

June. A second ditch will be built on the 100-foot contour starting at a point on the hillside below the 350-foot ditch. This will furnish water to a considerable section of country above the river bottom and parallel with the stream.

The three kinds of soil mentioned in another article compose the land under these ditches; the dark loam of the bottom, the white granite above it and the red lands of the hillsides. Every acre composed of any one of these soils will bring a good crop when supplied with water. The best and most profitable use to which these lands can be put is apple, pear and peach orchards and grape vineyards.

EXTENSION OF FRUIT BUSINESS THIS YEAR

75,000 Trees and 365,000 Grape Vines Already Planted and Season Not Over.

On all sides of Grants Pass, and even extending almost into the heart of the city, the planting of fruit trees and grape vines is going on, and there are yet thousands of acres suitable for fruit raising which are still in timber and brush will be cleared and planted.

It has not been many years since the planting of trees for commercial purposes began here, so short a time, in fact, that but few of the orchards have come into bearing. Several hundred acres of new trees will bear fruit next year for the first time, and each succeeding year will see the production more than doubled over the preceding year. By far the greatest number of trees planted are apples, and the Spitzenbergs and Newtown Pippins are the leading varieties, and next come peaches, pears, cherries, plums, apricots and so on through the list—nearly every variety of edible fruit being raised.

The Tokay grape became an acknowledged wealth producer in this section of the Rogue River valley at about the same time that other fruits came into their own, and the planting of vineyards has gone on at a rate about equal to that of the apple.

Representatives in Grants Pass have taken orders for something over 75,000 trees already this season, and about 365,000 grapes. Many persons have also ordered direct from the nursery, and it is impossible to get any idea of the number of either trees or vines which have come in from these orders, but it may be seen that between 700 and 800 acres will be planted this year to fruit trees, and at least 600 acres to grapes—even though no more orders are sent in.

As the planting season will not be over for some time yet, it is safe to say that the number of trees and vines ordered will greatly increase the number given above. The above estimates are made after inquiring from each of the representatives of the nurseries here as to the orders taken, and are therefore authentic.

With all this increase there is still no danger of over-production, in fact the larger the acreage the better opportunities there will be for marketing fruit. Rogue River apples, peaches, pears, grapes and other fruits are becoming known, and as they become known the demand increases. The Fruit Exchange was not able, this year, to fill the orders received, and another year the exchange will be better organized and better able to push the fruit to the best market.

Large area of land suitable for raising all kinds of fruit, there is but little doubt that within the next 10 years that part of the Rogue River valley tributary to Grants Pass will be the largest and most productive fruit raising section of the country.

Money in General Farming. General farming is a highly profitable calling under irrigation in Josephine county. The home market is sufficient to demand everything that can be raised in the way of grain, hay and general forage. Alfalfa and hay have been selling during the past few months at from \$18 to \$24 a ton. Along the Apple-gate river, which is from six to nine miles from Grants Pass, they have had irrigation for some years and farmers have been growing rich furnishing forage for the Grants Pass market which has never been fully supplied with the home-grown article. Most of the hay and grain has been shipped in from points north. There is certainly no better opportunity anywhere for general agriculture than around Grants Pass. There is a big demand for potatoes, onions, carrots and other root crops and there is a big profit in raising these articles.

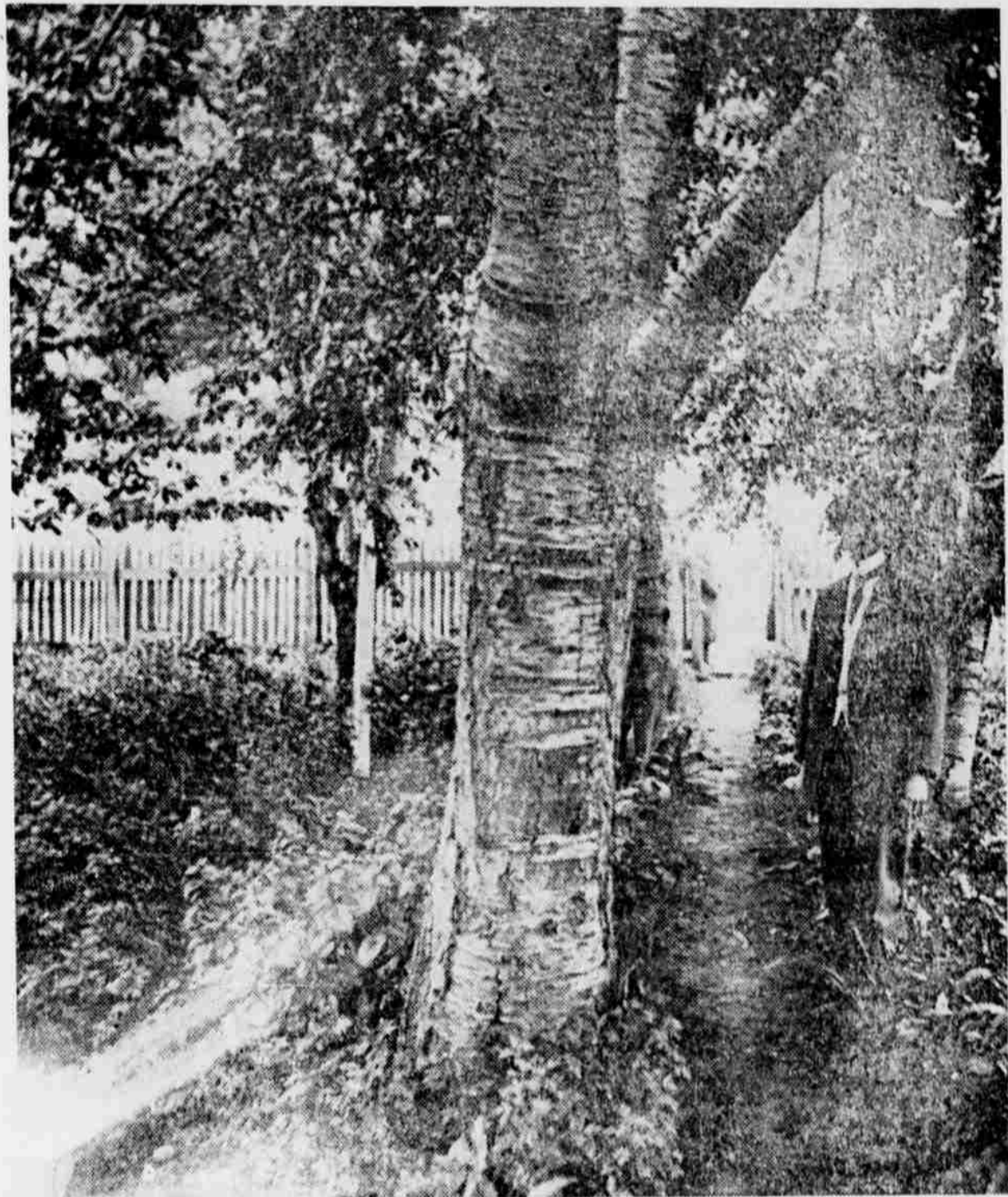
Josephine County Cherry Tree That Has Borne Fruit Half a Century

Little has been said about the cultivation of the cherry in Josephine county and yet it can be successfully claimed that it is one of the surest crops in the country. It has been planted in home orchards for many years; in fact since the first settlements in this country. As an illustration there is a cherry tree now growing on the farm of Samuel Cook at Missouri Flats, a few miles south of Grants Pass, which measures 102 inches in circumference with limbs reaching out over a surface of forty feet. This tree has never failed to bear fruit since maturity, and each year there is gathered from its branches a

wagon load of cherries. Near this tree in the same yard stands a peach tree 45 inches in circumference and 49 years old. With its heavily laden boughs of fruit it looks as healthy and in as perfect condition as the day it began to bear. In one corner of the yard opposite these two aged trees is a grape vine as large as an ordinary man's body, which sends out its new vines each year. The area over which it spreads is fully one-eighth of an acre, thereby forming an arbor 100 feet long. The annual products of this one vine amounts to one ton of grapes. From these pioneer producers Mr. Cook's family has long enjoyed each year,

cherry pie, peach cobbler and luscious grapes, and his children and grand children are yearly going to his home to eat from the same old tree and gather from the same old vine.

At Hugo, which is twelve miles north of Grants Pass on the line of the Southern Pacific road is a large cherry orchard which produces enormous crops each year. All over the county will be found cherry trees in the home orchards which yield prolifically every season. Since Grants Pass has a cannery there is a paying market for the cherry and its cultivation will hereafter be attended with financial success.



Cherry Cultivation Can Be Made a Successful Business—A Giant Tree.

THE PRESENT CONDITION FUTURE FRUIT PROSPECTS

A Review of Orchard and Vineyard Planting Around Grants Pass and Josephine County

(By Geo. H. Parker.)

In accordance with your request I submit the following in regard to the present condition of fruit growing in Josephine county and the prospects for the future.

Fruit of good quality has been grown in this county since early pioneer days. At the district fair held in Grants Pass in September, 1907, apples were on exhibition from trees brought around the Horn in '52.

About 20 or 25 years ago some few commercial orchards were planted but they were largely pruned and as the market for that fruit had not then been worked up, the price soon went too low for profit.

Then the panic of '83 and the San Jose scale, which reached here about that time, discouraged the growers of all kinds of fruit and many promising young orchards were dug up or abandoned. Some of the largest of the apple orchards, however, were brought to successful bearing, notably the Elsmann, Christie and Miller orchards, and fully demonstrated the fact that no section could produce apples of better size, flavor or keeping qualities than this. Some of the varieties in these old orchards, such as Ben Davis, Danver, etc., are not desirable as commercial apples and the planters of the new orchards profiting from the mistakes of the past have eliminated them, and the planting is now practically restricted to Spitzenberg, Yellow Newtown and Winesap.

The number of acres set in the county has probably doubled every year for the past four or five years, and if we have a good crop with fair prices this season that ratio will doubtless be maintained another year.

On Rogue River from 10 to 14 miles below Grants Pass are some of the largest and oldest peach or-

chards in Southern Oregon. That section is practically free from frost and produces a peach unexcelled in size and flavor.

The crop of 1907 brought the highest prices of any crop ever raised in that section and some of the oldest orchards have been bearing for twenty years.

The crop of 1908 did not sell quite so well but was still very remunerative.

There are many other sections of the county practically as well adapted to the growing of the peach as that, notably the lower Applegate valley. There are a number of pear trees on Williams creek over 50 years old and probably 50 or 60 feet high, but the planting of that fruit has not kept pace with that of apples and peaches. The high price that has prevailed for the past two or three years for first-class pears has greatly stimulated the setting and it is not improbable that the total number planted this season equals the total number before that. The indications are, however, that next season's planting will greatly exceed this.

The varieties almost entirely used in the commercial orchards are Bartlett, Buerre du Anjou, Doyenne du Combe and the Winter Nellis.

The fruit which seems destined to make Grants Pass and Josephine county famous, however, is the Tokay grape. Largely through the efforts and example of A. H. Carson, proprietor of Redlands vineyard, ably seconded by W. B. Sherman and others, Josephine county is, and seems destined to remain, the banner county of the state as regards grape growing, particularly the Tokay.

Nothing would so greatly stimulate the setting of orchards in this county as a railroad to the Illinois valley. Probably no section could excel that for apples and pears, if they only had cheap transportation

for their products. As it is orchards of five and ten acres are being set and others are being projected.

Notwithstanding the many enemies the fruit grower has to fight, and the chances he has to run, there was probably never a time when the prospect was so bright as it is now for the establishment of that industry on a permanent basis in Josephine county.

Opportunities for Homeseekers. There are great opportunities in Josephine county within from five to ten miles from Grants Pass for homeseekers to procure lands at low rates which will come under irrigation. Ten, twenty and forty acre places are numerous and desirable. A small acreage put in grapes, apples, pears, peaches or other fruits will within a very few years become highly productive. After apple trees are two years old the value of the land will enhance at the rate of \$100 an acre per year. An orchard eight years old planted to Newtown Pippins, Spitzenbergs or other desirable fruit will be worth not less than \$500 per acre, and it will produce from \$250 to \$400 per year of marketable fruit. In the climate of the central Rogue River valley, anywhere around Grants Pass, there is a fortune for any man who will plant and care for an orchard. The same may be said of grape culture, and these can be grown on cheap lands which can now be purchased for half the money that they will bring a year from now.

A Profitable Investment. If you want a five, ten, or twenty acre tract for a fruit farm or vineyard you can buy it around Grants Pass and the price will entirely depend on the distance it is from town. There is no better investment than buying a piece of raw land, clearing it and planting it to apples, pears, peaches or grapes. The second year it will double in value, that is, the property will be worth what it originally cost you, the expense of clearing added, now double the entire cost and the chances are that the property will be worth even more than this amount.

THE CLIMATE CURE INVALIDS RESORT

THE OPEN-AIR METHOD OF THE TREATMENT OF DISEASE

WHAT THE DOCTORS SAY

The Many Cures Brought About in the Grants Pass Country Without Medicine.

The country around Grants Pass has the reputation of being the most healthful of any section on the Northwest coast. You will find many men and women living in Josephine county who came here confirmed invalids and who have become in this invigorating climate, robust and the very picture of health. Of course, those who come too late may fail to receive benefit, but the general history of all cases is that benefit has been received. Throat and lung trouble, asthma, hay fever and many other diseases yield to climatic influences in this section without medicine. Dr. F. W. Van Dyke, a general practitioner in Grants Pass for twenty-odd years, a man of large practice and influence, when asked regarding the treatment of certain diseases, said:

"Tuberculosis must be treated to get the best results by the open-air method. Southern Oregon with its long summers and mild late autumns is well adapted to tent life. Very few cases, comparatively speaking, originate here but come from other places. These patients are almost always helped if not too far advanced with the disease and cured by the simple out-door life. Heredity plays a large part in tuberculosis by giving a favorable soil, so to speak, for the bacillus to grow and develop on. Each case varies and is an entity to itself, so some do better at a lower altitude than others. Within reaching distance of Grants Pass locations amid beautiful scenery can be found with an altitude sufficiently low or high to meet the requirements of almost any case."

It will be noticed that Dr. Van Dyke has great faith in what is called here the "Climate Cure," and this is an important factor in health restoration to those who come from all points east of the Rocky Mountains. When this matter of health becomes thoroughly understood throughout the eastern and middle west portions of our country there will be more people come to the Rogue River valley section. "All that a man hath will be give for his life," and this means that both men and women will rush to this country when they learn of its great advantages as a health restoring climate.

Dr. M. C. Findley, the well-known eye, ear and throat specialist of Grants Pass, when approached to give his opinion regarding this part of Oregon as a desirable place for invalids very modestly remarked:

"The poet has said that 'Time makes ancient good uncouth.' This is true in mental achievements and equally true in physical and climatic conditions. Unlike our forefathers we are not disposed to adhere to old customs and to live in the same locality for a lifetime when a great and progressive west lies before us. California and the Pacific Coast have been synonyms for so many years, so much so that many people of the eastern and middle states have thought little and known less of the states lying along the coast other than that great commonwealth. But times are changing these conditions. Men make great sacrifices and undergo untold hardships in the pursuit of wealth, yet a more potent factor than money drives men beyond where their inclinations would dictate and a quest for health becomes an incentive more far-reaching than the search for the Holy Grail. Again necessity becomes the mother of colonization and navigation. It is not strange then that people study the climate as an essential feature of any locality. The natural question of the people of the eastern and middle states is what diseases are benefited by the climate of the Rogue River Valley, Oregon. The relation that nasal obstructions bear to asthma as a causative factor in the production of this disease has only recently been recognized. The favorable effect that this climate has upon asthmatic subjects can be better appreciated when we learn how large a per cent of our population has been unable

to enjoy good health or to follow successfully their various callings elsewhere. There are many persons who have come under my personal observation, having spent years in ill health, even confined to their beds with asthma, who are enjoying good health and are able to follow their various avocations since coming to this climate. The explanation for the eye, ear, nose and throat troubles which exist here can be in part accounted for by our cosmopolitan population, coming, as they do, with varied affections contracted elsewhere. The fact is not appreciated by eastern people that we have as mild and as even a climate as the much talked of Italy and yet within a few hours travel we may reach a climate not unlike the bracing atmosphere of Switzerland. So while we are justly proud of the productions of our state and the opportunities afforded for the procuring of wealth let us not forget our advantages from the standpoint of health."

GREAT RUSH TO THE ROGUE RIVER VALLEY

Josephine County, the Land of Plenty, Has Room for All Amid Its Grandeur.

According to reports made by railway companies Oregon gets half of all the immigrants coming west this year and Southern Oregon gets the majority of these. There is a reason for this influx of new blood and energy which is pouring in to the Rogue River valley and this reason is not difficult to discern by those who have been here for even a few weeks. We have a climate unexcelled, a soil so sensitive to the touch of husbandry that the most sceptical are wont to marvel at its productiveness. Why the scenic grandeur of this section is akin to the sublime, and beyond a commensurate description of either tongue or pen, and with this all the educational and intellectual standards of its present population are second to no state in the Union.

By reason of the assiduous industry, thrift, enterprise and public spirit of the leading citizens of the Rogue River valley this country has come to be a household word in the homes of eastern and the middle west states and it is these people who are coming here in increased numbers this year to get close to nature to enjoy the wholesomeness and sublimity of simple life and the emoluments of reasonable industry. Let the reader who catches this article on his journey across Southern Oregon remember that he owes it to himself and his family to stop over at Grants Pass and examine the land of the red apple and the Tokay grape. Take a lay over at Grants Pass for a couple of days and you will for all time in the future thank your lucky stars that you had the wisdom to do so.

YOU SHOULD STOP OVER AT GRANTS PASS

A word to the homeseeker at this time will not be out of order and we desire to say to the reader who may chance to be looking for a place to live and engage in business that Grants Pass and Josephine county offer at this time better opportunities than can be found at any other point on the Pacific Coast. First, the land for fruit and general farming can be purchased at a lower price here than in places where more development has been done. The soil is rich and under irrigation it will produce more per acre than any other locality that has as yet been discovered. The climate is a source of health and all things considered this is the one great land of opportunity. Those who have homeseekers or one-way excursion tickets with stop-over privileges should by all means lay over a couple of days at Grants Pass. The real estate firms will with their automobiles or teams show you the country without cost and without demanding that you shall purchase. Should you be looking for an opportunity to buy orchard lands they will be found here in great abundance. You will find also opportunities to go into the vineyard business, general farming or dairying. No matter what of these callings you may select here is money to be made and plenty of it. There are good markets for everything that can be produced on the farm or in the orchard or vineyard.

After you have read the Courier send it to some friend in the East.