

PACKERS CLOSE HOUSES

HIGHLAND AND REDLANDS STOP SHIPPING

Growers Say Their Fruit is Not Injured, but Fear Frozen Fruit from Other Districts Will Demoralize the Market.

San Bernardino—Nearly every orange packing house in the Highland and Redlands districts has been closed down for from two weeks to one month.

This unusual proceeding is the result of the recent cold weather that has prevailed in this part of the state. The packers and growers in these two districts state that their fruit has not been injured by the frost. They also say that a vast deal of fruit in the Riverside and other districts has been frozen by the cold weather, which will result in a great quantity of poor fruit being forwarded to the eastern markets at once.

They insist that this will surely result in something of a slump in prices, and they do not care to send their fruit into the market when prices are low from a floor of the damaged fruit from other districts. By holding off from two to four weeks it is believed the market will have recovered its natural form and prices will be better. One Highland packer stated that he should ship no more fruit until compelled to do so by its ripened condition. This plan is expected to give a good market when packing and shipping is reduced.

Assessment Work.

Searchlight, Nevada.—Assessment work during the past two months has been responsible for an extraordinary number of good, and in some cases, very rich discoveries, in properties that had been considered of rather indifferent importance.

The fact has added not only to the value of individual veins, but to that of all mining property in the vicinity. It has also served to emphasize, strongly, the truth, for this formation, of the saying that with depth values increase—a dictum, by the way, so generally abused, that it usually brings a feeling of great languor to a mining man's system; for it is the almost universal cry of the prospector—his hope and faith that with depth values will improve, his wish being to the thought, for in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred there is no earthly reason why they should do so.

Here they do. It has been so often proven as to be now accepted as a rule. The why and the wherefor make another story.

As a result of good strikes made during assessment, a number of local properties will be systematically developed, that would otherwise have been idle for the coming year. Furthermore, several veins are to be opened to water level because of the surface similarity and near neighborhood to leads that have shown up well at depth.—Searchlight.

Great Mining Region Tapped.

New interest has been awakened in the mining resources of the desert by the construction of the Salt Lake Railroad—San Pedro, Los Angeles and Salt Lake Railroad—and the work now being done on the proposed Santa Fe branch into the Death Valley region which is being built from Ludlow into the borax fields for the Pacific Coast Borax company. This road taps one of the least explored mineral regions, and has tended to open up several mining camps. The borax fields of this country leads all other sections of the world, the value of this product shipped during the year amounting to \$2,574,000, and the deposits are apparently inexhaustible. In the production of gold and silver the value has exceeded \$1,000,000, while twice that sum has been put into modern machinery, the development of mining properties, and the outlook is for a record-breaking year for 1906.

The Bagdad-Chase group of mines, at Rochester, are the principal ones of the country, having millions in gold ore already blocked out. Several rich quartz claims are being developed in the Morongo district, while such camps as Vanderbilt, Manvel, Dale, New York, Roosevelt, Otis and others are more active than in many years past. Several large sales to Eastern investors, especially of copper deposits, involving close to \$900,000, indicate that the interest in these resources is not limited to the country.

At Rabbit Springs, twenty-six miles from Victor, the Victor Quartz Mining and Milling Company is developing twenty-five patented claims, and Holcomb Valley and other mining sections, which have been practically abandoned since the excitement of twenty years ago, are again centers of activity.

May Ship Coal To Orient.

San Pedro.—There is being organized in Salt Lake a company which may help make San Pedro a great port by building bunkers and shipping coal from Utah to oriental ports, loading ships here.

Several San Pedro men are in the company, and two or three of the directors will be local men.

Two steamers of 2000 tons each have been chartered for this work to ply between here and the Hawaiian islands and more will be put on when the trade is worked up so that they are needed. Work on the bunkers is to be begun within a few weeks. They will be located at the end of the Salt Lake wharf, near Deadman's island. It will be necessary to do some dredging before the ships can come up to the location, but this will cost very little as the water is already about fourteen feet deep at ordinary high tides.

MILLIONS OF ACRES OF ARID LAND TO BE THROWN OPEN

Government Will Construct Largest Irrigation Works in History.

Millions of acres of arid land in the West will be thrown open to the farmer through irrigation, and the huge projects which the government has on hand under the national reclamation act will, it is claimed by the most enthusiastic irrigation experts, open the way for the mightiest Anglo-Saxon civilization the world has ever known.

Under the reclamation act the government will construct the largest irrigation works in history, far exceeding those of Egypt and India. The reclamation act provides that funds from the sale of certain public lands shall be applied by the government to the building of irrigation works. At the present time the fund amounts to about \$28,000,000 and is increasing at the rate of \$4,000,000 annually. This fund is self-sustaining. After the irrigation works have been constructed the sum expended in any one work is to be returned to the government in ten equal annual installments by the settlers pro rata. At the end of the first year, after any one project has been completed, one-tenth of the original amount expended on that work is to be returned and put into other projects.

Among these great works undertaken by the government is the Shoshone project in Wyoming, which will irrigate 160,000 acres of public land; the Uncompagne valley project in Colorado, 10,000 acres; the Belle Fourche project in South Dakota, 85,000 acres; the Salt river project in Arizona, 200,000 acres; the Malheur project in Oregon, 90,000 acres; the Hondo river project in New Mexico, 10,000; the Fort Buford project in Montana, 60,000 acres; the North Platte project in Wyoming and Nebraska, 300,000 acres; the Minidoka project in Idaho, 130,000 acres; the Yuma project in Arizona and California, 115,000 acres; the Truckee-Carson project in Nevada, 350,000 acres; the Klamath project in Oregon and California, 2,000,000 acres. Beside the projects enumerated, which total no less than 3,600,000 acres, the engineers of the reclamation service are preparing surveys on a great many other projects which will be undertaken as rapidly as the fund expands and is returned to begin work.

Fifty million acres of arid land, it is estimated, at present totally unfit for agriculture, will be opened to the settler through the huge irrigation works which the government will construct under the national reclamation act.—Hamilton Wright in National Magazine.

Sixty-Two Students Are Dropped.

Stanford University.—The report of the Stanford scholarship committee was made public here. Sixty-two students who failed to obtain passing grades in two-thirds of their work were notified that they must withdraw from the university for a period of one semester, and seventy-two were warned that unless their work shows a decided improvement they, too, will be dropped off the campus.

As usual the record of the girls is far better than that of the men. Of the sixty-two who were dropped but one was a woman, and only five out of the seventy-two warned were "co-eds." The explanation of this is that while the men engage in athletics and college activities the women, as a whole, do not have their time taken up in such a manner.

The registration of this semester has exceeded by nearly 200 any previous figures.

Finds Tomb Of Pharaoh.

Cairo.—A telegram received from Luxor announces the discovery by Theodore M. Davis, a noted American Egyptologist, of the tomb of Meren Ptah, supposed by many archaeologists to be the Pharaoh of the Book of Exodus. His mummy was found recently in the tomb of Amenhotep II.

Mr. Davis made the discovery in the Valley of the Tomb of Kings.

Good Place For Poultry.

The following dispatch from New York appeared recently in The Los Angeles Times:

"George H. Burgoltof, an expert on poultry, who judged several classes of chickens at the poultry show, said after he had made awards at the show, that California's display excelled anything he has ever judged in New York.

"He is fully convinced that California is as good a habitat for poultry as any place in the United States."

In connection with the above the following editorial from The Times of Thanksgiving Day is pertinent: The cremation yesterday of the local health office of 20,000 pounds or more of Eastern turkeys which arrived in this market in an unsanitary condition, suggests several important queries, viz: Why does not Southern California raise her own turkeys?

Why does not Southern California raise her own chickens?

Why (if we may be pardoned for so expressing it) does not Southern California lay her own eggs?

The fact that we have to import the greater share of these products contained in our Southern California cities, is not creditable to a section of country which takes pride in being a producing section. We have often boasted that we can produce everything on the dinner table, from the first course to the last, with the olives, the wine and the nuts and raisins. We can—but why don't we? We are shipping in poultry, eggs, meats and other staples by the carload. In such a profitable and favored land we should get all these things out of our own soil.

Empty.

Dummeigh—What about this canteen problem?
Brisque—Oh, there's nothing in it"—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

REPORTS LIGHT ORANGE CROP

RIVERSIDE EXPERTS MAKE ESTIMATE

Shipments From Southern California Will Fall Short of 23,000 Cars, Lemon Output Up to Normal Figures.

Riverside—Local experts have compiled the following estimates on the orange crop from all sections of Southern California.

The estimates are furnished by growers and snippers, several from each locality. The result of these estimates is the following table:

	Cars.
Riverside	5,950
Redlands	2,975
Ontario-Cucamonga	2,633
Pomona	860
Highland	1,300
Azusa-Glondora	900
Covina	1,125
Fullerton	800
Pasadena	700
Orange	575
Colton	700
Duarte-Monrovia	800
San Dimas	500
Corona	500
Rialto	860
Hemet-Moreno	175
Ventura	585
Whittier	350
San Diego County	75
Remainder Los Angeles County	700
Remainder Orange County	300
Total	22,970

LEMONS

Estimates on the lemon crop for the several Southern California counties are as follows:

	Cars.
Riverside County	1,300
San Bernardino	1,000
Los Angeles	800
Ventura	375
Santa Barbara	200
San Diego	175
Total	3,770

The Ontario-Cucamonga district, Riverside and Corona each claim about the same lemon output—about 600 cars.

Nearly every section reports a lighter crop than last year, ranging from 5 to 25 per cent. The average is 10 1/2 per cent less. All agree that while the lemons are a short crop, valencias promise exceedingly well and that the lemon crop will be up to normal.

Causes of the shortage are believed to be the large dropping when the fruit was setting, heavy winds in December and small sizes of fruit.

California Items of Interest.

Five hundred and forty-seven carloads of oranges were shipped from Redlands to Dec. 23.

With a view of breeding and raising better horses a company of ten of Cucamonga's foremost citizens have invested \$3,000 in a Percheron stallion.

The wheat yield in Kansas this year was over 77,000,000 bushels, and the yield of corn 191,000,000 bushels, the largest since 1892.

Trouble has been stirred up among the various packers of Redlands and alleged price cutting by certain concerns with the object of "breaking" the markets.

At Corning, one of the principal turkey-shipping points in the State, the farmers brought in so many dressed turkeys during the holidays that the local express office was unable to handle them all.

The early shipments of oranges and lemons are about over, the total cars shipped from Tulare County amounting to 1234 cars of oranges and 111 lemons, as against 1172 cars of oranges and 58 lemons for the same period last year.

The Bureau of Plant Industry has just begun to furnish California and Arizona with millions of seeds and sprouts of pistachio tree, an innovation which, to California and Arizona, is equally as important as the introduction in that region of the orange, the Tokay, Malvoise, and the Muscat grapes and the olive.

A gentleman living on a 16-acre Tokay grape vineyard near Lodi reports a net profit of 14 per cent on his grapes this season. Actual figures are \$1,960 net profit on the 16 acres, and he bought the property last April and he was an experienced eastern man.

As tending to show the extent of the fruit industry in San Diego County, the following, showing the total shipments for the year, will be of interest: Apples, 30,000 boxes; dried apricots, 150,000 pounds; lemons, 670 cars, or 209,040 boxes; oranges, 210 cars, or 65,520 boxes; dried peaches, 150,000 pounds; prunes, 250,000 pounds.

Six hundred and seventy carloads of lemons were shipped during the past season by growers of San Diego County. To load these cars 209,040 boxes of lemons were required and when it is remembered that the past season was the most prosperous for lemon growers in a number of years it can be seen what a large source of revenue the crop was for the county.—Cal. Cultivator.

Why He Worried.

"I'm worried."
"Not feeling well, eh?"
"No, it ain't that."
"Financial matters, maybe?"
"No, no."
"Anybody in the family ill?"
"Not at all."
"Then, what in blazes worries you?"
"Well, it's this way. It looks to me as though both the candidates for Governor are going to run very close. And what worries me is this: Suppose the result of the votes should be a tie."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

GREAT INLAND OCEAN CONTINUES TO RISE

Construction Gangs Hurry Work on New Track—Water Constantly Creeping Up and Softens Spots in Old Roadbed.

San Bernardino—That the Southern Pacific in the vicinity of the Salt Lake sea is facing a situation that is rapidly becoming a serious one is evident from reports from the desert, brought by people coming in from that section.

The strange inland sea is continuing to rise at the rate of about an inch a day, there being no cessation. In places arms of the sea now reach under the track, and in many spots the track is becoming soft, making it necessary for the trains to move slowly.

Work on the new line on a level of from fifty to seventy-five feet higher than the present track is being rushed with hundreds of men, and it is hoped to have it in operation in the very near future, so that the ever-rising sea will not interfere with the operation of trains.

Water has gotten dangerously near some of the lands to the east of Mecca and has endangered the government experiment station, and if it continues to rise will inundate much of that country.

The entire country about the sea is now a fine hunting field, there being thousands upon thousands of ducks and geese, and it is but an hour's work to get out and procure a fine string of birds.

The Southern Pacific is using several boats on the sea for handling material from one point to another and for hauling out material that has been covered by the water.

High-priced Horses.

While watching the procession of automobiles, electric trucks and motorcycles filing along the main streets of the town and getting their drivers into trouble, one would suppose that the days of the horse were numbered. But such is far from the truth. A farmer who has been trying for a month to buy a horse tells me he can find but few for sale, and prices so elevated that it would bankrupt him to buy a good animal. This is true the country over, so it is not local conditions that have caused this elevation in prices. During the last five years, when horses were supposed to be depreciating on account of power vehicles coming to the front, draft horses have gone to an average value of \$177, an increase of \$22. The price of carriage horses has increased \$65 per pair, horses for general use \$35 each, drivers \$10, saddlers \$10, and busses \$25. The fact that horses for general use have advanced in price the sharpest speaks for the business activity of the country, drivers and saddlers showing the effects of competition from self-propelling vehicles.

Another proof that the horse is not to be displaced by the road car is the fact that the Department of Agriculture has undertaken the development of a purely American breed of carriage horses. Acting under instructions from Secretary Wilson, eighteen mares were purchased last year, these animals average 15.3 hands high and 1100 pounds in weight, brown, bay and chestnut in color. In searching all over the United States for a typical carriage stallion where do you suppose this prime animal was found? In Tom Lawson's stable at Boston, and struggling along under the grandiloquent name of "Glorious Thundercloud," registered as Carmon 32,917 in the American Trotting Register. Secretary Wilson calls him Carmon. The horse is sixteen hands high, weighs 1200 pounds in average condition, is a bay with black points and no white markings. He has a splendid carriage, great muscular development and superb beauty. And from this band is to come a race of typical carriage horses, for Carmon has Morgan, Mambrino and Clay in his immediate line of ancestors.

Predict Big Beet Crop.

Ventura.—The outlook for the 1906 crop of sugar beets is unusually promising. Colonel J. A. Drifill, manager of the Oxnard Sugar factory, says there are already between 12,000 and 13,000 acres contracted for and the indications are that the 20,000 mark will be reached.

The new price schedule which was adopted last fall is proving attractive to farmers, and new contracts are being signed steadily.

Despite the unfavorable weather conditions much activity is being manifested and 2000 acres have already been planted. A good rain at this time would prove a great encouragement to farmers, but all seem hopeful of rain.

State Dairy Report.

San Francisco.—The California promotion commission reports the following synopsis of the report of the state dairy bureau for the year ending October, 1905:

The total production of butter in California was 41,961,047 pounds. With but few exceptions there was an increase in the output in every county. The increase over the production for the previous year was 17 per cent, placing California in the front as a dairy state. The remarkable growth in the butter output shows a gain in five years of 211 per cent, the greatest gains being made in the counties located in the San Joaquin and Sacramento valleys, their remarkable progress being the best proof of their adaptability in the way of profitable dairying.

Appropriate.

"I confess that I have burdened you with much mediocre verse," said the tall bard, entering the sacred sanctum, "but here is a poem that really is a bird."
"A bird, eh?" smiled the busy editor.
"Then it would be very appropriate if I pigeonhole it."

IN FIELD OF HUSBANDRY

OF INTEREST TO FARMERS AND ORCHARDISTS

California Forests—Mold in Creameries—Origin of Vegetables—A Grand Scheme—Poultry Notes.

California Forests.

California has over 28,000,000 acres, or over one-fifth of its total area, under forest cover. Much of this land is finely timbered, and, with forest management, will be increasingly valuable for the wood which it can supply. But in California the forests have another use, which is as well understood in this State, is even more important than the production of timber, to conserve the water supply. The wonderful agricultural development which irrigation has made possible is perhaps the largest fact in California's recent economical history. Because of the need of water and the fear of floods public sentiment in favor of forest protection has always been well in advance of that in other States.—Cal. Cultivator.

To Keep Mould Out of Creameries.

Mold in the creameries is one of the serious difficulties which the creamery man has to contend with, says a writer in the Farmers' Sentinel. When it gets thoroughly established it is extremely hard to get rid of, as it is a fungus growth which produces seeds or spores and multiplies to work into every nook and corner, from which nothing but severe measures will serve to dislodge it.

One little patch of mold in a damp corner, if left to itself, will, under favorable conditions, in time infest all parts of the building, unless it be dry and light. It will spread to the butter tubs and the spores will lodge there, and, even though they are not in evidence when the butter is shipped, they will develop, penetrate the wood, and form moldy spots on the butter. During the last few years losses in moldy butter have been sustained to the amount of many thousands of dollars.

Investigations have been made by the dairy experts of this country, Canada and Europe to ascertain the best means of preventing the mold from getting a foothold and to find a simple method of eradicating it. They have found that it takes as naturally to certain conditions as a duck takes to water. It develops the most rapidly where the temperature is but slightly above the freezing point and where there is but little circulation of air. One bad feature of mold is that it gets well established before it is much in evidence. Often the first intimation of mold that the unwary buttermaker receives is when he gets word from his commission man that his butter was moldy, or the receiver of his butter advises him to soak his tubs and liners in a strong brine in which he should put two or three ounces of formaline to the gallon of water.

To keep mold from the creamery the refrigerator should receive at least two good lime washings a year. On shipping days while the refrigerator is empty the doors should be thrown open to let in the light and afford a free circulation of air.

A little mold on butter tubs often lowers the grade of butter as much as 2 or 3 cents a pound and leads to much waste, as it frequently becomes necessary to scrape off and throw away considerable of the butter on the outside of the package.

Mold leads to the premature destruction of a creamery or any other wooden building in which it gets a foothold. It breaks down the substance of the wood and it becomes rotten and useless. Creameries do not stand half as long when infested with mold as they otherwise would. Barns or other outbuildings with leaky roofs and without proper ventilation or light soon become infested with mold which leads them to premature decay.—Cal. Cultivator.

Origin of Vegetables.

Cucumbers are from middle and southern Asia and have been cultivated from a very early date. Asiatics claim they are "good for stomach troubles" and no doubt they are correct; they certainly are not good for one who has such troubles.

The nativity of the musk melon seems uncertain. It probably came from Persia. It has been cultivated in England since 1570, having been introduced from Jamaica.

The pumpkin was introduced in the same year, from the Mediterranean region, though its original home has not been satisfactorily determined.

The tomato (German, love-apple) was sent to England from South America, its native country, in 1596, and from there introduced to the West Indies and the United States.

The watermelon has been in cultivation so long that authentic history on its nativity is lacking. It seems probable that it is native to the warmer regions of the Old World.

Cabbage.

The best soil is a deep, rich loam, well worked. Positions shaded during part of the day are to be avoided, for cabbages require abundant light and warmth. A liberal amount of stable manure or other fertilizer will make good returns.

A Grand Scheme.

If it should be found practicable to store the mountain floods, especially during the seasons of heavy rains, not only can millions of acres of desert Western lands be made to blossom, but the states of the Mississippi Valley can be saved from the disastrous results of excessive floods. The movement is highly commendable.

Poultry Points.

Q.—What causes roup in fowls?
A.—Damp hen houses, chickens crowding in small coops late in the fall, becoming warm at night, and catching cold when they come out in the morning.

Q.—What will it cost to keep a hen one year?

A.—From 75 cents to \$1 a year. On a farm where the hens can have the run of the grain fields it will materially lessen the cost.

Q.—How many eggs should a good hen lay in one year under proper management?

A.—Upwards of 150 eggs. It will depend upon the strain of fowls you have. Some individual hens will lay as many again as others.

Q.—How can we select a good layer from our utility breeds?

A.—As a rule the hen with the small clean-cut head and a full bright eye and well developed in the rear part of the body will be a persistent layer.

Q.—Can a laying strain be bred up the same as a dairy cow?

A.—Yes, by using trap nests and watching your hens, and setting eggs only from the best layers.—Canadian Institute.

Poultry Notes.

When the hens are laying heaviest feeding is necessary.

An ounce of ground bone daily is sufficient for ten hens.

With all classes of fowls the early meal is of the utmost importance.

Permented food is dangerous and apt to produce disease like cholera.

Poultry powders are rarely required for fowls that are fed and cared for properly.

The secret in growing large, fine chickens is to feed often and but little at a time.

It rarely happens that two breeds of chickens or turkeys can be kept on a farm without getting mixed.

A little flax seed meal mixed in the food will help the old fowls to pass their moult quickly.

Air slaked lime dusted liberally around the quarters is cheap and will destroy lice, gapes and roup.

One important item in fattening fowls economically is to supply the food in a way that is easily digested.

If you are not keeping pure bred fowls, at least be sure to get pure bred cocks to cross on your hens.

If a fowl becomes sick, separate it from the others and doctor it, as the disease may be contagious.

Fair Play for the Seedman.

A protest against the Congressional free seed distribution has just been drawn up by the voluntary association of the leading seedsmen of the country, including the larger New York and Boston firms. The argument of the petition which is to be sent to President Roosevelt is that the whole system of seed distribution as at present carried on should be abolished, because it is the rankest kind of class legislation, in which the government singles out the seed business for unfair competition by sending, without charge, the same kind of goods that the seed dealers keep in stock. It is asserted in the petition that the government sends out each year a greater number of small packets of seed than are annually sold by all the seed establishments in the United States.

The seed distribution was originally intended to be a public benefit by introducing previously unknown varieties of flowers, fruits and forage plants from other parts of the world, but as practically carried on it is simply a system by which Congressmen please their voters by sending them a lot of common seeds of more or less doubtful value. From the seedsmen's point of view the system is exceedingly unfair, subjecting them to a kind of competition very hard to meet, and tending to lower the level of the whole seed supply business. From the standpoint of fair play, which it is claimed characterizes the present administration, the free seed distribution should be promptly abolished, or at least modified to its original scope.—American Cultivator.

San Dimas.

In the past year 460 cars of oranges and 395 cars of lemons were shipped from San Dimas, and the coming season's crop will be about the same. Apart from the packing-houses, the greatest employer of labor is the San Dimas Citrus Nurseries, the largest citrus nurseries in the world. Over 150,000 trees were shipped last year to all parts of the world, and orders have already been booked for the exportation of over 80,000 trees for this coming season. Eight years ago San Dimas had only one small grocery store, doing a business of less than \$2000 in the year, the growers hauling their fruit and purchasing their supplies in neighboring towns. Today there are twelve well established stores and business enterprises here, doing a business of over \$1,000,000 a year, and this not including the nurseries. The Santa Fe Railroad has done a traffic at San Dimas in the past year of nearly \$200,000. The Bank of San Dimas, established over a year ago, has a paid-up capital of \$50,000 with deposits of \$75,000, and this before the growers have begun to sell their crops. Many handsome new houses have been erected during the past year, among others the pretty home on San Dimas Heights for H. H. Kinney. The people of San Dimas have realized the importance of shade trees and concerted action was taken last spring to clean up all avenues and boulevards and plant shade and ornamental trees of uniform variety. This has done much to beautify the town.—New Year's Number of the L. A. Times.