

WOOD FAMINE THREATENS EUGENE

Fuel Already Scarce and Price Much Higher Than Last Year - Dealers in Town Cannot Get It From the Country - Car Load Shipped By Rail

Eugene is threatened with a fuel wood famine this winter. Acting with the usual custom, the consumers of this necessary commodity began placing their orders for the winter's supply early last spring. As the summer began to wane and the October leaves took on their golden hue and their orders not filled, they began to inquire into the cause of the delay in delivery. To their sorrow they learned that there was very little wood to be obtained at a very high price. Then commenced a lively skirmish, which is still on, the demand greater than ever with but little prospect of it being relieved for some time.

A Guard reporter interviewed several prominent wood dealers in the city this morning on the subject, and all were of the unanimous opinion that the situation is a grave one. Said one prominent transfer man who dealt extensively in the wood business last season:

"I simply had to go out of the business because I could not get enough to supply a third of my customers. It is nothing but a case of no fuel to be had and I doubt if the situation could be relieved for some time even if the dealers were to send choppers into the woods at once. There are so many families in Eugene wholly without or with but very little wood in their sheds that I am afraid there will be some pretty cold children in some parts of the town."

Another dealer when asked the question: "How is the fuel business?" smiled and said: "It's a case of nothing doing. I can't get wood at all. I received nearly 300 cords from up the river, but it is all gone; I expect to get a carload from Junction today, but that will be gobbled up before the car is sidetracked. All of us who are in the wood business are doing all we can to relieve the pressure, but it will be some time before we can fill all our orders."

"What do you think is the cause of the scarcity of fuel when we all know that Lane county is the greatest timber producing section in the world?" was asked.

"It is because the times are too good. Men won't chop wood when they can get \$3 or \$4 a day for other work. Nearly all the wood that has been hauled to town has been done by farmers who cut wood when they have nothing else to do, but the supply received in this way will not equal a fifth of the demand."

Other dealers expressed almost the same opinion. It is well known that laborers are scarce in the county and that wages for all kinds of work are unusually high and therefore those men who have been accustomed to making their living by chopping wood have abandoned the work for something more remunerative.

A comparison of prices of different kinds of wood for this season might be of interest to Eugene people:

	Last year	This year
Grub oak.....	\$4.50	\$5.50
Body fir.....	4.00	5.00
Dense fir.....	3.50	5.00
Ash.....	3.50	4.50
Maple.....	3.00	4.00
Balm.....	2.00	3.50
Shswood, Springfield.....	1.75	3.00

WEEKLY REPORT OF LOCAL MARKET

Chittim bark—Strong at 70-72 1/2 cts.

Wool, 20¢ cents

POULTRY, EGGS, ETC.

Eggs—Per dozen, 27 1/2 cts.

Dairy butter, 25 cts; creamery butter, 65¢ per roll.

Hens—9¢ to 10¢.

Frys—10¢.

Geese—3¢ to 7¢.

Ducks—10¢ to 11¢.

FRUITS, VEGETABLES, ETC.

Potatoes—60¢ to 75¢ per 100

Onions—13¢.

Lemons—Case, 80¢.

Green apples—40¢ box.

LIVESTOCK MARKET.

Steers—2 1/2 cts.

Good Cows—25¢.

Good prime dressed veal, 50¢.

Sheep—30¢ to 34¢.

Fat hogs—50¢ to 60¢.

GRAIN AND FEED.

Cheat hay—88¢.

Timothy hay—88¢.

Oats—40¢.

Brans—82¢.

Shorts—82¢.

Wheat—90¢.

Flour—84¢ to 90¢.

PORTLAND MARKET REPORT.

Portland Oct. 18.—The local hop

market is still wavering around the 15c mark, with every indication of an upward movement in the near future.

As to the delay of Eastern and foreign buyers sending in orders there are two sufficient reasons. In the first place probably 75 per cent of the Coast crop has been either bought outright or contracted for, so that no present demand for the goods exists, and, on top of that, brewers, as is generally believed, have on hand supplies enough for eight or ten months' needs. In the second place, foreign buyers have scarcely had time to assure themselves of the quality of the Oregon crop, and the impression abroad that mold is present to a considerable extent will have to be dissipated before this state is free from the calamity.

A revised opinion on the total yield of the state, made by a close student of the subject, places it at over 120,000 bales. There is a considerable quantity of surplus hops held by growers in excess of amount contracted. Until contracts are consummated and the amount of this surplus ascertained the element of uncertainty enters into calculations on the total held unsold, which naturally has an effect on outside buyers.

Portland buyers, while fairly well agreed that the market promises better prices, are still unwilling to forecast even the immediate future and are waiting and watching "the other fellow." The same state of affairs is reported in other places. When New York starts the ball rolling England will follow up, and vice versa.

PLENTY OF GRAPES AND APPLES.

Quite a lot of grapes came in from Southern Oregon, some in bad condition. California to-rays and muscats are held back somewhat, but are expected in fuller supply daily. Yesterday cornichons from the Santa Cruz mountains put in an appearance and will be on the market from now on. Today's quotation is 1.50 and 1.75 per crate. An effort was made to place a car of imported valais for the holiday trade, but met with little success, the California varieties being preferred in this market.

Apples are in good supply and the finer varieties are moving much better than last week. The prize winners from the Hood River fair are to be placed on exhibition, to be placed at auction later.

Eggs 30¢ to 30 1/2 cts.
Grain bags, 84¢.
Creamery butter, 25¢ to 27¢.
Chickens—12 1/2¢ to 14¢ per pound.
Wheat, valley, 67¢; bluestem, 69¢.

Oats—\$22 to \$23 per ton.
Barley—\$21 to \$22.
Hay—Timothy, \$11 to \$12; vetch, \$7 to \$7 1/2.

Wool—Valley, coarse to medium, 22¢ to 23 1/2 cts.

Mohair—Choice, 28¢ to 30¢.

Hops—1906 crop, 15¢ to 17¢.

Potatoes—New potatoes, 75¢ to 85¢ per sack.

Onions, \$1.10 to \$1.15.

Chittim bark—New stock, 41¢ to 46¢ lb.

Beef steers, 5 1/2¢ to 6¢; cows, 4 1/2¢ to 5 1/2¢; hogs, 8¢ to 8 1/2¢; veal, 7 1/2¢ to 8¢; mutton, 7¢ to 7 1/2¢; lambs, 8¢ to 8 1/2¢.

Born

In Eugene, Oct. 17, 1906, to L. Scott and wife, a daughter.

At Coburg, Oct. 17, 1906, to Jud Skinner and wife, a son.

Baseball

Yesterday's scores: Los Angeles, 7; Portland, 4. Fresno, 7; San Francisco, 5. Oakland, 9; Seattle, 8.

Telegraphic Briefs

The grain importers of Portland state that they will attempt to involve all lines in a general lockout of labor unionists if today's attempt at arbitration fails.

Admiral Bullue, who is attempting to raise the sunken submarine at Lutin, reports today that he has not yet given up hope of rescuing the crew alive.

The Denver mint is working overtime coining silver half dollars and cannot supply the demand. The last purchase of bullion was made at 70 cents an ounce, and it is expected to go to 75 cents.

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FOR SALE 7-room house, almost i, plastered do n stairs and cloth and paper up stairs, electric lights in lo er part of house, city ater in yard and good ell on back porch. Located on lot 60x150, situated in good part of the city. Price 1400.

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