

CFR 0454

Chester L. Robinson

(Application missing)



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Chamber Tour Visits State Century Farms

SALEM, June 25.—A century farm that has never been mortgaged and has instead entirely remained debt-free since being settled in 1852 got the attention of the Portland Chamber's touring agricultural committee as the group made its first of several visits on pioneer farms en route here.

The farm first settled by W. H. Robinson is located in Washington county's Progress community southwest of Portland and is now operated by the Chet and Bill Robinson families.

This farm, long devoted to dairying, had one of Portland's early day milk routes. Today the Robinsons have the latest in labor saving mechanized dairying, including a chain belt which carries silage to the cows.

HISTORY OF early day fruit growing, when apples sold for 20 cents a pound, was reviewed by L. R. Alderman, 87, Dayton century farm

owner, when the group toured his place.

The present owner's father, Albert L. Alderman, settled on the land claim in 1846 and at one time had the largest orchard. But the pioneer orchard had long since been replaced by irrigated pastures and dairying is the present enterprise.

Modern day big-scale farming got attention at the noon-hour visit to the U. S. Alderman farms, Dayton. Here the group saw the processing of flavorland strawberries.

These farms have a \$1,000,000 yearly payroll and during peak harvest periods employ more than 2200 people.