

PROSE SEEKER

Steamer Strathdee Arrives for Cereal Cargo.

RATE NOW 55 SHILLINGS

Exporters Find Vessels Hard to Charter Even at That Price.

French Bark Tourine Taken. Two Get Away With Loads.

Additional tonnage reached the river yesterday for grain loading with the arrival of the British steamer Strathdee, under charter to Kerr, Gifford & Company, which hauls from Suva via Vancouver via Victoria.

That owners are asking 55 shillings for steamers was talked of yesterday by exporters who said that vessels of that class were worth between 52 and 55 shillings.

Two of the grain fleet got away from the river yesterday, the Norwegian bark Cambusdoun, for Victoria, and the Norwegian bark Hindfield for the United Kingdom.

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WHEAT TRADE

Advance in Prices is Checked Temporarily.

MARKET MAY BE TOO HIGH

Sales Made Abroad at Former Level.

Rise in Grain Freight Hinders New Export Operations.

Local Exchange Deals.

The local wheat market is holding fairly steady. Sales on the Exchange yesterday were at the previous days level, but bids otherwise were reduced.

There was nothing in the situation to warrant an advance, but the tendency rather was toward an easier market. The latest appreciation in values, indicating that English stocks are considered sufficient for the present.

A comparison of Portland prices with those prevailing elsewhere in the country indicates that this market is not only well above all others, but may be too high with the demand limited.

California is taking some wheat, but only milling grades. As for new export business, shipments of flour, owing to the advance in freight, are being held up.

Merchants' Exchange sales in detail were as follows:

10,000 February bluestem... 1.43  
5,000 February forty-fold... 1.45

Bank Clearings. Bank clearings of the Northwestern cities yesterday were as follows:

Portland... 1,705,717  
Tacoma... 462,900  
Spokane... 880,478

PORTLAND MARKET QUOTATIONS. Grain, Flour, Feed, Etc.

Bluestem... 1.43  
Forty-fold... 1.45

Local receipts in cars, were reported by the Merchants' Exchange as follows:

February bluestem... 1.43  
February forty-fold... 1.45

COMMUNITY MARKETS MORE ACTIVE. Price Changes More Numerous Than for Several Weeks.

Considerably more activity was shown by the commodity markets in the past week than for a long time past.

Changes in the 319 quotations received at the Portland market, of which 42 were advances and 44 declines.

The irregularity in the grain markets was especially noticeable, wheat and rye exhibiting high record prices.

Local jobbing quotations: TROPICAL FRUITS—Oranges, navels, \$1.75 to \$2.25 per box.

Local jobbing quotations: VEGETABLES—Cucumbers, house, \$2.00 to \$2.50 per dozen.

Local jobbing quotations: DAIRY AND COUNTRY PRODUCTS. Local jobbing quotations: EGGS—Fresh, 11 1/2 to 12 1/2.

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