

# FIRMNESS IN EGG MARKET

## COUNTRY MEAT AND HALIBUT ARE FIRMER.

### Apple Trade Continues Good in Portland Shops.

From Portland comes the following announcement, in regard to Portland markets:

Storage operations are general in the egg trade and the market is firmer and in some instances fractionally higher.

The demand for eggs is now fully up to supplies, and in some instances better. Most of the call is coming from storage interest, but the fresh consumptive demand is growing and the two added together take care of everything now coming from the country.

The market for eggs along the coast is generally showing a stronger trend with some advances in the price. San Francisco is now quoting 18c for best, which is but a fraction lower than the price in effect here today. Best price in Seattle is standing at 20c.

### Country Meats Are Firm.

Country killed meats are firm in the front street market. Hogs are going well at 11c for best offerings, while extra fancy calves are ranging from 14c to 14 1/2c. Receipts are quite fair in the hog trade.

### Halibut Market Firmer.

There was considerable strength in the market for halibut in the wholesale trade. Best offerings were firmly held at 10c a pound, a substantial advance over previous figures. Salmon remains firm at former figures.

### Apple Trade Continues Good.

While the sales of apples in the wholesale market do not reach the

grand totals of last week, the movement is considered very favorable and far better than the trade had anticipated.

Eggs have touched the low point of the year, and retailers are generally selling the best ranch stock at 25c a dozen to consumers. This is the time of the year when cold storage operations start, therefore it is the general rule for prices to go to the bottom.

There has been a gradual improvement in the quality of eggs that are being offered to consumers. Formerly it was the rule for anything in the shell to be sold as good eggs, but this is no longer possible, owing to the activity of the pure food interests.

Eggs are now one of the cheapest foods in the market, but the public has scarcely recognized the fact. Prices have been so low for such an extended period that they have not yet acquired the taste for the hen product.

Millions of dollars' worth of eggs are annually stored in the United States during the latter part of March and April. The latter is generally considered the most favorable month for storage, because not only is the production greater then, but the quality is better. Only the best eggs are placed in storage because it does not pay to put in inferior stock. The loss is too great. Some interests put eggs in storage during the hot weather months, but they seldom make a success of this, because the stock is not first class when it is put in the ice houses, because of its over-

heated condition, therefore cannot be any better when withdrawn from storage.

On the Pacific coast storage operations start earlier than in the east, because the season is more advanced. California always stores its eggs from two to three weeks earlier than either Oregon or Washington, because of the earlier season there.

Before being placed in storage every egg is carefully selected. It is "candled" to see that it is first class, and is then put into new cases so that there can be no contamination from dirt in old cases. The candling process consists of placing an egg in front of a very strong electric light or candle. A fresh egg is transparent therefore the older stock is quickly discovered. After being placed in case, the eggs are then taken to the ice houses. The room they are stored in is kept at a certain temperature, but not so cold that the stock will freeze. After the market becomes short of fresh eggs and prices advance, then the eggs are taken from the storage places. They are recandled and the poor stock placed on one side and the better quality on another. Only the latter are as a rule sold to consumers.

Nine months is the full limit that eggs can be kept in storage and withdrawn in a marketable condition. After six months, however, the deterioration is so great that the stock is no longer considered first class.

Hereafter it will be unlawful to sell cold storage eggs as fresh stock, or even ranch stock. The law will be strictly enforced, according to officials.

Contrary to some beliefs, the cold storage egg is at times is better in quality than the so-called fresh stock. This is during the heated season, when it is impossible to gather them quickly enough to stop deterioration.

Rhubarb is now coming to market in abundance, and the price is going down. Most of the stock is coming from California, and is selling retail at 12 1/2c a pound. Hothouse stock from local places is still coming, but it is quoted slightly higher.

It was not many years ago that tomatoes couldn't be secured all year in the local market. Now they can be had any time. Some specially fancy stock is now being offered from Mexico and is selling at 10c a pound.

Buy a sack of potatoes at a time, because that is the only way to save money. Good stock can now be secured in the grocery at 75c a sack—in fact some sell it cheaper.

While there are some good oranges in the market, most of them are more or less frost kissed. The best are selling around 30 to 40c a dozen, but the smaller sizes may be obtained from 20 to 25c. The latter are the most popular.

### The local market quotations are:

- Flour, Feed and Grain.
- Wild Hay—(retail)—\$12.00.
- Timothy—\$15.00@16.00.
- Alfalfa hay—\$12.00 (retail).
- Shorts—\$1.45 per cwt.
- Oats—\$1.50 per cwt.
- Bran—\$1.25 per cwt.
- Rolled Oats—\$1.50 per cwt.
- Rolled barley—\$1.45 cwt.
- Blue Stem flour—\$1.40 sack.
- Patent—\$1.30 sack.
- White Quartz—\$1.40 sack.
- Snowdrift—\$1.40 sack.
- Fruit, Etc.
- Home grown apples—75c@1.00 a box.

- Oranges—25@60c.
- Bananas—40c per doz.
- Pineapple—20c and 25c, size.
- Grape fruit—10@15c.
- Sugar—Fruit sugar, retail (cash) \$7.70; same grade 30 days, \$6.10.
- Beet sugar, cash \$5.50; thirty days, \$5.90.

### Vegetables and Miscellaneous.

- Onions—\$2.00 cwt, small lots 2 1/2c lb.
- Potatoes—50c per cwt.
- Beans—White, \$ 1-3c; Lima, 10 cents.
- Radishes—2 bunches 15c.
- Cabbage—2c.
- Spinach—3 lbs. for 25c.
- Colery—15c bunch straight. (From grown 10c.)
- Honey—20c. 2 lbs. for 50c.
- Green peppers—20c lb.
- Squash—2 1/2c lb.
- Turnips—2 1/2c lb.
- Eggs and Butter.
- Fresh ranch eggs—25c.
- Butter—Fancy creamery, 45 cents. 1 lb. roll; 2 lb. roll, 85c.
- Ranch butter—1 lb. roll 25c; 2 lb. roll 70c@75c.
- Cattle.
- Choice—\$4.50.
- Common—\$6.50@6.75.

- Cows, top—\$5.75@6.00.
- Fancy light cows—\$4.00@5.25.
- Heavy calves—\$4.00@5.50 cwt.
- Fancy light calves—70c.
- Hogs.
- Best light—\$8.15.
- Medium light—\$8.10.
- Best heavy—\$8.00.
- Rough and heavy—\$5.75@6.00.
- Sheep.
- Best lambs—\$6.00 cwt.
- Ordinary lambs—\$5.00@6.15 cwt.
- Poor lambs—\$4.00 cwt.
- Best yearlings—\$6.25 cwt.
- Yearlings—\$4.50 cwt.
- Ewes—\$4.00@4.25.
- Poultry and Miscellaneous.
- Ducks—dressed, 18c.
- Geese—dressed 18c.

## HOW SHE SOLVED IT

By EDITH V. ROSS

"The servant question" remarked Mrs. Tidball to Mrs. Strathmore. "Talk about the cost of living! It's not to be spoken of in the same breath as the servant question. And the trusts! What do I care about their extortion when I can't get a servant without paying her double what I used to pay? And she won't stay with me anyway!"

"It's the universal experience," replied Mrs. Strathmore. "I'm having the same trouble."

"When I found I couldn't use white or black servants," continued Mrs. Tidball, "I thought I'd try yellow. So I got a Chinese cook, who was highly recommended by the employment agent who sent him to me. I thought that, coming from the Celestial Kingdom far away on the other side of the globe, where his class are very poor and must live on mice and such things, he would be in clover at \$25 a month, with as good food as the market affords, notwithstanding roast beef is worth nearly its weight in gold. But I found that he had come over to make money in order that he might go back home to feed on the more expensive diet of kittens, and nothing but his wages in dollars and cents counted with him. What do you suppose he did when I paid him his first wages? Why, he said I had agreed to pay him \$30 a month, and when I demurred, although the dinner was to be prepared, he said: 'Belly god, I go to 'nother place where I get \$50.'"

"How provoking!" sympathized Mrs. Strathmore.

"Well, there wasn't any use to begin back where I had started with white help and run through the races to the Chinese, so I must stick to the yellow. I determined to 'fight it out on this line if it takes all summer' and told the employment agent to send me another Chinaman. He sent me a mild eyed man, who looked as innocent as a dove, though not the same color. He went into the kitchen, cooked an excellent dinner, asked me for a small advance on his wages, which I was silly enough to give him, and the next morning, not hearing sounds below, I went down and found the fire gone out in the kitchen and not a sign of breakfast. My man had departed with his advanced pay."

"What a miserable creature!" put in the listener to the tale of woe.

"I was obliged to make a fire myself and get breakfast. Luckily I had learned to cook before I was married—my daughter shall learn to cook if worth a million—and I got up a breakfast which I had paid the Chinaman to get. I thought that it would be better to keep on getting it myself without paying some one else to do it for me, but my husband objected, and, since I hadn't yet got through with the yellow peril, I called on the employment man for another cook. He didn't say anything, but he looked surly, and I knew well enough he was thinking that I didn't treat my servants kindly. But I smothered my anger and paid for another servant.

"This one remained with me two days, got up excellent meals, and I was congratulating myself that at last I had found a treasure when, on the second day, he paralyzed me by giving me notice that he was going to leave me.

"For heaven's sake," I exclaimed, "why do you go? Why does every Chinaman who is sent me go?"

"He hesitated, and I urged him. Finally he said: 'You no pay Chinaman.'"

"Don't pay? The last man I had advanced his wages, and he left me without even working out what I had paid him."

"The man shrugged his shoulders. 'Tell me why you think I don't pay my servants their wages?' I urged.

"He went to the kitchen table, turned it upside down, and there on the lower side of the boards in red chalk were Chinese characters.

"How did they come there?" I asked.

"What do they mean?"

"You no pay Chinaman. He write that to tell other Chinamen, was the reply.

"A light broke in upon my stupid

brain. I had engaged a Chinaman to work for me, thinking the Chinese innocent of the ways of western servants, and behold, he had gone far beyond them in shrewdness! He had demanded more than I had agreed to pay and, when I refused him, not only left me with the dinner uncooked, but left behind him a false statement.

"Translate it," I said.

"This lady belly had. She no pay wages."

"After arguing with the man a long while I induced him to remain with me on condition that I pay daily, but he was satisfied that the swindling was on the other side and preferred to get his wages at the end of the month. But when he was advised by a friend that he could get more at another place he left me.

"Since then I have been trying all sorts of expedients. I endeavored to get a girl for the afternoon and evening, to sleep in her own home. Thus far I've not had a single bite for this plan. I've considered giving up house-keeping and the comforts of home, but my husband and children could not endure boarding. I have finally decided to plod on as I am. Indeed, there are advantages in doing one's own work. We have our house to ourselves, have no fears of disasters in the kitchen, and it is much less expensive."

## BULLS IN PARLIAMENT.

### The Welcome Sound That Cheered Lord Balfour of Burleigh.

It would be hard to say which of England's two houses of legislation "takes the cake" for committing howlers, and still more difficult to pick out the member who has taken pride of place in this respect during recent years. But perhaps for simple effectiveness Lord Balfour of Burleigh would be hard to beat when he said, "The noble lord shakes his head, and I am glad to hear it!"

Another noble lord during a debate on Indian affairs exclaimed: "Talk of this as a loan to India! It is a flea bite in the ocean!" Nevertheless it stands to reason that the lower house is more prolific in quantity, if not in quality, in its stock of howlers than the upper, seeing that it has so many more opportunities.

Captain Craig, the fiery Ulsterman, cooked the following oratorical stew: "The naked sword is drawn for the fight, and never again will the black smoke of the Nationalists' tar barrels drift on the home rule wind to darken the hearts of Englishmen." If anything could kill home rule one would think that would.

Sir W. Hart Dyke was criticizing the standing order forbidding peers from speaking during general elections. Some one had quoted Lord Halsbury as doing so, and Sir William solemnly said, "I must admit that the honorable gentleman has gone to the top of the tree and caught a very large fish."—London Tit-Bits.

### Easy.

"Henry," she said, "I wish I could organize a society of some kind. It seems to be the only way to secure social recognition in this town."

"Well, why don't you go ahead and organize one?"

"I can't think of anything that I'm an authority on. If I should organize a drama club some other woman who knew more about the drama than I would butt in and get herself elected president. It would be the same way with suffrage, ethical culture and child study and music. I'm unfortunately not an authority on any of these things, and if I got up a society I should, of course, want to be the head of it."

"Well, why not organize a Browning club? You can pretend to know all about Browning, and the other women who pretend to know all about him won't know whether you're fooling them or not."—Chicago Record-Herald.

### Five Varieties of Salmon.

Kamchatka has five varieties of salmon—chavitcha (king salmon), krasnia (red salmon), keta (dog salmon), gorbuska (humpback salmon) and kishutch (sockeye salmon). The run of chavitcha begins about May 10 to 20 (old style) during the period of spring rains and the overflow of muddy water. They run in large schools, and the run continues for several days. The fish, which weigh twenty to twenty-five pounds, is purely a Kamchatka fish and is not found in the Okhotsk and other districts.—Consular and Trade Reports.

### He Didn't Hush.

"Mamma," queried little Willie, "what is 'hush'?"

"Why do you ask, dear?" said his mother.

"Because," explained the observing urchin, "when I asked sister what made her hair all mussed after her beau was here this afternoon she said, 'Hush, dear.'"—Chicago News.

### Deadlier and Safer.

"Let's send the czar a bomb concealed in a plum pudding."

"Why not merely send him a plum pudding?" suggested the other callous plotter. "If he eats it our work is done and we run no risks."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

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SIGHTLY LOT—Facing north. Overlooking the entire valley. Size 60x110. Price \$500.00. No street assessments. Easy terms. Address "R." care Observer. 2-23-13

GOOD INVESTMENT—2 small houses and eight 30x110 lots on "W" avenue, close to school. Owner has to leave town, and will give right price and terms. Address "F." Observer. 2-22-13

DRY WOOD FOR SALE—\$3.50 per cord. Phone Red 641. 12-21-12

FOR SALE BY OWNER—Modern 5-room house on North side. Close in. Size of lot 50x110. Price very low. Terms like rent. Address "D" Observer. 2-22-13

BOARD AND ROOM—1601 Adams Av. Mrs. G. E. Moore. 3-4-13

COLLECTIONS—Bring your hard old collections or any other to room 9, Newlin drug building.

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WANTED—Girl for general housework. Call Dr. Underwood's office. 3-5-13

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FOR SALE—200 egg incubator in perfect condition; \$7.00. Call at Club Tailors. Black 1241. 3-10-13

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