not permit of a detailed description of each of the kind of small fruits, but suffice it to say they are all staple crops and as sure as the seasons themselves. The production is only limited by the help available and the market demand. With the recent rapid increase in the number of canneries in the state, the market is provided. But there is room for many more canneries; we need one in every important town; for then the large farms can be divided; five to ten acres of fruit will make a family a living;

all the fruits can be saved and glutted markets avoided.

The loganberry, as the newest of the small fruits, deserves mention. Of delicious flavor when stewed or preserved, it has a great future as a canned fruit. Evaporating readily, it will fill a long felt want as a good pie fruit. The evaporated berry, when soaked and made into pie, has all the delicious flavor of the freshly stewed berry.

Hard, indeed, to please is the man who cannot find some line of fruitgrowing, or some locality in Oregon, that will suit him.

But whether he choose the mountain valleys under the shadow of Mount Hood, or the broad reaches of the Harney Valley; the sandy, irrigated lands along the Columbia, or the deep alluvial soils of Western Oregon; the sunny hillside of Southern Oregon, or prefers to nestle under the shelter of the Rimrock Mountains on the western shore of Summer Lake, it matters not. If only that man does his part intelligently and well, his reward is certain.