

ATTEND THE SPOKANE CONVENTION.

If you are a fruit grower or expect to become one, be sure to make ready, and attend the fruit-growers' convention to be held at Spokane February 14. You can represent a society, or yourself if you like. We must all make a strong pull for that reduced fare, and reduced hotel rates at Spokane. We can see the persons who will market our fruits, representatives of companies hauling it, to make rates, and learn the experience of those who shipped last year. Fruit growers will come in contact with one another for general conference and can have a talk with the nurserymen who start young trees. This convention is one of the most economical measures yet proposed to our fruit growers.

THE PALOUSE LESSON.

By Prof. E. W. Lake.

Wheat is not always king. When nature in her wisdom saw fit to pour forth last fall an over-abundance of western Washington "mist" our farmers began to realize that other crops than wheat might be made to do good turn on a Palouse farm. While regretfully watching for months the steady destruction of a magnificent wheat crop many a soil-tiller saw the need of change.

While the rains have been temporarily disastrous to local interests I am convinced it has been for our ultimate good. Nature does all things for the best. During October there was a greater precipitation than for the same months for the four previous years—about seven inches. This so delayed harvesting that hundreds of acres of wheat are yet uncut in the fields, the greater part pastured by stock, while much of the threshed grain was fit only for feeding hogs.

It is impossible to estimate, even relatively, the loss to the farmers through this streak of "bad luck." Had the acreage of wheat been 50 per cent less nearly all might have been saved. For nearly all

would have been fall sown, and this ripens from two to four weeks earlier than spring sown, and since one-half the area would have taken only one-half the time to thresh, the crop might have been largely harvested and marketed before the heavy rains came, the expense of cultivation saved and the land devoted to other crops. Stock could have consumed any small amount caught in the rain. And instead of buying hogs to eat up a large quantity of partly ruined grain at a high price, the farmer might have had hogs to sell.

The final outcome points to the breeding of stock during the next few years. Cattle, pigs and chickens will take important place in the farming of this section during the next few years. Already inquiries for high bred stock are being received at the agricultural college. Likewise the matter of feeding, feeding stuffs and their growth and curing are receiving attention by the average farmer, never before dreamed of.

I deem the agricultural outlook of our section brighter than ever before, and this largely due to the ruined wheat crop of 1893.

ORGANIZING HORTICULTURAL SOCIETIES IN YAKIMA COUNTY.

The organization of local horticultural societies is now of the utmost importance to Yakima county because fruit-tree planting, and fruit crops are assuming large proportions. A meeting of the fruit-growers surrounding Zillah, under the auspices of the state board of horticulture, is announced for Tuesday afternoon, the 23d inst., and fruit growers will meet at North Yakima, Wednesday, 24th inst., at 2 p. m., in the Yakima Club rooms. It is proposed to organize local horticultural societies at that time, and form a nucleus for more important work to be done later.

It is very important to have every tree which is planted this spring free from any injurious insect pest. Each society must have an inspector so all trees can

be closely watched. Rule 6, under the regulations of the state board, reads:

"Horticultural societies are requested to work in harmony with this board, and may, without expense to the board, elect from their number some person to act as local inspector or advisor, who shall report to the commissioner of the district in which such society is located, or to the secretary or inspector of the state board, cases where trees or plants are infested, and the owner or person in charge refuses to obey the directions of the society in carrying out the rules of the board; also any other matters of importance to the interests of said society."

Under the present law the board has no power to appoint inspectors, but they desire close co-operation, which can best be done as above directed. Each society should also send many representatives to the convention at Spokane. The best chance for telling work yet given for the fruit industry of the Pacific northwest, by any body of men, is here presented, and this county must make its mark. Commissioner Maxey, of this district, and the secretary of the board, will be present at both the Zillah and North Yakima meetings.

A. S. PAUL,

DEALER IN

LUMBER,

ROUGH AND DRESSED.

SIDING, FLOORING AND SHINGLES,

FENCE POSTS, PICKETS, HOP POLES
AND LATH.

Estimates made on buildings. Glass cut to any side to order.

Office and Yard: B street, next to Chappell & Cox's warehouse, North Yakima, Wash.

E. F. BENSON.

GEO. C. MITCHELL.

BENSON & MITCHELL,

NORTH YAKIMA, WASHINGTON.

HOTEL YAKIMA BUILDING.

AGENTS FOR THE SALE OF

YAKIMA VALLEY IRRIGATED LANDS.

NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILROAD LANDS.

We have sold nearly 3000 acres under the Sunnyside Canal during the past two years, mostly in small tracts, and to actual settlers. THEIR SUCCESS IS OUR BEST ENDORSEMENT.

* * Our Treatise on the Profits in Hops, Fruit and Alfalfa * *

Containing pictures, statistics, cost of setting out orchards by contract for non-residents, and map of the Sunnyside Country showing ten-acre tracts, mailed on application.