

EASIER FOR EGGS AT CLOSE OF THE WEEK

Easter Market Disappointing as Usual to Speculators and Annual Lesson is Repeated On the Folly of Holding for Rise.

Portland Wholesale Market. Eggs weaker and lower. Chicken very firm. Dressed meats firm. Butter prices holding. Cheese supply short. Canned milk weak. Potatoes are steady. More hop inquiries. Halibut very scarce.

The market for eggs was easier today and for strictly fancy candied stock none were asking above 21c a dozen this morning.

The weaker feeling is due to the efforts of retailers to unload with all possible dispatch all arrivals at the end of the week. A general opinion prevails that eggs will be lower next week and naturally dealers want to carry over stock until then and take a lower price than they can readily obtain today.

The market for candied stock is also easier today. The front street trade during the past week broke all expectations of the trade. Everyone seemed to have lost sight of the fact that the season is advancing fast and that the biggest production of the year is within sight.

Notwithstanding that speculators in eggs receive an annual lesson on the folly of holding for higher prices during the Easter trade, the performance is repeated each year.

The quality continues exceedingly good and little loss is shown in candling.

HALIBUT IS VERY SCARCE.

There is an unusual scarcity of fresh halibut in the local market. The supply is so short that more than half of the trade's requirements are being taken care of. Sales are being made as high as 10c a pound.

LETTUCE MARKET FIRM.

Market for head lettuce is holding firm. Sales are being made from \$1.50 to \$2 a crate for Southern California stock. Supplies of good quality are not liberal.

CHEESE MARKET CLEANED UP.

There is again an absence of cheese offerings in the market and prices are therefore nominally firm. Everyone is awaiting the arrival of the steamer from the coast and the market is being cleaned up.

DRESSED MEATS HOLD FIRM.

Trade in the dressed meat market is holding firm. Top hogs are still selling at 10c for country killed, while best veal sells generally at 12c. The market for spring lambs is weaker and generally lower. This is the only bad feature of the trade. Mutton in general is firm.

NO CHANGE IN BUTTER.

No change is reported in the price of butter. While there is plenty of stock available today, a shortage is expected the first of the week, when the best shipping demand appears.

CHICKEN TRADE EXCELLENT.

Trade in the chicken market is excellent and supplies are cleaned up at the closing of the week. Prices were maintained with 17c as the average for hens and 17c as the average for broilers. Broilers are extremely scarce.

FORECAST FOR SHIPPERS.

Weather bureau sends out the following notice to shippers: Protect shipments as far north as Seattle against minimum temperatures of 44 degrees; north to Spokane, 38 degrees; southeast to Boise, 32 degrees; south to St. Louis, 40 degrees; minimum temperature at Portland tonight about 44 degrees.

EASTERN COFFEE HIGHER.

Another advance of 1/2c a pound was quoted in the price of coffee by Arbuckle Bros. this morning. This makes a total of 1/2c per 100 pounds within a week. The advance was not followed by local roasters, but it shows the strength of the trade at this time.

PORTLAND JOBBING PRICES.

Grain—Flour and Hay. These prices are those at which wholesalers sell to retailers, except as otherwise stated.

WHEAT—Nominal—Producers' prices, nominal, track delivery, 92c; blue stem, 93c; 94c; 95c; 96c; 97c; 98c; 99c; 100c; 101c; 102c; 103c; 104c; 105c; 106c; 107c; 108c; 109c; 110c; 111c; 112c; 113c; 114c; 115c; 116c; 117c; 118c; 119c; 120c; 121c; 122c; 123c; 124c; 125c; 126c; 127c; 128c; 129c; 130c; 131c; 132c; 133c; 134c; 135c; 136c; 137c; 138c; 139c; 140c; 141c; 142c; 143c; 144c; 145c; 146c; 147c; 148c; 149c; 150c; 151c; 152c; 153c; 154c; 155c; 156c; 157c; 158c; 159c; 160c; 161c; 162c; 163c; 164c; 165c; 166c; 167c; 168c; 169c; 170c; 171c; 172c; 173c; 174c; 175c; 176c; 177c; 178c; 179c; 180c; 181c; 182c; 183c; 184c; 185c; 186c; 187c; 188c; 189c; 190c; 191c; 192c; 193c; 194c; 195c; 196c; 197c; 198c; 199c; 200c; 201c; 202c; 203c; 204c; 205c; 206c; 207c; 208c; 209c; 210c; 211c; 212c; 213c; 214c; 215c; 216c; 217c; 218c; 219c; 220c; 221c; 222c; 223c; 224c; 225c; 226c; 227c; 228c; 229c; 230c; 231c; 232c; 233c; 234c; 235c; 236c; 237c; 238c; 239c; 240c; 241c; 242c; 243c; 244c; 245c; 246c; 247c; 248c; 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