

BARLEY IS SCARCE

Prices Again Advance in the Local Market.

NOW WORTH \$33 A TON

Oats Are Firmer, With Holders Asking \$40 and \$41—Wheat Is Held at Extreme Prices—Flour Market Is Strong.

The trade in barley is the feature of the grain market. Last week the demand for strong and supple are small and rapidly approaching the vanishing point. Up to 12 is quoted on whole feed barley. Rolled barley for several days has been selling at \$14 1/2.

Oats were firmer yesterday than they were last week. No. 1 white oats were held at \$46.41. It is not believed likely that Canadian oats will be brought in and this has encouraged holders to ask full prices. The market in Alberta has stiffened up because of the shipments which have crossed the border and the Canadian oats could not be laid down here now at a price to compete with the domestic article.

The wheat market was quiet, with sellers asking extreme prices. The weekly statistics of the Merchants Exchange place the American visible supply at 24,965,000 bushels, a decrease for the week of 1,272,000 bushels.

No announcement is made of any advance in present flour in the immediate future, but as Puget Sound millers have advanced their list 20 cents a barrel it is considered likely a similar advance will soon be made here.

Bid and asked prices on the Board of Trade were as follows: WHEAT. Bid. Asked. May 1909 11.15 11.17

OATS. Bid. Asked. May 1909 2.00 2.02

BARLEY. Bid. Asked. May 1909 1.50 1.52

Records in cars were reported by the Merchants Exchange as follows: Wheat Barley Flour Oats Hay

FLORIN STRAWBERRIES DUE TODAY Heavy Demand for Oranges—Lemons Also Sell Well.

The strawberry season will open today with the arrival of a small shipment from Florida. Berries have been coming for some time from Southern California, but the real movement does not start until the Florin district begins shipping.

Oranges were the best sellers in the fruit market and prices were very firm. One car arrived from California, Oregon and Idaho well, but there was very little fancy stock.

Winter lemons are clearing up now and it will be two or three weeks before Spring lemons are on the market.

A shipment of apples was received from Hood River, including some fancy Newtowns, which offered at \$2.50.

Apparatus was firm, but is likely to drop sharply today, as a big lot is on the way from California. Oregon and Idaho lemons are due today. Northern California sweet potatoes will be in the market in a few days and red sweet from Hawaii will arrive next week.

BUTTER PRICES HOLD THEIR OWN. Most Creameries Disposed to Keep the Market Steady.

The general decline in butter, which was expected to materialize Tuesday morning, has been indefinitely postponed. One or two creameries have gone down to 27 1/2 cents, but the others are disposed to hold the price up to 29 cents.

Some of them are still short of an adequate supply to fill their orders and besides the San Francisco market has turned firmer. Until there is a decided break in the South or a change at Seattle, local prices will probably remain unchanged.

The egg market was firm, with no change in quotations. Poultry of all kinds was in strong demand. There was a particularly urgent inquiry for broilers, weighing 1 1/2 pounds, which were quoted at 15 1/2 per dozen.

DATES OF WOOL SALES. Schedule as Prepared by the Eastern Buyers.

The Eastern wool buyers who operate in the Northwest have prepared a schedule of wool-sales dates for Oregon and Idaho. The dates differ in some particulars from the schedule as prepared by the Woolgrowers' Association, as the buyers claim that it would be impossible for them to make rail-road connections according to the buyers' rotation dates. The schedule of the buyers follows:

May 10—Wednesday, Payette, Idaho. May 11—Thursday, Payette, Idaho. May 12—Friday, Payette, Idaho. May 13—Saturday, Weiser, Idaho. May 14—Monday, Pendleton. May 15—Tuesday, Heppner. May 16—Saturday, Echo. May 17—Tuesday, Shanks. May 18—Thursday, Pilot Rock. May 19—Friday, Baker City. May 20—Saturday, Echo. May 21—Tuesday, Payette. May 22—Thursday, Midvale. May 23—Friday, Weiser. May 24—Monday, Shanks. May 25—Tuesday, Heppner. May 26—Wednesday, Shanks. May 27—Thursday, Heppner. May 28—Friday, Heppner. May 29—Tuesday, Shanks. May 30—Thursday, Heppner.

HOPS LEFT IN FARMERS' HANDS. Only 3418 Bales of Last Year's Crop Remains Unsold.

There have been no recent sales of hops or offers on wheat to base actual market values. A list of unsold 1908 hops in growers' hands, compiled yesterday, showed 3418 bales in growers' hands. About 3000 bales of 1907 and 2500 bales of 1908 remain in the stacks.

English government returns show Great Britain's imports of hops, less exports, from 1907 to 1909, to March 1, 1909, to be 181,884 cwt., as against 124,708 cwt. for the same period last year.

Bank Clearings. Clearings of the Northwestern cities yesterday were as follows: Clearings: Balaconia, Portland, \$1,326,741; Astoria, \$1,068,354; Tacoma, \$288,423; Spokane, \$1,423,313; 69,208.

Late Potatoes Bring Good Prices. TROUTDALE, Or., April 12.—(Special.)—Potato growers who have held on to their crop are now disposing of the last of it at fancy prices, 12 per hundred being the price received. Several carloads have been shipped from here during the week.

The acreage to be planted to potatoes

STOCKS RECEIVED

Campaign for an Advance Is Resumed.

VOLUME OF TRADE LARGE

Senate Committee's Quick Action on Tariff Bill Creates a Good Impression—Active Demand for Steel.

NEW YORK, April 12.—Speculative operations for the advance were renewed with fresh confidence today in the stock market, and prices were carried comprehensively upwards on a large and varied volume of business. The hesitation manifested last week on account of the approach of the three days' vacation was largely dispelled with the passing of the holiday, although the great foreign markets were still in recess and took no part in the day's dealings here.

The speculative element at home seemed content to carry forward the movement without waiting for the foreigners to get active. The industrial and speculative element still held a conservative place, but not so entirely to the exclusion of the standard trading stock as was the case last Thursday. The changes in the rates of the prompt emergence from the Senate committee on finance of the amended tariff bill created a good impression, without, however, influencing the market. The proposed changes in the rates of the tariff on iron ore, which had been proposed, the promise of dispatch in the progress of the bill being more considered than the substance of it, which was the restoring of iron ore to the dutiable list. The proposed amendment, induced an active demand for United States Steel and this had a sympathetic effect in raising the demand for the whole list.

Another wave of activity was set in motion by the news that the Supreme Court decision on the validity of the commodities act of the Hepburn law was still withheld. Reading rose vigorously, as has become the rule with the weekly passing of the expected delivery of this opinion.

Although the copper stocks were not conspicuous in the copper market, as statistics of copper production and consumption during March made up one of the factors influencing the market. The increase of only 9,900,000 pounds in the amount of refined copper on hand at the close of March, compared with a growth of over 29,000,000 pounds during February, was enhanced by the fact that the month's production rose over February and even over January.

The feeling regarding the steel trade was improved. The statistics of surplus cars completed by the American Iron and Steel Association made a less favorable exhibit of trade conditions, the number of idle blast furnaces having increased again for the half month ending March 31 to the number of 6312. This was in spite of a reduction of 14,000 tons of pig iron, owing to the rush to stock up coal cars, owing to the irregularity in the late dealings, but many substantial gains were left for the day's show.

Bonds were active and strong. Total sales, par value, \$4,250,000. United States bonds were unchanged on call.

CLOSING STOCK QUOTATIONS. Closing High Low. Am. Copper 25.300 25.75 25.300

Am. Car & Foundry 41.000 41.50 41.000

Am. Cotton Oil 35.000 35.50 35.000

Am. Sugar 11.000 11.50 11.000

Am. Tobacco 10.000 10.50 10.000

Am. Wool 1.000 1.50 1.000

Am. Zinc 1.000 1.50 1.000

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