

**NEWBERG GRAPHIC.**

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**MEETING OF OREGON FRUIT MEN.**

Mid-Summer Session of State Horticultural Society held at Newberg. Address given by Prof. Bailey of Cornell, Hon. E. L. Smith, Hon. E. Hofer, H. M. Williamson, Dr. J. R. Cardwell and others.

Beginning with last Friday evening the annual mid-summer meeting of the Oregon State Horticultural Society was held in Newberg and was attended by many representative horticulturists, the most progressive and energetic class of agriculturists in the state. Excellent and inspiring addresses were delivered throughout the various sessions and the discussions were encouragingly general, at times becoming entertainingly warm. In fact, the presence of such men as Dr. J. R. Cardwell of Portland, the Nestor of Oregon horticulture, Hon. E. L. Smith of Hood River, irrespressibly exuberant, Editor H. M. Williamson of Portland, Hon. E. Hofer of Salem, Prof. E. R. Lake and many more who were here would insure a successful meeting under almost any circumstances. It is to be regretted only that the meeting was held at such a busy season of the year that not a very large number of the local fruit growers could attend and be benefited thereby.

Newberg has always been very much favored in being chosen as the meeting place for such worthy organizations, and the fact is a merited recognition in favor of our town and vicinity. In line with this thought, it was a generous tribute paid to Dr. Cardwell the president of the society, when in his address he said, "This, our third summer meeting at Newberg, attests our appreciation of your efficient services in horticulture. It affords us pleasure to note the evidence of substantial, material progress in town and country. You have obtained an enviable eminence in horticultural methods. Nowhere do finer fruits grow, nor reach the market in tastier packages. The Newberg brand brings the highest prices in the home and foreign markets. Your location is well chosen, and you grow all the fruits of the temperate zone to the greatest perfection, as evidenced at the World's Fair at Chicago, at Omaha and now at Buffalo."

The spirit of the addresses and discussions throughout seemed remarkably hopeful. After years of toil and much disappointment it is the thought of the representative men in attendance at the meeting that horticultural conditions are re-adjusting themselves upon a sounder basis, and that the "golden age" is yet ahead and not behind the Oregon fruit grower.

At the first session held Friday evening, Prof. J. C. Hodson gave a hearty, and at the same time a thoughtful address of welcome on behalf of the citizens of Newberg. He welcomed the visitors as men who are thinking, knowing and doing, and who, in a meeting of this nature, always give to their hearers more than they take away. This is primarily an age of diffusion of ideas. Man lives, not to himself alone, but as he receives he also gives. Ideas and methods are worth but little until they are diffused and put into practice, and these conferences of fruitgrowers conduce to the necessary interchange of ideas. The great demand now is for the best products, and, while competition is drawing the lines closer all the while, the man who is not keeping step with new conditions is left behind. Finally, these meetings help bring to the fruit-grower four requisites for his success—faith, enthusiasm, judgment and knowledge.

The response was given by Dr. Cardwell, who after replying appropriately to the cordial welcome received, gave a review of the work of the society since its organization thirteen years ago, and of the changes having taken place in horticultural conditions since that time. After reviewing the experimental stage in fruitgrowing in Oregon, the speaker dwelt upon present conditions which confront fruitgrowers, especially that of competition, caused by cheap transportation rates, and that of over-production. In conclusion he said: "This financial problem is serious. What shall we do to meet the situation? Do we realize the dilemma? Are we not Micawber-like, supinely waiting for something to turn up? The spirit of the age is trusts, combines and co-operation. Thus far nothing has been done. In Oregon our attempt to combine and pool our interests has signally failed." In the course of his remarks, the speaker called attention to the honors accorded to Oregon fruits at the different world's fairs and made a strong, personal plea to fruitgrowers to assist Commissioner Doseh in keeping up the Oregon display at Buffalo and advertising our state by sending to him samples of our fruit.

"QUALIFICATION AND ORGANIZATION."  
Hon. E. L. Smith of Hood River, president of the state board of horticulture, gave a ringing address upon the above named subject, which was enthusiastically received. He has a dash and energy which is contagious and which carries a sense of conviction to his hearers.

The speaker traced the transition stage in horticulture in general, and in Oregon in particular, emphasizing the fact that a successful orchard cannot be managed now as 25 years ago. Changed conditions require additional qualifications on the part of the grower, for horticulture has become a scientific pursuit.

Mr. Smith made the question of scientific education a strong point to his address, speaking as follows: "There is

no subject dearer to me, none that seems more important or more neglected than the scientific education of the tillers of the soil. Are your boys in the agricultural colleges? If so they are not enrolled in agricultural courses. Is it possible that the farmer's son has become a lawyer, and is waiting for men to quarrel that he may earn a much needed fee? Or a doctor groaning over the healthfulness of our Oregon climate, his greatest competitor? Or a minister in a starved pulpit, dealing in futures to empty pews below? Noble professions each and all of them, and grand men in them, but the mediocrity supply is excessive, and is it not possible that many of these professional gentlemen would have had happier lives, and served their fellow men better in some rural calling? We must educate the boys, and let them feel that farm life is not mere drudgery, but a partnership with nature in her wondrous methods; let them feel the nobility of their calling and the boys will not leave the farm. We have colleges devoted exclusively to every learned profession; how many to agriculture?

Speaking of organization, Mr. Smith said it is a matter of necessity that fruitgrowers associate themselves closely together to obtain satisfactory results. This is the day when corporations and not individuals transact the business of the world. He recommended co-operative fruit unions, which educate their members to better methods, promote their intelligence and bring them into closer relationship."

"FIVE SHORT PAPERS."  
Professors Cordley and Kulesly of the Oregon Agricultural College occupied the greater part of Saturday forenoon's session, the former on the "curl leaf question" and the latter upon "chemical properties of fruits." The latter paper dealt with horticulture from its technical and scientific standpoint but nevertheless indirectly developed the warmest discussion of the whole meeting. It is hard to tell how it came about, but this thing the audience knew it was being entertained by a lively and aggressive dispute between Editor Williamson and "Hood River" Smith, as to the relative merits of Willamette Valley and Hood River apples. Both gentlemen are hard hitters and made some clever passes, greatly appreciated by the spectators.

E. H. Skinner of Springbrook spoke from forty years experience upon "The Cherry," dealing with some of the problems to be overcome in cherry culture, the disease of gummosis in particular, and telling how he has met with the greatest success. Contrary to popular ideas upon the subject, Mr. Skinner advocated thorough cultivation of the trees.

"Cover Crops" was the subject of a paper read by L. T. Reynolds of Salem, who advocated, for the benefit of the soil, the sowing of vetches in the orchards about the time the fruit is harvested.

A paper on "After-thoughts" prepared by Asa Holladay of Scappoose was read by Prof. Lake. The writer humorously recalled the hopes and disappointments in his career as a horticulturist in the last ten years, at the same time expressing a hope for the future.

EDITOR E. HOFFER ON THE STRAWBERRY.  
There are addresses and then there are addresses, but it was the real thing in this line with which Hon. E. Hofer of the Salem Capital Journal favored the horticultural society Saturday afternoon. The poet speaks of finding sermons in trees and running brooks etc., but Mr. Hofer found his in the strawberry. His discourse was full of fervor and enthusiasm, but orthodox, and carried conviction to the hearts of his hearers. The speaker said that for years he had blazed in all his spare change on strawberries and as a rule had received no change in return, but yet declared he was an enthusiast over the little fruit, and believed thoroughly in it. He proceeded to paint a beautiful picture of the possibilities of strawberry culture in Western Oregon, declaring that the Willamette Valley berry is destined to take the markets of the world. There is a gold mine in the business if the people will only develop the prospect. The necessity was emphasized of specialization, or the growing of different berries for different purposes and markets; of patient concentration upon the principles of the business; of the grower raising his own plants, studying their adaptability to the soil; of getting one or two good varieties and staying with them; of marketing only the best fruit, and of co-operating in the business with fellow growers. As good varieties Mr. Hofer recommended the Ideal, Lloyds, Kansas, Da Maurier, Marguerite, Downing's Pride, Beverly, Sunshine, Sample, and Double Cropper.

The need of pushing the strawberry canning industry was impressed, as one of the most valuable industrial enterprises to all classes of people. He recommended that the people in this part of the state graft the Hood River spirit of enterprise and go in to win. "Willamette Valley is the strawberry paradise of the world and we are fools not to enter therein." In closing Mr. Hofer became impassioned and the sparks of inspiration caught fire with an answering glow from his audience as he closed with the words: "The strawberry patch is the connecting link between town and country, between city and suburban homes, the golden road to industrial emancipation for the white faced inhabitants of rented houses, giving employment to the largest numbers in field and factory, helping the multitude to get and to keep the most sacred and beautiful thing in the world—a well furnished American home supported by honest health-giving industry by old and young."

"STATUS OF HORTICULTURE IN OREGON."  
H. M. Williamson, editor of the Oregon Agriculturist and Rural Northwest, and who has ever been one of the wheel horses in the promotion of the best interests of Oregon horticulture, gave a popular and inspiring address upon the

subject as given above. He began by saying that horticultural conditions as they exist to-day are the outgrowth of over a half century, the beginning being made by Henderson Lewelling who in 1847 bought a young nursery across the plains from Iowa and planted it in Oregon soil near Milwaukee. He told of the first Oregon-grown apples selling for \$1 a pound and bringing 15 to 20 cents as late as 1853; of the resulting apple boom, when there were more apple trees set out than there were people to eat the apples; later, of the time when our dried prunes sold for nearly 20 cents a pound, and of the resulting boom in prunes, when the business man, the lawyer, the teacher, the editor and the preacher set out a prune orchard with the intention of clearing annually from \$150 to \$1000 to the acre; when most any man who could tell fruit trees apart set up a nursery. The picture was painted very graphically and humorously by Mr. Williamson, and was heartily appreciated by the audience, to whose experience he spoke so closely. After referring to the attending disappointment and discouragement, the speaker eulogized Dr. Cardwell, who has so philanthropically devoted time and money to investigation and experiment which have been invaluable to Oregon fruitgrowers in the solving of difficult problems.

It is the belief of Editor Williamson that the status of horticultural conditions is better now than ever before. The booms have given way to steady and healthful development. The Oregon apple again enjoys supremacy, and the prune business is resolving itself upon a stronger basis. Markets are expanding, and the future is bright. The cherry is being developed to perfection; Southern Oregon peaches bring the best prices everywhere and Oregon strawberries are making a well-earned reputation. The nursery has become one of the greatest industries in the state, and the canning business, which went out with the boom, is returning steadily. The greatest part of the agricultural investments of the state is devoted to fruitgrowing. Where there was disappointment, there is now renewed hope. In closing, Mr. Williamson paid Newberg with her varied and rich agricultural resources, a glowing tribute, as having developed from the "grubby end" to the choice garden spot of old Yamhill.

ADDRESS BY PROF. BAILEY OF CORNELL.  
Prof. L. H. Bailey of Cornell University, who has been doing work this summer in the state university of California, and who had been secured by Prof. Lake for one day's work in Oregon on his return homeward, gave the last address of the Meeting. He expressed great pleasure at seeing our state, and noting its great possibilities. The fact had already impressed itself upon him that what had taken the East a century and more to accomplish had been attained largely in the West in one generation. On speaking of different agricultural conditions as existing in the East and the West, he referred to the policy of summer fallowing, still pursued here as marking the dividing line between pioneer and modern methods of agriculture, and prophesying that it will soon be done away with altogether.

Prof. Bailey talked upon the subject of "Nature Study" and the movement for its furtherance which has started in New York under the auspices of Cornell University. He holds that the movement is now in North America, in that it aims to reach out to all people, and is not intended primarily for teachers, as was the Agassiz plan. Its purpose is to aid people to live better and to enjoy more; to help fix early in life a correct point of view; to enable young people to have the power of happiness in themselves; to teach that there is something interesting in everything that is; to develop the power of observation; to arrest among the young people the distaste for the farm.

Professor Bailey traced the history of this educational movement in his state, told of the work of the junior naturalist clubs, in which 30,000 children of New York are interested. The work has now advanced and received such recognition that it has just been admitted to the public schools. For the older people, reading clubs are formed, and much accomplished in waking them up to their surroundings. The tendency of all this work in nature study is not to make teachers or professional scientists, but to aid people to live nobler and happier lives.

This address closed the last session of the mid-summer meeting, and Dr. Cardwell declared the society adjourned to meet at Corvallis the second Tuesday in January.

Music was furnished; the evening sessions of the Meeting by Mr. and Mrs. Gen Winslow and Orland Heacock, with violins and piano, and a

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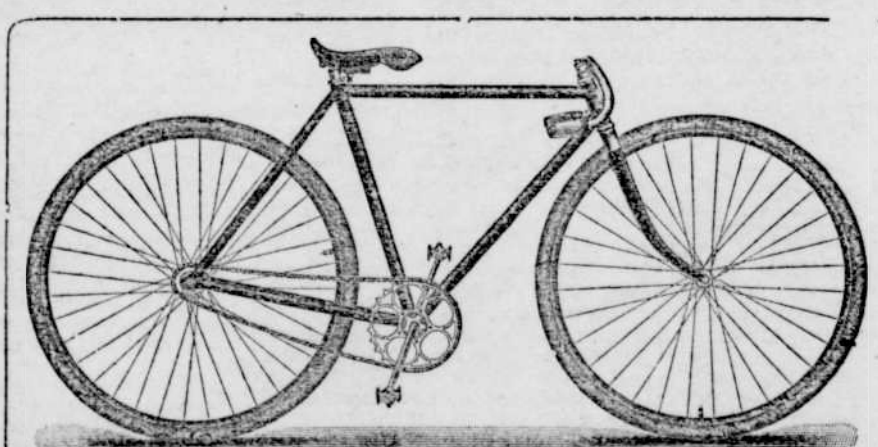
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