

Woodburn Fruit Growers Association Making Good Progress

Berry Acreage Added Rapidly

300 Members; Prices This Year Good but Output Extremely Varied

By C. GENEVIEVE MORGAN

Three years ago the depression almost had a strangle hold of the Woodburn Fruit Growers association—morale was shattered, prices was what you could get and he glad if, contracts had expired, membership was dwindling. Not a pretty picture, but O. L. Davis, president, can smile now as he recalls it.

For the Woodburn Fruit Growers association, as everyone who has followed fruit history knows, is not only back on its feet—it is up on its toes. Membership hits the 300 mark, new acreage has been added and there would be a whole lot more potential acreage right this minute if plants had been available this spring—in short, the association is in first class condition and is plotting where it can and will go ahead and improve its property, says Davis, who has been growing berries for 15 years and now has nine acres in cane fruits.

Davis has been president of the association the past three years, and for about the same period energetic Tim Bjelland has been manager, and to them as well as to the board of directors and Gladys D. Miller, secretary-treasurer, go bouquets for recent progress of this 15-year-old cooperative.

Largest Logan Pool

Bulk of the fruits going through the association is berries, and included is the largest loganberry pool in the world representing the fruit from 230 acres. In all, the association represents 638 acres of berries, cherries and prunes, the latter two items being comparatively small and last year totaling 53,996 trees from which on cherries and prunes 497,295 pounds of fruit last year netted the growers \$2995.83. The 1936 prunes were the first of this fruit handled.

During the 1936 harvest, 2,296,627 pounds of berries were picked from 544 1/2 acres of crops and netted the growers \$98,702.42—and berries last year weren't the surprisingly high prices they have developed this year.

The 1936 record outstripped both in quantity and cash, the 1935 berry deal, which netted the growers in 1935 on 1,812,318 pounds of fruit. And 1935 represented a gain of \$22,995.78 over 1934.

But so much for that.

Grader Installed

This year a berry grader is being installed at the plant in Woodburn, and will be used only in case of emergency, in which event the association will barrel its berries. Otherwise the Woodburn plant will continue as a receiving station as heretofore. An electric scale was installed the past week and slight remodeling of the business office will be done soon.

Last year the Woodburn growers made a ten strike for themselves when they decided to barrel 161 tons of their loganberries on their own hook. This deal returned 5 cents a pound to the growers, or a cent over the going buying price.

All fruit for this year has been contracted except black and barrelling cherries, prunes and blackberries, Manager Bjelland said Wednesday. Possibly the cherry crop will be signed up at the time this appears.

Boysenberry Gains

With weather conditions, both last fall and this spring, putting considerable of a kink in the berry situation—and naturally being one factor in the skyrocket markets—the Woodburn growers report at this stage that the Boysenberry, a newcomer, is showing other berries up and looks the most promising crop of the year. (Marshalls fell way short, partly due to the heat scald in early June; logans apparently suffered winter damage, severely in the case of older vines and from 20 to 30 per cent in case of younger vines; there was no set on blackcaps, and so on.)

Most of the Boysenberry tonnage in the county this year is around Woodburn, and though the acreage is small inasmuch as the crop has been largely experimental to this point, a larger volume is expected next year. Max Gehlar of the Oregon Fruit Products holds a corner on the Boysenberry deal this year, having purchased the Woodburn crop at 3 1/2 cents, the same figure he paid for the pool's red raspberries. Gehlar has expressed the belief that Boysenberries are a coming commercial deal.

Red Hearts (with three times last year's acreage) are another berry that the Woodburn growers, in common with those in most sections hereabouts, are planting new faith on. They look, for the most part, promising this year and are replacing the dwindling Etersbergs.

Etersbergs Fickle

Franks the Etersbergs have been playing on growers in recent years are illustrated by report of one Woodburn grower that on a three acre field where he picked 2500 pounds to the acre two years ago, he last year managed to get off four crates. In contract Joe Doran, who has a hillside farm near Brooks, said while delivering Marshalls the past week that his Etersbergs this year promise a ton to the acre on his three-acre patch.

Doran, by the way, just about takes county-wide honors for gooseberry production this year; from two acres he harvested 4 1/2 tons, or an even two tons to the acre.

Bystander Seizes Placard From Woman Picket



Judged by the contorted expressions on the faces of these two Chicagoans the lady picket was putting up quite a struggle when a bystander snatched a placard from her in front of the city hall where wives and sympathizers staged a demonstration criticizing Mayor Kelley in connection with the killing of strikers at Republic Steel Co. in South Chicago Memorial Day week-end.

Berry Fair Plans For 1938 Started

Success of Recent Lebanon Fair Elates Residents and Fair Board

LEBANON, June 12.—Members of the fair board and other business people are so elated over the success of the berry fair that plans are already under way for the fair of 1938 with the idea of making it the grandest pageant in the state. Frank Mayer is chairman of the committee and will announce his helpers within a short time.

L. E. Heyne, engaged in business in Lebanon the past 25 years, has purchased the Frank Mayer building on Main street now occupied by the Santiam market. The building is 20x70 and will be remodeled and made strictly modern. It will be occupied by Mr. Heyne's gift and music store.

The Santiam Fish and Game association at their meeting in Lebanon Wednesday went on record as favoring a closed season in Linn county this year on both quail and pheasant. They also arranged for the completion of the pheasant pens under construction on the L. E. Arnold poultry ranch. This was the last meeting of the association until autumn.

Lions Elect

At the business session of the Lions club, following a banquet at Hotel Lebanon Wednesday night, Lester A. Wilcox, city school superintendent, was elected president; Harold Irvine, vice-president; Ralph Reeves, treasurer; Dr. J. G. Gill, lion tamer; Hiram Groves, tall twister; Dr. Joel C. Booth and Vernon Reeves, directors.

There was a decision to back Dr. Booth for governor of the Oregon district of Lions clubs. The women of the Church of Christ, who sent a barrel of 300 pound weight to a Kentucky town in a flood stricken area, have received a note of thanks saying that in the town of 1000 inhabitants I take out three rows—so I never have an all-new field. In short, he always has berries to market. (Which is necessary because he runs a fruit and fryer stand at his place and finds this not only a good business but an interesting one.)

He uses a hand Vaughn tractor—an Oregon product, too—which is not much larger than a plough but infinitely cheaper than keeping a horse and mighty handy on the small acreage. What's more, he can't use over 30 cents worth of gasoline a day with it, he says.

Another Sargent tip: In the non-growing season, he builds his chicken yard around the gooseberry plants—and that means no worms, which is something.

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Donate Over \$700 To Memorial Fund

Improvement of Cemetery and Grounds of Church Association Aim

SCIO, June 12.—More than \$700 had been subscribed to the Providence Memorial association a few days ago, according to R. B. Peery, originator and one of the prime movers in the organization.

"The association has made very satisfactory progress in the past year in its effort to finance its plan of general improvement of the cemetery and grounds of historic Providence church," Peery said. It was expected that the amount would be considerably increased within the next few days, he added. Two separate funds are maintained, the fence fund and the memorial fund.

Permanency in character of improvements has been signally planned by the committee in charge, Peery pointed out.

Members of the association have offered to donate flowers shrubbery in season for planting on the church grounds near the gateway to give it a park-like appearance. Peery stated that officials and members of the association are "profoundly grateful" to the public for the "fine support" of the undertaking, and "especially to the present officials of Providence church for the exceedingly fine cooperation and help in this work."

Program Planned

The third Sunday in June each year was established many years ago as the date of the annual home-coming at this historic shrine. An elaborate program now is in the making for this year's memorial to the founders of the church.

It was in 1853 that Joab Powell, early-day circuit rider of this

part of the Willamette valley, and a few associates established the Providence church, located seven miles southeast of Scio. Mrs. Iva Abbott of Scio is a granddaughter of Elder Powell.

Changes Are Made In Training Staff

MONMOUTH, June 12.—Several changes in the Oregon Normal's training school faculty are being made. Pearl Eyre, supervisor of lower grades at Rickreall is resigning at close of this term.

Mrs. Delia Keeney, supervisor of teaching in the eighth grade at Independence, is taking a leave of absence for one year for study. Miss Myrna Fletcher is replacing her.

Mary Donaldson, recently returned from securing a master's degree in California, has resumed work in the Independence school.

Ida Mae Smith is taking a year's leave from Oregon Normal staff teaching, to secure a master's degree at Teachers' college, Columbia university, N. Y. Miss Lavada Reed will replace Miss Smith.

Lucille Wall, absent at school last year, has returned to Monmouth as first grade supervisor. Anne O'Neill will spend this summer traveling in Europe.

Eleanor Leonard, who has been teaching in the grades at Independence, will have a similar position in Monmouth this summer. Eloise Buck of the ONS English department will be back next fall.

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Mrs. Mumford Is Guest

BRUSH COLLEGE, June 12.—Mrs. Lillian Mumford is a guest here this month at the home of her brother and sister-in-law, Dr.

and Mrs. C. L. Blodgett of Tri-angle ranch. Mrs. Mumford's home is at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and she stopped over on her way here for a visit with her daughter in Los Angeles.

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