

What Salem Makes, Makes Salem

The following advertisers are representatives and boosters of the fifty-two major industries of Salem district who are contributing to the campaign of selling the advantages and proven superiorities of the community

LABISH THE BEST ONION DISTRICT IN THE WORLD, NOW FULLY PROVEN

It is the Largest Onion Producing Sector of the Pacific Northwest—One of the Earth's Oldest Vegetables—All Caravans Crossing the Deserts Carry Along Onions to Munch, to Quench Thirst—The Reason Labish is Very Dry

Editor Statesman:

I am glad to see The Statesman is taking an interest in an industry that will very soon boost Salem, notably, the onion growing at Lake Labish.

Now generally the mention of onions always brings smiles and a great deal of the merry razz. On the other hand, I believe if Woolworth's would sell onions say three for a quarter some people might buy them, thinking they were some very fancy imported flower bulbs. And even after they had set them in fancy flower pots and taken good care and watched them grow and bloom into a very fragrant and pretty flower, much like a snowball, they would never realize their mistake.

But an onion is an onion still. It is just an onion, "very common," Webster says. Onions are one of the oldest vegetables grown. The Chaldeans and the ancient Egyptians cultivated them extensively. And yet today all caravans crossing the deserts carry along a supply of onions to munch on to quench the thirst. (Volsteaders, please note. The reason Labish is very dry.)

There are about 40,000 car loads of onions consumed by the people of the United States each year. Of this about 30,000 to 35,000 cars are grown in this country. The balance are imported, mostly from Spain, Portugal and Egypt.

New York state, Illinois, Ohio, Texas and California are the prin-

cipal onion states, each producing approximately 6000 car loads per season or year Oregon, Iowa, Utah, Washington and Idaho each produce in quantities. Of these Oregon has the reputation of growing the best quality of any state in the Union. The onions from Oregon bring the best prices in the markets all over the country.

Lake Labish is now the largest onion producing section of the northwest. The soil of Labish is the best for onion culture to be found anywhere, also for celery or most any vegetable grown.

The season of 1924 the growers of Labish shipped 425 cars of onions produced on about the same number of acres. The gross returns of this crop brought them about \$200,000.

Therefore the onion growers are doing a great deal toward the developing of Labish and their community.

We can't make a fair estimate of the returns of the 1925 crop as yet, as there is some of the crop yet in the growers' hands which will be sold during this and next month.

As Salem is situated about 10 miles from the best onion district of the world, the city also comes in for its share of the prosperity of Lake Labish.

In short, the onion growers expect to make Labish the biggest and best garden of the northwest, near the outskirts of Salem.

—V. C. BISHOP.
Salem, Ore., Ft. 9.
February 3, 1926.

THE ONION BEST CROP ON BEAVERDAM LAND

(Continued from page 4)

make it a problem to get rid of them. Oh, such carrots! They surprised the natives," and especially they surprised Mr. Allen.

\$10,000 Gross in a Year

One year ago, Mr. Allen sold \$10,000 worth of products from his tract. That year he had only 12 acres of his land in onions.

Mr. Allen was asked by the Slogan editor what was his net profit that year; what he himself had left to represent his "salary" in working for himself. He said it was close to \$6000.

Mr. and Mrs. Allen have no children with them. They have two daughters in California, and Mrs. Allen's father is a member of the household here.

They of course have some of their land devoted to pasture; keep a cow or two, and horses and other farm animals, and produce the feed for them, besides the usual vegetable or kitchen garden for their own use.

They find enough to keep them busy on their 25 acres; with seasonal employment for other help which they must hire at times.

Mr. Allen has no regrets over transferring his home from California to Oregon. He is in fact an Oregon booster; and especially has he always a good word for the great things that may be done on the Labish beaverdam land. Constant experiments being made will no doubt show up possibilities that have not yet been counted upon. That is a great district, and growing greater every year.

All Make Money

The case of Mr. Allen is not peculiar. All the onion growers

THE ONION GROWER MUST BE PROTECTED

(Continued from page 4)

90 per cent of the cost of raising pickle onions is paid out for the labor which grows, peels and packs them. The American grower, paying American wages for labor which works European hours, without the protection of a high tariff. As a matter of fact, say the growers, a 35 per cent tax was low enough; a 50 per cent tax would have been fairer.

The Hon. Elsie Mackay, daughter of Lord Incheape, the shipping magnate, is the only woman appointed on the Pilots' committee of the Air League in England. She has had an air pilot's certificate for three years and is regarded as one of England's pioneer women in aviation. Miss Mackay was on the stage for a time where she went by the name of Poppy Wyndham.

Silverton—Linen mill, box factory pickle factory are prospective new industries.

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Scenes in Labish Onion Fields



Upper scene: In the windrows and in sacks in harvest time. Lower scene: Weeding the growing onions.

\$4500 FOR A CROP OF ONIONS FROM FIVE ACRES OF LABISH BEAVERDAM LAND

Growers Get as High as 600 Sacks, or Two Car Loads, of Onions to the Acre From the Labish Onion District North of Salem—Greatest Need Now Is a Common Brand, and Better Grading of the Onions for the Markets

Editor Statesman:

The onion industry in the Labish beaverdam district is far enough advanced now so that it brings in probably more money than any other crop in this part of the country. The onion crop this year amounted to about 500 cars, and sold for between \$250,000 and \$300,000.

Onions will bring a higher return for a smaller amount of capital invested than any other big-money crop that can be grown on beaverdam lands. In a year like the present, with seed very high, the cost of seed amounts to only \$10 per acre, and to grow an ordinary acreage of onions, no expensive equipment is necessary, the main investments being in onion houses, where onions are to be stored after harvesting.

Two Cars to Acre

In a reasonably favorable year, onions should average at least 300 sacks (one carload) per acre. The ordinary price at time of harvesting these onions runs from \$1.25 to \$2 per sack, and anyone going into the onion growing business should figure on being able to raise onions and put them on the market for \$1 per sack, thus leaving a fair margin of profit in at least four out of every five years, according to the way our markets have been in the past.

It is not much out of the ordinary to get a yield of 400 sacks per acre, and there have been yields in the Labish district of 600 sacks per acre. I know of one grower receiving \$4,500 for his crop of five acres, and handling it direct from the field to the market without the necessity of putting the onions in an onion house.

Profitable Crop Every Year

As the growers get more accustomed to the land and conditions here they are able to apply fertilizer where needed and get a consistent, profitable crop every year. There was a time, about five years ago, when any one who had Labish onions for sale was at a disadvantage, as they had the black eye all through the trade, but this disadvantage is being rapidly moved and turned into an advantage, as the growers are learning to grow a better grade of onions every year.

Probably the thing that is needed most to help the onion business in this district, is the use of some common brand name, and a better grading of onions before shipping.

—RONALD E. JONES.
Brooks, Ore., Feb. 3, 1926.

Transformation of Italian Art Under Mussolini Reign

MILAN, Italy—Fascistization of Italian art, with Benito Mussolini, national director, is the next step in the process of transferring Italy into a Fascist state.

Artists and intellectuals in the ranks of the dominant party, seeking for a means of reawakening the nation's moribund cultural activity and of creating a truly Fascist artistic movement, have decided to entrust the task to their leader, confident he can succeed where others have failed.

A formal request to this effect has been made by the Directorate of the Corporation of Intellectual Professions and by the National Fascist Syndicate of Fine Arts. "We desire," these artists told the premier, "to collaborate directly with you in nourishing new forms and creating the new style of Italian beauty."

Councilwoman Mrs. Helen H. Green of Cleveland, O., is the first woman in that city to be made chairman of an important council committee. Mrs. Green was recently made chairman of the committee on rivers and harbors.

Reedport—Construction begins on Umpqua mills railroad spur. Mills are to open about March 1.

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STATE CHAMBER HELPING OREGON

Coordination of Industrial and Agricultural Development Reported

PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 1.—(Special.)—Co-ordination of Oregon's industrial and agricultural development was the keynote of the Annual Meeting of the Oregon State Chamber of Commerce held in Portland on Thursday.

That business leaders of Portland have united with business men of the state in a practical working agreement was announced by Irving E. Vining of Ashland, president of the Oregon State Chamber. Liberal allocation of money from the Oregon Development Fund and an arrangement of committee harmony, Mr. Vining declared brings Oregon to the front more than any other thing that has taken place since the organization of the State Chamber.

Land settlement and industrial development were equally stressed on the program, speakers agreeing that new industries would open up new agricultural opportunities, and agricultural development would offer additional opportunities to invite new industries.

W. P. LaRoche of the industries committee of the Portland Chamber was the principal speaker on industrial growth. He declared that Oregon is annually purchasing \$25,000,000 worth of products more than are being manufactured, and urged particularly the establishment of new woodworking and textile plants. Mr. LaRoche outlined the work that the industries committee is doing and declared the industries department was glad to co-operate through the State Chamber with any of its constituent organizations in solving their problems in bringing new industries to the state.

Whitney L. Boise, chairman of the land settlement committee, told of the results obtained in bringing hundreds of farmers to Oregon. Satisfied settlers on one-family farms are being obtained in all the counties which are utilizing their opportunities to participate in the land settlement program of the Portland and State Chambers.

"Marketing is the chief problem in Oregon's agriculture," said E. E. Paville, chairman of the marketing committee. "We do not desire at any time to promote any particular plan of marketing, but whenever the farmers are desirous of being informed as to orderly marketing, or are desirous of proceeding with it, we are ready at all times to work with them and are in accord with the views of the farmer, as well as the students of cooperative marketing."

The marketing committee has assisted in the formation of 22

local marketing units and four federations of units in various parts of the state.

"Extension of agriculture in Oregon depends largely upon reclamation through irrigation or drainage," said Wilford Allen of Grants Pass, President of the Oregon Reclamation Congress. "Three things are needed in reclamation—land settlement, refinancing of existing projects and new projects."

Directors to serve two-year terms were elected as follows: W. S. Nelson of The Dalles, J. D. Fairman of Harper, Roy T. Bishop of Portland, R. C. Groesbeck of Klamath Falls, H. E. Walter of Corvallis, John F. Daly of Portland, L. D. Drake of Astoria and T. H. Ness of Roseburg.

The directors re-elected Irving E. Vining of Ashland, president, and elected for secretary-manager, W. G. Ide of Portland, and for treasurer Charles H. Stewart of Portland.

Representatives from Albany, Arlington, Ashland, Astoria, Aurora, Baker, Bend, Corvallis, Cottage Grove, Coquille, Eugene, Falls City, Forest Grove, Grants Pass, Harper, Hillsboro, Klamath Falls, La Grande, Medford, Milwaukie, North Bend, Redmond, Roseburg, Salem, Silverton, and The Dalles attended the meeting and spoke at a noon luncheon.

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Wooden Vessel Called Best for Resisting Arctic Ice

SEATTLE—Whether it is possible to build a steel vessel that can withstand the pressure of ice packs in the Arctic Ocean sufficiently to replace the cutter Bear is a lively topic among Coast Guard

men on the Pacific this winter. The Bear, wintering in San Francisco after her 37th summer cruise into the Alaskan Arctic in the Coast Guard, was constructed of thick oak in Greenock, Scotland, in 1874.

With \$925,000 appropriated by Congress, it has been proposed to replace the Bear, following next summer's cruise with a twin-propelled steel vessel.

The doubters declare no steel vessel can stand heavy ice pressure, because the metal will first bend and then break. They also predict that the ice will quickly rip off one or both of the exposed twin propellers.

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