



### OREGON'S PRUNE PRODUCT

This State Leads the World in the Prune Industry—Benton has Largest Dryer.

Oregon leads the world today in the cultivation of the Italian or Oregon prune as it is now known in the market, its European identity being lost in the superiority of the new world product, says Alma A. Rogers in Sunset Magazine. No where else is this fruit grown to such perfection as in the mild, moist climate of the Willamette, Umpqua and Rogue River valleys. It will not endure the extreme heats of lower latitudes, and in the east its culture is prevented by an insect pest.

The Oregon prune is a distinct and peculiar variety, differing decidedly from any other member of the plum family. Its distinguishing characteristics is a sub-acid which gives it a tart flavor very agreeable to the palate and of high medicinal virtue. There is no more wholesome article of diet. Chemists find in it sedative properties. In the classification of food elements the large proportion of phosphorus indicates its value as a brain food.

In color the Oregon prune is a dark violet blue with a light blue bloom. It is a free stone, with flesh of a clear yellow. After drying, the outside becomes a glossy black and the inside a deep amber. The large varieties make a delicious sweetmeat. The exceptional qualities of the fruit are due in large measure to the process of curing, which is accomplished by the most improved methods of evaporation, requiring a special treatment differing from that of cut fruits.

The prunes begin to ripen the latter part of September, the harvest continuing through October. They are allowed to remain on the trees until fully matured, when they drop to the ground. After careful gathering, assisted by a gentle shaking of the boughs, they are put through modern grading machines which separates them into uniform sizes, thereby hastening the drying, and also freeing them from the twigs and leaves. Next they are dipped into a hot water bath to cleanse and soften the skin, then spread upon trays and placed in ovens where by means of steam pipes currents of hot air in rapid circulation are driven through the fruit. The fruit emerges from the process soft and pliable, yet with sufficient moisture removed to insure its keeping qualities.

The largest prune orchard in Oregon, and the largest prune evaporator in the world is located in Benton county, about five miles from Corvallis. The average daily output of this dryer, when running full capacity is about 2000 pounds.

### The Crab Industry.

There are three crabberies on Yaquina Bay where they cook crabs for market, one located at Newport and two at Yaquina. Wm. Toner, the rustling express messenger, is owner of one of the Yaquina establishments and his report shows he has shipped during the year just ended 186,000 pounds, or 93 tons of crabs. This is in addition to what the other two have shipped and the vast amount which is used by the multitudes who visit our summer resort. Crabs average three dozen to the hundred pounds, and sell for 70 cents per dozen or \$2.10 per hundred, thus producing quite a revenue, which represents labor. The peculiar thing is that both the supply and the demand has increased each year, this being Mr. Toner's fourth year in the enterprise. The first year he shipped only 6000 pounds.

This with the three salmon

canneries situated in Lincoln county taken with our oysters are great revenue producers and all being the products of the water. We hope to see it not stifled for some time at least by the land scripper trusts and their allies who are at present doing Oregon to a finish.—Reporter.

### To Induce Immigration.

In order to assist in the work of bringing settlers to the Northwest, the Southern Pacific Railroad company have reduced the freight rates on household goods from all Missouri river points from \$1 per hundred to 50 cents per hundred pounds. This shows much liberality on the part of the management of this road, and will be a great inducement to immigrants.

This action by the S. P. company is taken because of the fact that the low passenger rates on account of the Lewis and Clark Exposition the coming year are expected to bring a large number of people from the Middle States and the East into this section, and the extra inducements of such a very low rate on their household and personal effects leaves no obstacle whatever in the way of their coming to our section of the country to locate, so far as the transportation is concerned. It now remains only for our people to put forth the attractions and inducements of the country itself, in the way of climate, sure crops, great possibilities for the future etc., to take full advantage of the opportunity offered by the railroads to settle up the country during the year 1905.

### Successful School Entertainment.

Fir Grove school, with T J Risley as teacher, is doing some excellent work this winter.

The school has a large attendance and does not take a back seat when compared with other schools in the county. For scholarships and literary work it certainly ranks with the very best in the county. This was proven by the well-planned and nicely executed entertainment given Friday evening, December 30, at North Palestine church. Owing to the incapacity of the school house the teacher secured the church which was well-filled with patrons and friends of the school.

The program consisted of instrumental music, songs and recitations. Though the program was quite long yet the large crowd was attentive to the last, and manifested their appreciation of its merits in many ways.

A basket social followed the literary program. The baskets were sold at auction, to the highest bidder. Hon. V. A. Carter, acted as auctioneer and proved himself master of the profession. The baskets sold well and brought the school a good sum of money, which is to be used to purchase a library.

### Wright-Harris Nuptials.

A quiet home wedding was solemnized at the residence of Mrs. F. Howell in this city, Sunday, Jan. 8, when Rev Feese of the M. E. church united in marriage Joseph Wright, of Silver Lake, Oregon, and Miss Mae Harris, formerly of Summer Lake, Oregon, but now of Corvallis. Only a few relatives of the happy couple were present.

Mr. and Mrs. Wright were students at the OAC this year, but will leave shortly for the home of the groom where they will reside. The young couple are well and favorably known in their respective homes in Lake county, and have a host of friends at the college, who all wish them many years of happiness.

### COLLEGE JOTTINGS.

Items of Interest In and Around the O. A. C.

The game of basket ball Saturday night was a decided victory for OAC. The Monmouth boys scored the first basket but were unable to keep up with our boys after that and the game ended with a score of 41 to 9.

The delegates from the different societies have been chosen for the local oratorical contest which occurs Jan. 27.

Clifford Gardiner returned to school Monday after a two weeks' vacation at his home in Astoria.

Floyd Williams and Karl Steiner returned from Jefferson, Friday evening, where they have been working on their thesis.

Miss Mertie Harrington has a sprained wrist, the result of basket ball practice.

The basket ball girls expect to have their next game with the Albany girls. It will probably occur in about two weeks. The girls have not had a game on their own field this season and are anxious for the game.

The Farmers' short course began Monday morning. There is to be some interesting work in this department.

A. J. Rich returned from Astoria, where he spent his vacation.

The Sorosis girls were entertained by Miss Mabel Withbycombe Friday night.

John Withbycombe is to represent the Amicitia society in the local oratorical contest. He has returned this term after an absence of a year and a half.

Misses Bessie and Carrie Daneman left Saturday for Clem Oregon.

### Joint Installation.

Ellsworth Post, G. A. R. and the W. R. C. installed officers last Saturday evening in their hall. After installation all combined and enjoyed a most delicious supper prepared by the ladies. Following are the officers of the G. A. R.:

Commander, Levi Oren; senior vice commander, O. J. Frees; junior vice commander, S. H. Horton; quartermaster, M. L. Hubler, chaplain, Samuel Whiteside; sergeant, P. W. Woods; officer of the day, Mr. Young; officer of the guard, Henry Gerber; adjutant, R. J. Jones; sergeant major, Samuel Kerr; orderly sergeant, Wm. Lane.

The officers installed in the W. R. C. are. President, Sarah Cronk; senior vice pres., Frankie Smith; junior vice pres., Melinda Robinson; chaplain, Jane Lane; treasurer, Fannie Oren; conductor, Agnes Young; guard Prudence Chipman; assistant guard, Elizabeth Hubler; assistant conductor, Sarah Stewart; secretary, Emily Henkle; color bearers, Nola Kerr; Tillie Read; Etella Peterson; Abbie Stone; patriotic instructor, Mrs. Thorp; press correspondent, Mrs. Effie Cale; musician, Mrs. Ellen Munday.

The installing officer was Mrs. Thorp.

After the Post was over, And the officers were installed, To the strains of Marching thro' Georgia, There came marching through the hall Our Corps' four standard bearers, All dressed in Red, White and Blue, Waving our dear Old Glory, And made our hearts beat anew, Then our faithful installing Officer With the Marshal that helped her thro' To the music of Marching thro' Georgia And the strains of Red, White and Blue After installing each officer And America had been sung To a grand and bounteous supper, Were invited every one. We thank those who kindly assisted With installing and supper, too For their kindness to the Old Soldier Who marched with the Red, White and Blue. EFFIE CALE, Press Correspondent.

## F. L. MILLER'S Big Advance Sale of Women's and Children's MUSLIN UNDERWEAR

**Lot 4**  
59c

**Lot 1**  
12 1/2c

**Lot 5**  
79c

**Lot 2**  
19c

**Lot 3**  
29c

**Lot 6**  
\$1.10

These pictures give but a hint of the great values offered at this sale. Chances like this are seldom found. Take your choice. As well done as the best made in a garment. The garments speak for themselves. Listen to them. If you have any doubt about great value for little money, come and see our goods. Only at this sale can you get so good value. Can you afford to waste time making these garments offered at this sale? Don't miss them. Come and see the goods. Latest styles and shapes. If you fail to supply yourself now, you won't get another chance. Take a few while they last.

A triumph of modern industry. Take as many garments in this assortment as you wish, except the gowns. Only one to a customer.

## F. L. Miller, Corvallis, Oregon

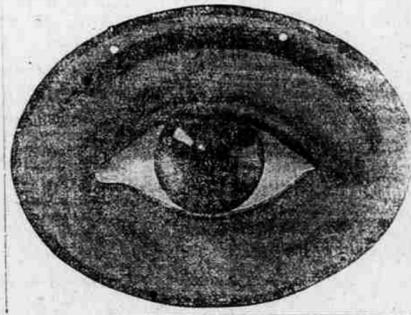
### Walked 47 Miles for a Drink.

The Independence Enterprise has the following yarn about a Benton man who wanted a social drink:

A victim of a "dry" county dropped into Independence Monday. He was a resident of Benton county and lives four miles beyond Aisea. At 4 o'clock Sunday afternoon it dawned upon this Bentonite that the prohibition law had taken effect and he set out immediately for Independence where the exhilarating beverage is daily dispensed over the bar. The distance is 47 miles and he walked every step of the way reaching here at 5 o'clock Monday afternoon. The first place visited on reaching Independence was a saloon, and the first thing he asked for was a drink. He got his drink, supplied himself with a flask of the same and the "dry" man from Aisea passed on.

A handsome Temple of Fraternity will be erected at the Lewis and Clark Exposition by secret societies of the country. The building will serve as a meeting place and club house for the thousands of members of fraternal orders that will visit the Fair. The sum of \$35,000 will be expended in the structure, and \$19,130 of this has already been raised. Of this sum raised, and \$10,000 has been pledged by the Associated Fraternities of America. The contributors being the Grand Order of the United Workmen, the Grand Order of the Ladies of Honor, the Order of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, the Order of the United Workmen, and the Ladies of Honor.

Consult E. W. S. Pratt  
THE JEWELER AND OPTICIAN  
BENTON COUNTY, OREGON



BLIND  
How, when a few minutes spent in earlier years would have preserved the sight for an indefinite period.

## HOTEL CORVALLIS

J. C. HAMMEL, Prop.

Leading hotel in Corvallis. Newly furnished with modern conveniences. Rates \$1 to \$1.25. \$2 per day.

### HEADQUARTERS FOR COMMERCIAL MEN.

## HOME SEEKERS

AMBLER & WATTERS.  
REAL ESTATE, LOANS, INSURANCE  
VIRGIL E. WATTERS, CORVALLIS. HENRY AMBLER, PHILMATH.

BLACKSMITHING.  
WAGON MAKING,  
REPAIRING,  
WILD HORSES SHOD.  
HATHAWAY BROS.  
SOUTH MAIN STREET.