

**PROFESSIONAL CARDS**

Dr. M. C. Findley has gone for about six months study in Germany, after which he will be in his office as usual. The doctor has kept his records carefully and broken glasses can be promptly replaced by sending them to his office. His practice is left in Dr. Loughridge's care. Dr. Loughridge tests eyes and has had several years experience.

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**ROGUE RIVER VALLEY ORCHARD NOTES**

BY CHARLES MERVISE  
Secretary Grants Pass Fruit Growers Association

**Will Begin Spraying Next Week.**

J. H. Robinson, president of the Grants Pass Fruit Growers Association, and with his sons having the largest orchard in the Applegate Valley, was in Grants Pass Monday. Mr. Robinson stated that the fruit prospects were very promising in his orchard and all others about Wilderville. That part of the Valley is mostly in the thermal belt and only those orchards located on low ground where there was no air drainage or movement and on which the cold air from the higher adjoining lands settled have been damaged by the recent unusually heavy frost. Even these orchards will have a fair crop of fruit.

In regard to spraying for codlin moth President Robinson stated that twice they had lost considerable fruit by being too late with the first spraying, they would begin spraying in their orchard next Monday and rush the work until the job is completed. Mr. Robinson holds that the blossom cavity of the apple must be filled with poison before the calyx closes and to insure a good job the spray must be forced onto the trees under heavy pressure to insure filling all the calyx cavities, as well as covering all the apples. The thoroughness of the first spraying will govern the number of moths of the second brood that will infest the orchards. As to the time to spray for the second and third broods of moths Mr. Robinson stated that they spray in about a week after the first spraying and a third spraying in July. The time for spraying the second, third and fourth times is now a matter of guess with the average fruit grower the seasons varying the date when the broods appear. To ascertain when these sprayings are to be done to be most effective will require a close study of the codlin moth each season and this Mr. Robinson hopes the fruit growers association will be able hereafter to have done.

**Experimenting With Sawdust.**

That sawdust is a valuable mulch and fertilizer on a Rogue River valley farm is the opinion of Robert Huck, one of the new settlers who are making Fruitdale one of the most progressive sections of Josephine county.

Mr. Huck's farm is on hill land and he has no irrigation system. The soil is very rich but owing to a lack of moisture does not produce to its full capacity. Thorough cultivation with a dust mulch produces a fair yield but to increase the productivity of his farm is the problem that Mr. Huck is working on. As an experiment last spring he covered a part of his blackberry patch with sawdust to a depth of six inches. The result was that with no cultivation whatever to this section it yielded fully double the quantity of berries and of a much finer quality than did the section that he cultivated thoroughly. He also tried the sawdust mulch on potatoes. He took a small section of his potato patch and covered it to a depth of four inches with sawdust. The planting was made late in May and the sawdust covered potatoes were given no cultivation while the other part of the patch was well plowed, yet the yield of the former was nearly double that of the latter, and the tubers were large and smooth while those from the cultivated part were many of them small and ill-shaped. The sawdust was taken from the pile at an old mill setting and was largely sugar pine with some fir. Mr. Huck will give the sawdust mulch a more extended trial this spring on his berries and potatoes and also on vegetables. That sawdust "poisons" the soil, as is the belief of the average farmer, is not Mr. Huck's opinion. As a further test of sawdust as a fertilizer and as a loosener for heavy clay soil Mr. Huck has plowed the land he had in potatoes last season, including that that had the sawdust upon it, and will plant it to corn this spring. He will use no sawdust on the corn field but will thoroughly cultivate it all alike and then note the yield of the two sections, the one that had the sawdust mulch and the one that was cultivated. Mr. F. A. Clements, of Fruitdale, whose well kept farm and tidy buildings is proof of his industry, but who confidentially informs his friends that he is chronically opposed to hard work, is giving the sawdust mulch a trial this season, being encouraged in the experiment by the success of his neighbor Mr. Huck in harvesting big crops with little work.

**Disinfecting Trees From California.**

C. G. Chamberlain was a caller Monday afternoon at Secretary Mervise's office to discuss fruit matters and especially the pest problem. Mr. Chamberlain came from California a year and a half ago and bought the Deveny place on Louse Creek near Merlin and he is making it into one of the most attractive places in the county and demonstrating that he is a thorough orchardist. Last year he planted 150 cherries principally Royal Anne and small number of Bings and Black Tartarians and a few of other varieties. He also planted 70 peach trees, principally Early Crawford. This past winter he set out 17 acres to apples and five acres to pears. Of the apple trees 50 are Winter Bananas and 50 Delicious and the remainder of the trees are Newtowns and Spitzenbergs in equal number. The trees are making a fine start this spring except a few on which anthracnose has developed. These diseased trees came from a California nursery and prove that the nursery company was dishonest in sending out diseased trees and also that the law governing the inspection of fruit trees was not enforced neither in California nor in this county.

**Little Damage By Frost.**

Last Friday night, April 24, all the lower levels of Rogue River Valley were hit by a frost of more than usual severity. On the low lands where the soil was wet and cold the frost was quite severe and early fruit of all kinds were more or less injured. In those spots where there was no air drainage or currents to carry off the cold air that settled from the higher land the early cherries were mostly killed and early peaches, pears and apples were injured but the late varieties were little hurt and some not at all. On the hills in the thermal belt where the warm air rose from the valley there was no frost and fruit of all kinds are in fine shape.

Except in a few orchards the apple crop is not injured and the yield of the county will be larger than it was last year. The pear crop though will be short as most of the trees are on the low land and the bloom being earlier than that of apples the heavy frost killed fully half of the crop. The strawberry patches on the hill land are injured but little and many will have a full crop. Reports indicate that the frost was as severe in Jackson county as here and that on the low lands the early fruit was injured. The early fruit was also hurt in the Umpqua Valley.

**Yearling Fruit Trees Blossom.**

Mr. and Mrs. E. Badger, who reside near Provoit, were in Grants Pass Monday. Mr. Badger reports two instances of the early bearing of apple trees, for which Rogue River valley is noted. In March of last year he cut off at the crown a yearling seedling apple tree and grafted it with a Bismark Scion. It made a fine growth last season and is now out with six clusters of bloom that give promise of developing fruit. Another instance of precocious blooming is that of an apple tree that he budded last July. Mr. Badger took the bud from the grafted top of the apple tree above mentioned and placed it in another tree. The bud grew and made a fine twig and now this twig has a large cluster of blossoms on it.

Mr. Badger stated that the fruit crop in Applegate Valley about Provoit does not appear to be seriously injured by the frost of last Friday night. In some of the orchards the trees are badly thinned but there is every indication that there will be an average yield of fruit in Applegate valley.

**First Ripe Strawberries April 23**

So far as reported the honor of having the first ripe strawberries of the crop of 1908 in Grants Pass vicinity belongs to H. V. Dosssee, who has an eight-acre berry and fruit farm on North Tenth street. Mr. Dosssee was able to pick ripe strawberries from his patch on Thursday of last week, April 23. They were of the Excelsior variety and were of good size and well colored. The Excelsior is one of the earliest berries grown in Rogue River Valley and had the spring been not so backward, with so much cold, cloudy weather, Mr. Dosssee would have had ripe strawberries by the middle of April.

The man who drives an ill-fed, badly cared for, bony team, will not make a successful fruit grower, for his team is an index of his methods of work and the fruit that he would have to sell would be as inferior in quality and pack as his team is in flesh and appearance.

Kennedy's Laxative Cough Syrup acts promptly yet gently on the bowels, through which the cold is forced out of the system, and at the same time it allays inflammation. Sold by Model Drug Store. 4-3 13t

**Consumption of Fruits vs Liquor Drinking.**

Fruit-growers have for a long time claimed that the man who ate quantities of fresh fruits had no desire for strong drink. Now comes a report from Birmingham, Ala., which shows that the man who drinks liquor will consume fruits instead if the liquor is not provided. Here is the report of actual results of the adoption of the prohibition law in Alabama, this telegram coming from Birmingham where the saloons were all closed for good on December 31.

"One of the remarkable things that has taken place under prohibition is the great increase in the trade in fruits. A prominent dealer in fruits showed the writer his books comparing his business in the months of January and February 1907, with the same months in 1908, and the increase this year over that of last year was just 100 per cent. In 1907 at this time everything was working in the district, yet the average sales on Saturday was about \$50, while the same date in February, 1908, with more than half the people out of work, the sales ran over \$120 all cash. The exhibit was day after day the same and not on any special day, showing that the trade is continuous and increasing." We believe this statement is true. We believe too, that the persons who are consuming the increased quantities of fruit, especially the acid fruits, such as oranges and apples, will soon lose their appetite for liquor. The one who urges the increased consumption of fruits is doing real missionary work. Now is the time to join the Apple Consumers' League.—The St Joseph, Missouri Fruit Grower.

**COFFEE**

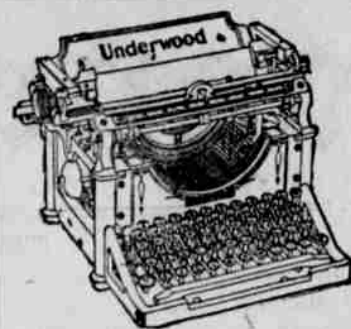
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