PRUNE BUSINESS

MARKET HAS IMPROVED SOMEWHAT AND LOCAL STOCK IS BEING RAPIDLY SHIPPED EAST.

H. S. Gile, Secretary of Willamette Valley Prune Association, Is Having Good Success Soliciting Orders Among Eastern and Canada Dealers —Many Eastern People Have Never Eaten Oregon Prunes.

There has been some improvement in the prune market over what conditions have been for some time, in that considerable business is being done locally. Both packing houses in this city have made some sales of late, and are shipping the packed article East as fast as cars can be secured.

Tillson & Co. are about sold out of prunes of all grades, having left only the cleanup of the different sizes. The Willamette Valley Prune Association is now packing prunes as fast as they can be put through the processor with a large force of men and girls at work, and daily one or more cars of prunes are being shipped East to fill orders. There is still about forty cars of prunes stored in the local warehouse, and at the rate sales are being made at the present time, not many weeks will be required fo clear out the present stock. W. T. Jenks, who is in charge of the local warehouse, sold six cars one day last week and at least one car each day since. Monday of this week one car was sold and yesterday another, on inquiry from Eastern houses, while last evening he had just received inquiries for others, which goes to show that the market is bare in the East, and the reports from unreliable sources that Eastern markets were over stocked, were purely bear reports told to lower prices, and injure the growers.

H. S. Gile, manager of the association, is still in the East selling prunes, and has had excellent success. He went first to St. Louis to see about advertising during the coming exposition, and from there he traveled through the several buying cities soliciting for orders from jobbers, and has since kept a constant stream of orders flowing into the home office. He is now in Canada, combining business with pleasure, by visiting his old home, and is expected to arrive in Salem about April 15.

N. J. Damon, of this city, is in Pennsylvania, working under the name of the Damon Advertising Company introducing Oregon prunes into the hands of consumers direct, in sections where jobbers could not be induced to accept agencies. Mr. Damon is having fairly good success, sending in occasional orders. He is now selling the fruit in ten pound boxes, through the agency of sub-agents who canvass direct among the homes of the laboring classes in the manufacturing cities.

Contrary to reports which have gained circulation, Mr. Damon is selling prunes in large lots to the jobbing trade, and making every effort to avoid antagonizing the trade. Only in sections where he has been unable to place orders with dealers, and where Oregon prunes are unknown, is he introducing them in ten pound boxes to consumers.

The entire holding of prunes in Oregon is now estimated at 125 cars. From all sources of information obtainable, the stocks held in the East are light and a good demand is expected in May and June. Reports from the Middle Western states indicate that more prunes are used in these months than in any other portion of the year.

C. R. Parvin, of this city, is in Iowa selling prunes on his own responsibility, for what there is in it, but he is selling association prunes, and in a recent letter to the association, he gives a good insight into conditions as he finds them. A portion of the letter follows:

Don't Know Oregon Prunes.

"I find that the mass of people know nothing about our fruit or that at some time they have eaten some of the inferior grades of Italians grown in the Northwest and do not care to buy them again. I have been in the stores of from ten to fifteen cities in this state and only in three of them did I find the Oregon prune, and then an inferior grade to the Pheasant brand. I find that they are selling at from 12½ to 20 cents for the pound. I have received nothing but compliments on the quality, size and appearance of the fruit that I am selling. All agree that they never saw its equal.

"If we, the growers of Oregon, wish to get good prices and a ready sale for our fruit we must place it before the people and make them eat it as the Californians have done. Any three of the large Eastern states would, if this was done, eat all the prunes raised in the Northwest and want more."

The last issue of the California Fruit Grower gives the following account of the prune market in California:

Some little business is doing all the time in prunes but at low prices. Holders have to shade their quotations in order to make sales. Car lot orders are not in evidence, what trading there is being in mixed cars. Should anything like a demand spring up there would of course not be the quibbling over fractions that exists, but in the absence of any amount of business the market is weak.

New York advices report sales at from 2⅛c to 2¼c basis with litele inquiry. The San Jaun, via Panama from San Francisco on March 19, took 58,500 pounds of prunes for Belgium. The ship Herzogin Cecilie sailed from San Francisco on March 16 for London carrying among her cargo 33,683 pounds of prunes.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A Word For Mr. Harris.

Editor Statesman:

Republican and Old Republican seem to be paralyzed with fear on account of the appearance of L. T. Harris as a candidate for Congress in opposition to the invincible Binger Hermann, and the terror on their part has caused the writer to wonder who this man Harris is, who has caused so much consternation in the camp of the forces of the irrepressible Binger. The principal fear, both expressed and implied, in the language of the followers of the man with the double handshake is that Harris will become a permanent fixture in Congress, and in the next breath they grow eloquent over the idea that permanent tenure in office is the surest guarantee of satisfactory and efficient service of a Congressman. This argument is true if the man in office is one of energy and has the confidence of his associates in the National Legislature, but decidedly erroneous unless he possesses these qualities. Binger Hermann possesses neither and every man in Oregon as well as those at Washington who is familiar with the situation knows that he has lost his grip and that his usefulness there is at an end. The appropriation for the Salem Indian School is pointed out as an evidence of his influence, but as a matter of fact this appropriation was made in compliance with the policy of the government determined upon long ago, and would have been made even if Oregon had not returned Hermann or any other man from this district.

If Binger is such a giant as a few doting admirers seem to think why don't he come to the rescue of the languishing Lewis and Clark appropriation bill which left the Senate several weeks ago with every prospect of success and carrying $1,250,000, but has since been trimmed down to $475,000, and the indications now are that this will be finally lost. Oregon needs a strong, vigorous man in the House, and if Harris is the man his opponents seem to think he is, he is surely the man for the place. Mr. Harris entered the state Legislature at the age of 26, and two years later was chosen Speaker of the House, a position he filled with great credit to himself and the satisfaction of the members. If there is one flaw in his Legislative record no one has yet called attention to it. He was a fearless, independent and energetic worked for the people he represented. He fathered a bill to tax corporations which if it had become a law, would have brought $100,000 into the state treasury. He also supported a bill requiring railroad companies to supply the demand for cars in the face of a most powerful lobby for the companies. This is the man two-thirds of the Marion county delegation to the Congressional convention will support for Congressman and whose name strikes terror in the hearts of the followers of Binger Hermann because the interests of the state demands that such a man should be nominated at this time.

YOUNG REPUBLICAN.

Salem, April 6, 1904.

Half of the ills that man is heir to come from indigestion. Burdock Blood Bitters strengthens and tones the stomach; makes indigestion impossible.

GUARDIAN APPOINTED.

Will of Louis H. Simon Admitted to Probate in the County Court.

Allan A. Cunningham was yesterday appointed by County Judge Scott guardian of the person and estate of his minor child, Gertrude Cunningham. He furnished his bond in the sum of $1000 which was approved by the court. Claud Gatch, Jos. Baumgartner and E. B. Willard were appointed to appraise the minor's estate the probable value of which is given at $500.

The last will and testament of Louis H. Simon, deceased, was filed and admitted to probate and T. J. Kerr, J. J. Coyle and John Marthaler were appointed to appraise the real and personal property belonging to the estate. By the terms of the will all of the property is bequeathed to Annie A. Simon, Mary A. Walz and Louis M. Simon, widow, daughter and son, respectively, of the deceased. The estate is valued at about $6000, and Louis M. Simon is named in the will as executor to serve without bonds.

An order was made by the court requiring Fort Boise West to file an amended final account as executor of the last will and testament of William Fowler West, deceased. The amended account is to be filed on or before April 9.

Itching piles? Never mind if physicians have failed to cure you. Try Doan's Ointment. No failure there. 50 cents, at any drug store.

An Astoria man has been employed by the government as Finnish interpreter at New York. He can see and speak his Finnish.

STORY OF A COW

SHE HAD A DIET OF BALING WIRE NAILS AND OTHER THINGS.

But This Sort of Provender Did Not Agree With Her, and She Finally Ceased to Be as a Cow and Now Poses as a Curiosity.

Editor Statesman:

The subject of these remarks was a brown "muley" cow, the property of J. C. Whitmore, North Front street, Salem, Oregon. She had been purchased from a drover by Mr. Whitmore some five months ago, and he had noticed that if she was driven fast she was very short of breath. I was called to see the cow on Tuesday, March 29th, and in company with State Veterinarian Dr. McLean stopped and examined her early in the day as we were passing that way.

Mrs. Whitmore informed us that she had been noticeably ailing for about three weeks. I have said this much to introduce you to this case for what is to follow.

We found a large, puffy swelling on and around the brisket or breast bone, and Dr. McLean gave the diagnosis as some trouble with the heart. I gave a treatment corresponding to strengthen the heart's action and to rouse up digestion, but she never received very many doses, as she laid down on the morning of April 1st and ceased to live.

Mr. Whitmore immediately telephoned me and said I could hold a post mortem on her if I chose, and from the peculiar coniitions surrounding this case I hastened to do so. Found carcass lying on left side and all the joints of the legs flexed or bent; turned the carcass over and commenced operations; found a watery, jelly like substance under the skin of the brisket and also encircling the intestines. On dissecting off the ribs I found the fourth or true stomach attached to the diaphragm by a gristly cartilage. The whole mass seemed to be pressing on the heart and almost ateached to it. On trying to dissect it apart I cut into a metallic substance and when carefully dissected out I found a piece of baling wire encased and long enough to reach through the walls of the stomach, diaphragm and cardiac sack, cutting a gash into the heart two-thirds of the way through the walls and some two and one-half inches long; the outside of the heart had become hardened, gristly like, and the cardiac sack had become molded as it were on the heart and was of a yellow, soft, granulated lard-like appearance, very soft and rotten. In the true stomach and where the twisted and hooked end of the wire rested I found five nails, one tack, another and shorter piece of baling wire, and a copper cent. The long piece of wire measured four and three-quarters inches long. The cut nails had been rolled around so long that they had worn quite smooth.

Very respectfully,
D. D. KEELER, V. S.

BITS FOR BREAKFAST.

Mark up one more good day to the credit of our glorious climate. Who ever saw a more delightful one than yesterday in any country?

Salem is for the present an open town as regards the Sunday closing of saloons. But this lame city ordinance does not affect the gambling.

Now it is rumored that the slowness of the operations in the Jap-Russ war is due to an offer of mediation on the part of the King of England. So it may all end in a jawing match, as it was begun and has so far continued.

The great annual conference of the Mormon church at Salt Lake closed yesterday. The speakers at the meetings of the closing day claimed that there are now 400,000 Mormons, with missions in nearly every country in the world. If one had any doubt of the strength and immensity of the Mormon churchr he would have his mind disabused by being in Salt Lake with his eyes and ears open during conference week. It is a great and rich church. Every member, from the wealthy merchant or banker down to the street car driver or washer woman, is a Mormon through and through, and a contributor to the funds of the church; a tithe giver. That is, practically every one. The Mormons are usually industrious and thrifty. They make money. Some of the strongest banks in the world are the ones in Salt Lake owned and conducted by the Mormons. The organization of the church work is thorough. There is plenty of money for missionaries, and there are plenty of devout young Mormons willing to go out and attempt to convert the world to their way of thinking. And yet, fifty odd years ago the Mormon church was made up of a few struggling families in the middle of a desert, removed a thousand miles or more from civilization.

A friend of the Bits for Breakfast paragrapher says he is in doubt whether this scribbler is for Hermann or Harris. He is for the one who gets the nomination. And he thinks it is no crime for either of them to aspire to it. This is a laudable ambition. And this is a free country, where the fellow who has the most delegates in the convention gets the plum, and the one who has the plurality of votes in the election secures the office. The only thing this paragrapher has objected to is the spirit of some old fellows who have acted as if it was a crime for Mr. Harris to get out and make a trial for the nomination, especially without consulting them. Let them go it, and let us all get ready to holler for the man who has the longest pole to knock the persimmon.

The Polk county Republicans hold their primaries today and their county convention tomorrow.

The Congressional convention for the First District, to be held in Salem on next Wednesday, the 13th, will occupy the Grand Opera House. The only question is as to who will occupy the center of the stage, Hermann or Harris.

The snickersnee will be out and doing business in old Polk today. Politics has made strange bedfellows and divided old time friendship over there, and there will be caloric times at the Republican primaries.

These are the busy days with the farmers. They have been waiting a long time for the days when they could plow without gum boots and umbrellas.

ONE IS FINISHED

AND CITIZENS' LIGHT & TRACTION CO. WILL ERECT MORE WAITING ROOMS.

Are Being Built for the Comfort and Convenience of the Patrons of the Line—Street Lights of Salem Now Being Supplied With "Juice" From the Plant at Silverton.

The waiting room built by the itizens' Light & Traction Co. at the terminus of the company's track in South Salem near the I. O. O. F. cemetery, has been completed. ther waiting rooms are now in course of construction at the terminus of the company's lines in Yew Park and at the Fair Grounds.

These waiting rooms are for the use and benefit of the patrons of the street railway, and will doubtless be greatly appreciated by those who are compelled to wait for cars in rainy weather, or for that matter in warm weather. The waiting room at the cemetrey is thirty feet long by eight feet wide, open on one side and will seat thirty or forty people comfortably. The structure faces the east, is painted and neatly finished, making an attractive feature of the road, and is a sure sign of the progressive policy of the present company.

Last night the mysterious juice which supplies the street lamps of Salem was supplied from the Union Light & Power Company's plant at Silverton. For several days the company has been busy connecting the new power to the different circuits and last night all but the street railways were supplied from the Silverton power. This will be a great improvement in the system, as the Silverton plant is supplied with the latest and best machinery, and the power will be more steady and certain, beside being more powerful.

There are now two carloads of dynamos, transformers and other apparatus at the local power house, which is being installed as fast as is practicable.

The possibility of transmiting power a distance of sixteen miles as is done in this case, and through the medium of three small wires only, was made possible by one of the greatest discoveries of this or any other age, and a few years ago would have been deemed possible only by a miracle performed by superhuman power. The loss in power in transmitting the subtle juice over sixteen miles, is only 20 per cent, and is generated in Silverton with sufficient high voltage to allow for this loss, caused by the resistence of the wires through which it passes.

APPLICABLE TO OREGON.

Better Pay For Teachers.

(Sacramento Union.)

Two years ago the Legislature raised the standard for examinations of teachers in this state, but made no provision for increase of salaries. The result has been the dropping of many teachers ill-prepared for their duties. But the combination of higher standards and stationary pay has resulted in a sort of school teacher famine. Longer and more thorough preparation is now required for the profession of teaching, and those capable of complying with the conditions find no difficulty in securing positions in other work where the labor is less exacting and the compensation more. The average salary of public school teachers of the state is $76 a month for an eight-month term, $608 a year, a trifle more than $50 a month; for the year, the average salaries of California teachers range from $40 to $65 a month. Not a very tempting prospect, surely, for a young man or woman about to decide upon their life work. The high standards for teachers fixed by the Legislature was a marked advance in the development of the schools of the state, but to make the advance effective there must go along with it that corresponding increase in compensation which this advance of the standard and the increase of the cost of living makes necessary.

GANG OF BURGLARS AT SPOKANE

SPOKANE, Wash., April 6—Spokane is having a surfeit of safeblowing and small robberies just at present. A number of affairs of this kind came off Saturday and Sunday nights, and Monday night the safe in the office of the White Pine Lumber Company was blown open, but the burglars were driven away before securing anything. The depredators visited one of the slaughter houses and carried off the carcasses of a number of hogs. Several other places have been visited recently, and it is the opinion of the officers that an organized gang is working in the city.

IS UP FOR TRIAL

SENATOR BURNS OF MICHIGAN IS CHARGED WITH RECEIVING BRIBE OF $200.

Matter Is in Connection With the Lake Michigan Water Deal Scandal—United States Senator Burton of Kansas Is Sentenced to Six Months in Jail and Fined $2500.

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., April 6.—A jury was secured in the superior court today and the trial commenced of State Senator David E. Burns on the charge of accepting a bribe of $200 in connection with the Lake Michigan water deal which resulted recently in sensational disclosures of municipal corruption. Burns is charged with influencing the legislature at Lansing.

Six Months For Burton.

St. Louis, Mo., April 6.—United States Senator J. S. Burton, of Kansas recently convicted of receiving fees illegally from the Rialto Grain and Securities Company, as their attorney, was today sentenced to six months imprisonment in the Iron county jail and to pay a fine of $2500 by Judge Adams of the United States district court, after overruling the motion for a rehearing. Burton was later released on $10,000 bonds pending an appeal.

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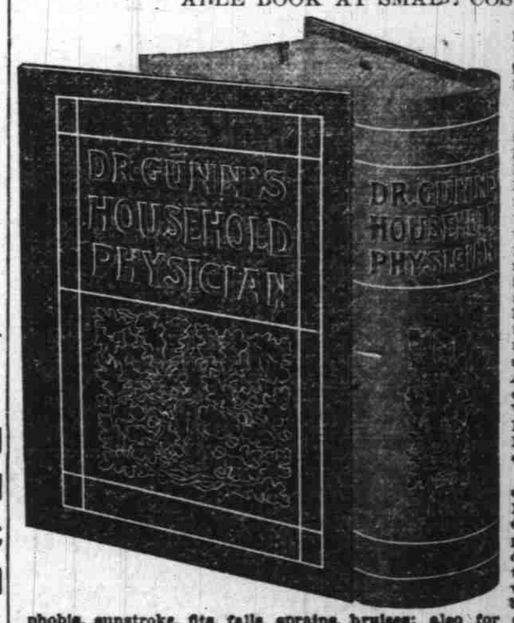

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