

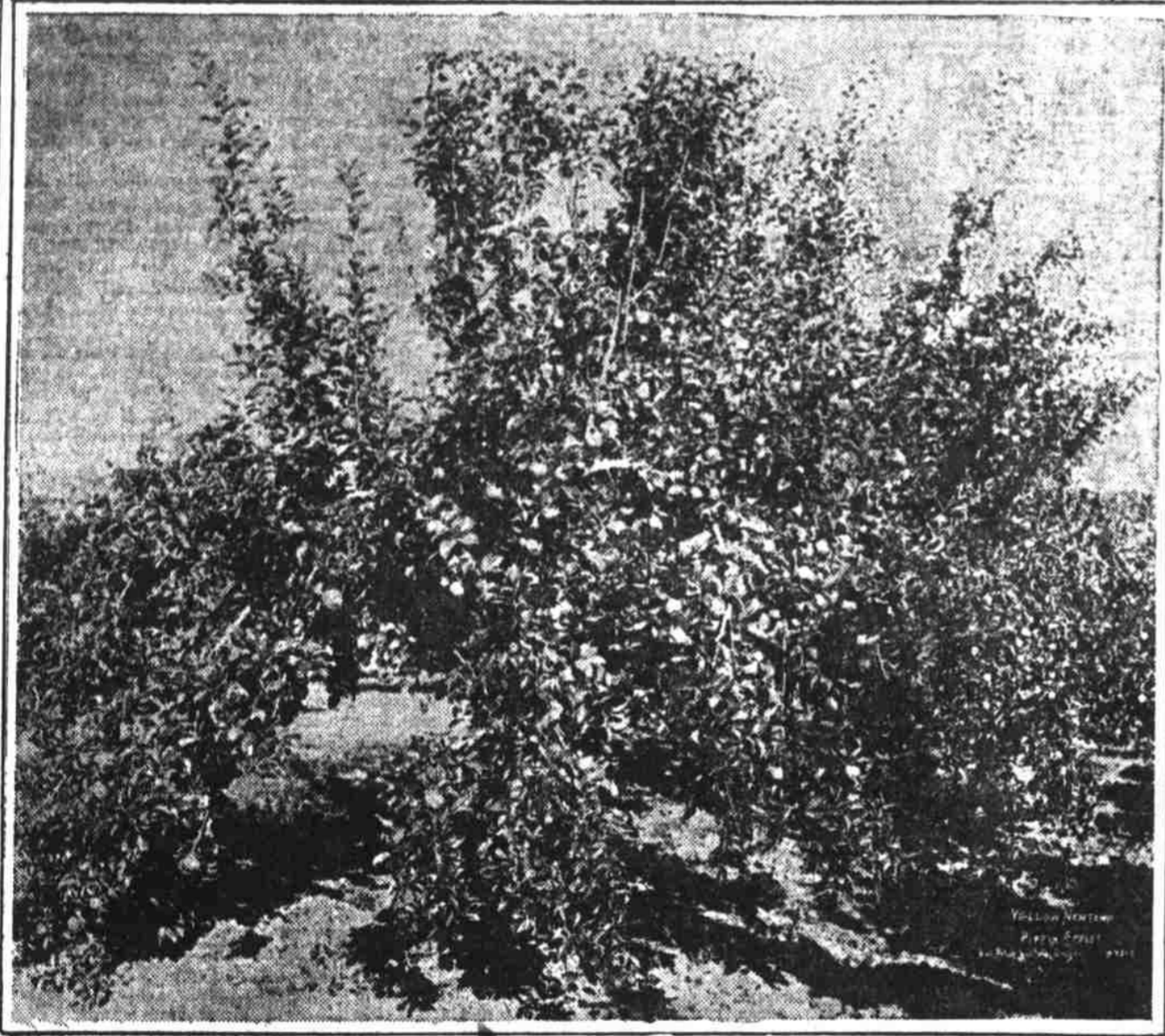
WONDERFUL OREGON APPLE ORCHARDS

Enormous Profits Made by Fruit Growers in the Southern Part of the State—Sold Apples in England Many Years Ago—Big Demand in the East for the Product—Quality and Quantity of Fruit Improved by Reducing Acreage and Close Cultivation

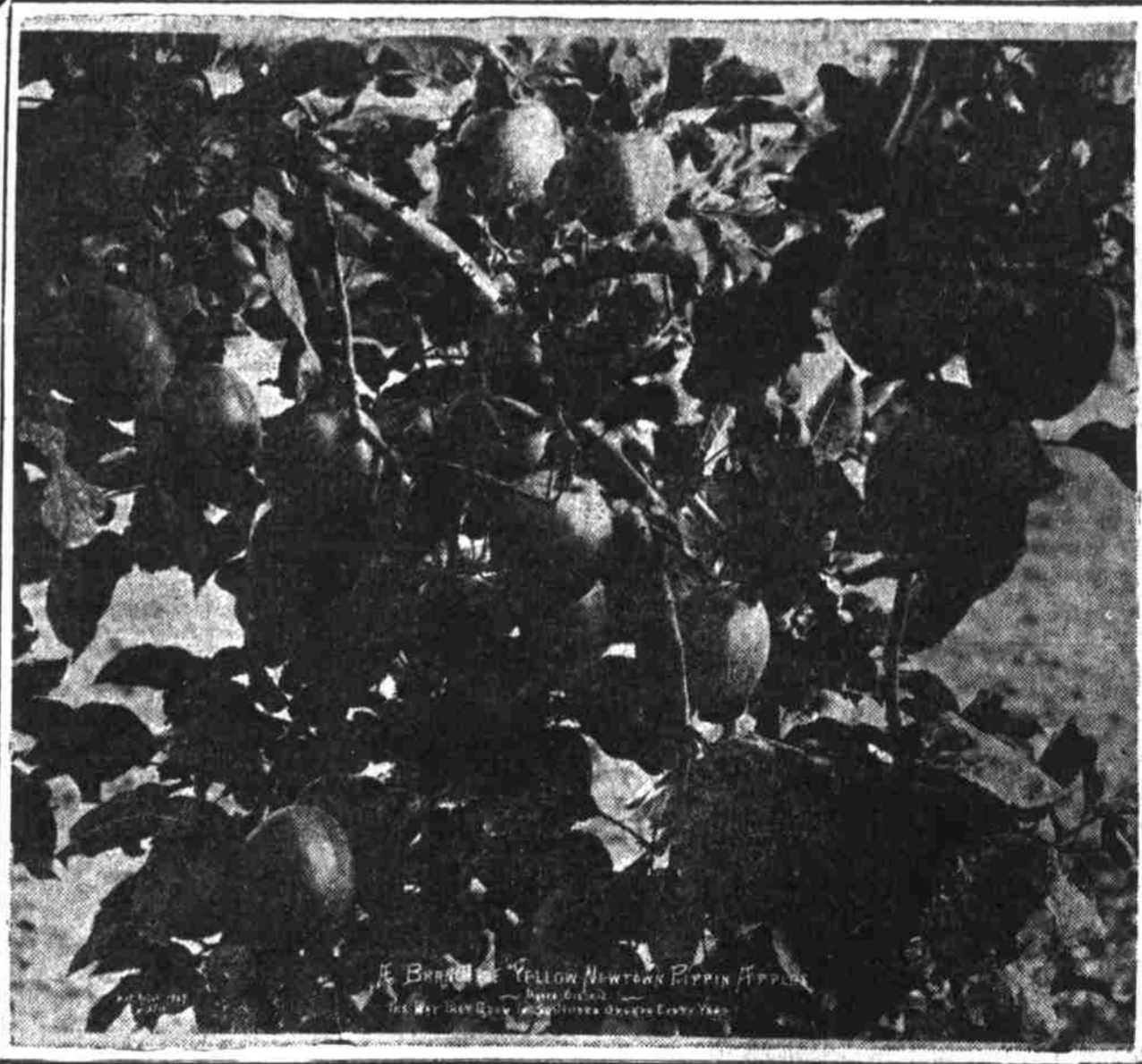


A Bunch of Eating Apples

A Newtown Pippin



A Young Tree of Newtown Pippins



A Branch of Yellow Newtown Pippins

DO YOU want to make a Rogue River valley man angry? If you do just suggest to him that the apple industry is comparatively young in his part of the state. Sixteen years ago H. T. Pankey, now a prosperous apple grower of Central Point, went to the Rogue River valley to work on a fruit ranch. At that time the land has been divided into smaller tracts and thousands of fruit trees have been planted. Annual shipments to the markets in the east and abroad are made, and fabulous prices are paid for Oregon fruit. Each year sees an enormous increase in the total number of cars shipped and in the prices paid. The fruit growers of the Rogue River valley have good cause to feel proud of what they have achieved.

Smaller Farms.
One vital cause for the rapid advancement of the fruit industry in southern Oregon lies in the fact that there are comparatively few large ranches now. Fruit growers who formerly held thousands of acres of land are now content with hundreds. The reason for this is that they were not long in discovering that better results were achieved when they did not attempt to handle more

acreage than they could give proper attention to. As a result more people have made homes in southern Oregon, because there was more room for them on land already cultivated and planted in trees, and, better still, the quality of the fruit has improved in proportion. It must not be believed that there was any necessity for the fruitgrowers to reduce their acreage because of actual lack of room; there are thousands of acres of the finest fruit land in the world there still, none of which has been planted, waiting to make the fortunes of the man with the energy to break into the industry which has given Oregon world wide fame. The thing which guarantees rapid advancement in population and development in the Rogue River valley is the fact that orchard lands, which here bring returns in excess of any other fruit district in the west, have not been unduly advanced in price, and anyone who goes there now may be sure of his future.

Many Other Fruits.
Not apples alone have made Rogue River valley famous, for it has a score of fruits almost equally productive and profitable, ranging from the Yellow Newtown and Spitzenberg apple through half a dozen varieties of pears which have proven phenomenal winners, the delicious peaches and apricots which distinguished this valley, table grapes which rival California's best, cherries, which, while not so large nor so juicy as those of the Willamette section, keep so well that they will stand transportation to the most distant markets, and which have such fine skins and firm

flesh that they are not subject to rain checks; to melons which drive those from other places out of the northwest markets when the Rogue river season is on. What the Rogue River valley needs is more people. Although there are 25,000 acres of fruit trees in that section now and the number is rapidly increasing there is room for more than twice that many fruitgrowers. There are fortunes to be made, for the growers receive from \$1.25 to \$3 a box on board cars and from \$1 to nearly \$2 in the foreign markets. Across the water England and France each year eagerly seek the cream of Oregon's orchards and the products from the southern portion of this state, once placed before the epicure are always afterward in demand.

In Its Infancy.
In reality the apple industry in southern Oregon, as in all parts of the state, is in its infancy. There are thousands of acres of land capable of producing the quantity and quality produced in the cultivated sections and which are reaching to thousands of local and foreign markets. Apple trees begin producing their revenue to their owners at the age of 4 1/2 years. A 10-year-old tree often bears 10 bushels of the best marketable fruit and the splendid profits derived are constantly serving as a stimulant to the further development of the magnificent industry. Among the varieties of apples raised with greatest success in the Rogue river valley are the Spitzenberg, Northern Spy, Jonathan, Red Cheeks, Newtown, Bellflower, Ben Davis, Swaar,

Greening, Winesap, Winter Banana, Wolf River and Flora. The state's fruit crop value in 1906 was approximately \$2,000,000, in 1907 it was greatly in advance of this and this year will be much more. Of this the Rogue River valley can claim a large share. The rapidly with which the apple-growing industry is gaining ground can be seen from the fact that in 1906 there were 2,500 acres of trees planted in the Rogue River valley, 3,000 acres in 1907 and it is expected that the number will reach 5,000 acres in 1908. There is a characteristic about Oregon soil that makes for the production of apples that are unexcelled in size, solidity, flavor, color and keeping qualities. Ten months is not the extreme limit to which can be kept a well-packed box of southern Oregon apples.

Large Profits.
There are apple orchards in the Rogue River valley which have paid a net income of \$600 per acre for years past and while these figures are high they are being counteracted in other sections of the state, especially in eastern Oregon where fruit culture is fast taking time heretofore devoted to livestock and other kindred pursuits. Fruit raising, it has been found, in nearly every section of the state, is an industry which pays enormous dividends and net profits are counted annually. An idea of the profit of fruit raising may be gleaned from the fact that Eisman brothers of Josephine county sold \$14,000 worth of apples in 1906 from their orchard of 35 acres. Nowhere in the country do apples

grow to such perfection as in Oregon. The Oregon Newtown for the past three years has sold for from 50 cents to \$1 a box more in England than the far-famed Newtown of Pajaro valley, California, or the Newtown of Albemarle county, Virginia. The sale of nursery stock of Oregon in the past year amounted to approximately 3,000,000 trees and 1,000,000 vines and bushes. There are about 1,100 acres of nursery stock in the state. The estimated value of orchard products in 1906 was \$1,000,000. There are about 300 acres in blackberries and

strawberries, 210 acres in currants, 265 acres in gooseberries, 2,117 acres in raspberries and loganberries, and of other small fruits 350 acres. The cash shipped last year against 35 cars of timated number of apple, apricot, plum and peach trees in the state is 6,510,000.

Industry Growing Rapidly.
While official figures have not been prepared as yet it is believed that the Rogue River valley apple growers shipped fully one-third more cars in 1907 than they did in 1906. Mr. Pankey that gained in the past few years.

recently stated that from Central Point alone there were approximately 45 cars of apples and 25 cars of pears shipped last year against 35 cars of apples and 15 cars of pears shipped the year before. Although it took the residents of the Rogue River valley a number of years to realize what possibilities they really had in their wonderful orchards they are making up for lost time now. Newcomers have infused fresh life into the community and it is now forging ahead with a whoop and a bang which promises still wider fame than 1907 than they did in 1906. Mr. Pankey that gained in the past few years.

Fortune Awaits the Inventor of an Ant Exterminator

A FORTUNE awaits the man who will come to the aid of the people of Australia with an effective plan to rid the people of that country of white ants. Not only are they an annoying pest, but their destructiveness is costly. They have an especial taste for the woodwork of houses, and the damage they do reaches into astonishing figures. Before the white man's advent houses were unknown. The aborigines of the vast territory knew nothing of such structures, a few sheets of bark composing the shelter they temporarily required. But even then the white ants abounded. They ate the standing trees in the forest, they devoured fallen

branches; they made nests in logs and roots. With civilization and house-building came new spheres for their activity. Wherever woodwork was used, in city center or bush hut, the creature had to be guarded against, and the utmost care and precaution were often futile in the contest. Buildings have had to be modeled and sometimes taken down because of the extent of the ravages. A building in the country, known to be affected with white ants, becomes practically unsalable. Occasionally the affected board or joist or several affected ones are removed and sound timber introduced, in the hope of making good the injury; but rarely does such patching avail. The white ant is an unseen worker. It may have secured a lodgment in a house many years back; generations of its race may have lived and worked

and died without creating by sound or otherwise the slightest suspicion of their presence; and it is only when they have consumed the entire substance underneath that the shell of the wood falls in and disaster is revealed. **Pick-a-Back in Mexico.** From the Travel Magazine. The queerest mode of travel I saw in all Mexico was that adopted by a woman who was on her way to the doctor, seated complacently in a chair borne upon the back of a man. Some Mexican women are afraid even of the mule cars, while they look upon the rapidly moving trolley with such trembling of knees they cannot be persuaded to put foot upon it. Unable to pay coach hire, they employ the business carrier at a few cents for each trip.