# SALEM DISTRICT INDUSTRIES

### SEVENTH 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.

## **DREGON BECOMING A GREAT CELERY** STATE, MARKETING ITS CROP IN THE EASTERN CITIES ON ITS HIGH QUALITY

A Very Complete and Able Article for This Annual Celery Slogan Edition of The Statesman by the Highest and Best Authority We Have, Prof. A. G. B. Bouquet, Head of the Department of Market Gardening at the Oregon Agricultural College

few years ago was not given much

work as the blight. Wherever

it to failure to spray or dust early

enough. Some growers have not

yet learned the lesson of preven-

the blight begins to have the up-

per hand it is a long, hard fight

grower loses. Thorough spraying

of plants in the seed beds follow-

ed by others after the plants are

set out is more than half the bat-

tle for cleanliness. Blight plants

are reduced in vigor, in size and

market grade, and themselves are

a menace to adjacent fields which

Our Celery Uniform.

of the celery produced in these

districts that it is exceptionally

uniform in height and growth.
This may be attributed to several

factors, among which is that the

other growing areas, which tends

The average crop receives about

six to seven cultivations. There is also some necessary hand weed-

ing and hoeing, which are listed

As to Irrigation:

prises three methods—sub-irriga-

tion, over-head and ditch or fur-

row system. Land that is situat-

ed low enough can be very nicely

sub-irrigated, which is the most

desirable form of applying the

water. Open ditches which are

four rods apart receive the water

from springs and the water seeps

through the soil sub-surface per-

meating the entire area. This

method is ideal for keeping the

leaves dry and the roots well sup-

plied with moisture. Overhead

pipes are used for areas that are

too high to properly sub-irrigate.

The pipes are usually set up about

four times during the season, the

complete program of blight con-

The Blanching.

Blanching celery with lumber is

lmost a universal practice. The

when it is crated. On the other

days are usually sufficient to pro-

duce a finely blanched color and

become an attractive golden yel-

low. The bunch is still very solid

and in fine shipping condition.

One by ten inch lumber is used

for the early, shorter celery and

tially green, and the grade on the

the separating of the bunch from the roots just below the ground

leave a trim and tightly fitting bunch. Most cars of celery that

are shipped roll in crates rough

or unwashed, with the root un-

trimmed, the washing and tying

being done at destination by the

ers are very much worse on some

strains and varieties than others

and where they, are numerous they entail an added burden and

cost in trimming and the number

(Continued on page 12.)

whole

salers and retailers. Suck-

the government inspectors.

is reduced accordingly by

trol be carried out.

Irrigation of celery fields com-

It has been a noticeable feature

may be clean.

Oregon has unusually favorable consideration is now a regular conditions for growing excellent practice. The growers maintain elery, and while the industry of that if they have good clean plants producing and shipping has not to be set that they have started yet reached the proportion of out right to control the blight. some other states, yet the busi- Growers have varied their blight ness is growing and the crop is control between spraying and dustfinding greater outlet and wider, ing. The former was used several recognition each year. The high years ago and dusting was later quality of the product is largely employed. Now sprays are being onsible for this condition. Es- used again, being rated cheaper tablishing a reputation for a high and fully as effective. "Nicodust" class and excellent quality celery is used to control aphis, which that will cause business to expand were comparatively sparse in and sales to increase has been the 1926, but in some past years have ambition of celery growers of the been almost as deadly in their state. That this object has been attained is attested by the fact blight is doing damage one can that in but a few years the grow- usually attribute the presence of ing of celery has developed from as shipments to the present volume of business that now consists of shipping many hundred tion being better than cure. When

Three Celery Districts The celery growing areas of Or- to cope with it, and usually the egon are divided into three distinct sections, Lake Labish, near Salem in Marion county; Troutdale on the Columbia slough land of Multnomah county; and Milwaukie, eight miles south and adjacent to the Willamette river. The soil types in these three places are distinctly different, the Troutdale soil being a dark brown, sub-irrigated sandy loam; the Milwaukie land being mostly beaver dam, while the Salem soil a drained lake bed with a typical peat substance.

cars yearly to eastern markets.

There are many thousands of plants are set out smaller than in The Right Soils able of growing fine celery, but to a greater uniformity, and the acreage should not expand in again, plants are selected for their such a way as to hinder the possi- uniformity and vigor when they bility of satisfactory marketing, are transplanted.

Certain kinds of soil produce the The average cro test results, particularly the type of soil mentioned as prevailing in the districts as mentioned above. The soil type has a very definite, in cost items to be found below. bearing on the size and quality and ability of the product to stand up, which is necessary if celery is to be shipped any long distance. One often hears of celery men discussing a certain lot of celery as being large and well blanched but they also many say that it does not stand up as it should and therefore loses a lot of

its value. And Climatic Conditions Climatic conditions must be right to produce celery of the best flavor and quality. In sections of western Oregon freezes seldom ocur before Thanksgiving. There a noticeable lack of extreme immer temperatures, and the cool and moist fall weather is water running about twelve conductive to the formation of fine at each setting. The overhead system makes it imperative that a system makes it imperative that a

Growing high class celery is dargely dependent on the quality, trueness and uniformity of the ged strain Some growers have ade it a practice to try various ades of Golden self-blanching Golden Plume in order to aserrtain what sources of seed will g're the best satisfaction. Golden Plume is grown but little in comparison with the Golden selfhi nehing, which is mostly of the tail strain. A good strain of seed ent produce celery that is large, firm, very compact, erect, vigorour and blanching well with a fine, golden heart. It should also be free from excessive suckering.

Produce Two Crops There are usually two lots of celery grown so far as season is ned, the early and the main For the early crop, seed be sown about February 15th to March 1st under glass and for the later cellery one by twelve inch lumber. Well blanched cel-ery in the crate is very much more the plants cared for under glass until about the first of May, when the field setting begins. The main ery in the crate is very much more to 15th in outdoor seed beds and the plants are handled but once. ely into the field during June. of the first late celery is set he latter part of May. Seed for the main crop are man-ind the top soil is usually

> or the base of the stalk; next, the rapid pulling off the suckers and undesirable stalks so as to Pertile Soil Vital ilization is a vital factor plow under all celery is from the year before Most 15 tons of sheep manure re and an additional apof 500 pounds of superand 200 to 300 pounds potash. Some growas with 100 pounds of soda, and in other ds of salt per

in order to have a fine

essity of blight control ly stages of the growth of grade one bunches is reduced, or is being realized by sore each year. Seed packed in the field directly foiop is being realized by nore each year. Seed ig or spraying which a

Dates of Slogans in Daily Statesman (In Weekly Statesman)

(With a few possible changes) | Drug Garden, May 6 Loganberries, October 7, 1926 Sugar Beets, Sorghum, Etc., Prunes, October 14 Dairying, October 21 Flax, October 28 Filberts, November 4 Walnuts, November 11 Strawberries, November 18 Apples, November 25 Raspberries, December 2 Mint, December 9 Beans, Etc., December 16 Blackberries, December 28 Cherries, December 30 Pears, January 6, 1927 Gooseberries, January 18 Corn, January 20 Celery, January 27 Spinach, Etc., February S Onions, Etc., February 10 Potatoes, Etc., February 17. Bees, February 24 Poultry and Pet Stock, Mar. 3 City Beautiful, Etc., March 10 Great Cows, March 17 Paved Highways, March 24 Head Lettuce, March St. Silos, Etc., April 7 Legumes, April 14

Asparagus, Etc., April 21

Grapes, Etc., April 28

May 13, 1927 Water Powers, May 20 Mining, June 8 Land, Irrigation, Etc., June 10 Floriculture, June 17 Hops, Cabbage, Etc., June 24 Wholesaling and Jobbing, July 1

Cucumbers, Etc., July 8 Goats, July 22 Schools, Etc., July 29 Sheep, Aug. 5 National Advertising, Aug. 12 Livestock, August 26 Grain and Grain Products

Sept. 2 Manufacturing, September 9 Automotive Industrics, Sept. 16 Woodworking, Etc., Sept. 28 Paper Mills, Sept. 80 Summary, Oct. 7

Back copies of the Thursday edition of The Daily Oregon Statesman are on hand. They are for sale at 10 cents each, mailed to any address. Current copies 5 cents.)



Setting the young celery plants in the field

After growth has started in the

When the plants have reached

this process requiring about three

weeks' time. Boards, an inch

thick and ten inches wide, are

used, and being a considerable

to be repeated only at intervals of

several years, as the boards are

used repeatedly. Five tons of

wrapping paper were used to pre-

pare this crop for shipment and

60,000 yards of ribbon or cotton

tape for tying purposes, blue be-

ing first and red indicating the

Seed Comes From France.

The seed is the only thing not

'made in America," although

second grade or size of celery.

that it frequently runs "the other ground at this time. All this, of way" when high water from the course, is only upon the larger driftwood across it. Nor was a surplussage of water ing pot, which requires a contin-

the only element to be guarded uous line of laborers moving with against, for fire was as ready to five gallon sprinklers toward the fall upon it as was the water, men (and women) engaged in since the soil is composed of veg- placing the plants in the ground. etable matter, and while resembling soot in blackness and weight. | field, trenches are made six inches many acres lost a component part | from the "hills," into which niof its vitality in the early days trate of soda is placed at the rate when farmers, burning stumps or of 200 to 300 pounds per acre, brush, allowed dirt fires to go un-4 this item of fertilizer costing \$65

checked. Preparing the Soil. The ground for celery growing barnyard fertilizer, secured from is all but sifted, being very thor- farmers at the rate of from \$3 to oughly plowed, harrowed and \$5 per load, and which brings the disked, after which it is rolled in enriching element up to \$200 per preparation for the plants which acre. Cultivation is continuous have been started in a greenhouse from the time of setting out the about February tenth, and which plants, until the first crop is ready are ready for the open ground for market about the Fourth of April first, although outside seed July, and continuing until New beds of vastly greater dimensions Year's, with the heaviest shipand capacity are used for the later | ments just previous to Thanksplantings. These outside beds are | giving. covered with burlap, and kept meist by sprinkling, until the seed a height of 18 inches, which they sprouts, since only a thin film of | do in the first three months of dirt is ever put upon the seed and their growth, they are bleached, this could not retain sufficient moisture for germination.

When the little plants have reached about an inch and a half in height, they are set out in rows, item of expense, but which needs six inches apart in the row, and the rows made three feet apart to allow for a horse drawn or motorpropelled cultivator to operate, although hand tools are a general favorite in dealing with this most delicate, yet supremely delicious

Painstaking Labor. Previous to the setting out of the plants, which is done entirely by hand, owing to the brittleness which makes machine distribution impossible, the ground is thoroughly soaked by an ingenius device, consisting of a forty-foot gas pipe, plugged at the ends and holes made for sprinkling the The marsh, however, had to be young plants, or rather the space to be occupied by them in the row. Water is pumped into the contrivance from the drainage ditches

some Philadelphia seedsman is offering the growers an opportunity of testing American-grown seed in W. W. ROSEBRAUGH COMPANY

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it moving toward Pudding river, power, since horse's feet would a small way. France has thus far a stream of such slight fall to it make unsightly holes in the supplied the seed, as the germinating qualities have been considered higher than that raised elsewhere. mountains puts an impediment of plantings, as the smaller growers For this importation \$15 per still depend upon the hand water- pound is paid, but as one ounce will produce 20,000 plants, or almost enough to plant an acre, this item of expense is not con-

> Trucks convey the celery to local markets, while the steam and electric roads look after the longer hauls, iced refrigerator cars going out from the little village of Brooks, and with only stops long enough for re-icing moving as fast express to all the metroper ton, and to this expense is added twenty wagon loads of politan markets in America.

siderable.

Tokuto City. All of the celery grown in commercial quantities in the Lake Labish region is by members of the Labish Meadows Celery union a Japanese-American organization Fukuda is president, Charles Ogura, treasurer, and Ronald E Jones, manager. Between Brooks and Salem there has sprung up a little town of the workers, known as Tokuto City, where there is a

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The five great railroads of the Pacific northwest, namely, Southern Pacific, Northern Pacific, Great northern, Spokane, Portland and Seattle, and Union Pacific, all use Labish Meadows celery on their trains, the Southern Pacific having issued a most attractive menu card bearing a photograph of the celery gardens near Brooks. and a description of the famous product, the artistic production being the work of Cecil Vare Ashbaugh of Brooks.

Not a bunch of celery went to waste last year. The store on the Pacific highway, operated by Roy Fukuda, disposed of hundreds of bunches direct from the gardens to tourist travel. But, satisfactory as have been the sales, the manager, Ronald Jones, is now making a trip through the east and south looking up new markets for the 1927 crop, which will equal, if not exceed that of 1926.

Corvallis .- Oregon Agricultural college has 3665 long course reg-

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# LABISH CELERY INDUSTRY GREW FROM 2000 PLANTS IN 17 YEARS TO OUTPUT OF 367 CARS LAST YEAR

THIS WEEK'S SLOGAN

DID YOU KNOW that Salem is the market center of the

coming most extensive celery growing district in the

United States; that we are already far ahead of any

other section of Oregon or the Pacific Northwest in the

industry; that our growers produce and pack here the

finest quality of celery grown in the world; that they get

\$1 a crate and more above the price paid the California

growers for their best celery; that this difference alone

means a handsome profit to our growers, and must of

necessity result in the steady growth of the industry

here; that, for a man with the right kind of land, some

capital, and a great deal of industry, there is room and

certain fortune here in celery growing; that there is a

welcome here for more and more celery growers, and that

celery growers in other sections can afford to abandon

their places and come here, where they can grow quality

celery ommanding \$1 a crate and more premium?

It is Headed to the Stature of a Million Dollar Annual Cash Return Industry, With a Great Deal Larger Yearly Cash Turnover Before Very Long-Preparing the Soil and Making It Richer—Much Painstaking Labor—The Industry Is Starting a Celery City

By ELLA McMUNN

When President Coolidge ate and delicious. Oregon celery, or more specifically, Labish Meadows celery at Thanksgiving time, and pronounced it "Most deliefous," the dream of more than a score of years was realized in this culminating honor which drew the attention of the world to this million dollar industry that has sprung into being upon what was once abandoned

important factor in the work is to closely watch the length of time Beginning in 1909 with 2,000 necessary for the boards to be plants that covered possibly oneagainst the plants. Too early rethird of an acre, there are now moval of the boards leaves the 256 acres under cultivation in the outer stalks partially green. This Brooks section, from which point is an undesirable color of the product and shows up plainly 300 cars were shipped of the 1925 crop, going to markets in twenty hand, too late removal of the states and Canada, several of boards gives a partially spoiled product. Fourteen to eighteen which are celery growing districts embraced inthe country between Montana and Texas, and as far to make the heart lengthen and east as Florida. The 1926 crop totalled 367 cars.

Prohibition and the decline of hop raising were important factors in the growth of the industry. since some of the most skilled of those raising "beer berries" turned their attention to more remunerative forms of agriculture. And here it was found that the celebrated stone that the builders rejected became the cornerstone of Getting the celery out of the field and into the crate requires certain definite operations, first, the industry; for marsh and beaver dam lands, too hopelessly soggy for anything else, were found to be ideal for celery growing, as the underlying meosture from hidden springs supplied the element to

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drained and tiled, and this was no inconsiderable task, as the several thousand acres in the area known as Lake Labish require a canal of by means of a hose, the gas pipe sufficient depth to carry off the water poured into it from the lateral ditches and tile drains to keep

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