

PORTLAND MARKET.

A Resume of the Condition of Its Different Departments.

With the fruit dealers the amount of business done was much in excess of the first part of the week. The glutted condition of the market is for the present over with. Watermelons drag heavily. The quantity of peaches in the market is very small, and prices are correspondingly stiff. Grapes are in over supply, are hard to dispose of. Pears and plums are plentiful and meet with only fair sale. Vegetable market is well supplied with every variety, especially potatoes and cabbage, the latter being a drag in the market. The amount of oats on hand is larger than at any previous time, and a decline is anticipated. No change is noted in the market for dairy produce. Eggs are higher. Butter is a little easier, receipts of Oregon being on the increase. In other lines of wholesale trade there is no particular change as regards the amount of business done. Quotations on staple articles remain the same, and no change is likely to take place until the regular fall business commences.

WHEAT.

Trading is very quiet, and there is little change to be noted in the general condition of the local market. The export demand is good, but holders ask prices that are away above an export basis and business is consequently checked. Foreign markets are dull, but not quotably any lower.

Produce, Fruit, Etc.

WHEAT—Valley, \$1.50@1.52 1/2; Walla Walla, \$1.42 1/2@1.45 per cental. FLOUR—Standard, \$6.00; Walla Walla, \$4.00 per barrel. OATS—New, 38@40c per bushel. HAY—\$12@14 per ton. MILLET—Iran, \$22@25; shorts, 25@26; ground barley, 1.00@1.02; chop feed, 22@25 per ton; barley, \$1.20@1.25 per cental. BUTTER—Oregon fancy creamery, 30@32 1/2; fancy dairy, 27 1/2; fair to good, 25c; common, 15@20c; Eastern, 25@30c per pound. CHEESE—Oregon, 12@12 1/2; Eastern, 15c per pound. EGGS—Oregon, 25c per dozen. POULTRY—Old chickens, 45.00@5.50; young chickens, \$2.50@3.00; ducks, \$4.00@6.00; geese, nominal, \$7.00@8.00 per dozen; turkeys, 1.00 per dozen. VEGETABLES—Cabbage, 7@8@1.00 per cental; cauliflower, \$1.00@1.25 per dozen; onions, \$8.00@1.00 per cental; beets, \$1.25 per sack; turnips, \$1.00 per sack; new potatoes, 40@60c per cental; tomatoes, 4@5c per box; lettuce, 12@15c per dozen; green peas, 3@4c per pound; string beans, 2@3c per pound; rhubarb, 5c per pound; cucumbers, 10c per dozen; carrots, 7@8c per sack; corn, 7@8c per dozen; sweet potatoes, 2@2 1/2c per pound. FRUITS—Sicily lemons, \$7.00@8.00; California, \$5.00@6.00 per box; apples, 50@80c per box; bananas, \$3.00@4.00 a bunch; pineapples, \$5.00@7.00 per dozen; peaches, 60@70c per box; plums, 25@30c per box; watermelons, \$1.00@2.00 per dozen; cantaloupes, \$1.00@1.50 per dozen, \$2 per crate; grapes, Tokay, \$1.50 per box, \$1.00@1.10 per crate; muscat and black, 50@70c per crate; boxes 75c; pears, 75c; Bartlett, 70@90c per box; nectarines, 60@70c per crate; crab apples, 2c per pound; pumpkins, \$1.50 per dozen. NUTS—California walnuts, 11 1/2@12 1/2c; hickory, 8 1/2c; Brazil, 10@11c; almonds, 16@18c; filberts, 13@14c; pine nuts, 17@18c; pecans, 17@18c; coco nuts, 8c; hazel, 8c; peanuts, 8c per pound.

Staple Groceries.

COFFEE—Costa Rica, 21 1/2c; Rio, 22c; Mocha, 30c; Java, 25 1/2c; Arabica's, 100-pound cases, 24 1/2c per pound. SUGAR—Golden C, 4 1/2c; extra C, 4 3/4c; granulated, 5 1/2c; cube crushed and powdered, 6 1/2c; confectioner's A, 5 1/2c per pound. BEANS—Small white, 3 1/2c; pink, 3 1/2c; bayon, 4 1/2c; butter, 4 1/2c; lima, 4 1/2c per pound. HONEY—16@20c per pound. SALT—Liverpool, \$16.50@17; stock, \$11@12 per ton in carload lots. CANNED GOODS—Table fruits, \$1.65, 2 1/2c; peaches, \$2.00; Bartlett pears, \$1.80; plums, \$1.37 1/2; strawberries, \$2.25; cherries, \$2.50@2.60; blackberries, \$1.90; raspberries, \$2.40; pineapples, \$2.50@3; apricots, \$1.75. Vegetables: Corn, \$1.35@1.65, according to quality; tomatoes, \$1.10@1.25; sugar peas, \$1.25; string beans, \$1.10 per dozen. Pie fruit: Assorted, \$1.50; peaches, \$1.65; plums, \$1.25; blackberries, \$1.65 per dozen. Fish: Sardines, 85c@1.65; lobsters, \$2.30@3.50; oysters, \$1.50@2.25 per dozen. Salmon, standard No. 1, \$1.25@1.60 per case; No. 2, \$2.55. Condensed milk: Eagle brand, \$8.10; Crown, \$7; Highland, \$6.75; Champion, \$6; Monroe, \$6.75 per case. Meats: Corned beef, \$2.15@2.25; chipped beef, \$2.40; lunch tongue, \$3.30; \$4.00 2c; deviled ham, \$1.75@2.75 per dozen. SYRUP—Eastern, in barrels, 47@55c; half-barrels, 50@58c; in cases, 50c per gallon; \$2.25@2.50 per keg. California, in barrels, 30c per gallon; \$1.75 per keg. RICE—45 1/2c per cental. DRIED FRUITS—Italian prunes, 10@11c; Petite and German, 9@10c per pound; raisins, \$1.75@2.25 per box; plumper dried pears, 10@11c; sun-dried and factory pears, 11@12c; evaporated peaches, 18@20c; Snyden figs, 20c; California figs, 9c per pound. THE MEAT MARKET. BEEF—Live, 2 1/2@3c; dressed, 5@6c. MUTTON—Live, mixed, 3@3 1/2c; dressed, 7c. HOGS—Live, 6c; dressed, 6c. VEAL—5@7c per pound. SMOKED MEATS—Eastern ham, 13 1/2@13 3/4c; other varieties, 10@12c; breakfast bacon, 12 1/2@13c; smoked bacon, 10 1/2@11 1/2c per pound. LARD—Compound, 10@12c; pure, 12 1/2@13 1/2c; Oregon, 10 1/2@12 1/2c per pound.

AGRICULTURAL.

Fall Pruning Will Save Much Labor.

HINTS FOR THE HOUSEHOLD.

Productiveness and Value of an Orchard Depend on Pruning While Young.

It will save much labor if the effect of fall pruning is thoroughly understood. Wherever a dormant limb is cut off, the bud just below the cut will next season push with greater vigor and become the main shoot if the highest left on the tree. The more vigorously a young tree is pruned in fall or winter the stronger growth of wood it will make next year, and the concentration of sap in a few large shoots will prevent fruiting. The only pruning that can promote fruitfulness is that done while the tree is in leaf, and this result is effected by checking the vigor of its growth.

It is a good plan to use the summer-made manure as a top dressing for the poor places in wheat fields. A very little fertilizer goes a great way in such cases. In our experience, when the ground is dry, little damage is done to wheat by driving over it with loaded manure wagons having broad tires that do not cut in deeply. If only ordinary wheels are used, defer drawing until the surface is frozen so it will bear a load, or wait still later and draw on the snow with a sled. In this case some marks should be put up beforehand to show where the manure had better be spread.

It is not often that a careful farmer will allow sows to breed so as to drop their pigs late in the fall. It costs more to winter such pigs than they are worth, as it is almost impossible, however well fed and housed, to keep them from being stunted. But the pigs need not be wholly lost. Probably the best use of them is to fatten rapidly and sell for roasters about holiday time. Roast pig is better liked by many than roast turkey, and if it were offered generally in fall and early winter, it is probably the best use to which pigs dropped at this untimely season can be put.

The future shape, productiveness and value of an orchard depend mainly on the way it is pruned while young. It requires knowledge of the habit of growth of different varieties to know how to prune them to advantage. A little pruning while the tree is small sets it to growing in the right shape, and avoids the need of sawing off large limbs later, which can never be done without inflicting wounds likely to destroy the vitality of the tree. It is in pruning, more even than in anything else, that a little done at the right time saves the necessity for doing much more afterwards.

Although hops can be grown from seed, this is not the usual way of propagating them. The best time to plant hops is in the spring, as early as the ground can be worked. The rows are made about eight feet apart and the sets planted in these at about the same distance. Each set has two eyes, is planted about an inch deep and pressed firmly down. The first year a hill of corn may be planted each way between the hops, but the second year the entire ground is to be kept well cultivated. Where the hop-plant has not made its appearance the crop is generally a very profitable one.

Many farmers who have practiced the plan recommend cutting corn fodder and piling it in small cocks to cure. In a large stack the heating of so much wet material would certainly prove injurious, but in small-sized cocks the fermentation is just enough to furnish heat to dry them out. It also softens the stalks, which are eaten with less waste than those set up in stacks and dried by exposure to the air. Rain does not penetrate these cocks to any great extent. Farmers have often noted that the dampened stalks kept in mows, even when slightly moldy, were eaten cleaner than those thoroughly dried.

Roots of all kinds are better kept in pits than in cellars, where they are exposed to currents of air. Some earth should be mixed with them to fill up the spaces, and thus prevent the evaporation that usually makes them dry and tasteless before spring. Beets and potatoes are more easily injured by freezing than other roots and require a double or triple covering to exclude cold. Turnips, rutabagas, carrots and parsnips will all bear a temperature nearly or quite down to the freezing point, provided they are in contact with the soil. Parsnips with a slight covering of the part of the roots above the surface may be left in the ground until spring without injury, and even with benefit. The freezing makes them better flavored than they will be if dug in the fall.

Several trials in recent years have shown that the pine leaves—or needles, as they are called—from our common pine forests are valuable, or can be made so, as a fertilizer for potatoes on sandy soil. If the prejudice against sawdust from resinous woods in general can be removed and vegetable matters gathered and applied to the soil with less regard to its origin and more for its effects, it is quite likely that many farmers would find in the pine forests and groves a valuable addition to their scant supply of bedding and at the same time furnish the much-needed vegetable matter. One man raked up the pine leaves with what decayed vegetable matter there was under them and mixed the mass with lime and let it be in a pile a few weeks and then used it for potatoes with good results.

A MYSTERY.

How the human system ever recovers from the bad effects of the noxious medicines often liberally poured into it for the supposed relief of dyspepsia, liver complaint, constipation, rheumatism and other ailments is a mystery. The mischief done by bad medicines is scarcely less than that caused by disease. If they who are weak, bilious, dyspeptic, constipated or rheumatic would often be guided by the experience of invalids who have thoroughly tested Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, they would in every instance obtain the speediest and derivable from natural medication. This medicine is a searching and at the same time a thoroughly safe remedy, derived from vegetable sources and possessing, in consequence of its basis of pure spirits, properties as a medicinal stimulant not to be found in the fiery local bitters and stimulants often resorted to by the debilitated, dyspeptic and languid.

She Knew Him.—"Which tree is the most profitable?" asked Framboley of Miss Souds. "I think it must be the chestnut," replied she.

HEGDED ABOUT BY A PROSCRIPTIVE TABOO.

I am not aiming to convince mental babies, as indeed that would be fruitless without the necessary cultured intellect that makes logic applicable. Force, brilliancy and originality even are no weapons to attack a slave with. For many centuries the medical art was hedged about by a proscriptive taboo which it, as yet, has not survived. The brand for murdering truth is the penalty of infidelity stamped upon the mental caliber of the average individual—in relation to medicine and medicine men. The sun of the nineteenth century has not yet dawned upon his intellectual horizon. He, together with his ideal medicine man, still lingers in the good old days of the dark ages, when it was bad form to be inquisitive. He still "believes" in bleeding, blistering, vomiting, purging and sweating. He loves copious doses of horse medicine. He delights in scorbuts and calomel and carbolic acid. They are considered indispensable; no well-regulated family, with pigny intelligents and abdominal development, considers itself safe without those family laws. These I do not wish to convert; they are the Rip Van Winkles that will continue to slumber through this and probably through the next century. They play no role in the world's history. They live, they die. No monument marks their forgotten sepulcher. Humanity was not enriched by their entrance; it has lost nothing by their exit. They are drifted on the shores of time, and float with the ebb and tide of opinions they have inherited from their anthropomorphic ancestry. No, it is not to these I wish to address myself, but to the thinking ones, whom a thought does not throw into an unshapely parody; who love knowledge for its own sake; who are willing to investigate the truth or falsity of any proposition; and whose convictions will stand by it through all the vicissitudes of a chattering and delayed civilization. To doubt—not the characters, but the thinkers—I commend the Heterogeneous System for investigation, and will elucidate with pleasure any question not sufficiently clear in book, which will be sent free to any address.

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