

IS RUMOR OF BIG COMBINE

ARE EASTERN DEALERS ORGANIZED TO BREAK MARKET?

NO CONFIRMATION OBTAINABLE

But Some Local Dealers Agree There is Evidence of Forced Depression.

Dwindles Down to Matter of Theory—Question of Outcome of Market Situation Regarded as a Matter of Opinion—Views of Conservative Dealer.

(From Saturday's Daily.)
Have the Eastern dealers formed a combine or league for the purpose of bringing about the depression of the hop market? This and "What will be the ultimate outcome of the struggle between the dealers and growers of the East and the growers?" are the two all-important questions which are occupying the minds of the local dealers and growers and are arousing no little discussion. The former question, so far as can be learned, is founded upon theory since there is no material evidence of it, yet the local dealers here are almost a unit in the belief that the conditions of the present time warrant the suspicion. As to the condition of the market there is a wide variance of views and it has dwindled down to a mere matter of opinion as to the outcome.

One dealer last evening, who, by the way, is not classed among either the so-called "bulls" or "bears," and is not in the market to buy or sell, ventured the expression that there was certainly some occasion for the spread of the rumor to the effect that a combination had been formed for the purpose of bringing about a depression of the market. "There is every indication," he says, "that there is a great shortage in the supply of hops as compared to that of last year and the year previous. The official statistics show that very plainly, and it is a mystery to me how the prices can be kept down in the face of all this. If the Eastern dealers have any orders they are certainly holding them back, as none is being received out here, so far as can be learned, above 23 1/2 or 24 cents. It is quite evident that the Eastern dealers have made absolutely nothing out of the hop market this season and the only way that they can hope to do so is to hold back the orders and depress the market to such a degree that they can jump in and buy at a low figure while the price is down and then unload at high figures."

"It is my belief that the sales that are being made and published are bona fide transactions, and, if there is a manipulating being done here, it is very clever work. We have not done much business simply because we could not buy the hops at the prices quoted in our orders from the growers, who will not talk sale at any figure. It is true that all of the sales are being consummated between dealers and this is for the reason that the growers will not entertain a proposition to sell at any figure below 30 cents, and if they were to be offered this they would immediately jump to 40 cents. I do not pretend to say that they are wrong in holding their hops, neither do I wish to advise them to let go. They probably know as much or more about the situation as I do and they certainly are entitled to their opinions."

"The situation this year is very much like that of three years ago, only that the conditions are reversed. In reversed I mean that, three years ago, when the market was up and was forced down to a low figure through the manipulations of the dealers, when the break for better prices came, the bulk of the hops was in the hands of the dealers while the growers came out at the little end of the horn and were not benefited by the raise in price and the rich harvest reaped as a result. It is different this season, as the dealers have failed to make any impression upon the growers to the extent of frightening them into letting go, and now, instead of the growers being at the little end, they hold the bulk of the hops remaining in the state in their hands while the dealers possess a very small percentage of the total, probably one-fourth. It is my honest belief that the market has not yet reached its lowest ebb end, although it is quite possible that the reaction will come for better prices in the future, I feel that the price will

go much lower than the present quotations.

"There is one thing that is taking place that I do not like to see and that is the efforts of some of the dealers in the East to sell short already upon this year's crop. It is reported that some contracts have already been made by Eastern short-sellers for delivery at 20 cents and that offers are being made at 18 1/2 cents. This is certainly a deplorable state of affairs and bodes no good for the coming crop. So far as I know there is nothing to head this kind of business except the circulation of startling crop reports from all parts of this and foreign countries. There is nothing that does so much to demoralize the hop market as this short-selling business and if possible, it should be prevented. To sell at 20 cents, New York delivery, means about 15 cents here, and 18 1/2 cents there means about 13 cents here, so that it is reported from Yakima that contracts have already been made there at 14 cents. This kind of business is what ruins the contracting for local dealers."

"How the brewers can get along with so little hops this season is more than I can understand, if the reports of the stock on hand and in the market are true. Whether or not they have a process for the brewing of beer without hops, I am not prepared to say, but it certainly does appear that they are getting along with the little quantities they are said to have in stock. Three years ago it was claimed that the brewers used quasi chips to give the beer the bitter flavor, but I would not venture to say that they are doing so this season, as that would be a statement that I am not prepared to prove and it is strictly against the law to use such ingredients in the making of beer. No, I cannot predict what will transpire in the market in the future, if I could I would certainly become rich. We will simply have to await results and take the consequences."

Another sale of hops is reported to have taken place yesterday by which Philip Wolfe, of Silverton, purchased 67 bales from Walter L. Toozie, of Woodburn, at 23 1/2 cents. As to the offer of Conrad Krebs, of Krebs Bros., made in the Statesman yesterday morning, to the effect that he or his firm would buy 2000 bales of hops at 27 cents, in the face of a 23 1/2 cents market, Mr. Krebs stated last evening that he had received many returns and had succeeded in purchasing only 181 bales at that figure. John Ranzau, of Grants Pass, Mr. Krebs States, called him up by phone yesterday afternoon and offered to sell him his holdings of 300 bales for the price offered. Mr. Krebs says that the Ranzau crop is considered choice in quality and that he agreed to take them in, but Mr. Ranzau backed out and would not sell. He also stated that McKinley Mitchell wired him from Portland offering to sell him 200 bales at 27 cents, but Mr. Krebs says he answered him back that his hops were not choice. He rates the hops held by Mr. Mitchell as good mediums and no better. Several growers, he states, have called upon him and offered to unload to him for the price offered, to test his sincerity, but when asked to sign the sale blank they would refuse to sell.

IS ACCUSED OF LARCENY.

Portland Woman Occupies Cell in Marion County Jail—Is Bound Over.

Mrs. Minnie Beecher, whose name is said to be in Portland, is occupying the woman's cell in the Marion county jail, having been bound over to the circuit court by Justice Queener, of the Stayton district, upon the charge of larceny in a dwelling. Mrs. Beecher, in company with another woman and two men, has been rooming through the country for what purpose could not be ascertained, and recently visited the town of Stayton, where the quartet spent several days, stopping at a private house. After the strangers had departed it was found that many articles of wearing apparel were missing from the home and suspicion was at once directed toward the visitors. After a few days had passed the two couples returned to Stayton, when the officers took action, the result being that the stolen clothing was found in the possession of Mrs. Beecher. Her arrest followed and a hearing before Justice of the Peace Queener resulted in the woman being held to the circuit court under \$150 bonds.

This is the first female prisoner to occupy quarters in the Marion county jail since January, 1901, when a young girl was sentenced to serve twenty-five days for larceny by Justice Overton, of Woodburn. This girl, however, was released upon a writ of habeas corpus after having been confined but a few days.

GOOD ROADS GOOD FARMS

HIGH STANDARD MUST BE MAINTAINED IN BOTH THESE.

FOR INQUIRING IMMIGRANTS

Home-seekers Coming This Month, and Real Estate Men Advise Preparation for Reception.

Hundreds Seeking Location for New Homes and Ranches Coming From South and East Tidal Wave of Immigration Will Sweep This Way in Ten Days.

"There is every indication that the immigration to this state, and the Willamette Valley especially, will be great and gratifying this year," says a prominent real estate dealer in discussing the future prospects of the country along this line. Such, indeed, is the opinion of every real estate dealer in the city who was interviewed yesterday afternoon. There is more inquiry for all kinds of property being received this year than ever before, and there is plenty of evidence that Oregon is the main objective point of the greater portion of the prospective immigrants from all parts of the country during the year 1905.

"The special immigration rates went into effect on the first of the month," remarked one of the dealers, "and we will begin to feel the effects of the heavy influx of people that is expected. I have not heard anything as yet, but I presume that some immigrant trains are already on the road. It will probably be about 10 days after they leave their home state before the begin to arrive in this valley, as the people from the East, that is, the majority of them, will stop off at several points along the road before reaching here, and that takes some time. Then those who are coming from the South and East have many places to stop off also and I figure upon about 10 days before any of them begin to put in an appearance here. I know of several families, personally, who have friends here, and who are coming directly to Salem, but these make up a very small percentage of the number that is expected."

Want Good Buildings.

As a result of interviews with several of the dealers, it is deduced that inquiries are being received from all sorts of prospective purchasers every day. The great majority of them, while city property is being asked for in good proportion, are in search of small farms with good buildings and permanent improvements. The size of the farms desired ranges from 10 to 20 acre tracts to 100 and 150 acres.

To suit them all up there are substantially "good, small farms; good locations, close in, and good buildings," say all of the dealers. "There is nothing that will sell a place so quickly and well as good buildings," says another. "The great majority of the people who come out here to locate bring their families with them and expect to enter upon and take possession of a place as soon as possible after the purchase is completed. They do not want to go to a hotel and board, and if they have substantial money on hand they will build a house, having buildings erected upon their farms. The bulk of the people that is, the farming class, who come out here are used to the up-to-date methods of farming in the East, and they do not take well to the prospect of buying property."

Building Better Fences.

"There is another thing that often stands in the way of making a sale of an otherwise excellent piece of property, and that is old, rotten and tumble-down fences. The people of the East are accustomed to good, substantial and slightly fences, and the old-fashioned stake-and-rider and ordinary rail fences, grown up and almost hidden by a row of tall grass, weeds and brush, are repulsive to them. They are, next to old and tumble-down sheds, the greatest detriment to otherwise valuable and highly productive Oregon farms. I will say this much, however, that the people of Oregon are getting out of the rut themselves, and I will venture to say without fear of contradiction that there have been more miles of fencing, and good, substantial, permanent fencing too, built this year within the past six months than there has been before in the past six years. It is really gratifying to one to drive over the country roads and view the great improvement that has taken place upon all sides. Good woven wire fences have taken the place of old rail fences, the brush and weeds have been cut down and burned, and everything appears in a vastly improved state generally. This is also true with the fences along the timbered land, which is quite unusual with this country, but not so at the present time."

Good Roads Best Agents.

"Farms are being sold almost every day, and good sales too, but they are almost without exception situated along a good road. Bad roads are drawbacks to the disposal of Oregon farms. For the best interests of the country, and in order to give the best impression to the future prospective settlers who come out here to 'look around,' the real estate dealer will show them such country as is possible along the best of the roads, and, because of unusually bad roads, many of these visitors return without having seen some of the best of the farming properties. There is this much about roads, however; it is quite evident that the people of Oregon have thoroughly awakened to the value of good roads, and there have been more miles of permanent roads built this year than in eight months than ever before. And there will be doubly as much more of it done during the coming spring and summer."

Thousands of Sight-Seeers.

"While there will be hundreds of

families to come to Oregon and settle permanently this spring and summer," said another dealer, "as is evidenced by the nature of the correspondence received, there will be thousands of families who will come to the Lewis and Clark Fair because of the splendid opportunity it will give them to view the great state of Oregon, of which so much is being said in the East. These latter families will come and look, ask questions and return to their several homes with the resolution first fixed in their minds to return here to their several homes with the resolution firmly fixed in their minds to return here at some future date. It will perhaps take years for some of them to make up their minds definitely; others may make up their minds to come as soon as they can dispose of their property in the East (which is no easy thing to do) while others will go back and make preparations to come as soon as possible. They will come eventually, as there are few people who visit this state and get an impression of its wealth in agricultural, horticultural and mineral resources and manufacturing possibilities but that become enamored of the country and make up their minds to come and make it their homes at some future date."

This is the character of talk that the Statesman reporter listened to on his rounds yesterday afternoon, and became firmly convinced that Oregon would receive more immigrants during the present year than ever before in her history. The real estate dealers are honest and square in all of their dealings with customers, and do not resort to falsehood and deceit in order to secure their patronage, realizing that such methods will only result in detriment to the interests of the country as well as themselves. They are all working in harmony, and after the principles of the motto: "A pleased customer is the best advertisement." As a result of this, when they locate one settler satisfactorily, this same settler will lend his efforts toward inducing his friends in the East to come here. The dealers are also carrying on a vast amount of correspondence with people from all over the country, which is an evidence in itself that Oregon is being talked of more by prospective settlers than any place else. Quite a number of people are going into Canada from the southern section of the country, but they, or the most of them, come back and settle in the Northwest, principally because of the laws of the dominion, which provide that one must renounce his native land and government and swear allegiance to the king before he is qualified to own property in Canada. This, in itself, is the most repulsive feature which an American citizen can encorporate in his search for a home.

IS VERY USEFUL

THE SOUTH SALEM FACTORY OF MR. MASON FILLS AN IMPORTANT PLACE.

Making Boxes and Baskets, Ladders and Fruit Trays, and Nearly Everything in the Shape of Wood Work—Will Increase Output.

One of the growing industrial centers of Salem is that of G. F. Mason. It is located on the part of the city known as South Salem, on Miller street, a half block west of Commercial.

Mr. Mason does everything in the wood work and carpentering. Also, a specialty of the inside work of fruit dryers, the manufacture of boxes, step ladders and hop baskets.

Three years ago Mr. Mason put up his first building. He has added constantly to his original structure and has also been gradually installing new machinery, until he is now well equipped with gasoline engine, saws, planers, drills and all the necessary tools for the carrying on of his business.

About May 1 Mr. Mason will add another full story to his present building, which will give him almost double the amount of room he now has for his business.

The factory of Mr. Mason is always a busy place, but after about Wednesday next it will be more like a bee hive than it has appeared during the rainy season. At that time the force will start in on hop baskets, upon which three men will be engaged. After the first of May five to ten men will find constant employment in this busy factory.

Clyde Mason is the foreman of the factory. He is a son of the proprietor, and takes more interest in satisfying their customers than would most workmen.

Mr. Mason has already made to order a wide range of articles. He makes folding camp stools, camp tables. Also, folding camp stools, camp tables. It would be hard, in fact, to give a list of all the things made of wood that are called for by the growing custom of this factory.

Some of the orders come from a long distance. People who have failed to get what they wanted elsewhere have called upon Mr. Mason for the work, and he has been equal to the emergencies. The hop baskets to be turned out by Mr. Mason are of the Cadwell patent. They have a good reputation among the hop men. The factory of Mr. Mason has been a great convenience to the fruit growers, who have been able to get just what they wanted for their dryers. In the way of boxes, too, the fruit men have been accommodated. Among the boxes turned out are the thin ones used by the growers of peaches. There has been a considerable demand for these.

In fact, this factory fits in very well in the commercial life and growth of Salem, and there is no doubt that it will continue to grow indefinitely, as it has during the past three years.

Vagaries of a Cold.

You can never be quite sure where a cold is going to hit you. In the fall and winter it may settle in the bowels, producing severe pain. Do not be alarmed nor torment yourself with fears of appendicitis. At the first sign of a cramp, take Perry Davis' Painkiller in warm, sweetened water and relief comes at once. There is but one Painkiller, Perry Davis'. 25 and 50 cents.

NO AUTHORITY ON STATUTES

DISPUTED SECTION OF LAW OMITTED FROM THE CODE.

OPINION OF ATTORNEY GENERAL

Only Ground Upon Which State Land Agents Draw Salaries Since Year 1902.

Attorney General Blackburn Decides That Section of Act Providing for Salary of Land Official Was Not Repealed—Bellinger and Cotton Differ

There is a considerable amount of speculation among the attorneys of this city and state officials as to the outcome of the question which has been passed up to the decision of Circuit Judge Burnett as to the legality of the existence of the office of state land agent and the authority of law for the payment of the annual salary of \$1800 and traveling expenses to that official out of the funds in the state treasury. It appears that this question has been raised before in an official manner, and has been decided in the affirmative by ex-Attorney General Blackburn, yet this is the first time that it has come before a court of competent jurisdiction and it will now doubtless be definitely determined, and the result will be awaited with interest by the legal fraternity to say nothing of those officials who are directly concerned.

There seems to be a wide divergence of opinions of the legal authorities upon this question, as while the late Attorney General Blackburn has held that the section of the statutes which prescribes the amount of salary that shall be paid the state land agent and provides for an allowance for traveling expenses has not been repealed (except possibly by implication) and is in force and effect, it was not so regarded by Judges Bellinger and Cotton, who, when revising and annotating the state statutes, considered that section repealed and omitted it from the code. Therefore, while there is no statutory provision for the payment of the salary of this state official, he has been receiving an annual compensation of \$1800 and traveling expenses from the state on the strength of the opinion of the late Attorney General Blackburn.

This question came up officially, but not publicly during the year 1902, and, in order to have the matter settled before more warrants were drawn upon the treasury for this account, it was submitted to Attorney General Blackburn for an opinion by Secretary of State Dugbar. Attorney General Blackburn rendered his opinion in the affirmative under date of December 11, 1902. The status of the laws which are alleged to conflict in their provisions and that of another act, which arises as stated in the Statesman yesterday morning, is as follows:

The office of state land agent was created by virtue of an act passed by the Legislative Assembly of 1878, approved October 18, of the same year. This act is known on the statutes as section 359 of Hill's code. The session of 1899 passed another act, which was approved by the Governor on February 17, of that year. This act designates the duties of the state land agent and purports to amend section 359 of Hill's code. This same Legislature passed another act which was approved by the Governor on the day following the approval of the former act, which is the first section of this latter act. The first section of this latter act provides that "the Governor of this state is hereby appointed land commissioner for the state of Oregon and empowered to locate land to which the state is entitled under the laws of the United States, or otherwise, and is authorized to appoint such agent or agents as may be necessary to aid him in the performance of his duties. This act also operates to repeal section 359 of Hill's code."

This latter act also proscribed the duties of the land commissioner, or his agents, and provided that he should be allowed a reasonable amount for expenses incurred in the performance of his duties, but not a salary for services. The question which arises out of the motion to strike out the paragraph of the complaint in the suit of Summers vs. T. T. Geer, et al., is whether L. B. Geer and W. H. Odell were agents of the state or of the Governor; whether there was any law for the existence of the office of the state land agent, and whether or not he was entitled to a salary for the state under the laws. The question which was submitted for the decision of Attorney General Blackburn, which is substantially the same thing, was whether the act approved February 18, 1899, repealed the section of the former act (House bill No. 319), which provided for the salary of the state land agent from \$1200 to \$1800 per annum and provided for traveling expenses.

Attorney General Blackburn handled the question quite fully and rendered what is considered a strong opinion upon it. He holds, after the citation of numerous authorities which cover four typewritten pages, in substance that, if at all, said section was repealed by implication; that, after reviewing the authorities cited, he does not favor the repeal of acts by implication; was inclined to the opinion that it was not the intention of the Legislature to repeal said section, since it could not be construed as being directly in conflict with the provisions of the latter act, and that it was not repealed. When the statutes were revised by Judges Bellinger and Cotton, however, these learned gentlemen evidently interpreted the construction of the repealing act differently, since, in compiling the annotated statutes, they omitted the section which the attorney general compilation entirely. It appears, if he is leaving out of this section was an intentional omission by the compilers, that the state land agents have been drawing their salaries from the state treasury upon the strength of the opinion of the late Attorney General Blackburn as to this, and it is probable that the question will be carried to the supreme court for a definite decision as to matter how decided by the trial court.

When your ship of health strikes the hidden rocks of consumption, pneumonia, etc., you are lost unless you get help from Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption. J. W. McKinnon, of Talladega Springs, Ala., writes: "I had been very ill with pneumonia, under the care of two doctors, but was getting no better when I began to take Dr. King's New Discovery. The first dose gave me relief, and one bottle cured me." Sure cure for sore throat, bronchitis, coughs and colds. Guaranteed at Dan'l J. Fry's drug store, price 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottle free.

Legal Blanks at Statesman Job Office

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Chas. H. Fletcher

In Use For Over 30 Years.

WINS FOR SCIENCE.

Experimenting on himself in the interest of medical science, George O. Martel, a dentist and drug expert of Haverhill, Mass., by an accident which almost caused his death stumbled on a discovery that is likely to revolutionize accepted theories regarding chloroform. Martel asserts that water is a uniform antidote for the drug, and that he himself has proved this by repeated experiments.

Martel is one of a few dentists in Massachusetts who uses chloroform on his patients. He has made a searching study of the drug, and holds that it is infinitely safer and more effective for the purposes required than ether. Martel has engaged in many controversies over the use of ether, and he argues that his fellow professionals in the state use ether because a Massachusetts man discovered it.

Last week Martel went to his office to experiment. He seated himself at a desk with a pad and pencil to record the effects of the drug. He used a small sponge, saturating it and holding it to his nose while he inhaled the fumes. Then he drank several glassfuls of water and awaited the expected drowsiness.

To his intense surprise and gratification the drug had no effect on his senses. All he felt was a slight nausea, and when this was wearing away he drank more water and almost immediately was himself again. Martel was jubilant over the experiment, as he says it bore out a suspicion that had been raised in his mind by watching the effect of the drug on patients.

He decided to experiment still further to find if the antidote was uniform. He inhaled more freely and rested his head on the desk to let the drug permeate his system. When he was almost overcome by which he drank water. He got slowly to his feet, expecting that his strength would speedily return, but, to his horror, he began to sink helpless to the floor. He had made one discovery by accident and another accident following brought him close to death.

Martel lay on the floor, writing his sensations on the pad, which he had raked off the desk as he was falling. He was found almost dead a few minutes later by Dr. Spaul, his associate. Spaul came across Martel flat on his face, with the sponge emitting deadly fumes.

The room was filled with the odor of chloroform, and in an instant Spaul discovered the real cause of his friend's condition. Martel had neglected to place the cork again in a large bottle almost filled with chloroform. The fumes rising and gradually filling the room had been more than Martel could withstand, and he sank down to die.

Martel was revived in his home, and when he recovered his senses he sobbed in grief, thinking he had been deceived in thinking he had made a great discovery. It was his impression that the water had failed as an antidote when he inhaled the chloroform the second time. His joy was as great in contrast when Spaul told what really had happened. He averred he had demonstrated to his own satisfaction facts that would mark an epoch in the history of anesthetics.

It is Martel's purpose to embrace his findings in a pamphlet and make the whole world of medicine and surgery and dentistry acquainted with the results of his experiments on himself and observations of patients. He holds that chloroform is infinitely superior to ether as an anesthetic. He says chloroform is absolutely harmless when properly handled.

Martel wrote down many thoughts of the effect of the drug but he refuses to give them out. He says, however, that the instant he tasted the water he felt the drug losing its hold on his nerves, and that the more he drank the quicker was his system in shaking off the drug's influence. He will make more experiments on himself, but he cautions that he will work with an assistant. He says that there are several points on which he wants to inform himself fully before making any statement to the public.

Already much interest is taken in Martel's work by men of science, several of whom have requested Martel to give them a full and complete account of his discovery. It will make it possible to bring any patient in comparative safety from under the influence of chloroform used as an anesthetic in a few minutes. He insists that if the stopper had been in the bottle he would have recovered fully from the second inhalation before Dr. Spaul arrived.

Strikes Hidden Rocks.

When your ship of health strikes the hidden rocks of consumption, pneumonia, etc., you are lost unless you get help from Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption. J. W. McKinnon, of Talladega Springs, Ala., writes: "I had been very ill with pneumonia, under the care of two doctors, but was getting no better when I began to take Dr. King's New Discovery. The first dose gave me relief, and one bottle cured me." Sure cure for sore throat, bronchitis, coughs and colds. Guaranteed at Dan'l J. Fry's drug store, price 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottle free.

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