

# The Oregon Statesman

Issued Daily Except Monday by  
**THE STATESMAN PUBLISHING COMPANY**  
 215 South Commercial St., Salem, Oregon

R. J. Hendricks . . . . . Manager	W. H. Henderson . . . . . Circulation Manager
Frank J. Tessa . . . . . Managing Editor	Ralph H. Kistling . . . . . Advertising Manager
Lee M. Merriman . . . . . City Editor	Frank Jaskowski . . . . . Manager Job Dept.
Leslie J. Smith . . . . . Telegraph Editor	E. A. Khoten . . . . . Livestock Editor
Andrew Hunch . . . . . Society Editor	W. G. Conner . . . . . Poultry Editor

**MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**  
 The Associated Press is exclusively entitled to the use for publication of all news dispatches credited to it or not otherwise credited in this paper and also the local news published herein.

**BUSINESS OFFICES:**  
 Albert Byars, 336 Worcester Bldg., Portland, Ore.  
 Thomas F. Clark Co., New York, 128-136 W. 31st St.; Chicago, Marquette Bldg.;  
 Doty & Payne, Sharon Bldg., San Francisco, Calif.; Higgins Bldg., Los Angeles, Calif.

**TELEPHONES:**  
 Business Office...23 or 588    Circulation Office...583    News Department...23-106  
 Society Editor . . . . . 106    Job Department . . . . . 583

Entered at the Post Office in Salem, Oregon, as second-class matter.

December 3, 1925

**SURE GUIDANCE:**—In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. Proverbs 3:6.

## NOW WE HAVE A REAL MINT BOOM

Salem district peppermint oil is quoted now in the New York market at \$27 to \$30 a pound. At such prices, mint growing here would be as good as a gold mine—

There would be a small fortune of profit in each acre producing a good crop; say about \$2000 an acre with a crop of around 70 pounds to the acre. But oil was selling at this time last year at \$6 to \$8 a pound. Half those prices would make mint growing a profitable crop here.

We have a real peppermint oil boom here, and it is likely to persist—perhaps to the extent that there will in time be an over production, with low prices.

But these things are to be considered:

The finest and richest peppermint oil in the world is produced in the Salem district—

An oil with 51 per cent of menthol content, against the 36 per cent of the oil produced in Michigan, Indiana and New York, our competitors in this country—

And an oil that ranks at the top for purity of flavor—

So that dealers pay more for our oil than for the Eastern oil.

And the Eastern oil must be mixed with the Oregon oil in order to give it the proper flavor.

Besides, our growers get more pounds of oil to the acre.

All these are tremendous advantages—

They give our growers what amounts to a franchise in the profitable production of peppermint oil, for which there is a rapidly growing demand, especially in the candy and gum trades of the United States.

So we can produce peppermint oil here at lower cost than it can be turned out elsewhere in this country; because we get more to the acre; because we get a higher quality worth more per pound; because our overhead is smaller, our land being cheaper for the principal thing.

If our people will prepare for it, they can make their boom in peppermint persist and become solid growth. Natural conditions favor them enough to make this a certainty.

Salem should have a peppermint refinery. She can have one, if all the growers will join the Oregon Cooperative Mint Growers' Association; if they will organize 100 per cent. The advantages would be many. In the first place, the full profits would be brought here. In the second place, the product would be standardized, and higher prices would be realized.

The writer repeats the following from last year's annual mint Slogan number:

Mint was used in medicine 400 years before the birth of Christ; and perhaps a great deal longer.

But it is only of late years that the demand has grown to enormous and ever increasing proportions.

That the farmers of the Willamette valley are destined to supply the increased demand there is little doubt—because they can do this at a good profit.

Every farmer of the Salem district having the proper kind of soil ought to read carefully all the matter in this issue of The Statesman on the mint industry, and he should consider the following facts:

Peppermint is a profitable crop:

Because it is of hardy growth and has fewer natural enemies than almost any other farm crop;

Because it produces a good crop the first year that it is planted.

Because it produces a good crop for several years after the first year with very little labor—some growers say ten years;

Because it does not have to be marketed immediately but can be held without deterioration until market prices are favorable;

Because the crop is of such small bulk that the cost of hauling to market is practically nothing and the distance of the grower from transportation facilities does not have to be considered;

Because the oil commands a good price, taking one year with another, which affords the grower a good margin where the land is properly adapted to mint.

The mint industry is not likely to be soon overdone, in view of the increasing demand and the higher production and quality of the Oregon article—

And in some years it will be a bonanza crop—

And during a series of years it will pay well, as has been the experience of all the older growers, who have been the pioneers of the industry.

Another thing, there are three distinct varieties of peppermint, the Japanese, the Black Michem and the White Michem. White Michem has been produced successfully only in England, Saxony and Syria—and in the Willamette valley. It is the superior kind—its oil formerly selling at double the price of the Black Michem. That is one of the phases of the franchise Nature has given our Salem district growers.

Once more, the Salem district will attain its greatest prosperity when it produces the things capable of being grown here to the greatest advantage and at greater profit than they can be produced in other sections—and there are many of these. Mint is one of them. This line of production will lift our people above the dead level of mere competition. It will put them in a field all their own. Too much cannot be said about this. Too much cannot be written about it—till our people are clear above mere competition, which position their advantages of soil and showers and sunshine furnish them the opportunities to attain.

## American Students in Paris Call on Father's Bank Roll

PARIS.—Those American students in Paris who confidently told their parents that living here was so reasonable they could surely do two years work in one, already are writing home for increased allowances.

In the famous Latin Quarter, prices of board and lodging have

gone up appreciably. Furnished apartments which once cost 500 francs a month now are renting for thrice this sum.

The long colored glass of appetizing mixture that costs the French student one franc and 70 centimes—leaving him the extra 25 of his two francs for a tip—cost the obviously American patron three francs fifty, with the implied obligation of tipping the boy 50 centimes.



—HERE NOW  
**1926**

# Winter-Union

Quick Starting  
 —and More!



# UNION

NON-DETONATING

# GASOLINE

AT DEPENDABLE SERVICE STATIONS