

# MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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GEORGE PUNAM, Editor and Manager.

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## MICHIGAN AND OREGON.

William A. Taylor, expert in charge of the field investigations in pomology for the department of agriculture, has written a lengthy article for the eastern press upon the revival of apple growing in Michigan. As Mr. Taylor is a native of the peninsular state, his remarks show some partiality for his own country.

In this article, Mr. Taylor predicts a glowing future for the Michigan apple man. "Some orchards," he says, "are yielding at the rate of \$500 per acre. This marvelous showing has not been made by chance. Michigan is one of the best sections for apple growing in the entire humid area of the United States. Spraying has done away with the insect pests, cultivation has enabled annual yields instead of every other year. Michigan growers enjoy an almost inestimable advantage, its orchards are now close to the country's center of population, giving Michigan an advantage of \$1.25 per barrel over the northwest in getting to the center of population.

"The Michigan apple excels the western apple in flavor, but the irrigated apple, because of the unlimited advantage in sunshine, has the better color. Co-operation has given the western growers great advantage, through standardized grading. They have advertised their product and have conscientiously made their apples keep up to the advertisement. Oregon apples average larger than the Michigan crop are better, cultivated, and better sprayed."

To Mr. Taylor's remarks Washington correspondents are volunteering gloomy predictions for the northwest. Says one of them in a Grand Rapids, Mich., paper: "Wise apple growers of the northwest are becoming rich now. No question about that. But they are face to face with a crisis. They have been packing their apples in fancy boxes and are getting this year from \$2 to \$2.75 per box of about a bushel. But the end of that is bound to come, and this will mean a slump in land values and in the value of yields per acre. Another significant fact is that no one can tell when the trees of the northwest will play out. The volcanic ash, which constitutes so large a proportion of that soil is rich in mineral elements and stimulates remarkably quick growth. Consequently the apple trees of the northwest are quick to come into bearing and their early yields are exceedingly large. But the soil apparently lacks the elements which make for long and steady growth."

Mr. Taylor evidently does not know the Oregon apples, or he could not say the eastern fruit was its superior in flavor, without confessing his own taste inferior to that of the world. The proof of the pudding is the eating, and the proof of the apple, the demand for it, and the price it brings. Oregon apples average more per box than Michigan apples do per three-bushel barrel, and are in demand at fancy prices in all the markets of the world, and sought by epicures everywhere. While there is an occasional acre of apples in Michigan that yields \$500, so there are many acres in Oregon that yield \$2500.

Regarding the alleged crisis: The market for fancy fruit is growing greater each year. As the population the best of everything, and Michigan nor no other section of the east, can raise an apple that compares with the northwest product, or can supply this demand. As a matter of fact, census statistics show that the apple production of the country is decreasing annually despite the increased orchard area in the northwest.

Regarding the northwest soil, which so worries the eastern correspondent, there are many apple trees in Oregon that have produced good crops for half a century, and the soil shows no sign of being worn out. However, it will be necessary here as in Michigan or any other region, to fertilize to prevent soil exhaustion, though the natural richness has made it a matter of the distant future.

Michigan nor no other section can ever compete with the northwest in fruit growing, because of soil and climatic conditions, in which they are fearfully handicapped. The battle with the bugs is well nigh hopeless in the east, because natural conditions foster the growth of every kind of pest, whereas in the mountain valleys of the northwest the fight is an easy one, and nature gives effective aid in controlling the ravages of insects. Then, if the eastern grower does control some of the pests for a brief while, frost takes one crop out of three, and often more. And still another handicap is that the fruit will not stand shipment to distant markets—will keep only a short time.

As a result, year after year sees greater acreage of orchard abandoned in the east than the northwest plants, and grower after grower throughout the middle west surrenders the field to Jack Frost and the codlin moth—he either abandons the occupation of fruit raising or comes to Oregon, where there is a reward for his industry.

### PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Preaching Sunday morning at 11 o'clock. Rev. W. S. Holt, D. D., the Pacific coast secretary of the board of home missions, will give us an eloquent address in the morning on some phase of the living message to the world. All who can should hear him. Especially is it desired that all the usual congregation be present. In the evening the pastor will preach on "What Will Permanently Satisfy?" Special music for the evening. Sunday school at 10 a. m. C. E. Society at 7:30 p. m.

### OVER-AMBITIOUS TO GET MAIL TRIBUNE; HAS FALL

To the Editor: This "new improvement of the shrill whistle" just invented for the special benefit of paper carrier and patron caused your humble correspondent a rather sudden and unexpected shrapnel a few evenings ago. He was too ambitious to get his evening paper on the slippery sidewalk—result was a badly sprained ankle, a peeled shin bone and a badly soiled and ripped pair of trousers and when he pulled himself together he found about one-fourth of the boys on Central avenue

## BISHOP FAVORS GRANITE CHURCH

Rt. Rev. Charles Seadding Approves Plans for New Episcopal Church on West Main.

The structures contemplated by the congregation of St. Mary's Episcopal church will be an accomplished fact within the next few months. The plans comprising a two-story building with four store rooms, 50x70, on the ground floor and an assembly hall above 50x100, to be known as St. Mark's hall, facing on Main street, together with those of an Episcopal church facing Holly, have been approved. Construction work has been commenced and the buildings will be pushed as rapidly as possible. The work will be under the personal direction of Archdeacon Chambers. While Bishop Scadding of the diocese of Oregon was here Thursday he went pretty well into the details of the projected building and was more than pleased, not only with the plans, but with the support being given the church in Medford, and the enthusiasm of the congregation.

apparently whistling. Nothing but early piety, sitting in damp church houses and Sabbath schools prevented him from using language unbecoming.

A PIONEER.

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Plain mix, containing four different kinds, pound.....15c  
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California, black, 1-pound packages .....15c  
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Ford dates, choice, for stuffing, pound .....20c  
Persian, new crop, lb .....15c

### DISHES

Toy size glass sets for the children, 5-piece water set, jug and 4 tumblers, set 35c  
4-piece table set, crystal pattern, set .....35c  
Pekin blue dinner ware, the finest thing ever shown in Medford—  
50-piece dinner set, Pekin blue .....\$18.50  
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## SIX DROWNED SINKING BARGE

Nine Men Save Lives by Jumping Into the Water and Then Swimming Toward Tug.

PORT ARTHUR, Dec. 10.—Six workmen were drowned today when a dredge being towed across the local harbor sprung a leak and went to the bottom. Nine men who leaped from the sinking barge before it was engulfed were picked up by the towing tug.

An alarm was sent immediately to the shore, and a fleet of small craft is patrolling the spot where the dredger disappeared, searching for the bodies of the victims.

Here is a snap: 160 acres one mile from railroad station; 100 acres good red soil, several thousand cords good wood which has a ready market. Price, \$1750; one-third cash, long time on balance. P. O. box 544. 231\*

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