

FARMING AND INDUSTRIAL MAGAZINE SECTION OF THE OREGON STATESMAN

Issued Weekly by THE STATESMAN PUBLISHING COMPANY 215 South Commercial Street, Salem, Oregon.

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TELEPHONE Business Office... 33 or 583 News Dept... 33 or 108 Job Department... 545 Society Editor... 104 Circulation Office... 587

Entered at the Post Office in Salem, Oregon, as second-class matter.

SALEM IS ONION CENTER

Salem is the onion center of Oregon and the onion set center of the region west of the Rocky mountains—

And the onion industry has become stabilized here; made stable on quality and quantity. Our growers produce an onion that sells often on the eastern markets at as much as 75 cents a hundred pounds above the market price, and some of our growers get 600 hundred pound sacks or two cars of onions to the acre. These advantages make for stability in the industry.

"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," declared a leader of the industry a couple of years ago. One grower of onions on the Labish beaverdam lands received \$4500 for his crop of five acres, and handled it direct from the field to the market.

We have an onion cult here. Our growers have been learning; are learning all the time. They find that the superior keeping qualities of the onions grown on the Labish beaverdam lands is due to the sulphur in the soil. They are learning the best methods of fertilization. They grow each year an onion of higher quality and with greater per acre tonnages.

There is a vast tract of land in the Santiam irrigation section that is good onion soil. There is a big acreage of beaverdam land in this district that has not yet been cleared and drained—

So there are possibilities of great expansion—

In fact, Salem may well look forward to the time when she will likely be the center of the greatest onion industry in the United States; the shipping, banking and merchandising center.

The annual Slogan subject for the Farming and Industrial Magazine Section of The Statesman of next Sunday is potatoes. We can build up a great potato industry here. There are prospects of securing a potato starch, flour and dextrine factory in Salem, with feeder factories all over this district. This would certainly put our potato industry on the map, permanently.

During the past week, a good deal of progress has been made in the flax and linen industries of the Salem district. The largest buyer of linen yarn in this country has been here, and he has told our people that there is a demand for more

of this yarn than our mills can spin. And it is his opinion that the time will come when there will be room for 100 or more such linen mills as we now have. The flax and linen industries will be the greatest single growing and manufacturing line in Oregon for all time, eventually. And there are many signs of big developments in this field soon.

ONION BED SUMMER BEAUTY COMBINED AND BLENDED BY THE HAND OF NATURE

But There Is a Note of Wistfulness in the Following Description of the Scenes Around Boyles Lakes Near Rickreall in Childhood Days; Onion Beds Now Take the Places of the Lakes That Were There in Pioneer Times.

Editor Statesman:

Yesterday as I stood on the brow of the Boyle hill two miles west of Rickreall I was attracted by a body of water, caused by the recent rains, that covered a spot from which a lake had been drained to prepare ground for onions.

On the crest of the hill at my right less than a quarter of a mile away the old home of Dr. James Boyle still stands. It was built 75 years ago but shows its advanced age only by the style of the architecture. At the foot of the hill and immediately in front of the spot on which I stood is a large clump of ash, cottonwood, oak and a sprinkling of fir trees, and various kinds of undergrowth which cover nearly 100 acres. At one time these trees surrounded three lakes—mere lakelets—compared with Crater, Fish, Odell and many other Oregon lakes. But in this vale they were real lakes. About these lakes there is an Indian legend that was carried down for ages. But realism has long since blotted the legend from the mind of the Indian, as commercialism has drained the waters from the lakes. Now in the place of the bodies of water are onion beds, carrot fields and gardens.

Memories of Beauty

As I viewed the scene I was charmed by a childhood vision mirrored from the great body of water that filled the basin of one of the beloved lakes that was

turned into an onion bed. It was a reminder of the time when the lakes were the center of winter sports in the Rickreall valley. In ice-time crowds would come from the nearby village and town and the surrounding country, bringing skates, bob and hand sleds. The woods would ring with shouts and laughter all day and until long after midnight. At night when the bonfires were kindled on the banks the trees and small growth festooned with snow and icicles around the old lakes were glorious in their beauty. Not less beautiful, but more tranquil, was the springtime when the children would run down from the Boyle home to pick wild-flowers. Each day at the lakes was a wonderful day—a day never to be forgotten.

Why this sense of desecration? The onion bed is a spot of green with which no other green can be likened to add a speck of color to the dry grass and ripened grain of the summertime. It looks like the gold of summer combined and blended by the hand of nature with the deep blue of the Oregon hills and mountains.

Each generation must live its own life. Hence the things enjoyed by the preceding generation are pushed out by accumulated circumstances. Yet sometimes we marvel as to what will be left of nature in the way of beauty and thrills for them that come next.

—CAROLINE F. BURCH, Rickreall, Ore., Feb. 6, 1928.

BUSINESS OF ONION PRODUCTION HERE IS A STABLE ONE AND WILL INCREASE

Lake Labish Section Near Salem Has Become An Onion Growing Region That Now Has the Largest Acreage in the State—The Early Slogan of a Car Load to the Acre Is Being Exceeded—Prof. Bouquet, College Authority, Tells of the Industry Here

(The following article on the onion growing industry of the Labish district near Salem was written for the annual onion Slogan number of The Statesman of last year, by Prof. A. G. B. Bouquet of the Oregon Agricultural college. Mr. Bouquet is professor of market gardening of that institution:)

Comparatively few states in the Union have as large an area of peat land as Oregon possesses. Many thousands of acres in the state are as yet undeveloped, but already there are several districts in which the producing power of the "organic" types of soil are amply demonstrated.

The commercial growing of onions is very closely associated with the development of peat lands in the state. Some 75 years ago the low lands of the Tualatin River valley were prepared for onion growing and an industry started in Washington county that became one of the most stable and valuable branches of the horticultural business of Oregon.

In the past few years the extension of the onion industry has naturally followed those areas

that have many acres of rich peat bottom and thus a few years ago the hitherto undrained and unclaimed Lake Labish section became an onion growing region that has now the largest acreage in the state.

Unusual Advantages

This section has unusual advantages for onion growing, the type of soil in the area being, of course the chief reason for the onion growing development.

New peat or drained lake land

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is essentially rich in organic matter—the vital constituent of profitably producing soils. The nitrogen content also is high, but the phosphorus and potash comparatively low. The moisture holding capacity is unusually good. Such are the characters of the Lake Labish onion lands. Furthermore they are practically virgin, and unexhausted by years of previous cropping, for the industry of onion growing is comparatively young in the Labish district. A carload of onions per acre is the Labish slogan and it is in some cases being exceeded.

Oregon onion markets are increasing gradually in wideness of distribution and possible increase in volume of shipments. While there may be no unusual increase in planting for a few years to come, yet the business of onion production under the favorable conditions of the Labish country is a stable one that will continue to bring, year in and year out, profitable returns to growers and the community at large.

BARRELS AND MORE AND MORE BARRELS

The Steamer Northwestern Brings Big Shipment of Empty Ones To Salem

When the steamer Northwestern of the Salem Navigation company docked at Salem early this week it had the appearance of a spirit ship from the land of the moonshiners. Barrels, empty barrels, and more barrels were in every available space on the decks of the boat. More than 300 of the oak containers were unloaded at the navigation company's dock for the Gideon Stolz company.

This shipment, which is one car load, will be filled with ginger and shipped to distant markets soon from the Stolz factory. The vinegar output of the company has grown from a few barrels a few years ago until now carloads of the product are shipped each year.

The horse that bolts grain fed to him does not get from it the same supply of nutrition he would if he ate it at a moderate rate. He can be forced to eat less rapidly by spreading the grain over the bottom of a large flat box, by placing several smooth stones about three inches in diameter in the box, or by mixing the grain with bran, cut hay or some similar feed.

Good barley seed is hard to obtain unless ordered early. Because of high feeding value the best varieties of barley are sometimes gone by seeding time. Hannchen is the best variety for western Oregon. finds the Oregon experiment station.

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Table with 2 columns: Slogan Topic and Date. Includes items like Loganberries (Oct 6), Prunes (Oct 13), Dairying (Oct 20), Flax (Oct 27), Filberts (Nov 3), Walnuts (Nov 10), Strawberries (Nov 17), Apples, Figs, Etc. (Nov 24), Raspberries (Dec 1), Mint (Dec 8), Beans, Etc. (Dec 15), Blackberries (Dec 22), Cherries (Dec 29), Pears (Jan 5), Gooseberries (Jan 12), Corn (Jan 19), Celery (Jan 28), Spinach, Etc. (Feb 5), Onions, Etc. (Feb 12), Potatoes, Etc. (Feb 19), Bees (Feb 26), Poultry and Pet Stock (Mar 4), City Beautiful, Etc. (Mar 11), Great Cows (Mar 18), Paved Highways (Mar 25), Head Lettuce (Apr 1), Silos, Etc. (Apr 8), Legumes (Apr 15), Asparagus, Etc. (Apr 22), Grapes, Etc. (Apr 29), Drug Garden (May 6), Sugar Industry (May 13), Water Powers (May 20), Irrigation (May 27), Mining (June 3), Land, Irrigation, Etc. (June 10), Floriculture (June 17), Hops, Cabbage, Etc. (June 24), Wholesaling, Jobbing (July 1), Cucumbers, Etc. (July 8), Hogs (July 15), Goats (July 22), Schools (July 29), Sheep (August 5), Seeds (August 12), National Advertising (Aug 19), Livestock (August 26), Grain & Grain Products (Sept 2), Manufacturing (Sept 9), Woodworking, Etc. (Sept 16), Automotive Industries (Sept 23), Paper Mills (Sept 30). Includes note: (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 topics 5 cents.)