

# The Daily Capital Journal

CHERRY CITY OF THE WORLD, AUGUST 3, 1908.

## SALEM'S MID-SUMMER FAIR AND CARNIVAL

### Where the Willamette Valley Fruit Growers Compete for Silver Loving Cups and Prizes Valued at Thousands

**A Story of Oregon Life.**  
From the cherry orchards to the Cherry Fair—from the harvest field to the annual show of horticultural pride—the display of achievement by soil, climate and brains—is a very pretty story of Oregon life. The Capital Journal will try to tell it in a special edition devoted to this single fruit.

The Cherry Fair in all its glory needs to be seen to be appreciated. It comes in the middle of July, in the radiance of summer—when the hillsides are golden with ripening grain fields, when the oaks and firs wear their richest liveries of olive, and the first pale blue mists hang on the mountains.

It is the most glorious time of the year. People generally have not yet gone to the seashore or the mountains. Cherries ripen with the grain and hay harvest. After the berry crops are mostly harvested come the cherries. After haying, cutting the grain and gathering the cherries, there is a vacation period until pines and apples and pears are gathered.

But the Cherry Fair grows in importance as an annual festival because of its mid-summer opportunity. The people are ready for a frolic, a show, a carnival. They want to show their choicest cherries. City and country unite in the exhibit. Everybody can have a tree of cherries and each one thinks he has the finest ever grown. The result is a fruit display at which scores of silver cups are offered, the trophies at Salem this year aggregating nearly \$1500. City and country meet in common rivalry. Adjoining counties put up exhibits and offer prizes. It is the summer harvest home where the entire Willamette valley participates and gives up to merry-making for the three days and nights.

#### Sights in the Orchard.

Go out into a cherry orchard at this season and you step into a wonderland of beauty. The highly cultivated soil under foot is rich and mellow, with plenty of moisture just below the surface. The trees are covered with glistening green foliage. Shining out of their verdure are the rich red and yellow, the dark blood red and black cherries—Royal Anne, Bing, Lambert, Late Duke, Black Republican—all as large as good-sized marbles—hundreds, yea, thousands of pounds to the tree. Through the trees in all directions are the grain fields, the prune and walnut and apple orchards—greens and golds of varied tints, yellow stubble fields dotted with hay cocks; so close a wagon can scarce drive between them—fields of richest green where second crops of clover are maturing for seed. Over all the blue-white sky, cloudless and harmless, where lurks no lightning and harbors no wind-storm to blast and thwart the labors of man.

In the cherry orchards are the groups of pickers, whole families of women, girls and boys—all earning good wages for family support, to school the children—happy contented and prosperous. The foreman or forewoman slips around and pats the checks for the full boxes. The climate is perfect for outdoor work and many live day and night in the orchards.

**The Land of Cherry Bloom.**  
Thousands have exclaimed, "No place in the world can equal this for cherries!"  
Old residents who have lived here

for 40 or 50 years were astonished at the showing made this year. Fruit growers themselves were surprised at the display. The cherry has made its home with us and developed to

ry. Black Tartarian, Yellow Spanish, Royal Anne (Napoleon Biggarcan) English Morello, French Beauty, a dwarf bush cherry from Canada, and others from Turkey, Asia, Africa and Japan. But it is a notable fact that Western Oregon has originated five of the best varieties in the world which were exhibited at the Cherry Fair—the Bing, Lambert, Hoskins, Waterhouse and Black Republican. What we may do need not surprise anyone.

#### Marion Did Not Compete.

It would be impractical to describe all the individual exhibits. The county exhibits are not so numerous but equally large in extent. The fruit is put up in 20-pound

perfection of this most delicious of all su-acid fruit marks this, the center of the Willamette valley, as the center of the cherry industry. Twenty-five miles in every direction you travel through cherry orchards. The traffic in cherries is in its infancy. It has not reached the perfection of the fruit. When it does this region will be covered several deep with gold pieces. Nature has shown us what she can do. It is up to man to find ways to get this delicious fruit to the watering mouth of the world hungry for delicious fruit. Dried, fresh, canned, pickled, marmaladed, candied, and shredded cherries with the fames of the Cherry City on their ruby lips shall carry our reputation to the ends of the

## SIGHTS AND SOUNDS OF ORIENTAL MAGNIFICENCE

### Parades Display Floral Wealth and Matchless Enterprise of Citizens--Nature's Most Lavish Display of Colors

#### Carnival Sights and Sounds.

Sights and sounds of the Cherry Fair remind one of the musical life of Egypt as described in George Hitchen's book "The Garden of Al-

the insignia of this small fruit expedition—the fruit that blesses all and injures none.

#### The Opening Parade.

The parade at the opening of the annual Cherry Fair is an event that draws thousands of visitors to Salem, and brings out the best people of the city. Those who keep a carriage or even a single rig for driving are invited to come out and many undertake elaborate decorations. Many of the dwellers in the city own cherry orchards or rent them to tenants, and others are interested in the drying of the fruit, in shipping or canning, and all these interests conspire to swell the parade in honor of King Bing. The floats of the different industries represent the commercial side; the high school and the various colleges are apt to get out a float and so are the fraternal orders. But the single and double-team rigs are the most elaborately decorated of any. In the parade this year were single rigs showing chariots of the Ocean Wave—a native species of spires, beautiful, creamy, feathery plumes. Several double teams had their vehicles entirely covered with the large Shasta Daisy, whole fields of which are grown near the city. Another vehicle was decorated with everlasting purple sweet peas—a self-seeding flower brought to the country by the pioneers and which overruns some of the old cemeteries. These decorated vehicles are the result of private enterprise and offerings of live on the altar of King Bing, more than the result of a desire to take prizes. Two very fine prizes are offered for the best decorated vehicles. The autocars were also in the parade and some had lavish decorations. The floral wealth displayed is not so great in mid-summer as it would be earlier in the season, and the bright summer sun makes decorations on horses and carriages hard to manage. But even with those drawbacks people who have flowers and nearly all have, are forming the habit of saving them up and using them as an adjunct of the Cherry Fair and anyone who saw the displays by amateurs at the Cherry pavilion must admit that even in mid-summer flowers are abundant in Oregon.

#### The Cherry Fair a Symphony of Color.

The sights next to the sounds, are worthy of our attention. From the loving country couples that wander arm-in-arm through the seething crowds, oblivious of their abandonment and oblivious of the whole world and even of themselves, to the gaudy Egyptian astrologers in lurid poppy-red dresses—all in color, color, color. The Cherry Fair is wonderful because of its colors, because our evergreen country where drouth never comes loves color. The gay banners, the long booth covered with colored canvas and flaming with hundreds of crates of solid colors of the fruit itself, the large pavilions and tents for the side-shows, the gay parades are radiant with rainbow tints.

Mingled through the crowds are Indian men and women, students from the government Indian school near the city, and they all add and love color. Bohemian cut glass artists, stands selling red lemonade, thousands of women, girls and children wearing white and trimmed with cherry ribbons, pretty country girls swinging walking sticks tied

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PAVILION CONTAINING CHERRY AND FLOWER EXHIBITS AT THIRD ANNUAL SALEM CHERRY FAIR AND CARNIVAL.

perfection. Varieties have come to us from all parts of the world and have been improved. New varieties have been originated here, and other new kinds are coming on that will surpass anything we now have. The cherry product is a surprise in its magnitude and perfection. The perfection of our soil and climate and weather conditions makes the perfect cherry crop. The trees are one waving mass of white plumes in blossom time. The blooms open early and gently and stay open wide for weeks. Thus the perfect fertilization that produces the perfect cherry is accomplished by air and insect. There are seldom cold, dashing rains to wash off all the pollen. There are seldom untimely frosts to interfere with the crop. It matures without irrigation. It is

boxes, each having four compartments, this being the commercial package, and also in two-pound paper cartons. The display of these boxes, in long tiers of rows, with alternating squares of brilliant coloring, constitutes a fruit display that is simply dazzling to the eye. Let us glance at the county exhibits. Marion county does not enter into this competition, as it is not considered fair for the home county of the cherry show to compete with neighboring counties that suffer the handicap of having to ship their exhibits long distances. In extent of display Linn county leads with 66 crates. Yamhill and Lane each had 28 crates. Polk 20, and Wasco 25. Marion county turned out hundreds of crates, and the individual exhibitors hundreds of crates, and if

world, and bring back the harvest of golden shekels. The cherry produces more fruit to the tree at any age and begins to bear the next year after it is set out. It is so heavy a producer that it will not bear much pruning or cultivation that is erroneous. The perfect balance of the sap circulation by cutting off roots or branches, by stirring the soil too much, even breaking off a limb, or wounding the bark on the trunk often starts a tree to bleeding and dying. Cool cover crops, water carried in tiles underneath the tree, and surface dressings are very much sought after by the successful grower.

#### Other Fruits Were Shown.

While other fruits shown are only incidental to the cherry show they

lah." From the blare of megaphones, the national airs played by the smartly-dressed military band, the weird coaxing strains and tom-toms beaten in China houses, the orchestras in the tent shows, the shrill screechings of vendors of musical and unmusical animal toys, the hoarse howlings of fakirs, all renders the air livid of sound and pungent of aroma. Early in the day the streets are crowded with a gay well-dressed throng, in a land where want is unknown and beggars are unseen.

At night the myriads of red, white and blue electric lights that are hung in festoons across the streets flash and twinkle, the streets are cut in squares of illumination, residences are hung with Japanese lanterns and the scene increases in



INTERIOR VIEW OF PAVILION SHOWING DISPLAY OF CHERRIES AND OREGON DAISIES.

the poor man's tree, as it thrives equally well without cultivation. Some of the finest crops of cherries grow on trees that stand in the sod along fences that never get a touch of plow or cultivator. This is the perfect cherry country.

#### Cherries Originated Here.

It would require almost a nursery catalogue to list the varieties of cherries grown here in the Willamette valley and displayed at our cherry show. The cherry has come to be a cosmopolitan fruit. The earlier cherries are not the commercial varieties, and while most delicious for eating fresh will not endure shipment. These include the May Duke, the English Ox-heart, the Kentish, Governor Wood, an Oregon seedling, and some others. But the whole world has contributed to the cherry list, and all grow successfully. The names indicate the world-wide distribution of the cher-

ries, all of which are equally well adapted to the soil and climate of the Willamette valley. The heavy clay land and light friable red volcanic ash lands on the foothills produce the perfect cherry so that we can conclude the matter by saying it is climate and the weather and the atmosphere that produces the cherry. It is the mists and moisture, the cool air and the soft sunbined, the absence of sudden changes and great heat, the failure of frosts and the presence of water in the soil, that makes this the Cherry City of the world. The

#### How the Cherry Produces.

The cherry grows equally well on the lowlands or the highlands—on the rich level prairies or the rolling red hills. The heavy clay land and light friable red volcanic ash lands on the foothills produce the perfect cherry so that we can conclude the matter by saying it is climate and the weather and the atmosphere that produces the cherry. It is the mists and moisture, the cool air and the soft sunbined, the absence of sudden changes and great heat, the failure of frosts and the presence of water in the soil, that makes this the Cherry City of the world. The

are interesting to enumerate and contain great possibilities in the way of industries. There were gooseberries, green, red, pink, as large as three inches around. There were currants red, white, blue, and black; raspberries, red, yellow, blue, purple, black; blackberries of many kinds, including the dewberry, native of Oregon; Loganberries, the Burbank phenomenal, the Utopian, which is a large improved blackberry with the flavor and acidity of the wild, White's Prolific, the Atlas. There were exhibits of peaches from near-by orchards that are shipping thousands of crates of this luscious fruit, an industry in its infancy, but for which the Willamette valley will become famous.

#### SEND TO YOUR FRIENDS.

Copies of the Cherry Fair Special ready for mailing at The Journal Office at 5 cents per copy.

brilliance as the darkness comes on, until the stars are excluded and the crowds surge and jostle on the paved streets as light as broadest noonday.

The music is equalled by the decorations. Flags, bunting, the colors of the Cherry Fair—red and olive—are everywhere. The cherry leaf with three imitation cherries for souvenir badges are on every lapel. The merry-widow hats and the cherry-widow suits are hung with cherries. Family rigs are decorated with branches of the fruit and on top of this cherries are in evidence on all hands—but funniest of all none are sold. All other amusements but the daily baseball tournament and the everlasting, never-ceasing nickel theaters and moving-picture shows, are suspended during the Cherry Fair. The Cherry carnival absorbs all with its sights and sounds. Color, music, light, prosperity, productivity, are