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## PEAR PRODUCTION BECOMING MORE AND MORE A PACIFIC COAST INDUSTRY

The Ravages of the Pear Blight in the Eastern States Is Fast Transferring the Commercial Growing of This Most Delicious Fruit to the States West of the Rocky Mountains—Study of Needs of Industry Advised

(Republished from last year) Editor Statesman:

The pear industry like most any other line of endeavor faces some definite needs. A few of these needs will be brought to attention in this paper, but before considering these a few pertinent facts concerning the pear should be brought to attention.

**The Future Outlook**  
Certain sections of Oregon are especially adapted to the culture of the pear, and the pear industry seems destined to continue as one of the important enterprises of the state. It must be borne in mind, however, that the production of quality pears is largely a business for the specialist. Prob-

ably no other fruit is more sensitive to soil, climate and cultural practices than the pear. In all probability the commercial culture of the pear will continue to be centered in certain rather definite localities, that enjoy special advantages and that make pear growing more or less of a business. General pear planting throughout the state, therefore, does not seem advisable, but a moderate increase in plantings appears expedient for the districts that have established their fitness for pear production.

**The General Status**  
Figures show that during the past few years the pear has been extensively planted in the Pacific coast states and that commercial production is on the increase. While there has been a decrease of 28% in the total number of bearing trees in the United States since 1909, there has been an increase in the commercial crop of nearly 60%. Owing to the ravages of fireblight in the eastern districts, pear production is becoming more and more a Pacific coast industry. California now has approximately 77,000 acres devoted to the culture of this fruit. Oregon has about 12,000 acres.

**Needs of the Industry**  
(1) The American consuming public needs to be taught the use of pears. It is a significant fact that the native American is not a connoisseur of pears. His opinions of the pear have been formed

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largely by Kieffer and other inferior varieties, and for the most part he knows nothing about the pears of real quality. Of late years people have learned to appreciate Bartlett to a certain extent, but such pears as Anjou, Comice, Bosc, and Winter Nellis, the sorts in which Oregon growers are largely interested, are still consumed primarily by the foreign element in the large cities.

(2) The trade must be taught proper methods of handling pears so that real quality may be produced. Consumers and the trade, also know but little concerning the proper handling of the pear. Newer and better methods of harvesting, shipping and storing must be put into practice. It is only by delivering a high grade product that the consumption of pears can be stimulated.

(3) The list of commercial varieties of pears must be enlarged so that the tonnage produced will be of greater diversity, and so that it can be marketed over a longer period. Approximately 90% of the pears produced on the Pacific coast are of the Bartlett variety. This means that most of the pear tonnage from this region must be disposed of in a comparatively short time. Apparently, the late keeping sorts should be given more attention.

(4) There is need also for new varieties of pears. The present list of desirable commercial varieties for any one section is comparatively small and needs to be extended. The work of testing out promising varieties under local conditions should be continued. Pear breeding experiments now under way should also be continued.

(5) Cultural practices need to be improved so that higher yields and better quality may be produced. While in individual cases the yields of pears in Oregon are high the average for the state is far too low. This is true also of quality. Certain growers have established a reputation because of the quality of their pears, but a large portion of the state's tonnage each year is inferior in quality.

(6) Further study of pollination under local conditions is necessary. From the work in pollination done so far one may draw two conclusions. First, pollination is very important with some varieties of pears. Second, varieties behave differently under varying conditions. Consequently, what may be true of pollination requirements in one district may not be true of another. Pollination work to be effective with the pear, therefore, should be done under the same conditions that prevail in the localities where the results are to be applied.

(7) There is need for more standardization in the matter of grades and packs. Thus far each pear district of the Pacific Northwest has interpreted the grading rules largely as it saw fit. It is clear that a more orderly and systematic disposal of the crop could

be made if grades and packs were more uniform.

(8) More coordination is needed between the various distributing agencies. The canning trade in particular has, in times past, caused confusion in the marketing of pears. A few figures will suffice to make this point clear. In 1921, California canners processed 872,396 cases of pears. In 1922, they processed 1,712,773 cases, while in 1923 their output dropped below that of 1921. This fluctuation in demand on the part of the canning trade has worked a decided hardship on the growers, since in many districts pears are grown primarily for canning, with no facilities for fresh fruit shipment. A careful study of trade requirements need to be made so that a more uniform tonnage of pears year in and year out will find its way to the canneries. This, in the long run, will work to the advantage of the canners and certainly will be welcomed by the growers.

—HENRY HARTMAN, Corvallis, Oregon, Dec. 31, 1924.

(Mr. Hartman is associate professor of pomology of the Oregon Agricultural college. The above article, written for this issue of The Statesman, deserves careful attention on the part of all of our pear growers and those of our people contemplating going into the pear industry.—Ed.)

Spilling gravy on the tablecloth is due to being in love as often as it is to carelessness.

Yellow is one of the most conspicuous colors on a billboard, also on the teeth or character.

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## LATE FALLS CITY NEWS HAPPENINGS

Joint Masonic Installation; Christmas Exercises of the Schools, Etc.

Lucknamute lodge No. 150, AF & AM, and Rhododendron chapter No. 150, OES, held joint installation on Tuesday evening, December 22, this being the first occasion when they have participated in a joint ceremony.

Ira Mehring, acting as installing officer for Lucknamute lodge No. 150, installed the officers, as follows: W. M., Raymond Criswell; S. W., Gordon Treat; junior W., Richard VanDenBosch; secretary, Earl Watt; treasurer, Merrill Thompson; senior deacon, Simon Christenson; junior deacon, H. S. Zimmerman; senior steward, Richard VanDenBosch; Jr., junior steward, Wentworth VanDenBosch.

Maude Brown, retiring worthy matron, was installing officer for Rhododendron chapter, OES. The officers installed were as follows: W. M., Anna C. Mehring; W. P., Roy McDonald; A. M., Abigail W. Watt; secretary, Maude Brown; treasurer, Loretta Starr; conchess, Ina C. Graham; associate conchess, Ethyl McDonald; chaplain, Dora B. Glaze; marshal, Alice P. Griswold; Adah, Eva Teal; Ruth, Lizzie Treat; Esther, Mary G. Adams; Martha, Florence Grant; Electa, Emily Criswell; warder, Mary A. Pugh; sentinel, A. L. McDonald.

Following the ceremonies adjournment was made to the banquet room where a very happy so-

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cial hour was spent in feasting and merrymaking. Roy McDonald acted as toastmaster, adding much to the toasts by his witty introductions of those present. The committee in charge of refreshments and decorations had used Christmas greens very effectively in all the rooms and on the tables. The banquet was delicious. About 42 were present.

**Commercial Club to Elect**  
Next Wednesday night will be the regular annual election of officers of the Falls City Commercial club. Other important business will be taken up. The club has done a great deal of boosting the past year, and plans are to be even more active in 1926.

**Meeting of City Council**  
The first meeting in January is the close of the term of office of outgoing city officers and the induction of new officers. Some changes will occur next Monday night.

**Schools Will Resume**  
January 4, 1926, both the high and grade schools will again take up their regular work, after enjoying a vacation since December 24. A number of student teachers will be with us at the commencement of the work following vacation, coming from the Oregon state normal school at Monmouth.

**The Pupils Celebrate**  
On Thursday morning teachers and pupils of both schools began their Christmas festivities with programs and trees. The pupils of the grade school had two trees in their assembly room, decorated by the children from different grades with decorations made in school.

The Christmas spirit was manifest in every number. The songs were taught by Mrs. Kate G. Boyd as a part of the regular work in music. The program follows:

Song, "Wouldn't You Like to Have a Merry Christmas?" primary grades; Christmas dialogue, Elvin Shiltz and Ethel Boozer of the third grade; song, "Christmas Cheer to All," upper grades; Christmas Gifts, four girls of the fourth grade; "Silent Night," primary grades; recitation, "The Christmas Spirit," Thelma Rensson, sixth grade; "A Christmas Story," Margaret Shadle, third grade; song, "Christmas is Giving Time," upper grades; recitation, "The Kind of Things Santa Should Bring," Billie Guthridge, fifth grade; The Story of the Christmas Legend, Dorothy Barnhart, second grade; piano number, seventh grade girl; song, "The Holly Girls," girls of the sixth grade; a Christmas play, girls of the fifth grade; recitation, Eunice Powell, third grade; song, "Nicky McGinn," Grant Adams, fourth grade; recitation, Woodrow Robinson, fifth grade; exercise, boys of the fourth grade; "Song of the King's Daughters," girls of the sixth grade; a play, "Christmas in Other Lands," seventh grade; concert recitation, "Why do Bells for Christmas Ring," first grade; Christmas Fairies, primary grade.

The enrollment in the grade school is so large that the auditorium was filled with pupils who enjoyed this program very much. Teachers and pupils of the high school had a tree in their auditorium, enjoying a short program and the usual exchange of small gifts, which is an annual event

and so arranged that no one knows to whom his gift will be presented nor from whom he will receive a gift, which occasions much merriment.

## STEAMERS FORCING WINDJAMMERS OUT

Last Haven of Oldtimers, Salmon Fishing, Invalued By Power Ships

By The Associated Press. SAN FRANCISCO, Cal.—The historic windjammer salmon packing flotilla, which yearly invades the icy waters of Alaska, is being steered into the Sargasso Sea of oblivion by the Giant Steam.

Displacements of the sailing fleet was begun by the use of two small steamers by one company this year. Next spring there will be more of them, and local marine officials doubt whether there will be a sail left on the Alaska run within two or three years. Departure and return of the packing fleet have been picturesque incidents on San Francisco water front many years.

Most of the vessels go to far north Bristol bay, and they begin to leave the middle of March, sailing every day or two until all are on the way. The northward sail usually takes 30 days and often longer. The return from Bristol bay, made in September as a rule, often requires no more than 15 days. Favorable winds prevail, and there are currents that speed the vessels southward.

The crew and cannery form a motley and colorful crowd. Nearly every nationality is represented and many a swashbuckling tale could be written around the voyage. Fights galore have been recorded, and weary skippers have thanked their stars when they sighted the Golden Gate again.

It is a bleak, hard life for the men during the five or six months they are away, but there is nothing to spend money for, and generally they return with their wages in their pockets.

## THE PEAR TREE BEARS INDEFINITELY

(Continued from page 4)

both for fresh shipment and for canning.

Very large plantings of Bartlett and Washington and used letts have been made in California and the northwest during the past several years. New plantings of Bartletts are advisable, only when there is a known market for the fruit, such as where local canneries are in need of a supply for canning. As mentioned before, the pear does not come into profitable bearing as soon as many other

tree fruits, but in the Willamette valley it is more regular in its bearing than the prune, apple or cherry, and continues to bear indefinitely. Pear trees known to be fifty to seventy-five years old are still bearing good crops. Last summer the writer saw a pear tree in southern Ohio, which was more than four feet in diameter of trunk and had a spread of branches of more than sixty feet. This tree has produced as much as one hundred bushels in a single season. The production of pears per acre varies much. While the yield of an average orchard may run four to six tons per acre, many good orchards will produce ten to fourteen tons.

Cultivation, pruning and spraying are necessary in the production of good pears as the neglected orchard will produce only wormy, scabby fruit for which there is no market.

—LEOYD T. REYNOLDS, Salem, Ore., Box 12, December 30, 1925.

(Hon. Lloyd T. Reynolds, writer of the above, is one of the most successful fruit growers in the Salem district. He is a member of the Oregon legislature. At the annual meeting of the Oregon State Horticultural society which Mr. Reynolds mentions, he was elected president for the coming year, and Salem was named as the place for the next annual meeting.—Ed.)

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### FALLS CITY HAD A FINE COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS

(Continued from page 4)  
ciating, which was celebrated at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Warren Ward. In addition to the parents of the bride, other close relatives were present, though the marriage was such an entire surprise that only those who had planned to be here for the family dinner were present.

The bride was beautifully gowned in rosewood satin, and had a going away gown of light gray velvet, with hat and coat to match.

Following the ceremony the guests enjoyed Christmas dinner, after which the bride and groom left for Portland, going on from Portland to various points in the state of Washington, where they will be the guests of relatives of the groom. Mr. and Mrs. Arstall will return to Falls City for a brief stay, before going back to Hebo.

Opal Ward is a native daughter, having been born in Falls City, where her parents were married, and have resided for many years. She is a graduate of the grade and Falls City high school, making hosts of friends from her early childhood. She has always been active in school affairs, and in a lovely and lovable young lady who has the best wishes of everyone in the community. Mr. Arstall has our congratulations.

Wade Arstall is a resident of the Salt Creek district near Dallas, where he has hosts of friends, and for the past school year has been principal of the Hebo schools.

Mr. and Mrs. Arstall will be at home in Hebo after January 4, returning to complete their contracts for the remainder of the school year.

### TWO BANDITS ROB TILL

TWO PORTLAND DRUG STORES ENTERED BY ROBBERS

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 29.—(By Associated Press.)—Two robbers who held up the Harrington Pharmacy early tonight escaped with \$70 in cash. R. C. Harrington, proprietor of the store, was alone when the men entered.

A robber who entered the Oregon Drug store refused the purse of M. Namba, proprietor, who offered it to him and paid no attention to the cash register. He took a small bottle of paragonic.

### MEN BURIED ALIVE

SEATTLE, Dec. 29.—(AP.)—Trapped 2,000 feet below the ground by a caving in the Pacific Coast Coal company's mine at Black Diamond, W. R. Bruner, 36, and Emile Piquet, 35, were buried alive today. Bruner's body, crushed to death, was recovered by miners on the crows tonight after eight hours' work.

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