

Fruit

Apples

Since it is by comparison that we appreciate and understand most things, it strikes me that our people in Yakima county may think more of their homes if a little comparison is made with some eastern fruit raising districts.

During August I had the pleasure of visiting one of the choicest and most renowned fruit districts in New York state. I refer to Niagara c county--around Lewiston. The gentleman who showed me around was a well educated business man and farmer. He said:

"My orchard over there of 500 Baldwin trees, about 10 acres, is 20 years old; it was planted and cultivated under my own supervision and is as good an orchard as there is in the state. The first crop was, three years ago, 600 barrels; two years ago 700 barrels, last year 900 barrels. I think this year it would have been 1000 barrels if it hadn't been for the excessive rainfall.

Of an adjoining place Mr. Milar said:

This man set out these trees 25 years ago. They have been well cared for, Baldwins, Spys and Greenings. There are 20 acres of as good land as there is in the state. The first 20 years he didn't get 500 barrels from it and it hasn't yielded 15,000 barrels since it was set out.

In this gentleman's opinion there are 10,000 farmers in New York state who would get out of that country if they could, but they can't make enough money on their farms to advertise them even.

We talked with many people and they admitted that the best thing a man could do who had an apple orchard in that country was to give it to some one if he could cut it down.

I wish you would publish a few well authenticated apple yields in

## Fruit Industry

The fruit growers of California are beginning to discover that as much can be gained by organization and cooperation as by their best efforts in their orchards.

The direction in which their cooperative efforts have been most productive so far has been marketing. At a recent meeting of the State Horticultural society, held at San Francisco, a comparison of expense showed that the results of cooperation in sending their product to market had been satisfactory in many ways.

It has secured the best prices, certain sales and sure returns.

Why it had done this was shown by Mr. Stabler of Yuba City. He said that individual fruit growers, who sent their product forward when it was ready, in small lots and consigned to people of whom they knew little, frequently met with loss and sometimes it happened that they never heard from their fruit again.

By the cooperative plan the supply was regulated so that fruit was not only sent forward in carload lots at the lowest rates to be secured, but it was sent to the best market and at a time when there was a demand for it.

The experienced and wealthy growers found the plan advantageous as well as the small ones, although the small ones found they reaped a profit where heretofore they had experienced a loss.

One young man who had never tried fruit growing before found that he had made a profit, where if he had been obliged to depend on himself, he would certainly have suffered a loss and a widow who knew nothing about the fruit business and who had entrusted her marketing to the association, had secured three times the amount from her sales that she would have secured if she had attempted to handle the stock herself.

As a result, the California Horticultural society recommended



## Fruit

### Apples

A.H. Jewett of White Salmon says:

"I have had for the past eighteen years a stock of what is known as the seedless apple.

This apple originated in Virginia and the old parent tree was living and healthy about fifteen years ago and was then 75 years old. The scion of this tree was brought to Wisconsin by an officer of the Union army about the year 1864 and presented to Mr. Chas. Waters, who was at that time a nurseryman in the latter state, and by him this variety was propagated and disseminated through the western country.

I have in bearing on my place some twenty trees that are fifteen years old. The trees are very healthy, moderately productive annual bearer, fruit medium size, color dull russet red, flesh firm and very solid having no core or seed, quality only second rate, a long keeper, having kept them under ordinary conditions nearly a year.

Whether the apple which has recently been discovered at Columbus, Wash. is identical or not am not prepared to say, having never seen the fruit of the latter,"--The Dalles Chronicle, October, 1893.

## Fruit

### Prunes Dehydrator

Matt Stanton of the Ahtanum brought to this office on Saturday a sample of dried prunes of the French and Italian varieties.

Mr. Stanton has the only evaporator in use in the county.

In his orchard he has 150 trees. The fruit is excellent in flavor and ought to sell readily in the local market, to which Mr. S. Looks for disposition of his crop.

The product is cleaner and shows more careful handling than that which is ordinarily imported from other states.

The best product of California is not superior to the samples shown. That there is good profit in prune culture has been amply proven--Yakima Herald, November 9, 1893.

The fruit growers convention to be held in Spokane the second week in February is attracting considerable attention. The railways will join in a half fare rate from all points throughout the northwest and the attendance is expected to be large.

The state board of horticulture is making every effort to the end that the meeting shall not only prove profitable in promoting the production of fruits but that methods shall be evolved for marketing and caring for the output.

Washington, as is well known, has all the natural conditions for excelling in raising fruit, but the point has been reached where it is necessary that an outlet shall be provided.

Dealers from local and eastern points will probably be present at this meeting and plans adopted for a future course of action--Yakima Herald, November 9, 1893.



## Orchards

Fred Parker, Esq. of NorthYakima had a fine prune orchard that was coming into bearing last spring. He conceived the idea that coal tar would ward off the insects. He gave the bodies of the trees a coat of tar which, as the old southerner would remark, gave them a bolition color.

His neighbors told him that he should do it if he wanted to kill his trees. The bodies of the trees were black as jet. How to get rid of the tar was a stumper. He conceived the idea that to split the bark of the trees with a knife would give the wood a chance to expand.

The remedy to clear off the insects was effectual, but it was sure death to the trees.

Mr. P is a better entomologist than pomologist. He knows a bug when he sees it, you bet, but his coal tar lesson will be a good one for all the neighbors to profit by. Tar of any kind will kill fruit trees. Just a girdle made of tar around a tree will kill it. This fact we know from experience--Yakima Herald, November 9, 1893.

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It is evident that the supply of fruits produced in this section of the state is in excess of a profitable market for it and it is also evident that the fruit grower will suffer loss if he fail to apply some advanced plan of curing a considerable portion of his crop at home.

Yakima has always found a good market for its fruits on the Sound and in cities as far east as Montana, until this season.

As a consequence of the hard times the demand has greatly decreased while a very considerable increase in the volume of the product is ~~being~~ noted.

Thus is created a necessity for curing and preserving much of the local fruit supply at home and holding it in that form until the public appetite has grown more vigorous in its demand for luxuries.

A.F. Snelling, recently suggested a plan which the reporter finds is meeting with general approval among those with whom it has been discussed. It is that of establishing a kind of cooperative institution in Nerty Yakima over which a competent man shall preside and to which the growers may bring their fruits for storage, sale or preservation in some form.

For instance a structure shall be erected of sufficient dimensions and appropriate construction, in one department of which fruit may be stored and in another they may be cured.

Dryers and evaporators will be purchased and used. Possibly a small canning plant might be added.

The work of handling these fruits and conducting the business of curing and selling or storing them will be done by members of the families interested in the institution so far as possible, thus



## Horticulture

C.A. Tonneson, secretary of the state board of horticulture will be in the city next Wednesday for the purpose of organizing a local horticultural society, a meeting of which has been called to be held in the Yakima club rooms at 2 p.m. that day.

It is hoped that the horticulturists of the neighborhood will lend their aid in making the meeting one of interest--  
Yakima Herald, January 18, 1894.

## Horticulture

The call for the meeting of horticulturists at the Commercial club rooms on Wednesday afternoon brought out about fifty leading citizens of the city and vicinity.

Secretary Tonneson and Vice President Maxey of the state horticultural board were present.

..Mr. Tonneson explained the objects of the meeting. Mr. Maxey spoke of the exhibit of fruits from this state. There will always be found a brisk market for the best and the best will come from the Yakima valley. He attributed the failure of the orchards of the eastern state to the change in electrical conditions brought about by the vast network of railroads and telegraph wires that spread over the country. A theory that scientists will probably smile at and bring plenty of facts and arguments to disprove.

Mr. Buchanan related the experience of Snake river fruit growers in organizing for the shipping and marketing of their apples and prunes. They had met with marked success. The productiveness of that region was reconsidered, but said the speaker, I see no reason why the Yakima valley may not produce as well, perhaps better, even in some varieties.

On motion Mr. C.P. Wilcox was chosen chairman and G.C. Mitchell secretary.

It was resolved to organize the Yakima County Horticultural society. The temporary officers were made permanent officers of the society. J.M. Gilbert being made vice president and Mr. Mitchell both secretary and treasurer. A constitution was adopted and names of our worthy members were enrolled.

The president was authorized to appoint a local committee to



## Fruit exports

As for the fruit industry in this state, a foreign market exists and will quickly absorb all the surplus fruits of all kinds grown in the state, the question of being to find a way to profitably reach that market. The Spokane meeting in February may throw light on this branch of the subject--Olympia Tribune, January, 1894.

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Pullman expects to have a fruit and vegetable cannery. So does Yakima.

Perhaps we will call ours an evapory. Mr. Wilcox proposes to see the best in this line in California and give Washington fruit growers the benefit of his observations. No man is better able to conduct such an investigation. Watch The Ranch for a report of what he sees and hears--Yakima Herald, March 1, 1894.



## Fruit Shipping

The Yakima Shipping association has been incorporated. Its capitalization is \$100,000, divided into shares of \$5 each, and the directors who are to conduct its affairs until November 1st of this year are: G.C. Mitchell, J.M. Gilbert, C.P. Wilcox, F.E. Thompson, D.E. Lesh, O. Halstead, W.H. Redman, P.J. Flint and F.E. Benson.

Its objects are to promote the interests of growers of fruits and other farm productions by cooperating in shipping, collecting and disseminating information bearing upon the preparation and marketing of said products; establishing uniformity in grading and packing and in extending and developing markets; to purchase and sell supplies used in raising, preparing and marketing said products; to lease or purchase real estate or personal property and to receive, store and market for account of owners fruits and other products intrusted to the corporation--Yakima Herald, May 10, 1894.

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Industry

The Yakima Shipping association has secured land convenient to the Northern Pacific side track and will erect a warehouse for convenience in handling fruits and other produce--Yakima Herald, June 7, 1894.



## Fruit Industry

A quiet yet determined sort of meeting was held in the Commercial club rooms on Saturday evening last at which a number of leading fruit growers were present. While no definite action was taken, it was the sense of the meeting that a large fruit drier or evaporator was necessary for protection of growers and a committee was appointed to obtain subscriptions to the stock and confer with the manufacturers.

Its location will be central, probably in or near this city and its operation will be under control of the Shippers Association, Yakima Herald, July 26, 1894.

Articles of incorporation of the Yakima Fruit Company have been filed in the auditor's office.

The capital stock of the company is ~~\$200,000~~ \$2,000 and the incorporators are A.B. Weed, George C. Mitchell, W.H. Redman, E.R. Leaming, Frank Bartholet and Fred Parker.

Shares of the value of \$100 each have been issued.

The objects of the corporation are: "To purchase, take, own and operate all necessary apparatus for curing, drying, evaporating and preparing for market fruit, berries and other agricultural products and to sell and dispose of the same; to buy, sell and exchange fresh and dried fruits and other agricultural products.

The apparatus has been ordered and will be here August 13, starting into operation within a week thereafter.

It will have a capacity of 14,000 pounds of green fruit per day.

Its permanent location has not yet been determined but it is probable that it will be across the tracks, near the large Donald warehouse--Yakima Herald, August 2, 1894.

## Fruit Industry

The fruit evaporator is on high road to completion and will be fully in train for work before September 1.

It is located exactly west of the depot, across the track and some idea of the space it is to cover in main and auxiliary buildings may be seen from the description of the lots, viz:

Commencing at the southwest corner of lot 5, block A, running north 60 feet thence east 70 feet, thence south 60 feet, thence west 70 feet to place at beginning."

The land is leased for a term of five years by the incorporators. Yakima Herald, August 23, 1894.

The Yakima Evaporating Co. is now prepared to do business at the following prices:

Silver and Italian prunes 1-1-2 cents per lb; French 1 1-4 cents; peaches 3 1-2 cents; apples 1 1-2 cents, dried weight or half the fruit. We have gone to great expense in preparing for work and have with us an experienced man from San Francisco. For further information inquire of George C. Mitchell, mgr. Yakima Herald, August 30, 1894.



## Fruit industry

Since its installation the Yakima Evaporator's company plant has dried 10,000 pounds of prunes and peaches on direct orders from outside customers.

The sacking has just been furnished and the first shipments will begin next week, going to St. Paul. The company has almost, if not, quite paid for expenses and has done much better than it anticipated for the first year--and that year 1894.

Much more fruit will be handled next year. The wheel is a fine one and does the best of work but while it has 240 trays, when any of them are taken out there are new ones to go instead, hence a great deal of heat is lost.

The company will next year put in one hundred more trays and it is estimated that fully one-third more fruit can be dried at no more cost. The plant is a fine one and will undoubtedly develop into a great establishment. Yakima Herald, Nov. 1, 1894.

## Orchards

J.D. Medill of the Excelsior Nursery thinks that there will be fully as many fruit trees planted this spring as last.

Among the new orchards mentioned by him were 30 acres being planted by A.B. Wyckoff, west of the city; 60 acres by George Bosdet and John Stone in the Selah and 40 acres by W.L. Steinweg and Walter Tuesley under the Steinweg artesian wells.

The new orchards are being given principally to ~~00000~~ winter apples--Yakima Herald, March 14, 1895.

J.E. Daily who represents a Tacoma commission house and has been here for the past two months buying produce, is making shipment of 75 boxes of apples per week--Yakima Herald, March 14, 1895.



## Fruit Growers

The second meeting of the National Fruit Growers association was held in Portland and well attended and the papers offered and discussed were more than usual interesting.

The following officers were elected to serve during the ensuing year Dr. N.G. Blalock, reelected president; T.R. Coon, Hood River, secretary; E.F. Benson, North Yakima, vice president for Washington; L.A. Porter, vice president for Idaho; J.R. Anderson, vice president for British Columbia and L.A. Clark, vice president for Oregon.

It was decided before adjournment to hold the next meeting at Walla Walla on February 26, 1895--Yakima Herald, Feb 21, 1895.

C.P. Wilcox who shipped 26,000 pounds of dried French, Hungarian, Italian and Silver prunes to Minneapolis some weeks ago has received satisfactory advances on them, and the commission merchants pronounce them the equal of any in the market.

They say that they sell readily at from 6 to 8 cents wholesale and Mr. Wilcox calculates that they will net him 5 cents per pound in Yakima--Yakima Herald, March 28, 1895.

In 1893-4 New York dealers shipped 168,700 barrels of apples to Europe. That was practically the first shipment but our apples found so much favor abroad that since last fall there has been shipped from the port of New York alone 1,443,582 barrels. India, Russia and Argentina may capture the wheatmarkets but in apples this country has no equal.

Bruce M. Brewer of Sunnyside was in the city on Friday last and said that the amount of fruit trees being shipped and planted this season was something wonderful. There was no extensive orchards being planted unless A.J. Stratton succeeds in getting the \$800 worth of trees ordered by him but almost every land owner is putting in a few acres of fruit.

J.D. Medill thinks Yakima is making a mistake in going so heavily into the growing of red apples. To his notion the finest apple grown is the yellow Newton pippin and that is favored abroad is shown when this variety was quoted in England at 45 shillings per barrel while Baldwins were quoted at 26 shillings. As to the Ben Davis he says it is not to be compared with the various varieties of pippins, the Spitzenburg or the Baldwin; its main drawback is that it is pulpy and flavored on the order of a turnip. The blue paramin is too weak in the stem for a country liable to much wind.

Simpson Bros. Report a satisfactory business in fruit trees this spring, the main stock sold being of winter apples and the varieties predominating the Arkansas black, Delaware red winter, mammoth black twig, Ben Davis, winesap, Spitzenburg and the Newtown and red cheeked pippin. Among the orders filled were 600 apple trees for Capt. Robert Dunn, 500 for D.E. Lesh, 4,400 apple and peach trees for Carden & Bibbs of Sunnyside; 250 pear trees



## Horticulture

It is time the state board of horticulture was giving some little attention to the protection of the fruit in interests of Yakima county.

There is a greater increase of orchard acreage here than in any other section of this state and while this district has a member of the board he resides in Ellensburg and has spent but one day in Yakima during the present year.

On account of the lack of competing railroads the commission merchants in Seattle and Tacoma ship to this section oranges and lemons so infected with San Jose scale as to be unmarketable in the eastern part of the state where there is competition from Portland. As a result the scale is spreading rapidly and is a menace to the horticultural interests of Yakima.

If this district is to have but one inspector of member of the board he should be located in Yakima as this is a typical fruit country and the area is devoted to orchard in many times excess that of Kittitas.--Yakima Herald, June 6, 1895.

The Herald scores another victory for promotion of the best interests of the producers or more particularly the fruit growers....

North Yakima June 26, 1895. To the Fruit Growers of Yakima County.

I have this day appointed Charles Lee of Yakima City Yakima county deputy inspector of fruit and fruit trees for the above county. All complaints should be addressed to Mr. Lee. We trust all fruit growers and dealers will join in the work of destroying the fruit pests that so seriously threaten our interests. Let there be united effort to eradicate these pests from our many promising orchards. S.W. Maxey, commissioner fourth horticultural district. Yakima Herald, July 4, 1895.