# Salem Market Quotations

**FRUITS**
(Buying Prices)
(The prices below supplied by a local grocer are indicative of the daily market prices paid to growers by Salem buyers but are not guaranteed by The Statesman.)

| | |
|---|---|
| Apples, gravensteins, bu | .50 |
| Apricots, 15 lb., Yakima | .55 |
| Bananas, lb. on stalk | .06 |
| Hands | .06½ |
| Cantaloupes, crate | .80 |
| Grapefruit, Calif., Sunkist, crate | 2.50 |
| Ground Cherries, lb | .10 |
| Grapes, bskt, 22½c; 25 lb. lug | .40 |
| Huckleberries, qa | 1.00 |
| Dates, fresh, lb | .14 |
| Lemons, crate | 5.00 |
| Oranges, crate | $2.65 to 3.15 |

**VEGETABLES**
(Buying Prices)

| | |
|---|---|
| Beets, doz | .25 |
| Cabbage, lb | .02 |
| Carrots, local, do | .25 |
| Cauliflower, Seattle | .70 |
| Celery, Utah, crate | 1.35 |
| Celery hearts, doz | .80 |
| Lettuce, Wash. | 1.25 |
| Onions, boiling, 10 lbs., No. 2 | .15 |
| Boiling, 10 lbs., No. 2 | .20 |
| Green onions, doz | .25 |
| Radishes, doz | .30 |
| Peppers, green, local | .02 |
| Parsley | .40 |
| New Potatoes, local, cwt | 1.50 |
| Squash, summer, doz | .40 |
| Danish, doz | .30 |
| Zucchini squash, flat | 1.05 |
| Turnips, doz | .40 |

**NUTS**

| | |
|---|---|
| Walnuts, 1937, lb | 10 to .16 |
| Filberts, 1938 crop, lb | 13 to .16 |

**HOPS**
(Buying Prices)

| | |
|---|---|
| Clusters, nominal, 1937, lb | 10 to .12 |
| Clusters, 1938, lb | 18½ to .19 |
| Fuggles, top | nominal |

**WOOL AND MOHAIR**
(Buying Price)

| | |
|---|---|
| Wool, medium, lb | .22 |
| Coarse, lb | .22 |
| Lambs, lb | .18 |
| Mohair, lb | .23 |

**EGGS AND POULTRY**
(Buying Price of Andresen's)

| | |
|---|---|
| Large extra | .28 |
| Medium extras | .24 |
| Large standards | .24 |
| Pullets | .15 |
| Colored frys | .17 |
| Colored medium, lb | .15 |
| White leghorns, lb. No 1 | .12 |
| White Leghorns, frys | .13 |
| White leghorns, lb. No. 2 | .10 |
| Heavy hens, lb | .15 |
| Roosters | .05 |

**LIVESTOCK**
(Based on conditions and sales reported up to 4 p.m.)

| | |
|---|---|
| Spring lambs, top | 6.25 |
| Lambs | 3.00 to 3.50 |
| Ewes | 1.75 to 2.25 |
| Hogs, tops 150-210 lbs. | 8.75 |
| 150-150 lbs. | 8.00 to 8.50 |
| 210-300 lbs. | 7.75 to 8.00 |
| Sows | 6.75 |
| Dairy type cows | 3.00 to 3.50 |
| Beef cows | 4.00 to 4.50 |
| Bulls | 5.00 to 5.75 |
| Heifers | 4.50 to 5.50 |
| Top veal, lb | 9.00 |
| Dressed veal, lb | .13½ |

**MARION CREAMERY Buying Price**

| | |
|---|---|
| Butterfat, A grade | .27 |
| Leghorn hens, over 3½ lbs | .10 |
| Leghorn hens, under 3½ lbs | .08 |
| Colored fryers | .14 |
| Colored hens, over 5 lbs | .15 |
| Leghorn fryers | .14 |
| Stags, lb | .06 |
| Old Roosters, lb | .05 |
| Rejects, market value, No. 2 grade 5c less | |
| Large extras | .28 |
| Medium extras | .24 |
| Large standards | .25 |
| Medium standards | .22 |
| Undergrade | .15 |
| Pullets | .15 |

**GRAIN, HAY AND SEEDS**

| | |
|---|---|
| Oats, white, ton | 18.00 to 20.00 |
| Wheat, white, bu | .53 |
| Wheat, western red, bu | .50 |
| Barley, feed, ton | 18.00 |
| Oats, gray, ton | 22.00 to 24.00 |
| Alfalfa, valley, ton | 12.50 |
| Oat and vetch hay, ton | 10.00 |
| Alsike clover seed, lb | .09 to .10 |

**Grade B raw 4 per cent milk, Salem basic pool price $2.20.**

**Co-op. Grade A butterfat price, FOB Salem, 27c.**

(Milk based on semi monthly butterfat average.)

**Distributor price, $2.32.**

**A grade butterfat—Delivered 27c; B grade 25½c; C grade 20½c.**

**A grade print, 29½c; B grade 28½c.**

## McNary Says 21 To 25 Loan for Hopmen Is Fair

Senator Charles A. McNary Monday sent a telegram to the bureau of marketing at Washington, DC., that he had conferred with Oregon, Washington and California hop growers and was convinced that a loan of from 21 to 25 cents pound on their crop would not be unreasonable.

McNary said such a loan would assist the hop industry on the Pacific coast and would be in line with the administraton of the hop marketing agreement.

## Stocks Climb For Fifth Day

### Some Issues Hit new High for Year Steels and Motors Lower

NEW YORK, Oct. 3–(AP)–The stock market put on its fifth successive advance today, with selected issues up fractions to a point and a few as much as 3 or 4 points. A number of new highs for the year were in evidence.

While the European peace settlement tended to lessen as a market influence, buying forces were still sufficiently optimistic over the spiking of world war threats to bid for favorites. Business news was also constructive enough to maintain speculative and investment sentiment.

While steels and motors took a breathing spell at slightly lower levels, strength was displayed by building materials, chemicals, rubbers and a wide assortment of specialties. Utilities enjoyed a forenoon upward flurry, but rails, oils, coppers and most aircrafts held to a narrow range.

The Associated Press average of 60 stocks was up .4 of a point at 49.5. Transfers amounted to 1,462,030 shares compared with 1,897,860 last Friday.

## Tomatoes Hurt By Heavy Rains

Heavy rains late Sunday were reported to have cracked a considerable share of tomtoes still on the vines.

More than 50 per cent of the estimated tomato pack for this year was completed when the rain came. Canners said the tomatoes were of excellent quality.

# Quotations at Portland

**PRODUCE EXCHANGE**

PORTLAND, Ore., Oct. 3.—(AP)—Produce Exchange:

Butter—Extras 27c; standards 26c; prime firsts 26c; firsts 24c.

Butterfat—27½-28c.

Eggs—Large extras 31; large standards 28; medium extras 25; medium standards 24; small extras 19c; small standards 16.

Cheese—Triplets 13c; loaf 14c.

### Portland Livestock

PORTLAND, Ore., Oct. 3.—(AP)—(USDA)—Hogs: Receipts 2500 including 564 through and direct, market around 25 lower, active at decline; good to choice 165 to 215 lb. driveins mostly 9.00; carload lots up to 9.25; 225 to 280 lb. butchers 8.25-75; packing sows 7.00-50; choice 86-lb. feeder pigs up to 9.00 with 31 lb. weights up to $10.00.

Cattle: Receipts 2850 including 104 through; calves 400 including 97 through; market fairly active; steers around 25 higher; cows and heifers steady to strong; bulls slow, vealers and calves around 50 lower; medium to good grass steers mostly 6.75-8.10, top 8.40; common steers 5.50-6.50; stockers 5.50-6.25; common to medium heifers 5.00-6.75; odd head good heifers 7.25; low cutter and cutter cows 2.50-3.25; common to medium cows 3.75 4.75; good beef cows 5.00-50; mixed cows and heifers up to 6.25; bulls 4.75-5.75; choice vealers 9.00-50; common to medium grade 5.50-8.50; medium to good 300-390 lb. calves 5.00-7.50.

Sheep: Receipts 4000 including 147 direct; market active dully steady; 2 loads 87 lb. Washington lambs 7.25; 2 loats 94-lb. eastern Oregon lambs 7.00; good truckins 6.50-75; common to medium grades 4.00 50; medium to good ewes 2.00-75.

### Portland Produce

PORTLAND, Ore., Oct. 3.—(AP)—Live poultry — Buying prices Leghorn broilers, 1¼ to 1¾ lbs., 16-17c; 2½ lbs., 15c lb.; colored springs 2 to 3½ lbs., 17c lb.; over 3½ lbs. 17c lb.; Leghorn hens over 3½ lbs. 12c lb.; under 3½ lbs. 12c lb.; colored hens to 5 lbs., 18c lb.; over 5 lbs., 18c lb.; No. 2 grade 5c lb. less.

Country Meats—Selling price to retailers: Country killed hogs, best butcher under 150 lbs., 11-12c lb.; vealers, 14½-15c lb.; light an thin 10-12c lb.; heavy 8-9c lb.; bulls 8-9c lb.; spring lambs 16-17c lb.; ewes 4-6c; cutter cows 7-7½c; canner cows 6-7c lb.

Turkeys—Selling price dressed new crop hens, 25c; toms, 27c lb. buying price; new hens, 23c lb.; toms, 25c.

Potatoes—Yakima Gems, $1.10-1.20 per 100 lbs.; local, $1.00 per cwt.

Onion—Oregon 60-75c; Yakima, 50 lbs. 50c.

Hay, Selling Price to Retailers—Alfalfa No. 1, $16 ton; oat, vetch, $10.50-11 ton; clover $10.00 ton; timothy, eastern Oregon (—); do valley $15 ton, Portland.

Wool—Willamette valley nominal medium, 23c lb.; coarse and braids, 23c lb.; lambs and fall, 20c lb.; eastern Oregon, 16½-26½c lb.

Hops—Nominal; new crop, 18½c.

Cascara Bark—1938 peel 5c lb.

Mohair—Nominal; 1938, 32c lb.; 6 mo., 30c lb.

Domestic flour, selling price city delivery 1 to 25 bbl. lots: family patents, 49s, $5.65-6.25; bakers' hard wheat net $3.90-5.40; bakers' bluestem $4.25-4.55; blended hard wheat 4.35-4.65; soft wheat flour $4.00-4.10; graham 49s, $3.95 whole wheat, 49s, $3.95 bbl.

Sugar—Berry or fruit, 100s, $5.00; bales $5.70; best $4.90 cental.

### Portland Grain

PORTLAND, Ore., Oct. 1.—(AP)—

| Wheat: | Open | High | Low | Close |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Dec. | 63½ | 63½ | 62 | 62 |
| May 6 | 64½ | 64½ | 63 | 63 |

Cash Grain: Oats, No. 2, 38-lb. white 25.00; No. 2, 38-lb. gray, nom. Barley, No. 2, 45-lb. BW 20.00. Corn, No .2, EY shipment 26.26.

Cash Wheat Bid: Soft white 61½; western white 61; western red 60. Hard red winter ordinary 58½; 11 per cent 59; 12 per cent 63; 13 per cent 67; 14 per cent 71. Hard white-Baart ordinary 62; 11 per cent —; 12 per cent 63; 13 per cent 65; 14 per cent 67.

Car Receipts: Wheat 33; barley 10; flour 13; corn 6; oats 5; hay 3; millfeed 5.

### Wool in Boston

BOSTON, Oct. 3.—(AP)—(USDA)—Interest in wool was showing a broadening tendency in the Boston market today. Recent sales have included fleece and territory wools. Graded combing three eighths blood bright fleece wools have brought 31 to 32 cents in the grease with the scoured basis prices ranging 57 to 59 cents. A few purchases involving sizable quantities of fine territory wools in original bags have been made at prices ranging 63 to 65c scoured basis for good French combing lengths.

## Gardeners' and Ranchers' Mart

PORTLAND, Ore., Oct. 3.—(AP)—(US Dept. Agriculture).

Apples — Kings, few; Jonathans, fancy, $1.50-1.60; face and fill, 85c-$1; Winter Bananas, loose, 45-50c; Spitzenbergs, face and fill, 75c; delicious, loose, Hood River, 80 85c; local, 50-55c; Washington Delicious, extra fancy, large $2.00-2.25, medium $1.60-1.75.

Artichokes—Fla., $3.00-3.25 box.

Avocados—California fuerts $2.45-2.80.

Beans—Oregon, green, Blue Lake, 2-2½c; Yount, large, 3-4c; Kentucky, 2-2½c lb.; Limas, 6-7c.

Broccoli—Lugs, 35-40c.

Brussels Sprouts—12-cup crt. 90c-$1.

Cantaloupes—Oregon, all sizes, $1.65-1.75; poorer lower; Spears, $1.25-1.35.

Cabbage — Oregon, Ballhead, $1.10-1.25; red 2½-3c lb

Cauliflower—Local, 60-75c; No. 2, 40-50c.

Celery—Oregon, Milwaukie Utah type, $1.15-1.25 per crate; Labish white, $1-1.05; hearts 70-80c.

Corn—5 doz., 75-90c; Wash., $1.10.

Cranberries — ¼ bbl., Early Blacks, $3.25-3.50; McFarlands, $3.50-3.75.

Cucumbers—Ore. orange box 85c-$1; flats 25-30c; pickling. No. 1, 35-40c; No. 2, 30 35c; No. 3, 25-30c.

Dill—5-6c lb.

Endive—Local, 35-40c doz.

Eggplant—6-7c per pound; flats, 90c.

Figs—Local white, 60-65c flat; black, 50c.

Garlic—Local, best, 7-8c pound; poorer 5-6c per pound.

Grapefruit—64 96s, Florida, $3.85 4.50. Calif., 64-126s, ex-fcy. $2.50 2.75.

Grapes — Oregon Concords, 20-pound boxes, 30-40c; California lug boxes, Thompson seedless, $1.00-1.20; Tokays, 85c-$1.00; unlidded, 75c; Lady Fingers, $1.00-1.25; White Malagas, $1-1.10.

Lemons—Fancy, all sizes, $4.-4.50.

Limes—Calif., 50 lbs. $5.50; trays 16-25c.

Lettuce—Dry pack 3 and 4 dozen, 90c-$1; Seattle, $1.25-1.35.

Mushrooms—Cultivated, 1 lb. 35 40c.

Onions—50 pound sacks, Washington Valencias, No. 1, 60 65c; 10-pound sacks, 18-20c; Yakima yellows, 50-pound sacks, No. 2, 50 60c; No. 1, 65 70c; medium, $1.00-1.25 per cwt.; large, $1.50 1.60 per cwt.; Labish yellows, 50-pound sacks, 80c 85c; boilers, 50-pound sacks, 55-65c; 10 pound sacks, 14-15c.

Oranges — Choice Valencias, fancy 126-176s, $2.90 3.25; 200 and smaller, $2.40-2.80; choice $2.00 2.25.

Peaches—Orange clings, 75 85c.

Pears—Oregon, Bosc, loose, 45-50c; Anjou, fancy 80-88c; packed $1.35-1.50.

Peas—Oregon Lower Columbia, 25 lb. boxes, $1.25-1.35; fair quality, $1-1.25; hampers, $1.65-1.75.

Peppers—Oregon lugs, 35 40c; orange boxes, 80-90c; red 8-10c; flats, 25-30c.

Potatoes—Oregon local Russets and Long Whites, No. 1, 90c-$1.00; Washington Russets, $1.15-1.25; 25-pound sacks, 35-37½c; No. 2s, 40-45c per 50-pound sack; bakers, 100 pounds, $1.50-1.60; Deschutes, No. 1 Russets, $1.15-1.25.

Plums—Ore. and Wash., italians, 18 lb. box, 25-30c; 25 lb. lug, 35-40c.

Squash — Oregon, Washington Crookneck, scallop zucchini, 25-30c per flat; Danish, flats, 45-55c; crates 90c-$1.10; Marblehead 1¼-1½c lb.; Hubbard 1½c; Bohemian, lug, 50-65c.

Spinach—Ore., 50-55c orange box.

Tomatoes—Oregon, local 25-30c; No. 2, 15-20c.

Bunched vegetables —Per dozen bunches, beets, 20-25c; carrots, 25-30c; green onions 20-25c; parsley 25-35c; radishes, 20-25c; turnips, 30-35c dozen; broccoli, lug, 30-35c.

Melons — Casabas, crates, $1.25-1.35; ice cream melons, Wash., 1¼-1½c pound.

Root Vegetables—Sacked, per hundredweight; carrots, lugs, y-c½s, 123 78 38 $1.00-1.25; lugs, 60-65c; beets, $1.25-1.35; turnips, $1.75-2.00; parsnips, 60-65c.

## Stocks & Bonds

October 3
**STOCK AVERAGES**
Compiled by The Associated Press

| | 30 Indus | 15 Rails | 15 Util | 60 Stocks |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Net Chg. | A .6 | Unch | A .5 | A .4 |
| Monday | 73.3 | 19.4 | 33.1 | 49.5 |
| Previous day | 72.7 | 19.4 | 32.6 | 49.1 |
| Month ago | 72.3 | 19.6 | 32.9 | 49.0 |
| Year ago | 79.1 | 28.8 | 36.9 | 55.8 |
| 1938 high | 74.0 | 21.6 | 35.1 | 50.8 |
| 1938 low | 49.2 | 21.1 | 24.9 | 33.7 |
| 1937 high | 161.6 | 49.5 | 54.0 | 75.3 |
| 1937 low | 57.7 | 19.0 | 31.6 | 41.7 |

**BOND AVERAGES**

| | 20 Rails | 10 Indus | 10 Util | 10 Forgn |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Net. Chg. | A1.4 | A .7 | A .3 | A .6 |
| Monday | 57.2 | 98.9 | 93.6 | 64.6 |
| Previous day | 55.8 | 98.2 | 93.3 | 640. |
| Month ago | 57.9 | 98.6 | 92.9 | 62.9 |
| Year ago | 85.1 | 101.1 | 94.5 | 69.5 |
| 1938 high | 70.5 | 100.3 | 94.3 | 67.0 |
| 1938 low | 46.2 | 93.0 | 85.8 | 59.0 |
| 1937 high | 99.0 | 104.4 | 102.8 | 74.7 |
| 1937 low | 70.8 | 95.5 | 90.3 | 64.2 |
| 1932 low | 45.8 | 40.0 | 64.6 | 42.2 |
| 1928 high | 101.1 | 98.9 | 102.9 | 100.5 |

# Closing Quotations

NEW YORK, Oct. 3–(AP)–Today's closing prices:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Al Chem & Dye | 185⅝ | Comwlth & Sou. | 1¼ |
| Allied Stores | 10⅝ | Consol Edison | 27¾ |
| American Can | 100 | Consol Oil | 9 |
| Am For Pow | 4¼ | Corn Products | 68⅛ |
| Am Pow & Lt. | 3 | Curtiss Wright | 5⅛ |
| Am Rad Std San | 16½ | Du Pont de N. | 138⅝ |
| Am Roll Mills | 18⅝ | Douglas Aircraft | 48⅝ |
| Am Smelt & Ref | 47½ | Elec Pow & Lt. | 10⅝ |
| Am Tel & Tel. | 143⅞ | Erie RR | 3 |
| Am Tobacco B | 88⅝ | Genl Elec | 43¼ |
| Am Wat Wks | 10 | Genl Foods | 36¼ |
| Anaconda | 34⅞ | Genl Motors | 48⅞ |
| Armour Ill | 5⅝ | Goodyear Tire | 28⅝ |
| Atchison | 35½ | Gt Nor Ry Pf. | 20½ |
| Barnsdall | 18⅛ | Hudson Motors | 9 |
| Balt & Ohio | 7⅞ | Illinois Central | 12 |
| Bendix Avia | 21⅝ | Insp Copper | 15 |
| Beth Steel | 59½ | Int Harvester | 62⅝ |
| Boeing Airp | 25 | Int Nickel Can. | 50½ |
| Borge-Warner | 34⅞ | Int Paper & P Pf | 40⅛ |
| Budd Mfg | 5⅝ | Int Tel & Tel. | 10 |
| Calif Pack | 20 | Johns Manville | 104⅞ |
| Callahan Z-L | 1⅞ | Kennecott | 44⅝ |
| Calumet Hec | 7⅞ | Libbey-O-Ford | 55⅝ |
| Canadian Pacific | 6⅝ | Ligg & Myers B | 99¼ |
| J I Case | 93 | Loew's | 52 |
| Caterpil Tractor | 51½ | Monty Ward | 48⅝ |
| Celanese | 22¼ | Nash-Kelv | 9⅝ |
| Certain-Teed | 10½ | Natl Biscuit | 24⅝ |
| Chesapeake & O | 81⅝ | Natl Cash | 26⅞ |
| Chrysler | 74¾ | Natl Dairy Prod | 13⅝ |
| Coml Solvent | 10⅛ | Natl Dist. | 25 |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Natl Pow & Lt. | 7⅛ | | |
| Nor Pacific | 11¼ | | |
| Packard Motor | 5 | | |
| J C Penney | 81¼ | | |
| Phillips Petrol. | 40½ | | |
| Pressed Stl Car. | 8½ | | |
| Pub Service NJ. | 30¼ | | |
| Pullman | 31½ | | |
| Safeway Stores. | 18⅞ | | |
| Sears Roebuck | 73⅛ | | |
| Shell Union | 15¾ | | |
| Sou Cal Ed | 22½ | | |
| Sou Pacific | 17⅝ | | |
| Stand Brands | 7½ | | |
| Stand Oil Calif. | 30¼ | | |
| Stand Oil NJ | 54¼ | | |
| Studebaker | 8 | | |
| Sup Oil | 3⅛ | | |
| Timk Roll Bear. | 50 | | |
| Trans-America | 10 | | |
| Union Carbide | 84⅝ | | |
| United Aircraft. | 28⅛ | | |
| United Airlines. | 9⅝ | | |
| US Rubber | 47⅞ | | |
| US Steel | 59⅞ | | |
| Walworth | 9⅛ | | |
| West Union | 28½ | | |
| White Motors | 13 | | |
| Woolworth | 46⅝ | | |
| (New York Curb) | | | |
| Cities Service | 7⅝ | | |
| Elec Bond & Sh | 7⅝ | | |

## Frost Abroad Boosts Wheat

### Increased Visible Supply in This Country Acts as Market Drag

CHICAGO, Oct. 3–(AP)–Frost reports from Argentina, where crops are approaching a critical stage, did much to lift Chicago wheat prices a cent a bushel today.

Word of persistent dry weather in Australia added to uneasiness about unfavorable conditions for crops south of the equator. Most traders, however, were disposed to await further developments relative to southern hemisphere field prospects.

**Visible Supply Grows**

Serving as a drag on upturns of values here was 801,000 bushels increase of the United States wheat visible supply total, contrasting with 1,573,000 bushels decrease a week ago. An additional handicap came from lack of any export demand of consequence for grain from this country, although indications were 500,000 bushels Canadian wheat had been bought for shipment overseas.

At the close, Chicago's wheat futures were ⅛-½ cent higher compared with Saturday's finish, Dec. 64⅛-¼, May 64¾-⅞.

### Thome Denies Charge

SILVERTON—Fritz Thome pleaded not guilty to a charge of defrauding an innkeeper. The charge was preferred by Mrs. Ed Gunderson and the trial has been set for October 20.

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and WALNUTS
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# The Eleven of Diamonds

By BAYNARD A. KENDRICK

**SYNOPSIS**

**Edward Fowler, a wealthy gambler, is murdered at the Sunset Bridge Club in Miami. His body, with a knife in the back, is found in the poker room. Fowler had played bridge that evening with Millie La France, a seductive blond; Sam Eckhardt and Dave Button, but quit the game when Millie accused him of throwing it. He paid the owner, Toby Munroe, for his and Millie's losses and ostensibly left only to be found dead in an adjoining room early the next morning. A mysterious prowler discovered the body, following which the police received an anonymous phone call informing them of the crime. Two weeks previous, Fowler had searched the hotel suite of the Durlyn Bessingers. Bessinger claimed to be a wealthy grain merchant but Fowler believed this only a blind as letters found in a trunk relating to his grain business were evidently written by Bessinger to himself. The Bessingers were at the club the night Fowler died. Bruce Farraday, the millionaire, enlists the services of private detective Miles Standish Rice to help clear up the murder because his son, Tolliver, is involved. The boy's torn check to Fowler for the sum of ten thousand dollars was found in the latter's room. Farraday, Sr., tells LeRoy and Stan that his party, consisting of his daughter Eve, Tolliver, and Mrs. Staunton (a friend) had left the club about 1 A.M. (two hours after Fowler left) and gone to the Alligator Inn with a Commander Eric Dawson, whom he had just met, and the Bessingers. Glen Neal, the society reporter, was also in the party. Later, Millie arrived at the Alligator Inn with Eckhardt and Button. Next morning, Stan and LeRoy search the club for clues. The door leading from the bridge room to the poker room where Fowler was killed is locked and the key missing. Toby finally admits that he locked it because Caprilli, the gangster, had engaged the poker room and wanted privacy. But none of the gang showed up. Stan can't understand why all but Fowler's chair was put away when a poker party was expected. Juan, the servant, claims he had set them up. Stan and the Captain are about to leave when the former asks the police officer to return to the poker room with him. "I saw something there that wasn't quite right. I can't remember what it was but I'll know if I see it again."**

CHAPTER XI

Stan was already out of the car. LeRoy grudgingly followed. Just inside the door of the poker room, Stan stopped. Slowly, he scanned every portion of the room, impatiently snapping his fingers as he did so. The Captain was about to remark ironically about Stan's speed, when Stan said, softly: "Look at the cards, Vince!"

"Be sensible, Stan. What have the cards to do with Fowler? They're still in the original packs. The revenue stamps haven't even been broken."

"I know that." Stan took the four packs from the chip rack and laid them face down, side by side, on the table. On the back of each pasteboard package was a sample card, showing the type contained in the box. The sample cards were slipped into a slit cut in the pasteboard, so that only half of them was visible.

The Captain gazed at them curiously, more interested than he cared to admit. "They look oke to me." He started to pick one up.

"Wait, Vince. I may be all wet. On the other hand you may want to get some finger prints. Don't you see what's wrong? There are three blues and a red. Bridge cards, and cards for poker are bought two packs at a time—a red backed pack, and a blue backed pack. In a big game—such as was planned last night—there should be two sets of cards, or two red packs and two blue packs." Stan pointed to the four packs on the table. The red pack, and two of the blue packs, bore the same design—a ballet dancer. The third blue pack—as indicated by the sample card—was entirely different, bearing criss-cross lines instead of the dancer.

Stan took a handkerchief from his pocket, and carefully pulled the blue criss-crossed card from the slot in the package. Underneath it was a red backed card, marked with the dancer like the other three packs. He turned the card he was holding face up on the table.

The Captain's face showed utter disbelief. "I've played some poker in my day, Stan Rice—but I say about that card what the kid said about the elephant: 'There ain't no such card!'"

"Oh yes there is, Vince! Believe it or not—that's an eleven of diamonds. I have a hunch somebody shoved the knife in Fowler just on account of that card!"

Detectives Patterson and Hogue were busy the morning after Fowler's death obtaining preliminary statements.

"Men have been killed for less than that showing up in a hand of poker!" said LeRoy.

* * *

Sunday is just another day to the police. Detectives Patterson and Hogue were busy the entire morning, after Edward Fowler's death, obtaining preliminary statements from those present at the club the night before. As soon as possible all available witnesses would be summoned to headquarters. There, testimony would be taken under oath for the Chief of Police, and other officers working on the case.

Miles Standish Rice paused long enough in his headlong rush for Indian Creek, and Sunday dinner, to stop at headquarters. Copies had been prepared for him of the reports made by Patterson and Hogue. He deferred reading them until after disposing of three slices of roast beef with trimmings, and two dishes of strawberries and cream. Stretched out in a swing on the porch, he digested the reports with his dinner.

They were simple and concise, but told him very little more than he already knew. The detectives had statements from ten of the fourteen people present at the club. Eve and Tolliver Farraday were in Fort Myers. Commander Dawson had gone deep-sea fishing for the day. Glen Neal was in Palm Beach covering a society *the dansant*.

The statement of Ben Eckhardt held more interest. Eckhardt admitted frankly that he derived a fairly steady income from poker, bridge, and games of chance where superior skill or knowledge played a part.

He had seen Edward Fowler around Miami for several weeks, but could not state accurately exactly how long. Fowler was seldom alone. His most regular companions were Bruce Farraday's son and daughter, a Mr. and Mrs. Bessinger, and a professional bridge player, named Dave Button. He had seen Fowler once at the dog races with Commander Dawson, and Glen Neal. Outside of the fact that Fowler had been introduced to the Sunset by Dave Button, and that Fowler owed Dave Button sixty thousand dollars, Ben Eckhardt could say no more.

Stan turned back to Dave Button's statement. Button admitted his friendship with Fowler—they both liked to gamble, so why not? He had met Fowler on the Four Leaf Clover, a gambling barge anchored discreetly out in Biscayne Bay. The rest of his story dovetailed with the others, but no mention was made of the indebtedness brought out by Eckhardt.

Either Button had withheld some information which was bound to throw suspicion on himself, or Eckhardt had repeated an idle story of big money, which might have become current around the gaming houses. Stan stretched delightfully, slid from the swing, and went inside to get LeRoy on the phone.

"What's the low-down on Millie LaFrenzy?" he asked when connected with the Captain. Then added: "I mean LaFrance before you ask me."

"Her statement's with those I gave you."

"I want her record. She just can't be the way she is without a record of some kind. Look it up, will you? I have a faint pain in the head that she was a gun-moll, or her mother was a bull-fighter."

"I'll call you back, Stan."

He returned to the porch to look over again the meagre returns on Edward Fowler. His room at the Amboy Hotel had revealed nothing. His wallet, found in his coat, was almost as barren. It contained four hundred odd dollars in cash, American Express Checks for thirty-six hundred more, and a New York driver's license. The license bore the address of a downtown New York hotel.

The lack of identification was striking. Too striking, Stan decided. Fowler was covering up. The average man, spending the winter in Miami, can easily be identified with his home. There are letters and bills coming to his hotel, or apartment. His wallet contains business cards, and membership cards. His clothes bear the label of his tailor, or home town store. Edward Fowler had a definite reason for keeping his past in obscurity. He had done such a thorough job the police were at a loss whom to notify about his death.

(To Be Continued)

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