

# The Hood River Glacier.

VOL. XXXII

HOOD RIVER, OREGON, THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 1921

No. 44

APRIL 1st is a day of uncertainties. The ancient plug hat on the sidewalk probably conceals a brick and just around the corner a mischievous boy is waiting to yell, "April Fool."

But these are just pranks which we all expect on that mischievous day.

It's the unexpected things in life that may have the most serious consequences and every day has its share of these uncertainties.

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## STRAWBERRY CROP REVIEW

600 ACRES ARE SET IN HOOD RIVER

If Weather Conditions Are Right the 1921 Crop Will Reach 100,000 Crates Fertilizers Applied

Discovered by Fred Clark in the Mount Tabor district of what is now a part of the city of Portland in the early 80s, the Clark Seedling has become the most popular strawberry in Oregon and has won an international fame for its keeping qualities. The Clark Seedling, developed from the Wilson, is known in some localities as the Early Idaho or Clark Early. It is also known in parts of the country, a name originating from its exclusive plantings here for many years, as the Hood River.

Almost immediately after propagation the new variety of strawberries became a general favorite in the Hood River valley, just then finding itself as a fruit producing section. The district, now known through world fame for its annual crop of extra fancy apples, was its first general fame from the Clark Seedling strawberry. It has been supposed here that the Clark Seedling berry derived its name from the late Newton Clark, father of W. L. Clark, at present a local grower. This is an error. Mr. Clark did, however, interest himself in early and successful experiments with the fruit here. The acreage of Clark Seedling strawberries in the Hood River valley this year will approximate 600 acres. About 25 per cent of the bearing tract will be new plantings, planted last year. This percentage replacing an equal acreage of old vines that were plowed under. The Apple Growers Association, which handled practically all of the packed berries from the district last season, shipped 84,463 crates. Probably not more than 5,000 crates were handled by other concerns, although the high price of canning berries last year caused many independent growers to ship their berries unpacked. The Association in addition to the regular cull berries, shipped an unprecedented tonnage of field run berries to canneries last year. The total quantity of berries shipped reached 355,000 pounds, the price ranging from 10 to 17 cents per pound.

Weather conditions last year cut the crop short by more than 20 per cent. Frosts nipped green fruit and resulted in undersized berries. With seasons weather the coming spring the Hood River valley strawberry crop should exceed 100,000 crates, for which a keen demand is expected in the Dakotas and Rocky Mountain districts, where the crop is largely all consumed annually. The canning demand, too, it is expected will be as keen as in former years for all local canning concerns declare that no variety of strawberry equals the Clark Seedling either for mere canning or in preserve making. The Hood River Canning Co. has developed a considerable market on processed Clark Seedling strawberries, now used as centers for chocolates instead of maraschino cherries.

By experiments with fertilizers extending over a series of years the Experiment Station has developed a formula that will, it is expected, greatly increase berry yields and yet not produce soft berries and thus hamper shipments to far distant points. "Growers here," says Gordon, "have increased the yield by application of nitrate of soda, but they have found their berries growing soft on them during hot seasons. The station has been testing mixed fertilizers, making fall or spring applications, a combination of both. By our nitrate of soda tests we found the best results from 440 pounds to the acre, applied a half early in the spring and the other half at blossom time. Virgin districts, which clover has been sown have responded liberally to applications of this kind. The station is at present recommending a mixed fertilizer containing six per cent nitrogen, seven to eight per cent phosphate acid and six to seven per cent potash. This is made up as follows: 800 pounds of nitrate of soda, 800 pounds of superphosphate and 400 pounds of sulphate of potash or best char. Nitrate of soda runs from 15 to 16 per cent nitrogen; best char, 35 per cent potash; analysis of potash varies greatly according to method of refining and source. Generally it runs from 30 to 40 per cent, but some brands test as high as 90 per cent. In ordering potash the brands that test high should be purchased, in order that transportation charges can be lowered. The quantities of ingredients in the mixed fertilizer, of course, will vary according to their test."

Mr. Brown recommends that the fertilizer be applied at the rate of 500 pounds per acre, a half to be placed on the soil from March 1 to 20 and the other half just after the plants are topped in August. While this application may be heavy for Pacific coast regions, Mr. Brown states that it is light in comparison with eastern commercial berry districts where from one to two tons of fertilizer in addition to liberal quantities of barnyard manure, are often used.

Due to the graduated elevation of the Hood River valley the average harvest extends over four weeks. In 1916 the harvest lasted over a period of 45 days. Transient harvest hands start in on patches of lower elevation and gradually work back toward the tracts of the Upper Valley, where carlot shipments are still moving usually on July 4.

While the quality of Clark Seedling strawberries is unequaled, their yield is not near as prolific as other commercial varieties. Experiments have been conducted for a number of years in an effort to find a heavy bearer that would combine the firmness and keeping qualities of the local favorite. The Oregon Agricultural College gave up tests after trying 100 varieties. The Experiment Station is now testing the qualities of 50 different varieties. Plants have been gathered from all parts of the country, but chiefly from New York, Ohio and California.

Clark Seedling are grown exclusively in the Underwood and White Salmon districts. These two districts have a combined acreage of about 200 acres. Heavy settings have been made in both sections the past two years because of the high prices realized by growers. The Kennewick, Wash. district, in eastern Washington, grows the variety heavily. The Kennewick

berries mature much earlier than those of Hood River and the harvest season is much shorter. They are usually off the market before the Hood River fruit ripens and form no competition for the local berries.

Clark Seedlings strawberries, packed in crates of 24 standard pint hallowells, have brought record prices the past two seasons. The average price received by the Association last year was \$4.38. In addition to shipments to Rocky Mountain and Dakota districts, one fruit has been shipped into Canadian wheat sections.

## PHONE CASE DOES NOT AFFECT COUNTY

Hood River county is almost alone among Oregon communities at the present time not agitated over the recent increase in phone rates awarded the Pacific Telephone Co. by the Oregon Public Service Commission. The county is served, except for long distance calls, exclusively by the Oregon-Washington Telephone Co., a local concern, which also serves Klickitat and a part of Skamania county, Washington. About 18 months ago, when the Public Service Commission granted the local company a comparatively moderate increase in rates, complaints for a time were fairly general here. The company took the patrons in full confidence, however, and, although for a time an organization effected for establishing a farmers' line was active, soon persuaded them that the rate allowed was necessary if the company granted the service demanded by the district. The talk of an independent line has ceased entirely, and today Hood River phone users are generally satisfied. This satisfaction has been emphasized by a comparison of their own increased rates with those now demanded by the large company in other parts of the state.

Manager J. E. Smithson states that increases were granted here as follows: Individual business line, from \$3.25 to \$3.75; 2-party business, \$2.50 to \$3.25; suburban business, \$2.50 to \$3.00; individual residence, \$2.50, no change; 4-party residence, \$1.50 to \$1.75; suburban residence party lines, \$1.50 to \$2.25. A five cent toll charge was allowed on all calls between the Hood River and Odell exchanges. Mr. Smithson says that The Dalles increased rates show the following respective comparisons with those of Hood River: Business individual \$4.50 and Hood River \$3.75; residence party lines \$3.25 and \$1.75.

While the local company formerly showed a loss, the increased rates last year enabled it to show an earning of 5.2 per cent on the investment.

## LOCAL MEN CONFER WITH COMMISSION

A breakfast conference between State Highway Commissioners Booth and Yoon and Highway Engineer Kelly yesterday resulted in definite plans for an early meeting here, when the members of the commission will present the county court with estimates of the cost of work that must be apportioned the county in connecting the Columbia Highway with the Loop road around the east base of Mount Hood. The county court, too, will get busy immediately on local data pertaining to what funds may be raised by a bond issue. Citizens from all sections of the county will be asked to meet the officials when the session is called. The visitors were on the way to The Dalles inspecting the Highway. In the informal discussion Mr. Booth stated that funds are now available for work on the local end of the highway. In case Hood River is unable to join in the work, he stated, the money would necessarily have to be applied to some other road project. Mr. Booth declared that Hood River county, as far as securing funds from a bond issue, was in much better condition than most other counties of the state, where the limit has already been voted.

Hood River men present at the breakfast, served at the Mt. Hood hotel, included: County Judge Hasbrouck, Commissioners Blackman and Sheppard, Leslie Butler, E. O. Blanchard, W. L. Clark, Truman Butler, E. W. Birge, Chas. Steinhauser, R. J. McLaane and J. H. Fredrick.

## BOY SCOUTS TO HELP IN CLEAN-UP

The Boy Scouts of the city have allied themselves with the members of the Woman's Club in waging a clean-up campaign next week. Mayor Scobee and the city council are cooperating with the women, and the city health and police forces have been instructed to aid in cleaning up town and making all sections presentable for the early motor tourist traffic expected over the Columbia Highway. The club women have arranged with transfer companies of the city to haul debris and refuse. Motor trucks and wagons will visit the Heights section of the city Thursday, April 7, and Friday, April 8, they will call at all down town sections, hauling the debris at the rate of 25 cents per barrel or equivalent.

A committee of the Woman's Club will scatter broadcast over the city tomorrow handbills, calling attention of the public to Clean-Up Week. The women have asked that residents burn all inflammable trash, but it is stated that a permit must first be secured from the city fire marshal.

The members of the Woman's Club committee consists of Miss Ella May Davidson, Mrs. Geo. W. Thomson, Mrs. W. L. Nichols and Mrs. Mark Cameron. The council health committee is composed of A. S. Keir, Mark Cameron, Frank Davenport and Dr. J. Edgington.

Ray Brothers, who, according to Traffic Officer Murray, traveled the 22 miles from Cascade Locks to Hood River in 29 minutes, Saturday afternoon appeared Monday to answer a charge of speeding. The young man, Portland, was traveling in a high powered machine, with the officer trailing him. Mr. Murray says he took curves and passed through Mitchell's Point tunnel at an illegal speed.

Jack Stewart has purchased a Dodge touring car from Bennett Brothers.

## POTENTATE IS HONOR GUEST

PORTLAND SHRINE HEAD COMING

Divan and Chanters of Al Kader Among Guests of Hood River Noble's Elaborate Reception

Committees of the Hood River Shrine Club, which will entertain illustrious Potentate Frank S. Grant, of Al Kader Temple, the Divan and Chanters of the Portland Temple, at a reception, dinner and dance Saturday night, are extremely busy making elaborate preparations for the social affair, which will be one of the most gorgeous ever staged here. Committees are in Portland each day this week, seeking suggestions for stunts and decorations.

The Shrine Club has chartered the entire lower floor of the Mt. Hood hotel and the adjoining 100-foot square Lotus Grille, where the dance will be staged. At six o'clock the visiting guests and their hosts, accompanied by their wives will participate at a banquet in the hotel dining room. C. W. McCullagh, past president of the local club, will be toastmaster. An address of welcome will be delivered by Truman Butler. Responding by the visitors will be made by Potentate Grant and Mayor Geo. L. Baker.

At 9 o'clock a reception will be held at which Mr. Grant will be formally presented to all mid-Columbia members of the local Masonic lodge, who have been invited to join in the event and participate in the dance that will follow. Geo. H. McMullin, president of the Shrine Club, will address the Masons.

Beginning at 11 o'clock, a buffet supper will be served the merrymakers. The "Noble" Chanters of Portland, will give songs throughout the evening. Following the banquet, the hotel dining room will be turned into a smoking and card room. Cloak rooms, with attendants, will be provided for both women and men guests.

President McMullin has arrived in the class of literature by presentation of the following proclamation on the big Saturday evening reception:

To you who have kept the faith—Peace be unto you, and to all children of the Faith come peace and plenty. Forget your troubles—stop your howling and let not the weariness of your camels, the squeaking of your tin Lizzie or the wailing of the women in your tents, withhold your obeying my summons.

We have all winter rested from labor; now refreshing rains and sunshine have covered our fertile oasis with verdure and our fruitful valley is about to give forth bloom again.

Give Ye Heed Therefore: Gird ye loins with proper raiment—get under your F-E-Z and properly accompanied by the choicest damsel of thy harem, attend the dinner and dance given in honor of the illustrious Potentate Frank S. Grant and the Divan accompanying him on his pilgrimage to Hood River which will be on the two hundred and third day before the birthday of Shiek Yawaral, corresponding to Saturday, the second day of April, nineteen hundred and twenty-one.

The dinner is for Nobles and their ladies only and is to begin at 6.30 p. m., at the Lotus Grille, in the Oasis of Hood River. There are many unbelievers among us and these infidels we have invited and sent unto them separate invitations, advising them to reach the oasis early at nine o'clock promptly when they will be admitted to participate in the festivities, listen to the words of wisdom of our Potentate and his retinue and to the sweet music of the Chanters. Immediately thereafter will be dancing in which you and these unbelievers may join and you can smoke or play cards in the hotel dining room and during all of this merriment you can dip your cup in the Zern Zern bucket at will.

At eleven p. m. a buffet luncheon will be opened in the hotel dining room and served continuously to both followers of the faith and infidel and to the lady who shirk.

Wake Up! Shake the moth balls from your brain and give heed to my command.

Funeral services for Weldon Richard, young son of Mr. and Mrs. J. B. McKennon, of the Heights, who was drowned Saturday afternoon, were held at the First Baptist church Monday afternoon. Dr. E. H. Hayden officiating. Interment followed at Idlewild cemetery.


The little boy, who would have celebrated his 10th birthday April 8, with a playmate, Mac Calandra, was on a wild flower hunt when they happened on a large pool just east of the city, near an old O.-W. R. & N. trestle where drainage water had collected in a depression. The boys began playing on an old raft from which the McKinney child slipped. Thinking the pond shallow the playmate was not alarmed until his companion sank. Although only nine the Calandra boy made heroic efforts, diving several times, to save his playmate. The boy's body was in the pool, which was found to be 12 feet deep, 30 minutes before it was recovered by Glenn Sloat.

Mr. McKennon was in Portland, having gone there in a motor truck, when the accident occurred. The child's mother was prostrated by the shock, and the accident threw a pall of grief for Easter Sunday over the neighborhood. The little boy was popular and bright. The funeral was directed by C. C. Anderson.

Members of the Boy Scout Troop paid a final tribute to their comrade. The following boys acted as an escort: Jesse Hathorne, Ed Cram, Thomas Walter, Leonard Thomson, Harold Flint, Ulmen Dakin, Frank Barger, Kenneth Couvert and George Casner. Jack Cram, Hal Wiltensberg, Carl Calandra and Charles Taft, members of the troop, were pall bearers.

In addition to his parents, the victim of the sad accident is survived by two little brothers.

Frank Fox, Husum orchardist, was here last Saturday on business.



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11-16 in. Post-Continuous Tube Bed, 7/8 in. Filler	\$8.95

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