

PAUSE IN HOP TRADING

Business Very Quiet in Local Hop Market.

VIEWS OF THE FUTURE

Statistics Compiled Showing Holdings of All Crops on the Pacific Coast—Firm Tone of Grain Market.

There is a pause now in hop trading. In contrast with the activity which is usual in the latter part of each month, the tone of the market is fairly steady at 7 1/2 cents for the best 100s. Very few lots of any growth are offered. Some inquiry is reported for old, but there have been no recent sales. A few one-year contracts, aggregating about 17,000 pounds, at 9 cents came to light yesterday, but aside from this nothing was done in new crop business.

There is the usual variety of opinion as to what the coming season will bring forth in the way of yields and prices. On the whole the trade does not take an optimistic view as a few months ago. It is concluded that good prospects on the Pacific Coast are bright. Oregon will undoubtedly harvest a larger crop than last year and the indications are also good in California. Some yards would have been plowed up and many would have been neglected had it not been for the wave of contracting which recently swept over the coast and encouraged all growers to put their yards in the best condition.

Statistics that have been compiled show that in all hands on the Pacific Coast there are 33,300 bales of last year's crop and 38,991 bales of old. This total of 72,291 bales, which, however, is regarded by some authorities as too high, represents all the hops that are left in the United States outside of the breweries, as stocks of New York hops are practically exhausted. The Pacific Coast holdings are shown in the following table:

	1908.	1907.	1906.
Oregon.....	3,800	3,000	3,000
Washington.....	5,000	2,500	2,500
California.....	1,500	1,200	1,200
Dealers.....	5,000	2,500	2,500
Total Oregon.....	8,800	5,700	4,000
Total Washington.....	1,500	1,200	1,200
Total California.....	1,500	1,200	1,200
Total Pacific Coast.....	11,800	8,100	6,400

CONSUMERS WILL PAY TARIFF TAX.

Proposed Increase on Dates, Figs and Citrus Will Cause Advance.

In connection with the proposed raise in tariff on several important articles in dried fruit products, a circular of William H. Hines, Jr., of New York, says:

The Payne bill, just reported to Congress by the ways and means committee, provides for an increase in duty on the following articles: Dates from 10 to 15 per cent; figs from 10 to 15 per cent; citrus fruit from 10 to 15 per cent. These increased duties will naturally enhance the selling price of these several lines, and consumers undoubtedly will have to pay more for them.

STRONG FEELING IN GRAIN MARKET.

Business Is Quiet at Merchants' Exchange—Quotations Unchanged.

The grain market was quiet yesterday, but the tone was very firm all around. Offerings at the Merchants' Exchange were light and there were no sales.

Rid and asked prices at the Board of Trade were:

March	\$1.10	\$1.12			
March	1.19 1/2	1.13			
OATS.					
March	Bid.	Asked.			
March	\$1.85	\$1.97 1/2			
March	3.97 1/2	2.00			
BARLEY.					
March	Bid.	Asked.			
March	\$1.40	\$1.52 1/2			
March	1.50	1.52 1/2			
Receipts in cars were reported by the					
Merchants:					
Wheat. Barley. Flour. Oats. Hay.					
March 20-21	6	11	13	4	28
March 21-22	15	2	5	1	10
March 22-23	2	2	3	1	10
March 23-24	3	1	4	1	8
March 24-25	10	1	1	1	5
March 25-26	10	1	1	1	7
March 26-27	10	1	1	1	7
March 27-28	10	1	1	1	7
March 28-29	10	1	1	1	7
March 29-30	10	1	1	1	7
March 30-31	10	1	1	1	7
March 1-2	10	1	1	1	7
March 2-3	10	1	1	1	7
March 3-4	10	1	1	1	7
March 4-5	10	1	1	1	7
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March 16-17	10	1	1	1	7
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