

SILK CULTURE IS AN INFANT OREGON INDUSTRY, AND IT MAY GO VERY FAR

The Romantic Story of Silk, Grown Principally in the Orient—A Wonderful Display of Silk Worm Growing and Silk Manufacturing at the Store of Kafoury Brothers in Salem, Attracting a Great Deal of Attention

(The following article by Allen Abraham Kafoury, appeared in a recent number of the Oregon Magazine, Salem, under the heading, "The Silk Worm.")

To be entirely clothed in silk is the desire of every American woman whatever her financial position.

"You should mark your silk negligee so that they will not be mistaken for mine," says the mistress to the maid. This is as it should be, for silk is woman's



Allen Abraham Kafoury

rightful heritage. It was through woman's patience and perseverance that silk was given to the world, and it was through American skill and ingenuity that silk can be manufactured at such low costs that it is now within the purchasing radius of even the slenderest purses.

Let us first consider the beginning of silk. As far back as 2600 B. C., we must go, to Si-



The Silk Worm Butterfly (Drawings by J. J. King, advertising man with Kafoury Bros.)

Ling-Chi, Empress of China. This royal wife of the Emperor Huang-Ti, was fiddling in her oriental garden one day when she was attracted to the beauty of the thread spun by the wild silk worms.

She began watching them on the mulberry trees, and marvelled at the strange phenomenon of 500 tiny worms hatching from the eggs of a butterfly. She watched the ferocious eating of these worms and their rapid growth, for within 30 days they were almost four inches long and a quarter of an inch thick.

Then she discovered they quit eating altogether and began finding comfortable airy twigs to rest on. There they fastened themselves and began forcing a thick liquid from tubes on both sides of their head. These filaments joined and dried at once in the free circulation of air that is essential to good silk.

She watched these wonderful little beings completely wrap themselves in thread silk about 500 yards long. Then another metamorphosis took place completing the cycle; an opening was eaten through one end of the little silk house, or cocoon, and a butterfly emerged, dried its wings and began again the business of laying eggs.

The empress decided to rescue some of the silk before all the moths merged and cut it into short lengths, so she carefully unwound the silken thread and rewound it on smooth sticks.

Time is a plentiful commodity with the oriental women, and weaving comes natural to their slender fingers, so with the patience and perseverance that is native to the orient she began coloring the thread and weaving fine vestries for the palace. At the same time jealously guarding the secret of the silk worm.

When other royal women began

admiring the beauty of the silken fabrics, the emperor persuaded Si-Ling-Chi to take some of the women of the royal household into her confidence and develop the product of the silk worm.

Seeing that she was finding favor with her husband, she chose a few princesses to help her in the silk culture. These women carried the tiny eggs in specially made pockets or cells close to their bodies so that the heat from them would help stimulate the life and hasten the hatching.

When the worms were hatched they were transferred with the greatest of care to clean warm yet airy boxes and fed mulberry leaves every hour of the day and night till they were full grown.

Tedious care they required, but it was considered an honor to be allowed to help in the silk culture. Later, other Chinese were hired to do the tiresome work, but the knowledge of the silk worm was kept a secret for many centuries. In fact all the royal houses of Europe were enjoying silk without any idea of how the Chinese produced the thread with which to weave such wonderful fabrics. I said the royal houses of Europe, for only such were allowed to wear it. Silk was for queens, and the favored ones of earth.

During the sixth century two Nestorian monks defied the Chinese death penalty and carried eggs to Emperor Justinian of Rome in hollow pilgrim staffs, together with complete information of the silk industry. For this they were richly rewarded. After this the silk culture spread rapidly. The crusaders took the eggs to

France and England. Japan took up the culture, and is today the leading silk producer of the world.

There were several attempts to raise silk in this country, but tobacco proved more profitable and easier to raise and so silk did not flourish for long at any time.

In 1835 Cheney Brothers and other silk merchants were behind a movement to encourage the culture of silk in the south of this country. The silk was perfect. Even China and Japan with all their experience could not produce a finer quality, but the tedious labor, and the long hours of care required in the feeding of the worms, and the unwinding of the delicate threads of silk from the cocoon required high priced labor in this country, while in Italy and the orient it was done for a few cents a day.

But the American silk merchants were not to be beaten. If they could not compete with the old world in the raising of the raw materials, they could at least surpass them in the manufacture of fabrics from the raw silk. So they began contracting with the "silk farmers" for the silk after it was unwound from the cocoons, and when it reached this country, on the most delicate of machines they produced the fine materials that we enjoy very day—fancies far superior in every way to those the orientals produced on hand turned machinery.

For the last three years, most of the silk from the orient has been brought across the Pacific to Seattle, and from there sent to New York and Chicago by rail. Silk, the queen of fabrics, the gem of the orient, is a very precious cargo, and receives even more consideration than human freight.

packed in 100 pound bales sewed in matting. These are loaded on trucks and rushed to the train and again loaded on specially prepared cars and started on the ocean lap of their eventful journey. Again the aeroplane goes ahead to complete the custom house clearance at New York, or where ever the destination is, for there must be no delay even at the end of the journey.

When a silk train is ready—usually about two hours after a ship is docked—all the railroad systems give way to it. Speed limits are waived, and special trains must wait. Each train travels under sealed orders with a heavy cordon of armed men to guard it. Sixtyfive hours is all the time they are allowed to cross the continent. The fastest passenger train takes 70 hours by law. These special passenger trains rest on sidings to let the wealthy monster rush by. Men grumble at having to wait while a mere "freight train" dashes recklessly by.

Women complain too, little dreaming that it is for their comfort that these queer dark silk "reefers" must have the right of way, for it is the speed of these shipments, and the skill and efficiency of the silk mills in the eastern states, that make every American woman an empress and clothe her in the royal silk.

A Wonderful Display At the store of Kafoury Brothers, in Salem, there is now being displayed, in the east front show window, a wonderful exhibit of silk worm breeding and raw silk tanning and silk manufacturing.

There is shown in the exhibit the display which Mr. Thomas of Scio had at the Oregon state fair a few weeks ago. The cocoons in this display are on oak tree leaves and boughs, seeming to indicate that the silk worms have been feeding on these leaves. These cocoons of Oregon growth are as fine as the others in the display in the Kafoury store window.

The others are from Syria, showing them on mulberry tree leaves and boughs, and from Japan, showing the natural colors of the cocoons. There is also a display of the raw silk in the natural color, before washing, from Syria.

In the Japanese part of the display all the grades are shown from the cocoon to the finest manufactures of silk. First the cocoon. Then the raw silk, the silk ready for winding, then ready for spinning; ready for twisting, ready for the dye house, etc.

There is also a display showing the development of the silk worm, from the egg of the silk worm hatching all the way up to the silk worm in its wonderful cocoon.

Other Oregon Growers There are several other Oregon growers of silk worms, besides Mr. Thomas, whose display is in the Kafoury show window. A company in the suburbs of Portland has undertaken the production of silk worms, and of raw silk, on an extensive scale.

A number of farmers throughout the Willamette valley have experimented with the silk worms. They have found out that we can grow the mulberry trees, on the leaves of which the worms feed, as well as they can be produced in any country.

With American enterprise and inventive genius on the job, there is likely to be in the Willamette valley before very long a large silk growing and manufacturing industry.

Several Days Yet The display in the show window of Kafoury Brothers will be kept intact for several days, in order that every one interested may have an opportunity to see it. If you have not done so, it will be worth your while.

SAYS FILBERT IS OREGON'S BEST NUT The Willamette Valley for Filberts, by H. G. Ogden, Dayton, Oregon

Editor Statesman: That the growing of filberts throughout this section will soon be one of our important industries, is my opinion after making a special study of growing them for the past 16 years.

They are not subject to winter injury as are walnuts in some of the lower and level locations, as evidenced after those three days of freakish weather in December, 1919, which injured a number of walnut trees and killed about 100 Spruce apple trees, while the filberts in the same location showed no sign of damage to the trees, but caused a very light crop, and strangely they are never dormant, as the catkins begin to appear in late July and remain until mature with the coming of new leaves in the spring. They are harvested in early September when the weather is generally fine and the ground in condition to facilitate the easy gathering of the crop at light expense. A few hours in the sun and they can be packed up, requiring no artificial heat to cure, as does the walnut. They begin to bear to pay at four years, with good care and increase up to probably 20 years. Have gathered 25 pounds from a 16-year Barcelona. Have never sold the nuts for less than 24 cents wholesale.

At present few filberts are grown here, while considerable acreage has been planted during the last two or three years, but

the trees are not yet in full bearing, and very few nuts as yet reach the market.

What we want is more production to establish marketing and quotations for the Oregon nut, which is far ahead of the importation in every way, the latter being small, some without kernels and all of doubtful age, and as soon as the buying public learns the superiority of our nuts over those of Europe, they will cut such a hole in the 25,000,000 pounds imported annually at present, that all we can grow for years to come will meet a quick demand.

Get the Right Kind Prospective growers should be careful to select the right varieties of nursery stock, such as will bear. Those without experience should be able to ascertain this from responsible nurserymen, or better from a grower who has plants for sale from a successful orchard.

Remember that the filbert is a cultivated hazel and that the latter grows here to perfection. If I should tell those fellows back in Iowa that we use the wild hazel for props for our apple and peach trees, some of which are four inches in diameter and twenty feet high, they would likely accuse me of California tactics.

Down in southern California they grow most of our crops and more and they can dictate the price of walnuts, but they cannot on filberts, as they were tried out there first and failed. It seems that filberts are grown more successfully along the Oregon coast and part of Washington than in any other place in the United States, which gives a huge territory to supply. They are a long lived tree. Plant a few for old age and in the meantime help us to introduce OREGON'S BEST NUT.

H. G. OGDEN Dayton, Ore., Oct. 24, 1925.

PRODUCERS PRUNE POOL PAYS \$58 TON Splendid Showing Also Made by This Cooperative Concern on Other Fruits

The Producers Canning and Packing company, with its cannery on North Commercial and Jefferson streets, is making distribution to its members on the prune pool for the past season.

The net returns are \$58 a ton, or \$1.74 a bushel. This means that the prunes of the members were canned and sold in the can on the market, and, after the expenses of canning, including all overhead charges, were paid, there was left \$1.74 a bushel of sixty pounds to the growers; to the members of the company who furnished prunes. This cannery is owned and operated by the growers. It is a cooperative company made up of producers.

The ruling price for prunes during prune harvest was \$10 a ton, or \$1.20 a bushel.

A Splendid Showing This make a most splendid showing for the Producers company. The managers do not like to give out total figures, but it is safe to say that something above \$20,000 is represented by the prune checks now going out. This same cooperative concern made a good showing the past season in some of its other pools. For instance, it paid five and five-eighths cents a pound on its loganberry pool, and nine cents a pound on its strawberry pool.

TRY TO WRECK TRAINS YOUTH ARRESTED FOR PLACING SPIKES ON TRACKS WESTPORT, Or., Oct. 26.—(By Associated Press.)—Edward Derosity, 15, son of a St. Helens, Or., mill worker, was arrested here today after it is alleged he had made two unsuccessful attempts to wreck passenger trains running between Astoria and Portland. The boy, authorities said, admitted the act, but could give no reason for it.

Train No. 27 bound from Astoria to Portland, struck an obstruction on the track three miles above Westport this morning. Examination disclosed the remains of a spike which had been driven between the adjoining ends of the two rails and had been broken off when the train passed over it.

WE HAVE A MONOPOLY ON THE FILBERT GROWING INDUSTRY, SAYS MR. PEARCY

It is an Industry That Is Being Overlooked by the Farmers of Western Oregon—There Is No Crop That Will Bear More Regularly—Two Bugaboos Are Explained Away—Our Big Filbert Importations

Editor Statesman: Filbert growing is an industry that is being overlooked by the farmers of western Oregon. There is no crop that will bear more regularly than the filbert. In the Eugene section, ever since the oldest orchard came into bearing 20 years ago, there has never been a crop failure. In Salem, we have missed one crop, following the 1919 freeze when the temperature dropped to from 11 to 16 degrees below zero. Since it takes a temperature of colder than 8 below to injure the blossoms which are in full bloom from December 15th to March 15th, and since rain or other weather conditions have no effect on the cropping of the filbert, we believe we are justified in saying that the filbert is practically an annual bearer. We know of no other fruit that will stand in that class. Also it comes into profitable bearing at from 5 to 6 years of age and increases in productivity until it reaches the 20th to 22nd year and will keep bearing heavy and regular crops for 100 years and better. There is a 30 acre orchard in Kent, England, that is 125 years old and bearing profitable crops every year.

A Profitable Crop For the last 12 years, the growers have been receiving 25c a pound average price. Yields have been running from 200 to 400 pounds an acre the fifth and sixth year, 800 to 1,400 pounds at 10 years, and a ton and better at 20 years of age. Following are the yield records of a filbert orchard. The fourth year, 300 pounds, fifth year 550 pounds, sixth year, 530 pounds; seventh year, 950 pounds (note the sixth year nursery stock was grown on the orchard trees, resulting in a cutting down of the crop). The seventh year crop was valued at \$190 per acre. This orchard received no special care outside of careful cultivation. The pruning was neglected.

Our Filbert Importations Into the United States 20,000,000 pounds of foreign filberts are imported annually. These nuts, while small and inferior in quality, are all sold without any advertising. It will take 10,000 acres of full bearing orchards to produce 20,000,000 pounds. We have 2000 acres of bearing and non-bearing orchards. Most of our local nuts are being consumed by people who formerly ate few if any foreign filberts. So we believe we are justified in saying that there is a market for several times 10,000 acres of filberts.

Two Bugaboos With the above facts before us, why are we holding back in planting additional acreage? Could it be two troubles which in themselves are negligible but which have been exaggerated until they seem to be insurmountable obstacles to the growers?

These two items are blight and the suckering habit of the trees.

Let us look into these two so-called serious drawbacks. The blight is native to the western hazelnut, so is ever present. There is one way to avoid blight, namely, plant good strong trees, plant them in rich ground, give them plenty of cultivation, don't forget to hoe them and to sucker them. In other words, keep them growing. Neglect your cultivation and your trees will surely get blight, the same as young livestock that are undernourished will fall prey to different diseases. Filbert trees four years old and older seldom ever have blight.

Suckering Simple Matter The suckering or removing of the filbert suckers is a very simple matter. They will pull off very readily when they are five or six inches high. At that stage the year not woody. This process should be repeated three or four times or every time when the suckers get six inches high. This operation takes no longer than hoeing and can be done at the same time. But let the suckers grow until they are the size of broom handles and it will take a half hour to remove them and you will have just about ruined your tree at the same time. If the suckering is done properly each year, the tree will produce less and less suckers as it grows older.

Do Not Bother Older Trees Suckers and blight don't seem to worry the older filbert growers. In fact, nearly all of those whose acreage is bearing are planting more filberts. One grower is doubling his acreage, which increase will give him one of the biggest filbert orchards in this section.

We Have a Monopoly The filbert has a countrywide market. It can be grown only in western Oregon, western Washington and British Columbia. With this limited section to produce the filberts for the whole of North America, there should be no fear of overproduction for years to come. In fact, we have a monopoly on the filbert growing industry.

HARY L. PEARCY, Salem, Ore., Oct. 27, 1925. (Mr. Percy is a member of the firm of Percy Bros., Salem orchard experts and nurserymen, 178 South Commercial street.—Ed.)

POLLINATION IS BIG THING IN FILBERTS (Continued from page 8) carry a fair supply of catkins. In the case referred to, his grove will burst into heavy bearing about the year after next, as the trees are now making a rapid growth, and two feet added to three make five, and two added to five make seven, and a seven foot tree carries many times as much pollen as a three foot tree. Not only that but the pollen is carried higher in the air as the tree gets

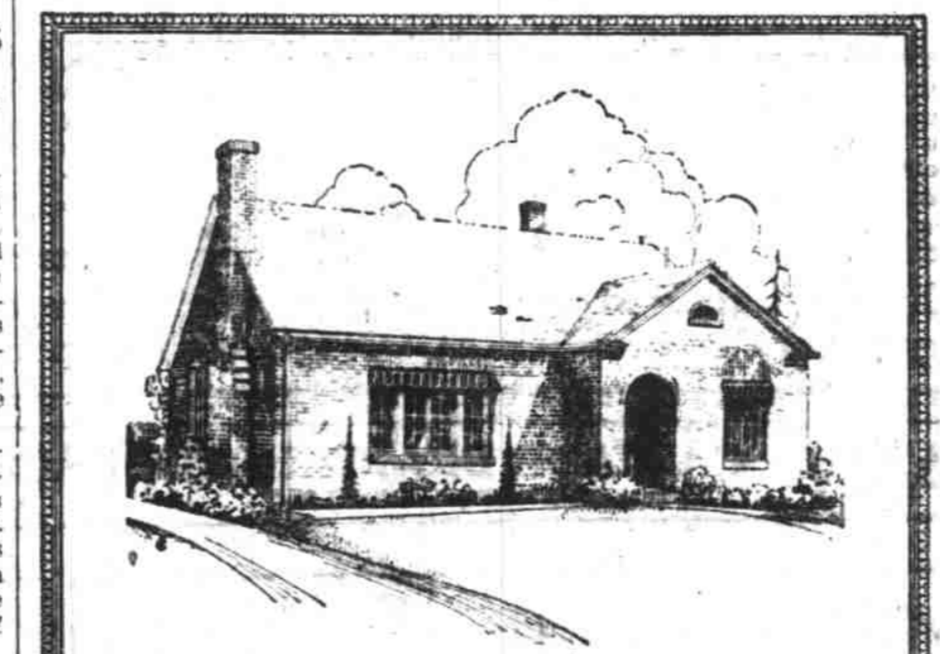
larger, and covers a wider space in the grove.

Plenty of Pollenizer If there are any morals contained in this article, it would seem to me that they are that a filbert grove which is not properly cross pollinated will never bear paying crops (this has been proved time and time again, so why let any one tell you differently?); that the mere presence of pollinating trees is not sufficient, they must also be large enough to carry a large amount of pollen; and that in selecting the variety of pollinizer, where you have a choice between several varieties which are effective on the Barcelona, choose the variety which makes the largest tree in order to assure yourself that you will get the said large amount of pollen.

Do Not Delude Yourself And above all, do not take advice from people who do not have filbert groves in actual bearing, except it be from such authorities as the OAC experts who have specialized on filberts, or county agents who have done the same. Many county agents have never taken the time and trouble to even visit a filbert grove. Their advice, therefore, is worth nothing. If you want to get information on filberts, go to those men who have spent years of time and lots of money in investigating the filbert game, and who have something to show that they have actually learned something.

Above all, visit the best groves yourself, preferably at a time when the nuts are on the trees or just before or during harvest. Remember, no one is going to protect your investment but yourself, and if you take conditions, or permit yourself to be suck for some one's game, it is your own fault and not some else's.

BEN F. DORRIS, Springfield, Or., Oct. 26, 1925.



Brick Homes for All

THAT brick homes are not for the rich only is demonstrated again by this snug brick house designed and built by Alex. H. Corbett, manager of the Granger Clay Products Co., in Yakima.

It is a hundred percent brick home and cost, including brick basement and walks, only \$4,570; but eight percent more than frame construction.

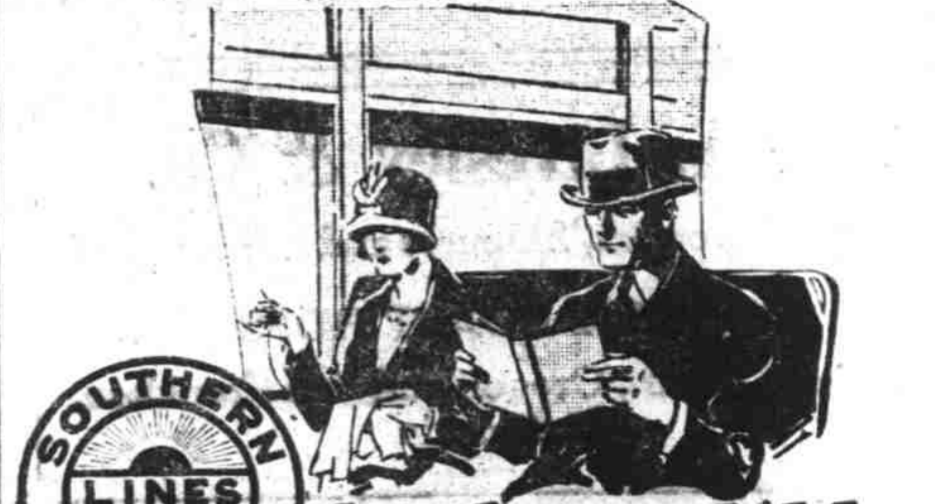
The home is 34½ feet wide by 32 feet deep, containing a living room 14 by 24 feet; good sized bedroom, breakfast room, kitchen, bath, linen closet and porch.

Four and five room homes can be built of brick for but little more cost than frame and save much money for their owners in painting, repairs and heating.

SEND FOR BRICK HOME PLAN BOOKS The Home You Can Afford, (60 plans) 10c. Your Next Home, (60 plans) 10c. Postpaid.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST BRICK MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION 906 Lewis Building, Portland SALEM BRICK & TILE CO. Salem

as the OAC experts who have specialized on filberts, or county agents who have done the same. Many county agents have never taken the time and trouble to even visit a filbert grove. Their advice, therefore, is worth nothing. If you want to get information on filberts, go to those men who have spent years of time and lots of money in investigating the filbert game, and who have something to show that they have actually learned something.



Southern Pacific this dependable service to PORTLAND

\$2.20 Week-end fare Lv. Salem 6:41 a.m. Ar. Portland 8:50 a.m. No. 16. Delicious breakfast in Southern Pacific dining car. \$2.50 15-day fare Stopovers on this ticket. 9:33 a.m. No. 18 11:30 a.m. 1:25 p.m. No. 14 3:30 p.m. 5:35 p.m. No. 34 7:40 p.m. Similar convenient service returning. Ask agent

Southern Pacific Lines O. L. Darling, Agent, Salem, or A. A. Mickel, D. F. & P. A., 184 Liberty St.

THE STAPLES STORES STAND FOR QUALITY OF SERVICE AND MATERIALS

AN ADJUSTMENT IS ALWAYS MADE WHEN A PATIENT IS NOT SATISFIED. OUR PRICES ARE THE LOWEST POSSIBLE CONSISTENT WITH RELIABILITY AND SERVICE.

When You Think of Eyes Think—STAPLES Staples Optical Company Masonic Temple Building—Salem, Oregon



Give Your Boy a Genuine Gruen Watch GRUEN Pentagon Verithin "Whirl tip over in the pocket"

Of all things a boy can own, a good watch is most effective in teaching him the value of property. Give him a genuine Gruen. He will be quick to appreciate its timekeeping accuracy, its beauty of design, the fine and careful workmanship he knows instinctively must have gone into the making of a watch like this.

The new Gruen Semi-Thin Junior, shown above, was made expressly for him. It is beautifully engraved in white or green gold filled case, an especially thin watch and extraordinary value—priced at \$35. Come in and let us show you this new creation. HARTMAN BROS. Jewelers and Silversmiths State and Liberty, Salem, Oregon

Advertisement for PILES, featuring a bottle of medicine and text: "The Testimony of Others My new book which may be had FREE upon request, on PILES and other Rectal and Colon Disorders. I have reproduced nearly 100 letters from among those received from thousands of patients. These tell you why of their years of suffering of their trying home remedies and even operations, and, finally, of their complete cure by my NON-SURGICAL method. These are from men and women of every station, many of whom you may know. You will learn by reading this book why I can give a WRITTEN GUARANTEE to cure your Piles or return your money, which the same words mean."

Advertisement for PE-RU-NA, featuring a bottle of medicine and text: "PE-RU-NA is a NEW DRESS. It is a powerful medicine for the treatment of various ailments, including rheumatism, neuralgia, and other conditions. It is described as a 'new dress' for the body, suggesting a fresh approach to medicine. The advertisement includes a list of ailments it treats and a guarantee of effectiveness."