

## TODAY'S MARKETS

## SUGAR MEN WOULD TALK IT OVER

Several Conferences Are Held Between Western Company and Independents.

## HAWAIIANS SAY THEY HOLD THE SITUATION

Are in Control of Eighty Per Cent of the Output of the Islands and Are Strong Financially—Wheat Is One Cent Lower.

Front Street, March 14.—The principal features of the Portland wholesale markets today are:

- Front street men may come to terms.
- Cold weather cripples trade.
- Car oranges arrives on track.
- Wheat is in a bushel lower.
- Fruit market quiet.
- Wholesale meat work scheme.
- Eggs are steady but unchanged.
- Better demand for dressed veal.
- Good tone in creamery butter.

**Sugar Men May Come to Terms.**

While there are still some prospects of a scrap in the sugar market the likelihood of a fight between the refiners is not so great as a short time ago. The Hawaiian factors, controllers of the new refinery at Crockett, California, are in close touch with their local representatives, the Johnson-Lieber company, while Kelley, Clark & Co. control the destinies of the Western refinery in this territory. While neither side is willing to admit it, it is said to be a positive fact that a number of conferences have already been held between representatives of the two factors and there is some possibility that the intended scrap may be called off and the territory of the Pacific controlled between the two companies.

With the exception of men may be securing without their hosts, for they have failed to take into consideration the fact that the men now have something to say as regards division of territory, price and orders. The average price is being greatly increased and the refiners handling this product are being considerably enlarged. Beef men claim that it will not be long before we have the entire sugar market under their control. In the meantime trade in sugar is slow. Dealers have no trouble whatever in filling orders.

What the Hawaiian Say.

The following extracts from the Hawaiian Advertiser of Honolulu have a bearing on the situation in sugar:

The Hawaiian sugar industry was marked on Friday night, the 23d instant, when the American-Hawaiian Steamship company's steamer, Nevada, sailed from Kailua, with 5,000 tons of sugar for the Hawaiian refinery at Crockett, California. This is the first shipment of sugar from Hawaii to be refined there. From thence to be distributed to the refined sugar market existing west of the Mississippi.

Control Eighty Per Cent.

"Now the Sugar Factors company, Ltd., controlling something like 80 per cent of the sugar production of the Hawaiian Islands, is about to begin refining in California on its own account. Its name will be the same, and its operations about April 1. Very heavy assessments have had to be met by the planting and milling corporations forming the Sugar Factors company to start this independent refinery. There is, therefore, a prospect of these levies being recomputed. This means a great deal to the stockholders in the various companies, probably in some cases the difference between dividends and no dividends."

Cold Weather Orders.

Cold weather has disrupted traffic in the wholesale district. Business is not dull alone along Front street, but the wholesale grocers are complaining of the inactivity. There are several cars of produce on the track which cannot be moved. It is anticipated by Giese, Spreckels and ever since the Hawaiian sugar not belonging to him, excepting what was sent to the Atlantic refineries under arrangements with the sugar trust, was refined by Mr. Spreckels or practically his own interests.

Mills of all kinds firm. Prices same.

Wholesale Butchers Work Scheme.

At the last meeting of the Retail Butchers' association it was decided to stop buying beef and mutton on Front street. This plan is said to be well received by the few of the wholesale butchers who would thus have a monopoly in these lines. As yet there have been no orders to stop buying dressed veal and pork along the street, but the world would be the meantime Front street men say skip your veal and hogs, but eat out the beef and mutton if possible. Of the latter two lines Front street can still take care of the usual quota, for the association is not strong enough to prevent these outside from burrowing in.

Eggs are steady but unchanged. Receipts are about equal to demand at present values.

Butter market remains very firm but unchanged.

The trade pays the following prices to Front street. Prices paid producers are not specified:

Graan, Flour and Feed.

WHEAT—New club, 6c; red Russian, 6c;

blue stem, 6c; Valley, 6c;

green feed, 6c; 50c; rolled, 8c; brew,

CORN—Whole, 82c; cracked, 23c per ton;

OATS—Producers' price—No. 1 white, 28c;

feed, 22c;

flour, 25c;

WHEAT—New eastern Oregon patents, 25.50c;

flour, 25c; 50c; extra fine, 35c;

grain, 35c; Graham, 35c; whole wheat, 35.75c;

flour, 35c; bread, 35c; baked, 32.75c;

WHEAT—Producers' price—Timothy, Willamette valley, 35c; 50c; 60c; 70c; 80c; mixed, 85.50c;

cheese, 85c;

CHEESE—New—Full cream, 35c; 45c;

Yours, American, 35c; 45c; 55c;

WHEAT—New—100c; 125c; 150c; mixed, 150.50c;

cheese, 85c;

BUTTER—FAT—o. b. Portland—Sweet cream, 10c; 12c; 14c; 16c;

BUTTER—CREAMERY, 50c; outside fancy,

27c; 30c; store, 30c; 32c; 34c;

16c; 17c;

cheese, 10c;

EGGS—FAT—o. b. Portland—Sweet cream, 10c; 12c; 14c; 16c;

EGGS—CREAMERY, 50c; outside fancy,

27c; 30c; store, 30c; 32c; 34c;

16c; 17c;

cheese, 10c;

EGGS—EGG AND Poultry,

BUTTER—FAT—o. b. Portland—Sweet cream, 10c; 12c; 14c; 16c;

BUTTER—CREAMERY, 50c; outside fancy,

27c; 30c; store, 30c; 32c; 34c;

16c; 17c;

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