

SALEM DISTRICT INDUSTRIES

SIXTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR

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 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.

PERHAPS 550 CARS OF ONIONS OVER SOUTHERN PACIFIC OUT OF BROOKS

This Does Not Include What Has Been Moved by Other Means, Nor What Has Been Consumed Locally—Then There Are the Onion Sets and the Onion Seed Produced in the Labish District

The Labish district has been used in every state in the Union, for they have been billed directly into over half of them and many cars are re-consigned and diverted many times before they are finally disposed of.

The peak of the shipping generally occurs in October, as the price is often very good and many buyers want onions for storage or for speculation that are good keepers. Another factor contributing to the heavy movement at this time is that the growers are willing to take a lower price if they are able to move the crop directly from the field. After the onions are stored the growers have a right to expect a little more for the extra handling, but the fact often allows them to carry the expectation. But the fact is one of the things that gives life a zest, or a "kick" which is one of the things that makes it worth the trouble.

Improved Shipping Conditions

As October is a harvest month for most all farm products the drain at that time on railroad equipment is great and instances have occurred when complaints for money or even tears could produce a single car when scores were urgently needed. Thanks to the resourcefulness of the railroads, these car shortages are almost a thing of other days, and without doubt, unless some unforeseen happening comes to pass, they will be entirely done away with. The railroad agent will be very grateful for this as the shipper, for although it is certainly interesting to see that all who want cars have them, it is "grief" indeed to have shippers clamoring for cars for "rush orders" and be unable to get so much as a wheel.

Onions, like celery, demand a refrigerator car, but unlike celery they do not require ice. The construction of refrigerator cars allows a free circulation of air beneath, through and over the sacks of onions, when the end ventila-

ors are left open, which they always are unless cold weather is encountered. Then the vent-covers are closed and the insulated walls of the car come into good play, for what will keep out heat will also keep out the cold. If very cold weather occurs the railroad company will place small stoves in the ice bunkers if the shipper wishes it. This is a guarantee that the onions will arrive in perfect condition as far as Jack Frost is concerned.

For long hauls decking is built inside the car a few inches above the tops of the first tier of sacks. This allows for better ventilation and also takes off the weight from the lower sacks where they come in contact with the floor.

Onion Sets and Seeds

Another side of the onion industry is the growing of onion sets. These are the plants which you gardeners plant early in the spring so that you may have the tender "green" onion. They are the same as the larger onion, only that the grower plants them a great deal thicker, on the ground so that they are unable to become the size of their brothers. They generally sell for from twice to three times as high per pound as the large onion. About 35 cars of these are sent from Brooks annually.

Still another side is the growing of the onion seed. Many of the growers raise their own seed, and recently some have raised seed for sale to the seed houses. It is very valuable, and although the amount raised on an acre as to bulk would look discouraging to the layman, if he wrote a check to cover his eyes, I remember taking in a few sacks to ship through the local freight. When the shipper told me that those few sacks represented more than a car load of onion sets, I could scarcely believe it.

If onions were oranges Brooks might bid for some of the distinction of Riverside but—they are very much liked by many people and no doubt will make a better "mulligan" than the best orange. One of our conductors eats them like most people eat apples, but I noticed that he always ate them when south bound. Upon inquiry as to this peculiar taste he informed me that he lived in Portland. His wife objected to hall-tosis!

—C. V. ASHBAUGH,
Agent S. P. Co.
Brooks, Ore., Feb. 1, 1926.

THIS WEEK'S SLOGAN

DID YOU KNOW that Salem is the market, shipping and manufacturing center of a great onion and onion set industry; that the world does not grow better onions; that, on our beaverdam lands, 300 to 600 sacks of 100 pounds can be grown on an acre; that, year in and year out, taking the average range of prices for ten years, the raising of onions here is a very profitable line of intensified agriculture, and that there is room here for many more onion growers who will give that important branch of intensified agriculture the intelligent attention and arduous labor it deserves?

Dates of Slogans in Daily Statesman

- Loganberries, May 15
 - Prunes, May 20
 - Pruning, 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
- (Each copy of the Thursday edition of The Daily Oregon Statesman are in hand. They are for sale at 10 cents each, mailed to any address. Current copies 5 cents.)

FALLS CITY PIONEER PASSES TO REWARD AFTER LONG, USEFUL LIFE

Junior Vaudeville Was Very Successful—Choral Club Is Organized—The Personal and General News of the Past Week as Gathered by Live and Busy Reporter of The Statesman

Mary Turner Harrington (Grandma Harrington) went to her final reward on February 1st, 1926, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Warren Ward, in Falls City, where she had been staying the past few months following an attack of heart disease. The end was sudden and peaceful, the result of heart failure.

Mary Turner was born in Monroe county, Michigan, August 22, 1846, being eighty years, five months and ten days old at the time of her passing. In 1861 she was married to B. B. Harrington, whose death occurred about fifteen years ago. Nine children were born of this marriage, three of whom survive, Rev. E. I. Harrington, of Woodburn, Oregon; Mrs. W. J. Southwell, of Norton, Oregon, and Mrs. Phoebe Ward of Falls City. Beside the children she leaves thirteen grand children, thirteen great grand children, and two sisters who live in Michigan, and hosts of friends to mourn her loss.

In 1890 Mr. and Mrs. Harrington, with their family, removed to Falls City, which has been the family home ever since.

Grandma Harrington was a devout Christian from childhood, always a strong Christian character and of wonderful faith. She had been a member of the Free Methodist church since its organization here.

Funeral services were held at the Free Methodist church Wednesday morning, conducted by W. N. Coffee, of Salem. Interment in the Hill cemetery, beside her husband and others of the family.

Miss Violet McLean left last Sunday for Alameda, California.

Thursday evening Miss Gordon presents her pupils in a recital at the Methodist church. A cordial invitation is extended to all music lovers.

An adjourned meeting of the city council will be held next Monday night, February 8, at which business of importance will be taken up.

E. L. Griswold, chairman of the school board, visited the grade schools Thursday afternoon and Friday. It is a duty required by the state school laws, and the teachers of the school appreciate the visits of both directors and patrons.

Josiah Willis, county school superintendent, accompanied by Mr. J. E. Calavan, boys' and girls' club leader for the state, was a visitor to the grade schools last Friday.

Choral Club Organized

Last Sunday afternoon those interested in community singing met in the high school auditorium, where a temporary organization was effected. Mrs. Mabel Hatch was chosen chairman, and Mrs. Richard Paul, secretary. Mrs. R. Paul, Albert Morgan and Mrs. A. G. Adams were appointed a committee to prepare constitution and by-laws. Mrs. A. G. Adams was appointed publicity agent.

There was a very good attendance. Mrs. Kate G. Boyd will direct the singing, and it is hoped to make this a strong and forceful organization in the community. Everyone interested is invited to be present next Sunday at three o'clock in the afternoon, at the same place.

Local and Personal

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Van Den Bosch and sons, Richard and Wentworth, were over from Pelee Monday evening attending the junior vaudeville.

Andrew Black was up from Portland, spending the week-end with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. W. Black.

Mrs. Maude Brown and Mrs. Ira Mehring attended the luncheon given by Mrs. Margaret Hayer of Dallas, last Friday for the Past Matrons' Club of the Eastern Star. Seventeen ladies were present, spending a very pleasant afternoon with needlework and conversation after the luncheon.

Little Judith Criswell has been quite ill with an attack of "flu", but is now improving, and will soon be able to attend school again.

Ruth Overland, one of the student teachers from the Oregon State Normal, stole a march upon her fellow teachers last week-end by going to Salem, where on Saturday she became the wife of Alfred Bye. Both Mr. and Mrs. Bye are residents of Silverton, which will be their future home. After a short trip to Portland Mr. and Mrs. Bye returned to Salem, and Mrs. Bye came on to Falls City Monday to resume her school work.

Next Wednesday, Feb. 10, the Ladies Aid of the Methodist Episcopal church will give another of their popular silver teas in the church parlors. Mrs. Ira Mehring will be chairman of the hostesses committed for the occasion.

Friday night, February 5, the girls' and boys' teams will meet the teams of the Dallas high on the home floor.

Miss Lucille Hubbard was a week-end visitor from Oregon State Normal, Monmouth, at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Hubbard.

Last Thursday evening the ladies of the Christian church gave a chicken dinner in the church parlors. As usual, the ladies had a bountiful meal, of excellently cooked food, and the large attendance upon a stormy evening evidenced the appreciation of their friends. The receipts were very gratifying to those in charge.

Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Briggs had as house guests over the week-end, Marion and Mary Briggs, their grand daughters, whose home is in Salem.

Walter Thresher, who has been teaching the Galsdale school, has resigned, and will resume his studies at the Oregon State Normal school, where he will continue to

teach. Mr. Thresher has taught very successfully but desires to prepare himself as thoroughly as possible for teaching, and his many friends are glad he is able to continue his chosen work.

Frank Breen and family left for Aileen Valley last week. Mr. Breen has rented a farm there. A. C. Steeprow made the trip, taking over their furniture for them.

Mr. and Mrs. John Moyer, accompanied by Mrs. Louise Waterhouse and children, drove to Salem last Sunday, where Mr. and Mrs. Moyer enjoyed a visit with Mr. Moyer's mother, Mrs. J. R. Moyer and Mrs. Waterhouse visited Mr. Waterhouse, who is a patient in the Salem hospital. Mr. Waterhouse recently underwent a severe operation, and is now improving, though very slowly.

Last Thursday afternoon Mrs. Jerre Morris was hostess for the Good Will club. A short business meeting was held, and it was decided to change the day of meeting to Tuesday of each week. Three new members were taken in, Mrs. Gay Diehm, Mrs. T. W. Munyon and Mrs. Clay Gathridge. Dainty refreshments were served by the hostess. Mrs. George Chamberlain will entertain this week.

At a meeting of the student body of Falls City high school held last week Paul Starr was elected president, Byron Paul, vice president, Helen Hall, secretary, Esther Larson, treasurer, and Jane Hamel, pianist. Richard Paul is the new sell leader.

The Art Club

Last Tuesday afternoon Mrs. Raymond Criswell entertained the ladies of the Art club. Oregon grapes were used effectively for decorations. A "beauty contest" was the main feature of the afternoon, with Mrs. Edward G. White winning first prize and Mrs. Ira Mehring consolation.

Dainty refreshments were served by the hostess to the ten members present.

Mrs. Frank E. Driggs is the Tuesday hostess for this week.

The Middle West Farmers Producing Pickle Onions Being Threatened

The following is from the current week's matter being sent out by the Industrial News Bureau of E. Hester & Sons, publishers, Salem:

While the government is casting about for some means of helping agriculture in its "biggest" aspect, there appears one particular case in which the remedy is as apparent as it is necessary. This is the case of the American onion growers, who annually raise thousands of acres of small onions for the pickle trade. The center of the onion business is in the middle west.

These onion growers are about to be put out of business by a recent decision of the board of general appraisers, which has valued tartar on pickled onions between \$7.50 and \$11.50 a cask. In fact, the appraisers said that pickled onions might come into this country as onions at a tax of 1 cent a pound, instead of at the present 40 percent ad valorem tax.

It is estimated that from 75 to

When onions were first shipped from the "lake" there was a marked dissatisfaction and much complaint from the brokers to whom the product was sent concerning the quality and keeping, but year after year with improved culture and better sorting this has been eliminated, till now there is but little difference between the Labish onion and those grown near Sherwood, though the latter have been in the market longer and are better known.

Used In Every State

It is very likely that onions from

run up to a handsome sum annually.

All Labish Farmers Prosper

Lake Labish farmers are 100 per cent for Labish. All of them are making money, a condition that makes for cheerful conditions and consistent growth. From the looks of the automobiles that the Labish growers own one would think that was a settlement of retired millionaires.

White Onion Experiment

The Treves Farm management has for several years been experimenting with white onions.

They have developed a hybrid strain of white onions, from the Australian Brown, which itself is a hybrid. They have selected white specimens each year and planted them, and while they have not yet secured 100 per cent white onions, they are approaching that. They are getting a white onion that is of good size, has good keeping qualities, and has a nice shape. The outlook for this is very promising. It may prove to be worth a great deal of money annually to the Salem district.

The value of these experiments is realized when it is known that a lot of Salem money goes each year to Bermuda and other foreign parts for the white Spanish onions. It is interesting to know that the first shipments of such onions for this season came to a Salem grocery store yesterday.

SLOGAN WAS A CAR LOAD PER ACRE AND NOW THE GOAL IS TWO CAR LOADS

The Labish District Production Was 475 Cars in 1924 and it Had Grown Last Year to Perhaps a Total of 600 Cars, With a Value of Not Far Below \$300,000. Not Counting the Onion Set and Seed Crops, and the Shipments Will Not Be Long in Increasing to 1000 Car Loads Each Year

The past season has been a good one for Lake Labish onion growers. Prices have been fair throughout the entire season, and production has broken all records.

The yearly increase in production is one of the most encouraging things about Labish onion farming. The ground is constantly becoming more adapted for onion culture; the farmers are becoming better onion growers; better seed strains are being produced. The increasing acre production is not only encouraging, it is almost unbelievable.

The past two years some acres of ground produced as high as 600 sacks, and there were very few acres that did not produce over 300 sacks. In the past the slogan was "A CARLOAD PER ACRE." It looks very much as though this will have to be changed to "Two Carloads Per Acre."

Increasing Quality, Too

Increasing quality is keeping pace with the increasing quantity; in fact it is one of the principal causes of it. Quality and demand as well as price seem to follow together, and increased quality is solving one of the hardest problems of the growers. In the past they had some difficulty in finding large enough demands for their entire crop. However, during the past two seasons they had a constant demand which they have been unable to fill. This, of course, means better prices.

THE ONION SEEMS TO BE THE BEST CROP ON BEAVERDAM LAND, AND PAYS

It is a Reliable Crop for That Land, and Brings a Fair Return for the Time and Labor Expended—There Are of Course Pests and Weeds and Other Troubles and Problems—The Man Who Was the Pioneer in the Big Labish Onion District Writes and Talks

Editor Statesman:

I have been growing onions for several years on Lake Labish, and while we have improved the quality of our crop, so it commands recognition in the markets of the world, it requires constant watchfulness, owing to changing conditions in the ground, the weather and pests; beginning with careful selection of stock for seed, the proper fertilizers to use—none of the growers agreeing on what they consider the right kind and amount per acre—the proper handling of seed, and the manner of seeding. Owing to smut in the ground, we have to use a formaldehyde solution in seeding. The combat with cutworms, root maggots and weeds, the proper handling at harvest time, also proper storage, are all problems. Notwithstanding all of the above, the onion seems to be the best crop on beaverdam land and brings a fair return for time and labor expended.

ROYCE ALLEN,
Salem, Ore., Rt. 9,
February 3, 1926.

Over the Telephone

The above was written by Mr. Allen in answer to a letter of the Slogan editor. Over the telephone, Mr. Allen said yesterday that last year he produced 12 cars of onions on 14 acres. Most of the onions of that district, including the crop of Mr. Allen, were sold last fall at \$1.40 to \$1.75 a sack; probably averaged \$1.50. They are worth around \$1.40 now, and the market is slow. Not more than 10 per cent of the crop of last year is yet left, and all the onions on hand in the Labish district now are well preserved and in first class shape. The onion men expect to see brisker selling, at better prices, by the end of February, after the inferior onions

Old Time Fiddlers' Contest

SALEM ARMORY

Friday Eve. 8 O'Clock

Ampious Salem Lion's Club, Beach Charity Fund, \$25 in Cash Prizes. Many Merchandise Prizes.

Big Program and Old Time Dancing. Everyone come and bring a friend.

GENERAL ADMISSION 50c

from other coast districts shall have been disposed of.

Mr. Allen grows onions as his principal crop, with a few potatoes and other vegetables. He believes the onion crop is the most reliable for that district. The growers there have learned to control the pests, and they are constantly improving the output in both quality and quantity. They often grow 500 sacks to the acre. One grower in 1924 produced eleven car loads on seven acres. They use new hurlap sacks in packing their onions for shipment; the nine ounce hurlap sack.

The Pioneer of District

Mr. Allen came to Oregon from San Jose, Cal., in 1914. He had known E. A. and J. O. Hayes there. They are the publishers of the San Jose Mercury, and had become owners of a large tract of the famous beaverdam land of the Labish district. Mr. Allen was the first man to whom they sold an individual tract. He bought 25 acres of this land, and he did the first development work in that particular section of the Labish district. Mr. Allen paid \$350 an acre for the bare land, the raw land—and it was very raw, being covered with timber and brush and what looked like a hopeless tangle of undergrowth. In 1914, Mr. Allen employed a gang of men to help him clear his land, which was a big task. It was "some job."

Mr. Allen harvested his first crop in 1915. He raised two acres of onions, a lot of stringless beans, and a number of other kinds of vegetables that year. One year after that he raised a successful crop of spinach, and he contracted for some carrots with the dehydration people—and the carrots produced in such large sizes and in such quantities as to

SEND A COPY EAST!