

Panorama showing "Lone Maple" farm, six miles south of Salem, which is typical of the entrancingly beautiful prune orchard districts which are today in their prime. Practically all the road from Portland to Salem is lined with pink and white orchards, for the apples are coming out, too, and the sight is a never-to-be-forgotten one. With perfect weather promised for today, thousands are expected to visit Salem and take part in the two hour tour of the orchard districts near the capital. Salem Cherrians have taken charge of arrangements for the entertainment of visitors and are to see that everyone gets a glimpse of the fairyland that Oregon offers her votaries in the spring.



Over 11,000 canvassers start work in Oregon this morning to raise the state's quota of \$1,625,400 for the simultaneous campaign of the 30 religious denominations associated in the Interchurch World movement. The drive will be conducted in every county in Oregon to end Sunday, May 2. More than 4900 canvassers comprise the 200 teams which start today to raise Multnomah county's portion of the state quota. Eighty-eight Portland churches are cooperating.

The investigations in the United States particularly were designed to show what parts of the country were over-churched and what parts were being overlooked by religious organizations; where the

(Concluded on Page Four, Column Four)

Two stills, combined capacity being a gallon an hour, Saturday night, were confiscated in a tallot shop at 729 Tacoma avenue. Peter Reingruber, Hungarian, proprietor of the shop, was arrested and held in default of \$500 bail. In addition to the state charge the government may prosecute.

Patrolmen Huntington and Russell who found the still, also confiscated 60 gallons of mash and five gallons of moonshine.

This is "Blossomday" in the prune orchard district adjacent to Oregon's state capital.

The orchards on a thousand hills in the famous red soil country of the Liberty and Rosedale districts, south of the little city of Libby, are in full bloom today and the fragrance of the prune blossom, second not even to that of the orange, is high in the air to the south, is wafted over the breeze as a welcome to the visitors who have been attracted to blossom land on this occasion.

A view of a bit of the Creator's proudest handiwork—ten thousand acres decked in perfect white.

THE BEST WAY

These traveling automobile will find the east side highway the best and quickest way to follow. This is by either of the two routes from Eugene to Oregon City, thence through Canby and Aurora to Salem.

There is a short strip just outside the city of Oregon City that is paved, another between Canby and Au-

Approximately 4,000 acres—practically one fourth of the prune acreage of the entire state—are included in this famous prune district, which is today the meeting place of tourists from all sections of Oregon as well as from adjoining states. Hard surface roads penetrate the district.

CHERRIANS TO PILOT

Visitors to Salem today, bent on a glimpse of this fairytal land, will be met at the trains by automobiles piloted by Cherrians in dress uniform. The tour will be narrated for eight miles through the heart of the red soil prune district, through the Liberty district and well into the Rosedale section, thence to Ankeny hill, the highest point of land in the orchard district from which point of view the city of Salem is best seen. The tour will pass through the entire Cascade range, including Mt. Hood, Mt. Jefferson and the Three Sisters, and a beautiful bird's-

eye view of the city of Salem, Oregon, and a stretch of about eight miles this side of Salem that is unpaired. The going over these stretches is generally 6,000 and at no place bad. The running time is 1 1/2 hours and 20 minutes; the distance 55 miles.

Salem, April 24.—The statehouse will be open to "Blossom day" visitors to Salem Sunday, according to announcement made by Sam A. Koser, deputy secretary of the fair, Saturday afternoon. Arrangements have been made for the reception and entertainment of several thousand visitors. The tour through the blossom district is expected to occupy some two hours, and other entertainment will be provided in Salem for the benefit of the visitors while waiting for tours to be taken. The weather is now in the best of condition in all directions, many visitors are expected to make the trip by automobile.

Because of the expected arrival of twins in the Roblin family that recently removed to Troutdale and started up housekeeping in a Union Pacific steel freight car, Mayor Hudson has issued orders that the car shall not be disturbed.

and Mrs. Robin selected Troutdale for their home and the sidetracked freight car for their particular residence. They have been a busy pair since then, and while Mrs. Robin is engaged in her housekeeping activities, Mr. Robin is making a comfortable living grubbing worms from the freshly turned celery fields.

Scores of Troutdale citizens have dropped in to call on the robins, but under the mandate of the mayor they are not to be disturbed, and the eggs are to be carefully guarded.

Denver, Col., April 24.—(U. P.)—The nation's sweet tooth will have the most expensive sugar filling in history this year, beet sugar refiners here stated today, predicting soaring prices as a result of a world-wide shortage.

The United States grand jury Monday will begin the examination of evidence regarding shipbuilding deals secured by special agents of the department of justice, who have been in the city for the last three weeks, which may result in the return of indictments against Emergency Fleet corporation officials and yard operators of a nature similar to those now pending in Seattle.

With evidence reported to involve Portland steel yards, irregularities in the case of the Tacoma shipyard, W. Humphreys will go into the federal court Monday morning and ask subpoenas for the Seattle Shipbuilding company and the Columbia River Shipbuilding company, requiring them to produce before the grand jury the government's evidence with the government in connection with the construction of steamers for the American

Today's Sunday Journal Is Complete in Eight Sections.

Foreign

Crusade to Have Conference—Section 1, Page 1.
Premiers Are in Accord—Section 1, Page 1.
Irish Have Sincerity—Section 1, Page 11.
Scandinavia to Aid Russia—Section 1, Page 11.
Germania Reel Aspiration—Section 1, Page 11.
Vital to Assist Otago—Section 1, Page 2.

National

Johnson Perplexes Republicans—Section 1, Page 1.
Hitchcock Holds Views—Section 1, Page 11.
Denver Pays 15 Cents for Sugar—Section 1, Page 1.
Montana for Johnson—Section 1, Page 3.

Northwest

Wine in County Prison—Section 1, Page 14.
Dr. Inglehart Confirmed—Section 1, Page 1.
Lost Child Rescued—Section 1, Page 1.
Light Over Committee Forecasts—Section 1, Page 1.

Wrecked Ship Abandoned—Section 1, Page 6.
Road Bond Issue Advocated—Section 1, Page 6.
Highway Changes Proposed—Section 1, Page 10.

By David Lawrence
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Washington, April 24.—Republican politics is just now undergoing the metamorphosis that a few primary elections always bring in the weeks immediately preceding a national election. The leaders and politicians are literally up in the air. They may look wise and talk sagaciously, but they are as much perplexed over the future as the average observer. This in itself is significant of change.

Months ago, it was any Republican to win. But the force of personal appeal, Senator Hiram Johnson of California has demonstrated in a remarkably short time that his following is no accidental thing nor ephemeral grouping of elements in the Republican party. His campaign has drawn to his standard certain groups which show uncomfortable signs of rolling from the Republican party if their wishes are not prevail.

Police have been asked to make search for three persons who have disappeared during the last few days. Sidney B. Walpole, Mrs. Myrtle (Babe) Bowers and Cummin Flaherty.

late W. R. Walpole. He disappeared from the Burkhardt home, 955 Hiltont street, along Terwilliger boulevard, last Monday.

Walpole is 25 years old and recently returned from Corvallis, where he had been taking a forestry course at the Agricultural college. His system of living was unable to continue the course and had been seeking employment where this handicap would not interfere with his usefulness.

When last seen, Walpole was wearing outing clothes, including a mackinaw of black and white plaid, corduroy trousers of tan boots and khaki shirt. Such a plaid outfit was being worn by a young man during the morning but did not appear at luncheon. Although the police have been following the travels of the missing youth, no clew has been found. He is 5 feet 8 inches tall, with light hair, blue eyes and of slender build, weighing 140 pounds.

**Fred Ballin Heads Company That
Obtains Los Angeles Plant;
Portland Benefits.**

A quarter million dollar potash works will be established in Los Angeles by Fred A. Ballin, president of the Supple-Ballin Shipbuilding corporation, and four other Portland capitalists, it became known Saturday night. The Monolith municipal cement plant in Los Angeles last Thursday was leased to Ballin for \$22,500 a year for five years, and plans for changing it to a potash works will begin almost immediately.

San Remo, April 24.—In the capital of Belgium, inseparably linked with the zenith and the fall of the German empire, a representative of the German republic will for the first time meet allied statesmen on an equal footing in a plan broached at today's session of the supreme council is carried out.

Brussels will be the scene of the conference of the powers in the near future, and it is proposed to invite Germany to send a representative to outline exactly how she means to fulfill the reparation clauses of the Versailles treaty. It is expected Chancellor Mueller will personally undertake this task. He is premier, being equal in rank to Lloyd George, Millerand and Nitti. The allies' estimate of the reparations total will be sent to Berlin in the meantime.

Two men were badly cut and bruised at 11:30 Saturday night when the automobile in which they were riding was struck by an inbound Sellwood car at East Eleventh and Mill streets. At St. Vincent's hospital, where they were taken, it was said the injured men were John Bushue, living at the St. George hotel, and Arthur Wagner of Oregon City.

Smelt—millions of them—are calling you. For eight or 10 days, say fish experts, said smelt will be at home in the Sandy river, next door to the Columbia river highway, and a summer day automobile trip.

Hundreds and even thousands of Portland people, anxious to taste fresh fish that never saw an ice box, and perhaps, also willing to combat the outrageous cost of living, will swarm along the Sandy today with nets, buckets, baskets and other devices.

BIG CATCHES ASSURED

In five minutes you'll have enough smelt for the whole family, and maybe for the neighbors. You don't need a boat: the fish come right up to shore. Besides eating a most delectable fish, you will have enjoyed a great day sport.

Baker, April 24.—Cold, scratches about the face, but otherwise unharmed, Phillip, 2-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. John Colton of Keating, was found by a searching party at 5:45 o'clock this morning in the hills near Keating, after he had been missing since 4 o'clock Friday afternoon.

The little boy had gone to the hill with his father and four brothers and sisters, who were taking a band of sheep to the range. In some manner he came separated from the rest while his father was busy digging out a coyote den and all efforts to find him failed nearly 100 sheep, including merrimaids and other cattle, were left to their fate. Keating hall, joined in the search that lasted all night by lantern light.

At 2 o'clock this morning the Baker police department received a telephone call. Chief Palmer attempted to secure blood hounds from La Grande but Sheriff Warwick was unable to leave.

The little boy was found three miles from the place where he was last seen. He was lying upon the ground face downward, fast asleep. Today he is at home apparently normal and none the worse for his night spent in the open with the temperature below freezing.

Salem, April 24.—An offer of 15 cents a pound for loganberries was voted down here today by Marion county growers. Buyers present asserted that a higher price would be out of the question, and after considering the 14 cents demanded by the growers, made the 13-cent offer which was refused.

The Phœx and Salem Kings Produce companies declined to take part in the later bidding. No compromise is expected, growers asserting they cannot sell for less than 14 cents and the plant managers saying this price is impossible and will ruin the industry.

Paris, April 24.—(U. P.)—In the first conference of its kind since the war, representatives of 12 allied, associate and neutral powers met here today to organize a "help fund" for the benefit of Poland, Austria and some other central European countries. The United States, although bearing most of the expense of the relief work, was unable to participate officially.

By Ward A. Irvine
Officials of the Portland Railway,
Light & Power company have little concern over whether the first charge collected from the city when the company are eliminated by the voters. Under established order, whether we like it or not, the corporation is guaranteed a fair return on its investment. If a return is not provided through lessened expense, the public service commission has indicated it will be given in increased fares. The car rider who receives the benefit of relief granted through lessened expense, and it is the car rider that should bear the added burden if fares are boosted.

CAR RIDERS ARE GOATS

That is the answer of authorities to those who attempt to tie the relief measure up with the railway company. They point out that the car riders pay practically every cent of revenue obtained by the company; that they pay all operating expenses, and a return on invested capital.

That is what the car riders ask, what it is that they are asking for. The car riders are forced to pay.

If the expense of operation is reduced,

gets the benefit, not the company. And if fares are increased, it is the car rider that pays the increase, not the company.

MAY INCREASE REVENUE IMPERATIVE

The public service commission, in its recent order, declared that "it becomes apparent that additional net operating income must be provided to assure continuity of the operation of the street railways. This may be accomplished either by increase in fares or a reduction in expenses."

The problem before the commission is to determine in what manner this deficiency can best be overcome.

Income does not mean a question of authority, but that the commission believes the company is not now getting enough money to pay operating costs and a return on the investment?

MAY INCREASE FARES

The answer is provided, and according to the commission, either by increased fare or by decreased expense. If the expense is decreased, car riders will not be compelled to pay so much fare if it is reduced by a fare increase, car riders pay more.

"Why then," ask the authorities, "do officials of the company care whether the expense is decreased?"

The com-

By Camillo Gianfarra
San Remo, Italy, April 24.—(U. P.)—As a result of last night's conversation between Premier Lloyd George and Marshal Foch, the Ruhr controversy will be settled tomorrow, it was announced tonight.

Settlement of the Italian-Jugo-Slavian territorial controversy in the Adriatic on the basis of President Wilson's compromise, also was forecast here tonight.

Suspension of the official morning sitting, it was said, was due to intensified negotiations with the Jugo-Slavs. The Wilson compromise report was credited to the press in Belgrade, where it was said there might, however, be some slight changes.

The supreme council of premiers last today decided to leave to President Wilson the final decision as to whether the Vilayet of Erzerum shall be assigned to Turkey or Armenia.

The Vilayet of Erzerum district—of Erzerum is a tableland in Armenia, and formerly was a part of Asiatic Turkey. It contains the sources of the Euphrate river.)

AGREE ON DISARMAMENT

The allies are "in accord" in regard to enforcement of the treaty of Versailles, including the disarmament

St. Louis, Mo., April 24.—(U. P.)—The American public will spend \$15,000,000 this year for unnecessary luxuries, David B. Houston, secretary of the treasury, estimated today in condemning "rotuous, extravagant condonations."

"If the public would spend this money for government securities, it would go a long way toward paying the national debt," Houston declared.