

Yakima Indians
in Puyallup Hop Yards

...The Indians, who were within the county limits, were in strong force all along the valley. Canoes were being pushed and paddled against the rapid current of the Puyallup; camp fires were burning all along its banks. Wagons were conveying provisions, matting, camping material and divers other articles from the river landings to the numerous hopfields...

The wild Klickitat and Yakima Indians were galloping up and down the dusty roads in gorgeous array, with long hair flying in the breeze, moccasined feet and highly decorated leggins displayed to the best advantage, and painted faces and robed bodies flitting swiftly to and fro.

Second, if not first, in importance to the minds of the Indians was the fun to be had at the race track, which is located on the Sumner celebration ground. Many Indians come here during the hop-picking season for the express purpose of horse-racing and gambling. They will not work but have no conscientious scruples against allowing their dusky helpmeets to bend their backs to the toilsome task of picking hops. Racing and gambling were the chief delight among the savages on Saturday and Sunday.

Two stands have been erected near the grounds where the Indians congregate for sport. Here the natives spend considerable money for refreshments. It too often happens, however, that from one source or another -- we do not know how ~~and~~ closely connected with the eating houses -- the Indians obtain liquor. The fact is demonstrated whenever the Indians begin to get wonderfully brave, somewhat abusive, decidedly rich and swear in pure English...

-- Tacoma Herald, Sept. 8, 1877

Hops

About ~~ix~~ 100 tons of hops will be raised in the Yakima valley this year.

-- Tacoma Herald, Sept. 1, 1877

The culture of hops over in the Yakima valley is becoming a matter of importance. Marchbanks, Williams & Co. have shipped 22 tons during the present year, more than half of which was produced by one man named Carpenter.

-- ~~Tacoma~~ Olympia Transcript, Oct. 18, 1879

The Dalles Inland Empire says:

Whenever people live a long distance and have poor facilities for transportation they must try and produce valuable staples so as to overcome the cost of freightage. As we learn that the cultivation of hops in Yakima county, across the river, has already attained proportions that the present year's crop is estimated at 100 tons. The OSN company talk of running a boat up to the mouth of Yakima river whenever the proposed wagon road from Kittitas valley is completed.

-- Tacoma Herald, Aug. 2, 1878

Hops

Thursday evening the hop house of H.M. Benton in Yakima valley took fire and was entirely consumed, together with several tons of hops. The fire is supposed to have originated from a spark from the dryer. Both the store room and dry house (being joined together) were destroyed, the total loss being about \$2,500. The property was insured for \$2,000 in the Fireman's fund of San Francisco.

-- Times-Mountaineer, Sept. 27, 1884

It is estimated that there are in the vicinity of Yakima at least 165 acres of hops...Mr. Charles Carpenter, our pioneer hop grower, has just finished picking 2 acres that yielded a ton and a quarter per acre... (possibly a lift from Yakima paper)

-- Times-Mountaineer, Sept. 27, 1884

During the early part of last week Mr. Charles Carpenter of Yakima shipped 2 tons of hops to The Dalles.

-- Times, Sept. 14, 1880

Hops

Last September the streets of our town were enlivened by the presence of hundreds of Indians from the S^himcoe reservation who were engaged in hop picking and when entirely idle on Sundays they presented a novel spectacle as they rode hither and thither or collected in groups on horseback, parents and children...

During the hop harvest the Indians spend more money in town than the whites.

..In 1860 but 40 pounds of hops were raised in the territory. Ten years later there were some 6,162 pounds sent to market. In 1880 the vines yielded 703,277 pounds and the army of pickers in 1884 have picked a trifle over 1,250,000 pounds.

West of the Cascades agents of ~~the~~ ~~the~~ go into British Columbia and as far as Alaska securing the services of hundreds of Indians....

The size of the box for which \$1 is paid for picking is six feet long and two and one-half feet deep.

The hop industry of the Yakima valley in the vicinity of Yakima City has arisen from nothing a few years ago to a production of 125 tons in 1884. Up to the present time it has been impractical to haul heavy produce from this valley to market. The nearest railroad station has been at The Dalles, a hundred miles away. The lightness of hops rendered them an available crop and their culture for profit began about six years ago. The experiment has proven a great success.

There is a larger acreage of hops in the ~~the~~ ~~the~~ Antanum valley than in any other locality of the county. In that valley are Chris and George Carpenter, the former with 10 acres and the latter with about 15. ~~George~~ Charles Carpenter has an average of over a

ton to the acre this season. H.M. Benton, further up, has six acres, Joe Kson fourteen, the Wiley estate thirt ; J.R. Filkins five and a half. Mr. Filkin's yard was not cultivated this season. Mr. L. Hawkins has ten acres a new field said to average over a ton to the acre; Timothy Lynch has eight acres; Robert White four. D. Eglin ten; Ed Henderson five; Patrick Doyle ten.

The hop fields of the Wiley estate are the largest in the Antanum valley as well as in Eastern Washington. They are well cultivated and the yield of the thirty acres this season is nearly a ~~ten~~ ton to the acre. For picking the crop it cost \$2,300.

In the Yakima valley proper between Union and North gaps are the ~~ten~~ fields of Messrs Al Churchill, Watson, Jos Schanno, S.S. Foster and Mr. Beck. In the Moxee valley Mr. Fowler has a fine field and in Parker Bottom Judge Brooks and A.W. Lachapelle have this year erected large drying houses to accommodate their newly planted yards. These fields are within a radius of about 15 miles of Yakima city and the average elevation of the valleys is about 900 feet above sea level....The Washington Farmer, 1884, Christmas Day.

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Hops

Merchant G.W. Carey is perfecting arrangements through William Constans of St Paul for an advancement of six cents per pound on the 150 tons of hops of this valley.

This will insure picking and will bring \$18,000 into the county-^{the} Yakima Signal, August 2, 1885.

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Merchant G.W. Carey is perfecting arrangements through William Constans of St Paul for an advancement of six cents per pound on the 150 tons of hops of this valley.

This will insure picking and will bring \$18,000 into the county-^{the} Yakima Signal, August 2, 1885.

Hop-Picking 1886

Hop picking in this valley was about completed Wednesday and the Indians commenced moving homewards. The yield in these yards which were well cared for was surprisingly large. Mr. Hiram Carpenter's crop will not be far from 26 tons, which at 35 cents per pound, the price offered, will realize \$16,640, a clear profit of about \$13,000.—Signal.

Hirman Carpenter finished picking his splendid crop of 20 acres of hops Wednesday... Hops grown by Timothy Lynch this year measured 7 inches. Charles Carpenter's New Orleans prize medal shows Yakima hops to be the best in the world.—Yakima Farmer.

— The Dalles Times-Mountaineer, Oct. 9, 1886

Hops 1887

The Moxee company are shipping their crop of hops to Portland.

To date Charles Carpenter has shipped to Milwaukee over 850 bales of Yakima hops.

--Portland Oregonian, Oct. 27, 1887 (both)

The hop business at present is in the hands of a few growers but will be more extended as the land is taken up. Something over three hundred acres are now being cultivated, which are shipped from this place. The yield last season was about 2200 bales. There is a slight increase of acreage this year and an increased yield is anticipated.

A large ditch is now in process of construction which will be finished this year. This ditch will irrigate a large tract of fertile land lying north of this city in which some of the large hop growers of Puyallup are interested. Good hop lands not yet broken can be purchased at from \$20 to \$40 per acre with water privilege. Lands already devoted to hop culture can be had at from \$0 to \$60 per acre. Small yards may be seen in the Natcheez valley which extends to the foothills in a westerly direction. The yards are not as large as in the Ahtanum. There are in all probability about forty farmers engaged in the hop business in this section.

The hop was first grown here by Charles and Hiram Carpenter who came from Oneida county. They have become rich men by raising hops and engaging in the cattle business. They have been engaged in the business 12 to 14 years, during which time there has never been a failure of the crop or any trouble with lice. Yours truly, Frank D. Nash. Yakima Herald, June 28, 1889.

A Hop Melange -John A. Stone, proposes to put in 40 acres of his Parker Bottom ranch to hops this fall. It was on his representation that Mr. Meeker was induced to come here last year and by which a number of Yakima hop men obtained 20 cents a pound for their hops, when the Eastern buyers were offering much less. Mr. Stone favors an association here, being convinced that in that way only can buyers be induced to come here and bid on our hops and thus the top prices can be obtained. Yakima hops are looking well. The late rains have added materially to the prospects of a crop and have prevented the deterioration in quality which was threatened by the hot winds--Yakima Herald, North Yakima, Washington Territory , July 4, 1880.

The Washington Territory Hop Growers association has been incorporated with the principal business office at Kent.

The capital stock of the company is \$20,000, divided into 400 shares of \$50 each. No person is permitted to hold more than one share of the capital stock. The objects are to encourage goodfellowship and close application among all persons engaged in the cultivation of hops in Washington territory; to advance the interests of all persons producing, curing and marketing hops and to provide a fund for the support of widows, orphans of deceased members of the association--Yakima Herald, August 15, 1889.

E. Meeker and Co 's Puyallup Circular of the 22nd cautions growers against premature picking and says that hops picked in an immature state are of much less market value , yield very much less in weight and approach that condition of being very nearly worthless to the consumers. Early picking inflicts a certain loss, while a later beginning brings a compensating return even if some loss does follow, but which is by no means certain to occur.

Meeker's Hop Culture says:A hop when fully ripe and well matured will be well and compactly closed at the point; it becomes harsh and crisp to the touch and makes a rustling noise when clasped in the hand.

The seed will be hard and of a dark purple color. The color of the hop will have changed from a greenish cast to a bright yellow or golden. The lupuline will be abundant not only at the base of the leaf or carpel, but will extend well out on the leaf; the little yellow globules of lupuline will show brither and larger than in an unripe hop Yakima ~~World~~ Herald, August 29, 1889.

The first car load of early hops was shipped from Yakima to Milwaukee by Charles Carpenter Monday. Mr. Carpenter purchased them from the growers for 14 cents a pound, delivered at the depot. He pronounces the quality excellent. Although the crop on some of the ranches is light, owing to a shortage of water, there will be fully as great a quantity for shipment this year as last when upward of sixteen hundred bales were disposed of to eastern and English buyers. There are about thirty-five acres more under cultivation this year than in 1888 which accounts for the aggregate yield being as great. The hop picking in Yakima will commence in earnest next week--Yakima Herald, August 29 , 1889.

The day following my arrival here I took a horseback ride through some of the hop fields lying near the city. Owing to the lack of snow last winter and the long dry spell this summer some of the yards on land where they depend upon sub-irrigation will not produce a full crop; but in these lands watered by ditches, the crop is excellent.

I went through one yard of about ten acres that will produce probably 15,000 pounds of hops. The branches hung down so low that I was forced to stoop almost continually to get through. I could find no vermin or blight. The hops which are developing finely hung down in great clusters. On the runners, which have covered the ground in this yard since they were cultivated last, there were growing as fine hops as those on the poles.

About sixty bales of seedings grown in this vicinity were shipped yesterday to Milwaukee. The price paid was 14 cents. The picking of the late crop will begin about September 10. Most of the picking is done by the Yakima Indians, whose reservation lies four miles south of us. They pick in single boxes which hold twenty bushels of green hops or about thirty pounds dried. The price paid for picking is \$1 per box.

Judging from the samples that I have seen the hops are picked cleaner than in Oneida county. The crop on the coast promises to be of fine quality, a little but not much short of that harvested last year.

Some of the finest fruit that I have ever tasted is being daily brought into this market from the surrounding country. Now I am told that an acre of land will grow 1,000 melons and that they are worth 10 cents apiece. Some of them weigh as high as 50 pounds.--
F.D. Nash in Waterville, New York Times, August, 1889.

Hops

The Hop market appears a little "offish" at present. The reports from New York are to the effect that hops there in nearly all the yards of of good quality and color, and the yield is heavier than anticipated. It is said that New York dealers have sold '89s short for October delivery at 12 cents.--September 2, 1889, Yakima Herald.

Hops

Assistant General Freight Agent Fulton of the Northern Pacific has received a telegram from J.T. Sickle, general western agent of the Atlantic transport line, Chicago, advising him of the arrival in London on Saturday last, November 9, of the steamship Maine, with 1,350 bales of hops, shipped by special train from Puyallup by E. Meeker & Co. on the 9th of October, routed via the Northern Pacific, Wisconsin Central, the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne & Chicago, care of the Atlantic Transportation to Baltimore and thence to London direct.

The hops therefore arrived in London just thirty days after their departure from Puyallup. This is the second trainload shipment of hops ever made from the Pacific coast to Europe via the Atlantic, the first instance being that of the Montana last month--Yakima Herald, November 14, 1889.

Two car loads of hops were shipped to Milwaukee today. Hops are on the rise and Charles Carpenter is now paying twelve cents a pound--Yakima Herald, February 13, 1890.

Hops

A Puyallup dispatch of Nov. 23 says : The Hop market is improving. Frie and Boatman sold their entire crop today at eight cents. Urquhart , of Lake Tanns has consigned his entire crop at four cents advance with a written guarantee of nine cents. There is a better feeling in the English market--Yakima Herald, November 21, 1889.

Agriculture

Hops

Some Puyallup hop growers are now contracting this year's crop at eighteen cents per pound-Yakima Herald, Feb. 27, 1890.

Charles Carpenter shipped thirty-one bales of JLR. Mackison's hops to Milwaukee Monday. There are now, as near as can be determined, but forty one bales of hops left in the county-Yakima Herald, March 13, 1890.