

IRRIGATION FOR ROGUE RIVER VALLEY

THIS IS THE LAND OF THE FLAMING TOKAY

W. B. Sherman Presented Children of the County With 6000 Grape Roots.

The evolution of the Flaming Tokay is a study worthy of the philosopher. It was planted in a vineyard and in due time bore its fruit and the trade papers might have mentioned it in the markets, but locally it was entirely unknown except to the few. Had it not been for W. B. Sherman, of Grants Pass, who admired the fruit, knowing its value as a table grape, and saw an opportunity to popularize it and at the same time benefit his fellow townsmen, the name of the Flaming Tokay would have meant no more to the average home citizen than the name of any good grape. Every movement made by the gentleman in question was marked with becoming modesty. He issued circulars and published articles in the newspapers but none of these bore his name. Eighteen months ago he commenced a campaign of education regarding the Flaming Tokay; he initiated the movement by inviting 600 business and professional men of Grants Pass on an automobile excursion to the vineyard of the father of the Tokay grape industry in this section; returning from this excursion the party was invited to a banquet at which there were 318 plates. The banquet over there ended the first lesson.

Later he inaugurated an excursion "around the world," in miniature, stations at certain points being named after famous grape growing centers in the old world. Of course, as before, all the automobiles in this section were secured for the occasion, the stations were fitted up with seats located in the shape of a horseshoe and at the heel of the shoe was a platform for orators. On the arrival of an automobile train load of excursionists the passengers were invited to take the seats provided and an orator talked to them for ten minutes about the Tokay grape.

The next move was a mysterious one and seemed to be accomplished between two days. Along every roadway throughout the county, nailed to trees, fence posts, barns, out buildings, etc., was the word "Tokay." Go where you would, either to Murphy, Wilderville, Fruitdale, Merlin, Galice, Hugo, Jones creek or any other place, that same name stared you in the face. It kept people thinking about it every day and every hour. Last fall when the Flaming Tokays came into our local market there was a scramble to buy them, proving that advertising pays. Last season there were 200,000 Flaming Tokay cuttings planted, and during the summer they were rooted and this winter were ready for planting.

On Wednesday morning of this week there appeared on the street the following hand bill:

"There will be speaking on the depot grounds at 2 o'clock sharp, Tokay grape vines free to every man, woman and child in Grants Pass or Josephine county. It has been thoroughly demonstrated that the Grants Pass district produces the best Tokay grapes in the United States and no doubt a close competitor for that honor of the world and may yet excel the world. Let us plant all our ground above the irrigating ditches to them. April 14, 1909."

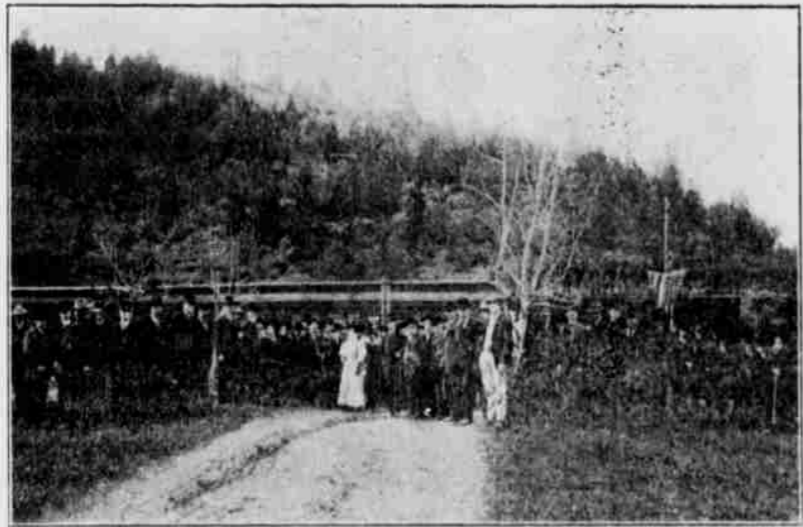
At the hour specified nearly 1200 children marched down the street in charge of their teachers and took positions five feet apart from curb to curb on Sixth street between the two plazas on the north side and the half block extending to the White House grocery. Photographer Lewis was present and made a picture of the animated scene.

At a given signal they broke ranks and gathered around a baggage truck which was piled with Tokay grape roots. Judge Stephen Jewell, Mayor Kinney and Attorney Clem-

ents had been engaged to make talks but the enthusiasm of the occasion would drown the liveliest orator. Next in order was the distribution of grape vines to every person in the immense gathering. With the vines was a stake 2 inches square and 30 inches long stained the color of the Tokay grape. The vines were to be planted and the stake driven near the vine to give warning to the passerby that a Flaming Tokay grape vine had been planted there. The distribution went on rapidly until everybody had been served, until 2100 vines were given out.

One hundred dollars is offered in prizes running from \$1 to \$15 for the best cared for and most thrifty vines. The prizes are as follows:

On the three days following vines were given out near the post office to each passerby who would pledge himself to plant and care for the same. The first day a thousand were distributed in this manner. Fifty vines and stakes will be sent to each school house in the county that can be reached by train or stage line from this city, and these vines will



EXCURSION ARRIVES AT DAM

be distributed the same as in Grants Pass. Vines will also be sent to all the towns in the county to be given to the householders who will promise to plant and care for them. In all, something over 6000 vines will be distributed.

In conclusion let us say that there were nearly 200,000 Flaming Tokay grape vines planted in this county in the year 1908, and there are now being planted 265,000. If anyone should remark that this will not be a county of vineyards it will only be fair to correct them.

THRIVING DISTRICT OF FRUITDALE

Fruitdale, a district which lies on the south side of Rogue river and about two miles and a half above Grants Pass, is improving very rapidly. Twenty new families have settled in that section within the last year and hundreds of acres have been cleared up from the timber and brush and the work is still going on. Most of the land has been planted with grapes, but some orchards have been put out. There is no better land to be found in any country than there is in this little settlement and it is still comparatively cheap; last year many purchases were made from \$25 to \$30 per acre. These same lands were cut up in smaller tracts and sold at \$50 per acre and much of this land which has been cleared and planted will readily bring \$100 an acre. There is still opportunity to buy choice lands which can be cleared and made into orchards. Stop over at Grants Pass and take a run out to Fruitdale and see the country.

Now is the time to buy land cheap which will soon be under irrigation. Stop over at Grants Pass and satisfy yourself that this is the best country on the north Pacific Coast.

Grants Pass is the most distinctly American in population of any city in Oregon. It is a city of homes, schools and churches. It has three newspapers, the Rogue River Courier, The Oregon Observer and The Pacific Outlook, all published weekly.

CANAL BUILDING STARTED FEB., '09

Big Excursion to Dam--Speeches by President Gilkey, President Anderson, Judge Jewell, Secretary Blanchard, Mayor Kinney

The story of securing irrigation in Grants Pass is in many respects a fascinating one and as it stands for much in the way of prosperity in the Rogue River valley, its practical points are worth relating. Nature had done so much for this valley in the way of soil, climate and location, that it did seem that man should be willing to do his part, and

the opening of a new era for the Rogue River Valley and more especially Josephine County. February 18, 1909, will be a date long to remember in the years to come when this valley shall be made to "blossom as the rose" by reason of the perfection of the enterprise we now inaugurate.

It only remains for our citizens to push the work to early completion. We are depending on no outside powers, no governmental machinery to complicate, hinder or delay our progress. We can, if we will, have a system of irrigation to cover our lands as rapidly as the said lands are ready for the water. This means more to us than the most optimistic of you have ever dared to dream.

All kinds of questions are being asked. Why was this particular project chosen? Why not go to Savage Rapids, Rock Point, Gold Hill or some other point farther up the river and take out a gravity line and save the cost of pumping, etc. etc? Do you realize, friends, that it would require a ditch no less than 140 miles



MAYOR KINNEY TURNING FIRST SHOVEL FULL OF EARTH

while it took considerable time for him to get started, he used every diligence when he finally determined to commence work.

After the necessary capital had been subscribed and a contract for the water and the Golden Drift dam had been signed it was in order to commence construction. The first step taken was to ask the people of Josephine county to visit the dam and participate in the ceremony of inaugurating the work. An excursion train was secured and several hundred people left Grants Pass on Thursday afternoon, February 18, to see the commencement of the irrigation project. It was indeed a proud day for all the excursionists. Arriving at the dam they found Superintendent G. H. Carner on the ground with his big teams, plows and scrapers at the point where the great gravity canal would start. The American flag, in the hands of a Civil War veteran, proudly waved over the spot, and at a given signal it was announced that "America" would be sung by the audience, Mayor Kinney leading. After the singing the assembly was called to order by President Gilkey, who acted as master of ceremonies. Rev. Robt. McLean led in prayer while the vast audience stood with unmoved heads. After the prayer President Gilkey spoke substantially as follows:

President Gilkey's Introductory Talk, Ladies, Gentlemen, Fellow Citizens: Our gathering here today marks

section of land for the purpose of making a good living, but the man with five, ten or twenty acres under a high state of cultivation will make more than the one with ten times as much half cultivated, as at present. (Continued on Page Two.)

PEAR GROWING IN ROGUE RIVER VALLEY

A Successful Orchardist, One Who Has Made Good in Practice and Theory.

(By F. J. Burke.)

Conservatively speaking there is no other section in the United States where the pear reaches the same degree of perfection as Rogue River valley. Writing from my own experience in fruit raising, I find it both profitable and pleasant. Owing to the perfect climate I experience no difficulty in keeping my trees free of disease and pests. I grow Bartlett pears as a specialty and it is nothing out of the ordinary to pick 14 boxes of perfect fruit from one tree; though I have some trees which yield 20 boxes. The pears are shipped to the New York market where they never fail to bring the top prices. In preparing the fruit for market, we pick in the cool of the day and spread the pears on the ground over night. In the morning expert packers wrap each pear separately in paper and pack in neatly labeled boxes, three and four tier of fruit to the box. It is immediately placed in the shipping car and reaches its destination in perfect condition, hence the excellent price.

This section of Oregon has established a great reputation for pears and justly. Visitors arriving here last year from the east were filled with wonder at the sight of trees loaded to the breaking point and every limb propped, while in other states where pears used to be extensively grown, it is now impossible to raise them at all. Eastern commission men say the whole world is looking towards this valley for their future pear supply. An immense acreage is being set to pears this year. There is nothing experimental about this. Just as surely as a man sets out and properly cares for an orchard in this valley, will he reap his reward. The demand far exceeds the supply as there are so few localities where pears can be successfully grown. All varieties, Comice, Winter Nellis, Clapp, D'Anjou are just as prolific as Bartlett.



COMMENCING WORK ON IRRIGATION DITCHES

long to bring the waters from Rogue River to cover less than two-thirds of the lands we propose to cover by this system? This is saying nothing of the expensive rock work and other obstacles we would encounter.

Our plan is to put in a gravity ditch on either side of the river and cover all the lower lands, which will amount to some five to eight thousand acres. Then two high line ditches, one on the south and one on the north side of the river, at an elevation of 250 feet and possibly one or two intermediate lines into which the water will be pumped. Altogether the system will cover from fifteen to twenty thousand acres. This will be the valley of small holdings as no one will need a quarter

In pear raising as in anything else, it never pays to be negligent. Spraying must be done at the proper time, and as to the pruning, I prefer to do that in the summer. Properly cared for, a pear orchard will yield a return of from \$800 to \$1200 per acre.

Apples, peaches and cherries yield prolifically.

Among my young trees I raise berries, and the yield is simply enormous. We have not shipped our berries, as so far have not been able to supply the home demand. A man in moderate circumstances can easily make a living and gain a start on an acre of land. In fact, I believe that small tracts intensively farmed bring

TO FURNISH WATER FOR IRRIGATION

Has a Capacity of 9,000 Gallons Per Minute Operating Under a 430-Foot Head.

The great Ament dam across the Rogue river which is to furnish the water for the irrigating ditches of Josephine county has a history which dates back to 1902 when its construction was commenced. This dam is a substantial structure made in crib form from 12x12, sawed timbers. The base of the dam is 125 feet in width up and down the river, 27 1/2 feet in height giving a perpendicular drop of 20 feet and 280 feet in length crossing the river. A substantial bulkhead 30 feet in height, 80 feet in width and 120 feet in length, resting upon the river bank and bedrock cement, all filled with heavy boulders and cement gravel and planked over with double 3-inch planks and spiked with 12-inch spikes. The race-way is cut just beyond the bulkhead in the main land with a head race 18 feet in depth and the tail race 30 feet in depth and 120 feet in width. The power house site is situated beyond the raceway on the river bank 200 feet from the river on bed rock. The entire structure, including the wing dam is 720 feet over all, requiring 3,500,000 feet of sawed lumber to build at a cost of nearly a third of a million dollars exclusive of the thousand acres of placer mining land adjoining the property. The raceway gates are 12 in number, each 10 feet in width, the pen stock is furnished for 16-400 h. p. turbines giving 6400 horse power. When completed it will have a capacity of 9600 h. p. Four wheels are installed and attached to steel gears, all coupled up and harnessed to a 70-foot line shaft running in Phosphor Brown's ring oiling boxes, and attached to a mammoth five-step high lift centrifugal pump weighing 88,000 pounds, that has a capacity of 9000 gallons per minute or 13,000,000 gallons per day went operating under a 430 foot head, it being the largest high lift centrifugal pump in the world. This pump is connected with a 22-inch steel discharge pipe 1500 feet in length, with a full equipment of high pressure cut-off gates and monitors, terminating at the point of diversion and is capable of delivering a 22-inch stream of water to an elevation of 450 feet continuously from power derived from 4-400 h. p. turbine water wheels installed tandem.

This dam was built and equipped with power for placer mining and irrigation purposes. During the month of February, 1909, a contract was entered into with the owners of the great dam by the Josephine County Irrigation & Power Company for a supply of water for their ditches. The gravity ditches to be supplied direct from the dam and the water for the high line canals to be pumped by the great centrifugal pump. The utilization of this dam and power made it possible to supply water for irrigation during the present season. The irrigation company has an option on the dam which will run until 1911 at which time it is expected that the entire property will be taken over by the irrigation company.

If you are looking for a home and an income you can get both around Grants Pass for less money than in any other locality in the country.

The best results, as a man can give his full attention to the work himself, and thus insure it being well done.

We raise chickens as a side product. They benefit the orchard by picking up myriads of insects that would otherwise develop into pests, and the poultry brings a fine price in the market.

But as before stated, my principal business is pear culture. I have four and one-half acres for which I recently refused \$7,000, as it is not for sale.