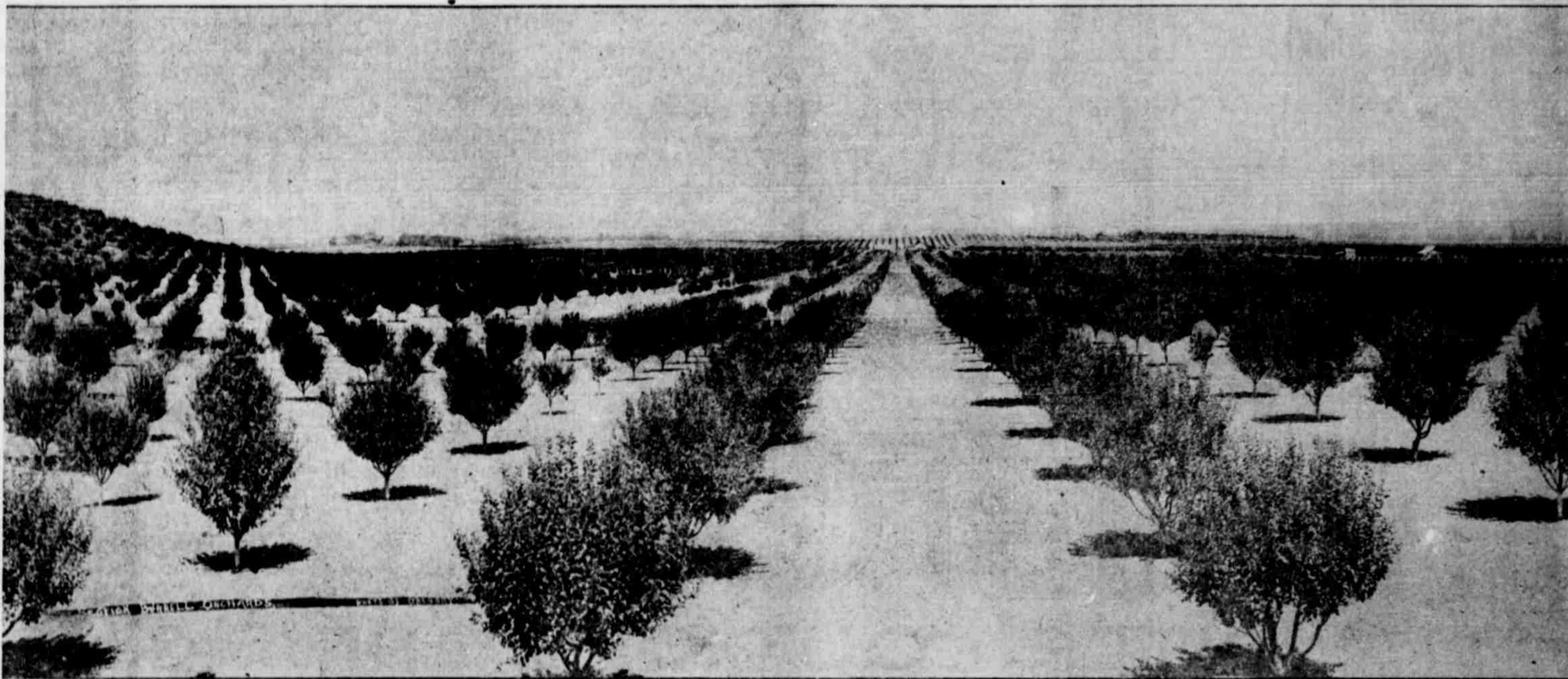


Rogue River Valley Greatest of Commercial Fruit Belts



The acreage of the orchards of the Rogue river valley now reaches the large total of almost 65,000 acres. When it is remembered that there are on an average of 70 pear trees and 50 apple trees planted per acre, one may easily realize the enormous number of trees which must be cultivated, pruned and sprayed each year. Furthermore, in order that all these trees shall be kept in perfect health, or, in other words, kept free from diseases and insect pests, they must be carefully inspected. This inspection is under the direction of an office which has been established for Jackson county, and which is the only office of its kind in the United States. The work of this office, which is known as the office of the Pathologist and Entomologist for Rogue river valley, has become so well known in different parts of the United States and even in Europe, that it will be only a short time when offices of a like character will be established elsewhere. It is a case of "the man on the ground" being able to do more for the public than one at a distance.

First Duty

The first duty of the office is to carry out a strict inspection of all orchards, as well as nursery stock, which may be grown within the district or which may be brought into it from outside districts. With the large area planted, together with numerous other duties, the officer in charge, Professor P. J. O'Gara, could not possibly attend to these duties without the assistance of inspectors and office help. In order that inspection may be properly carried out, specially trained men are selected and placed in their respective districts. There are four or five inspectors attached to the office during the entire year, and from among these men one is chosen as the chief inspector. These men are in the field during the entire year, winter and summer, for it must be remembered that the Rogue river valley extends over a very large area. The orchard districts reach almost from the California line on the south to the northern boundary of the county; and from Prospect, a distance of 50 miles up the Rogue from Medford to the Applegate valley on the west. Of course, this entire area is not covered by orchards, but, nevertheless, orchards, old and young, are found everywhere within this area.

Deputies Employed

Although the force of inspectors might be considered a large one for a single county, if it were not for the help given by the deputy horticultural commissioners, it would be almost impossible to adequately cover the district. In no other county has an arrangement been made whereby a force of more than fifty deputy commissioners is employed the year round. These fifty men, or more, are serving the office without

pay, and are acting in the capacity of secret service agents. They are distributed over the entire county in the various districts and neighborhoods where orchard fruit trees are grown. They have the full power to enforce the horticultural laws just as have the inspectors. However, their main value lies in the fact that they keep the central office in constant touch with the various district by reporting the conditions exactly as they find them. In this way, the office has first hand information concerning the health of every orchard, and if the secret service men report any delinquency on the part of a fruit grower, his case is immediately taken care of. Very often the secret service man himself notifies the grower that certain trees in his orchard need attention, and in this way saves the office a great deal of time. The object in establishing this system was to control pear blight which is a most serious infectious disease of pears and apples, but which has been most effectively controlled by the pathologist's office in the Rogue river valley. However, the secret service force also aids in preventing the shipment out of the valley of any fruit which might be infected or infested under the meaning of the law. Altogether, the office with its inspectors and secret service men is a very effective machine for the handling of horticultural inspection and quarantine.

As stated above, the duties of the office of the Pathologist and Entomologist are numerous. In the first place, information on all horticultural subjects is given the public through bulletins, circulars and papers, a large number of which have been published. Omitting the numerous short articles which have been published in the local press, the pathologist's office has published nine bulletins, two press bulletins, one circular and sixteen papers. These publications cover such important matters as the control of

pear blight, lime sulphur and its uses, the prevention of frost injury, testing of fuel oil and smudge pots, cover crops for orchards, the codling moth, Bordeaux mixture, pollination, plant breeding, spraying calendars, water core of apple, vinegar making, etc. Among the more technical papers are those on a new crown gall disease of alfalfa, a mite causing

WHAT ONE ORCHARDIST DID IN 1912.

Fred H. Hopkins of the Snowy Butte orchard at Central Point states:	
"From 14 acres of pears I sold in 1912:	
7900 boxes Winter Nellis pears at \$1.87 1/2 f. o. b. Central Point, net	\$13,125
103 boxes Nellis pears, consigned, returns not received ..	
500 boxes Bartlett and Fall Butter at \$1.40 f. o. b. Central Point	700
From 500 boxes of Comice and Bosc, grown on grafts, net ..	560
Total from orchard	\$14,385
From 47 acres barley he harvested	\$1,800
On Aug. 31, I bought 35 hogs, for \$187.20. They averaged 81 1/2 lbs. in weight. I began feeding them corn grown between the rows of fruit trees. On December 12, I sold the hogs at the same price per pound, 6 1/2 cents, that I had paid. They had increased an average of 136 lbs. in weight. I received \$494.25 for the hogs, \$307.65 profit over what I had paid.	

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"rusty leaf" of the pear, the cherry fruit saw fly, the raspberry cane blight, etc. These bulletins and papers are distributed without cost to those who call for them, or request them by mail.

The pathologist's office was the first institution in the Pacific northwest to investigate the important question of orchard heating to prevent frost injury. In connection with the experimental work on fuel and appliances, the work of forecasting frosts was taken up in connection with the U. S. Weather Bureau. Through this office, Medford has been made the key station of the U. S. weather service for Rogue river valley. At this time, the entire valley is covered by a network of co-operative stations under the direction of the key station in order to study more carefully the climatological conditions of the district. The central or key station is furnished with a complete set of meteorological apparatus, and "weather" is received and reported to the district office at Portland every day in the year.

Cooperates With Uncle Sam

In the routine of office and field work, there are so many things come up that one man alone could not possibly attend to all of them and give each its due share of attention. There are many things which demand a great deal of time, and belong to the specialist in that particular line. To give the people of the Rogue river valley the very best service, the pathologist's office cooperates with the various bureaus of the U. S. department of agriculture at Washington, D. C. For instance, important matters relating to special analyses of soils are referred to the U. S. Bureau of Soils; matters pertaining to chemistry and requiring special apparatus are referred to the U. S. Bureau of Chemistry. In other words through cooperation, the office is able to secure help which the individual could not get. The cooperation with the various Bureaus of the U. S. Department of Agriculture is of the greatest value since all matters referred to them receive careful attention and whatever recommendations they may make may be relied upon.

Library and Laboratory

The pathologist's office has a library and laboratory in connection with it. The library consists of more than 10,000 references fully catalogued and indexed. As a matter of fact, there is none better in Oregon in the way of a working library for the farmer, fruit grower, poultryman, or stockman. The library receives publications from every experiment station in the United States and its island possessions. It also receives all the publications of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, and the various other bureaus connected with the Federal

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