MORE HOPS PLANTED

Two Thousand Acres of New Yards Will Bear This Year

IN THE WILLAMETTE VALLEY

Increased Acreage in California and Washington — Situation Stronger Than It Has Been for Twenty Years—Slump in Egg Market.

The high prices brought by 1902 hops will doubtless induce many growers to increase their hop acreage this year, but it will not affect the 1903 yield, as it requires two years for vines in this climate to reach the bearing stage. Many new yards were set out last Spring, which will produce in the coming Fall. It is estimated that 2000 acres were set out in Oregon in 1902, but the increase in yield, supposing weather conditions are repeated, will do little more than offset the deterioration of old yards. Hops quickly drain the soil of its chemical elements, and, as the Northwestern growers have not been fertilizing on scientific principles, the yield of their yards has been gradually decreasing, some hopmen estimating the decrease at 10 per cent per year. Still there will be some increase over the production of last Fall if the weather is satisfactory. In California, the increase will be larger in proportion, as the vines bear a fairly good crop the same year they are planted. The following table shows the acreage in the three Pacific States in 1902 and the estimated acreage this year:

	1902.	1903.
Oregon	17,000	19,000
California	6,500	8,500
Washington	5,000	5,700

In its review of the hop situation, the Boston Commercial Bulletin says:

The situation has not been as strong in 20 years as it is today. The increase in the consumption of malt liquors all over the world, more especially in the United States, perhaps, together with the small amount of hops carried over from last season and the failure in the New York State crop this season, has caused prices of not only new hops, but old olds, to jump higher than even the shrewdest dealer or grower anticipated six months ago.

For the past six or seven years the prices realized by growers for hops have not been high enough to induce new men to enter the field, and many of the old growers have either died or gone out of the business, and given their ground over to something else, which, for the time at least, showed them better results. Meanwhile the consumption of malt liquors has been increasing; therefore, as one of Boston's largest dealers expresses it, "the higher prices have not been brought about by speculation, but are due to natural causes—that is to say, supply and demand."

The latter part of last season certain dealers saw that prices must go higher, but even these men did not expect to see the price of choice hops over 20 or 22 cents a pound. Since Spring there has been no offering of 1901 hops worthy of mention, and brewers were forced to buy old olds. Not only is the 1901 crop practically exhausted here, but other growing countries have carried nothing over into this season.

The shortage in this year's crop is placed at 65,000 bales, and most of this loss was brought about by the blight to the New York State crop early in the Summer. Last year New York furnished 65,000 bales towards the world's supply, while this year only about 22,000 bales were gathered. The Pacific Coast crop as a whole turned out very well. In some sections on the Coast a slight falling off in the yield was reported, while in others there was a little increase, so that in the aggregate there was an average crop harvested. This estimated shortage of 65,000 bales means a loss of about 1000 cars.

When last year's crop was put on the market dealers were anxious to sell at 12 cents a pound, but now they are asking brewers from 30@32 cents, and in some instances even higher prices have been obtained. A year ago dealers could go into the country and find no trouble in picking up thousands of bales of old hops, while today it is a difficult matter to get anything at all. Old olds have jumped in price from $1 a bale to 3 cents a pound a year ago to 8@12 cents a pound today, and very few can be bought under the outside price. Brewers are using old olds today who have not used any for 20 years, as there is no available supply of either 1899, 1900 or 1901 hops. As soon as they realized how grave the situation was they began to buy almost anything marked "hops" to mix with the new hops, and by so doing bringing the cost down to a lower average.

In 1876 the output of malt liquors in this country was 3,000,000 barrels, while the figures for the past year touch 45,000,000 barrels. Meanwhile there has been no relative increase in the yield of hops. This shortage in the supply will be felt for a number of years, and for the next two years at least prices will be high. The growers have made the most money out of this advance, as they were far-sighted enough to hang on to their hops. Of course this more than doubling of prices will cause many to start raising hops, but it takes fully two years for the new yards to amount to anything.

The brewing industry has been spreading out to all quarters of the globe during the past few years. Breweries have been started up in very warm climates by the aid of ice plants, and these plants must draw their supplies from this country or Continental Europe. The English crop this year is smaller than last year's, the figures being 300,000 hundredweight, against 650,000 hundredweight last year. This reduction of over one-half has brought about an increased export demand here.

Many of the dealers have been hit hard this season. Several made contracts to deliver choice New York State hops to brewers at 18 cents, and thought they were getting a good price, but today they are going round trying to get the brewers to let them out.

SLUMP IN EGG MARKET.

Receipts Are Largely in Excess of the Demand.

The expected slump in the egg market has come. Receipts have been heavy for a week or more, and are now in excess of consumption. The market was relieved last week by heavy shipments to Alaska, but as that demand has been satisfied and there is no further outlet for large orders, local stocks have begun to accumulate. A few sales were made at the opening of business yesterday at 25 cents, but by noon the market had dropped to 22½ cents. One fairly large order was filled in the afternoon at 21 cents, and before the close of the day offerings were made at 20 cents. Some of the trade were accused of helping the decline by juggling with packers. There is little doubt that prices will continue to drop until the bottom has been reached. There is a difference of opinion as to what that figure will be, but the prediction is made that 14 cents will be reached before the market recovers. Retailers are buying only to fill immediate wants.

British Imports of Fruits.

The imports of fresh fruits and nuts into the United Kingdom for the calendar year 1902 amounted in value to £9,008,670, as compared with £7,324,218 in 1901 and £7,453,615 in 1900. The items include apples, apricots, peaches, bananas, cherries, currants, gooseberries, grapes, lemons, oranges, pears, plums, strawberries, almond nuts and others used as dessert and unenumerated. The re-exports of fruit last year made a total in value of £157,483; in 1901, £131,488, and in 1900, £162,280. No cured or canned fruits are included in the totals given.

Coconnut Outlook.

The report that the crop of cocoanuts is very short is accepted by some persons interested as correct, while others are inclined to look upon it as one of the common moves to boost prices and support the market. The regular prices, it is said, are being maintained firmly, and there is no immediate indication of an advance.

Idaho Fruit Shipments.

Horticultural Inspector McPherson says that Idaho is coming to the front as a fruitgrowing country. Returns of orchardists for last year were over $1,000,000, and the output this year is likely to be doubled. Over 45,000 acres of and is in fruit, and about 2500 carloads were shipped out of the state. The northern part of the state runs to apples and pears, the southern to prunes. Prunes were shipped into Oregon, which is a prune country. Some blight appeared on pear trees, but this can be stamped out before it becomes serious.

Oregon Prune Crop.

Oregon prunes have practically all been marketed, and it may now be said with considerable assurance that the crop aggregated more than the estimates which have been heretofore accepted as reliable. The whole output of the state for the past season, says the Oregon Agriculturist, has been in excess of 15,000,000 pounds. While a small crop, it was far removed from a failure. The quality of the Italians was unusually good, and the average packing was better than ever before.

Holiday Not Generally Kept.

The holiday was not observed to any large extent in the jobbing trade. All the produce houses were open and most of the merchandise concerns did business up to the usual hour. The freight depots were open, and the boats all ran on regular schedule. The banks were closed during the day, and the wheat exporters and some of the large shipping offices closed at noon. The Eastern and Coast exchanges were all closed.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Grain, Flour, Feed, Etc.

The wheat traders took a holiday yesterday, but the market has been so lifeless for a week past that their absence was not felt. The flour and feed markets were slow. Concerning the Argentine export surplus of wheat, the New York Evening Post says: "The usual weekly revision of the estimated exportable surplus in Argentina was issued today. This time the total is placed at about 74,000,000 bushels, or from 4,000,000 to 6,000,000 bushels less than estimated a short time ago. Of course, any one at all familiar with the crude conditions prevailing in that country, especially as to the facilities for gathering crop statistics and information, know how little credence can be placed on all such estimates. In view of the numerous overestimations in former years, conservative traders are inclined to the opinion that Argentina is not likely to export over 65,000,000 bushels during 1903.

WHEAT—Walla Walla, 75@77c; bluestem, 88c; Valley, 78@80c.

BARLEY—Feed, $23 50 per ton; brewing, $24; rolled, $24 50.

OATS—No. 1, white, $1 15@1 20; gray, $1 12½@1 15 per cental.

MILLSTUFFS—Bran, $19 per ton; middlings, $24; shorts, $20; chop, $18.

HAY—Timothy, $11@12; clover, $8@9; grain, $9@10 per ton.

FLOUR—Valley, $3 75 per barrel; hard wheat straights, $3 45@3 70; hard wheat patents, $4 30@4 85; Dakota hard wheat, $4 20@4 35; Graham, $3 45@3 85.

Butter, Eggs, Poultry, Etc.

The poultry market was dull, as there were no receipts and very little stock had been carried over. The prospects are that the demand will continue strong for some time yet. Butter is unchanged, with a scarcity of creamery brands.

BUTTER — Fancy creamery, 30@32½c per pound; dairy, 20@22½c; store, 15@18c.

POULTRY—Chickens, mixed, 11½@12c per pound; young, 12@12½c; hens, 12½c; turkeys, live, 15@16c; dressed, 18@20c; ducks, $7@7 50 per dozen; geese, $7@8 50.

CHEESE — Full cream twins, 16½@17½c; Young America, 17½@18½c; factory prices 1@1½c less; Eastern, 13½c per pound.

EGGS—Ranch, 20@22½c per dozen.

Vegetables, Fruit, Etc.

The week opened with a good demand for green produce, the supply of which was not heavy. A car lot of vegetables is due tomorrow; also a car of bananas. A steamer is due about Friday. The potato market continues in poor shape.

VEGETABLES—Turnips, 75@80c per sack; carrots, 75@80c; beets, $1 per sack; parsnips, $1 per sack; cauliflower, $1 75 per crate; cabbage, 1½c per pound; red cabbage, 2c per pound; celery, Los Angeles, $2.75@3 50 per crate; lettuce, head, 35c per dozen; hothouse, $1 75@2 per box; green onions, per dozen, 12½c; Brussels sprouts, 6c per pound; squash, $2.25 per hundredweight; peas, per pound, 8½c; parsley, per dozen, 25c; radishes, 25c; green artichokes, $1 25 per dozen.

GREEN FRUIT—Apples, table, $1@1.75 per box; cooking, 50@85c; cranberries, Jersey, $11.

TROPICAL FRUIT—Lemons, $2 75@3 50 per box; oranges, navels, $2@2 75 per box; seedlings, $1.50@2; tangerines, $2; grape fruit, $2.50 per box; bananas, $2.25@2.75 per bunch; pineapples, $5.50 per dozen.

DRIED FRUIT—Apples, evaporated, 7½c per pound; sun-dried, sacks or boxes, 5@6c; apricots, 8@10c; peaches, 7½@9c; pears, 7½@8½c; prunes, Italian, 4½@6c; figs, California blacks, 6c; do white, 7½c; Smyrna, 20c; pluma, pitted, 4½@5½c.

RAISINS—Loose Muscatel, 4-crown, 7½c; 3-crown, 7½c; 2-crown, 6½c; unbleached, seedless Muscatel raisins, 7½c; unbleached seedless Sultans, 6½c; London layers, 3-crown, whole boxes of 20 pounds, $1 85; 2-crown, $1 75.

POTATOES—Best Burbanks, 60@75c per sack; ordinary, 40@50c, growers' prices; Merced sweets, $2.25@2 50.

ONIONS—Oregon and Washington, 75c@$1 per cental; shippers' price in carload lots, 50c per cental.

Hops, Wool, Hides, Etc.

The hop market for the past week has continued depressed. Few growers are offering, but there is more disposition to sell than there has been for some time. Two sales were made at Aurora, the Miller and the Frye lots, at 25c. Dealers generally are willing to part with their holdings at this price. An extra choice lot might command a cent better.

HOPS—24@26c per pound.

HIDES—Dry hides, No. 1, 16 pounds and up, 15@15½c per pound; dry kip, No. 1, 8 to 15 pounds, 12c; dry calf, No. 1, under 8 pounds, 10c; dry salted bulls and stags, one-third less than dry flint; salted hides, steers, sound, 60 pounds and over, 8@9c; 50 to 60 pounds, 7@8c; under 50 pounds and cows, 7c; stags and bulls, sound, 5@6½c; kip, sound, 15 to 20 pounds, 7c; veal, sound, 10 to 14 pounds, 7c; calf, sound, under 10 pounds, 8c; green (unsalted), 1c per pound less; culls, 1c per pound less; horse hides, salted, each, $1 50@2; dry, each, $1@1 50; colts' hides, each, 25@50c; goat skins, common, each, 10@15c; Angora, with wool on, each, 25c@$1.

TALLOW—Prime, per pound, 4@5c; No. 2 and grease, 2½@3c.

WOOL—Valley, 12½@15c; Eastern Oregon, 8@14½c; mohair, 20@28c.

Groceries, Nuts, Etc.

COFFEE—Mocha, 23@28c; Java, fancy, 29@32c; Java, good, 20@24c; Java, ordinary, 18@20c; Costa Rica, fancy, 18@20c; Costa Rica, good, 16@18c; Costa Rica, ordinary, 10@12c per pound; Columbia roast, $11 25; Arbuckle's, $11 75 list; Lion, $11 50.

SALMON — Columbia River, 1-pound talls, $1 65 per dozen; 2-pound talls, $2 40; fancy 1-pound flats, $1 80; ½-pound flats, $1 10; Alaska pink, 1-pound talls, 75c; red, 1-pound talls, $1 20; sockeye, 1-pound talls, $1 45; 1-pound flats, $1 60.

RICE—Imperial Japan, No. 1, $5.62½; No. 2, $5.12½; Carolina head, $7.25; broken head, $4.

HONEY—15c per No. 1 frame.

SUGAR—Sack basis, net cash, per 100 pounds: cube, $4.85; powdered, $4.70; dry granulated, $4 50; extra C, $4 00; golden C, $3 90. Advances over sack basis as follows: Barrels, 10c; half-barrels, 25c; boxes, 50c per 100 pounds. Maple, 15@16c per pound. Beet sugar, granulated, $4 40 per 100 pounds.

BEANS—Small white, 4½c; large white, 4c; pinks, 3¾c; bayou, 3¾c; Lima, 5½c per pound.

NUTS—Peanuts, 6¾c per pound for raw, 8@8½c for roasted; cocoanuts, $5@6 50 per dozen; walnuts, 13@14c per pound; pine nuts, 10@12½c; hickory nuts, 7c; Brazil nuts, 16c; filberts, 15@16c; fancy pecans, 11c; almonds, 14@15c; chestnuts, 18c.

SALT—Liverpool, 50s, 45c per sack; half ground, per ton, 50s, $14 50; 100s, $14; Worcester salt, bulk, 320s, $5 per barrel; linen sacks, 50s, 85c per sack; bales, 2s, 3s, 4s, 5s and 10s, $2.10 per bale.

OILS—Coal oil, cases, 22c per gallon; iron barrels, 16½c; wood barrels, 19c; linseed, boiled, cases, 59c; barrels, 54c; linseed, raw, cases, 57c; barrels, 52c; gasoline, iron barrels, 19½c; cases, 26c; turpentine, cases, 78c; wood barrels, 74c; iron barrels, 72c; lots of 10 cases or more, 7½c. Collier and Atlantic white and red lead, in lots of 500 pounds or more, 6c; less than 500 pound, 6½c.

Meats and Provisions.

BEEF—Gross, cows, $3@3 75; steers, $4@4 75; dressed, 6½@7½c per pound.

LARD—Kettle rendered: Tierces, 12½c; tubs, 13c; 50s, 13c; 20s, 13¼c; 10s, 13⅝c; 5s, 13½c. Standard pure: Tierces, 12c; tubs, 12¼c; 50s, 12¼c; 20s, 12½c; 10s, 12¾c; 5s, 12¾c. Compound lard: tierces, 9¼c; tubs, 9½c.

VEAL—6½@9½c per pound.

MUTTON—Gross, $4 50@5; dressed, 6@8c.

HOGS—Gross, $6.50@6.75; dressed, 6½@7½c.

BACON—Portland, 15@17½c per pound; Eastern, fancy, 17½c; standard, heavy, 15½c; bacon bellies, 15½c.

HAMS—Portland, 14@14½c per pound; picnic, 10½c per pound; Eastern fancy, 14@14½c.

SAUSAGE—Portland, ham, 17½c per pound; minced ham, 10½c; Summer, choice dry, 17½c; Bologna, long, 8c; weinerwurst, 8c; liver, 7c; pork, 9c; blood, 7c; head cheese, 7c; bologna sausage link, 7½c.

PICKLED GOODS—Portland, pigs' feet, ¼-barrels, $4 50; ½-barrels, $2 50; 15-pound kit, $1. Tripe, ¼-barrels, $5 50; ½-barrels, $2 75; 15-pound kit, $1; pigs' tongues, ½-barrel, $6.

DRY-SALTED MEATS—Portland clears, 12@13c; backs, 11½@12c; exports, 20@25 pounds average, 12½@13½c; butts, 9@10c.

EASTERN LIVESTOCK.

Prices Current at Chicago, Omaha and Kansas City.

CHICAGO, Feb. 23.—Cattle—Receipts, 25,000. Market strong to 10c higher. Good to prime steers, $5.50@5.80; poor to medium, $3.25@4.50; stockers and feeders, $2.35@4.60; cows, $1.40@4.50; heifers, $2@4.75; canners, $1.40@2.60; bulls, $2.25@4.50; calves, $3.25@8; Texas-fed steers, $3.50@4.25.

Hogs—Receipts today, 44,000; tomorrow, 25,000; left over, 12,000. Market opened 5c to 10c lower and closed on another 5c decline. Mixed and butchers, $6.85@7.20; good to choice heavy, $7.25@7.45; rough heavy, $6.90@7.25; light, $6.50@6.90; bulk of sales, $6.95@7.25.

Sheep—Receipts, 22,000. Sheep steady; lambs steady to 10c lower. Good to choice wethers, $5@5.75; fair to choice mixed, $4@5; Western sheep, $4.75@5.75; native lambs, $4.75@7.25; Western lambs, $4.75@7.25.

KANSAS CITY, Feb. 23.—Cattle—Receipts, 8000, including 1500 Texans. Market steady. Native steers, $3.40@5.25; Texas and Indian steers, $3@4; Texas cows, $1.75@3.50; native cows and heifers, $2@4.25; stockers and feeders, $2.25@4.40; bulls, $2.25@4.25; calves, $2.50@6; Western steers, $3@5; Western cows, $1.75@3.

Hogs—Receipts, 4000. Market steady to weak. Bulk of sales, $7@7.15; heavy, $7@7.20; packers, $6.95@7.07½; medium, $7@7.10; light, $6.70@7.05; Yorkers, $6.95@7.05; pigs, $4.45@6.70.

Sheep—Receipts, 3000. Market strong. Muttons, $3.50@6; lambs, $3.60@6.75; range wethers, $3@5.50; ewes, $3.25@5.40.

SOUTH OMAHA, Feb. 23.—Cattle—Receipts, 4700. Market active, steady. Native steers, $3.75@5.25; cows and heifers, $2.90@4; canners, $1.75@2.85; stockers and feeders, $3@4.50; calves, $3@6; bulls, stags, etc., $2.40@3.80.

Hogs—Receipts, 7500. Market 5c lower. Heavy, $6.95@7.10; mixed, $6.85@6.90; light, $6.70@6.90; pigs, $6@6.75; bulk of sales, $6.85@6.95.

Sheep—Receipts, 6000. Market stronger. Fed muttons, $5.25@5.75; wethers, $4.75@5.40; ewes, $3.75@4.50; common and stockers, $2@4.30; lambs, $4.75@7.

Stocks at London.

LONDON, Feb. 23.—Closing quotations:

Atchison	88⅝	Norfolk & West	75½
Anaconda	6⅝	do pfd	92½
do pfd	102½	Ontario & Western	33⅝
Balt. & Ohio	100¼	Pennsylvania	76
Can. Pacific	140½	Reading	31⅝
Ches. & Ohio	51⅝	do 1st pfd	45
Chi. Gr. Western	27½	do 2d pfd	38½
Chi., M. & St. P.	151½	Southern Ry	35½
Denver & Rio Gr.	41⅝	do pfd	90⅝
do pfd	91	Southern Pacific	65
Erie	39⅝	Union Pacific	103¼
do 1st pfd	71⅝	do pfd	97
do 2d pfd	60½	U. S. Steel	39⅝
Illinois Central	148	do pfd	90⅝
Louis. & Nash.	128¼	Wabash	32
M., K. & T.	28½	do pfd	54
New York Cent.	151½		

Money, Exchange, Etc.

LONDON, Feb. 23.—Bar silver steady, 22¾d per ounce.

Money, 3½@4 per cent.

The rate of discount in the open market for short bills is 3½ per cent. The rate of discount in the open market for three months' bills is 3½ per cent.

Consols for money, 92 1-16; do for account, 92 13-16.

St. Louis Wool Market.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 23.—Wool—Quiet, unchanged; territory and Western medium, 13@17½c; fine, 15@17½c; coarse, 13@15½c.

Spokane Clearings.

SPOKANE, Feb. 23.—Clearings, $357,488; balances, $59,064.

LIAR AS WELL AS THIEF

Fox Swells Robbery of Jewelry About Seventy-Fold.

DENVER, Feb. 23.—A young man giving his name as Fred J. Fox walked into the Police Station just before 1 o'clock this morning and said he wanted to surrender. He told Captain Lee that he was wanted in Detroit, Mich., for the theft of $22,500 worth of diamonds. Fox said he worked for Charles Rice, wholesale and retail jeweler, and often made large purchases of goods for him.

About six weeks ago, he says, he went to the firm of Horace W. Steere and got possession of diamonds valued at the amount given above. Then he left the city and went to Kansas City, where he disposed of the diamonds for $17,000. He came to Denver, he says, a month ago, and had $14,500 when he reached here. He says he still has the money, and will use it in trying to get out of the trouble.

When searched not a cent was found on his person. He smiled at the captain who conducted the search and remarked that a day sooner would have netted a different result.

DETROIT, Feb. 23.—Instead of being wanted in this city for the theft of $22,500 worth of diamonds, as he told the Denver police, Fred J. Fox will be brought back here on a warrant charging him with stealing a little over $300. At the office of H. W. Steere the dispatch saying Fox had stolen $22,500 was laughed at. He secured only four diamond rings valued at a little over $300. One of these he pawned before leaving town. The police will send an officer to Denver.

LOOKING AFTER FAIR FURS

Consul-General Gowdy Making Official Investigation in Paris.

PARIS, Feb. 23.—Consul-General Gowdy has opened an official investigation into the charges that valuable furs, which belonged to the late Mrs. Charles Fair, were changed after her death for inferior articles. A box containing the furs had been received here from San Francisco, and the seals were broken today by Mr. Gowdy in the presence of all those who had a part in handling the articles up to the time of shipment to America. Edward Kelly, representing the estate, and MM. Chanet and Grumkaldt, who appraised the original garments as being worth $21,200, were among those present.

When the box was opened a short cloak and a muff were disclosed, both of rather ordinary appearance. M. Chanet said positively that the articles were not those he had appraised. M. Grumwaldt was not so positive. Representatives of two forwarding companies made statements tracing every movement of the package from the time it was turned over to them. The investigation will be continued for several days.

Many New National Airs Offered.

NEW YORK, Feb. 23.—Competition for the gold medal which is offered by the Society of the Cincinnati of the State of Rhode Island for the best musical composition adapted to the words of Samuel Francis Smith's "America," has closed. Great interest has been shown by American composers, and more than 300 compositions have been contributed. These must be played before the committee having the matter in charge. The award will be announced July 4.

Spanish-American Veterans.

LAWRENCE, Mass., Feb. 23.—Colonel Paul R. Hawkins, of Springfield, Mass., was elected commander-in-chief of the Legion of Spanish War Veterans at the National encampment here today. Two amendments to the constitution were adopted. One gives the commander-in-chief power to suspend any camp which, in his opinion, has acted in a manner detrimental to the interests of the legion. The second provides that the commander-in-chief shall appoint the adjutant-general. A resolution was adopted providing for the appointment of a committee to try to bring about a union of all organizations of Spanish War Veterans with the legion, the committee to report to the National council.

Downing, Hopkins & Co.

Established 1893.

WHEAT AND STOCK BROKERS

Room 4, Ground Floor — Chamber of Commerce

DEATH HAS NO TERRORS

Murderer Belding Regards His Approaching Doom With Unconcern.

Murderer A. L. Belding appears to look forward peacefully to his approaching end, and is expected to die bravely. He is somewhat thin and pale from long confinement, but he eats heartily and sleeps about 18 hours out of 24. He has but few visitors because Sheriff Storey does not permit strangers to see him out of idle curiosity.

Belding does not wish to be interviewed by newspaper reporters, because he does not care to talk about himself nor the crimes which he committed. He talks sociably with members of the death watch at times, and also converses with George Smith, the negro who occupies the adjoining cage. Smith shot and killed his white wife, Annie Smith. He is exceedingly jolly at the present time, and occasionally sings a song. Smith's mother and sister visit him regularly. His case has been appealed to the Supreme Court, and he has hopes of escaping with a life sentence. At the time of his trial he actually expected to be acquitted.

There are altogether 68 prisoners now confined in the county jail, including one woman.

KING GRANTS HEARING.

President Francis to Talk St. Louis Fair Matter With Edward.

LONDON, Feb. 23.—King Edward held the first levee of the season in the throne room of Buckingham Palace today. Ambassador Choate and the other members of the United States Embassy were among the diplomats present. The King was attended by the Prince of Wales, most of the Cabinet Ministers and all the great officers of state.

Mr. Choate presented, among others, D. R. Francis, president of the St. Louis Exposition. After the levee the King sent to ask Mr. Francis if he would like to be received in private audience, and receiving affirmative reply, promised to fix a date.

Mr. Francis will attend today's debate in the House of Commons on War Secretary Brodrick's army scheme. During an informal conversation which Mr. Francis had with Lord Lansdowne on the subject of the St. Louis Exposition, the Foreign Secretary expressed keen interest in the fair and promised it every possible support. Mr. Francis anticipates an early announcement of the appointment of a royal commission to arrange for Great Britain's participation in the exposition.

Indiana Citizens Present Sword.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Feb. 23.—A testimonial sword was presented to Rear-Admiral Henry C. Taylor, who commanded the battleship Indiana in the Spanish-American War, today by the people of Indiana, through the General Assembly. Admiral Taylor, his wife and daughter, were present. The presentation of the sword took place in the corridor of the main floor of the State Capitol. Governor Durbin presented the sword, and Admiral Taylor responded.

James Whitcomb Riley recited his poem "Old Glory." The sword is a beautiful piece of workmanship, and cost $1600. Telegrams of congratulation were received from President Roosevelt and Secretary Moody.

Repaired Jaw of Cobra.

NEW YORK, Feb. 23.—Under skillful treatment at the New York Zoological Gardens, in Bronx Park, a deadly cobra, which recently broke his jaw in a fit of violent rage, is on the road to recovery. The dressing on the head of the poisonous creature has been renewed with considerable difficulty. As a sting from the reptile means death, the operation of applying a dressing to the cobra is a most perilous task.

Boy Gives Poisoned Apples.

COLUMBUS, Ind., Feb. 23.—Meade Barr, 19 years of age, of Elizabethtown, is in jail here on the charge of poisoning six people, all of Elizabethtown. Barr was employed in a warehouse, and according to the authorities took a number of apples and poured in a poisonous drug and gave the apples to the people, who became seriously ill. The motive is not known.

AT THE HOTELS.

THE PORTLAND.

B F Stone, Chicago
G Bradley, Spokane
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