

The Oregon Statesman

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AGAIN, TO THE CHERRY GROWERS!

Editor Statesman:
 The Royal Ann cherry growers of the Salem district will be interested in the contents of a telegram I have received this morning from a dealer of imported cherries in brine located in New York City, covering the present situation. I refrain from giving the name of the sender of the message, as doing so would not increase the value of the information. The message is in reply to letters addressed by me for the purpose of ascertaining what the markets are on cherries that are used for the same purpose as the Royal Ann in the production of the maraschino.

"Your letters 15th and 24th inquiring for 5,000 barrels cherries we will be glad to quote you more diligently in about a month. At present have on hand 200 barrels of number three size which is the small size, count about eight hundred cherries per gallon sound stock. If you want this shipment of barrels holding about three hundred pounds each will make price five cents per pound f. o. b. New York net cash against delivery, subject to confirmation from me. The emergency tariff bill now before Congress putting duty of four cents per pound on cherries has resulted in many packers making spot purchases."

This telegram indicates that at the present time Royal Ann cherries suitable for maraschino making can be purchased in New York City, barrels furnished free, at 5c per pound net contents of cherries in each barrel.

In my judgment the cherry growers should get actively back of the good work that Senator McNary and other western Senators and Representatives are doing in behalf of the cherry grower of the Pacific Northwest. Very truly,
 —W. H. PAULHAMUS, President.
 Puyallup, Wash., Feb. 2, 1921.

Mr. Paulhamus, who is president of the Puyallup & Sumner Fruit Growers Canning Co., operating in a very large way in both Washington and Oregon, has been indefatigable in his efforts to get protection for our cherry growers.

Every cherry grower ought, by all means, to help. If Mr. Paulhamus has read the article on this page in The Statesman of yesterday, containing an interview with our Congressman Hawley, as no doubt he has, he will be heartened by what Mr. Hawley said.

Our cherry growers are going to have protection, and likely in time for the growing crop, and in the regular tariff bill. But that is no good reason for the slowing up of the efforts of all concerned, on behalf both of the proposed emergency tariff bill and a sufficiently high rate in the regular bill.

There is real danger, as The Statesman has said and reiterated, that a lot of strawberries and cherries will go to waste in the Salem district the coming season; and no one can be so very sure, at this time, that a great many thousands or perhaps hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of loganberries will not go to waste, too. There is imperative need of a cold storage plant in Salem; and a very, very large one, and then several more large ones. And who is there to say that there is not need of a much greater cannery and jam and jelly plant than we have now; than any we have now; than all of them together, and all the additions planned for all of them? Salem is surrounded by the greatest fruit district in the world; but this city will not realize the full benefits of this situation till facilities are provided for taking care of all the fruit that will be grown this year, and the much greater amounts that will be grown in the years of the future. Salem must look ahead; ten years; yes, twenty years and more.

Why all this excitement about somebody wanting to "control" the Democratic party? It is bound for nowhere in particular.

The Salem slogan editor wants to go strong on onions next Thursday; and will, if the onion men will help as they should.

The poultry men may go ahead with their plans for great commercial plants in the Salem district. They are going to have protection.

It is now hinted that our old friend, Dr. Sun Yat Sen, has hitched up with the Bolsheviki. There must be money in the game or Dr. S. Y. Sen would not be in it.

One day Herbert Hoover is to be a member of the Harding cabinet. The next he hasn't a look-in. It would seem that both the friends and the enemies of Herbert are working overtime.

Soup houses are being opened in Toledo, Ohio. That sounds like the record in the last Cleveland administration. Thank the good Lord, we will soon be rid of the Woodrow Wilson hang-overs. In less than another month.

The prices of California raisins have increased 35 per cent the past year. That means a wad of money for the raisin-grape growers in the San Joaquin valley.—Los Angeles Times. If the panic-stricken independent prune growers would only chirk up and get a little sand in their craws, or at least unload at their starvation prices and get out of the way, prune prices also would quickly get onto the up grade, and all the prunes would be sold.

The flax plant at the penitentiary has been too successful, and it has too many possibilities of tremendous success and great profits, directly and indirectly. Hence it must be killed, according to the 3x4 statesmen. But it will not be killed; or if it is killed it will come to life again. The 3x4 statesmen flit across the stage and have their brief hour of authority and then vanish. The state of Oregon ought to spin flax twine for the fishermen and sack twine for the farmers, and this will be done, sooner or later; and ought to have been done before this.

THE FLAX INDUSTRY.

(Capital Journal, Salem.)
 Inspired by ulterior political motives, a malicious and misleading attack is being made upon the legislature for the passage of the Davey bill (H. B. 81), which is erroneously labeled an effort "to kill the flax industry."

The bill aims at nothing of the sort. It merely authorizes the board of control to sell the penitentiary equipment of the flax plant at such time as "private capital has developed at a suitable price or suitable places within the state of Oregon, flax mills or plants of such size, capacity and general financial soundness as will in the future properly handle and dispose of the products of flax fields within the state of Oregon."

Until such private plants are erected, the prison will continue in the flax industry, though it is not an ideal prison industry and the state should not attempt to compete with its convict labor with private capital and labor. Nor will private capital engage in the flax industry as long as the state is a competitor.

The Davey bill, which was drawn up after thorough study of the situation, and unanimously approved by the Marion county delegation, merely carries into effect the governor's recommendation in his message to the legislature, which was as follows:

"I would continue the operation of the prison flax plant to handle the crop on the inside of the walls, but would do so only until such

FUTURE DATES.

- February 12, Saturday — Lincoln's birthday.
- February 14 to 21 — Prune week in Oregon.
- February 14, Monday — Basketball, Willamette vs University of Idaho, at Moscow.
- February 15 and 16, Tuesday and Wednesday — Basketball, Willamette vs Whitman, at Walla Walla.
- February 17, Thursday — Basketball, Willamette vs. Walla Walla Y. M. C. A., at Walla Walla.
- February 18, Tuesday — Debate, Salem high school, affirmative vs. Albany, negative, at high school, 8:30, affirmative vs. Albany, affirmative, at Albany.
- February 18 and 19, Friday and Saturday — Basketball, Willamette vs. Gonzaga, at Spokane.
- February 22, Tuesday — Basketball, Willamette vs. Idaho, at Salem.
- February 22, Tuesday — Washington's birthday.
- February 24 and 25, Thursday and Friday — Basketball, Willamette vs. Whitman at Salem.
- March 4 and 5, Friday and Saturday — Basketball, Willamette vs. U. of O., at Eugene.
- April 15, Friday — Baseball, Willamette vs. U. of O., at Salem.
- April 16, Saturday — Baseball, Willamette vs. U. of O., at Eugene.
- May 26, 27 and 28 — Baseball, Willamette vs. Whitman, at Walla Walla.
- October 1 — Football (senior), Willamette vs. O. A. C., at Corvallis.
- November 11, Friday (senior) — Football, Willamette vs. Whitman, at Walla Walla.
- November 24, Thursday (senior) — Thanksgiving day football, Willamette vs. Mulino, at Salem.

time as there has become established and in actual operation a privately owned plant of sufficient magnitude and soundness to give assurance that all of the flax crop will be taken care of through that medium. When such time comes I believe the prison flax plant should be discontinued and the state realize as much as it may from the sale of the plant. I suggest that this legislature authorize the board of control to take such steps at any time such a plant is actually in working operation and ready to handle the crop. My reason for this is based upon the belief that those who would be willing to finance a new private venture may be standing aloof, unwilling to come in and compete against a state plant. If it were written upon the statute books that whenever private capital shows its good faith toward the industry that the state retire from it, an impetus would be given to private capital to develop the industry here on a large scale. It is important that we enact laws for the encouragement of private investments, and I believe such a law, granting this discretionary power to the board of control might have a highly salutary effect on bringing a material amount of new capital into Oregon.

It will thus be seen that instead of killing the flax industry, the effect of the bill will be to stimulate it. The prison plant has served a useful purpose in proving the commercial value of our Oregon product and attracting attention of the flax industry to the state. It has shown that the industry can be made profitable to investors and the bill provides an incentive to such investors by assurance that the state will withdraw from the industry when private capital enters the field, and not remain in unfair competition.

With the present buildings and equipment at the penitentiary, all talk of building up a great flax spinning plant is nonsense. The necessary machinery would require an immense investment, the importation and employment of skilled operators, and new prison facilities involving an expenditure the taxpayers would not sanction. The project has been considered many times both by state executives and legislators, and abandoned as impractical.

For the state to engage on an extensive-scale in the business of spinning and manufacturing flax would effectually retard the development of the industry commercially and close the door permanently to the private investment in the industry. Instead of censure, the legislature is entitled to commendation for its action in encouraging the development of what should eventually become a great industry and a great asset to Oregon.

The attack above referred to has been made by The Statesman. But it is not malicious, unless the hope of saving the life of a great industry for Oregon may be called malicious.

And the writer firmly believes it is not misleading, for very many reasons, running back for a long time, and having a number of current very suspicious circumstances. And he knows it is not political. Absolutely not. He cares a thousand times more for the future of the flax industry in Oregon than he cares who has any state office, or all the state offices; only wishing the men holding the offices might always be honest and able and statesmanlike—and above the petty jealousies and narrow and small bickerings that they should be too big and broad to harbor and practice at any time; much less when clothed with brief official authority.

The writer in the Capital Journal has evidently mistaken the author of the articles in The Statesman.

This writer will say that if he could believe in the absolute sincerity of the statements in the Capital Journal, quoted above, he would be entirely satisfied. And so would the farmers raising the flax. And so would Mrs. W. P. Lord, now in Washington working for a duty on flax and hemp products. And so would all the other friends of Oregon progress who have been working so long and earnestly to build up a great flax and hemp industry in this state. They would all be willing to rest their case here.

But none of them would admit that it is "nonsense" to talk of building up a great flax spinning plant at the penitentiary; or that the machinery would require an "immense investment,"

and all the rest of such folderol. For Robert Crawford, superintendent of the penitentiary plant, told the writer a short two months ago that there was enough money in the flax fund now, or material on hand to bring enough money, to buy the spinning machinery for spinning twines for the fishermen; and Robert Crawford said at the same time that the plant could, within itself, soon earn enough money to make it modern, and thus very much more efficient; and to work up all the by-products, as for instance the low grade tow and the chaff, and make it much more profitable.

The men who furnish the flax straw know all this.

And every man familiar with the plant knows it. And they know also that it is childish (to say the least) to assert that the competition of the penitentiary plant would have anything whatever to do—even to a feather's weight—in keeping out other plants.

There is nothing to all that—absolutely nothing. If the real friends of the flax industry could be convinced of the absolute sincerity of the writer in the Journal, and absolutely sure that he was certain of his grounds, they would be quite willing to rest the case here.

In that case, let the box factory bill now before the legislature be smothered or killed.

EDITORIALS OF THE PEOPLE

Editor Statesman:
 Being interested in this part of the country and desiring to see things move forward that will be of benefit to this section, I desire to draw the attention of the Salem Commercial club to some new facts in the recent development of dehydration plants.

In arriving at the following conclusions and deductions, I am greatly indebted to Professor McKee, who had charge of war search records for food; also the chemical war board's report on foods and their value, and my own small knowledge of chemistry and air.

If Salem is to grow, she must be the same as any other city, that is, by the maintaining of the production and conservation of new wealth, and once a production is built up adjoining any new business center, it is up to that center to look after the saving of the profits. If the producer can get this, it is an inducement for him to bend forth all his efforts to increase his production, as he knows he has a stabilized market.

Having analyzed the above facts, we dare to make an assertion that all vegetables and fruits contain a great deal of water, for instance, the potato contains 75 per cent of water, a tomato 90 per cent, and fruits all the way from 60 per cent upward. This being the case, the idea is to arrange some way to preserve the nutrient part of the foods without destroying its properties, and yet eliminate the water. It is self-explanatory and today we know that the vacuum process is in its infancy and has come to stay.

In no way do I want to detract from your splendid achievements in the way of cannery plants. They are wonderful, but during your cherry season here last year, you see they fell down, and had you been prepared, you would have made a market for every cherry grower and had a product to have helped feed the world. For example, you take that of the tomato, know everybody likes the tomato fresh, but if you can't secure it this way, you do the next best thing, buy canned tomatoes. We'll say a case of two dozen cans of tomatoes costs \$4. Now, the canner for this product in these 24 cans, has paid about 40 cents; therefore, the consumer must pay an additional sum of \$2.50, and for what? Some tin, probably a box and 90 per cent of water. Carry this on out. You must pay the excessive, yes, piratical freight rates demanded today; you conceive this great handicap, yet the experimental bureau demonstrated that canned tomatoes were not one bit more palatable or nourishing than carefully dried tomatoes—50 pounds in one and 2 1/2 pounds in the other. In other words, we could handle on one car a dried product, and it would require 20 cars to handle the canned product.

One thing we do and can grow in this beautiful valley is the potato. The entire potato crop in the United States was estimated at 350,070,000 bushels, and will be greater this year, yet, according to the government report, 30 per cent of the 1919 crop did not measure up to the marketable standard or the freight rates were so high that they could not be transported with any safety of profit. Hence, may be left in the ground to rot. Therefore, let's make arrangements to eliminate this 70 per cent of water and save the food for the hungry world. You say this is an engineering problem; that's true. But it is your duty as an organization (commercial club) to employ the necessary brains to carry this out. Germany demonstrated the great value of dehydration plants during the war. There were over 2000 plants engaged in dehydrating potatoes, and every pound of those desiccated potatoes was 100 per cent foodstuff, and by this process they were able to save all

the second grade. Here at home you could manufacture potato flour or starch, thereby eliminating the foreign market from which we now draw our supply.

We must think of these new methods and try and grasp their possibilities. If you can read the report of Col. J. R. Murlin, head of the medical department of the U. S. A. during the war on meat, or Dr. K. George Falk's work. Men who did not want a second scandal of '98 embalmed beef hanging over their heads, and, thank goodness, they have not, for they grasped the outstanding facts and so thoroughly learned their lesson they have made it possible to dry and preserve meats so that there is absolutely no chemical change made by the desiccation. This was how they happened to discover that it worked as well on vegetables and fruits as on meats, as the vacuum process restrained all the food qualities without any chemical change that had been made under the other processes of drying.

Briefly, Professor McKee of the engineering department of Columbia university worked out a system and installed a plant capable of handling 300 pounds of meat a day of 24 hours. The plant consisted of a vacuum drying oven, a vacuum pump, condenser with the essential gauges and thermometers and other accessories. It would take too long to set out the details, but the results I want the people of this section to know. The meats were dried quickly and represented 35 per cent of their former weight and by enclosing them in an ordinary cloth sack and storing them away, they cured another 5 per cent in weight, and here is what he has to say:

"The meats so obtained, with a possible exception of surface contamination, are sterile and free from bacteria. They can be stored in wooden boxes, paper cartons or bagged and shipped to any climate in the world without further consideration. The meat thus preserved underwent no chemical change during the drying process nor while in storage that is detectable by chemical test. Some of the meat after being exposed to the extreme vagaries of New York climate for a year was found to be in the best condition."

This should be enough to set you to thinking. Drawing further conclusions from Professor McKee's report, a plant capable of handling 15,000 pounds of meat every 24 hours would cost \$15,000. The floor space required would be 25x40 feet. A 150-ton plant a day would entail an expenditure of approximately \$200,000. These things were brought out by mother necessity, war relief, and is made possible here in our city today by its hydro electric power and your surrounding rich territory, and we must learn that the city that helps the locality and country surrounding it is the chief city to draw direct results.

This is a little out of my line, but any further data that I can give you I will gladly do so at any time. Very truly yours,
 —H. H. LOTZ.

CHANGE IN STYLE

Comparatively few farmers wear chin whiskers or high-topped boots, and the cartoonists should change the plans and specifications of their rural residents.—Arkansas Thomas Cat.

U. S.
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—at—

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13 pounds Cane Sugar.....\$1.00	Snider's Catsup.....32c
20 pounds Best White Beans.....\$1.00	4 cans good Corn.....45c
10 pounds Best Rolled Oats.....50c	4 cans good Tomatoes.....45c
10 pounds Best Japan Rice.....50c	3 large cans Del Monte Peaches.....\$1.00
5 pounds Best Bulk Macaroni.....35c	1 pound Baker's Chocolate.....49c
3 pounds Best Pop Corn.....25c	1 lb. Ghirardelli Ground Chocolate 35c
3 cakes Creme Oil Soap.....25c	3 cans Pink Salmon.....30c
3 cans Dutch Cleanser.....25c	3 packages Jiffy Jell.....27c
1 package Sea Foam Powder.....25c	2 packages Lux.....20c
2 cakes Bon-Ami.....20c	5 packages Best Matches.....25c
1 pail No. 5 Valley Lard.....95c	1 large package Albers Oats.....25c
1 good Broom.....49c	2 package Post Toasties.....25c

Sweet Juicy Oranges 17c dozen	California Soft Shell Walnuts 25c pound
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We Sell For Less

SALEM COMMISSARY

175 South Commercial Street



IT'S "PAY" WHICH MAKES PROSPERITY

KEEP Oregon's pay envelopes filled—and there will be no such thing as business stagnation. The workman's pay depends upon the public's patronage. Buy home products and you'll keep our factory furnace fires burning.

Spend your money at home and it will stay home—making your account at the United States National Bank grow ever larger.

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