

MOVE TO REPEAL INSURANCE LAW

Business Men Favor Letting Down Bars to Competing Companies.

STATE REQUIRES DEPOSIT

If Act Were Revoked, Many More Concerns Would Seek Business in Oregon, Wrecking Combine and Reducing Rates.

That the flat charge of 25 per cent that has been added to the insurance rates on \$20 prominent business blocks of Portland by the board of fire underwriters of the Pacific, of San Francisco, will lead to the repeal of the deposit law in this state at the next session of the Legislature, and the consequent addition to the number of insurance companies doing business in this state, is the belief of business men of the city, as well as of prominent fire insurance agents.

There are 57 insurance companies doing business in this state. Insurance premiums are reported annually to the amount of \$1,500,000. It is estimated by men in a position to know that \$250,000 or more goes to non-entered companies. It is pointed out that the difficulty of making such an increased charge for fire insurance would be practically impossible were the bars taken down so that a large number of other companies could come into this state and transact business.

In fact, Oregon is one of the few states of the Union that has a deposit law. Washington, for example, has no such act, and there are probably 157 fire insurance companies doing business in that state. It is held that the tax just levied by the underwriters against the business interests of Portland would be impossible in Washington because of the competition between companies.

There was a movement on foot at the last session of the Legislature to effect the repeal of the deposit law, an act being formed in Portland and presented at Salem, but failed of passage. W. J. Clemens, a prominent insurance man of this city, is said to have helped frame the act, in connection with the Chamber of Commerce.

Business men generally, who are hard hit by the new order of the underwriters, urge repeal of the deposit law at the coming session, and an agitation to that end has already been started.

The increase of rates, which is denounced as arbitrary, means a heavy tax on Portland business interests. It adds thousands of dollars every year to the cost of fire insurance. Business men are outraged against this additional burden, and divide the blame about equally between the Portland Railway, Light & Power Company and the underwriters. Many predict that the electric company will be forced to comply with the requirement of the underwriters because of the widespread indignation of the business interests.

The leading business buildings of Portland are affected by the added tax of the insurance companies. Among the 20 risks upon which the rate has been raised are the following prominent buildings:

- Portland Railway, Light & Power Company's building, First and Morrison.
- St. Charles Hotel, Front and Morrison.
- Hotel Matheson, Main and Front.
- Mulkey building, Second and Morrison.
- I. O. O. F. building, First and Alder.
- Columbia building, Third and Oak.
- Abington building, Third and Stark.
- McKay building, Third and Stark.
- Concord building, Second and Stark.
- Falling building, Third and Washington.
- A. O. U. W. Temple, Second and Taylor.
- Hotel Lenox, Third and Main.
- Worcester building, Third and Oak.
- Fleischer-Mayer Company, 31 Front.
- Labbe building, Second and Washington.
- Lumber Exchange building, Second and Stark.
- Ainsworth building, Third and Oak.
- Chamber of Commerce, Third and Stark.
- Sherlock building, Third and Washington.
- Hotel Belvedere, Fourth and Alder.
- Washington building, Fourth and Washington.
- Dekum building, Third and Washington.
- Hamilton building, 123 Third.
- Alisky building, Third and Morrison.
- Alaska dock, foot of Gisan.
- Goodnough building, Fifth and Yamhill.
- M. C. A. building, Fourth and Yamhill.
- Benson building, Fourth and Morrison.
- Acheson building, 143 Fifth.
- Honeyman Hardware Company, Fourth and Alder.
- Sweetland building, Fifth and Washington.
- Buchanan building, 288 Washington.
- Macleay building, Fourth and Washington.
- Rothchild building, Fourth and Washington.
- Pantages Theater, Fourth and Stark.
- Wadhams & Co., Fourth and Oak.
- Bryman Leather Company, Fifth and Oak.
- M. Sells & Co., Fifth and Pine.
- Goodyear Rubber Company, Fourth and Pine.
- Marshall-Wells, Fourth and Pine.
- Commercial Club building, Fifth and Oak.
- Polson Implement Company, Front and Taylor.
- Portland Sash & Door Factory, 230 Front.
- Fisher-Thorsen Company, Front and Morrison.
- Lowengart & Co., Front and Stark.
- Ellis building, Seventh and Stark.
- Merrill building, Seventh and Oak.
- Wells Fargo building, Sixth and Oak.
- Oregon Hotel, Seventh and Stark.
- Smith & Watson Iron Works, Front and Hall.
- Monastes building, First and Jefferson.
- City Market building, Third and Market.
- United States Postoffice, Fifth and Morrison.
- Eurus building, Sixth and Morrison.
- Meyer & Frank store, Sixth and Morrison.
- Raleigh building, Sixth and Washington.
- Oregonian building, Sixth and Alder.
- Marquam Grand Theater, Sixth and Morrison.
- Alexandra Court, 53 Ella.
- Tull & Gibbs building, Seventh and Morrison.
- Lewis building, Park and Morrison.
- Calumet Hotel, 148 Park.
- Grand Theater, Park and Washington.
- Lyric Theater, Tenth and Morrison.
- Selling-Hirsch building, Tenth and Washington.
- Masonic Temple, Park and Yamhill.
- Ladd School, Tenth and Madison.
- Elton Court, Eleventh and Yamhill.
- Tifford building, Tenth and Morrison.
- Hotel Antlers, Tenth and Washington.
- Fleischer building, Tenth and Washington.
- Hotel Nortonia, Eleventh and Stark.
- Hotel Breslin, Eleventh and Washington.
- Davis School, Twenty-first and Raleigh.
- West Side High School, Fourteenth and Morrison.

Hellig Theater, Fourteenth and Washington.

Scottish Rite Cathedral, Lowndale and Morrison.

Exposition building, Nineteenth and Washington.

Allen & Lewis, Front and Davis.

Lang & Co., First and Ankeny.

Closet & Devers, Front and Ankeny.

Portland Gas Company, First and Everett.

Feinton building, 84 Sixth street.

Phoenix building, Fifth and Oak.

Commonwealth building, Sixth and Ankeny.

Golden West Hotel, Seventh and Everett.

United States Custom-House, Park and Everett.

Atkinson School, Twelfth and Couch.

First Presbyterian Church, Twelfth and Alder.

Hotel Danmore, Fourteenth and Washington.

Star Theater, Park and Washington.

Columbia building, Park and Washington.

Cornelius Hotel, Park and Alder.

Hotel Eaton, Park and Morrison.

Hotel Gordon, West Park and Yamhill.

Columbia Steel Company, Ninth and Johnson.

Ainsworth dock, foot of Third.

Greenwich dock, No. 2, Front and Marshall.

Pacific Coast Company, coal bunkers, Front and Tenth.

American Can Company, Front and Fourteenth.

Willamette Iron & Steel Works, Front and Roosevelt.

The list includes a host of other buildings on the West Side and a large number on the East Side of the river in the business district.

COMPANY MAY REVISE SYSTEM

Josselyn, However, Declares New Rates Mere Robbery.

Efforts will be made by the Portland Railway, Light & Power Company so to change its power circuits as to meet with the approval of the Board of Underwriters of the Pacific and cause the underwriters to remove the additional tax for fire insurance just laid against this city. However, it is not yet certain that the change can be made without the purchase of a large amount of special machinery that would be entirely useless upon the completion of the company's underground system of cables, and this President Josselyn declines to make. If the circuits can be separated without spending hundreds of thousands of dollars for machinery that can be used only a short time, the desired change will be made.

"I am informed by our engineers," said President Josselyn yesterday, "that 90 per cent of the cities of the country have the same character of service as we have here. Portland is by no means an isolated case, but I have no knowledge of the underwriters having arbitrarily raised insurance rates anywhere else. In many cities the 500-volt current is fed to the consumer directly from the trolley wires, which is not the case here.

Rates Not Raised Elsewhere.

"The main objection raised by the underwriters is that of possible damage as the result of electrical storms. Otherwise no criticism is made against the present system. The fact of the nearly entire absence of electrical disturbances here puts us in a preferred class as compared with any other section of the United States. We are not advised that the underwriters have taken similar action in any other city. Being familiar with the electrical situation all over the country, it is my firm conviction that the companies contemplated a general increase of rates for Portland but could not find any just cause for such increase throughout the city and so hung their hat on the 500-volt current as an excuse. Under our climatic conditions, this tax is unjustified and is absolute robbery.

"We are not going to buy new machinery to overcome the difficulty at the expense of hundreds of thousands of dollars in the face of the plan to go underground, which will make the machinery valueless to us. I told the underwriters' committee three weeks ago that if it considered the situation so alarming, we could cut off the 500-volt service and stand our loss by reason of the reduced current consumption, but the damage to the community would be incalculable because all the motors would have to shut down. I pointed out to the committee that the public should be considered in preference to ourselves.

Plan to Separate Circuits.

"The loss of the Cazadero plant has compelled us to make different plans for generating and distributing from our present apparatus, which are costly and would not be resorted to except in the present emergency. I believe this will result in our being able to cut off all grounded circuits and put in a metallic return circuit that will separate the generating machinery desired by the underwriters. If this is found feasible, it will be done without delay. Then the sincerity of the arbitrary increase of rates by the underwriters will be put to the test. If we find the plan feasible and it is put into operation, it will be done with the understanding that the reliability of the present lighting and power circuits will possibly be materially interfered with, for, in the event of the machines carrying a greater load than they can carry, ineffective service will be given."

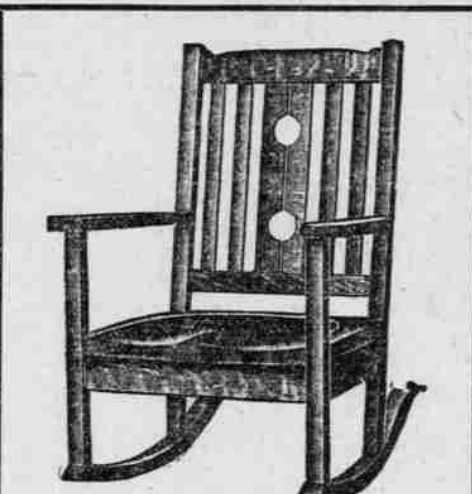


Dignified Credit to All

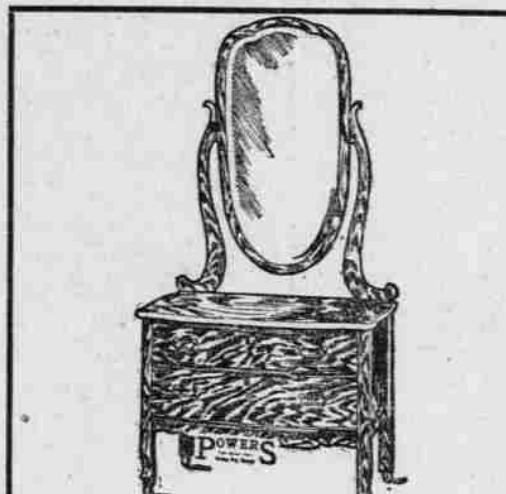
ODDS and ENDS SALE of SAMPLES

Commencing Monday Morning at 8 o'Clock

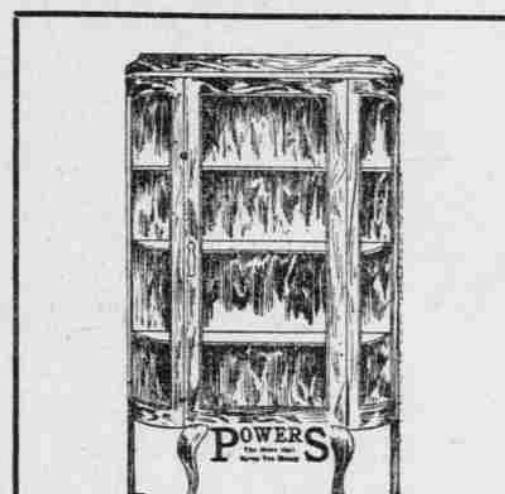
We have just received two cars of furniture which in order to sample necessitates our making room on our exhibition floor, which is already crowded with odd and end samples. This week we are going to close these out at cost, along with other broken lines of patterns. Don't delay your coming. Be here just as soon as possible if you want good furniture at cost



\$9.00 weathered oak Mission Rocker, wood seat, exactly like cut; sale price..... **\$4.75**



\$36.00 Princess Dresser, in birdseye maple and quarter-sawed oak, polished finish, 18x40 French bevel-plate mirror..... **\$23.90**

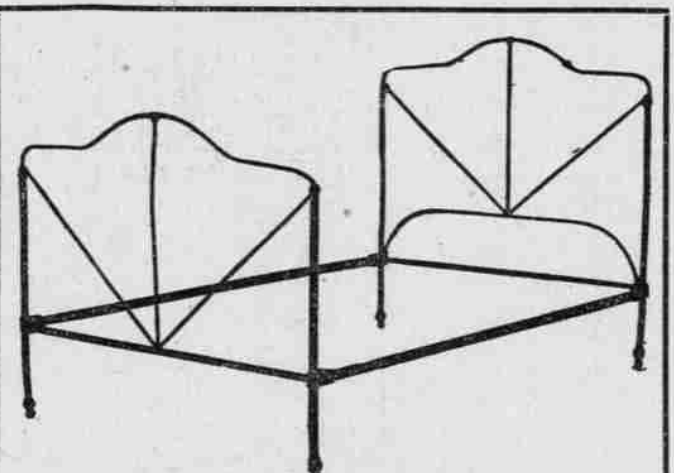


\$22.50 China Cabinet, has 4 shelves, round glass ends, quarter-sawed oak, in weathered finish..... **\$14.35**



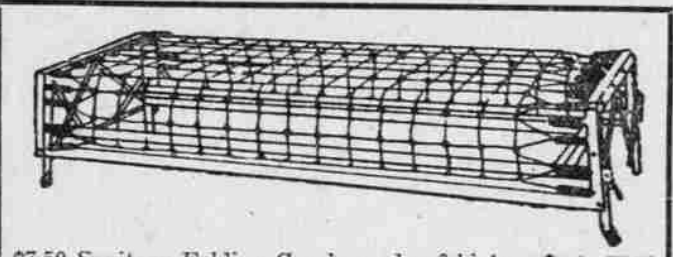
\$36.00 Buffet, quarter-sawed oak, polished finish, 23x45-in. top, 12x38 French bevel-plate mirror; sale price..... **\$23.50**

\$45.00 quarter-sawed oak Buffet, hand-polished; has 3 drawers and two doors..... **\$29.00**



\$3.00 Iron Bed, three-quarters and full size, green or white..... **\$1.95**

In this page of cuts we are able to show only a few of the many reductions we are offering in the various lines. Our store is full of bargains—we must make room on our sample floor, and a visit will convince you that this is not an ordinary opportunity. Profit by these money-saving prices.



\$7.50 Sanitary Folding Couch, made of high-grade steel, National fabric top..... **\$4.75**

\$4.00 Couch Covers, in green and browns..... **\$2.35**

\$3.50 Couch Covers, reduced to..... **\$1.95**



\$27.50 6-ft. Oak Pedestal Extension Table, beautifully polished, quarter-sawed oak top..... **\$14.75**



\$11.00 Lady's Desk, 27 inches wide, in imitation mahogany or genuine oak; reduced to **\$6.35**

These sale prices make it well worth your while to buy furniture NOW.

POWERS

THE STORE THAT SAVES YOU MONEY

DIGNIFIED CREDIT FOR ALL FIRST AND TAYLOR

Out of town orders filled promptly. Terms on specials strictly cash.

\$16.50 Music Cabinet, genuine mahogany, Sheraton design, in polished or dull finish. Has five shelves— **\$9.25**

President Josselyn points out that in the event of the installation of machinery elevator in the city out of commission and every motor used for manufacturing purposes. These motors would have to be rebuilt to fit the new conditions and the disturbance to business conditions would be widespread.

F. Dresser Goes to Seaside

For the information of my friends in Portland, and particularly those who have Summer homes at the sea, I wish to say that my business interests are now entirely centered at Seaside, West Seaside and Gearhart Park, and that my connection with the F. DRESSER CO., at Fifth and Stark streets, has been completely severed. Associated with me in the ownership of these stores is A. R. Wascher, of Portland.

I am right on the ground, giving my personal attention to the wants of Seaside residents, and hope to receive the same loyal support you have given me these many years.

We have a buyer in the Portland market every day, so our customers can depend on getting service that is beyond complaint, and at the closest prices for which first-class goods can be purchased. Advance orders will be given special attention. Write a day or two ahead and we will see that your necessities are on hand, waiting for your arrival.

I wish to say again that the support you have given me in the past is appreciated, and hoping to receive your continued patronage, I beg to remain, sincerely,

F. DRESSER

SEASIDE - WEST SEASIDE - GEARHART PARK

The Irvington store at Fifteenth and Broadway is now owned and operated by F. W. and P. G. Wascher.

Metzger Acre Tracts

On the Salem Electric Line, Only 30 Minutes' Ride From the Heart of the City.

WHAT ONE OF THESE ACRES WILL DO

- It will double in value in a very short time.
- Properly tilled, it will produce almost enough to insure a comfortable competency for life.
- It will provide a most desirable and healthy location on which to build a home. With all the advantages of country life, yet only a 30-minute ride from the heart of the city.
- It will pay for itself in a few years, as it is ideal ground on which to raise fruit, vegetables, berries or walnuts.
- It provides, at a trifling cost, the opportunity to live in comfort amidst the best and most healthful surroundings.
- To prove the truth of every statement made in this ad, take the cars at Front and Jefferson streets, enjoy a delightful ride, get off at Metzger Station, and see for yourself. You will not hesitate or regret buying one or more of these acres.

PRICE \$200 AND UPWARDS

- PRICE—\$200 and up per acre, according to location.
- TERMS—10 per cent cash and 3 per cent of the purchase price per month.
- INTEREST—6 per cent per annum on deferred payments.
- ON CASH PAYMENTS a discount will be allowed.

For particulars and beautiful descriptive plat call at our Portland office, 226-228 Front street, or at Metzger Station. All cars and trains stop at Metzger's.

HERMAN METZGER, Owner
Office Phones, Main 474—A 1374. Agents and Phone at Station—Pacific 2019.