

# SALEM DISTRICT INDUSTRIES

## SIXTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR

THE DAILY STATESMAN dedicates two or more pages each week in the interests of one of the fifty-two to a hundred basic industries of the Salem district. Letters and articles from people with vision are solicited. This is your page. Help make Salem grow.

### THE SEED INDUSTRY OF THE SALEM DISTRICT IS ALREADY IMPORTANT, AND IT IS MAKING A GOOD INCREASE IN VOLUME AND VARIETY EVERY YEAR

Seed Potatoes Going to California in Larger Tonnage—Rye Grass Seed Being Grown Here Now in Large Quantities, the Business Taking a Big Spurt This Year—Our Growers Supply the Whole Country With Kale Seed—This is the Only District of the United States Where Vetch Seed is Grown Successfully—The Big Eastern and Coast Seed Houses are Increasing Their Contracts With Our Growers

Among the high lights in new seed lines for the Salem district, that have been developed or speeded up during the past year, are rye grass, certified seed potatoes and Hubam clover. There are many others.

The Salem district is coming into its own as a seed country, and is destined to become the great seed center of the United States at an earlier time than even optimists had hoped for.

And the progress in this line right now is very encouraging.

Eastern and coast seed houses are making more and larger contracts with our growers. One big eastern seed house contracted last year with a Salem district grower for 40 acres of garden seeds, including 15 acres of lettuce.

Our growers supply the whole country with kale seed; sending out about a carload a year of this seed. As it takes only two ounces to plant an acre, it will be seen that we supply seed for an immense acreage.

Some High Lights Here are some of the high lights of the Salem district as a seed center, touched upon by Harley O. White, of the well known firm of D. A. White & Sons, seedsmen and feedmen, Salem, in an interview of the Slogan editor. This firm buys great quantities of seeds, in a wholesale way, shipping in cars and smaller lots long distances, and Harley O. White is thoroughly posted in all matters in the seed world.

Alfalfa clover seed will this year bring to our farmers about \$50,000, about the same as last year. Western Oregon is the only section of the United States where it has proven profitable to grow vetches for seed. We have a short crop this year, as we had last year, but it will bring about \$50,000. The growers will get about \$90 a ton for their seed.

California wants all the certified potato seed our farmers can send; and there is a demand for Oregon grown potatoes for seed in Idaho and Washington. Right close to Salem, there are several hundred acres devoted to growing certified potato seed this year—against probably 25 acres two years ago. The Oregon Agricultural college is helping in this. The seed is being generally grown under contract. The Burbank, Garnet and British Queen varieties are the ones generally produced best for disease free and certified potato seed.

Our dry summer and fall weather makes this a favored section for producing many varieties of garden and flower seed.

Said Mr. White: "Oregon has been known usually as a grower of field seeds, especially of clover, alfalfa and vetches, but grows to perfection many kinds of seeds. I might mention that in various parts of the Salem district there have been grown and are now grown many varieties of garden seeds, especially cabbage, kale, carrots, turnips, rutabagas, cauliflower, broccoli, radishes, peas, beans, etc.

"The varieties grown in the valley are the medium red and alaska clover, with some White Dutch clover. The White Dutch clover needs clean land, and the growing of this seed is increasing here.

"The crop of clover seed has usually brought annually hundreds of thousands of dollars to the farmers, not to speak of the larger crops made possible by the growing of clover which has proven one of the best fertilizers and land builders that it is possible to obtain.

Harvesting Begins "On account of the extreme high prices of grain, clover was somewhat neglected during the war; but the up to date farmer realizes that he must grow clover if he is going to keep his land in condition to pay him. The red clover seed harvest is only just beginning now. Its volume is as yet problematic. The price will be around 25c a pound, as it was last year. The red clover seed brought in about \$400,000 to the Salem district, in 1923; and it should become a million dollar annual crop.

Exclusive Field: "Western Oregon is the only place in the United States where it has proven profitable to grow vetches for seed, and the seed has been shipped all over this country from Oregon; in the last few years.

"California has been depending entirely on our crop for her supply, and a number of cars have gone to New York, Maryland, Texas and to various points to supply the needs of these localities.

"Vetch has the same fertilizer values to land as clover, and as a cover crop is not excelled by any other green crop.

"A new vetch, originating in Europe, called the Purple vetch, is being used in California, mostly for fertilizing purposes, and Willamette valley farmers are growing the seed for the California people.

"Sweet clover is also being grown here, successfully, but none so far for seed.

"The different coast counties have soil and climate suitable for growing the various root crops, like carrots, turnips, rutabagas, and radishes and produce a large crop of the very finest seed, and will in a short time supply large amounts—as soon as the business is gone into a commercial way.

"Our section now is growing cabbage and cauliflower seed, and experts pronounce it the best section of the United States for these vegetables.

Pays to Select Seed "Many growers are now realizing that it pays to select their grain and corn and are paying special attention to improving the seed stock.

"It has been usually the custom to sow any old grain that they might have and never even clean out the weeds, but they find that it pays them to select the finest grains that they can obtain in their fields and have it well graded and cleaned.

"From a number of tests that I have known of, the farmers doing so have been able to increase their yields of grain from 10 to 20 bushels per acre over their neighbors who have kept on sowing grain without selection and without grading and cleaning it.

Good Corn Country "Corn has shown more increase in the last nine years than any other crop, and it has largely depended upon the proper selection of the seed stock. The various corn shows have done much to interest the farmers in the proper selection of seed.

Last January—A new name. Next January—1,000 cars a day. This could mean no other than the new Pontiac Six, adjacent to the Greater Oakland Six—Vick Bros. (\*)

Parker & Co., 444 S. Commercial. Don't fail to see Parker about repairing your car. Expert mechanics at your service. All work guaranteed. (\*)

varieties of corn suitable for the various parts of the state; and now Oregon is producing a large amount of very fine corn. In fact, Marion county is first in the Pacific northwest in the production of corn, and Polk county is a close second. Marion and Polk will increase their lead in the future.

"Eight years ago, when the eastern corn crop was so badly damaged by rain and frost, eastern dealers bought all the available seed corn in Oregon and shipped it east. This corn produced fine crops.

"On account of the care taken with our seed corn by the growers, nearly all of our corn will grade No. 2, while the average in the east is No. 3 or 4 quality.

"With the climatic conditions we have in the various parts of the state, there is no reason why Oregon should not produce a large amount of farm, field and garden seeds for sections of the United States where it is impossible to grow seeds successfully."

Mr. White's firm has developed a new seed corn, the "Fide of Oregon," which is attracting wide and favorable attention. It is a yellow field corn.

Seed Oats Going Far Oregon is shipping seed oats long distances. It is well known now that the Salem district produces oats running heavier to the bushel than can be grown elsewhere in this country, and the breakfast food concerns are taking large quantities of our oats in seed oats, we are shipping as far as Pennsylvania and Maryland, and some of our new varieties are going to many states and countries—especially the Shadblow, oats, the White Banner variety, the Swedish Selected, the Gray Winter and the Clydesdale. These were all selected and bred up here in the Salem district.

Grow All Kale Seed As said above, we grow here in the Salem district all the kale seed for the whole of the United States.

We are now growing most of our beans for seed purposes. "Nearly all our peas for seed are home grown.

We are growing our sweet corn seed almost exclusively. "The same may be said of our crimson clover seed; and we are getting into the growing extensively of the Hungarian vetch seed, which is attracting much wide and favorable attention all over the Willamette valley.

For Whole Coast We grow in the Salem district (Continued on page 9.)

Nash Furniture Co. takes the lead with low prices on chairs, rockers, tables, wood and steel beds, springs, mattresses. Saves you 25%. 219 N. Com'l. (\*)

Slate surface roofing applied over your old shingles. We have over 200 jobs in Salem. Nelson Bros., plumbers, sheet metal work, 355 Chemeketa. (\*)

### Dates of Slogans in Daily Statesman (In Weekly Statesman)

- (With a few possible changes)
- Loganberries, October 1, 1925
- 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
- Beans, etc., December 10
- Blackberries, December 17
- Cherries, December 24
- Pears, December 31
- Gooseberries, January 7, 1926
- Corn, January 14
- Celery, January 21
- Spinach, 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
- Great Cows, 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, 1926
- 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
- Goats, July 8
- Sheep, July 15
- Schools, etc., July 22
- National Advertising, August 5
- Seeds, etc., August 12
- Livestock, August 19
- Grain and Grain Products, August 26
- Manufacturing, September 2
- Automotive Industries, Sept. 9
- Woodworking, etc., Sept. 16
- Paper Mills, Sept. 23, 1926

### THIS WEEK'S SLOGAN

DID YOU KNOW That Salem is a seed growing center of increasing importance; that our soil and climate combine to give advantages to seed growing; that our long and dry and late summer seasons are ideal for the ripening and curing and gathering of seeds, as our earlier weather conditions are fine for the best seed development; that there is large profit in the growing of seeds, though the industry requires painstaking work and intelligent care; that if the industry were properly organized here it would attract wide and favorable attention and furnish remunerative employment to a large number of people and handsome returns for the investment of a vast amount of capital; and that there is no more favorable field anywhere for either the investment of large capital or intelligent and competent cooperative organization workers?

### ONION SETS FOR WHOLE COAST ARE PRODUCED IN THE LABISH DISTRICT

The Largest Mint Planting in This Part of the Country if Not in the Whole Country Is There—The "Million Dollar Highway" Is Soon to Be a Two Million Dollar Thoroughfare, With Ten Millions in Annual Products From the Soil in the Not Far Distant Future

The Salem district supplies most of the onion sets for the whole of the Pacific coast country. Hayes Bros., E. A. and J. O. Hayes, are the publishers of the San Jose, Cal., Mercury, one of the outstanding newspapers of the United States in a city of its class.

They were the pioneers in developing the beaverdam lands of the Lake Labish district north of Salem in a large commercial way. They are represented here now by A. F. Hayes, son of E. A. Hayes. His home is at 855 E street, Salem.

The Hayes interests are responsible now for about 700 acres of the Lake Labish farming operations. They have built up what looks and functions much like a thriving little city near the Labish Center school house.

They have about 175 acres in peppermint now—the largest single planting in this part of the country, if not in any part of this country. They have about 100 acres in onion sets, 50 acres in potatoes, about 200 acres in onions, besides a small acreage in asparagus, carrots and other vegetables. They are constantly carrying on experiments with prospective commercial vegetable crops.

They are now cutting and stilling their peppermint, and it is running about 64 pounds of peppermint oil to the acre—which is high, considering that in the Michigan and Indiana districts the average is around 35 pounds. The peppermint plant on the Labish lands is of such rank growth that they are obliged to use hand sickles in addition to mowing machines in cutting the crop. They have one very large still, with four vats.

Their onion sets run 20,000 to 30,000 pounds to the acre. They have an average crop this year, and it is already harvested. Their onion sets go all over the Pacific coast, mostly through the large seed houses.

Their onions go about 200 hundred-pound sacks to the acre. They have a fair crop this year, and it is being harvested now.

Their potatoes go about 150 hundred-pound sacks to the acre. The Onion City.

They have 26 warehouse buildings, not counting other farm buildings. Their warehouses will hold 280 cars of onions and onion sets, being built for that especial purpose.

They operate a sawmill on their land. They have an apartment house for four families, and 10 comfortable dwelling houses. There are about 20 families constantly on the land, besides many hands from the outside in busy seasons.

In the whole of the Lake Labish district, on the beaverdam lands, there are about 1,000 acres in onions alone, and the yields in some cases run up to 600 sacks, or two car loads, to the acre.

### 45 VARIETIES OF PEONIES AND 52 VARIETIES OF IRIS. MORE COMING

These Are Among the Most Hardy Flowers That Grow and Will Produce Fine Blooms With Little Care—The Jay Morris Peony Garden in Southern Suburbs of Salem Is a Show Place—Coast Attracting Attention as Country With Superior Qualities for Flower Seed Growing

Editor Statesman: The attention of flower lovers, during the past few years, has been increasingly drawn to the Pacific coast as a place where flower plants, bulbs and seeds of superior quality can be grown.

The growing of lovely flowers is receiving increasing interest each year as people more and more realize what an immense reward a small outlay in flowers will bring, first by beautifying home and second by multiplying the happiness of those in the home. A house is really not a home without its flowers.

A poor plant takes as much care and as much space in the garden as a good plant will, so in buying your plants you should insist on getting the best, even though they may cost a little more, as later results will far outweigh original cost of the plants.

There are so many beautiful flowers there is no reason why we should not all have flowers, at least, some of our favorite varieties.

In this article I am writing about two of my favorites, namely, the peony and iris.

These two grand perennials are among the most hardy flowers that grow and will produce fine bloom with as little or even less care than any others.

Peonies get better each year up to about the eighth year, then they should be divided and reset for best results, although peony plants have been known to grow and bloom in one location for over fifty years with little or no care.

There are thousands of varieties of these beautiful flowers, ranging, in color from deep red through all shades of pink to purest white, and even some rich creams and light yellows.

Besides the many shades of color there is a big difference in the type of blooms and the time of blooming of various varieties, so, by careful selection of varieties, one may have peonies in bloom for six weeks or more.

There are eight types of bloom known as Single, Semi Double, Japanese, Anemone, Crown, Bomb, Semi-rose and Rose types; the Rose type being the fullest double.

Remember, in selecting your roots that the highest priced ones are not necessarily the best ones. They may be high in price because stock is scarce. For example, the peony Mary Woodbury Shaylor is rated 9.0 and sells for \$15 each, while Mons. Jules Elie selling at \$1.50 each is rated 9.2, a higher rated flower than the former, but the stick is not so scarce.

The ratings above are from the American Peony society ratings of the peonies on a basis of 10 being perfect. The points of excellence taken into consideration in making the rating are color, size, stem (including length, strength and foliage), form, substance and fragrance. These ratings are included in the price list of all reliable growers and are the buyer's best guide in selecting varieties from a catalogue.

Seven Reasons Why reasons why everyone should have some peonies in his garden, given in a monograph on the peony written by Mr. J. Elliot Colt, for Cornell university.

1. They are easy to grow; anyone can raise glorious peonies with less trouble than it takes to grow roses.

2. Peonies well established are permanent features in the garden, or at least as permanent as is desirable.

3. Peonies are perfectly hardy wherever apples can be grown, passing through the most severe winters without injury, and very easily protected where not hardy.

4. The blooms are large, showy, of various forms and of all shades of color from white to purple, and even pale yellow.

5. Many of the new varieties are deliciously fragrant.

6. They are practically free from insects and disease. No spraying, dusting or hand picking of worms is necessary.

7. They are equally successful as a cut flower and for artistic landscape effect.

In General Diseases of the peony are few indeed; compared with the rose, its closest rival. Most diseases can be traced to over feeding the plants with manure or other fertilizing elements. The best time to plant or reset peonies is in September, October or November, as the roots are least active at this season.

### SAVE YOUR SEED FOR YOUR OWN USE

Find by Trial Just the Strain and Variety Best Suited to Your Choice

(The following was written for this issue by C. J. McIntosh, the very competent publicity man of the Oregon Agricultural college.)

One way to get good seed is to find by trial just the strain and variety best suited to the grower's conditions, and then save the seed for further use. But even here it is in accordance with the laws of evolution that unless the grower exercises eternal vigilance in taking full advantage of every variation or sport that points to a real improvement, he will soon lag along behind the procession, as competent specialists are continually on the lookout for all such promising modifications and by utilizing them tend to produce seed that is steadily better and better.

Another thing the grower has to consider, even conceding that the commercial seed grower does produce improved seed strains and finds ways and means to turn out progressively better seed stocks is that it is far from certain that the growers of home gardens can always get this bettered seed and always get it in good condition. It is at least questionable whether all seed producers and dealers keep the latest seed stocks—most highly improved and newest and freshest—in the hands of all of their retail representatives. Personally I have found by disagreeable experience that when I neglect the good seed matter until I have to plant something in a rush and so go down to the dealer and buy commercial seed, that I am more likely than not to get a poor, irregular stand, particularly with seeds rather hard to grow such as celery and carrots. Even the larger seeds such as beans and peas often prove disappointing in the way they germinate and grow.

More trouble is I think likely to arise from failure of such seed to germinate and grow vigorously than from any variation from announced type. Commercial seed stock as bought in the small package seems to be true to variety and generally of good strain, but often woefully weak in viability. I have always found it much more satisfactory to order the seed in bulk from the seed house and test it out long enough before planting time to return them if they are poor growers in time to get a fresh supply before planting time.

Commercial seeds are usually quite free from visible imperfections such as weevil injury, mustiness and impurity. It nearly always in my experience looks right and smells right, and being of the advertised varieties and strains, about the only real deficiency I find is in the age. Just how much of the current season stock when returned to the seedhouse by the local dealer is put away for another year, and how many times the same package may be subjected to this operation, I am unable to say. But since the package is already made up and sealed it seems entirely reasonable that if any old stock are to be held over it will be the package portions. This always seemed to me to be another reason for buying in bulk rather than in packages, even though not large quantities are needed or ordered.

Not that it may never be advisable to hold seed over for an extra year or two. This depends on the kind of stock, as some of the most viable sorts such as those of the mustard family and some others may be held for another year or so with apparently little deterioration.

Test Your Seed Opportunity to give the seed a test either at home or by the agricultural college seed testing laboratory, is another advantage of buying in bulk and in lots large enough to last through the year. If the first order is made from after the seed catalogue has gone out there will usually be plenty of time to send a small sample to the seed laboratory at Corvallis and learn definitely just how good the seed is and how well it will grow. Small seeds in which similar small weed seed may be present can also be checked up on in the college sample.

But even with the best practice home grown seed often proves the most satisfactory, particularly with the annuals. Lettuce, radishes, pumpkins, squash and cucumbers, peas, beans and corn, mustard and spinach, lend themselves to this method.

Mortgages are all right so long as you are able to keep them under control.

Women Working too Hard, States Famous Surgeon LONDON.—"Women are spoiling themselves by over-education and too much work," declared Sir W. Arbuthnot Lane, the well known surgeon, in the well known magazine, "The Nation."

"They have improved in many ways during recent years," he continued, "and they are all the better for the higher standard of education they have demanded, but many of them now are going too far. They are wearing themselves out to satisfy their insatiable desire for thoroughness."

Sir Arbuthnot said that man is the frail creature and woman is the strong. "She takes to much advantage of this strength. Women of all kinds and classes work too hard except those who exhaust themselves in search of pleasure."

The Atlas Book and Stationery Co., 465 State street. High class literature and fine stationery. Complete lines. You will appreciate the low prices. (\*)

### SEEDS

We buy and sell all kinds of seeds grown in this state having a large wholesale trade as well as a good retail business.

We carry in stock all the varieties that are suitable for the Pacific coast and are in a position to fill all orders promptly.

Mail orders are given prompt attention and we ship to all parts of the United States.

We give special attention to Seed Grains, Clover Seed, Vetch Seed, and the different Grass Seeds as well as a full line of Garden Seeds.

Send for list when in the market as you will find it to your interest to do so. All seeds are thoroughly cleaned and graded and comply with the various state seed laws of the different states.

**D. A. WHITE & SONS**

Wholesale and Retail Seedmen, SALEM, OREGON