

12-29-1921

Letter from Bigelow to Maddox

Portland (Or.). Commisioner of Public Affairs

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December 29, 1921

Mr. H. S. Maddox,
State Department of Agriculture,
606 Underwood Building,
San Francisco, California.

Dear Sir:-

Your communication, to the Secretary of Portland Chamber of Commerce, has been forwarded to this office for reply. The Public Market of this City is operated under the jurisdiction of this Department, through a market master. The producer of farm products is permitted to sell his produce directly to the consumer, upon the signing of an application, and compliance with the market rules, governing same, for the sum of fifteen cents per day.

We have now about twelve hundred lineal feet of umbrella shed curb market, and the space allotted to each producer is approximately five feet front by three feet depth. The market has been exceedingly successful, paying a profit to the City, since it started more than seven years ago. It is my belief that two things in particular have been responsible for the tremendous success of our market.

- 1st- Its very close proximity to the retail district;
- 2nd- The fact that it has been maintained as a producers' market.

No huxter or dealer is allowed in the City's curb market. The buildings on the inside of the property line are all occupied by dealers, nearly ~~altogether of food products~~. The City has no control over this line of business, except from a sanitary standpoint.

I am enclosing herewith a copy of the market rules; also a photograph showing a section of our market sheds. The counter space folds up, and the floors also fold up in sections, leaving the street clear from curb to curb, which makes it possible to sweep and flush the streets the same as any other street.

We constructed about two hundred feet of this type of sheds this Summer, the cost of which ran about \$18.00 per lineal foot. I am also enclosing herewith a copy of the market master's annual report for the year 1921, which shows the number of producers; also the receipts and disbursements on this market. You will see by this report that the market is a financial success. Any direct questions that may come to your mind, I shall be glad to answer if possible.

Yours truly,

Commissioner of Public Affairs.

CAB/EP.