

Agriculture and Husbandry

Walnut Returns

Many a walnut grower received with grave misgiving last fortnight's announcement of the lowering of walnut prices, saw a cut in returns when the crop was harvested, marketed. Last week, however, all doubts were removed when reports on the financial estimates of the 1929 walnut crop were announced by the California Walnut Growers' Association. Astounded pessimists doubted the worth of their eyesight when they read that the walnut crop would bring \$16,000,000, despite the reduced price scale. Largest in California's walnut history except in 1927, this year's crop is expected to total 68,000,000 pounds. Included in the \$16,000,000 financial return will be \$1,700,000 for the sale of walnut by-products.

Not without reason did the California Walnut Growers' Association lower walnut prices, making them the lowest in fourteen years. Reason: In Italy there has been an exceptionally large crop of walnuts this year, with double production on the "Corento," a brand which competes with the best walnuts in California. France also has a bumper crop. European markets, conditions of which are well known to the California Walnut Growers' Association, cannot absorb this extra output of Italy and France. Thus their extra tonnage will be dumped upon American markets at extremely rock bottom prices, namely 14 cents per pound.

Even with the lowered price of California walnuts, European prices are a still lower. California brands of corresponding excellence to those to be shipped to the U. S., are priced at 21½ and 23½, averaging approximately 10 cents greater than foreign brands. "But we are confident," said General Manager Carlyle Thorpe of the Walnut Association, "that we can dispose of our entire crop at the figures we have just fixed. Through our perfected, co-operative organization, we have established standards of uniformity and excellence in our various brands upon which the dealers and public can rely unquestionably. The California walnut is the only one which has this guarantee behind it, while considerable variation exists as to the quality between different bags of European nuts of the same brand."

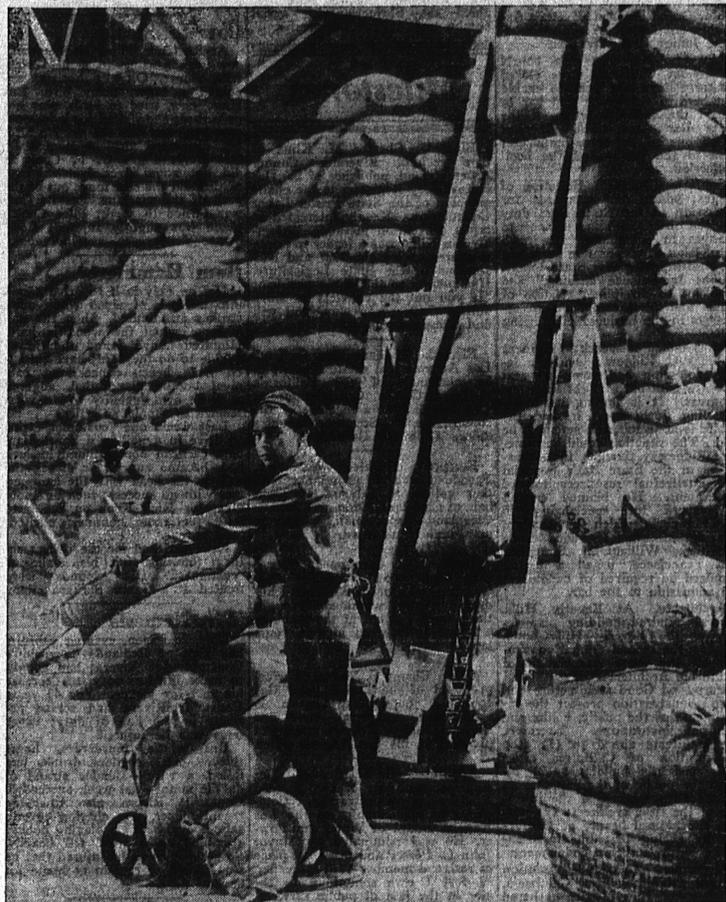
The California Walnut Association now has two plants in Los Angeles where shelled walnuts are extracted from the hulls that are not marketable under any of the brands. These are made into by-products which include walnut oil and ground shells which are used mainly as fertilizer.

California walnut groves, of which the association represents more than 80 per cent, total 130,000 acres, while membership is numbered at 5129 growers.

Greatest Cow

California Rinda's Insie, famed daughter of Medal of Merit and Octavia's Rinda Lad, celebrated members of the house of Jersey and of the family of Bovine, has brought pride to her ancient name and to the lineage of California's dairy farm at Davis.

Never before has a cow of the Jersey family attained such success in California as was gained by California Rinda's Insie in the field of butterfat production during the last year. Although exact figures were not available last week, enthusiastic reports from A. T. Folger, supervisor of official



STORING WALNUTS AT AN ASSOCIATION WAREHOUSE

... despite lower prices, a 68,000,000-pound crop will bring \$16,000,000.

advanced registry tests, indicated that Rinda will have produced more than 1070 pounds of butterfat at the end of her year's test. She is just six years of age.

Nor has Rinda risen in a single leap from obscurity to sudden fame. At the close of her second year she became the possessor of a silver medal by merit of her production of 586 pounds of butterfat from 9781 pounds of milk. At five, fame was hers; a gold medal was awarded her when, from 11,015 pounds of milk, she produced 677 pounds of butterfat.

Cotton Comparisons

Always undisputed agricultural monarch of the South, King Cotton, during the past few seasons, has taken an active part among agricultural affairs in California. Indication was last week that the 1929 cotton crop would bring California growers more than \$25,000,000, a \$9,000,000 increase over 1928. Scrutinizing Federal crop estimates, Will J. French, Director of the State Department of Industrial Relations, last week felt that this increase in production would probably raise cotton from eighth to fourth place among the State's crops.

In estimated numbers of bales, California, with 232,000, will have raised more cotton than Virginia or Florida, of the Southern states, and more than Missouri, New Mexico, Arizona, among other prominent cotton raising states. Texas, with the huge total of 3,950,000, has the largest number of estimated bales.

Citrus Theft

While Mrs. Emma J. Hill of Fullerton last week waited for a suitable time to pick her 2000 boxes of oranges from an eight-acre grove, half way between her home and Anaheim, cunning thieves drove huge trucks into the grove of the property and stripped the trees of practically every ves-

tige of their fruit.

Police knitted their brows, contemplated seriously a campaign against such thievery when they remembered that this was the second wholesale theft of oranges within the month. Lately was stolen from Fullerton Banker S. W. Smith \$5000 worth of oranges, just before they were to be picked. (News Review, Sept. 23-29).

Board Approved

After a thorough examination by the Senate Agricultural Committee, President Hoover's specially selected Federal Farm Board was given almost full approval last week. Five of the men were voted upon without dissent. They were: C. C. Teague, California; Charles S. Wilson, New York; James C. Stone, Kentucky; C. B. Denman, Missouri; William F. Schilling, Minnesota.

Other members were not so favored, but were considered suitable for their position by the majority of the quizzing committee. Board Chairman Legge, Chicago, received a vote of 16 to 1, while Carl Williams of Oklahoma, and Samuel R. McKelvie of Nebraska both received votes of 14 to 3.

Healthy Herds

Last week, Dr. J. P. Iverson, chief of the State Division of the Animal Industry, congratulated California on its health; pointed out that the State was remarkably free from animal diseases.

Welcome news was this to California, not only to ranchers, cattle growers, sheepmen, but also to business men, financiers, others, all of whom are affected by the State's healthiness, prosperity, progress.

Few diseases start within the State itself; virtually all come from across the border, from neighboring states, to control immediately any outbreak within the State itself. Dr. Iverson cited last spring's

appearance of the hoof and mouth disease, promptly checked.

The past year has raised the standard of cattle considerably, Dr. Iverson reported; declared also that the sheepmen's dread—"scabies"—was closely checked, that both external and internal parasites were being eliminated.

Remarkable was the record made by Southern California counties; few were the communicable diseases necessitating report to the State authorities. In Imperial County, there were 5; in Los Angeles County, 4; Orange, 2; San Bernardino, 1; San Diego, 5; Riverside, 2; Kern, 5; Santa Barbara, 13; Ventura, 1; Kings, 2.

Starving Stock

Now facing starvation are hundreds of heads of horses and cattle in the Cuyama Valley in Santa Barbara County. So light has rainfall been during the past few years that all the available forage land in the valley has been taken up; the forests, foothills no longer offer adequate nourishment to hungry herds.

How to remedy this situation is a serious problem confronting small ranchers; larger cattlemen are supplied with sufficient feed and water to save their herds from starvation. United States Forest Supervisor S. A. Nash reported a fortnight ago that new feeding grounds offer the only solution.

Fall Crop Notes

Excellent weather in September and the first weeks of October brought most crops of vegetables well along the way toward a timely and successful harvest, in Southern California. Prospects for a good crop are assured for carrots, lettuce, peas and cauliflower.

¶ Fall Lettuce. Most lettuce shipments are originating in the Santa Maria-Guadalupe, also in the Stanislaus-Watsonville district. Only fair in quality, the lettuce lacks solid-

ity. Better crops are looked for during the middle of October. Lettuce in San Fernando Valley is reported as having spotted stands, but making average growth.

¶ Fall Tomatoes. Most tomato sections are packing at the present time, and last week were waiting for good markets preparatory to shipping. Much of the stock last week was going to local market and canneries. Shipments, it is thought, will increase with the advent of frost in the consuming areas. Northern crops are slightly under average, while in the southern counties prospects indicate a better crop than this region has had in two years. No sign of late blight has been reported from any district.

¶ Fall Peas. In the South, the Guadalupe section is about half harvested with most of the stock moving into the Los Angeles market by truck. In Imperial Valley, planting is about completed for the fall harvest. While the total pea acreage has not been surveyed by the United States Department of Agriculture, a slight increase over last year is expected.

¶ Fall Carrots. In all districts, carrots are reported to have made excellent growth. Harvest of the crop is again dependent upon marketing conditions. When there is demand, much of the mature carrots will be pulled, marketed. Indications point to a decided increase in the Imperial Valley planting for January harvesting, and also for harvesting in the spring months. In Ventura, Santa Maria, and Los Angeles carrot districts, all indications show a probable decided increase in carrot harvest.

¶ Cauliflower. In all cauliflower sections growers are reporting good growth. Planting for the spring harvest is almost complete.

¶ Celery. For the last two weeks growing conditions for celery have been pronounced excellent by authorities. Transplanting in the Chula Vista section is practically complete and the field's show a healthy growth.

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