

HOP PROSPECT.

Authentic Claims of Fifteen Cents Offered.

The Portland Telegram of Friday night endeavored to discredit the report that 15 cent offers for hops were authentic, the reason being that the few bearish hop buyers who make headquarters in Portland would not allow themselves to believe the fact and gave the Telegram a fill to the effect that the report was untrue. Last evening, however, the Telegram had received new light and admitted that such offers were heard of.

Yes, indeed, they are heard of in every direction in the real hop center of Oregon—Salem—where there is always a strong set of live, up-to-date hop buyers, who keep thoroughly informed on conditions in all parts of the world and are always ready to respond to them.

During the past forty-eight hours, several buyers here have made contracts at 15 cents and more than likely the coming business week will see offers considerably above that figure. Louis Lashmund & Co. made some purchases at the figure named. Joseph Harris took in 600 bales at that price; Klaber & Wolf have men in the fields offering 15 cents in any direction where good hops are to be found; Krebs Bros. have made several buys at the same price and they want several more, so it can be readily seen that there is no lack of offers, the only trouble being to find growers who will accept them.

Julius Pincus is author of the following facts concerning the sales of hops of Yamhill and Washington counties: Oscar Weidner of Portland bought 150 bales of Hatchcroft Brothers at North Yamhill at 15 cents. The same firm bought up several other small lots aggregating 400 bales at 15 cents.

Benj. Schwarz of New York through his agent, Jos. Harris, bought 120,000 pounds of the Miller and Obye crops at McMinnville and Whiteson at 15 cents. Klaber, Wolf and Netter bought 250 bales at Forest Grove at 15 cents.

Growers are not inclined to sell even at 15 cents and buyers are taking options at 16 cents, owing to the unfavorable reports from England and the continent. In speaking of the conditions in this section, Mr. Pincus says:

"I see no reason why hops will not be selling for 20 cents before harvest. The shortage in Europe is bound to bring the price of Oregon hops up. There will, nevertheless, be a shortage of several thousand bales in the American 1906 crop over the 1905 crop."

This is encouraging for the growers, since it came from a buyer.

In a letter received yesterday from the secretary of the Sonoma County Hop Growers' Exchange at Santa Rosa, Calif., it is learned that hops are being contracted for at 15 and 15 1/2 cents. The writer goes on to say that Sonoma county is only going to have a fair crop.—Salem Statesman.

About the Bridge.

The following item appeared in a recent issue of the Albany Herald with reference to the steel bridge at that point between the counties of Benton and Linn:

The Linn county commissioners' court meets this afternoon for the August term with a considerable docket on hand. Among the matters coming up for consideration will be some road work and bridge construction, and with the latter it is expected that some Albany people will appear before the court and point out the necessity of relaying the walk on the steel bridge across the Willamette river for the use

of pedestrians. The walk after being in use for years, was last spring removed and wire fencing erected so that all travelers across the bridge, whether on foot or driving, have to pass over on the roadway. In case of a runaway team passing over the bridge there is no chance of getting out of the way and it is feared that some serious accident will follow some day if the old walk for pedestrians is not restored. This walk was a part of the bridge when Linn county took the care of the structure and people making use of the bridge daily, think that it should be kept up as it was when it became the property of the county.

They Have Cleaned Up.

The Congregational church grounds have been nicely cleaned and fixed up during the past few days, adding greatly to the appearance of the premises and showing that the people back of the movement have the right spirit and desire to do their best for their own property and the improvement of the city in general.

This is commendable, and the example should be followed by other churches, and not alone by these, but by every private citizen on his own premises, and by every body of citizens who have anything to do with the public buildings and business houses of the town.

When one has leisure, an observation trip over the city will pay for the time and trouble that is spent. Conditions exist in more than one supposedly well-regulated alley, back yard and woodshed, shack and shanty that are a constant menace to the health of residents of the immediate vicinity, and these should for sanitary reasons, if not for the sake of order, be overcome.

If anyone thinks these hints are far-fetched, let him stroll around town some day, using eyes and nose for proof, and he will certainly be convinced that things are in need of betterment in many a quarter.

Almost A Wedding.

There was almost a wedding at the court house Wednesday afternoon—but not quite. He was willing and happy, and her consent was already given; the necessary witnesses were on hand and a friend had been found to swear that both he and she were of age; the clerk was there with an eye to business, and pen, ink and the license blank were on the desk, but there proceedings were checked. It developed that she resided in Linn, and insisted upon claiming her residence in that county, wedding or no wedding, and after being informed that the license must be issued in the county where the lady claimed her home, the happy pair decided to get a rig and drive to Albany to be "tied."

The last seen of them they were crossing the ferry, bound for Linn county, somewhat disappointed but determined to launch their bark on the matrimonial sea before sunset Wednesday evening.

Permanent Club.

There has been considerable talk among the members of the Benton County Citizen's League of organizing a Commercial and Social Club with permanent quarters nicely furnished for the benefit of members and visiting friends.

A committee was appointed by the president of the League some time ago to look into the matter, and will be prepared to make a report to the League at our next regular meeting, which will be Tuesday, August 7th, at 8 p. m., City Hall. It is hoped that all the business men of Corvallis will turn out at this meeting and help to make Corvallis a greater city. Corvallis is the largest town in the state that has not a commercial club with a permanent home. Do not forget the date, August 7th.

B. W. JOHNSON, Pres.
Jno. F. ALLEN, Sec'y.

A BIG ORDER.

Buying Hardwood Lumber for Frisco Hotel.

W. B. Bradbury, the San Francisco capitalist, has been in Corvallis this week seeking lumber of the finest kind obtainable for the interior finishing of a big hotel that he is to build in devastated Frisco. It will be only three stories, but elegantly finished.

Mr. Bradbury is a millionaire, and before the fire, owned two big hotels in the ruined city, one of which was situated on Veness Avenue. Mr. Bradbury and wife were in this hotel when the quake came and the fire broke around them. With woman's presence of mind, Mrs. Bradbury, thinking the fire might reach them, packed two or three trunks of valuables and awaited developments. They came.

The fire swept onward and the soldiers broke in the massive plate glass windows at the hotel and ordered the owners to get out. A \$350 seal-skin coat hung in the hall and this Mr. Bradbury attempted to secure but was told to get out, and he "got," saving only his diamonds and the trunks that his wife had packed. The soldiers then fired the hotel, to prevent spread of the flames on VanNess Avenue, but as the public knows, to no avail.

This hotel commanded a rental of \$800 per month, and before the ashes were cold the site was rented out by Mr. Bradbury for \$500 per month, so high have the rates gone since the fire, and even a higher figure could have been secured by waiting until the present.

It is to rebuild this destroyed hotel that Mr. Bradbury came to Corvallis in search of lumber. He has placed an order with E. W. Strong for 27,000 feet of hardwood, principally white maple, for the casings, doors, mouldings and other inside finishings of the building. The order includes 170 doors, 1 3/4 inches thick, and Mr. Strong has arranged for the Buxton planing mill to do the work of getting the material in shape and to furnish some of the wood.

Mr. Bradbury visited Everett, Wash., where he bargained for 200,000 feet of fir, for which, in the rough, he paid \$15 dollars per thousand f. o. b. and as this will cost \$20 laid down in Frisco it is then \$8 cheaper on the thousand than rough lumber can be purchased for in Frisco today, so Mr. Bradbury figures that he has made money by coming to Corvallis and Everett to deal. The lumber for the outside of the hotel will be shipped from Portland.

From Lieut. Williams.

A letter from Lieut. Floyd Williams was received by Claude Swann, in Corvallis, Tuesday. It was written in Manila, June 23, and stated that the writer and his wife were getting along finely and that Lieut. Williams liked his position very much. It said that the writer had been assigned to the command of the Second Company and would remain in Manila until ordered to Ilocus, in the northwestern part of Luzon.

Lieut. Williams asked many questions concerning OAC affairs, and said, "All I ask of you fellows this year is to beat Eugene in the annual football game, and I will be happy."

Mrs. Williams, he said, liked the county there even better than he did, and they were enjoying the situation very well.

In connection with the above letter to the friend in Corvallis, the following clipping from this week's Independence Enterprise will be of further interest:

Clyde Williams is in receipt of a postal card from his brother, Floyd, dated Manila, June 24, that tends to disprove the report

that the Polk county lieutenant was killed by the Puljanes on the island of Leyte. The card states the writer had been assigned to the command of the Second Company and he would remain in Manila until ordered to Ilocus in the northwestern part of Luzon. If this program were followed out he could not have been on the island of Leyte.

Factory For Corvallis

A Michigan man, now residing in South Benton, was in Corvallis this week and during a conversation with a friend dropped several suggestions of general interest.

"I don't want to say anything against your country, for the Willamette Valley climate cannot be beaten," said the gentleman in question. "But," he added, "you people have got to have better returns from your land, or a man cannot afford to live here."

"If the people would devote their time to diversified farming, they would make dollars where they now make cents. For instance, back in Michigan in the section where I lived, only in certain places is the soil adapted to growing peas, beans and sweet corn, but in these sections they raise these things entirely. There is a factory in the nearby town where they can peas, corn and beans, and the farmers make all kinds of money out of their little plots of ground."

"Now, if Benton farmers could be persuaded to let wheat alone, they could make from \$30 to \$50 per acre every year out of their farms, and by establishing a canning factory for such products in Corvallis the town would be greatly benefited, as well as affording a market for the farmers' produce. Your soil here is admirably adapted to pea and bean culture, and all that is lacking is for the Willamette Valley farmer to awaken to his opportunity."

"As for me, I am going back to Michigan, for I can't make anything here, raising wheat, and one can't raise anything else until people get awake and establish a market for other things."

These suggestions are practical, and every year in Benton suggests the wisdom of getting out of the old rut of continual wheat raising, and trying diversified farming, which in other states is pronounced the better plan by far.

Strips Horse.

The recent electric storm was an eye-opener for the oldest inhabitant of these parts. While the storm appeared quite severe to the uninitiated, those who came from certain eastern centers would consider it very mild. However, the thunderbolts of Jove were guilty of some freakish capers. From the following dispatch sent out from Independence it seems that a most peculiar occurrence took place in Kings Valley.

Report of lightning freaks during the electrical storm Saturday comes from Kings Valley, 15 miles southwest of here. John Price had harnessed up his horse preparatory to driving to town and left it hitched to a buggy in front of his house. Lightning struck the buggy, completely wrecking it, and stripped the harness from the horse without killing the animal.

Not a spoke was left in the wheels of the buggy nor a piece of harness, the biddle excepted left on the horse. Four telephone poles were also struck in the same neighborhood and reduced to kindling wood.

Miss Nancy Campbell is making extensive improvement to her comfortable residence property in the western part of town. A new foundation has been placed under the house, the trees have been thinned out and the place generally cleaned up and beautified.



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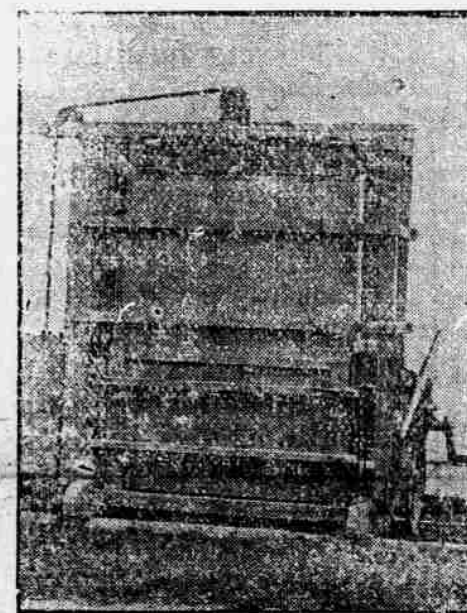
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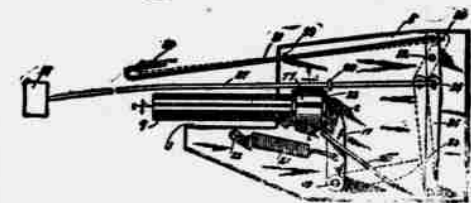
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