

Following the Prune On Its Long Journey

(By Earl C. Brownlee.)

Out of the 100,000,000 pounds of extra fancy Polk county and Oregon prunes that have been going through the J. K. Armsby company's packing plant at Dallas since packing started last month, I selected, last week, a fine large specimen (they are all fine large prunes, for Oregon, and especially Polk county, does not grow any other kind) and I followed it around with watchful and interested eyes for an hour or so, until it was finally packed by experienced hands and carried to the cars for shipment to New York City, which, Mr. Peterson, the manager, tells me is the greatest prune distributing point in the world. The course of the very edible looking fruit must have been long and tedious, unless all the feeling had been dried out of it by the grower, but it seemed to improve with age and when it landed in the packing box it was a morsel tempting enough for the most exacting epicure.

When I picked the prune from the grower's sack it was weighed, along with enough others to make a pound, and the grower was paid according to the average that was struck. There were something like fifty prunes in the pound in which my specimen fell. It was thrown back into the sack where I had found it and carried to the grader elevator, where it was weighed again, and dumped into a pit which led to the elevator buckets. The prune fell into the first bucket that came along and was carried to the second floor. I arrived there just in time to see it disappear in a long, enclosed grader. There, I am told, it had a rough and adventurous journey over a screen with holes of graduated size. It came within an ace of pitching through a hole once or twice, to its absolute destruction, but eventually was carried almost to the end of the grader. It fell through the screen into a receptacle with a door at the bottom where it was released into a little cart, weighed again, and dumped into a bin to await an order for that particular size and grade of fruit.

Pretty soon word came up from the office that European markets wanted a rush order filled for 12,000 boxes of select Columbia plums. There my prune met its fate. It was hauled out of its hiding place and taken to a "Processor," a succession of buckets where a little water and a great amount of steam were fussing around at the boiling temperature of 212 degrees. That temperature is maintained at all times in the processor, and is checked by a series of thermometers and recording instruments. In the processor the prune got what was coming to it. It went slowly through the water and the steam and was very thoroughly washed and cleaned. If last spring's little green bug was still attached to the prune's hide, and I had kind of a sneaking suspicion that he was there somewhere, he certainly gave up his last hope of immortality in a hurry, and the swishing water washed him to a wet, hot grave. Nothing could possibly stick to the fruit through that process. The great heat and steam would kill any life and the water would wash it away, so that the fruit came out without a speck or grain of dust of any kind. Then my prune rode the bumps. A jogging screen received it as it came from the processor and jolted it up and down and around most joyfully until it was entirely dry, and, being clean, it was weighed again and sent off to the packers. A number of girls face the

boxes, by laying fruit carefully on the bottom, first applying a lining of oiled paper. Then ten or twenty-five pounds of prunes, according to the size of the box, are forced into it, and pressure applied. The lid was nailed on and the end of my prune was in sight. A carrier took the box down stairs, loaded it in a car and the shipment was ready for the king of England and the queen of Sheba.

Prunes are an unknown delight in English markets, Mr. Peterson tells me, and it is necessary to label every box of the good, old stewable prunes that leave the plant, as plums. "It would be the same as trying to sell dried plums in Dallas if we labeled these as 'prunes,'" said Mr. Peterson. "Consumers wouldn't know what merchants were trying to hand them." Therefore the 12,000 boxes of Polk county and Oregon prunes that are being prepared for shipment to Europe bear a label classifying them as "Columbia Oregon Plums, packed at Dallas, Oregon, by the J. K. Armsby Company." Which, incidentally, and considering the great number of boxes that will find their way to every corner of the land, is a very good bit of publicity for Dallas.

The packing season at the plant started September 25, and about a million pounds of prunes have been handled, or are ready for the packers. Half of this amount has already been shipped to the many distributing centers. New York City alone has received 150,000 pounds, or about three carloads of the fruit, for distribution in that territory. European markets are taking a share of the product also, and the order for 12,000 boxes is actually being packed at the plant this week. It will go forward by water about the middle of November. Approximately half the prunes handled at the Armsby plant are grown in Polk county. But they come from all parts of the state, including southern Oregon; practically all of the crop there being sent to Dallas for packing. The majority of the fruit handled is the familiar Italian prune, but one large shipment consists entirely of French petit prunes. About 65 people are employed at the plant at the present time, and of that number 40 are girls engaged in facing the boxes. Labor saving devices are everywhere in evidence. Boxes are built at the rate of many hundreds each day by a nailing machine that nails each side and the bottom to the ends with one automatic blow. Labels are burned in the wood as rapidly as the box ends can be handled.

So many and different crimes have been committed in the name of the stewed prune; so many reflections have been cast upon its perfectly irreproachable character, that I have long shunned the delightful delicacy as an economic viand, or as a rare and pleasing condiment for my dinner table. But the tide has turned since I saw the sterilized, deodorized and altogether perfect prunes that were put in clean, dustproof boxes at the Armsby plant. No better could be done if old Prof. Wiley superintended the job personally. So greatly has the tide turned that I ordered six ten-pound boxes to send to my good friends at Christmas time. Mr. Peterson agrees to accommodate anyone desiring boxes of the fruit for holiday shipment. It would be an excellent way to boost Polk county's principal industry, aiding both grower and packer, and would insure to those who made present of the prunes the ironclad friendship of the recipients throughout at least one more year.

POLK CATTLE AT FAIR BOOKS ARE SELECTED

PROMINENT LIVESTOCK MEN
SHIP TO SAN FRANCISCO.

Seek to Bring Home Portion of the
Two Hundred Thousand Dollars
Offered in Prizes.

Oregon cattle breeders have a very good chance to win their share of \$200,000 that is to be offered as prizes and premiums on the livestock exhibited at the Panama-Pacific exposition. Ten thousand dollars of this large sum has been set aside by the Oregon commission to be distributed as prizes for the different animals exhibited from this state. Polk county breeders are taking a great interest in the big San Francisco show and a number have already signed and returned entry blanks. The different animals will be shown at different times during the present month and November with the exhibit of beef and dairy cattle coming first, or from October 18 to November 1. At this exhibit F. E. Lynn, Perrydale, C. P. Hembree, Monmouth and Frank Loughary, Monmouth, will show prize winning Jerseys and Walter Domes of McCoy will show a carload of Ayrshires. Sheep, goats and swine will have a show all to themselves on November 3 to 15. William Riddle & Sons of Monmouth have entered Cotswolds and Lincoln. F. A. Koser of Rickreall has entered Cotswolds, and C. L. Hawley of McCoy will show Lincolns. J. B. Stump & Son and William Riddle & Son will show Angora goats.

The United States has 1,903,000,000 acres of land.

READING CIRCLE COURSE FOR
TEACHERS ARRANGED.

At Least, One of These Books Per-
taining to Education Must Be
Perused.

State Superintendent of Public Instruction Churchill announced on Wednesday that he had completed the arrangements for the reading circle course for teachers, and that this year the reading will be under the supervision of the University of Oregon and the Oregon Agricultural college.

The course is more complete than any heretofore issued, it is said, the list of books being larger, and most of them new. Full descriptions are given of the books in order that the teachers may experience no trouble in selecting those that will be of the most aid to them. Under the law, every teacher must read at least one book each year pertaining to the profession of teaching, and the books must be selected by the superintendent of public instruction.

Following are the books selected: Bagley, "School Discipline;" Charters, "Teaching the Common Branches;" Cooley, "Domestic Art in Woman's Education;" Crasnow, "Manual Arts for Vocational Ends;" Cromwell, "Agriculture and Life;" Davis, "Vocational and Moral Guidance;" Earhart, "Types of Teaching;" Foster, "The Social Emergency;" Hart, "Educational Resources of Village and Rural Communities;" Monroe, "Principles of Secondary Education;" Morgan,

"The Backward Child;" Munroe, "New Demands in Education;" Parker, "Methods of Teaching in High School Subjects;" Strayer, "A Brief Course in the Teaching Process;" Strayer & Thorndike, "Educational Administration;" Sherman, "Food Products;" Swift, "Learning and Doing;" Terman, "The Hygiene of the School Child;" Thompson, "Commercial Education in Public and Secondary Schools."

VISITORS WILL SPEAK HERE.

Chamber of Commerce Sends Dele-
gates to Create Interest in Show.

On Thursday morning a delegation representing the Manufacturers' and Land Products show, to be held at Portland, starting next week, will address the school children of the city at the high school auditorium, with the idea of creating juvenile interest in the big exhibition. The party, which consists of A. V. Kingsley, D. C. Freeman, O. M. Plummer and Col. H. B. Miller, will be met at the train by members of the school board who will accompany the visitors to the high school. In a letter to the Commercial club the Portland Chamber of Commerce, which has charge of the exhibition in that city, announced the arrival of these gentlemen, and spoke of them as being very forceful and well advised speakers. Because the Commercial club has no facilities for the entertainment of the guests they will not address that organization at luncheon, but will leave about the noon hour for Monmouth, where they will speak to the students at the Normal school. Later the same day the gentlemen will speak at Independence.

The educational features of the Manufacturers' and Land Products show are prominent and to interest the school children of the state in this department the Portland Chamber of Commerce is sending such delegations to all parts of the state. Polk county is taking more than usual interest in the show for many reasons, and was the first county to secure a reservation of space for her exhibit. The booth representative of Polk county and her agricultural supremacy will be in the same prize winning class as that at Salem recently, if Mrs. Winnie Braden, who is in charge of the participation, develops the plans that she has in mind.

THE CITY IN BRIEF

Thursday, October 28, Dr. Freeze, the well-known eye specialist from Portland, will be at Imperial hotel all day. Consultation free. 66-3t. Take your automobile repair work to C. J. Shreeve, Oak street. 64-1f. The Sterling Furniture company frames pictures. 64-4f. For fire and automobile insurance see Chas. Gregory, city hall. 32-1f. Dr. C. L. Foster, dentist, City Bank building, Dallas. 73-1f. See Van Orsdel and Manston for old line fire insurance—the Queen, Liverpool, London & Globe, company 13. The oldest and best on the coast. The Sterling Furniture company frames pictures. 64-4f. Go to the Dallas Brick and Tile company for your brick and tile and save yourself money. 55-1f. There is more to hair cutting than merely cutting off the hair. Try us for an up-to-date stylish hair cut.—C. W. Shultz. 18-1f.

Automobile repairs of every kind and nature at C. J. Shreeve's, Oak street. 64-1f. Dr. Rempel, Chiropractor, 513 Church Dr. Stone's Heave Drops cures heaves. Price \$1, for sale by all druggists.—Adv. 79-1f.

The Dallas Wood company is ready to furnish you with mill wood. Good loads and good service. All wood cash on delivery. Phone 492. 102-1f.

If you have land you wish surveyed see S. B. Taylor, C. E., city hall, Dallas, phone 791. Dependable work at reasonable prices. 58-1f. The Sterling Furniture company frames pictures. 64-4f. Ford owners, take your repair work to the Ford Garage, C. J. Shreeve. Drs. Lowe & Turner, eye specialists of Portland, will be in Falls City again Wednesday, October 27, at Falls City hotel.

ALEXANDER HOLMES INJURED.

Ear Almost Severed and Severe In-
ternal Injuries Sustained.

Severe bodily bruises and internal injuries were received by Alexander Holmes of Holmes' Gap when he was thrown from his buggy in a runaway near Perrydale last week. Mr. Holmes held his frightened animal for some time after it bolted, but was finally thrown to the ground with such force that he did not regain consciousness for some time. One ear was almost severed from the head. He was sent to the Dallas hospital at once and on Wednesday Dr. Starbuck transferred the patient to the Salem hospital, where one of the man's relatives is matron. Although the injuries and bruises are serious the doctor does not believe they will prove fatal.

The Civic section of the Woman's club has undertaken a most commendable work in the improvement of the city park, and the committee in charge should have the co-operation of every citizen. It is the purpose of this organization to make the municipal playground attractive to the entire citizenship of Dallas, and it never does things by halves.

BETTER TRAIN SERVICE

NEW TIME TABLE BECOMES EF-
FECTIVE OCTOBER TWENTY.

Motor Car Between Dallas and Airlie
Takes Place of Two Cancelled
Trains.

Effective tomorrow there will be a change of time in the train service between Dallas and Airlie and between Salem and Falls City. On the former line trains 351 and 352 are cancelled. There will be no change in trains 211 and 212. A motor car service will be established between these points, operated on the following schedule:

Leave Dallas 3 p. m., arrive 4:50 p. m.
Leave Superior 3:10 p. m., arrive 4:40 p. m.
Leave Mulkey 3:12 p. m., arrive 4:38 p. m.
Leave Monmouth 3:20 p. m., arrive 4:30 p. m.
Leave Luckiamute 3:31 p. m., arrive 4:13 p. m.
Leave Strang 3:36 p. m., arrive 4:09 p. m.
Leave Simpson 3:40 p. m., arrive 4:05 p. m.
Leave Airlie 3:50 p. m., arrive 3:55 p. m.

Salem-Falls City Service.

There will be no change in the schedule of regular trains except as shown below:

No. 170 leaves Falls City 6:10 p. m.; No. 167 arrives 6:05 p. m.
No. 170 leaves Cement Spar 6:18 p. m.; No. 167 arrives 5:55 p. m.
No. 170 leaves Bridgeport 6:19 p. m.; No. 167 arrives 5:54 p. m.
No. 170 leaves Ferns 6:22 p. m.; No. 167 arrives 5:51 p. m.
No. 170 arrives Gilliams 6:23 p. m.; No. 167 arrives 5:50 p. m.
No. 170 leaves Teats 6:25 p. m.; No. 167 arrives 5:48 p. m.

Nos. 170 and 168 leaves Dallas 6:40 p. m. and 5 p. m.; No. 167 arrives 5:30.

Nos. 170 and 168 leaves Bowersville 6:46 p. m. and 5:07 p. m.; No. 167 arrives 5:19 p. m.

Nos. 170 and 168 leaves Rickreall 6:49 p. m. and 5:10 p. m.; No. 167 arrives 5:16 p. m.

Nos. 170 and 168 leaves Gerlinger 7 p. m. and 5:15 p. m.; No. 167 leaves 5:15, arrives 4:38 p. m.

Nos. 170 and 168 leaves Derry Orchard 7:02 p. m. and 5:17 p. m.; No. 167 arrives 4:36 p. m.

Nos. 170 and 168 leaves Greenwood 7:06 p. m. and 5:21 p. m.; No. 167 arrives 4:32 p. m.

Nos. 170 and 168 leaves McNary 7:11 p. m. and 5:25 p. m.; No. 167 arrives 4:28 p. m.

Nos. 170 and 168 leaves Hosford 7:14 p. m. and 5:27 p. m.; No. 167 arrives 4:26 p. m.

Nos. 170 and 168 leaves Brophy 7:15 p. m. and 5:28 p. m.; No. 167 arrives 4:25 p. m.

Nos. 170 and 168 leaves Eola 7:17 p. m. and 5:30 p. m.; No. 167 arrives 4:23 p. m.

Nos. 170 and 168 leaves Log Dump 7:22 p. m. and 5:35 p. m.; No. 167 arrives 4:20 p. m.

Nos. 170 and 168 leaves Kingwood Park 7:28 p. m. and 5:40 p. m.; No. 167 arrives 4:16 p. m.

Nos. 170 and 168 leaves West Salem 7:29 p. m. and 5:41 p. m.; No. 167 arrives 4:15 p. m.

Nos. 170 and 168 leaves Commercial street 7:35 p. m. and 5:47 p. m.; No. 167 arrives 4:10 p. m.

Nos. 170 and 168 leaves Salem 7:45 p. m. and 6 p. m.; No. 167 arrives 4 p. m.

Gerlinger-Independence Service. No. 138 arrives Gerlinger 5:10 p. m.; No. 137 leaves 4:39 p. m.

No. 138 leaves Independence 4:55 p. m.; No. 137 arrives 4:52 p. m.

Voters Cannot Register.

A few citizens have presented themselves at the county clerk's office recently to register as voters, and seemed disappointed when told that the books were locked up and that there would be no more registration until after January first. There will be no election of any kind until spring, although many residents of the county seem to have a notion that they will miss some of the fireworks if they are not promptly registered. Under the new registration laws when a voter is once registered the matter is settled for once and for all unless he changes his precinct. The registration books open immediately after the first of the year.

Jack Eakin Making a Mark.

Jack Eakin, popular Dallas boy who is a student at the Oregon Agricultural college, visited at home over the week-end. Jack is going right ahead at that state school, both as a student and as a participant in student body activities. He was one of the most promising members of the varsity football squad until he decided to devote more of his time to music and he is now a member of the cadet band, one of the best musical organizations on the coast, and a member of the college orchestra. He is a pledge of the Kappa Sigma fraternity, one of the only two national organizations at the college.

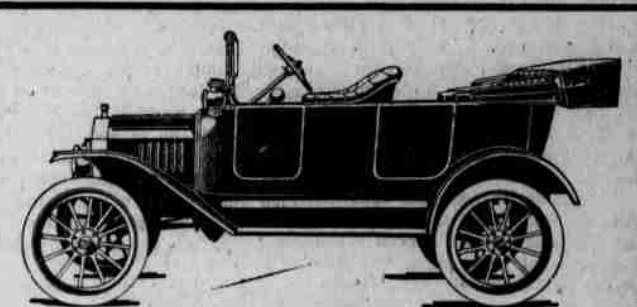
Thompson to Oppose Williams.

W. Lair Thompson of Lakeview, president of the 1915 session of the state senate, will be a candidate in the primary election next May for republican national committeeman, against Ralph E. Williams, according to report in state political circles.



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