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Commissioner of Public Affairs to Burtis

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October 24, 1919

Mr. R. F. Burtis,
C/o Hale Bros. Inc.,
Ninth and K Streets,
Sacramento, California.

Dear Sir:-

Your communication addressed to the Chamber of Commerce asking for information as to the Free Market situated in Portland has been referred to me for reply. Beg to advise that we have had a Free Market here for something near five years. Our Market is a curb Market of steel constructed sheds, with folding tables, and floor platforms, and there are in all approximately one thousand lineal feet of such Market stalls. At night the market counters and stall platforms are folded up against the frame work, leaving a clean street from curb to curb, which is cleaned in the regular way by the Street Cleaning Department. I am enclosing herewith a copy of the Market Ordinance as at present existing in this City. In reply to your query as to the feeling that exists towards the Free Market will say that there is no question that many of the produce dealers and commission men would be highly elated to have the Market discontinued, but the crowds that patronize it daily seem to grow with each succeeding month, and I am not putting it too strong when I say that it is highly successful, and that it leaves a margin after paying operating expenses.

Yours truly,

Commissioner of Public Affairs.

CAB/EP.