

FIFTY YEARS A RANCHER

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649005451

Fifty years a rancher by Charles Collins Teague

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

CHARLES COLLINS TEAGUE

**FIFTY YEARS A
RANCHER**

I AM indebted to our dear friends Cornelis and Jessie Arms Botke, nationally known artists, for the cover maps of this book. Their home and studio is near the Limoneira Ranch in Ventura County, California, which is the scene of many of the incidents of this book. Mr. Botke is especially famous for his etchings, several of which hang in the Library of Congress, while Mrs. Botke's paintings of birds and flowers are equally famous.

When I first conceived the idea of using maps of Maine and California on the covers of this book, I approached Mr. Botke with the suggestion that he do them for me. At that time Mr. and Mrs. Botke were deep in the preparation of a collection of their etchings and paintings for exhibition in Los Angeles. In addition, Mr. Botke had been invited to present a one-man show at the Smithsonian Art Gallery in Washington. The stress of their own work was aggravated by the fact that the bridge across the barranca which connects their home and studio had been weakened by high waters and was in need of repairs before the winter rains set in. The job of reinforcing the bridge fell to Mr. Botke who regretfully told me that, much as he would like to do the maps, he did not see how he could work them in with the rest of his pressing duties.

I offered a counter-proposal. If Mr. Botke would do the maps for the book cover, I would have some of the men from the Limoneira Ranch repair the bridge. Much to my delight, he accepted my offer. He did the maps; we repaired the bridge; and everyone was happy.

C. C. T.

☛ Second Edition

THE first edition of "Fifty Years a Rancher" was printed by Mr. Teague at his own expense and given to members of his family, friends and business acquaintances. In the course of this initial distribution, the book went to all sections of the country and to people in many walks of life.

Many have written expressing the opinion that the book has high historical, inspirational and educational value with respect to cooperative marketing in particular and California agriculture in general. With the changes in membership through property sale and inheritance, this book becomes especially valuable because it serves as an historical document of the growth and development of the citrus and walnut industries.



Because of its very apparent value, the Directors of the California Fruit Growers Exchange have approved this second edition of "Fifty Years a Rancher" for distribution to all member growers.

CALIFORNIA FRUIT GROWERS EXCHANGE

December 1, 1944



CHARLES COLLINS TEAGUE

FIFTY YEARS A
RANCHER  *The
Recollections of half a Cen-
tury Devoted to the Citrus
and Walnut Industries of
California and to Furthering
the Cooperative Movement
in Agriculture.* CHARLES
COLLINS TEAGUE 

COPYRIGHT, 1944
BY CHARLES COLLINS TEAGUE

☞ Preface

IN HIS book Mr. Teague gives credit to Dr. Robert G. Cleland as having inspired him to undertake it. Dr. Cleland, knowing of my long association with Mr. Teague, requested that I write an introduction, which I was happy to do.

This book is the story of the life of my friend and associate, Charles C. Teague. It covers an important era in the development of the citrus and walnut industries of California; the spread of the idea of cooperative marketing among the farmers of California and the United States and the development of two outstanding organizations of that character in the nation.

In the early nineties Charlie Teague and I lived in what was then the little town of Santa Paula in the Santa Clara Valley. In 1910 I became counsel for the California Walnut Growers Association and three years later assumed the same position for the California Fruit Growers Exchange. I have thus been in intimate business and personal association with the author of this book for upwards of half a century. The times have not been easy. Especially since the beginning of World War I, the country has faced uncertainty, a succession of complex problems, unprecedented social and economic changes, and countless other difficulties.

These trying years and the experiences we have faced together over the decades have given me an opportunity

P R E F A C E

to know Charlie Teague as he is, to test his mettle, to evaluate his character. I have found that he possesses intellectual and personal honesty to a rare degree. In all my life I have never known him to be guilty of a small or a mean or unethical act. He has his own ideas (on some of which incidentally he and I do not see eye to eye), strong and vigorous, and strong and vigorously expressed. These he arrives at after much thought and careful seeking for the facts. Faced by a problem, his first characteristic question is, "Well, boys, what are the facts? Let's find out all we can about the problem." When Charlie reaches a conclusion, he reaches it, he expresses it, he contends for it, he fights for it, and if necessity requires, he can engage in a bit of heavy slugging in the scrap.

With honesty as the foundation of his character, Charlie Teague's next outstanding quality is singleness of purpose. He is the sort of man John Greenleaf Whittier referred to in *Snowbound* when he said, "A prompt, decisive man, no breath our father wasted: 'Boys, a path!'" When there was a job to be done, Charlie always said, "Let's get at it." That was true whether he was a day laborer, a superintendent, an executive, a bank director, a public official, a leader in civic or community enterprises.

A third outstanding characteristic is his unselfishness. What Charles C. Teague has learned through intense application, trial, success, or failure, he has generously and unhesitatingly made available to others. A small-souled man would keep this knowledge to himself and seek to profit from it; but whenever Charlie learns something that promises to benefit his own groves or business, he makes the