

CURTIS WRITES OF ROGUE VALLEY

Tells of Wonderful Records Rogue River Fruit Has Made in the Great Markets of the World.

(By William E. Curtis in the Chicago Record-Herald.)

Rogue River pears bring the highest prices. Pears will not keep like apples, however, and are sold by the box at auction immediately upon arrival at market, to commission men. A trainload of pears is made up in Medford daily during the season and hurried eastward on passenger schedule time. A car will be dropped off at Omaha; another will be run down to Kansas City; others to St. Louis; more to Chicago and the rest will go on to New York, Philadelphia and Boston, dropping off a car at Pittsburg, Cleveland and Buffalo by the way, where the commission men are notified and the auction sales take place.

The bids are governed by the state of the market and the quality of the pears—the old law of supply and demand. Early arrivals have sold as high as \$6 a box in the New York and Boston markets. This year the Bartlett's sell at an average of \$3.40 per box. One carload sold for \$3.70 per box in Boston; another sold as low as \$2.80.

The big orchard men, who are able to fill cars from their own trees, handle their own business, but the fruit from the smaller orchards is handled by an association, and each contributor receives credit on the books when his fruit is sold.

The world's record for prices is held by the Rogue River. The Bear Creek Orchard company, near Medford, sold a carload of Comice pears at auction in New York City in 1907 for \$4622.80. The best previous price for a carload of fruit was obtained by the Hillcrest Orchard company in New York in 1906 for \$3450. During January last (1909) a shipment of Comice pears from the Hillcrest orchard sold in London for \$10.08 per box wholesale, which is about 20 cents a pound. The highest price ever received per box in America was \$6.60, at Montreal in 1908.

The highest price ever received in the United States was \$4.60 a box for Bartlett pears. The highest average on record stands in favor of the Anjou pear, which sold for \$4 a box during an entire season. The highest record for any orchard is credited to Mr. Hopkins, formerly of Chicago, who sold \$19,000 worth of fruit from 16½ acres in 1907 to Rae & Hatfield.

It is asserted that the average profits on Medford pears during the last five years have been \$700 an acre.

The Fruit-Growers' association furnishes me the following statement showing the maximum and minimum prices received for fruit by the orchardmen in the vicinity of Medford during the year 1908. It is too early to furnish a statement for 1909.

Comice pears	\$4.56-6.00
Bartlett pears	2.00-2.75
Anjou pears	2.50-2.75
Howell pears	2.00-2.95
Bosc pears	2.60-2.80
Winter Nellis pears	1.75-2.93
Newtown apples	2.50-3.00
Spitzenburg apples	2.00-3.60
Jonathan apples	2.00-2.50

New land costs from \$150 to \$250 an acre. It costs an average of \$25 an acre to put the soil in order and set out the trees, and an average of \$10 an acre for five years to carry it to the bearing stage. Then the cost of producing the crop depends upon the ability to obtain pickers when the fruit is ripe. Pickers are scarce, and they demand \$1.75 a day, boarding themselves, or \$1.25 a day when they are boarded.

John D. Olwell, one of the most experienced apple and pear growers, tells me that the cost of production will average 60 cents a box; the freight on apples to New York City is 50 cents a box, or \$1 a hundred pounds; on pears it is \$1.40 per hundred, with corresponding rates to Pittsburg, Chicago, St. Louis and Missouri river points.

VAUDEVILLE SAID TO BE SPLENDID ENTERTAINMENT

Manager Hazelrigg received the following telegram from the manager Eugene, where the Pantages vaudeville company appeared last night, and it evidently assures Medford theatergoers a first-class entertainment tonight at popular prices: "Eugene, Or., Nov. 25.—Chas. Hazelrigg, Medford Or.—Pantages vaudeville first class; boost it. "GEO. H. SMITH." Prices, 25, 35 and 50 cents.

FIRST 1909 CAR LONDON SOLD

Rogue River Fruit Growers' Union Average \$3.06 for Newtowns in the City of London, England.

The first car of Rogue River Newtowns sold in Liverpool, England, Saturday, went at an average of 12s 9d per box, or \$3.06. The apples were shipped by the Rogue River Fruit Growers' Union and were especially selected for the export trade, being small apples, which the foreign trade has seemed to demand heretofore. Later advices from the markets, however, indicate that the larger apples are more in demand than heretofore and are bringing from 50c to 75c more per box than smaller sizes.

The car above mentioned will net the grower here in the neighborhood of \$2 per box.

APPLES ASTOUND EAST.

(Continued from page 17.)

The young town of Medford has from 6000 to 8000 population. A Commercial club, of which Mr. Eifert is an active member, has built near the railroad station an exhibition bungalow, made mostly of glass walls and which is electric lighted. On the north is a rose garden with beautiful bloom the year through. Inside the bungalow there is a continual display of fruits, grains, mounted game, also finest of fish—a show that would do credit to any exposition. All trains stop 10 minutes and the little show house is crowded with wondering tourists.

The apples are as beautiful and fragrant as flowers, as good to the eye as the palate. The hearts of the westerners are as large and fine as the pippins. They are hustling boosters for one of the greatest countries in the world—at least, that is what all say who have visited this country.

Incidentally, we might mention that Mr. Eifert is one of Medford's leading business men and his many Hardin county friends will be pleased to learn, one of her most successful.

ORCHARDS ARE HEALTHY

(Continued from page 17.)

The treatment of such diseases as anthracnose, peach blight and other troubles which may be controlled by spraying, is so well understood that the growers have almost forgotten about them. Timely and effective spraying prevents a recurrence of these troubles. To show what horticultural instruction has done in the Rogue River valley, the remarks of a visitor at one of the meetings of the Horticultural society may be quoted: "The orchardists of the Rogue River valley must certainly be graduates, if not post-graduates, in horticulture, since they comprehend readily a technical lecture on plant pathology which is all Greek to me." This is, indeed, a compliment to the orchardists of the Rogue River valley.

Quick Money Needed.

My 26 lots including a good 5-room house, must go for \$4000. Property just outside of city limits. \$2,500 cash, rest easy payments. Address Roy W. Harris, room 5, Palms Rooming House, Medford, Oregon. 212*

Oregon Agricultural College Winter Course

January 4th to February 18th, 1910.

Practical work, lectures and demonstrations will be given in such vital subjects as General Farming, Fruit Culture, Animal Husbandry, Dairying, Poultry-keeping, the Business Side of Farming, Forestry, Carpentry, Blacksmithing, Mechanical Drawing, Cooking, Sewing, Dress-making, Home Management, etc.

All regular courses begin January 4 and end February 11. Farmers' week, February 14 to 18.

A cordial invitation is extended to all interested.

Good accommodations may be secured at reasonable rates. No age limit above 16 years. No entrance requirements. Prominent lecturers have been secured for special topics. The instructional force of the college numbers 100. Excellent equipment.

A special feature is the Farmers' Week which comes this year February 14 to 18. Lectures, discussions, and a general reunion.

For further information address Registrar, Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, Or.

WE DON'T BELIEVE YOU CAN BEAT THIS:

Thirty-two acres in this tract, fine fruit land, about two miles from a shipping point. The buildings consist of a five-room box house, good-sized barn, etc. There are 12 acres of 5 and 6-year-old apples, mostly Newtowns, with commercial peaches planted between as fillers. Also three acres of young pear trees and some family orchard. Four acres in alfalfa. Six or eight acres of timber, mostly oak and laurel. There is a pumping plant on the place which supplies water for the garden and alfalfa, equipped with gasoline engine. About 40 rods from a good school. Has rural mail delivery and telephone. Price \$10,500. Terms.

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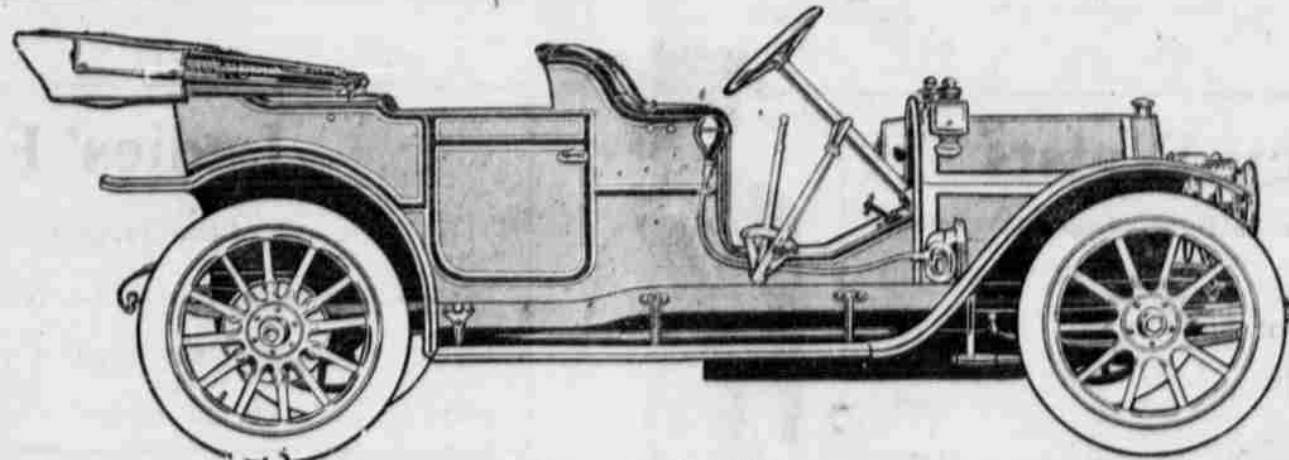
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COMPETITION? NO WE HAVEN'T ANY. ALL ALONE SO TO SPEAK AND WE ARE PROUD OF BEING LONESOME. GOING TO STAY SO, TOO.

If cars hold up and win in contests, they naturally will give the utmost service at the lowest possible cost to the customers and owners. Any car that can go from Denver to Mexico City, or that can go 208 miles a day for one hundred consecutive days, as a Chalmers-Detroit "30" did, is a pretty safe car to buy.

The contest rules of the American Automobile Association say that a car is a stock car if a manufacturer makes a minimum number of twenty-five of that particular type. Some manufacturers have made twenty-five cars of a certain type in order to get into certain contests. A Chalmers-Detroit stock contest car is simply one of 4000. It does not differ in stock specifications from any car we sell. If some one tells you his car won a race, find out whether it was a car out of a stock of twenty-five or out of a regular stock of hundreds or thousands built to sell.

We don't want any prospective buyer of an automobile to believe these things merely because we say them. Make your own investigations. If you don't know yourself, please ask someone who does. The more a man knows about automobile construction, the easier it is for us to sell him a Chalmers-Detroit car. The utmost value at the price is our ambition, and we let Chalmers-Detroit owners say whether we realize it.

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