

TRANSACTIONS IN THE FINANCIAL WORLD

SENSATION IN DROP ALL POULTRY

QUOTATIONS MAKE SECOND DECLINE WITHIN TWO DAYS - FARMERS BUY TOO FAST - CREAMERY BUTTER VERY WEAK - MYSTERY IN TURKEYS.

Front Street, Dec. 18.—The principal items of interest in the local markets today were:

Poultry makes sensational slump. Creamery but for very weak. Eggs receipts large. Mystery in turkey situation.

Sensation in Poultry.

The cut of 5 cent in the quotations on poultry yesterday was not sufficient to cause the market to clean up, and before the day was over it was apparent to all that something must be done to cause a larger movement. Today the quotations took a decided slump and mixed chickens fell flat at the 10 cent mark, with that price about the top of the market. Receipts of chickens in the past two days have been simply enormous, and the retail trade has shown but little activity. The prices on poultry have been altogether too high to create a general buying, and a drop in the price lists seemed to be the only solution. Today there was a slightly better demand for poultry, but it is very seldom the case that the market is very active after a decline. Most of the receipts in the poultry market now are of the mixed chicken variety and coops of straight hens are hard to obtain. For this class of stocks a slightly higher quotation than on mixed is obtained. At the present time the poultry markets of the Northwest are down, and it is impossible for the local dealers to clean up by shipping to the outside. The cause of the decline in poultry prices is not very hard to find. Farmers nowadays are becoming more speculators when they see signs of an advancing market they hold their stocks until the market reaches a higher plane. This is the cause of their undoing, for when the market reaches its top then the receipts begin to pour in in enormous streams.

"If farmers would learn to ship their stuff in the markets as soon as they can they will get the best prices," says a commission man. "There is nothing in this business and when a farmer tries to get the best prices he gets the worst of the bargain. The farmers who ship their stocks as soon as it is ready for the market never kick about prices."

Mystery in Turkeys.

Local commission men are in receipt of large numbers of inquiries from farmers as to the chances for high prices for turkeys during the Christmas holidays, but they invariably answer that the best time to ship turkeys is now. Very few of the commission houses are in the market this season to buy turkeys—most of them being given a severe lesson in this on Thanksgiving. Just at present there are very few turkeys in the market. The demand is not very active and it is a leading question whether it will be. The public became completely scared out of turkey buying on Thanksgiving, and their appetites for this class of bird has been curbed.

Egg Market in Steady.

Although the market for eggs are quite inactive, still the market has a certain degree of steadiness, and the price shows no changes for today. There are some who predict lower prices at the opening of next week, but this is not certain, receipts being the principal governing power.

More Weakness in Creamery.

Added weakness is seen in the creamery butter market today, despite the fact that some of the local creameries are trying their best to stop the declining tide. The receipts of creamery butter in this market are not as large as at any time since the early summer and demand is practically off. The reason for this is on account of the very large supplies of renovated stock which have entered this market of late, and which is selling at several cents under that of even the cheapest creamery. This butter has also caused a large falling off in the call for country store and dairy butter—the price of the renovated being lower. The very best grades of creamery butter are sold tag on front street today at 27 1/2 cents a pound.

Too Many Hogs.

It seems that receipts in all lines on front street are showing a too large increase of late, this being especially true of the hog market. Arrivals on the street during the past two days have been larger than at any period for several months, and prices are very weak and are liable to go lower. No changes occurred in meat prices today.

Opinions on the Market.

Glasco Company—Butter prices have been too high. This is all the trouble in the market at present. Trouble has been that eastern stocks have been allowed to come in too freely; this is also true of cheese.

Turner & Co.—Customers calling for ducks, geese and turkeys. Arrivals are neglected; Oregon eggs still declining.

Beil & Co.—Apples are moving off for holiday trade from 60 cents to \$1.25 a box.

Mark Levy & Co.—Yesterday was the busiest day of the season on front street. About five cars of oranges and two cars of bananas arrived.

G. S. Smith Company—Chicken market slumped today.

Maloney—Customers calling for fish trade quiet on account of holiday demand for fowl; steelheads still scarce; Columbia river smelt very scarce.

Everding & Farrell—Chicken market in a bad state of demoralization; eggs and butter are both weak.

Page & Sons—Car extra fancy Hood River apples arrived yesterday; cost \$1.80 f. o. b. there; poultry gone to smelt; eggs cleaning up all right at prices.

Toft, Hine & Co.—Chickens piling up; want also too of ranch eggs; report too heavy to keep them cleaned up at present quotations; hogs are in very heavy arrival and lighter receipts only will prevent a break in present prices; small veal is still in active demand.

Today's quotations, as revised, are as follows:

PORTLAND WHOLESALE PRICES.

Grain, Flour and Feed.

WHEAT—Export quotations—New—Walla Walla, 120; bluestem, 70; valley, 70.

BALLEY—Feed, \$20.00; rolled, \$21.00; \$22.00; \$23.00; \$24.00; \$25.00; \$26.00; \$27.00; \$28.00; \$29.00; \$30.00; \$31.00; \$32.00; \$33.00; \$34.00; \$35.00; \$36.00; \$37.00; \$38.00; \$39.00; \$40.00; \$41.00; \$42.00; \$43.00; \$44.00; \$45.00; \$46.00; \$47.00; \$48.00; \$49.00; \$50.00; \$51.00; \$52.00; \$53.00; \$54.00; \$55.00; \$56.00; \$57.00; \$58.00; \$59.00; \$60.00; \$61.00; \$62.00; \$63.00; \$64.00; \$65.00; \$66.00; \$67.00; \$68.00; \$69.00; \$70.00; \$71.00; \$72.00; \$73.00; \$74.00; \$75.00; \$76.00; \$77.00; \$78.00; \$79.00; \$80.00; \$81.00; \$82.00; \$83.00; \$84.00; \$85.00; \$86.00; \$87.00; \$88.00; \$89.00; \$90.00; \$91.00; \$92.00; \$93.00; \$94.00; \$95.00; \$96.00; \$97.00; \$98.00; \$99.00; \$100.00; \$101.00; \$102.00; \$103.00; \$104.00; \$105.00; \$106.00; \$107.00; \$108.00; \$109.00; \$110.00; \$111.00; \$112.00; \$113.00; \$114.00; \$115.00; \$116.00; \$117.00; \$118.00; \$119.00; \$120.00; \$121.00; \$122.00; \$123.00; \$124.00; \$125.00; 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