



To popularize prunes even more, the Prunarians staged a Prune Festival, complete with a Queen of Prunaria.



In 1928, the Camas High School debate team tied for first place in Southwest Washington.



The roaring twenties. The flapper era was born. The jazz age arrived.



National markets first developed in the twenties - with national brand products, national advertising, and a national distribution network.

“We’re full of prunes.”

That was the motto of the Prunarians, a booster group that promoted the Clark County prune industry during the teens and twenties. They were right.



Finally, in 1925, the misspelling of Clarke with the extraneous “e” was corrected to its present form - Clark.

Clark County was known as the prune capital of the world. But in the twenties, several hard-freeze winters badly damaged the plum yields and threatened the country's favorite breakfast fruit.

More than our prunes were challenges in those post World War I years. The rest of the country was rebounding and rebelling - with indulgence in drink and dancing the Charleston at speakeasies and with women bobbing their hair, shortening their hemlines, smoking, and generally flaunting convention. The twenties were “roaring.” But not here in Southwest Washington.

Here, they were whimpering. With the end of the war, the Spruce Production Division had closed. So had the shipyards. With the onset of Prohibition, the breweries and saloons had closed. In short, jobs were in short supply.

It wouldn't be long, however, before the entire country would feel our pain. In October, 1929, the stock market crashed and the country was thrown into a depression that would last until the start of World War II.

were **U** here when ...

In 1920, the U.S. population exceeded **100** million for the first time.

In 1920, the population of Vancouver was **12,647**.

1920 to 1929

For centuries, salmon provided sustenance to a number of North American tribes in the Columbia River Basin. In 1924, these tribes and all Native Americans were granted citizenship under the Indian Citizenship Act. Today, only 1% of Clark County's population is American Indian and native Alaskan.



OUR LAST 100

In the early days of First Independent's Ridgefield branch, the bank was an important funding source for many of the small-scale farms that dotted the area around Ridgefield.