

AGRICULTURAL.

Results of Fruit Culture in Southern Oregon.

M. H. E. Battin, who does a large business in domestic and imported fruits, handled a great part of the orchard products of Rogue River Valley the past, or rather present season, and spent most of the time for some months in that valley looking after the same. From him we gather some facts concerning the late fruit crop, and also as to his opinion of Southern Oregon in general as a producing region. He puts the apple crop of Rogue River Valley at fully 60,000 bushels, and the producers received an average of fifty cents a bushel for the same on the ground.

The firm of H. E. Battin & Company purchased one hundred car loads, or forty thousand bushels. Twenty car loads or eight thousand bushels were purchased on California account, of which part yet waits for the opening of transportation on the Oregon and California Railroad, now an accomplished fact, and six thousand bushels in all were handled by different parties; besides, there was more fruit of which no account can be made, so that the total aggregates 60,000 bushels, as above stated.

Pears were nearly gone before the buyers got in there, and a great many went to waste, or were eaten by swine. Five carloads were shipped away and twice as many rotted on the ground or were fed to stock, a course that will hardly be pursued again. Pears are grown considerably, but not nearly so extensively as apples. Of grapes there were one hundred acres, and they bore nearly four tons to the acre. Wine making is carried on extensively, because the grapes are not generally good for fruit. Mission grapes are usually found in these vineyards, and they are not well calculated for shipment. Being very juicy, it does well in wine-making.

Peaches are grown somewhat, but the peach orchards of any extent are quite young and not bearing heavily. As an approximation towards correctness, we should put the total shipped away this season at 7000 boxes, of twenty pounds each. Of these, probably one-third were shipped from Medford, and 4000 boxes, or thereabouts, came from Ashland, or that vicinity. This gives some idea of the quantity of fruit that was shipped from that valley in 1887.

Concerning the kinds of peaches to plant, Mr. Battin very sensibly says people in Oregon mistake greatly when they plant early kinds for our market. The reason is that California raises these sorts in advance of us and sends them to us, and they are really inferior, only marketable because no other kinds can be had. If we plant peaches set in these early sorts they will only come in competition with Crawford and other excellent peaches that California will be shipping here in great supply. If we plant Crawford, they will come just after California Crawford are gone, and be salable in California or Oregon because later than the same variety grown in that State. This is so plain a showing that we hope it will be remembered by all who plant peaches.

Mr. Battin says the apricot can not be grown in Southern Oregon in perfection and to as good fruit as the peach, and advises fruit-growers not to waste time and money trying to grow them. He says Rogue river apples are smooth, of good color, and apparently healthy and he considers them more perfect and better keepers usually than Willamette valley fruit. They are good flavor, but smaller in size than Willamette apples, though not so small as to lose value. The pear does remarkably well there, and the apple and pear succeed on very rich black soil where peaches would be a failure. This bottom or rich bench land he considers remarkably good for these hardy fruits.

Mr. Battin went to Josephine county, and fully bears out the opinion heretofore expressed, that the valleys and bench lands on streams there fully equal any on Rogue river. Apple and Williams creeks have many good farms, and their orchards are as fine and trees as healthy as he has ever seen. Last spring they were touched by frost and the crop damaged, which has not occurred before in fifteen years or since their orchards have borne. Those valleys, combined with others of Jackson county, furnish an almost unlimited quantity of the best of fruit lands, and there is no reason why they should be held at very high price for years to come. As yet fruit planting is in its infancy, and must attain immense proportions in time.

The farmers of Jackson county can grow garden stuffs and melons in the greatest excellence and profusion. Their melons have been literally corded up in their grocery stores all the summer and fall, and they can meet any demand. Mr. Stewart, who was mentioned the other day as planting out many pears, has already 150 acres of orchard, and will this season plant out seventy acres more, intends next spring to plant about a quarter section of land in tomatoes, melons, sweet potatoes, etc., having made a success of such crops the past season. The soil is quick, the summers warm, and the valley possesses every facility for producing early fruits and vegetables in the greatest excellence as well as profusion.

Mr. Battin considers Douglas county even warmer than Jackson county, and that it surpasses Rogue river in its capacity to grow pines. This fruit, he thinks does not grow in perfection south of Rogue River valley, that joins California. Douglas county, he thinks, possesses great possibilities, and when developed thoroughly will produce early fruit and

vegetables in quantity. Already we have learned to expect tomatoes etc., from thence a week or two in advance of our Willamette market gardens. As to orchards, the products of Umpqua promise to become of great importance. Battin & Co. are now purchasing hay and other products in Douglas county, and this fall bought 4000 bushels of apples between Canyonville and Drain. The orchards there are not large, but the fruit is good and the extent of land that is suited to orchards is large.

The orchards in Southern Oregon were planted in early days, when the places of that region were turning out millions of gold-dust, and when pack trains were bringing fruit from the Willamette to satisfy the miners' wants. The farmer soon followed the gold digger. He set out orchards thirty years ago, and has depended on the mines for a market. This market proved a good one until quite recent years, when the placer that seemed so fabulous became played out. They took good care of their trees so long as the demand lasted, and their orchards not being as dilapidated as those of the Willamette, are again a source of profit.

It was mentioned above that the men who bought for the California market shipped part of their purchase via Yachima to San Francisco, as they were of deferred good rates by that route. This was rather roundabout but it shows the truth of the old proverb that says: "Competition is the life of trade." The Oregon & California is now running regular freight trains, and no doubt the apples and pears of Southern Oregon will hereafter find a good demand in California and be marketed there. A gentleman recently from that state declares that every available piece of land there has been cut up into town lots by land speculators, and the apple orchards are all dug up and platted for sale. His story combines a touch of sarcasm with a wonderful amount of truth, no doubt.—Oregonian.

THE EXAMINING COMMITTEE.

In accordance with instructions given by the court at its last session for the year 1887, Mr. W. H. Parker, the county clerk for Jackson county, issued the following notice to each of the several gentlemen appointed as members of a committee of investigation:

In the County Court of the State of Oregon, for the County of Jackson.

Whereas, in view of public charges, recently made, that the officers of this county are unfaithful to their public trusts, and that the funds of the county have been expended with reckless extravagance, the grand jury, at the last session of the court, did recommend that the court appoint three competent and disinterested persons to make a thorough and searching examination of the public records and accounts of the county, and to report thereon to the court at its next session; and whereas, the court has appointed Mr. W. H. Parker, C. C. Beckman and J. T. Bowditch as the examining committee, whose duty it shall be to enquire into the discharge of said trust within thirty days from date hereof and to continue their labors herein, at pleasure, until a full, thorough and searching examination of the public records and of the doings of the public officers shall have been made, and to make due report thereof at the term of this court next following the completion of said trust.

In reply to the above notice, two of the members of the commission thus constituted, after due deliberation, presented to the county court the following letter of DECLINATION.

To the Honorable County Court of Jackson County, State of Oregon.

Gentlemen:

We have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of official notification of the appointment, by your honorable body, at its December session, of ourselves as members of an investigating committee, to examine the public records and investigate the official acts of the public officers of Jackson county.

We understand the anticipated duties of such committee to be a complete and critical inspection of the history of all proceedings of the several county boards relative to the financial affairs of the county, through a series of succeeding years and recorded in the several books for that purpose provided, and the final presentation of a report upon the precision as to clerical work, the integrity and fidelity of the various officers to whom the management of the county's finances has, during such period, been by the people entrusted.

From our own knowledge of the vast amount of labor which such an investigating committee will be obliged to perform, and from such information as we have been able to obtain from the various gentlemen who constitute the present county court, we are persuaded that the length of time of consecutive days and interrupted work required of such committee, in the successful and satisfactory discharge of its duties, is greater than our personal business interests will permit us to devote to this matter.

Appreciating the honor which your appointment of ourselves to a position so unusual and of so great responsibility has conferred upon us; and recognizing the degree of confidence in your own official integrity which you have manifested by appointing two men known to entertain political principles antagonistic to those of a majority of your body, as members of a committee a part of whose necessary duties will consist in reviewing your own official acts, and thereby inviting the most rigid and searching criticism; and recognizing, also, and with pleasure, your confidence in the men so appointed, and to whom you voluntarily entrusted your reputation as officers and men, we, in consequence of the reason we have herewith set forth, respectfully decline to serve in the capacity for which we have been selected.

Very Truly Yours,

C. C. BECKMAN.

J. W. McBRIDE.

Jacksonville, Or., Dec. 11, 1887.

The Joliet, Ill., Steel company closes its works, pending the decision of Congress on Cleveland's proposal to destroy the tariff. A year ago the mill had orders for 80,000 tons of rails for '87 delivery; it now has no orders for '88 delivery.

CHANDLER'S BILL.

The voice of the democratic press is heard in denunciation of Senator Chandler's bill making provision for honest elections of representatives in congress for Louisiana, Florida, South Carolina and Mississippi. This is to be expected, for had it not been for democratic outrages upon the ballot-box there would not to-day be a democratic administration, nor even a democratic majority in congress. It is in the South that the effects of dishonest elections are most felt, and that the results are most far-reaching; but the frauds are characteristic of democracy and are resorted to wherever in the North there is a probability of reversing the honest vote of the people. In New York state the voice of the people has more than once been overruled by the employment of such means in New York city, and as recently as the very last election the city and county of Albany were disgraced by procedures which barely failed of their purpose. The city of New York was overrun with fraudulent votes, evidence of which has been submitted to the district attorney, who nevertheless refuses to take any step to bring the rascals to justice. In Ohio, the most outrageous frauds have been committed by democratic heelers who have been convicted by the courts and punished, and yet the spectacle was witnessed of democratic legislators absolutely abandoning their posts and fleeing the state that they might protect the criminals. Indiana and Missouri present records of similar frauds upon an honest franchise, and the court records in every case reveal the fact that the frauds were committed in the interests of the democracy.

The situation at the South, not so many years ago disturbed by violence and bloodshed, is the direct result of these events, the evidence of which cannot be controverted. As a rule only democrats vote in that section, and whenever the franchise is permitted but one result is allowed, whatever course may be necessary to ensure it. The Constitution of the United States provides a remedy, but government does not apply it. The result is a wrong not only to the voters of the districts thus represented, but to every other district in the country; for to the extent to which the corrupting frauds are committed are the Republicans at the North defrauded and humiliated. In the entire state of Georgia at the last congressional election less than 25,000 democratic votes sufficed to elect 8 representatives in congress; in Alabama about 60,000 democratic votes elected eight more congressmen; in Mississippi 35,000 democratic votes elected seven congressmen; in South Carolina 33,000 democratic votes elected six congressmen. In these four states less than 200,000 votes were cast, out of which 29 democratic members of congress were elected. The state of Oregon, with its 23 congressional districts, cast more votes than the state of Georgia, and with only 28 members of congress recorded a vote of nearly 800,000. Republican Vermont, with two congressmen, recorded 48,000 votes, and even little Rhode Island required over 16,000 votes to elect her two representatives. There is a record of electoral inequality that cannot safely be permitted to go unchallenged, and yet with all the peril it involves the democrats, in congress and out, North and South, defend the perilous means by which this inequality is maintained. If the people of the United States are wise, they will rebuke such dishonesty at the polls by majorities which not even the democratic party will dare to override by its corruption and frauds.

Teacher's Institute.

The teacher's institute held in Jacksonville, on Dec. 28th and 29th, had the following excellent exercises:

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

Institute opened by Supt. Jacobs, who asked the question, "What is a bad cold?" Prof. Watt, of the Jacksonville schools, answered the question in a very lucid manner.

J. N. Hall, of Central Point, then discussed the subject of Mental Arithmetic, showing its importance in the school room, and by some well selected examples illustrated his method of teaching it. Miss Hattie Newbury, of Jacksonville, presented the "word method" of Primary Reading very clearly. Her remarks were to the point and her illustrations very appropriate.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

At 1:15 p. m., several queries were answered by Prof. Watt, Hall and Sweet. The subject of Geography by Prof. Watt, was fully presented, the object to be attained, the method of teaching, including map drawing, moulding in relief, production, etc., were treated in a masterly manner.

President J. S. Sweet, of the Ashland State normal school, introduced the subject of "Phonics and Reading," introducing a "first lesson" in reading and a few examples of common errors in giving the shade sounds of the vowels. He noted the importance of phonetic instruction in all schools.

Mr. E. E. Smith next read a very interesting paper upon the subject of "Spelling" which was followed by a general discussion upon the same subject. The next upon the programme was "Grammar," by Miss Julia Goodyear, of the Ashland State normal school, who presented the subject very forcibly, showing the importance of this branch in the common school. She presented several beautiful charts illustrating the diagram system of analysis.

EVENING SESSION.

Prof. Blackford gave a very instructive class drill upon the subject of U. S. History, illustrating his method of conducting class work. It proved to be one of the most interesting features brought before the institute.

After the regular work of the institute

SPECIAL ELECTION.—1887.

ABSTRACT VOTES cast in the several counties of the State of Oregon, for and against the proposed amendments to the Constitution of the State of Oregon, at a Special Election, held on the 8th day of November, A. D. 1887:

COUNTY.	PROHIBITION AMENDMENT.		AMENDMENT TO SALARIES OF STATE OFFICERS.		AMENDMENT TO TIME OF HOLDING GENERAL ELECTIONS.	
	YES.	NO.	YES.	NO.	YES.	NO.
Clatsop	360	730	151	874	548	462
Columbia	880	724	309	1,271	604	522
Coos	849	1,239	170	1,775	804	1,015
Curry	408	1,101	205	939	025	512
Delaware	186	356	43	476	232	267
Douglas	679	534	92	1,055	689	427
Franklin	439	172	62	317	349	197
Gilliam	329	120	13	234	212	23
Grant	890	1,057	93	1,754	485	1,537
Harney	414	382	91	615	651	216
Jefferson	636	835	181	760	519	367
Josephine	553	1,331	219	1,470	791	986
Klamath	184	556	43	670	312	489
Lane	251	170	89	279	259	84
Lincoln	190	214	207	121	295	48
Madison	1,923	1,290	102	1,994	600	1,370
Mahoning	1,915	967	151	2,223	971	1,022
Morrow	149	229	242	105	57	240
Multnomah	1,498	2,036	263	3,095	834	2,401
Polk	497	370	66	734	494	322
Wasco	1,945	7,331	2,207	4,074	5,354	2,556
Wheeler	739	547	75	1,111	201	302
Yamhill	258	340	80	498	212	342
Total	331	1,081	222	1,962	548	1,582
	245	922	365	1,197	613	868
	700	229	35	421	329	126
	675	210	222	1,589	761	841
	1,180	1,018	61	1,426	671	865
	19,973	27,407	131	2,110	726	1,489
						2,813

By certifying that the foregoing tabulated statement of the votes cast in the several counties of the State of Oregon, for and against the above named proposed amendments to the Constitution of said State is a true and correct exhibit of the result of said vote, as returned to my office by the County Clerks of the counties therein mentioned and canvassed by the Secretary of State as by law provided.

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and the Seal of the State of Oregon, Done at the Capitol, at Salem, this 1st day of December, A. D. 1887.

GEO. W. McBRIDE, Secretary of State.

was completed it was decided to have a special lesson in which nearly all present participated. All were spelled down by Miss S. Turner of Jacksonville.

THURSDAY MORNING.

The question "How should the multiplication table be taught?" was discussed by Prof. Hall, Farley, Sweet, Watt and Simons.

Prof. Lockford next made some very appropriate remarks upon the subject of "Composition." Said that it should be taught the first week of school and in the primary department. This subject was discussed freely by members of the institute.

Prof. C. F. Nessee, of the Ashland State normal school, then, in a masterly manner, gave his method of teaching penmanship in the different grades of our schools. He gave very lucid directions regarding the position at desk, of paper, of pen and hands. In gave two representative lessons and a number of movement exercises. He answered many questions in a very satisfactory manner.

Prof. J. Farley, the pioneer teacher of the Ashland public schools, provoked considerable discussion, and was warmly debated by Miss Goodyear, and Prof. Watt and Sweet.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Queries were answered by members of the institute, many of the questions being of great importance.

Prof. Watt then resumed the subject of "Geography," being followed by many favorable comments upon his work.

J. T. Hoover, of the Ashland schools, gave a very good discussion of "Number works," illustrating in a very appropriate manner the most modern methods of reading, writing, and performing operations upon numbers.

Prof. Sweet introduced the subject of school management, urging the necessity of system in school management. He was followed by a spirited discussion by Prof. Watt, Roberts, Hoover, Hall, Simons and Blackford.

In the evening spelling again was tried, in which the best speller of the previous evening, Miss Susie Turner, held the floor until the last.

Send in your subscriptions for the SENTINEL for 1888.

A DAISY.

He stood in the field one morning, away from the broad high road, and he came in search of daisies for a bouquet to a maid. He had promised a youthful maiden to gather them sweet and full, and perchance he might have done so except for a farmer's bull, which suddenly came upon him while he searched a lovely lay, and with out so much as a single thought he made for the broad highway; he did his best as a runner and jumped with a quick sense, but in spite of speed or agility, he was hoisted over the fence. He was torn by briar and bramble, he was lamed and bruised and sprained; then St. Jacobs Oil was well rubbed on, and his former self regained. He betook himself to his lady fair to offer a ready plea. She heard the joke and simply said, "You're daid enough for me." And so they all say of this celebrated remedy when it cures pains and bruises. "Beaver, Beaver county, Pa., Oct. 29, 1886.—Seven years ago I fell from a wagon and sprained my wrist very badly. Tried many remedies without success, and then finally tried St. Jacobs Oil. I enjoyed good rest, the first three nights, and it cured me. C. A. Atkins." "Worcester, Mass., 15 Hawley St., June 8, 1887.—Sprained my ankle and was unable to move without crutches. Used two bottles of St. Jacobs Oil. It effected a permanent cure. No return of pain. C. W. Briggs." "Philadelphia, Pa., Feb. 5, 1887.—Ten years ago sprained my ankle and could not walk for ten weeks. Sprained it three times since. Last time tried St. Jacobs Oil, and it not only cured it but strengthened it. The ankle is just as strong now as the other, and have had no trouble since. O. L. Kehrweider, 109 Queen St., Germantown." "Corydon, Ind., June, 1887.—Had my collar-bone broken, and it was very painful. I applied St. Jacobs Oil and it got entirely well. I used it only once—only remedy used—it worked like a charm. No return of pain. Lev." "Nothing I can say in regard to my cure. Oil?" says Mr. Arthur G. Lewis, Southern Society, Norfolk, Va., June 27, 1887, "will do it justice. Have used it for aches and pains for a number of years."

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