

COMMERCE AND FINANCIAL NEWS

The markets yesterday ruled steady in the most important lines. Merchants report the volume of business as growing steadily with the progress of the month. Little or no trading was going on in the cereals, and the disposition was to await the turn of prices. The most conspicuous change in quotations was in eggs, which were quoted by some dealers as low as 22c, and by others up to 24c. The market is not loaded up that further decline would not be surprising. Butter is very weak in second grades, but steady to prime creamery stock. Cheese has fairly good demand at steady prices. The poultry market is quite active, especially in ducks and chickens. All dressed meats have strong demand. Considerable beef and pork comes from east of the mountains, and the valley became again in considerable quantity. Dullness rules in packing-house products. Potatoes have become very active. Receipts are heavy, and prices improved. As high as \$1.25 per cental is paid for best shipping grade. Onions show similar improvement over their recent dullness. Considerable quantity shipped out. Several carloads went to Texas last week. The local market was well cleaned up yesterday. Quotations for the week are as follows: In the vicinity of 12c. Pumpkins and squashes are showing in quality and approaching the market. The market for apples is about 75¢ per bushel, but extra fancy fruit brings \$1.25.

Bank Clearings.

Exchange	Balance
Portland	\$201,964
Seattle	\$141,372
Tacoma	\$242,440

PORTLAND MARKETS.

The local grain markets were all hung up yesterday, waiting for something to happen. Speculation, however, seemed to quieten the markets, and the theoretical basis of what values seemed to be about 65¢, and it was hinted that 64¢ had failed to draw sellers. The Eastern market was slightly off again, but growers seemed disposed to hang on tighter than ever, and were not discouraged by the turn of the market. The market was expected to continue until the market settles itself one way or the other. The delayed arrival of foreign contracts by the Government has paralyzed business in oats. Everybody is waiting for the award. Likewise, there is a disposition to wait the effect of importations of barley from California before entering the market for that cereal. Several stock dealers in barley are reported to have been squeezed by the recent pressure of prices. The arrival of two more freight cars from the East had no effect on freight, according to the shippers' viewpoint. It is given out that either of the six ships could be loaded in 24 hours, or even under 24, but exporters are in no hurry to take them.

Wheat—Steady. Walla Walla, 65¢; blue-ribbon, 66¢; Valley, 65¢.
Barley—Feed, 115¢; brewing, 120¢ per cental.
Oats—No. 1 white, \$1.09; No. 2, 1.05; No. 3, 1.00.
Flour—Best grades, \$2.50 to \$3.00 per barrel; Graham, 2.50.
Middling, 2.50; No. 1, 2.50; No. 2, 2.50; No. 3, 2.50; No. 4, 2.50; No. 5, 2.50; No. 6, 2.50; No. 7, 2.50; No. 8, 2.50; No. 9, 2.50; No. 10, 2.50; No. 11, 2.50; No. 12, 2.50; No. 13, 2.50; No. 14, 2.50; No. 15, 2.50; No. 16, 2.50; No. 17, 2.50; No. 18, 2.50; No. 19, 2.50; No. 20, 2.50; No. 21, 2.50; No. 22, 2.50; No. 23, 2.50; No. 24, 2.50; No. 25, 2.50; No. 26, 2.50; No. 27, 2.50; No. 28, 2.50; No. 29, 2.50; No. 30, 2.50; No. 31, 2.50; No. 32, 2.50; No. 33, 2.50; No. 34, 2.50; No. 35, 2.50; No. 36, 2.50; No. 37, 2.50; No. 38, 2.50; No. 39, 2.50; No. 40, 2.50; No. 41, 2.50; No. 42, 2.50; No. 43, 2.50; No. 44, 2.50; No. 45, 2.50; No. 46, 2.50; No. 47, 2.50; No. 48, 2.50; No. 49, 2.50; No. 50, 2.50; No. 51, 2.50; No. 52, 2.50; No. 53, 2.50; No. 54, 2.50; No. 55, 2.50; No. 56, 2.50; No. 57, 2.50; No. 58, 2.50; No. 59, 2.50; No. 60, 2.50; No. 61, 2.50; No. 62, 2.50; No. 63, 2.50; No. 64, 2.50; No. 65, 2.50; No. 66, 2.50; No. 67, 2.50; No. 68, 2.50; No. 69, 2.50; No. 70, 2.50; No. 71, 2.50; 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