MARY GRIENER PAYS VISIT TO FRUIT MARKET

Mail Tribune Reporteress Is Impressed by Louis Fucito, Fruit Auctioneer, at Franklin Street, N. Y.—Sees Medford Brokers.

(By Mary Greiner.)

NEW YORK CITY, June 27.—(Special Correspondence.)—Louis Fucito mopped the perspiration from his dark brow with a heavy Turkish towel, then swished it across his fast-moving loud speaker and uttered not a sound of human static in so doing. That is one of the reasons Louis Fucito is able to hold his $15,000 a year job as auctioneer for the Independent Fruit Auction corporation down on Franklin street.

Although the actual selling of citrus and deciduous fruits for the many large distributing companies, operation offices near the piers in this section of the city covers a period of only an hour and a half each morning, the skillful auctioneer must possess something more than a good voice.

Market barometer, psychologist, diplomat and judiciary, are some of the degrees included in the diploma of this American Italian, who manages to satisfy both distributor and purchaser with marked success.

And it is quite an education to watch "Louie" in action during that hour and a half each morning. Perched in his chair behind an elongated desk on the platform in one of the several large auction rooms, which are constructed on the lines of the old nickelodeon movie houses, he takes his audience in with the majestic glance of an arch appraiser.

On either side of Louie, a bookkeeper takes his place on the platform, while near by hovers a representative of the particular distributor whose fruits are being sold.

There is a buzzing among the buyers in the auditorium as they exchange vociferously good-natured greetings and determine the exact location of surrounding jugular veins, should the wrong breaks come in the day's bidding.

An hour before they come to the auction rooms, these buyers walked the length and width of the 780 by 360 display rooms on the piers and checked the pages and numbers in their long white catalogues corresponding with the particular offerings upon which they decided to bid.

The gavel sounds and the mouth of Louis Fucito opens with an impressive snap and his dark eyes give the final warning that the business of the day is about to take place. There is a brief moment of respectful silence as the well known auctioneer begins the verbal introduction to a rythmic chant, punctuated by a two-hand signal code and a peroidic flipping of catalogue pages. This is all very picturesque and very confusing to the outsider.

The financial canticle of the master on the platform is interrupted by crisp staccato responses from the eager voiced crowd in the auditorium, who, after the first gavel, somehow cannot manage to remain in their seats. There is a waving of catalogues and a crescendo of verbal and digital arguments that carry the body of merchants from the placidity of a respectful audience into the emotions of an angry mob, who rush to the front of the auditorium and storm the stronghold of Louie the dictator.

The gavel of the master is poised at this juncture in the air, as his dark eyes traverse the sea of faces before him, he brings it down with a thundering boom and peace is again restored outwardly.

Another page is flipped by Louie and through the auditorium the sea of eyes are turned to the corresponding pages on the individual catalogues. Some one calls out a number.

"All right, number 20—num 20—num 20 (gavel). How about sexx dolla—see dolla—see dolla (gavel). Fi ninety fi—fi-ninety-fi—fi ninety? (gavel). How about fi eighty fi—fi eighty fi—fi eighty fi (gavel)—fi eighy—fi eighty (gavel—digital signal) fi senty-fi—f senty-fi (gavel manipulated in one hand and the Turkish towel in the other)—fi senty-fi senty." The vocal mechanism of Louis Fucito picks up speed as it coasts down this financial grade, until it bumps into a response from one of the cautiously waiting merchants. Now for the first time Louis is allowed his brief breathspace as the merchants push the deflated original price up to the limit of their competitive endurance.

Perhaps they are bidding on grapes and the highest bidder can buy only 20 boxes of the 60 offered by the distributor. The other merchants who wish also to bid on grapes, but will not come up to the top price are then offered a compromise by Louie, after a hasty consultation with the distributor's representative. There is now competition as to the amounts to be carried away by the buyers, and it is here that Louie, the impartial judge and diplomat, manifests his power. Whether the bidder who gets his first 20 boxes at the top price is given the benefit of the later compromise or not is a matter of policy on the part of the distributor.

The New York fruit market is now principally concerned with citrus and deciduous fruits from California, Florida and the southern states. Among the latter classification are plums, figs and cherries which are bringing big prices.

The first 12 carloads of Thompson seedless and Dizmar grapes from California are now being sold by the Kimball Distributing company. The first allotment yesterday sold for $6.10 and the remainder today averaged $5.90 a box, the largest price commanded for this product in years.

Rogue River valley products will not decorate the piers for some time yet, but the distributors who have had a meeting recently and talked things over, are planning a rousing welcome for the Bartlett and Rose children of southern Oregon when the time is ripe and they decide to come east.

Let me suggest that if any Medfordite gets homesick in New York, to come down on the docks in the early hours of the morning, and traverse the lower end of Franklin street. There is nothing like a good dose of rubber-necking (this may or may not be true of the collegiate brand) to destroy despondency at any time. But the familiar titles of Steinhardt & Kelly, E. W. J. Hearty, Kimball, Palmer and other gold-lettered counterparts of the Medford packing firms smiling down in the morning sunlight, is enough to warm the soul of any Rogue River valley product who has wandered too far away from home.

Poincare Sustained

PARIS, France, June 28.—(AP)—The chamber of deputies gave a vote of confidence to the Poincare government today, 420 to 150.

Albany college has $70,000 fund to erect a woman's building.

Produces Death Ray

Dr. Erich Graichen, Berlin, Germany, physicist, has produced a new "death ray," capable of destroying, though not intended to destroy human life. Dr. Graichen is shown above with the tube with which the rays are produced. They are capable of killing bacteria and small animals and are said to be useful in combatting cancer.

OREGON EDITORS TO ATTEND THE ANDREWS RECITAL

The visiting editors of the state of Oregon will attend Caroline Andrews' concert after their banquet at Hotel Medford tomorrow night, as guests of the Chamber of Commerce.

Caroline Andrews, who is giving a home-coming concert Friday evening, June 29, at the Presbyterian church, has had a career a little short of meteoric. This young lady, although gifted with a voice of great sweetness, agility and range, has also been endowed with a great ability for work. It has been through these abilities that she has risen in a comparatively short time to the top of her chosen medium, the radio.

When S. L. Rothafel (Roxy) first started from the Capitol theatre in New York ch.. ad her first broadcasting and the thousands of letters and telegrams that came pouring in convinced her that here was the medium in which she would reach the greatest number of people. She remained a member of the famous gang until Roxy left the Capitol to build his now famous Roxy theatre. She then joined the family of Major Bowes at the Capitol and has been with it until the close of this season. Still letters came pouring in.

But it seems that her fans were not satisfied with only listening to her over the air and demanded to hear and see her in person. As a consequence she has appeared in all the important eastern cities in concert for the past three years. And her success has been as great in concert, if not greater, than over the air because of that unknown and indefinable quality called personality, along with a beautiful voice.

She has sung in grand opera along with such stars as Florence Easton and Ricardo Martin and in light opera, being the prima donna in the New York company of "The Student Prince." But she has found that her greatest success lies in radio and concert and when the National Broadcasting company called her to sign an exclusive contract, an honor they have shown no other artist, she was ready to sign.

She is already booked for more than 25 concerts in the large cities in the east and middle west along with some of the leading symphony orchestras.

After her concert Friday evening she is going to rest for the remainder of the summer here in the Rogue River valley so that she will have stored up a sufficient amount of energy and good health to enable her to complete a most arduous season.

BROMLEY SAYS DON'T PICK UP ANY WIRES

"Someone took a long chance with his life yesterday afternoon, when he picked up a broken electric wire on Eighth street, near Riverside, which had fallen onto the street," said Horace Bromley of Copco today. "Many fatal accidents are caused each year by persons touching or attempting to pick up falling wires. Everyone should know that is not the thing to do. A passerby had placed it carefully on a pile of brick.

"Electric service was interrupted in a considerable portion of southwest Medford for nearly an hour.

"I advice parents to tell their children about the dangers of handling live wires, especially where they are in the habit of climbing in trees or on poles where they may come in contact with electric wires."

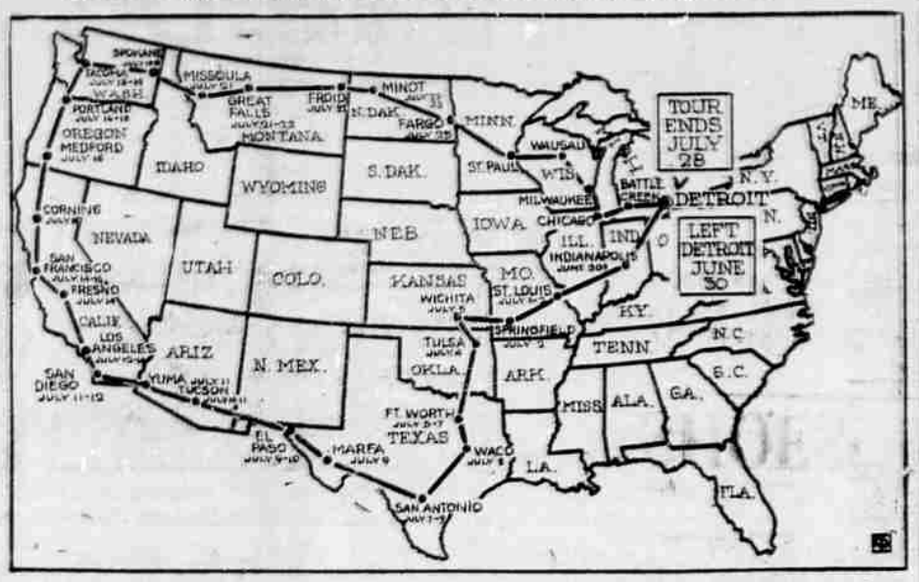
Build Balkan Railroad

CONSTANTINOPLE (AP)—Negotiations are under way looking to construction of a Balkan railroad from Durazzo to Constantinople. By connections through Italy the road would reduce the travel time between England and Constantinople by many hours and increase trade between Eastern and Western Europe. Italian, Turkish, Albanian and Greek financiers are interested.

Deliver Fish By Plane

DAYTON, O. (AP)—Live trout fingerlings have been placed in streams near the Wright aeronautical field after having been taining the trout in water comprised this first air shipment of brought by airplane from North- ville, Mich. Twenty cans con- fish in record time.

NATIONAL AIR TOUR COVERS LARGE TERRITORY



More than 30 cities are listed as stops for the entrants in the fourth national air tour, starting June 30 from Detroit, Mich., and terminating July 28. Eddie Stinson, winner of last year's event, again is entered. Above, the route of the tour.

Notice of Sewer Assessments

Sewer assessments on mains laid within the past year, and also Bear Creek improvement assessments, are now due and payable at the City Treasurer's office.

These assessments may either be paid in cash or part paid in cash and an application signed to pay in ten annual installments.

However, if you wish to pay in installments, APPLICATION MUST BE SIGNED IMMEDIATELY.

H. J. BERRIAN, City Treasurer.

Place Orders Now for

TREE PROP HOOKS

with the

Modern Plumbing & Sheet Metal Co.

The leading pear growers of the valley use these hooks. We have a limited number in stock. Don't delay—Order now.

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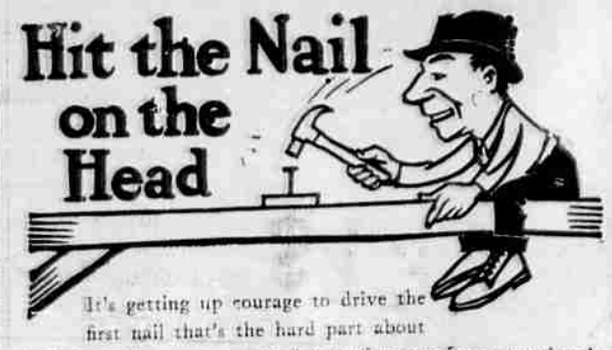

It's getting up courage to drive the first nail that's the hard part about building. You can trump up dozens of reasons for postponing the job—but did you ever know anybody to be sorry he built?

Most building materials are low priced now. Not every thing is as cheap as lumber but by the time the other things have dropped probably lumber will rise. So all in all this is a good time for building. Hit the nail on the head!

Woods Lumber Co.

"Back to the Woods"

711 East Main Telephone 108

FOURTH OF JULY SALE

Suits - - - $5.00

Suits - - - $7.50

Suits - - - $10.00

No Approvals—No Exchanges—All Sales Final—Strictly Cash

SAVE MONEY

Sale Starts Friday

and Lasts Until the Fourth of July!

SAVE MONEY

$5.00 Suits

Buy one suit at the regular price from $22.50 to $27.50, pay an extra $5.00 and get another suit of the same quality and price.

FREE!

$7.50 Suits

Buy one suit at the regular price from $28.50 to $35.00, pay an extra $7.50 and get another suit of the same quality and price.

FREE!

$10.00 Suits

Buy one suit at the regular price from $35.00 to $47.50, pay $10.00 extra and get another suit of the same quality and price.

FREE!

SINGLE SUIT SALES 25% Off the REGULAR PRICE

All suits are the Latest Models and Patterns—100% All Wool-If you can't use two suits, bring a friend

SHOES! SHOES! SHOES!

A good selection of spring and summer oxfords in broken sizes—regular price up to $7.45. Special for the Fourth of July.

$4.45

Style Without Extravagance

6th and Central **McPHERSON'S** The Center of Town