

# SALEM DISTRICT INDUSTRIES

## SIXTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR

The Statesman will publish and award a prize each week for the best essay submitted by a grade school pupil on the industries scheduled on this page.

THE DAILY STATESMAN dedicates one full page each week in the interests of one of the fifty-two basic industries of the Salem district. Letters and articles from boosters are solicited. This is your page. Help boost Salem.

For instance: Salem district has two counties growing the sacred myrtle—the only place it grows on this continent. What unique fact do you know about the district? Address articles to Slogan Editor, care Statesman.

### THE OREGON WALNUT EXCHANGE IS HANDLING ABOUT 350 TONS THIS YEAR

The Salem Unit is Supplying About Fifty Tons of This Crop, Which is About Double That of Last Year, and About Half the Tonnage Here Comes From the Skyline Orchards—Five Cents a Pound Differential Over California on Medium Grade Nuts

#### Editor Statesman:

The Oregon Walnut Exchange (cooperative) has made considerable progress in the 1925 season, and we are glad to be able to report a very large increase in membership over the state, and two new packing units of the exchange, one at Dallas and one at Dilley.

No one knows how many walnut growers there are in Oregon or just how many tons are annually produced, but we believe we are safe in saying that the Exchange now controls about 70 per cent of the total walnut crop.

The Dundee unit now has about 160 members, or an increase of 50 since last season, and will pack this year close to 200 tons of nuts.

The Salem unit will nearly double its 1924 tonnage, and is expected to pack about 40 to 50 tons. About half of this amount comes from the Skyline Orchards, south of Salem, which is the largest single producing walnut planting in Oregon.

We shipped a twenty ton car out of Salem last week to Spokane, Wash., which contained some 200 bags of the Skyline Franquettes. It had the highest valuation of any car the Exchange has ever shipped, and our inspector, Mr. George Trunk, of Dundee, considered it contained the finest collection of walnuts he had ever been called upon to judge for the Exchange.

Mr. Ferd Groner, whose well known orchard at Scholls constitute one unit of the Exchange, is expected to have around 30 tons of Franquettes. The Amity packing unit, operated by W. R. Osborne, has doubled its output and should have between 15 and 20 tons. The Dilley, Dallas and Lebanon units are producing some 50 tons between them. Altogether the Exchange will this year be called upon to market from 300 to 350 tons of walnuts for a total of about 225 grower members.

The market is good. The Exchange has been able to make deliveries to buyers as rapidly as the nuts can be packed. This means prompt returns to members, who are again receiving 75 per cent of the total grade value of their crops—exclusive of culls—within thirty days or less of delivery date. The Dundee association is today distributing about \$50,000 as first payments to those of its growers whose crops were graded in the month of October. The Amity unit was an early shipper this year, and is now in receipt of payments for three-fourth of its crop.

The Excellent Quality

One condition that has contributed to speed in grading and delivery to buyers this year has been the excellent quality of the walnuts themselves—very few showing the shriveled kernels which caused so much grief in some districts last season. Many growers were afraid of a recurrence of the shrunken meats this year on account of the dry summer, but all doubts were dispelled when the harvest developed.

Almost all crops will pass a 90 per cent cracking test with ease, and that means a great saving in time and expense of grading, since it is not often necessary this year to put the nuts through suction machines, which exhaust the unfilled ones out of a crop.

Smaller Sizes This Year  
In addition to the nuts being well filled they are in most instances quite plump meated with very white kernels. They are however, universally running to smaller sizes than last year and instead of the Exchange pack being about 35 per cent Jumbo size as it was in 1924, it will probably go about 15 per cent Jumbos, 50 per cent large size and 35 per cent medium size.

Some of the Grievances  
Some districts of the state were badly hit by the cold wave last winter, and though in most cases the trees were not badly affected, the fruit spurs and catkins were sufficiently frozen to seriously curtail the present crop. And in all sections, our old friend the walnut blight made its appearance this summer with unusual persistence, and caused many a grower to revise his original crop estimate several times before harvest. But even so, the walnut tonnage as a whole is a little greater than we had last year in Oregon, while prices remain practically the same. Jumbo Franquettes are a cent above last year's figure, being 37 cents this year to the grower. On medium size (seedlings) the price of 20 cents pound was maintained this year by the Oregon Walnut Exchange, in spite of the drop made by the California Walnut Growers' association, on this grade. They opened this year at 15-cent a pound. Their 1924 price was 16 cents a pound. Thus Oregon medium size walnuts are now enjoying a 5 cents per pound premium over the corresponding California grade, which we believe to be the biggest differential ever paid on Oregon walnuts. Very sincerely yours, W. H. BENTLEY.

(Mr. Bentley is the manager of the Oregon Walnut Exchange (cooperative) and is well posted on all phases of the industry.—Ed.)

Editor Statesman:  
Climatic conditions of the northwest are similar to those of France and Germany. California walnuts do not compare with those grown here, neither does California produce the quantity per acre. According to Dr. Batchelor, now in France for seven months to study French walnut growing at the time of their greatest crop in history, he can find nothing there equal to the guards a year ago when he was up here. The famous Isere valley is as well loaded with nuts as it ever is, but the Willamette and Columbia river valleys are destined to outdo the greatest of

but it costs less to care for the orchard after it is growing and in bearing.

#### Bearing at Six Years

Bearing is commercial at six years on properly cared for and well located land. Myths have been regularly exploded since growers have taken to grafting trees and good land, leaving seedling trees and red hills trailing in the dust. 1000 pounds per acre is not at all unusual at present and is to be expected when the planting is on good soil. Whether a man is able to bring his orchard into bearing without other expense than the cost of the trees and their planting depends on many factors, chief among which is experience and business ability. That we believe we are able to do this with our walnut orcharding company is because we have known it to be done and are willing to back our experience against the pioneering of our more illustrious walnut men.

Marketing depends on demand which in turn is based on getting value received. That in 1922 over 808,565 pounds and that the value of all nuts imported had reached \$137,825,249, while in 1911 only 43,634,224 pounds of walnuts were imported and the importation of all nuts was valued only at \$14,265,240, goes to show that the demand for walnuts is greater than the supply. That this year of the greatest walnut harvest in the history of the world there has been no weakening in the price of walnuts and an increase of 80 per cent in the price of Brazil nuts 30 per cent in the price of filberts, 27 per cent in the price of almonds, and 10 per cent in the price of wild pecans only goes to show that the demand for nuts is increasing rather than diminishing. At the present rate of increased consumption the present rate of planting can go on for a HUNDREDS of years without catching up to the point where we can do without our nut imports.

The walnut association will always be a factor in the distribution of that product on account of service to producer and consumer alike. On account of the large scale of its services, the cost of that service is uncommonly light—something less than 2 cents per pound on walnuts marketed.

Suggested improvements in that service are that the washing and drying of walnuts be under the auspices of the association in recirculation bin type dryers. Another suggestion is that the water bleach of sodium chloride be used in an endeavor to provide a still more favorable reception for our walnuts both at home and in the east, which would be glad to get away from the white bleach used in California.

Still another suggestion is that big, unwieldy, gravel type graders be disposed of for the more economical pecan type grader of inclined revolving bars such as is being used at McMinnville. Thanking you for the opportunity to express myself on a few of my beliefs, I am, your sincerely, RICHARD H. TURK.

Vancouver, Wash., Forty-first and Main streets, November 2, 1925.

### OWNER OF OLDEST WALNUT ORCHARD

Mr. Page of Jefferson Thinks the Marketing Is Being Well Done

Editor Statesman:  
Your request for a letter on the walnut industry finds me at a loss for new ideas to relate; so much has already been said in your other Slogan numbers.

Professor Schuster is progressing in his search for a better variety for our climate and will, no doubt, bring out new varieties in a few years that are as good or better than anything we have now.

Nature is eliminating the plantings on wet and shallow ground, leaving little excuse for anyone planting on these types of soils in the future. A short trip through any walnut district will show the prospective planter what soil to avoid.

Marketing Well Done  
The marketing problem is also giving way to modern treatment.

### THIS WEEK'S SLOGAN

DID YOU KNOW That Salem is the center of a great and growing walnut industry; that the super nut is grown here—the highest quality and the highest priced walnut produced in the world; that our walnuts have a superior flavor and texture; that our walnuts are perfect as they come from the trees, needing no bleaching, and will never need any; that Oregon is marketing an increasing annual crop of quality walnuts; that our walnuts sell at 2 to 5 cents and more a pound higher than the California walnuts; that plantings are being made and will be made indefinitely, as fast as good nursery stock can be supplied; that this is one of the most substantial of all our industries here; and that the returns to this district will soon be for our walnut sales millions of dollars annually?

### Dates of Slogans in Daily Statesman (In Twice-a-Week Statesman Following Day)

- (With a few possible changes)
- Loganberries, October 1
- Prunes, October 8
- Dairying, October 15
- Flax, October 22
- Filberts, October 29
- Walnuts, November 5
- Strawberries, November 12
- Apples, November 19
- Raspberries, November 26
- Mint, December 3
- Great Cows, etc., December 10
- Blackberries, December 17
- Cherries, December 24
- Pears, December 31
- Gooseberries, January 7, 1925
- Corn, January 14
- Celery, January 21
- Splnach, etc., January 28
- Onions, etc., February 4
- Potatoes, etc., February 11
- Bees, February 18
- Poultry and Pet Stock, Feb. 25
- City Beautiful, etc., March 4
- Beans, etc., March 11
- Paved Highways, March 18
- Head Lettuce, March 25
- Silos, etc., April 1
- Legumes, April 8
- Asparagus, etc., April 15
- Grapes, etc., April 22
- Drug Garden, April 29
- Sugar Beets, Sorghum, etc., May 6
- Water Powers, May 13
- Irrigation, May 20
- Mining, May 27
- Land, Irrigation, etc., June 3
- Floriculture, June 10
- Hops, Cabbage, etc., June 17
- Wholesaling and Jobbing, June 24
- Cucumbers, etc., July 1
- Hogs, July 8
- Goats, July 15
- Schools, etc., July 22
- Sheep, July 29
- National Advertising, August 5
- Seeds, etc., August 12
- Livestock, August 19
- Grain and Grain Products, August 26
- Manufacturing, September 2
- Automotive Industries, September 9
- Woodworking, etc., September 16
- Paper Mills, September 23

### WE GROW THE HIGHEST QUALITY WALNUTS AND FILBERTS YET KNOWN

Dr. Powell Gives Some Practical Pointers Taken From His Own Experiences in Growing Some of the Finest—Walnut Tree Roots Must Reach Neither a Hard Pan nor a Water Table—Every Citizen With Right Land Should Raise Nuts

(Dr. Powell, in a note to the editor, says: "I had a force of men out here today to look after and am very tired; but since I am a native booster I wrote out the enclosed brief article for you on Planting Nut Trees." Following is the article.)

Planting Nut Trees  
Briefly, will state that the nut industry of the Willamette valley and Clark county, Washington, has proven its worth and is receiving greater consideration. Soils and climatic conditions of this section of the country are so varied and likewise so favorable to the successful production of a wonderful variety of products, not exceeded by any other country. The bottom lands, prairie lands, and the hill lands are each specially adapted to certain classes of products, that is, vegetables, berries, hops, etc., for the bottom lands—grains, clover, grasses, flax, etc., for the prairie lands—the bench and hill lands are best for fruits and nuts.

The walnut tree requires a deep pervious soil capable of retaining moisture to a depth of ten or twenty feet for best results. Blasting holes for deep rooted long lived trees—is not advisable—resulting in an economic loss. The filbert tree is an immense feeder as well as the walnut tree, but due to its system of lateral roots does not require as deep soil. However, no tree should be planted where the root system reaches a hard pan or water table. Rolling lands with free air and water drainage, above the heavy frost lines are essential. Thus under favorable conditions, good grafted walnut trees and well rooted thrifty nursery cultivated filbert trees, should develop rapidly, bear young, and soon bring

forth profitable returns. Planting walnuts 40 feet apart, and filberts 20 to 25 feet apart, the filbert grove will bring earlier and greater returns per acre for several years, than walnut trees, reckoning at the same average price per pound for the nuts. My next planting as planned will be in separate groves, as I have already experienced many ill effects of a mixed orchard. Surface crops receiving an all season's cultivation could well be grown in a young orchard. My experience has also been with cherries, prunes, and pears, but my nut trees have produced the only crop that has saved my orchard from deficit returns. While this cultivation could well be given in a young orchard, my experience has also been with cherries, prunes, and pears, but my nut trees have produced the only crop that has saved my orchard from deficit returns. While this cultivation could well be given in a young orchard, my experience has also been with cherries, prunes, and pears, but my nut trees have produced the only crop that has saved my orchard from deficit returns.

### WILL TEST OUT PROMISING SEEDLINGS AND KEEP ON REPORTING TO GROWERS

If We Had Two or More Varieties Equal to the Franquette, But Blooming at Different Times, We Would Have Very Near the Ideal Condition for Resistance to Climatic Conditions—Other Suggestions From Our Highest Authority on Walnut Growing

Editor Statesman:  
If one had been going around among the walnut growers and soon-to-be-walnut growers of the state of Oregon during the past few years, he would have presumed that the vital point in successful walnut growing was the question of grafted versus seedling trees. More heated arguments have been heard on that question than on any other single question.

While we favor the grafted Franquette as against the seedling walnut trees, we find seedling orchards that are very successful. With the grafted Franquette the crops will vary according to season, for the using of one single variety increases the danger considerably, as the blooming season is restricted to a very short time. Instead of spreading this season over a longer period of time as is usually the case where more than one variety is used. If we had two or more varieties equal to the Franquette, but blooming at different times, we would have very near the ideal conditions so far as resistance to climatic conditions is concerned during the blooming season. The Experiment Station is carrying on investigation with this in mind, and if anyone has seedlings that they consider valuable, we would be very glad to test them out along with others that we have on hand, and report back as we did to the growers of seedlings last season.

Grafted Nut For Future  
There is no question but that the seedling orchard does not attain the efficiency possible when you consider the number of trees. When you consider the number of worthless trees found even in the best of seedling orchards, and the cost of working them over, when you see the variation in the nuts, the number of sleepers found in the orchards, and the other weaknesses you cannot help but believe in grafted nuts for the future. Especially will you believe in the grafted nuts for the future when you consider the competition that will become keener as the orchards now planted come into bearing.

Of Vital Importance  
Another factor in favor of the grafted tree is its resistance to mushroom root rot. The writer saw one orchard this fall with 40 per cent of the trees killed by mushrooms root rot. These trees had recently been grafted on Northern California black roots, but were planted by hired help in the absence of the owner. The grafted trees were set deep with English walnut wood below the surface of the ground. The rhizomorphs of the mushroom rot climbed up over the black stock to the English walnut wood and there girdled the tree. No evidence of damage could be noticed on the black root, as apparently the fungus was unable to attack the Northern California black stock. Where the owner planted the trees himself and set them at the proper depth there was no damage seen to any of the trees, as the English walnut wood is above the ground, not moving it from the source of infection. This has been noted in other cases and is a thing of vital importance to those people planting on newly cleared land.

Soil Also Vital  
Be that as it may, the choice of the kind of tree has had less influence on the walnut industry than many other things. People have gone on looking at the tops of the trees and paid little or no attention to the soil on which they were walking, when the soil was far more the most important consideration. One would almost believe that if the proper soil and location had been chosen in the beginning, almost any kind of a tree could have been planted and more money would now be coming into the state than under present conditions. At least, a far greater percentage of the trees would be alive today.

It would not be such an important point if present day planters were learning from the mistakes of the older planters, but it seems that but very few are giving it any attention. It is hopeless to attempt to develop a paying orchard on soil shallower than five to six feet, and for the best results the soil should be deeper than that. This depth of soil is determined by rock, impervious soil layer or water table, some material through which the roots cannot penetrate, or if once penetrated are killed off at a later time. The last one, the water table, is probably the worst one to contend with. During the spring and summer the water table may be low, and the subsoil can readily be entered by the roots. However, as soon as the rainy season starts the water table rises and we have the killing off of the root system. This water table or layer is just as impervious in the long run to the root system as any rock layer. Water-logged soil must be avoided, and that designation includes so much of the low-lying flat land. Young trees may start well, but as the root system enlarges, it is restricted, and we have a great many trees that are stunted and weakened, readily succumbing to any unusual condition.

### LARGEST GRAFTED WALNUT ORCHARD

It is the Sky Line Orchard in the Liberty District South of Salem

The largest grafted Franquette walnut orchard in Oregon is located in the Liberty district a few miles south of Salem. It is owned by Clarence W. Noble of Youngstown, Ohio. Mr. Noble looked over the country for two years before buying the land for his orchard. He purchased the land on the raw and has built his orchard "from the ground up." He has 212 acres in walnuts. Italian prunes are planted between the walnut trees. Last year, the prune product was 121 tons. This year it was only 11 tons, this being a very short crop year. Had there been no prunes, the walnut orchard would have come into commercial bearing sooner. As it was, at eight years there were a few sacks of walnuts; at nine years, 1,500 pounds; at 10 years, a ton and a half; at 11 years, eight tons; at 12 years, 11 tons; and at 13 years, which was this year, 22 tons.

Outlook for Future  
The prune trees on the Sky Line Orchard will be allowed to bear one more crop, as they now stand. Next year, a third of the prune trees will be taken out. Finally, all will be taken out. How far will the increase of the walnut crop go? That is a matter for speculation. But is safe to predict that, with good care, the same as has been given the orchard, the yield will be 75 tons at 25 years of age. It will likely be more and more as the years go by, for a walnut tree never grows old. There are walnut trees in Europe known to be 1600 years old; and still young.

On a Firm Basis  
Moses P. Adams is the present manager of the Sky Line orchard. He is also secretary-treasurer of the Salem branch of the Oregon Walnut Exchange. Mr. Adams was too busy yesterday to respond to the call of the Slogan editor for an article for this issue. But he said some things last year that will bear repeating, especially to those expecting to get into the walnut industry. Below is what he said:

"Possibly it is as well for the walnut industry of the Willamette valley that its development has been no faster up to the present time. Had it had a rush room growth the damage done by unscrupulous purveyors of worthless trees and worse locations would be much greater than at present.

Now Well Established  
"Thanks to the courage of several of the pioneers in their unceasing struggle against seedling trees, coupled with the assistance of the Oregon Agricultural college, in matters of soil, elevation, air drainage and scientific analysis of other phases pertaining to walnut culture, the industry is now well established as a safe, sure and remunerative investment for anyone who will follow the trail that experience and research has blazed. "It is needless to expound the superiority of the Oregon walnut. Wherever it is sold the superior excellent qualities are apparent, and they command a premium over all others in price." Pretty Girl Aids in Novel Swindle—Headline. They've been doing it ever since publishers started putting their pictures on book covers.

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