

# WALNUT INDUSTRY STARTED

## Public Planting Ceremonies Conducted by the Oregon Nursery Co.

### Enterprise of a Firm That Employs Hundreds of Acres, Hires Hundreds of Men and Grows and Sells Millions of Trees

On Saturday, April 14, the Oregon Nursery Co. gave an unique public tree planting to inaugurate their new variety of walnuts—commonly called English walnuts, but really originating in France and called

#### The Franquette Walnut.

The public planting was witnessed by about fifty of the prominent citizens of Salem, and gentlemen well known all over the state. Two dray loads of the nuts were distributed for planting, and addresses were made by the managers of the great nursery business that is the pride of this city, after which a fine luncheon was served and more addresses were made. It was a day given up to the walnut planting—not only nuts, but facts and ideas were scattered broadcast, that mean the establishing of another industry in western Oregon. What the Italian prune is to the dried fruit trade the Franquette walnut will become to the nut trade.

#### A Little History.

McGill & McDonald came to Salem in 1891, and have organized and developed the business of the Oregon Nursery Co., buying out various concerns, from the Dickinson Nurseries down to the present, when they are working 400 acres of land in and about Salem. They have at least a million new stock that will be budded this summer. To get an idea of the magnitude of their enterprise in the way of growing roses and shrubs, the company this year has out 50,000 of the Crimson Rambler rose, and shipped a whole carload of this variety to Alabama. In one field stand 20,000 cut-leaf birches, worth 25 cents each wholesale.

The work of a large nursery extends all through the year, never employing less than 50 to 75 men and eight or ten teams at full season in winter. Peak season, 150 to 175 men.

The budding is done in July, August and September, last season's work including about 1,200,000 of budded stock.

On the day of this visit there were two dray loads of walnuts to plant—5000 pounds of the Franquette walnuts—and men and teams enough to put them in the soil in one day. This is one of the most delicious walnuts produced in the world—large, sweet, highly flavored and nutritious—the highest priced nut grown in the world for commercial purposes.

#### Made Some Speeches.

Mr. McDonald, of the Nursery Co., mounted a wagon loaded with walnuts and called the assembly to order, saying this was the occasion for establishing a great commercial industry—walnut growing in the Willamette valley. They grow fine in California, but everything of this kind improved in Oregon.

The Franquette walnut has been grown at Santa Rosa, Cal., for some years, owned by Mrs. Emily M. Vrooman and brought to the attention of the company at Salem by Mr. Girod.

Mr. Leon Girod next gave a history of the discovery of this walnut by Mrs. Vrooman, who got her start from a common old-country German farmer in California. He had secured them from Niles, Cal., a noted horticulturist. She examined all varieties, but found the Franquette alone produced nuts of uniform size. Mr. John Bock secured the scions of this celebrated Franquette walnut from the original tree in France. This nut would produce more wealth for the Willamette valley and Salem. The salesmen of the Oregon Nursery Co. advertised this city and this industry all over the northwest. It was the most beautiful city in the west, situated in the most fertile land. The Franquette walnut has been grown in Oregon and has already shown much improvement. Mr. McDonald quoted good authority to prove that the Oregon walnut will beat any walnut in the world.

John H. Albert spoke on the condi-

tions required to produce the finest nuts being more perfect here in western Oregon than anywhere else. He told of experiences covering many years growing walnuts. One tree on his ground, planted nineteen years ago

would do the same in walnuts in a few years.

Judge Scott said that he was pleased at a large exhibit of walnuts at the last state fair, grown at Salem and vicinity. This was a very promising industry, if set out on the right kind of soil. He was enthusiastic about the future of the Willamette valley. He believed irrigation would be employed in this valley and would prove a great success.

Charles A. Park, the horticulturist commissioner for this district, said there was a great future for the walnut industry. Many poor trees were being sold. Growers should buy only the best grafted trees, costing from \$1.50 to \$2.50 each.

George F. Rodgers was next and said the Oregon Nursery Co. was one of the institutions Salem should be proud of. This broad expanse was planted to wealth-producing trees and shrubs and employed a great deal of labor.

Mayor Waters said he had become intensely interested in the walnut industry. It promised more for the small land owner than anything else. He believed it would prove a profitable industry. He thanked the Oregon Nursery Co. for its many gifts and benefits to the city of Salem. They were a firm of the highest reputation.

T. B. Kay said he was very much impressed by the large number of men employed on this land, but also by the great increase in wealth produced by this industry.

The point was brought out by H. S. Gile that the Oregon Nursery Co. was the largest wholesale nursery plant west of the Rocky mountains. They have now got hold of the only lot of the choicest grafted walnut stock in the world—bought up all the Franquette nuts and stock for three years to come. Walnuts are worth 13 cents by the carload in California. They sold to the retailers at 15 cents. There was no chance of over-production. Walnuts will be as profitable as prunes, said Mr. Gile. Forty acres of prunes returned \$9000 the past year. He spoke from the standpoint of a packer, shipper and wholesaler of Oregon products, and his talk was very practical.

E. Hofer concluded the speech-making, responding with words of praise for the enterprise and public spirit of the managers of the Oregon Nursery Co. He said this company is growing annually now as high as 500,000 of a single variety of fruit trees. Just over the fence are 50,000 Crimson Rambler roses. Every tree, shrub and rose bush raised by this company is a blessing. Salem needs more such men and such institutions. We need to tear off the moss, put people to work, improve the streets, and get a greater movement on generally.

#### A Prediction.

In dismissing the crowd, Mr. McDonald predicted that within a few years the Willamette valley will be shipping carloads and train loads of Franquette walnuts. The members of the assem-

can be grafted so that they will grow Franquette walnuts, and the trees become very hardy. It is a difficult matter—the grafting—but it is being done in a great many cases.

#### At the Banquet.

The guests were conveyed to the planting grounds several miles east of the city on the Silverton road in carryalls, and returned by 1:30, in time to sit down to refreshments in the Hotel Willamette dining rooms. Following were the guests of the occasion: M. McDonald, A. McGill, J. S. Riehl, George F. Rodgers, H. S. Gile, T. B. Kay, A. N. Moores, Judge J. H. Scott, F. W. Spencer, F. A. Wiggins, L. K. Page, R. A. Crossan, Chas. E. Cutter, J. A. McGee, F. W. Power, Lloyd Reynolds, R. J. Hendricks, Col. T. C. Smith, Mayor Frank W. Waters, D. F. Carnes, C. D. Minton and F. N. Derby.

J. R. Shepard was called upon and gave a fine illustrative talk on the growth and development of the various Oregon industries. He said he was here when the foundations of the prune growing industry were laid, and he has seen and been a part of its growth through doubts and difficulties, until now Oregon grows the best prunes of the world, and puts out the best brand of prunes. He said he desired to leave with the men gathered around the banquet board two thoughts: Prophetic Vision and Energy. There has been some planting and selling of walnut trees in the Willamette valley. The result of some of this planting and sell-

that the best strain, which shall capture the markets, and which will go out in carload and trainload lots. While they are working for profit, their reputation is at stake, to allow of no mistakes on the part of the people, who wish to go into walnut growing in the right way. Mr. Shepard spoke in a most complimentary way of the honesty of the managers of the Oregon Nursery Co., which gives full assurance of their placing the walnut industry on a sure foundation.

Charles E. Cutter, advertising man, and representing at this event the Northwest Horticulturist of Tacoma, spoke of the advertising features of the products of a country. He said there is strength in alliteration, and suggested that this be called the Willamette walnut, so that W. W. would suggest in the minds of all the people of the earth, in the future, the perfection of walnut growing, adding to the glory of the Willamette valley.

H. S. Gile suggested the Oregon walnut, as the Oregon prune has become the representative of perfection in the prune markets of the world.

J. H. Albert proposed a rising vote of appreciation of the efforts of the Oregon Nursery Co., and the banquet adjourned.

Woodburn, Ore., April 14, 1906.

#### Editor Journal:

After twenty years' of observation of politics in Marion county I have come to the conclusion that I should have moved my residence to Salem long ago. Salem residents are apparently under the direct protection of the political guardian angel, whose flight is often extended southward to the Santiam and eastward to the Red Hills, but rarely if ever to the north end of Marion county.

It has occurred a limited number of times when the angel political was forced, in order to save his wings, to soar northward, announcing with blaring trumpets that one in our midst was among the chosen ones for some minor county office.

#### Why this discrimination?

North Marion is the richest part of the county, a glance at the tax roll will show that we pay something like two-thirds of the entire tax of the county.

We have a commissioner as representative among the county officers. Now, that is a big office and we ought to be thankful that one from our midst was selected to be an opponent of a combination numbering two. Our man has accomplished much in the line of good roads, at Liberty, the hill road south of Salem, road toward reform school and at Sublimity and Stayton.

By certain Salem politicians during recent political campaigns—national, congressional and county, W. L. Toome was considered a hero of the first water. He was pointed to as a champion among Republican champions. He was fit to be sent to all parts of the state to fight their cause, because he was a Republican through and through, well fitted and thoroughly capable of handling their affairs successfully.

In the course of time he has rightly come to a point where it is Mr. Toome's turn to run for office. Do we find behind him the men he gave his time and energy to, in order that they might gain the day? No; the Salem ring is the most active factor against Toome today. I wish Walter had moved to Salem about ten years ago.

Another thing, we as citizens of north Marion county with the best interests of the county and party at heart, have not gone crazy over the direct primary law, for if you will notice we have but one candidate for the numerous offices for distribution among the citizens of Marion county. Not to boost this particular candidate for recorder, I can say: If we are not entitled to what we ask, I must conclude that those who oppose me must surely be all preachers or they would not want the entire collection.

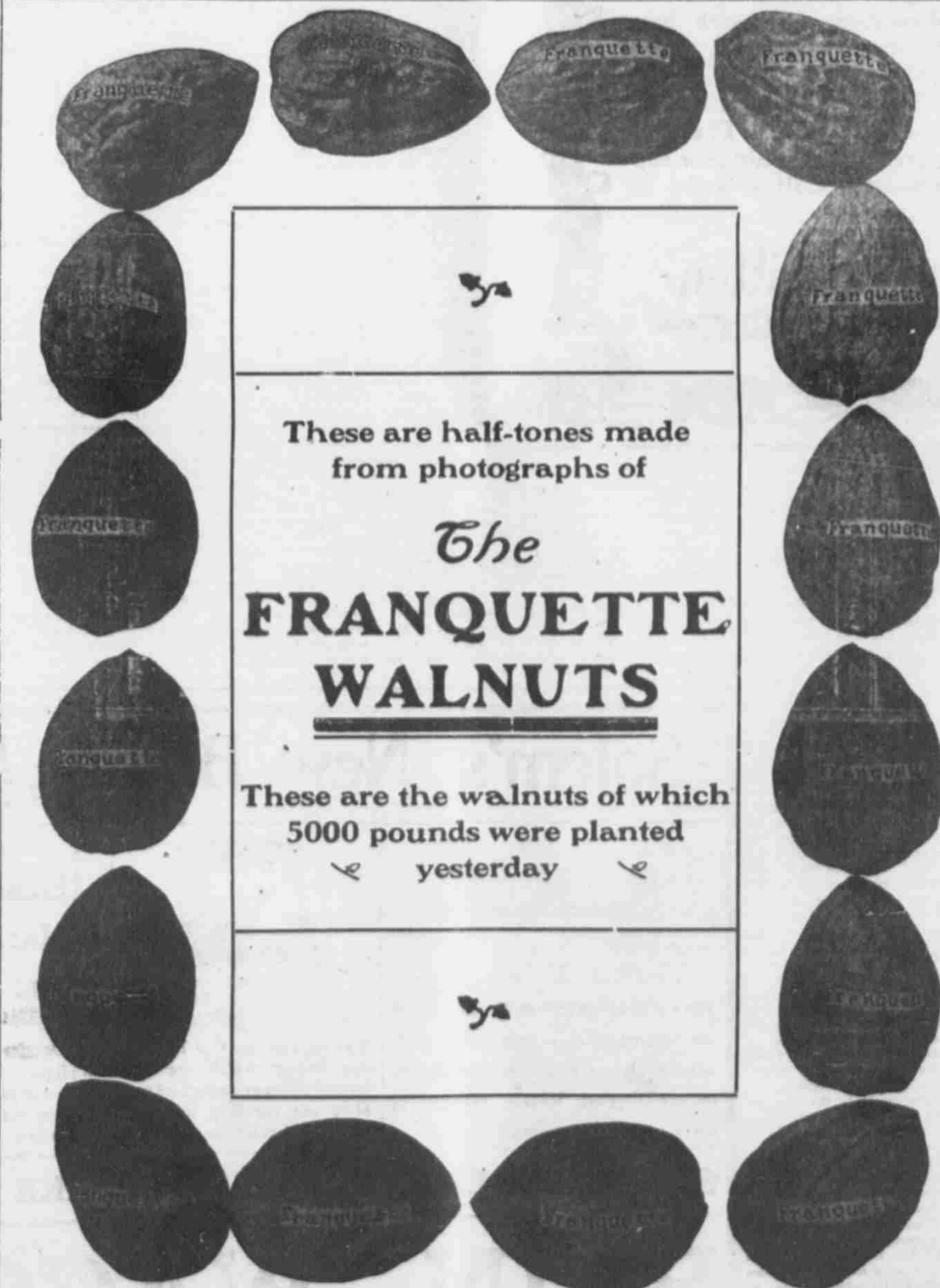
I hope to see this letter among those from the people. Yours respectfully  
AN OLD SUBSCRIBER AND NATIVE SON.

\$100 Reward, \$100.

The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one dread disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages, and that is Catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Cure is the only positive cure now known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a constitutional disease, requires a constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system, thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, and giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in doing its own work. The proprietors have so much faith in its curative powers that they offer One Hundred Dollars for any case that it fails to cure. Send for list of testimonials.

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Sold by all druggists, 75c. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.



and that was more thrifty and productive than any tree he had seen in California.

Lloyd Reynolds spoke of scientific nut culture. The amount of walnuts imported to the United States was \$1,847,000 pounds last year. Some years ago all the prunes were imported, but last year we exported prunes to the amount of 54,999,000 pounds. We

When this company burned out a few months ago they had not been very much encouraged in securing a new site. He hoped when the time came to get a new location for the headquarters of the Oregon Nursery Co., Salem people would respond more nobly and give them all the encouragement needed.

Other extempore speakers were T. T. Geer, H. S. Gile and E. Hofer.

bied company were invited to take two or three walnuts each home, for planting. As the crowd dispersed, the sacks of soaked walnuts had been carried to the heads of the rows, ready for planting, after the workmen had partaken of their lunch.

One of the visitors predicted that all the shade trees of Salem will one day be walnut trees. The black walnuts

ing is likely to prove disappointing in the next several years. But the managers of the Oregon Nursery Co., with prophetic vision, saw the possibilities of walnut growing in the Willamette valley. They had energy. They grasped the opportunity, and they are here in a scientific way. They will make it possible for the farmers of the Willamette valley to raise here one strain, and