

SUCCESSFUL OREGON INDUSTRIES

Red Clover Pays at the Rate of \$24.00 Per Acre.

Logan Berries Pay at the Rate of \$350 Per Acre.

Strawberries Pay at the Rate of \$156 Per Acre.

Grapes Pay From \$300 to \$400 to the Acre.

Thirty-eight Cow Dairy Pays \$4,000 a Year.

Alfalfa Pays at the Rate of \$50 Per Acre.

\$1,000 to \$1,500 Per Acre From Growing Onions.

The Journal Presents Below Some Statements Made by Growers Who Are Successfully Producing the Crops They Tell About. Any One Wishing Information Can Refer to Them by Mail or in Person, and Will Find Them Intelligent and Reliable Gentlemen. These Statements of Fact Are Not Got Up for Booming the Willamette Valley, and Are Only a Portion of the Successful Farming Operations That Are Carried On Here.

INTERVIEWS WITH FRUIT GROWERS

Red Clover.
(By M. L. Jones, of Brooks, Marion County, Oregon.)

Red clover is a successful crop in Western Oregon on nearly all lands, from the foothills of the Cascades to the Pacific ocean. The value of clover feed and the fertilizing qualities of the growing crop are too well understood to need any discussion. My most successful experience in getting a good stand of clover is to carefully cultivate the land for a crop of grain as early as the land can be worked in the spring, sowing the clover seed behind the grain drill and following up with a harrow. With any ordinary summer, I would expect to get a good stand of clover. If the stock are kept off the ground while it is wet, on fairly good land we shall get from two to four tons per acre. The clover makes a better quality of hay if cut as early as it will do, and the second crop will then be much better, whether for pasture, hay or seed. When the clover is left standing until the stalks get hard, the second crop is not nearly so good and in a very dry season a stand of clover will be very much injured, if not totally destroyed. My rotation is a clover hay crop for two seasons, followed by one season of pasturing or cultivating, and seeding in grain. As a rule the less amount of grain seed to the acre that is sown the better stand of clover. Have the land in thoroughly good condition and sow plenty of clover seed to the acre. From nine to twelve pounds of clover seed to the acre is required, and Oregon grown seed is preferred. The following spring a full crop can be cut, and if got off reasonably early a second crop can be cut for seed. Present prices of clover is \$10 per ton baled f. o. b. at nearest shipping point. The first crop on good land will reach three tons per acre. This year the seed crop will be light, owing to the long dry summer, but an average crop of seed is three to six bushels to the acre, worth from \$5 to \$6 per bushel. I estimate the cost of making the clover crop at \$4 per ton, baled and ready for shipment. This is an outside figure, where all the work is hired done. The expense of baling is \$1.50 to \$2 per ton, the farmer usually doing all the rest of the work and making the profit. Clover lasts two years. If you sow three to five pounds of timothy seed per acre with the clover, you will get a grass crop that stands five years. Clover on bottom lands can be cut for three years. Clover seed costs \$1 per bushel for hulling. Figuring three tons to the acre, and deducting \$6 for baling, would leave \$24. Add value of a crop of seed, and value of pasture and improvement in the fertility of the soil, which will more than pay all cost of seed, wear and tear of machinery and fences. Clover should be cut in June, whether it has been pastured or not, to get a good quality of hay and maintain a good stand of clover for the next year.

Loganberries.
(By A. M. LaFollett, Rt. 2, Gervais, Marion County, Oregon.)

The Loganberry is a successful and profitable crop in Marion county. I set out a lot four years ago and the following year I picked two 24-quart crates to the vine. The following year I had a crop from 200 2-year-old vines and about 250 1-year old. The crop brought me 425 crates. This year, 1904, I picked from 1250 vines about 600 crates, the dry summer cutting the yield down about one-third. My vines occupy one and one-third acres. My son has seven acres out, and all first year crop, and marketed 1525 crates. We got almost \$1.05 per crate for the crop, selling nearly all at Portland. The above price is f. o. b. at shipping point, by boat or express.

The picking cost about 20 cent per crate, the fruit being easier gathered than strawberries. The crates and boxes cost us about 13 cents. The net price in the market is about 70 cents to the grower. Plants are sold on the ground for \$30 per thousand. They are set out eight feet apart each way, and strung on four wires, No. 12 to 13, costing about \$25 an acre for wiring. The posts are set 32 feet apart along the rows, and it takes about 160 to 200 posts to the acre, costing about \$16 to \$20 per acre. Counting 600 plants to the acre, the cost of putting out Loganberries is about \$60 per acre, and so far there is no limit to the time a patch will last.

Cultivation is by plow and then with spring-tooth harrow. As soon as the fruit is off the old vines are cut and the new vines are trailed on the wires. The old vines are cut up with a disk harrow and plowed under. The Loganberry requires the very best soil and a well-drained location, but will stand a great deal of moisture in summer.

Strawberries.
(By E. Huffer, Salem, Marion County, Oregon.)

Growing strawberries is one of the many fruit industries of Oregon and is well established in Marion county, there being several hundred acres about Salem, and thousands of crates shipped and canned at the cannery each year. As a field crop they are planted on well drained land that has been thoroughly plowed in the fall and again in the spring, dragged until thoroughly pulverized fine and smooth, and plants set out in May or as soon as the ground can be worked up good after the heavy spring rains are over. Mark off the ground three feet each way and set the plants with a dibble, the crowns even with the surface. Planted this way all the work of cultivation can be done with two horses and riding cultivator, and a little hoeing about the plants once a year will be all that is needed. Thorough cultivation until fall will result in a fine stand and a full crop the following spring. Better results are obtained by removing all blossoms the first year. The runners are cut off once after they get out long and before they root. New runners will be formed before fall on the strongest plants, and enough new plants will set to fill all empty hills that may need replanting. In field culture and to grow fruit only it does not pay to plant in fall, as only a partial crop is secured the following spring. If the winter is mild, as is often the case, it will cost more to clear weeds in the spring than the first crop will bring. The object of spring planting and high cultivation until late in fall is to keep the ground clean and get a large growth of plant roots and foliage that will ensure a strong growth and a big crop the following spring. Plants cost \$1.50 to \$2 per thousand, and should be engaged the fall before. Strawberries are picked three to four times, not counting the first and last pickings, which yield a profit. They are packed in 24-box crates and sold in the local market or at the cannery or shipped. Following are returns from five-acre field one and one-half miles east of Salem: Crop of 1904—800 crates, average return \$1.25 per crate. Net return, less cost of crates (.16) and picking (.25c), 85 cents per crate, \$680—\$156 per acre to grower. Berries are sold to local trade or shipped to Portland, and grower can sell all he can produce. Will have eight acres next year. By making up his own crates and boxes in winter, cost can be reduced from 14 to 14 cents per crate for package. On these five acres, 100 crates were not picked, as pickers could not be procured on account of

AND FARMERS WHO ARE DOING THINGS

warm, dry spring hastening the ripening of the crop faster than usual. Crop was light this year, as spring was dry and there was no rain during the ripening season, when showers are generally plentiful enough to add materially to the crop, which is produced without irrigation. The foliage the past season was larger and the crop lighter than usual. The same land would ordinarily produce 1000 crates. At 65 cents per crate net, it pays better to ship than to sell to the cannery. Mr. Aufrance farms 20 acres to fruit, growing apples, pears, cherries, grapes, raspberries, blackberries, currants, Loganberries and vegetables. Manure or fertilizer adds to the value of a strawberry crop, but any ordinary land will grow them without. As high as \$200 to \$300 per acre has been made on strawberries at Salem, but \$75 to \$125 per acre is more nearly the average return.

Grape Growing and Wine Making at Salem.

(By A. Aufrance, Salem, Oregon.)
Grape growing for the market and for wine making is an established industry at Salem, the Concord and common varieties that ripen in the North- and Middle states, doing well, and being produced with little attention for family use and the local markets. For shipment the Concord, Delaware, Niagara, and Sweetwater are grown in many favored localities, generally on a western or southern slope, having good air-drainage below, which all successful vineyardists understand. A. Aufrance, one and one-half miles east of Salem, has grown grapes with great success for 14 years. They are also grown in large quantities at Mt. Angel and Butteville, in Marion county. The Aufrance vineyard is on flat land and heavy loam soil and manure has been put on part of the vineyard once in that time. The vines are six feet apart each way. One-year-old plants are set out and bear the third year. Mr. Aufrance says: I consider them a good, reliable crop, but a man must know how to dress vines and train them properly. Have lost a crop three times in 14 years from frosts. This year a frost in May took most of my crop. Can sell all the Concord and White Chaslet, (a French grape) in the local market at 3 to 4 cents a pound. Cost of package is very small. I plant about 1200 plants to the acre and work with one-horse cultivator. Vines do not require any winter protection, and we have had but one freeze to kill vines in 14 years. Concord will average 20 to 30 pounds to the plant, and harvest six to ten tons marketable grapes to the acre. The wine grapes grown successfully by me are the red and black Burgundy, and red and white Chaslet. Put on low trellis and one wire. Crop is about the same quantity as Concord, and produce 600 to 800 gallons of wine to the acre, which sells at 40 to 50 cents per gallon. Of course, wine making one must understand, but there is no trouble in growing grapes for the market, on the single pole of trellis close to the ground and the reflected heat of the earth ripens and makes the grapes sweet and better for the table or for wine. I shall be pleased to show my vineyard, or answer letters by mail.

On Dairying.
(J. D. Barber, Marion County, Oregon.)

I had my place rented for several months and got it back July 4, 1904. From the 4th to the 15th my check from the creamery was \$88.61; from July 15 to Aug. 1, it was \$122.59. Same number of cows, but different feed and care. Have 105 acres of land on the Santiam river, 90 acres cleared. I milk

28 cows at present and many of them will be fresh inside of two months. My pasture is pretty dry, but have fed hay once a day, some green feed and one bushel per cow each day of last year's ensilage. Silos are 24 feet high and 11½ to 14 feet through. Ensilage is as good now (August) as at any time, and cows eat it well. Have used ensilage ten years. Will turn off 24 hogs in another month. They are now running on pens. Have hauled off several hundred cords of wood each year. Cows average over \$200 a month from cream. Sold \$1338 worth of hogs in 1902. Place pays \$4000 a year. Also sell beef cattle. Mr. Barber has since sold his hogs at Salem for \$5.50 per hundred, alive.

Facts About Alfalfa.
(By Fred Achilles, F. R. M. No. 8, Salem, Marion County.)

There is no doubt in my mind that alfalfa can be grown as a profitable and successful crop in Western Oregon, and even on the tide lands. I have alfalfa four feet high at present that was sown eight years ago and has never died out. In all I have between 25 and 30 acres in alfalfa. I turn off 100 hogs each year, fattening them on green alfalfa and dry meal, and the butchers to whom I sell my pork all say it has flavor that they cannot find in other pork. My first experience was with California seed, but I have since used imported seed and find it better. The California seed costs 17½ cents a pound, while the imported costs 20 cents. Land sown last year in June was cut for hay May 30, and produced three tons to the acre. Since then I have let the stock eat it down three times. Cows turned on green alfalfa give five to six quarts more milk per day. Dairymen at Portland say they prefer alfalfa hay to any other for dry feed, and I have no trouble to sell at good prices. Some of my best alfalfa stands on land that is overgrown in winter six to eight feet. It does not pay to be stingy with seed in sowing alfalfa. I put 20 pounds on the acre. On old land I put \$5 manure to the acre. Plow land twice, once 15 inches deep with four-horse, drag it well five or six times before sowing. To make a perfect crop the alfalfa field should be separately fenced or have movable fences to feed down with hogs or cows when ready. After sown, before it gets into bloom it should be cut. The first year of growth it must be cut as often as it gets ready to bloom. If you let it go to seed the first year, you spoil the stand and check all future growth. As often as you mow it down the first year, you send the roots deeper and cause it to stool out. The roots will finally go to water or moist earth, and then you have the foundation for a fine stand and can feed or cut as often as it comes up after the first year. The crop is at least five tons to the acre. The season of 1904 has been very dry, but my alfalfa fields are green. I have several patches on new bottom land that has just been cleared of trees and it does very well there. The main thing is the first year. Do not let it get into bloom and keep stock off. After you get your stand you can feed it down to the ground, and it will come up thicker than ever.

Onion Growing in Oregon.
(By J. R. Dimick, Hubbard, Marion County, Oregon.)

There is considerable land in Western Oregon known as a peat land or beaver-dam land that is especially adapted to producing onions. Any kind of sandy loam or rich bottom land, will raise the onions, but not

STATEMENTS OF FACTS THAT WILL BEAR CLOSEST INVESTIGATION

as large a crop as the above-described soil. The beaver-dam land is mostly found in creek and river bottoms. It is made land, consisting of decomposed vegetable matter. This kind of land grows the largest crops of white, yellow and brown onions, or onion sets. It should be thoroughly cleaned of roots and plowed in the fall. In the spring, it must be gone over with the disk harrow, and finally dragged. For large onions, we sow the seed in drills about one foot apart. Sets are sown in matted rows, eight to ten inches wide. The rows are eight inches apart. Crop is cultivated with machine cultivator and hand hoeing between the rows or mats. Weeds in the rows or mats must be removed by hand. Of growing large onions we thin the rows to one or two onions for each three inches in the row. Harvest when ripe by cutting under the onions to loosen them from the ground. Then rake three or four rows together and let them dry thoroughly. Rub off the tops, stack them in field and store them in the warehouse for marketing. I am growing four acres this year. Had six acres in 1902. We count on getting 300 pounds of sets onions from one pound of seed, or 20,000 pounds sets to the acre. On the best land \$50 to 700 sacks of large onions to the acre are counted an average crop. It takes four to four and a half pounds of seed to the acre. We get from \$1.75 to \$2.25 a sack from shipping point. That is the prevailing price in February. We sometimes sell in the field in the fall at \$1 a sack. Like the hop business, the onion business has its ups and downs. When prices go above \$2 a sack production is rapidly increased and prices go down. I find my best market in Southern California, Arizona and Utah. Every grower has to build up his trade by producing a superior article in order to reach the maximum profit. By raising seed for that particular purpose, I am able to grow a late-keeping onion. Ordinarily they begin to sprout during the month of February, but I am able to grow them so that they will not sprout until the middle of March. The way to grow onions successfully is to have the right kind of land and then keep it perfectly clean and free of weeds. I keep my onion land and free of weeds as a patler floor, and allow no weeds to grow at any time in the year. I scatter straw along the edge of my field and burn everything right up to the fences to keep out the weeds. A boy weeded one and three-fifth miles along the rows in one day. Large quantities of onion sets and seed are grown in the vicinity of Salem, Woodburn, Hubbard and Aurora and other places in Marion county. Hubbard is the home of the onion set industry. I would almost be afraid to say how much can be made from an acre put out to onions, and handled exactly right, for fear your readers would doubt the correctness of my figures. We consider onions a very profitable crop and have made good money raising them for many years. I could afford to pay \$500 an acre for the best onion land and clear my investment on the first year's crop.

and has a large scutching plant, ready to handle this year's production. The establishment of a large linen mill well under way at Salem, in the large brick mill and water power on the bank of the river. Persons interested in the possibilities of flax culture should write to Mr. Bosse for information. The Gervais, Marion county, Star of September 23, has this:

The proposed flax mill at Gervais to be put in by Eugene Bosse and his associates will be a go, as already all but \$50 of the desired \$400 is promised. It was almost a failure owing to the opposition, or diffidence of a number of our citizens. It means considerable to this community and the donation to the flax people of ten acres of land is all it will cost our people. This is nothing! The land will be transferred to the flax mill people after three years time when the donors are satisfied that the flax mill people mean business and carry out certain promises and erect stipulated buildings, etc.

THE FLAX INDUSTRY.
One of the Great Coming Industries of This Valley.

Salem is destined to be the center of a great flax fibre industry, as there is already a large acreage out, and a number of scutching mills established. Adjoining the city Mr. Eugene Bosse is operating two hundred acres in flax

WORD'S LARGEST YIELD
Record Breaking Production of an Oregon Hop Field

Notwithstanding the unfavorable conditions which prevailed during the present season, Geo. A. Dorris succeeded in harvesting over 2100 pounds of hops to the acre on his ranches, says the Register. In 1903 his yield was over 2800 pounds to the acre, in 1902 it was over 2450 pounds to the acre, and in 1901 it was over 2250 pounds to the acre. This makes a grand total of over 9600 pounds, a general average of over 2400 pounds to the acre for the four consecutive years, one of which was the driest Oregon has ever experienced. Mr. Dorris has thus demonstrated again that under intelligent management Willamette valley soil can not be surpassed in fertility in the world.

The state of Oregon will share with Mr. Dorris the laudable pride he takes in his phenomenal success as a hop grower, and will not begrudge him the larger financial returns he has earned by his industry and intelligence. We challenge the world to make a better showing in the past four years. Until such showing is made Oregon will claim to have the best hop yard in the world. If a better showing is made it will be made in the state of Oregon.