

Cherry Harvest Gains Momentum

By LILLIE MADSEN
Farm Editor, The Statesman
Cherry harvest was getting into full swing in most of the Willamette Valley by Thursday of this week. However, in some orchards, picking will not be starting until early next week, and in others not until mid-week.

Only a few growers started harvesting early this week, although many had planned to do so. Week-end moisture slowed up the crop. Some orchardists are reporting considerable cracking by the moisture, while others report only a small amount.

Cash prices on the crop are being announced as a little under last year's price, because of the heavy carryover from 1944. However, with Willamette Cherry Growers, one of the heaviest briners in the area, as a cooperative, exact average prices here will not be known for

some time. Cooperative prices are not determined until after selling. The strawberry harvest was slowed during the week with most of the valley floors completing their commercial pickings. Hill berry harvest is expected to continued until the end of this month.

More Berries
Inquiries Thursday revealed that several persons in the trade felt that although the cool weather and rain have been aggravating they have probably resulted in more berries than would have been received had the weather turned out hot.

Receipt to freezers during the week just past totaled around 18.4 million pounds. This brought the total for the season up to 22.5 million pounds compared to 25.6 million to the same period last year. This year the season started about two weeks later than in 1954, thus bringing the total receipts down at this date.

During the two previous seasons the heaviest receipts delivered during any one week totaled a little over 15 million pounds.

Receipts Smaller
In Washington where the season is running about the same as here, the receipts to date are around one-third smaller than last season. In California, total receipts to the middle part of last week were running around 55 percent ahead of last year. However, the weekly deliveries have been dropping off and will probably continue to do until the latter part of July.

Although many bonuses were paid over the holiday week-end, the picking price was pretty much settled at the 4 1/2 to 5 cent level. Many different paying schemes are being used by growers to attract

pickers, but in general the base price is the same. The majority of the floor fields have been turned over to U-Pickers. Prices vary here somewhat, depending upon the quality of the crop. In some fields where four pickings were made, and still a comparatively good crop remains, the u-pick price is 8 cents. In others, where picking is not quite so plentiful, the price has been lowered to 5 cents. As a whole, growers report, the u-pickers are a fine lot, careful with plants and berries alike. Some u-pickers, like the commercial pickers, return to the same fields year after year.

Salem Marine Unit Near End Of Training

CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. — Summer camp training neared an end Thursday for the Salem, Ore., Marine Reserve outfit which will board a plane at Los Angeles Saturday noon and head for home after two weeks of training on the desert and in camp.

The holiday weekend meant three-day liberty for most of the men, between their desert experience and this week's concentrated program in camp for the 3rd 155mm Gun Battery, Marine Corps Reserve.

Many of Salem's Citizen-Marines spent the July 4 weekend in the Los Angeles-Hollywood area, while others enjoyed some of the many fine Southern California beaches.

Commenting on his trip to Hollywood, Pvt. Harry A. Toepfer of Sublimity said, "The best part of my liberty was the sightseeing bus tour of Beverly Hills and the movie studios, they are certainly worth visiting."

Now concentrating on the most important single phase of a Marine's training, rifle marksmanship, the Marine reservists have spent most of their time this week on one of Camp Pendleton's rifle ranges.

Firing the M-1 rifle is particularly popular with the newer men in the outfit. Pvt. Jerry F. Strong of Scio said, "I had fired the M-1 on a familiarization course before, but this is the real thing, and I am certainly enjoying it. I'm looking forward to a good score on qualification day."

In preparation for this Friday's record firing, the men of the Salem battery spent Tuesday and Wednesday practicing firing, and Thursday pre-qualifying.

Shortage of Boxcars May 'Get Worse'

The Southern Pacific Railroad supplied 98 per cent of the freight cars ordered by Oregon Lumber and Lumber Products Shippers last week. Public Utilities Comm. Charles H. Heitzel reported Thursday.

The figure compared with 76 per cent for the week before. Heitzel listed three reasons for the improvement, which he regards as only temporary. They are that some mills were closed for vacations, the railroad has many cars assigned to the North-western Pacific, which is closed by a tunnel fire, and many cars are in Oregon as the result of the settlement of the coastwide teamster strike.

Heitzel said he expects the shortage to become more severe next week. On the Siskiyou line between Eugene and Ashland, which accounts for about half of the S. P. lumber car loadings in Oregon, the railroad supplied 90 per cent of the cars ordered, compared with 69 per cent in the previous week.

Some areas got more cars than they asked for. Among them were the eastside branch via Silverton and West Stayton, 51 cars against orders for 50, and the westside branch via Dallas and Independence, 255 cars against 237 ordered. The Mill City branch got 107 cars, representing 93 per cent of orders.

New York Subways Issuing Timetables

NEW YORK — The railroad system that carries more passengers than any other railroad in the world is finally issuing timetables. Five million timetables for the New York subways are being distributed.

Salem Tot Heads East for Possible Heart Operation

A three-year-old Salem boy is on his way East today to see if he will undergo an unusual heart operation.

He is Roger Stinnett son of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Stinnett, 1290 S. 25th St. Roger and his parents left Thursday for Philadelphia, Pa. While there the boy will go through tests to determine the feasibility of the operation at St. Christopher Children's Hospital.

Roger has been troubled since birth with a defective inside heart wall. Stinnett is a logger, employed by the H & L Logging Co. here. Roger has two brothers and a younger sister.

South America's Lake Titicaca is half as large as Lake Ontario.

Damage Suit Action Opens

A \$20,000 damage suit against the Pierce Auto Freight Lines began Thursday in Marion County Circuit Court before Judge Val D. Sloper.

The trucking firm is being sued by Robert Creason, administrator of the estate of Fern Creason. The woman was killed in a traffic accident a mile south of Brooks in October last year. Edward Jones, driver of the truck, is also named as a defendant.

Pierce has filed a counter-claim seeking \$2,600 for damages to the truck in the mishap.

FARM PROSPERITY?
GROESBECK, Tex. — A man driving a Cadillac recently stopped at a hardware store and bought a pair of walking plow handles.

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Roseburg Radio Station Approved

WASHINGTON — The Communications Commission granted an application for a new Oregon radio station Thursday. Douglas Broadcasters, Inc., Roseburg, was authorized to operate a station on 950 kilocycles, one kilowatt power, daytime only. Leroy Hiatt, Roseburg, is one of the corporation owners.

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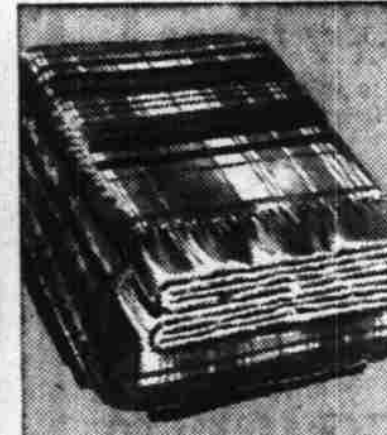


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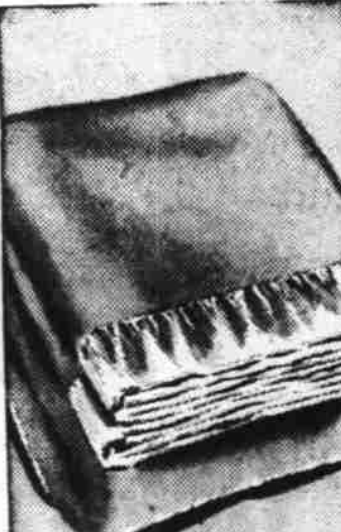
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