

# WESTERN OREGON NUTS BEST

Acres in Walnuts in Western Oregon is Now 9000 to 10,000 and is Growing Now at Rate of 2000 Acres a Year; Rapid Gain Expected as Nurseries Become Able to Supply Grafted Trees; Salem District Produces the Super Nut

The Salem district now has between 9,000 and 10,000 acres planted to walnuts; that is, western Oregon has about that. The acreage is being increased as fast as grafted trees of the right varieties can be had. The increase for this year will likely be above 2,000 acres; and this will grow each year thereafter, from the present outlook.

It is estimated that Oregon last year produced about 350 tons of walnuts, which is perhaps a 50 per cent increase over the year before. The increase will be progressive from now on—geometrically progressive, if the reader will allow the term; from larger acreage and the increasing maturity of trees.

**Industry Young Yet**

The industry, as an industry, is young yet. But it is getting its stride.

There is a seedling orchard of 12 acres near Jefferson, belonging to A. L. Page. This orchard produced last season 13 tons of nuts, sent to the Oregon Growers' Cooperative association plant in Salem. This orchard is the oldest for so large a planting in Oregon. It is about 30 years old, and the trees compare with mature oaks in size.

**Good Increase Here**

The members of the Oregon Growers' Cooperative association marketed through this organization in 1921 about 100,000 pounds of walnuts. They marketed last year about 150,000 pounds. This is an indication of the growth through the maturing of the trees, mostly.

**Grading Interesting Process**

All the walnuts received at the Salem plant have been cleaned and dried by the growers. Here they are graded and packed and sent to market. The nuts are first run through a grading machine, which sorts them as to sizes. Then they are picked over by women, who take out the culls—the discolored, cracked or oddly shaped nuts, etc.

Then they are packed into labeled sacks for the markets. The sacks are all branded OREGON WALNUTS in big letters. The first grade, the super nut, is the Mistland Grafted. Then come, next below in grade, Extra Fancy Franquettes, Fancy Franquettes, Mistland Grafted No. 1, Mistland Grafted No. 2, etc.

The grading machine so far used turns out about four tons a day. The culls are used for crack-in. The association last year sold walnut meats to the trade—cracked nuts.

The supply of every grower is carefully kept on a grade sheet—so he gets credit for his best product as well as his poorest and the benefits that belong to him on account of the superior article, if he supplies any.

This grading and packing costs only about one-tenth of a cent a pound. The Oregon walnuts have so far gone mostly to the Pacific northwest markets, but last year some orders went to eastern points, largely for the purpose of getting the trade acquainted with the superior qualities of the Oregon nuts; for the benefit of the growers in future years, when they will have to depend more and more upon the outside trade.

**Best the World Produces**

There is no doubt whatever that the Mistland Grafted brand of Oregon walnuts is the very best grown in the world. It is the super nut. Some of these nuts were sold by the Oregon Growers Cooperative association, last year, wholesale, at 35 cents a pound. That is the top price

for any walnut grown in the wide world. The other nuts graded down in price to 18½ cents a pound; the latter price being for seedlings of low grade.

The Oregon Growers Cooperative association is using the California standards for grading. In one course, Oregon walnuts will be advertised.

One of the talking points will be the fact that Oregon walnuts are unbleached—absolutely. There never will be any bleaching of the Oregon walnuts. The natural color of the Oregon walnut, clean and properly dried, is the best possible color for the markets.

**Better Than California's**

The Oregon super nut, the first grade grafted Franquette, has for two years sold at a higher price than the best California grafted; down there they call it budded.

Our district is a better walnut country than any part of California. The California walnut is the next best. The growers down there got the start of our growers, in time. They have over 40,000 acres to our scant 10,000 acres; and their trees are on the average much older than ours, and therefore more, nearly in "full bearing." But we will catch up. Quality will tell, just as in horses (and men) blood

will tell. Our lands are much lower than theirs in price. In the very nature of things, we are bound to catch up.

**Never Grow Old**

Talking of "full bearing," a walnut tree in a proper location, like the Salem district, never comes into "full bearing." It never grows old. Only its heart wood grows old. The life line is yearly renewed in every tree, and it is just as young in the giant

that has withstood the storms of centuries as in the sapling of a single year. The living tree is always young. There is a walnut tree 600 years old in the Vatican at Rome. One over 1000 years old is in the Crimea near Balaklava; and it bears as high as 100,000 nuts a year; over a ton. In California single walnut trees have sold at as high as \$3000. There will be a fortune in the future in every grafted Franquette walnut in the Salem district. All the Franquettes come from a single walnut tree in southern France, near the Italian border.

**THE FILBERT, TOO**

Salem is the filbert center of North America. All the filberts grown commercially in the United States are grown in the Will-

amette valley, excepting a few in Clarke county, Washington, which is practically a continuation of this valley.

There is no age limit known to the filbert tree. Some more than to the walnut. Some trees in Europe are known to be hundreds of years old and in England 150 years and more. Our filbert trees get "better and better" every year, and will for our children and children's children, and on down the centuries.

The Salem district has about 1000 acres in filberts now. The acreage was doubled last year. It will be doubled again this year. We will have 2000 acres within a few weeks. The new acreage has for two years been limited only by the available nursery stock. It will be so for three or four years yet. We will soon

have 10,000 acres; perhaps later 50,000 and more.

**Filberts Bear Early**

You can easily get up an argument on the question of which is the better tree to plant here, the filbert or the walnut. The filbert tree bears early, for one thing. An Albany farmer gathered 30 pounds to the acre from filbert trees four years old. One may depend upon a commercial crop from trees five to six years old.

**They Are Productive**

A pioneer grower in the Salem district says filbert orchards here in full bearing will produce 5000 pounds to the acre; and he avers that half this production will make them the most profitable and safe of all the orchard crops. Fancy filberts sold last year at 30 cents a pound; they averaged

around 25 cents. There is not much overhead in a filbert grove. They almost harvest themselves, and cure themselves put in a dry place. One grower calls them the "lazy man's crop."

One grower declares that filbert trees, of the right kind, with the proper pollenizers, will at 12 years bear 5000 pounds of nuts here to the acre and he says they are "frost proof, rain proof, have no serious pests or diseases and this section has no American or even New World competition."

There is little doubt that, within a few years, the present filbert boom here will result in the production of, train loads of these nuts which one man calls "hazelnuts with a college education," to be sent to the markets of this country, and even to other countries, hungry for them.

## SALEM DISTRICT FILBERT TREES



United States Senator Chas. L. McNary is one of the pioneers of the filbert industry in the Salem district. Several years ago he saw the vision, and he made a study of the industry and wrote a series of articles concerning filbert growing that were published in The Statesman, and afterwards were issued in pamphlet form.

Senator McNary and W. T. Stolz of Salem have a farm on the bottom land north of Salem where they have a filbert grove that gives an example of what can be done with these nuts under the conditions existing in that section.

The upper picture is from a photograph taken in their orchard, showing a seven year old Barcelona filbert tree, with W. T. Stolz in the foreground. The lower cut shows a row of filbert trees in this orchard with Senator McNary standing in front.

The beginnings of filbert interest in the Salem district are due partly to the enthusiasm and publicity of Senator McNary, and the present status of the industry shows that, if he did not build wiser than he knew, he certainly did build wiser than most of his neighbors knew.

Hon. John H. McNary, brother of Senator McNary, has on his home grounds, corner of North Summer and Center streets, Salem, some fine specimens of the Barcelona filbert tree, one of which trees is the largest Barcelona filbert tree in the United States for its age; so pronounced by an expert from the United States department of agriculture.

## MONITOR—CITY OF WEALTH

Center of Trade of One of Marion County's Richest Sections—Fruit Culture, Dairying, General Farming Among Its Resources—Born the Day the Monitor Sank the Merrimac—Local Bard Tells History of City's Growth in Verse

Nestling cosily on the banks of Butte Creek in the northeastern part of Marion county is the prosperous little city of Monitor. Located as it is, in one of the richest agricultural, fruit and dairy sections of the valley the growth and development is steady and permanent. An electric railroad out from Oregon City and terminating at Mt. Angel, furnishes excellent transportation facilities for Monitor and community together with an auto truck and stage service. This little city is only about seven miles east of Woodburn, the Pacific Highway and Southern Pacific railroad. Monitor is also four miles north of Mt. Angel, and enjoys the trade of the fertile Butte creek valley and other prosperous tributary country.

This little city has a modern new school building, which employs two teachers and has about 70 pupils enrolled. The town also has three good churches and a number of live fraternal societies and farmer organizations. A private system of water works supplies the town with good, pure water and nearly every line of business is represented there. The Monitor State Bank with a capital of \$15,000 and deposits aggregating \$90,000 takes care of the financial needs of the town and community. One of the oldest and best of the valley flour mills is located at Monitor and is operated by water power, and is equipped with a modern roller process plant.

There is a large lumber, shingle and tile warehouse and yards at this place which supplies all kinds of building materials at reasonable prices. One of the large rock crushers which supplies materials for road construction work is also located on Butte Creek at Monitor.

Among the most needed institutions at Monitor at the present time is a modern fruit and vegetable cannery to supply a home market for the large quantities of fruits, berries and vegetables grown in that community, which are now marketed at the canneries in neighboring cities. Monitor and community affords excellent opportunities for those seeking homes in a good little town and prosperous community.

More detailed information regarding Monitor is contained in the following under the head of "The Monitor of Oregon," which is told in rhyme by L. E. Dimick, one of the managers of the local flour mills.

**The Monitor of Oregon**

There is a little town here in the west

That is somewhat different from the rest. This information I give you by request; Although I am no poet, I'll do my best.

To reveal to you some of the mystery And give you some past and present history; But time and space does not permit Me to give you exactly all of it.

But the one important fact I know Reaches back to pioneer days sixty years ago. When a man named Eagon harnessed old Butte Creek; Of course at first they called it a freak.

Think! Dear readers, and you'll agree, That from the year Eighteen and Sixty-three To the present year Nineteen and Twenty-three Somewhere there must be some history.

In the days of sixty they had no flour for bread; One bright summer day Mr. Eagon said: "I have harnessed old Butte Creek to develop power, And I will build a mill to grind our flour."

So at once huge timbers were hewn and laid, From these the foundation of the mill was made.

Put, oh! the work there must have been To fasten them together with a wooden pin!

With ceaseless labor and not a fear, He finished his mill in just a year. So this you see was in sixty-four, And right now I must tell you some more.

The very same day he made flour to fill a sack, The Monitor ship sank the Merrimac. Next day when his wife her bread did bake, The Monitor Mill was the ship's namesake.

Mr. Eagon in time did reach his goal, So to Peter Shuck the mill he sold. And when a new man was at the wheel, Now I'll have to continue with my spiel.

Mr. Shuck for years the mill did run, Now and then he would change her some; He finally threw the old burrs away And replaced them with the roller way.

His flour was better and in great demand, Business grew beyond his care, So he sold to W. E. Owen half a share And Monitor flour was sold everywhere. Other things also came in sight, In the merchandise business they started right;

Yet with this they were not satisfied, To Uncle Sam for a postoffice they applied.

Uncle Sam says, "Certainly, I'll do that," Then the little town of Monitor was on the map. Years rolled by and the little town grew, But Shuck and Owens split her in two.

Mr. Owens kept the old mill for a while Till he met a man with a big broad smile. This man's name was S. K. Noel, But too much from the farmers he did toll.

The store was sold to F. Short and Sons, And the mill by a man named Pullum was run; But Mr. Short was a man with crust and crown, And finally owned the whole blame town.

Then to Mr. Gilles the mill he did sell, Who was full of ambition, and business progression He remodeled the mill to its present perfection, Gave us our first electric light and fire protection.

Now I must bring the history up to date, From now on the facts to you I'll state. Dimick & Conyne are millers white, Who make the flour that's made just right.

From L. D. Lenon your groceries you buy.

Miller & Sons' boots keep your feet dry, C. V. Carmichael, furniture and hardware; Luthie is the guy that cuts your hair.

H. S. LeFebvre patches your shoe, T. O. Thornton he does too; C. W. Conyne whose money you borrow, But you must pay it back to-morrow.

Jensen's garage sells you air, The druggist your prescriptions prepare. A. N. Moshberg sells you your fare, A. K. Nelson keeps shingles and lumber there.

We have a dentist here once a week, Who knocks you cuckoo, then pulls your teeth.

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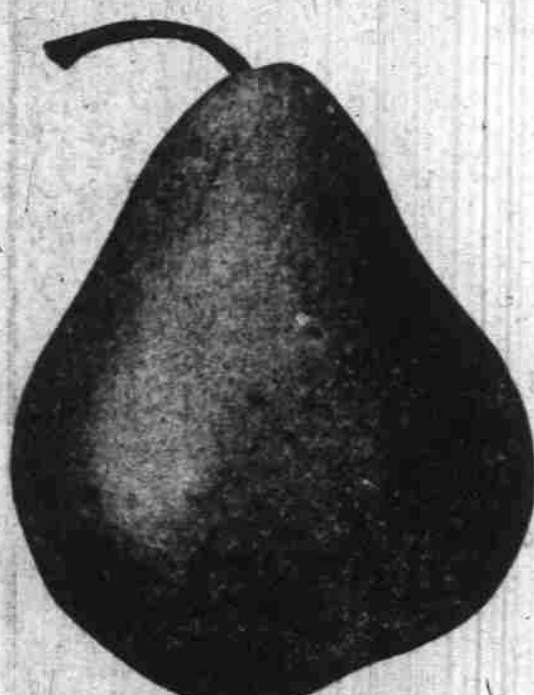
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