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Public Market Producers Association letter

Yamhill Public Market Producer's Association

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Portland, Oregon
May 22, 1930

The Honorable Mayor and City Council

Gentlemen:

In view of the publicity given the proposed building of a large Public Market on Front Street by private capital, and the proposals made to your honorable body to move the Yamhill Street Public Market into this building of private ownership, we feel that the time has come when some action should be taken.

Now, it has been our observation that every attempt to operate a Retail Farmers Market under anything but the entire control of the city has been a failure.

In view of the fact that property was given to the city for a Public Market on which the Auditorium now stands and in lieu of Property being so used, Yamhill Street was set aside for a Public Market, we therefore feel that the public of the city of Portland is entitled to a Public Producer's Retail Market entirely owned and operated by the city of Portland.

We also feel that the proposed rates for stalls in this contemplated public Market are excessive. According to the annual financial statements of the Yamhill Street Market, even the Present low rates of 15¢ per stall per day has always shown a profit to the city and we therefore feel that an increase of 500% to 750% will eliminate many of the small producers who now use this means of disposing of their produce.

And having consulted with the numerous patrons of Yamhill Market, they have expressed the wish for the market to remain in the same vicinity, as they will not patronize it if put on Front Street, and without public patronage, Portland will soon be without a Market. We feel that you will be removing one of the greatest attractions to tourist, to our City, by placing it on the water Front.

We, the undersigned, therefore petition your honorable body not to move the Producer's Public Market from its present location on Yamhill Street until such time as a suitable city owned and operated market can be provided.

Yours very truly,

Yamhill Public Market Producer's Association.

J. H. Perkin , President

E. H. Martin , Secretary

E. E. Newcomb , Treasurer