

BUTTER MARKET STRONG; PRICES ARE UNCHANGED

Portland, Mar. 9.—An improvement today at other coast centers together with continued unfavorable weather here, has caused a strengthening of the feeling in the local butter market. No advance in price has been made but bids between dealers for good cubes are higher.

Attention is always focused on production at this time of the year. A week ago it appeared as if the local territory was due for some warmer weather, but instead the temperature has eased off and the increase in cream production has been disappointing.

Receipts of cream, while heavier, have not been sufficient to result in any great weakness.

Country dressed meats are firm with receipts light and demand brisk. Choice light hogs are quoted at 17 to 17 1/2 cents and choice light veal at 16 1/2 to 17 cents.

Egg values are steady and unchanged. Receipts were only moderate today.

Live poultry receipts were light today and the market is on a normal basis with little activity.

PORTLAND LIVESTOCK

Portland, Mar. 9.—Cattle higher: receipts 2680; steers good \$3.25-3.75; medium \$2.75-3.25; cows \$2.75-3.25; canners and cutter steers \$3.50-6.75; heifers, good (850 lbs. up) \$6.75-7.25; common and medium, all weights \$5.00-6.75; cows, good \$5.25-6.75; common and medium \$5.00-6.25; canners and cutters \$5.00-5.50; bulls, good (yearlings excluded), \$4.50-5.25; common to medium \$3.00-4.50; calves, medium to choice (150 lbs. down) \$3.50-4.00; cull and common (150 lbs. down) \$3.00-3.50; medium \$3.50-4.00; heavyweight (250 to 350 pounds) medium, good and choice \$12.75-14.25; medium weight (200 to 250 pounds) medium, good and choice \$12.25-14.25; light weight (150 to 200 pounds) medium, good and choice \$11.75-14.25; packing hogs, smooth \$12.00-12.75; packing hogs, rough \$11.50-12.00; slaughter pigs (150 lbs. down) medium, good and choice \$12.25-13.75; feeder and stocker pigs (70 to 150 lbs.) common, medium, good and choice \$11.00-12.00. (Soft or only hogs and rough pigs excluded in above quotation.)

Sheep steady: receipts 350; lambs, light and heavy weight, medium to choice \$14.00-16.00; heavyweight (150 pounds up) medium to prime \$12.00-14.00; all weights cull and common \$11.00-14.00; yearling wethers, medium to prime \$10.00-12.00; wethers (2 years old and over) medium to prime \$9.00-11.00; ewes, common to choice \$8.00-10.00; canner and cull \$5.00-8.00.

EGGS AND BUTTER

Portland, Mar. 9.—Eggs firm: current receipts 25; pullets 25 1/2; hens 25 1/2; firsts 25 1/2; second 25; delivered Portland, Mar. 9.—Butter steady: extra, cubes, city 45c; standard 44c; prime firsts 41 1/2c; firsts 39c; prints 47c; cutters 48c.

Butterfat steady, best churning cream 45 1/2c net shippers track in zone 1; 46c delivered Portland.

GRAIN MARKET

Portland, Mar. 9.—Wheat bids: hard white \$1.80; soft white \$1.80; western white \$1.80; western red \$1.78; E. H. H. hard white \$2.00. Today's car receipts: wheat 32, flour 6, oats 9, hay 7.

POULTRY

Portland, Or., Mar. 9.—Poultry nom.; steady; heavy hens 20 @ 21c; light 17 @ 18c; springs 22 @ 23c; old roosters 16c; ducks, white Pekin 25c; live turkeys 23c; dressed turkeys 33 @ 36c; geese 16c.

ONIONS AND POTATOES

Portland, Mar. 9.—Onions low: \$2.50-2.75 in country. Potatoes slow \$1.50-1.60.

NUTS, HOPS AND CASCARA

Portland, Mar. 9.—Nuts steady: walnuts 28 @ 33c; filberts 15 @ 18c.

Portland, Mar. 9.—Hops steady: new clusters 14 @ 17c; fuggles 15 @ 18c; old crop nominal.

Portland, Mar. 9.—Cascara bark quiet; new peel 5c per pound; Oregon grape root 4c.

Salem Markets

Compiled from reports of Salem dealers for the guidance of Capital Journal readers (Revised daily.)

Grain: No. 1 white wheat \$1.63; No. 1 red wheat \$1.54 (stacked).

Wholesale Prices

Meat: Top hogs 10 1/2c; tops 7 @ 9c; dressed hogs 16c; cow steers 6 @ 7c; cows 4 @ 5c; canner cows 1 1/2c up; pigs 3 1/2 @ 3c; spring lambs up to 20 lbs. 14c; veal 9c; dressed veal 15c.

Poultry: Springers 16c; light hens 15 @ 17c; heavy hens 20c; old roosters 16c; ducks 16 @ 18c; turkeys 32c dressed; alive 23 @ 25c; geese 18 @ 20c dressed; live 13 @ 14c; white Pekin ducks, alive 16 @ 18c; India Runner ducks alive 14 @ 16c.

Butterfat 44c; creamery butter 45 @ 46c; eggs 20c; standard 22c; select 24c; milk 22c cwt.

Vegetables: Potatoes \$1.75 @ 2.25 cwt.; head lettuce \$3.25 @ 3.00 crate; California cabbage 3 1/2 @ 5 1/2c; celery hearts 1 1/2 @ 2 1/2c doz.; crate 16.00 @ 3.50 cwt.; onions 25 @ 30c; No. 1; boilers \$1.50 per cwt.; sweet potatoes 10c; celery 8 @ 10c; spinach greens 9c pound; peppers 40c; green Hubbard squash \$3.50 per cwt.; rutabagas 3 1/2c; beets 3 1/2c; sacked cauliflower \$1.50 @ 1.75; sacked carrots 12.50; local turnips 3 1/2c; California bunch vegetables: carrots, beets and turnips 9c doz.; parsley 75c; radishes, green onions 6c; rutabagas fruit \$4.00 @ 4.75 crate; rhubarb 15c; tomatoes \$2.50 @ 3.00 lb.; Texas cabbage 5 1/2c lb.; sacked beets 4c; cucumbers 3 1/2 @ 3.25; asparagus 3 1/2c lb.; new telephone peas 20c; new mustard greens 7 1/2c.

Snow Falls in Bend

Bend, Or., Mar. 9.—A light snowfall was recorded in Bend during the night but clear skies during the early morning gave promise of good weather. The snow had nearly all melted by 9 o'clock.

Reports of Heavy Buying On Eastern Prune Market Regarded As Propaganda

Recent alleged telegraphic advice in the Portland Journal, printed early in the week, that a movement in buying movement in prunes had developed in the New York market, similar to previously printed dispatches at various occasions during the year, are taken here as nothing more or less than propaganda. Portland packers who have spent considerable portions of the year cutting prices, and is now trying to unload.

For instance, the New York Journal of Commerce of March 2, about the same time the Portland Journal was printing its dispatch relative to wild buying, contains no reference to it, but here are some of the pruned situation there, which bears out various stories printed here from reliable sources.

The Journal of Commerce says, relative to the dried fruit situation in New York at this time:

February was a disappointment to dried fruit operators as the fast pace set in January was not maintained but on the contrary a buying reaction occurred and emergency light f. o. b. sales of all commodities were made for prompt or later shipment. The situation in many respects was entirely different from what had been expected to develop as the result of favorable conditions at the source. There is no question but what the unloading tonnage of all dried fruits, particularly prunes, has been at its lightest in years for March 1. Neither can there be any disguising the phenomenal extent of the export movement in 1924 which in the case of prunes absorbed during last year an equivalent of all of last season's production. In other words, surplus stocks at the source have been cut to the point where it seems reasonable to believe that with only normal trading through domestic and export channels all stocks will clear before 1925 crop.

Some observers of the situation are of the opinion that there are many strong and favorable features in all phases of the dried fruit market. The only disappointing factor at the moment is the lack of sufficient stimulus among all distributors which would cause them to display more confidence in the market by holding their merchandise more in line with present replacement costs than on its original price basis. Lack of universal confidence and a broader turnover are the weak links in the chain at the moment.

Some 600,000 pounds too high. No definite and industry official correction has, however, yet been made, which we trust will be in due course presented.

The pruned situation is constantly occurring in the dried fruit industry of the Pacific Coast out of the unfortunate attitude of many factors which insist upon secrecy concerning the statistics of the industry. Only hard can come—and it comes in a variety of ways—out of this attitude. And it is to be regretted that sufficient leadership has not developed somewhere to put an end to it definitely and allow the trade, both buying and selling, to do business upon the facts of supply, movement and holdings throughout the season. This is done separately, and whenever they what all factors are attempting to do is to maintain the status quo, which is tremendously worse than if orderly marketing were invoked.

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