

LURE OF BIG ROSY APPLES

No Danger of Overproduction, as the Market Grows Faster Than Supply, Which is Diminishing.

(George J. Seeharsching in Chicago Record-Herald.)

This story might be styled "The Lure of the Big Red Apple." When a man's desires begin to turn toward a home in the country and his eyes wander toward the irrigated sections of the west, almost the first question that he will ask is, "Can you raise apples there?" As gold was the strong, ever-pulling magnet which sent the first Americans across the unknown wastes of this continent to sunny California in 1849, so today the apple is pulling thousands upon thousands more people from the east, the north and the south into the great fertile west. Millions of dollars have been invested during the past decade in apple lands of the northwest and beautiful orchards of young trees today mark the spots where but yesterday there was naught but a brown, barren sagebrush-covered desert, where the coyote reigned supreme.

What is going to be the result of this great movement? Of this suddenly aroused, widespread interest in the fascinating science of agriculture? These are natural questions to ask and are of utmost importance. Market for Apples Grows.

Will this great development of the apple lands result in overproduction? The answer must come back—No! The production of apples during the past year aggregated in the United States only 23,000,000 barrels, but one-third of the largest crop the country has ever had—that of 1896, when it reached 69,000,000 barrels. The market for American apples today is much larger than ever before, because the American is living better than did his fathers and fruit has become one of the necessities of the table.

As regards possible overproduction in the irrigated areas of the west, the answer must again be—No! and with emphasis. In those favored districts which are truly equipped by nature, aided by man's ingenuity, as apple-growing areas, the orchardists do not raise a staple article. Their apple is a luxury—a fruit that appeals to the man who has no thought or care as to the price. The demand for this luxury is growing greater each day, not only in America, but in Europe. Probably one-half the crop of the great apple districts of the west was sold in Europe this year. There is no danger of overproduction in this class of apples, because the areas particularly suitable for the highest class of apple culture are quite limited.

Raised Almost Everywhere.

Apples can be grown in almost any section of the United States. The bench lands of Montana, scorned ten years ago as wasteless desert, are today producing tasty apples. The middle states and the east have long had their successful orchards, and the man who will give to his orchard the same diligent care as does the horticulturist in one of the highly developed apple districts of the west can raise a very edible and high-class apple. There is room for lots of orchard development—development that will pay big profits if handled intelligently, in every section of the country.

But the bait which attracts the eye of the man turning his eye to the westward is the brightly polished, perfectly colored and spotless big red apple of a few highly favored districts. The apple to the man is like the glimmering, feathery spoonhook gliding over the hair of the black bass. He jumps for it. It is attractive to the eye, it looks pleasing to the palate, and the story of how it is grown is one that must fascinate any man who has a touch of nature in his heart.

Land Must Be Studied.

The man who decides to go into apple culture in the west should study his proposed purchase of land carefully. There is a great deal of fertile land in the west now under irrigation ditches—the majority is as fertile as any that lies outdoors. But it is not all good apple land. No doubt apples can be raised on all of it, but there is a vast part of the irrigated area of the west, and that which in the future will be under the ditch, that will produce for the settler bigger and more certain profits if put into other crops.

The really great fruit districts of the west are already pretty clearly defined. There will be some additions, but not many. The inland empire of the northwest, which includes Eastern Washington, portions of Oregon and Idaho and a strip of British Columbia, has already proved that it has some of the most favored spots for apple growing. The great

THE GREAT DIVIDE HERE THURSDAY



wastes of volcanic ash, filled with mineral matter, which acts like medicine in preventing blights and other diseases of apple trees, is particularly fertile and productive for fruit-growing once water is applied. The climate, the altitude, air drainage, as well as water drainage, also furnish important parts in the makeup of the ideal fruit district. There are a number of fertile districts in this great inland empire which have already become world-famous for their fruit-growing proclivities—the red apple being their biggest advertisement. There are others which promise to become equally famous.

Industry Pays Well.

Montana has one widely advertised apple district in its Bitter Root valley. The McIntosh red has been grown there successfully for some years. It is a good merchantable apple for United States consumption.

Colorado has its Grand Junction district, producing some of the highest classes of apples, and there are a number of other fertile valleys in this state where apple lands show practically as big profits. The success of the Grand Junction district, in addition to its natural advantages, is in the thorough organization of the marketing of its products. So well organized are the growers there that a limited passenger train is frequently stopped in order to cut in a yellow refrigerator car loaded with fruit which the orchardists want rushed to market. This class of organization is characteristic and has figured largely in the success of the majority of the other successful fruit districts of the west.

In the Utah valley of Utah, where the government is installing the Strawberry valley irrigation project, it is generally believed another great fruit district similar to that of Grand Junction will be developed. Lands for which water can be obtained within the next three or four years can be bought still at a reasonable price.

Brains and Capital Needed.

The growing of apples entails a good deal of hard work, lots of brains and considerable capital. The rich man can buy a developed orchard of ten acres in one of the best districts at from \$10,000 to \$45,000. The poor man, who wants to buy raw land and develop it himself, should have at least \$2000 capital. While waiting for his apples to come into bearing, he can make a comfortable living by growing vegetables or small fruits between his young trees. Frequently these inter-orchard crops prove so profitable as not only to furnish the grower a living, but also to lift the mortgage.

The life in the orchard district is similar to that in a village, and, if anything, more enjoyable. The ten-acre tracts mean 64 families to a section of land. After the apple trees are 7 years old the families are generally prosperous and enjoy the good things of life. In the Yakima valley there is an automobile for every ten families. That's quite an indicator of prosperity, is it not?

New Kinds Are Desirable.

In planting an orchard a man should study conditions carefully. Among the wide range of apples available, experience thus far has shown that comparatively few kinds are desirable to plant in the northwest district, judged from the commercial standpoint. These simmer down to the Spitzenberg, Yellow Newtown Pipin, Winesap, Jonathan, Gano, Delicious, Grimes' Golden, Winter Banana, Rome Beauty, Wagner and two or three others not quite so generally planted. Some of these do better in one locality, others

in another. At the Spokane national apple show of 1908 a car of mixed varieties from Wenatchee took the sweepstakes prize, and a car of Winesaps from North Yakima the second prize. At the apple show of 1909 in November a car of Spitzenbergs from Oregon won the sweepstakes, a car of Grimes' Golden from Sunnyside, Wash., in the Yakima valley, the second, and North Yakima Spitzenbergs the third prize. Other varieties at each show took valuable prizes in special classes.

Fruit Shows Improvement.

Professor H. E. Van Deman, the pomological authority, has stated that probably never before have such exhibits of grapes and cherries been made as were made at the Seattle exposition by the Lewiston-Clarkston fruit district. This is also a good apple district.

As evidencing the rapid and continued growth of the fruit industry, particularly apples, it may be stated that in 1906 and 1907, 2,000,000 fruit trees were set out in Yakima county. In Chelan county, which includes the Wenatchee valley, there were 1,000,000 fruit trees planted in 1907-1909. Walla Walla county has 2500 acres in orchards. In the county of Spokane there were 400,000 fruit trees set out in 1908, of which 250,000 were apple trees.

BABY WEIGHING A POUND AND SIX OUNCES THRIVES

IOWA CITY, Ia., Feb. 15.—A baby girl weighing one pound and six ounces lies in an incubator in the University of Iowa Hospital, and the whole state of Iowa, represented by its wisest surgeons and trained nurses, is battling to save the life of the infant, the smallest and lightest on the obstetrical records of the state to whom has been given "the privilege of living twenty hours after birth."

This tiny creature was born to Dr. and Mrs. F. O. Burk of Iowa City. The baby is now nearly three days old and is progressing finely in its incubator. If its life is saved—and the possibility is now large—its case may shatter all precedents, hereabouts at least. There is no duplicate, say the university surgeons.

HOTEL ARRIVALS.

The Nash. Mrs. W. A. Eisner, Seattle; H. Spencer, San Francisco; C. C. Weidmann, Portland; Otto Froshaw, P. Larson, P. Swain, city; B. C. Sheldon, Minneapolis; P. H. Haudrix, San Francisco; J. Ferguson and wife, Chicago; W. R. McCann, Los Angeles; Frank Plymale; M. C. Miller, Sutherland; E. H. Evans, Spokane; L. Keesingham, C. A. Malkoof, Portland; E. J. Kraus, Corvallis; A. M. McDonald, San Francisco; A. M. Potts, Los Angeles; H. P. Harrison, C. D. Vincent, San Francisco; W. H. Carr, Boston; T. G. McWilliams, Ashland.

The Moore.

S. J. Fell, Philadelphia; A. J. Braswell, San Mateo, Cal.; G. J. Savage, Baker City; A. Shultz, Virginia; N. S. Wood, Weed; C. C. Page, Astoria; E. G. Bench, San Francisco; Mr. and Mrs. F. Polouze, Eagle Point; F. H. Turner, San Francisco; F. S. Williams, Portland; H. E. Hammer, New York; B. E. Newman, city; H. V. Mitchell, Steve Dalishel, Joe Bush, Ashland; C. P. Briggs, Battle Falls; J. A. Robertson and wife, Table Rock; E. H. Cooper, city; J. N. McLean, Butte; J. S. Craig, Eagle Point; Mrs. Sturgess, Applegate; D. C. Kerr, Silverton.

KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS MEET IN CONVENTION

Annual District Meeting Will Gather in Ashland Next Monday Night.—All Knights Are Invited.

The Knights of Pythias living in Southern Oregon will meet in their regular annual convention at Ashland next Monday night. Great preparations are being made by Granite Lodge No. 23 of Ashland and a cordial invitation has been extended to all members of the order to attend this convention.

The same invitation is extended to the Pythian Sisters and the local lodge is desirous that a large delegation of Knights and Ladies will go. Those Knights who have visited Ashland lodge in the past know that they are royal entertainers, and when the convention was held in Medford last year they turned out a very large delegation.

All who will go will please notify either W. W. Egan or F. J. Townsend between now and Thursday if possible. The ladies of Ashland especially desirous that a large delegation of ladies attend.

EMPLOYEES SUSPENDED. CHARGE OF CARELESSNESS

OAKLAND, Cal., Feb. 15.—A combination of errors resulting in the collision between two suburban trains on the Key route last Saturday is given today as the cause for the suspension of three Key route railway employees.

The three men suspended are Motorman R. C. Ellis of the Berkeley train, which crashed into a rear coach of the Oakland train, injuring a score of passengers; Towerman C. P. Stark and Flagman W. G. McAdams.

The block system, which failed just before the wreck, has been in operation by the Key route for more than six years without an accident heretofore. The system has been operated under a manual interlocking plan, and Towerman Stark was suspended for neglecting to drop interlocking signals clearing the right of way for the Oakland train. Had the Oakland train been allowed to proceed, the Berkeley train would not have struck it, according to the company officials. Stark also is held responsible for telling Flagman McAdams that he need not warn Motorman Ellis of the Berkeley train. The suspensions, however, are only pending the most complete investigation, and all witnesses who may desire to appear before the officials will be given an opportunity to be heard. When the actual blame is fixed by the company the men under suspension will either be reinstated or discharged, according to the evidence.

\$75,000 Church at Eugene.

EGENE, Or., Feb. 15.—A \$75,000 church building will be built by the First Christian church this year. At a meeting Sunday it was voted to go ahead with the work.

To Fete Roosevelt.

PARIS, Feb. 15.—The Figaro announces that President Fallieres will give a grand fete at the Elysee Palace on the occasion of ex-President Roosevelt's visit.

"PITCHFORK BILL" IN COURT FIRST TIME

Dragged Into Case of Married Wife. Owing to Dispute Between Son and Wife.

COLUMBIA, S. C., Feb. 15.—The children of Ben Tillman, Jr., today were ordered withdrawn from the custody of their grandfather, Senator Tillman, and handed to the care of their mother, who is seeking separation from the senator's son. The decision was made by the supreme court of the state, based on habeas corpus proceedings instituted by attorneys for Mrs. Tillman.

Back of the trouble in the Tillman family lies the love of all concerned for the children. Ben Tillman, Jr., after denying every allegation of his wife that he is unfit to care for the children, but admitting the allegation of intemperance, gave the little ones into the care of Senator Tillman and the senator's wife.

When court proceedings were instituted by the mother to regain the children, Senator Tillman filed a lengthy and earnest affidavit. He said that the present instance was the first time in which he had appeared in court either as a plaintiff or a defendant and that he would not have been present at that time but for the fact that he was dragged into the case.

The elder Tillman declared that his son's wife was not the proper person to care for the children because she cherished antipathy for the family of her husband. He declared that the children would have a good home with himself and Mrs. Tillman and that unless directed to do so by the courts he would not surrender the precocious charge.

CRUISER WASHINGTON HAS OUTBREAK SMALLPOX

PORT TOWNSEND, Wash., Feb. 15.—The cruiser Washington will reach Diamond Point quarantine station today with five cases of smallpox in the crew.

Assistant Surgeon Carter, in charge of the quarantine district, received a wireless message from the Washington last night saying she was steaming full speed ahead. Dr. Carter is at the quarantine station this morning arranging for the landing and isolation of the men.

The Washington is on her way from Honolulu to the Bremerton dry dock.

ROOSEVELT PARTY HEADS THE OLD RIVER NILE

GONDAROKO, Sudan, Feb. 15.—The advance of the Roosevelt party in haste today and the rest of the expedition will arrive tomorrow. All the members are in excellent condition and after a two days' rest will hurry down the Nile to Khartoum.

Colonel Roosevelt and his party will proceed leisurely down the Nile in the steam launch of Sir Reginald Wingate, sirdar of the Egyptian army. The river craft is of yacht-like proportions and is the best on the famous river. The trip probably will take two weeks.

Probate Court.

Estate of Maria A. Cheowith.—Final account of administrator filed; March 25 set as day of final settlement.

Estate of Mary J. Dagg.—Final account of administrator filed; March 25 set as day of final settlement.

Estate of J. W. Clark.—March 14 set as day of final settlement.

Guardianship of Dorie Neil.—Dorie Scoble appointed guardian.

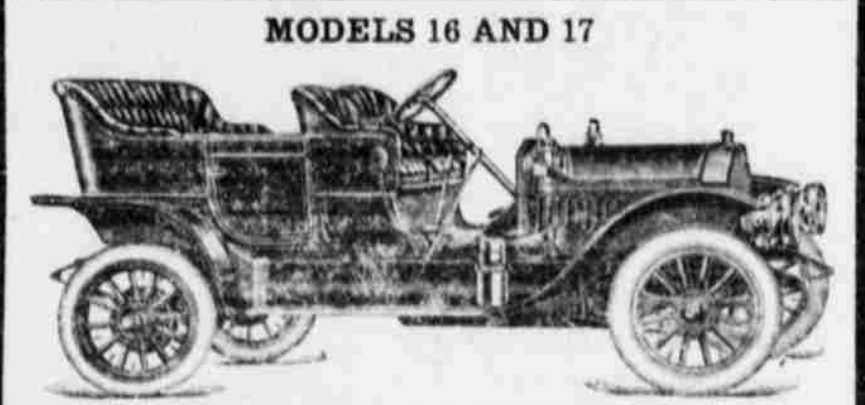
Estate of Joe. Fazio.—Order discharging administrator.

R. A. Holmes, the insurance man.

Now is the Time TO GET OUR FIGURES ON WIRING, ELECTRICAL FIXTURES, ETC., ON THAT NEW HOUSE. DYNAMO REPAIRING A SPECIALTY. FLYNN BROS.

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Five Sold in Two Days Everybody wants one—the best cars in the valley for the money. See the various sizes now on exhibit at Hodson's Garage.



MODEL 16, \$1900 F. O. B. PORTLAND. This car may have equals for power, performance and speed, but if so they will cost at least \$1000 more than the Buick.

THE FAMOUS WHITE STREAK In Rumble, Surrey and Toy Tonneau.



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Medford Buick Co.

Tou Velle, Manager Hodson's Garage, Medford

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