

FINE GRADE OF HOPS

What Growers Say of the Oregon Crop.

RAIN WOULD INCREASE YIELD

But the Product Would Not Be of the Best Quality—Estimates Are to the Effect That the Crop Will Reach \$6,000 Bales.

BROOKS, Aug. 8.—(Special correspondence.)—With each succeeding day of the present hot weather, the hop men reduce their estimate of the probable yield of hops in Oregon for 1902. Talk of 30,000 to 40,000 bales has been heard for several weeks, and some have predicted 100,000, but the weather, according to a number of prominent growers, has put a different appearance upon the yards. If there should not be a drop of rain, and if it continues, the hops are picked, Oregon would turn out about 10,000 bales of as good a quality of hops as were ever produced. A heavy rain within a week, according to Leonard Krebs, would run the yield up to 100,000 bales, but the crop would be what he calls "punk" as to quality.

"No rain wanted," say the Krebs brothers, who have 135 acres of as fine a hop crop as was ever seen in this section. Their yards are clean and in excellent condition. In one field where the vines are strung on high wires, 15 to 18 feet from the ground, the crop will run 150 pounds to the acre. The laterals are long and full of burrs. The vines hang full both above and below the wires. In an adjoining field of the Krebs yard, the vines are low and the crop will yield about 80 to 100 pounds to the acre. With this bright outlook for a crop it is no wonder that growers want no rain. The yield will be large enough anyway, and the quality is the only other consideration.

"On this high, dry land, we do not spray our hops," says Leonard Krebs. "Unless the weather is very unfavorable we will save our crops all right. There are no lice in our yards, so there is no need of spraying. In the low, moist lands, where the conditions are favorable for the multiplication of lice, the growers must spray. This weather is killing the vermin, and it continues, there will be no trouble from that source."

Increase in Area in Hops.

"I have traveled over the state and have visited many yards," continued Leonard Krebs, "and think the outlook is very good. The area in hops is 2000 to 1500 acres greater than last year, but I do not believe the new yards will cut any figure in the total yield. This weather will keep the yield down so that the baby hops will scarcely pay for picking. In my opinion, the more thorough cultivation of hops, the more the yield will be. The main factor in determining the quantity than will be increased average. As soon as prices began to go up, the growers began to look after their yards. Many yards entirely neglected were put in shape; others that were sparingly cultivated for several years have been tended with care this season, and the vines will respond with a yield corresponding to the care given."

"There will be many new yards set out this winter, but I think the growers are making a mistake. If they had set out new yards a year or two ago, they would come in for the big profits of this year and next, but they are too late now. The yards put out next winter will not yield full crops until 1904, and by that time it is probable the shortage in supply will be made up and prices will go down again. Prices should be high in 1903, and perhaps still higher in 1904, but it is only a matter of time when good yields will send prices down. The time to get ready for high prices is when the bottom is out of the market and growers are neglecting their yards. When prices are up, everybody goes into hops, the supply becomes excessive and the result is a decline."

Of course, the question of prices is determined largely by the world's supply, for ordinarily America is an export country. Mr. Krebs is of the opinion that a short yield with consequent good prices is likely to encourage growers everywhere to put out more yards until an overproduction results. This is the experience of producers of nearly all kinds of crops which find sale in the markets of the world. In few other commodities does a variation in supply make so great a difference in price as it does in hops. For that reason, those who contemplate setting out new yards should look farther into the future than one or two seasons. The additional 1000 acres of hops planted last winter should increase the normal yield in Oregon at least 600 bales next year.

Probable Yield in a Few Years.
If growers put out as many hops this winter as Mr. Krebs anticipates they will, the yield in 1904, conditions being favorable, will go over 100,000 bales. What a yard will produce in one year hops which net money enough to equal in value the land upon which the hops grow. It is apparent that Mr. Krebs has reason to expect that the acreage will be greatly increased.

The principal question, therefore, is whether hop-planting will be general throughout the United States or be confined to Oregon and Washington. If the crop failure in New York this year should drive some of the growers in that state out of business, an increased yield on the Coast might not mean an increase of the American crop, but the high prices which now seem assured are likely to encourage the planting of new yards in New York state. It is quite generally concluded that hops can be produced in Oregon about 4 to 5 cents cheaper than in New York, but this is made up in part by the fact that it costs about 4 cents per pound to put Oregon hops on the New York market. Two cents of this difference is freight and the other 2 cents commission, storage, cartage, etc. If New Yorkers conclude that they can't compete with Oregon, the hop-growing industry will die out there as it did in Wisconsin, and there will be a market for more hops produced on the Coast.

Price For Picking.

"It looks as though we will be obliged to pay 6 and 50 cents a box for picking," says Leonard Krebs. "That is more than we can afford to pay. It is true hop prices are up, and if the growers were getting 20 cents per pound, they would be glad to pay 50 cents a box for picking. But fully two-thirds of the Oregon hop crop has been contracted at an average of 11 1/2 to 12 cents—about 11 to 12 cents—and it is unfair to compel growers to pay 50 cents for picking. People think 10 cents additional per box does not make much difference, but it does make a big difference. A box of hops yields

about 12 pounds of dried product. An increase of 20 cents per box for picking means an addition of 5-6 of a cent per pound to the cost of production. At 40 cents per box it costs 3-3 cents a pound for picking alone."

The question of prices for picking is an important one with the growers just now. They are trying to keep the price at 40 cents. President W. H. Egan, of the Oregon Hop Growers' Association, went to Salem today to arrange for a meeting of hopgrowers at Woodburn, for the purpose of agreeing upon the price that shall be paid. It should be noted that an increase of 10 cents per pound means more than 5-6 of a cent per pound increase in the cost of picking. If the pickers get this increase, all the men employed around the yards and hophouses will want corresponding advances, and when all is over, the cost of harvesting will be fully one cent per pound greater. To the man who contracted at 10 or 11 cents, that makes a big difference.

If growers have not contracted, should pay 50 cents it is almost certain that all will be obliged to pay that price, except in the few cases where the growers provide conveniences which attract pickers at the rule. The pickers get 10 cents and women who go on the annual excursions to the hopyards and who intend to go this year, naturally feel that it is some of their business if the growers made a mistake by contracting at a low figure. They want what the market will allow, rather than what the grower can afford to pay.

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"Pickers are being engaged to work in the yards at 40 cents per box, provided that is the ruling price," says Joe Jones, an enterprising young grower of this vicinity. "I haven't heard of any one offering 50 cents, except that there was a report that 50 cents was offered at Stayton. The name of the man offering it was not given. Forty cents is all we should pay. Like many others, I contracted at low prices and the profits will be none too large if we pay only 40 cents for picking. There will be an effort to put the price up to 50 cents and we may be compelled to pay it. Probably most of the growers will engage their pickers at 40 cents with the condition that the price will be advanced if the ruling price should be higher."

Mr. Jones is another grower who does not believe spraying is necessary in most of the yards around Brooks. The land is high and dry and the lower foliage is kept trimmed off, either by shears or by hand, the vermin will not give material trouble. Spraying does not seem to be as general around Brooks and Gerwin as it is in the yards on Mission Bottom and other places not so high as French Prairie. Just now the hot days and warm nights, with dry breezes in the afternoon, are playing havoc with the vermin, and the vines are practically free.

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TO OWN LIGHTING PLANT

SALEM COUNCIL SEEKING FOR WATER-POWER SITE.

If a Suitable One Should Be Secured the City May Provide for Its Own Electric Service.

SALEM, Aug. 8.—(Special.)—Salem may have a municipal electric street lighting plant. In compliance with an order made by the Salem City Council several weeks ago, Alderman G. W. Griswold, to whom was delegated the making of the investigation of available water power, will on next Tuesday begin inspecting the various sites that have been offered the city. Mr. Griswold will be accompanied on the tour by Henry B. Thiesen, an experienced civil engineer, who will carefully investigate the different properties and ascertain their true value as water-power sites. The investigations will be fully reported to the City Council for its consideration and subsequent action.

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ATTTEMPT TO ROB A BANK

TUNNELED UNDER THE VAULT OF A HOQUIAM INSTITUTION.

The Burglars Had Evidently Engaged in the Work For Several Days—Tools Discovered.

HOQUIAM, Aug. 8.—(Special.)—A bold but ineffectual attempt was made to force an entrance into the vault of the First National Bank yesterday morning. When the teller, A. M. Campbell, opened the vault, he found the safe partly turned over and settled half through the floor. A hasty examination showed that the concrete floor had been tunneled into from the rear, a heavy jack-screw and a complete kit of burglar tools were found under the vault. It is supposed that the excavation work has been going on for some time, as the work could not be done in a single night.

GOT THE DROP ON HIM.

And Then Dr. Curry Used His Whip on His Adversary.

BAKER CITY, Aug. 8.—Dr. H. E. Curry, a prominent citizen of this city, was arrested this afternoon on a complaint of J. Jackson, charged with an assault with a whip on the person of Bob Allen, while using a deadly weapon to prevent Allen from resisting while the doctor was attempting to remove a bullet from Allen's arm. The complaint was made under a special statute of this state providing for such cases. Some very interesting developments are expected at the preliminary hearing tomorrow. The trouble which led up to the gun play has to do with a quarrel between neighbors over cattle breaking into a hayfield. The story as told by Dr. Curry is to the effect that he was driving along the road when he passed Allen, with whom he had had trouble. Some words passed between them when Allen drew a revolver and threatened to shoot Curry. The doctor, who was driving with his little son, sprang from the buggy, at the same time drawing his own pistol. When he jumped from the buggy the doctor got out of the range of Allen's gun and got the drop on him. Allen was on a load of grain. Curry advanced with a buggy whip and struck Allen, knocking the pistol from his hand. Curry took Allen's pistol away from him and brought it to town with him. It will be introduced in evidence at the trial. Curry was released on his own recognizance.

Charged With Forgery.

OREGON CITY, OR., Aug. 8.—W. Fitzgerald and Richard Marwood were arrested tonight on a charge of forgery. Fitzgerald forged a time check for \$10 on the Coast Lumber Company of Portland, payable at the First National Bank of Portland. Both men had been hanging around a saloon for several days, had a good appearance and were seemingly intelligent. The check was made out to T. F. Kramer. Fitzgerald indorsed the check and passed under that name. At his request J. H. Thornton went to the Bank of Oregon City with him, and was obliged to indorse the check in order to secure payment. The men went to get cash and did not return. Thornton's suspicions were aroused and he telephoned the Lumber Company and learned that they had issued no time checks since June. The check was dated August 4.

COOPER AGAIN BANKER.

Woodman Re-Elect Portlander to His High Office.

CRIPPLE CREEK, Colo., Aug. 8.—The head camp of the Pacific Jurisdiction, Woodmen of the World, elected officers at today's session and put in the remainder of the day in disposing of routine business. It is now probable the session will be concluded Tuesday. The officers elected were: F. A. Falkenberg, Denver, head consul, re-elected; John H. Foley, Los Angeles, head adviser; I. A. Baok, Denver, head clerk, re-elected; C. V. Cooper, Portland, OR., head banker, re-elected; F. P. Beresky, Denver, head auditor, re-elected; N. O. Baldwin, Pomona, Wash., head secretary; Dr. C. E. M. Loux, Pocatello, Idaho; J. H. Woodman, head physician, re-elected; D. Oliver, Jr., editor of the Pacific Woodman.

TO RECEIVE KNIGHTS.

Ready to Welcome Delegates to the Pythian Conclave.

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 8.—San Francisco is in gala attire and ready to welcome the Knights of the Pythian, many of whom are now on their way here to attend the grand convocation of their order. Eighteen special trains, consisting of 120 coaches, are expected to arrive over the Southern Pacific by the Golden Route not later than midnight Sunday. Others will come via Los Angeles and several from the North. The railroad officials estimate that the special trains will bring more than one-fourth of the whole number that are expected to take advantage of the low rates offered.

HEAT DELAYS HARVEST WORK.

Crew of Fifteen Forced to Quit Work in Llan County.

ALBANY, OR., Aug. 8.—(Special.)—The past three days have had a remarkably depressing effect on harvest work in this county on account of the continued and excessive heat for this country. Yesterday, in the harvesting crew of J. W. Swank 15 men were obliged to quit work, and smaller numbers in other harvest crews. Today, though, there has been a change, and the indication is weather according to custom, with cool nights.

INDEPENDENCE, OR., Aug. 8.—(Special.)—Threshing is in full blast here this week, and more threshing machines would be in operation were it possible to secure the necessary help. Grain is turning out in first-class shape, and should the pre-

Pale. Thin

Pale cheeks, white lips, and languid step tell the story of thin blood, impure blood. Doctors call it "anemia." They recommend Ayer's Sarsaparilla. Ask them and they will tell you just why it makes the blood so rich and red.

All druggists.

Anemic people are almost always constipated. Their liver is sluggish. They have frequent attacks of sick-headache, nausea, biliousness. Just one of Ayer's Pills each night will correct these troubles.

J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass.

TIME CARD, STEAMER T. J. POTTER

This week the O. R. & N. Co.'s steamer T. J. Potter will leave Ash-street dock for Astoria and Ilwaco as follows:

August 8, 11:15 A. M.; August 9, 9 A. M.; August 10, 9 A. M.; August 11, 9 A. M.; August 12, 9 A. M.

August 13, 11:15 A. M. Passage must be received at Ash-street dock 30 minutes before departure. Ticket office, Third and Washington.

search of a cook on his own account, and found one.

The officers of the Cooke's and Walters' Union do not agree with all that Mr. Albrecht says in regard to the trouble. They insist that they have complied with their part of the agreement to the letter, and that it is Mr. Albrecht who is at fault.

When he came to Yamhill County and settled on a farm, Mr. Sharp was married, and his wife and nine children survive him. The children are: Mrs. Alice Sparks and G. W. Sharp, of Vancouver, Wash.; Mrs. Fannie L. Morse and Dr. Peter J. Sharp, of Palmer, Or.; Mrs. Jennie Collier, Mrs. Clara L. Fleming and Harry Sharp, of McMinnville, and Dr. Charles Sharp, of Beatrice, Neb.

the county would be in practically the same position as now, as its debt, instead of being wiped out, would be merely transferred to the taxpayers, and they hold interest-bearing warrants for the amounts paid into the treasury. The petition follows:

"Whereas, Clackamas County is in debt to about the amount of this year's taxes, and

"Whereas, We, the undersigned taxpayers of Clackamas County, are willing to pay our just share of this debt at present, and

"Whereas, Under the present system we are obliged to pay interest on a debt which we do not owe, and

"Whereas, We hereby petition for the proposition before the Honorable Board and ask favorable action thereon:

"That to every taxpayer of Clackamas County there be given the opportunity by the honorable board to pay into the county treasury an amount of money equal to his or her last year's taxation, receiving a county warrant therefor,

ent warm weather hold out until harvest is over, the largest cereal crop of recent years will have been harvested. Threshing is two weeks later than last season.

Hot Wave Injures Spring Wheat.

MONMOUTH, OR., Aug. 8.—(Special.)—C. Lorence began work today with his large threshing outfit. He reports the yield