

GROWERS OF HOPS WILL FORM POOL

Demand From Brewers and From Shorts Stimulates Prices.

SUPPLY ABOUT EXHAUSTED

Meeting Will Be Held in Portland Tuesday, at Which It Is Hoped to Get Seventy-Five Per Cent of Producers.

Hope held in Oregon, 5,600,000 pounds.
 Worth at present market price, \$1,000,000.
 Worth at 55c a pound, \$1,200,000.
 Additional Eastern capital growers' combine will bring into Oregon, \$200,000.

Conrad Krebs, of Salem, and James Pincus, of Tacoma, who are fathering the movement for a combination of hopgrowers, by which prices are to be lifted, arrived in the city yesterday and will remain here until after the growers' meeting, which is called for next Tuesday afternoon at the Hotel Portland.

They are both enthusiastic over the project and are confident of its entire success. They have received assurances that 75 per cent of the hops remaining in this state will go into the combination, and if this proves to be a fact, nothing apparently can prevent prices from climbing upward. It is not known yet what plan will be decided upon at the meeting, but the growers will probably agree to withdraw their hops from the market for 60 days or some other specified period. The imminence of this meeting is already having a stimulating effect on the market. Prices are nominally no higher than a week ago, but this is because there has not been enough business on which to base valuations.

Growers Hold the Hops.

Growers refuse to consider offers at prices that have lately ruled. They have brought about practically a deadlock by declining to sell, and it is expected they will succeed in tying up the market tighter than ever before by the action they take at Tuesday's meeting. More anxiety to buy hops has been noticed in the past few days and the growers who are still holding have nearly all been visited by buyers. This, in itself, has done much to strengthen the views of the growers. It shows plainly the presence of buying pressure and plainly indicates that the brewers and short sellers are becoming frightened by the turn affairs have taken in this state. The bulk of the available supply of hops in this country is in Oregon. The quantity is estimated anywhere from 15,000 to 22,000 bales. In Washington only 6000 bales remain unsold, and the supply in California is still smaller. In both Washington and California strong pools of combinations have been formed, and now, when Oregon gets in line, the producers will have the beer makers at their mercy. In view of the acknowledged shortage in the world's supply of hops, there seems to be no reason why the Oregon growers should not now set the pace and put the market where it statistically belongs.

FIGHTS GREATER PORTLAND PLAN

Taxpayers' League Opposes the Annexation of Territory.

AGAINST 2-MILL BRIDGE TAX

Organization Issues a Circular, in Which It Sets Forth Its Position Towards Proposed Charter Amendments in Detail.

The Taxpayers' League has declared itself against the annexation of the territory between Portland and St. Johns and between Portland and Mount Labor; against the proposed 2-mill annual tax for bridges over gulches; in favor of the proposal to facilitate grants by the City Council for connecting tracks and short extensions for street railways; in favor of the proposal to secure deposits of city funds with City of Portland bonds and other securities, instead of with bonds of security companies; against raising the salary of the clerk of the Police Court from \$75 to \$100 a month; in favor of the proposal to impose a penalty of 15 per cent improvement assessments, delinquent 90 days; in favor of the proposal to lessen the cost of advertising notices of improvement assessments.

Recommendations of League.

The recommendations of the league are signed by Leo Friede, vice-president, and Louis Goldsmith, secretary. On the question of the special 2-mill bridge tax the league says: "As a matter of fact, there is no similarity of conditions between the building of bridges by the city as a whole, crossing a river which absolutely divides it into two parts, between which there can be no communication without the use of bridges or ferries, and bridges, dills or elevated roadways crossing gulches in various portions of the city. "Furthermore, if the proposed policy is adopted he would be bold indeed to set the limits of the extension of the proposed doctrine. "We further submit, as it was the intention of the promoters of these bridges to cast the cost thereof on the city, it would have been but fair to have allowed these improvements to wait the adoption of the law, and to have given other portions of the city an opportunity in the immediate future to have obtained bridges. "We also desire to call the attention of the taxpayers of this city to the fact that if this amendment be adopted it will arbitrarily and irrevocably increase the tax rate by 2 mills, and it would seem as though taxes for special purposes such as this should be carefully considered; otherwise, the levy will become very oppressive. "As to the proposal to charge a penalty of 15 per cent for 90 or more days' delinquency in payment of improvement assessments, the league says: "Under the section of the charter as now drawn, a delinquency bears interest only at the legal rate of 6 per cent, and as this is the only penalty provided for nonpayment, in many cases it operates as an inducement for people to contest assessments, which they would otherwise pay, and as a consequence has a tendency to increase the cost of improvements by forcing contractors to bid on a basis of a contest and their not receiving their money within the time they should. "The plan to enlarge the boundaries of the city the league opposes in the following language: "The city territory comprises about 25,000 acres. We now have more territory than we can properly care for. There are constant demands, which cannot be complied with, for additional police and fire protection, lights, care of streets, etc., and we believe it is unwise constantly to expand the city's limits. No one at all familiar with the present limits of the city but who knows there are hundreds of vacant acres in every direction. Until these are populated it would be folly to add to the burdens of the municipality."

THREE DAYS' SALE

Of Odd Dressers---They're great values and will fill in many an unused corner. An extra bureau is always useful

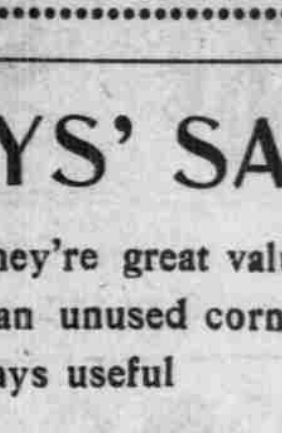
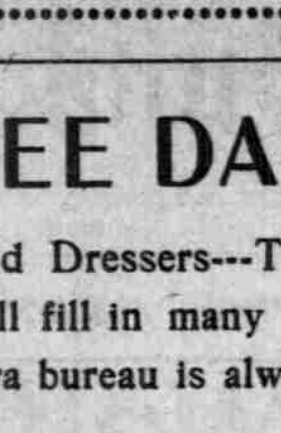
Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday

Three Days' Sale of Eastern Oak Dressers

No. 82—An \$18.00 Solid Oak Dresser, golden finish, mirror French bevel, size 20x24, serpentine top drawer, brass handles; sale price **\$15.25**

No. 71—You'd have to pay \$20.00 for this one regularly; it has a shaped mirror and description is similar to the former **\$15.85**

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No. 90—Would be cheap at \$22.00; the French bevel mirror is 22x28 inches, but the description is similar to others; our sale price is **\$17.50**

No. 104—Is a beauty for the regular price, \$24.00, but an absolute bargain at the price marked for the sale **\$20.00**

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Statistics of Government.

Some interesting figures on the hop movement to and from the United States last year are given in the annual summary of the Bureau of Statistics of the Department of Commerce and Labor. It shows imports of hops in the past three years to have been:

1904	Pounds.	4,728,458
1903	3,882,571
1902	4,078,344

The total exports in the three years were:

1904	Pounds.	17,271,828
1903	9,128,448
1902	9,156,244

Of the amount sent foreign last year, 16,752,763 pounds were exported to England, 324,522 pounds to Canada, 291,957 pounds to British Australasia, and the remainder to Continental Europe, Central and South America, Mexico, Cuba, the Philippines, and Asiatic beer-consuming countries.

WISCONSIN MEN INDIGNANT

Telegraph Governor LaFollette Urging State Appropriation for Fair.

More than 200 members of the Wisconsin Society of Oregon met in the Elks' Hall, in the Marquam building, last night, to express their combined surprise and indignation in a telegram to Governor LaFollette that no appropriation had been made to the Fair by their state. They blamed politics, and sent the following telegram: "Governor LaFollette: The Wisconsin Society of Oregon feels greatly humiliated at the failure of the Legislature to make an appropriation for the Lewis and Clark Fair, and strongly urges the passage of the bill to be introduced Monday by Senator Bell. "Twice the Senate of the Wisconsin Legislature has passed an appropriation, but each time it has been defeated in the House. In the absence of President J. K. Kollock, his report was read before the meeting last night by Treasurer H. L. Powers. He said that all the 700 newspapers of Wisconsin had been requested to place the society on their free mailing list, and practically all had complied, so that visitors to the Fair from Wisconsin would be able to get their home papers. Tom L. Johnson, Commissioner to the Fair from Great Britain, made an address on the good that the Exposition will do Portland. It was decided to hold the annual meeting of the society May 23, the anniversary of the admission of the State of Wisconsin into the Union. "Hospital, where he is in a serious condition. About three years ago Captain Johnson was assaulted by a man, who severely beat him over the head with a heavy club. He has not been well since then. This is the third time he has been attacked with paralysis. It is thought the malady is due to the severe injuries he received at the time of the assault. Captain Johnson, who lives on the East Side, has had charge of different steamers on the Willamette and Columbia Rivers, for years. He was captain of the steamer Spencer last Summer when she was wrecked near Lytle. "Examination for Firemen. The physical examination of 48 applicants for positions in the city's Fire Department were held yesterday morning at Multnomah Field and during the afternoon the same number were given a written examination at Ladd School building. Next Saturday the applicants for positions upon the police force will be examined as to their ability, physically and mentally.

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