

THE NORTHWEST PRUNE INDUSTRY: QUALITY AND PUBLICITY ARE THE NECESSARY FACTORS FOR SUCCESS

So Writes M. J. Newhouse, of the Oregon Growers Co-operative Association; and He Speaks as One Having Authority, On Account of His Experience in Marketing and the Responsible Place He Holds in the Marketing of the Northwest Crop

Editor Statesman:

Many people are prone to judge the prune industry strictly from a local viewpoint. High prices for a time, as graphically illustrated elsewhere, will lead many farming communities to greatly increase their prune plantings. New plantings are four hundred per cent greater in California today than they were 10 years ago. The Australian government is taking an active part in furthering its growing dried-fruit industry, of which prunes form an important item. Cape Colony prunes are now listed on the English market and are to be reckoned with. American improved methods of growing and packing are now being adopted by the Bosnian growers, and last year their cheap prunes were a seriously disturbing factor, even invading this country as far west as the Mississippi. France is expected to be a factor this year in the European market, her crop being heavy. Nearer home, in Idaho, this year's disastrous fresh shipping returns is turning the growers to drying as an emergency. Clarke county and Oregon produced a record crop in 1918, the total being slightly over 50,000,000 pounds.

Last year the two sections produced 72,000,000 pounds and at that time were miserably small. This year, only lack of drying space prevented another mammoth production of big sizes.

THE PRUNE INDUSTRY AND ITS FUTURE, AS SEEN BY MR. MILLER

It is a Matter That Concerns Us All—Different Phases of the Problems That Confront the Men Engaged in the Industry—The Marketing Problem Is the Big Thing

Editor Statesman:

The prune industry and its future is a matter that much concerns the growers and business men of our state of Oregon during these days.

The grower is wondering whether or not, in spite of high taxes, labor, etc., he can keep going, while the banker and businessman is wondering how many times he must renew the credit extended to the grower, and if it is safe to loan or trust him any more.

The industry has several phases, of which the growing and drying, marketing and the net price to the grower are the chief ones. Each is important, and if we are to succeed here in any one, we must master all three of them. We cannot look after one of them and leave the others to disinterested parties. We have the problems before us. They are OUR problems and will only be solved by us.

We prune growers are keeping our noses too near the ground, planting, cultivating, trimming, digging borers, etc., working until we are tired out, raising and drying the stuff. With a sigh of relief, as though our part was done, we turn it over to the packer to do the rest. All that many know about the rest is the hard knock story of no market, no sale, low price, etc., that the buyer, in a nice suit of clothes and a shipping auto-tells them.

One can go from one end of our fair state to the other, and find that the growers are cursing this, that and the other. Either that it was some local manager or packing plant that caused such a low price.

I have heard local men blame the association here. At Roseburg it was the plant there; at Salem, there, etc., but the same growers 'hung their heads, and stayed inside their own fences, not even crawling onto the house roof to get a better look into the outside world.

Soil and climatic conditions are so favorable to the growing of prunes in Oregon that it does not require much team work to grow the prune. Anybody can grow prunes on prune soil, and by scientific methods heavy yields can be obtained with very few failures. The writer has had nine successive heavy crops on old trees.

The prune tree is not fussy. It grows on the city lot, highway or back in the hills away from civilization. It does its part by producing quality prunes, unless the season is against it. If we needed more prunes it would only be necessary to whisper in a low voice, "plant more prunes."

Second and Third Problems.

Until recently, the marketing of the prune has been left to dis-

PRUNE INDUSTRY SHOULD CONTINUE ONE OF MOST IMPORTANT RESOURCES

If the Producers Can Be Brought Together Closely Enough to Work Out Adequate Plans for Marketing the Crop, This Will Be the Result, Says Mr. Silver

Editor Statesman:

Replying to your inquiry as to our ideas of prunes:

If the producers of Oregon continue to plant prunes indefinitely and then try to market them as independent individuals the prune industry spells disaster not only for the individuals concerned, but for an important section of the whole community.

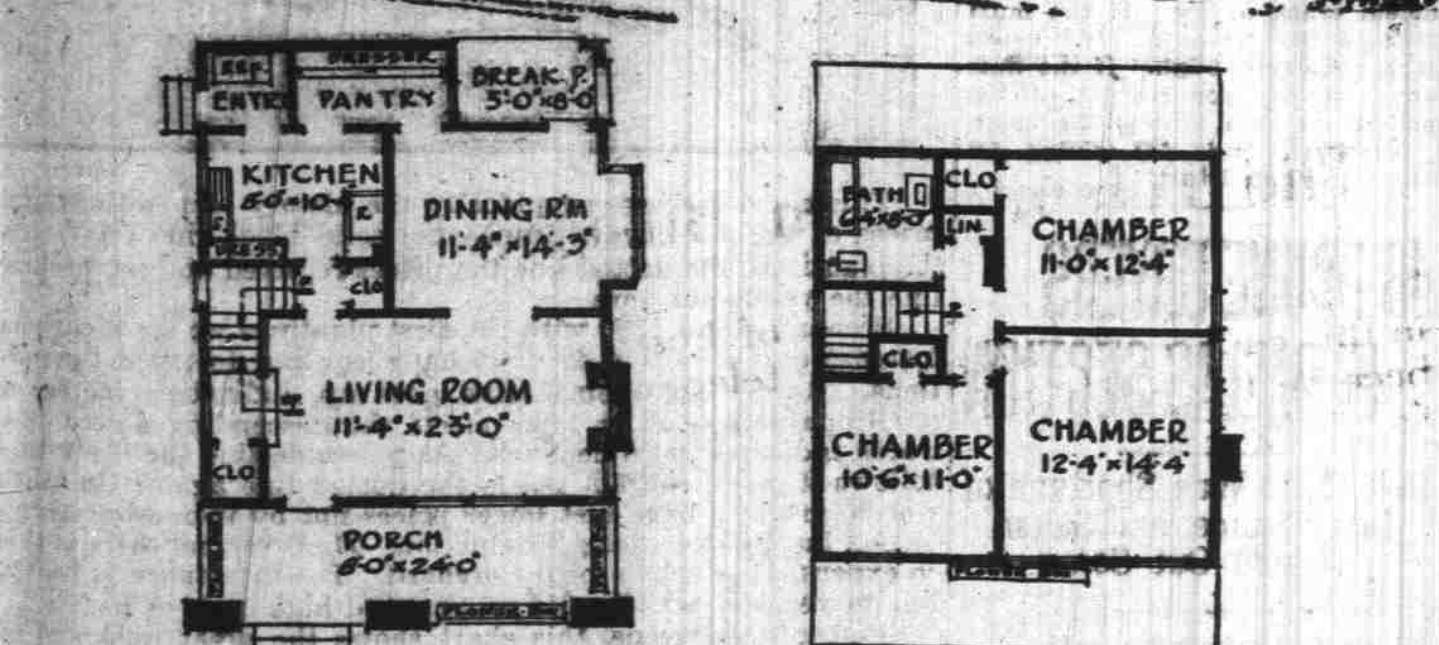
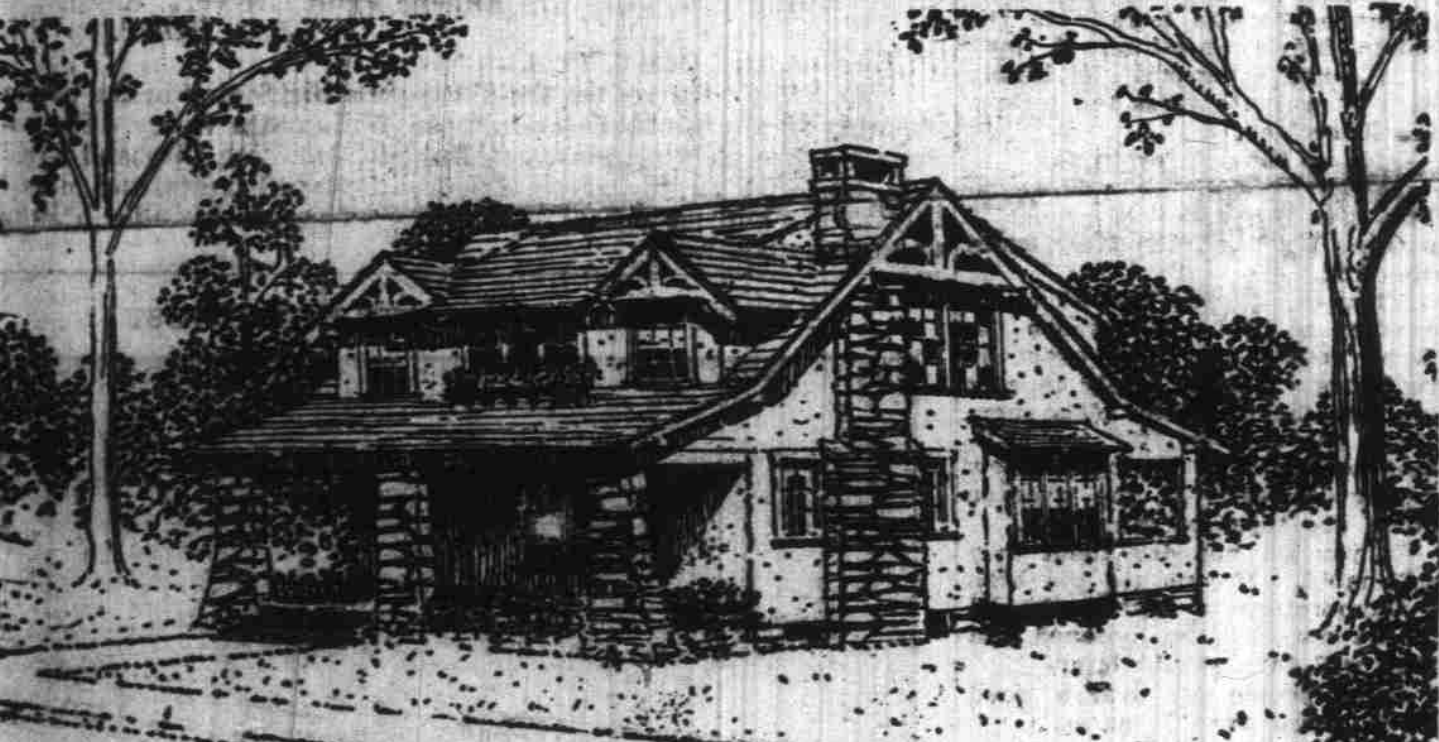
If the producers of prunes can be brought together closely enough to work out adequate plans for marketing the crop under some uniform policy of standardizing, advertising and selling, the prune industry should continue to be one of the most important resources of the state.

Dundee Fruit Growers & Packers, W. W. SILVER, Sec'y. (The Dundee Fruit Growers and Packers (Incorporated) are what their name indicates, growers and packers of Oregon prunes. Red Hills brand is the one they use in their marketing.—Ed.)

plans for marketing the crop under some uniform policy of standardizing, advertising and selling, the prune industry should continue to be one of the most important resources of the state.

placed in shallow trays and covered on top of the seed. Cover the container tightly and allow the gas to set 48 hours. Two tablespoonsful to each five gallon container is a proper dosage. The gas does not injure the material or make it unfit for food. Carbon bisulfide is inflammable and should therefore be kept from fire.

A Modern Concrete House



By CORA W. WILSON.

It has been well said that the character of a people may be determined by the homes they live in, and that the best monument a man can erect for future generations is a home of permanent character. It has been the desire of men at all times to build his house as well as the world. In European countries masonry construction of brick and stone has been used almost exclusively. The pioneers in this country being dependent upon the materials close at hand built log cabins, and from these has evolved the American home of to-day. Many serious configurations, such as the great Chicago fire, the Baltimore fire, the Chelsea fire, have taught us that the house that was the best obtainable in Colonial days is unsuitable to the congested areas of large cities or to the modern farm where oil fuel and electrical power create serious fire hazards.

The wise home builder of to-day knows that a 5 per cent increase in the cost of his house, spent on permanent materials that will not burn, decay, settle or require frequent maintenance, is money well spent that will begin at once to earn dividends for him. Concrete meets these requirements of the home builder as no other material does, and besides is the most adaptable of all materials. Portland cement stucco is pleasing and artistic in appearance. It does away with frequent painting and is permanent.

The most important part of building a house is very often accomplished before actual construction begins. The economy, comfort, convenience and even the appearance of a house are largely dependent upon the care and thought employed in devising the plan. A well planned house is a joy to those who live in it, while one that is badly planned costs as much or more to build and is a continual source of dissatisfaction and annoyance.

So most of our beautiful homes built to-day are cement or stucco. The bungalow house shown is built of stucco and makes a charming appearance and would be a pride to any owner. When building one's home have as thought to the kitchen and pantry floors. In summer food floors expand, in winter they dry out and contract, with a tendency to open up the cracks between the boards, so it is advisable to cement inlinoeum over a lining of builders' deadening felt glued to the floor. This felt takes up expansion and contraction and gives a permanent waterproof, good looking floor, easy to keep clean, and if put on when the house is being built will save a lot of trouble and expense.

The interior also must be considered. One of our most important features are the walls which form a background for the furnishing of the rooms. This should be an easy matter for the housewife to settle, as never before have such beautiful patterned wall papers been available; not only are the patterns rich and abundant with birds and flowers but it has been admitted some of the best patterns and colors are shown in inexpensive wall papers. A large selection of tapestry, scenic, moire stripes and plain moire, beautiful soft toned Bosch Colonial patterns and a vast of delightful chintz wall papers for bedrooms. If this important item is carefully selected one's main decorative work is well done, and to-day if the exterior is beyond comparison surely one should plan their walls and select their wall papers carefully so the interiors of to-day will not be a disappointment.

CORRECT SET OF WORKING BLUE PRINTS AND SPECIFICATIONS OF THE HOUSE PICTURED TO-DAY MAY BE OBTAINED AT NOMINAL COST BY ADDRESSING MR. ROGER PLANK, EDITOR, P. O. BOX NO. 300, STATION 9, NEW YORK CITY, ASKING FOR HOME PLAN N.

Mussolini knows the ancient trick of keeping people loyal to him by keeping them mad at somebody else.

and I never heard of anyone being discharged for an infraction of the rule. And how patriotic we were, too. Promptly at noon all four hundred of us rushed to the center of the building and burst into a loud squawking of "The Star Spangled Banner." The machinery was shut down, which I think was a great mistake; as we had no other musical accompaniment. I fancy we must have been a moving sight, and sound, as we went through that regular contortions, the stomach of our aprons being quite spotted from contact with fruit stains.

At first there was one boy who knew the tune and stayed with it through the first verse, but he got a hankering to go to war, so we bought him a wrist watch and fell upon his neck and wept. But before he got into the thick of the fray the examining board discovered that he had a freckle on his left ear so he did not proceed or get killed or anything, after us being out our money on him, too. And on the Fourth of July, out of consideration for the fact that we worked, the cannery people gave us an ice cream cone.

Now, no being unmindful of past favors, I rise to defend the canneries, and if possible urge that they should be allowed to live and to suggest what seems the only remedy for this logberry congestion that has so wrought up growers, and this prune surplus.

Green logberries are no more fit to be canned than green black-

LET THE CANNERS LIVE; WE WILL NEED THEM AND A LOT MORE WHEN WE GET EVERYTHING ADJUSTED HERE

By ELLA McMUNN

If you have no husband or he is in jail or anything I think it is very nice to work in the cannery and earn a dollar a day. It is a lot easier than to get out in the hot sun and bake your brains picking strawberries, or break your back picking up prunes or scratch your face off picking hops and get aphid down your neck or get nine million briars in your fingers picking logberries. And it is far more pleasant to have your feather bed to return to in the evening than a bunch of moldy straw in a corner of a shack. And it is nice to have your bottle of milk on the porch in the morning and your Statesman in the yard, or anyway, in your neighbor's yard, than to use the awful, unpeppable condensed milk that prevails in those berry and hop yards.

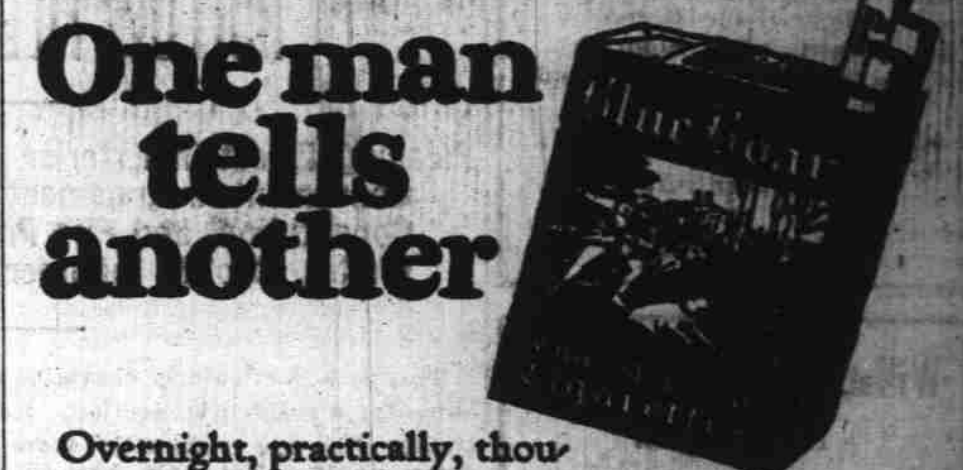
And so I do not quite see why all the fruit growers are so anxious to round up the cannerymen and dump them into the Pacific ocean. They should at least have some consideration for the fishes. Anyway, the fruit growers are no worse off than they were before the canneries came. But I jolly times in the cannery, and besides our wages we often get a nice plump strawberry or cherry. You are not supposed to do so, according to instructions that are printed on your tickets, but the tickets are printed in California where the owners live, I guess,

FREAK WHEATS ARE TABOO BY THE OAC

(The following are "Farm Remedies" from a current bulletin of the department of industrial journalism of the Oregon Agricultural college.)

This is the open season for the freak wheats. Harvest is about over and many farmers are thinking of what they will sow this fall. Some were disappointed when the thresher failed to turn out as many bushels as the June estimate made in the field. It is the time when the promoters of the freak wheats tell their stories of big yields and sell the old fakes for several times the market price of better wheat. The standard varieties proved by the experiment stations are the high yielding ones and they may be bought—certified seed—for but a few cents over the price of market wheat. Don't be led into paying a big price for the seven-headed or titanic or other of the poulard wheats that have failed to produce in the real wheat trials, is the warning sent out by the station.

Dried beans and peas held over for food or seed should be fumigated before permanent storage to prevent weevil infestation, according to Lester Lovett, entomologist of the Oregon experiment station. Place the material to be fumigated in gas proof containers and treat with carbon bisulfide. This material is a liquid and may



One man tells another

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