

GRANTS PASS, HOME OF THE FLAME TOKAY

(Caroline Wasson Thomason, in the Portland Journal.)

Just as Portland has come to be known as the City of Roses, Salem the Cherry City, and Roseburg the Strawberry City, so Grants Pass is destined to attain fame as the City of Tokay grapes. Four years ago an aggressive crusade was carried on in Josephine county in the interest of the Tokay grape industry. Many acres of the south slopes were utilized for grape culture. This year the owners of these vineyards are to reap a bountiful reward, for the four-year-old vines will bear heavily and all indications are for a bumper yield. Carloads of the delicious Tokays will be shipped from Grants Pass next October.

Some of the three-year-old vines of Tokays last year bore 5 to 40 pounds, the first fruit from the crusade of 1908, while from the vineyard of Mr. Butts, two crates, or 20 pounds, were picked from a small number of four-year-old vines. As the grapes sell for about \$1.75 a crate, it is a low estimate to calculate that there will be value of \$1 from every vine more than four years old. Tokays are planted 9 feet apart, 535 vines to an acre. By the best of care it is thought that \$1,000 an acre may be made from these vineyards, as five crates to a vine is the quantity that has been picked from many vines in Grants Pass.

Sherman Leads Movement.

W. B. Sherman, of Grants Pass, is a pioneer in the Tokay grape industry in Josephine county. It was Mr. Sherman who first called attention to the peculiarly suitable location for grape culture on the hill lands. From 1902 to 1907 he noticed on numerous drives through the Rogue river valley that the grape vines were doing especially well. He found that the Applegate vineyard of 40 acres, the only vineyard handled commercially in the vicinity, was paying at the rate of \$200 to \$300 an acre, although the fruit was sent by express to Portland. He then conceived the idea of exploiting the grape industry and covering the well adapted south slopes with vineyards.

Investigation proved that there were thousands of acres especially adapted to the growth of grapes in that section. The hill land is best for grape culture, as the vines need thorough drainage of soil, and good air drainage. All foothills that cannot be reached with irrigation, are excellent for grapes, whose roots always pierce down to the moisture. This rough, dry land is especially good for grapes, while practically useless for other crops. Having settled this point Mr. Sherman next began to study the kind of grape best suited to the locality and decided to try the Tokay.

Conditions Are Ideal.

Mr. Sherman gives the reason of his choice in this statement: "The Tokays impressed me as the most healthy, rugged vines, the best producers and the highest priced grape on the market. I found it the best table grape, and most sought for all over the United States. The Tokay is a dry climate vine, therefore the Rogue river valley is peculiarly adapted to its growth from combination of soil and absence of excessive humidity. It has been grown in two localities in California, but no other place in the United States except in a small way near Lewiston, Idaho."

The grape campaign conducted by Mr. Sherman included automobile trips to the Applegate vineyard, paing by spending three days in taking between 600 and 700 people from Grants Pass 9 miles to the Applegate farm. This trip was conducted by the use of three automobiles, a machine leaving the city every 40 minutes. At the vineyard the passengers were shown about and a 20 minute lecture on grape industry given.

The Famous Grape Banquet.

Two weeks following the automobile trips Mr. Sherman gave a 12 course banquet at which 318 plates were served. All the leading men of the town were his guests. The banquet hall was turned into a grape arbor by masses of grape vines laden with fruit brought from the fields. Twenty girls dressed in white passed from the banquet hall to the kitchen grape banquets, lectures and prizes to children. He started the campaign through a grape arbor as they served the guests. The fruit served was grapes and the drink was fermented grape juice. A long list of toasts worked up to the climax that the Rogue river valley was the best adapted portion in the United States

for Tokay grapes.

Another automobile trip followed, called "A Trip Around the World," in which 17 automobiles were used and 5,500 people were "educated" at four stations by means of a series of progressive lectures on Tokays. This effort lasted two days. The campaigning occurred in October, the grape harvest season.

Giving Away Cuttings.

During the winter of 1908, Mr. Sherman sent to California for two carloads of grape cuttings. These he had ready for planting in the spring. With his characteristic vigor he set about distributing the cuttings. First he sent the cuttings to every school in the county that could be reached by train and stage, and presented a cutting to each child, together with a red stake which was to be set beside the vine as a support, and to point out the presence of a Tokay. In all parts of the county two to six stakes in the yards would indicate that the children were engaged in Tokay culture. The red stakes are still to be seen over Josephine county, as fully 60 per cent of the cuttings were saved by the youngsters.

In Grants Pass Mr. Sherman had a fisherman make a net with the strings crossed 28 inches apart. This net reached from the Josephine hotel to the depot a distance of two and a half blocks. The school children marched in a body and each took his stand on one of the intersections of the net where he received his cutting and red stake. Mr. Sherman gave \$200 in cash prizes the next fall to the children whose vines had grown the greatest length, the prizes ranging in value from \$1 to \$15.

Interesting School Children.

After giving them to the school children Mr. Sherman kept two men on the streets for a week giving vines to every one who came along. He gave away 7,500 vines in the planting season of 1908. Last year witnessed the first yield. This year the big Tokay crop is coming.

Tokays in Josephine county are raised in "stump" style. They are cut off at a height of 24 inches, and are trimmed back to the stump each year.

One man can handle 15 acres of each slice retain its form. The grapes. In winter the vines must be pruned, from April until July they are cultivated, in October the harvest is on—three seasons of work for the man who runs the vineyard, pruning, cultivating and harvesting. The vines are not subject to pests nor blight, and they require no spraying.

Fruit of High Quality.

The people of Grants Pass are proud of their Tokay industry, and they have occasion to be, for in no place has this luscious variety of grapes developed more successfully. The Rogue river Tokay is of firm, sweet tissue. It can be pared in slices as thin as a wafer and still grapes can be left on the vines and picked for the Christmas sale, and even until March. Mr. Sherman has Tokay grapes in his window that were picked last September, still in good condition.

There is a grape vine over half a century old in the yard of Samuel Cook, near Grants Pass. This old vine covers almost a quarter of an acre of arbor, and has the remarkable record of having borne from one ton to one and a half tons of fruit annually for more than 40 years.

It is now well known that not more than one case of rheumatism in ten requires any internal treatment whatever. All that is needed is a free application of Chamberlain's Liniment and massaging the parts as each application. Try it and see how quickly it will relieve the pain and soreness. Sold by all dealers.

FIVE STAMP MILL.

Superintendent Geo. H. Tobbs was in the city Saturday and he states that the five-stamp mill on the property of the Oregon Strong Ledge mine (formerly known as the Michigan mine) near Murphy, was started up last week and is now running a 12-hour shift, and has 12 men at work. In order to operate the mine it is necessary to pump water 2,700 feet; and with the present reservoir it is impractical to operate more than the 12 hours daily. Additional reservoir space will be constructed, which, with operating the pumps for 10 hours, will give sufficient water to run the stamp mill 24 hours. The mill has a capacity of 25 tons for the half shift.

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Artistic Job work at Courier office.

BURGLAR'S BREAK INTO TRACY'S JEWELRY STORE.

Friday's Daily.

Burglars this morning broke into the jewelry store of H. P. Tracy, on South Sixth street and departed with two Colts' automatic pistols and a Smith & Wesson revolver, the combined value of the three guns being \$55.

The guns stolen, together with other firearms of a total value of more than \$500, were in the north display window. The burglar, getting a brick from the debris pile at the old city hall building next door, threw it into the plate glass window, breaking the lower part of the glass, after which he reached in and took out the three guns mentioned. Nothing else in the store was molested, although jewelry and guns of considerable value were within easy reach. One gun, a \$350 grade Ithaca shotgun, the property of W. E. Bramel, was in the window.

The burglary took place between 4:20 and 5 o'clock this morning. The night watchman had passed the building at about the first named hour on his way to the depot just prior to the arrival of the Shasta Limited, and the window was unbroken at that time, but a brakeman who passed at five discovered the shattered glass.

No clue was left by the burglar, and the officers have no trail to follow. Mr. Tracy is a member of the Jewelers' Security Alliance, which organization offers a reward of \$100 for arrest and conviction in all cases of window breaking in jewelry stores. The broken glass window, valued at \$50, is covered with insurance, so that the J. O. O. F. owners of the building, will meet with no loss in its breakage.

One of the guns stolen, the Smith and Wesson special, was the property and the pride of Andy Sorenson, the gunsmith who occupies the room with Mr. Tracy. It had been built to order by Mr. Sorenson, and will be easily identified if ever found in any one's possession.

NOT ALL HARMONY

WITH OHIO DEMOCRACY.

TOLEDO, Ohio, June 4.—With the avowed intention of forcing the unit rule, the supporters of Judson Harmon expect to control the democratic state convention, which meets here tonight. Harmon is using the entire democratic machinery of the state to secure control. If the unit rule is enforced by the governor and his supporters, the delegates pledged to Woodrow Wilson plan to rise up at the national convention in Baltimore, tell how they were elected, and declare that they were robbed of their vote in the Ohio state convention.

NEVADA DEMOCRATS

WANT CHAMP CLARK.

FALLON, Nev., June 4.—Naming six delegates with instructions to vote for Champ Clark as long as he remains a candidate and referring to Roosevelt as insincere and dangerous, the Nevada democratic state convention adjourned this afternoon after a strenuous two days' session.

SEES PROFIT FOR CUSTOM MILL HERE.

That Grants Pass would profit immensely through the construction of a mill for the custom handling of free-milling ore is the belief of Chester L. Proebstel, manager of the custom mill at Yreka, Cal., who was here last week in the interest of the coming mining congress, to be held in his city in July.

The mill at Yreka, which was built under Mr. Proebstel's engineering management, was erected at an expense of \$5,000, and has a capacity for handling fifteen tons of ore every 24 hours. For extracting the values from this rock the Yreka mill makes a charge of \$3.50 per ton, but Mr. Proebstel believes that it is possible from experience with his mill that another could be put up that would handle the ore at not over \$2 per ton. The conditions at Yreka are much the same as here, the ore running of about the same grades and values, and there it is hauled twenty to thirty miles to the mill and profitably treated.

There are dozens of properties tributary to Grants Pass that can take out ore of high enough values to make it profitable to haul here if it could be treated for the price suggested, and it would at once make these properties producers instead of keeping their riches locked up in nature's vault. It would produce an immediate payroll, and would make possible the development of properties that must now lie idle, and that may not otherwise be developed for years.

Mrs. Jack Allison went to Rogue River Tuesday to spend the day.

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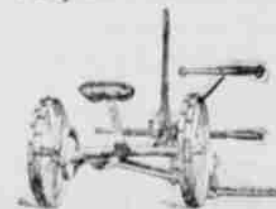
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JUDGE WESCOTT WILL

NAME WOODROW WILSON.

TRENTON, N. J., June 4.—At a meeting here today, of democratic delegates to go to Baltimore, Judge John Wescott of Camden was unanimously selected to place the name of Woodrow Wilson before the national convention for president.

MORE CASH FOR THE

PANAMA PACIFIC FAIR.

SAN FRANCISCO, June 4.—Another \$100,000 is pledged today to the subscriptions for the Panama-Pacific exposition from the leading hotels of this city. The hotel men already had subscribed \$150,000 to the fair. The money will be raised at once.

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