

HIGH GRADE SALMON FOR FAR EASTERN CONSUMPTION FEATURE IN MARKET

Large Shipment of Alaska Reds Sent to Japan, Presumably for Use of the Government.

B. F. Stone, Prominent Salmon Broker, Says Market Conditions Are All That Could Be Wished and That Outlook for Coming Season Is Favorable—Effort on Part of Dealers to Discourage Packing of Cheaper Grades of Fish.

Mr. B. F. Stone, one of the best posted salmon brokers in America, is in the city. Mr. Stone is connected with the firm of J. K. Armsby & Co., of Chicago, and is on the coast for the purpose of informing himself as to existing conditions. He makes the interesting statement that the extent of the salmon market is constantly becoming greater, and that, by virtue of merit, the canned article, only a few years ago regarded as a positive luxury, has become a staple article of food. Mr. Stone has been interested in the salmon business for many years, and, while he admits that early calculations are almost invariably upset by later developments, rendering prognostications uncertain, his wide experience put him in possession of much valuable information. An Astorian representative met Mr. Stone at the Occident yesterday afternoon.

"Perhaps the most noteworthy feature of the present market is the oriental demand for a higher quality of salmon than has heretofore gone to the orient," said Mr. Stone. "The Japanese are now taking a large quantity of red Alaska salmon, which is a decided innovation. Heretofore the oriental demand has been exclusively for the cheaper grades, but now packers are furnishing Alaska reds. Of this quantity, 15,000 cases are to go on the In-drapura from Astoria, the Alaska Fishermen's Packing Company having made the sale, and the balance of the order will be furnished from other coast points. The salmon is being bought by Japanese firms, but we

have an idea it is intended for use of the army.

"The war ought to help the salmon market. One third of the food of the Japanese is fish, which comes from the Siberian coast. The operations of the naval forces will put an end to fishing, and it will be necessary for the Japanese to look elsewhere for their supply. This means greatly increased oriental demand for salmon.

Why Cheap Prices Were Cut.

"The Alaska Packer's Association reduced prices of the cheaper grades of fish, and because of those cuts there has been more or less discussion. I can say to you that the association had but one object in reducing prices. It was actuated by a desire to discourage the packing of chums and pink Alaska. Recently I saw some of the cheap fish which was sold to the Japs. Perhaps the Russians will not kill the Japs, but if they don't that cheap fish will. It can be demonstrated to packers that they will continue to lose on their packs of cheap fish, it will probably not be long before the output is small. There is legitimate demand for cheap fish in the south, but this demand does not justify the great output of the past few seasons. Sale of the cheaper grades hurts the higher grade market and generally operates to the disadvantage of one of our most important industries."

Mr. Stone was asked as to the comparative value of chums and pink Alaska, which are generally regarded as fish of the same quality. He replied

that pink fish was much better in quality when properly packed.

Supply and Demand.

"At present there is but one class of high grade fish remaining on the market," Mr. Stone continued. "Columbia river chinook and sockeye have been sold, and at present the market is dependent upon Alaska reds. This class of salmon must supply the enormous demand from the United States. At the present time the demand is about as usual for the season for canned salmon. The months of heavy consumption are June, July, August and September. The red Alaska supply must meet the demand from this time to the middle of September. The market is steady, at \$1.30 a dozen f. o. b. coast.

"Present conditions are about all that could be hoped for, and the outlook may be regarded as favorable. Stocks of red Alaska salmon in the hands of distributors in all eastern states represent only a very small percentage of the amount in same hands at this date for the past five years. Old stock will be well cleared and the new season will open under auspicious circumstances.

An Error Corrected.

"I notice that I am quoted in an evening paper as saying that sales will clear the market for reds before July. This is incorrect. I should have been made to say that the market would be cleared by October 1. It would be ridiculous to state that red Alaska would be ready for delivery by July, when, as a matter of fact, delivery could not be made from San Francisco before late in September."

Mr. Stone says the salmon industry is attaining immense proportions and that it will continue to grow with each year. He regards the prospects for the approaching season as quite favorable, although it is always difficult to tell just what will transpire later in the year. However, indications are satisfactory, and generally there is an optimistic feeling among dealers. Mr. Stone leaves tonight for Portland and will not return to Astoria for some time.

DESERTS HIS DYING CHILD.

Portland Man Comes to Astoria Leaving His Wife Penniless.

Another story of a man's lack of affection for his people has just come to light. The story is related in the Oregonian, which has the following to say of the man's conduct:

"Leaving his helpless wife to battle for a living as best she might and their 3-year-old child sick unto death, S. E. Dixon, a salesman in the employ of the Acme Harvester Company, ran away to Astoria yesterday afternoon and spent last night wandering up and down the streets. Mrs. Dixon was distracted by her troubles and as a last resort appealed to the police department for assistance. The chief of police at Astoria was communicated with and located Dixon in Astoria, but he appeared little concerned when informed that his child was dying.

"Mrs. Dixon told a pitiful tale to the local police yesterday afternoon, saying that some days since a lawyer had informed her that her husband intended to desert her. The woman says she does not know why she has been left by her husband as they have never had trouble. District Attorney John Manning, she says, found out for her that her husband had gone to Astoria and with this clew to Dixon's whereabouts she went to the police station. The Astoria police department was telegraphed the circumstances of the case and when Dixon stepped from the train in Astoria he was immediately recognized from the description furnished by his wife to the local police officers. When informed that his child was dying Dixon is said to have appeared unconcerned. He denied that he was the Dixon wanted, saying that his name was Dixon and not Dixon. As he is not a heavy drinker his strange actions are puzzling the police, who think he is mentally deranged.

WORKING OVERTIME.

Eight hour laws are ignored by those tireless little workers—Dr. King's New Life Pills. Millions are always at work, night and day, curing indigestion, biliousness, constipation, sick headache and all stomach, liver and bowel troubles. Easy, pleasant, safe, sure. Only 25c at Chas. Rogers drug store.

MRS. MARTIN IS PENNILESS

Deserted By Gambling Husband She Is Left With Daughter and Furniture.

WANTS TO SELL THE LATTER

Scamp Slopes Between Two Days, Forgetting to Leave Wife's Purse, Containing \$1000.

Mrs. James S. Martin, who was formerly Mrs. Berta Reece, of Portland, is in Astoria as the result of an expensive experience with a gambling man named James S. Martin. Mrs. Martin says she married the gambler five months ago, and that her acquaintance cost her about \$1000. After possessing himself of her money, Martin, who worked for a time at an Astor-street resort, disappeared from the city, leaving his wife and her 13-year-old daughter penniless and absolutely without anything to eat. Mrs. Martin told her story yesterday to a press representative.

"Prior to the time I met Martin I conducted a lodging house in Portland," the woman said yesterday. "Martin induced me to dispose of the property, which was quite valuable, and with him I came to Astoria. Last Saturday night he disappeared, and I believe he left for San Francisco on an outgoing steamer. At the time of his disappearance I had 25 cents.

"The man got all of the money which my Portland property brought except that with which some furniture was purchased for our Astoria home. He fleeced me out of about \$1000. We had lived here about five months. There is not the least doubt in my mind that my husband has fled to California, and I will endeavor to sell my furniture in order to get enough to settle my accounts here."

Mrs. Martin is about 40 years of age and is being cared for at the Peniel mission.

BIG CALL FOR LUMBER.

Government Will Advertise for 4,750,000 Feet.

Seattle, March 30.—The quartermaster's department today received orders to advertise for 4,750,000 feet of lumber and other building materials to be used in the completion of Fort William McKinley in the Philippines. The call for lumber is one of the largest single orders ever sought by the government in connection with the development of the Philippines. It stipulates delivery at Seattle, Tacoma, Portland or San Francisco.

Gather for Target Practice.

Pensacola, Fla., March 30.—The largest fleet of United States warships ever assembled for target practice is gathered here. It includes seven battleships, five cruisers, seven gunboats, five monitors, two torpedo boat destroyers, besides a number of tenders, colliers and supply boats. The fleet includes more than 25 vessels of various classes.

Council Grants Permission.

Chicago, March 30.—The city council, by a vote of 37 to 10, has passed an ordinance granting a permit to the United States government to lay two pneumatic tubes five inches in diameter from the new postoffice to the appraiser's stores in Sherman street, by way of east-m house place and Harrison street.

Baseball Scores.

Fresno—Tacoma 3; Seattle 2.
Los Angeles—Los Angeles 2; Portland 0.
San Francisco—San Francisco 5; Oakland 8.

PERSONAL MENTION.

J. C. Mayo returned last night from the metropolis.

District Attorney Allen is down from Hillsboro for a day.

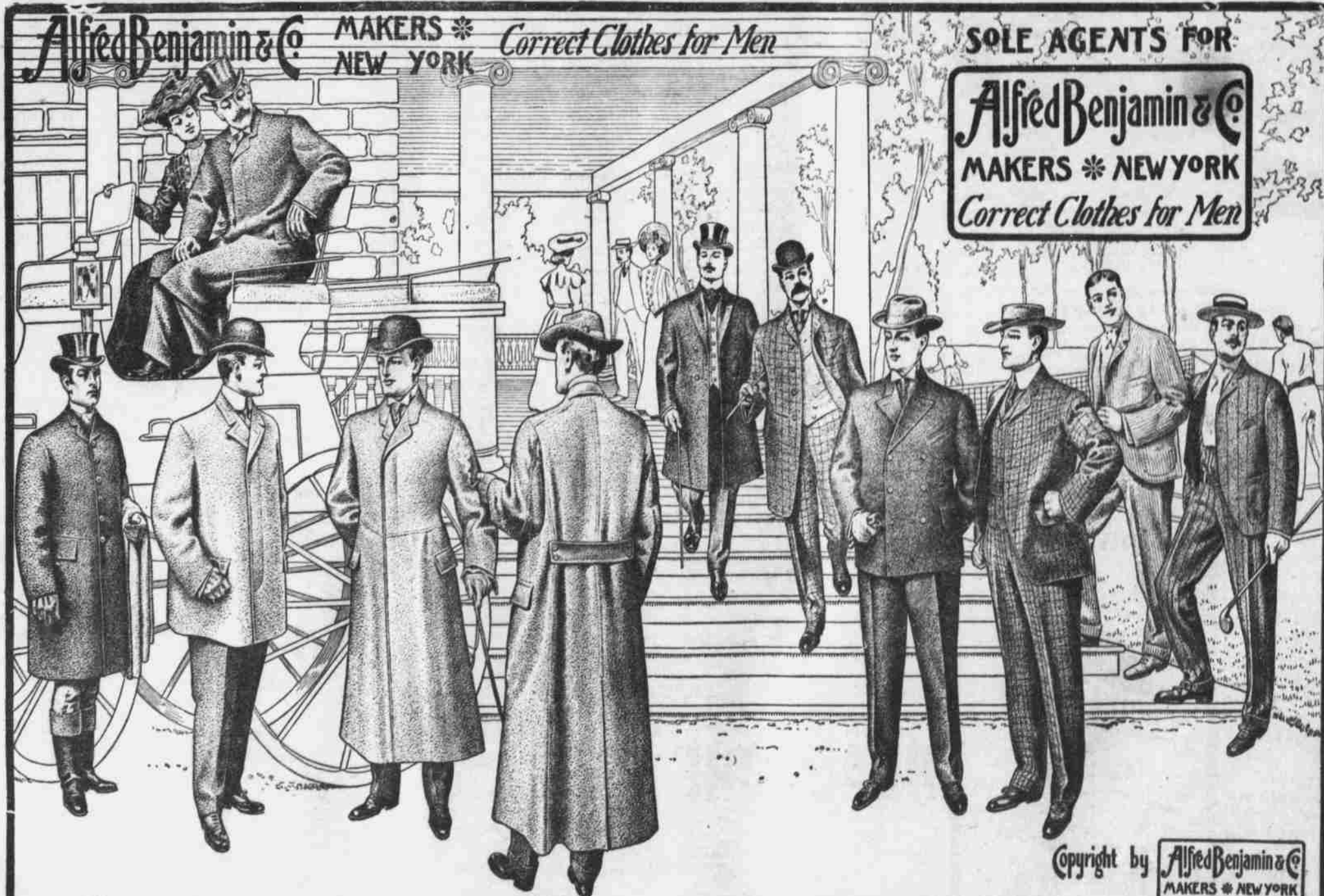
Mr. and Mrs. Martin Foard returned last night from Bucoda, Wash. Will S. Martin, a well known Portland traveling man, is in the city.

Superintendent McGuire, of the A. & C., was among the passengers down on east night's train.

Burdock Blood Bitters gives a man a clear head, an active brain, a strong, vigorous body—makes him fit for the battle of life.

TO THOSE WHO KNOW

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Sole Agent in ASTORIA for the FAMOUS "ALFRED BENJAMIN" CLOTHING