

Salem Should Constantly Increase Her Lead as the Crude Drug Center and Market of Oregon, by Giving Every Possible Encouragement to the Growers

SALEM MAY SECURE THE PROPOSED OREGON PEPPERMINT OIL REFINERY

The Oregon Mint Growers Cooperative Association is now casting about for a site, and the location of this very important manufacturing plant here would fix Salem for all time as the Crude Drug Center.

Salem is the crude drug center of Oregon, and the people of this city may by taking thought and following it with intelligent and persistent action improve this lead constantly and make the honor and distinction a bigger thing commercially and in the way of manufacturing, merchandising and shipping year after year.

The officials of the Oregon Mint Growers Co-operative association are now casting about for a site and plans for a peppermint oil refinery, to take care of the whole Oregon crop.

The Willamette valley raises the most of the mint in the world; mint contains the highest menthol content of any grown in the whole world, and producing the most ounces and pounds to the acre.

It is very important that our peppermint oil should be standardized and the standards protected, and a refinery will be of great assistance in this. This will mean 75 cents to \$1.50 more a

pound for our oil, for all the years of the future, compared with the lower grades produced elsewhere.

If Salem will get fully awake to this, it will mean big things for our growers and for this city as a mint and a crude drug center.

Cascara Sagrada. Cascara sagrada is so far our most important crude drug plant, the bark of which is constantly going in car lots and smaller lots to the big crude drug supply dealers, has so far not been cultivated — but the native supply is running low — and it will be grown extensively in the future.

"American Medicinal Barks," Bulletin No. 139 of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, has the following, among many other things, to say of cascara sagrada: "Cascara Sagrada—Other common names: chittim bark, sacred bark (a translation of the Spanish name cascara sagrada), bearberry-tree, bearwood, etc.

The following are some excerpts from "American Root Drugs," Bulletin No. 197 of the U. S. Department of Agriculture: "It is especially abundant in Oregon and Northern California; is a low-growing shrub resembling somewhat the familiar Christmas holly of the eastern states.

Some of our people put the foxglove as the first in importance of

Oregon drug plants. From the foxglove comes digitalis; and the plant is also called digitalis. In the coast countries of Oregon enough of this plant grows wild to heal all the broken hearts of the world.

The United States Department of Agriculture said officially away back in 1914: "Leaves from the wild American plant have been assayed and found to be equally as

good as the European article." There is a question about the origin of the foxglove of our coast countries — the same as there is concerning our evergreen blackberries. Some authorities think the evergreen blackberry comes from some seeds scattered by some seafaring wanderer many years ago, from Europe; and that the same may be true of the Oregon "wild" foxglove.

PREDICTS THAT MINT WILL TAKE PLACE OF ONIONS IN LAKE LABISH

The President of the Oregon Mint Growers Cooperative Association Has Been Raising Mint for Ten Years, and Will Continue, as He Does Not Know What Would Pay Him as Well.

The following communication and answer appeared in the Pacific Homestead of last week — that paper being the official organ of the Oregon Mint Growers Cooperative association. It gives a fair idea of the present status of the mint industry in this district: Editor Homestead:

I have been interested in your articles on peppermint and would like to get some more information if you can give it to me. I have about 120 acres of beaver meadow and wild mint grows two feet tall on it. I am 2300 feet above sea level, and some times we have light frost in June and September. Do you think it could be grown at a profit on such ground? What is the best time to plant, and do you know where I could get some roots, and at what price?

E. B. Wallace Answers. I will give a few points in answer to Mr. Prichard's inquiry on peppermint. No doubt Mr. Prichard has some good mint land, though I'm afraid elevation may be a little high. Light frost in May or even June will not hurt, though a freezing frost would no doubt be very damaging, and would be the same in September.

The list of the drug plants not under cultivation is long

but do not wish to advise planting mint where conditions may not be right. I have been growing mint 10 years and am not going to quit, as I don't know what would pay me as well.

It is time to plant. In fact, mint should be planted not later than May 1 to be sure of a crop. Mr. Prichard's inquiry in regard to roots for planting: I can furnish some roots at \$25 for enough to plant an acre, f. o. b. Albany.

Some very familiar contributions from the Salem district to the crude drug trade are the following: Yerba Buena, a vital ingredient of liniment; licorice, a fern like plant growing in the moss on trees; flag, a blue flower; dandelion, a garden pest but an effective liver "flooper"; Oregon grape, cascara (or chittim), these two having been shipped out in car lots for years; peppermint, plantain, burdock, tansy, wild cherry, wild blackberry, and even the despised poison oak is listed as a purgative drug by a mail order man. These, of course, are all wildlings, while, with little care in every garden in the land

- Blue flag, Boneset, Burdock, Cornus, or sweet flag, Calendula, or pot marigold, German camomile, Roman or English camomile, Camphor tree, Cannabis, or Indian hemp, Caraway, Cascara sagrada, In cultivation, the trees are pruned annually, and thus a crop of bark harvested each year. Instead of killing the whole tree, as is done in the wild state, which is making it necessary to make plantings, which is now being done in British Columbia, and will no doubt be done in Oregon; for there is nothing "just as good" as the European article.

DRUG PLANTS UNDER CULTIVATION AS LISTED BY OUR UNCLE SAMUEL

There is a New Bulletin, Issued by the United States Department of Agriculture, Which Gives Directions Concerning the Growing, Harvesting and Treatment Of the Plants Needed in the Crude Drug Trade, Which May be Grown and Supplied by Our Farmers.

(The United States Department of Agriculture, in August of last year, revised its Farmers' Bulletin 663, which was issued five years before, entitled "Drug Plants Under Cultivation."

- Castor beans, Catnip, Coriander, or poison hemlock, Coriander, Dandelion, Digitalis, or foxglove, Dill, Echinacea, Elecampane, Fennel, Gentian, Ginseng, Goldenseal, Henbane, Horehound, Insect-powder flowers, Larkspur, Lavender, Licorice, Lobelia, Lovage, Melissa, balm, or lemon balm, Orris, Parsley, Pennyroyal, Peppermint, (See several articles in this issue.) Pinkroot, Pokeweed, Safflower, American saffron, or false saffron, Saffron, or true saffron, Sage, Seneca snakeroot, Serpentina, or Virginia snake-root, Spearmint, Stramonium, Jamestown weed, or Jimson weed, Tansy, Thyme, Valerian, Vervain, or cuscus grass, Wintergreen, American wormseed, or Jerusalem oak, Wormwood.

OREGON'S CRUDE DRUGS HELPED WIN THE WAR FOR WORLD DEMOCRACY

We Sent Foxglove From Which to Make Digitalis to Cure Broken Hearts, and Spagnum Moss for the Use of the Surgeons in Dressing Wounds — Many Crude Drug Plants.

Oregon crude drugs helped win the war. First, her school children gathered vast quantities of foxglove, from which to make digitalis. This was mostly in the coast counties, where the plant grows wild on vast areas — and Oregon is one of the four states where it is native, the others being Washington, California and West Virginia.

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Oil and Gas Syndicate Will Do Business Here

The Equitable Oil & Gas syndicate, an Idaho concern capitalized at \$200,000 has been granted a permit by the state corporation department to operate in Oregon. S. T. Comer of Portland is named as attorney-in-fact for Oregon.

Slide Irrigation Region Is Under Investigation

Percy A. Copper, state engineer, and F. C. Bramwell, state superintendent of banks, have gone to Weiser, Idaho, where they will investigate the Slide Irrigation district, which operates in Oregon. The reason for the inquiry is that the district has applied for certification of \$25,000 bonds and guarantee of interest

there can be produced the following medicinal herbs: Rhubarb, tansy, horse-coum, catnip, ginseng, poppy (opium), sage, anise, caraway, pennyroyal, chloery, rosemary, hyssop, wormwood, rue, flax and hops.

But while every phase of the drug industry was affected by the war shortage, photography suffered a blow that has brought still another of Oregon's resources to the front. This time it is the peculiar, warty growth on oak trees, known as galls, occasioned by the sting of an insect and rich in tannin, some 15,000 ounces per week being used by a leading manufacturer of photographic supplies, and called pyro. China had previously been the source of supply and it is still the most important one, but with picture making advanced to such proportions, Oregon's oak forests promise unexpected revenue.

on the amount by the state. The two state officials are also members of the irrigation securities commission.

OREGON AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE TO POINT WAY TO OUR FARMERS

That Institution Proposes to Establish a Crude Drug Garden for Experimental Purposes — "Tenth of the Expense, Twice the Yield," Says Prof. Ziefle.

Prof. A. Ziefle, dean of the school of pharmacy, Oregon Agricultural college, wrote The Statesman over a year ago: "I am in position to state that drugs can be grown at one-tenth the expense and with twice the yield that they can be in Michigan and Minnesota."

This will give records to prove the practicability of the different varieties of crude drug plants grown on Oregon farms. The United States department of agriculture in its bulletins is constantly calling attention to the fact that in our country ought to be produced many of the crude drug plants the supplies of which have been coming from foreign countries.

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DATES OF SLOGANS IN DAILY STATESMAN

- Loganberries, Oct. 7.
- Prunes, Oct. 14.
- Dairying, Oct. 21.
- Pist, Oct. 28.
- Pilberis, Nov. 4.
- Walnuts, Nov. 11.
- Strawberries, Nov. 18.
- Apples, Nov. 25.
- Raspberries, Dec. 2.
- Mint, Dec. 9.
- Great cows, Dec. 16.
- Blackberries, Dec. 23.
- Cherries, Dec. 30.
- Pears, Jan. 6, 1921.
- Gooseberries and Currants, Jan. 13.
- Corn, Jan. 20.
- Oats, Jan. 27.
- Spinach, Feb. 3.
- Onions, Feb. 10.
- Potatoes, Feb. 17.
- Beets, Feb. 24.
- Mining, March 3.
- Beans, March 10.
- Paved highways, March 17.
- Broccoli, March 24.
- Siles, April 7.
- Legumes, April 14.
- Apparagus, April 21.
- Prunes, April 28.

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