

LATEST FARM MARKET NEWS

Latest Reports From the Middlewest and Pacific Coast

PORTLAND, Jan. 28. (AP)— Egg prices have taken the plunge which has threatened for several days. Fresh extras and standards were reduced to each and fresh mediums and medium firsts 2c each. With the weather warmer, supplies were more liberal.

Butter and butterfat prices were unchanged.

Following the declining wheat market, the Sperry Flour company has reduced the price of family flours 20c a barrel.

Reviewing the fruit and vegetable situation, the Portland bureau of the United States department of agriculture says:

"With warmer weather, and improved highway conditions, cash buyers of fresh fruits and vegetables were displaying greater activity on the East Alder street wholesale market, than has been seen since the first of this month.

"Surplus stocks of southern produce, accumulated during last week, were rapidly moving into retailers' hands; consequently the market on most commodities remained about steady. California cauliflower and spinach were quoted slightly lower by some jobbers, on account of liberal supplies. Cauliflower shipments from California during the last two weeks have been very heavy—75-90 cars daily.

"Unclassified and cooking apples are becoming depleted, prices on this stock have been advanced slightly, and more active movement of smaller sizes of graded apples has resulted. Small to medium fancy and combination Spitzenbergs, for instance, which met with very slow demand earlier in the winter, are now cleaning up readily.

"Notwithstanding rather heavy potato shipments last Saturday, Portland track supplies continue very light, and the market is steady to firm."

Quotations.

CANE SUGAR (sacked basis): Steady. Cane, fruit or berry, \$5.45 per cwt. Beet sugar, \$5.30 cwt.

FLOUR (city delivery prices): 20 cents lower; family patents, 49c, \$7.50; whole wheat, 49c, \$6.90; Graham, 49c, \$6.70; bakers, hard wheat, 39c, \$7.30; bakers' Bluestem patents, 35c, \$7.30; pastry flour, 49c, \$7.50.

EGGS: Lower. Prices to retailers: Fresh extras, 36c; standards, 35c; fresh mediums, 34c; medium firsts, 32c. Prices to wholesalers 2c under price to retailers.

Butter, milk (butterfat), poultry, country meats, onions, potatoes, wool, nuts, hay, cascara bark and hops, steady and unchanged.

CATTLE AND CALVES: Steady with steers weak. Receipts, cattle 75, calves 15.

HOGS: Opening slow, 13c lower; feeder pigs, 25c under last week's close; receipts 700, including 169 direct. Heavy wt., \$9.00@10.50; medium weight, \$9.75@10.85; light weight, \$10.75@10.85; light lights, \$9.75@10.85; packing sows, \$8.00@9.00; slaughter pigs, \$9.50@10.50; feeder and stocker pigs, 90-130 lbs., medium to choice, \$9.50@10.50; (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded in above quotations).

SHEEP AND LAMBS: Talking around steady. Receipts 800.

KANSAS CITY

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Jan. 27. (UP)—Cattle prices were weak to 25c lower today, with receipts far above average. Most steers sold around \$9-13; yearlings from \$11-13.25; and best veals around \$11.50-14.

Hog prices generally were 10c to 15c under Saturday's average because of curtailment in shipping demand. Most sales were around \$8.75. Top fat hogs brought \$9.90.

Sheep prices in general were steady, although receipts were excessive and demand slow. Best fed lambs sold around \$12-12.50; natives ranged from \$11-12; and fat yearlings from \$9-10.50.

LOS ANGELES

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 27. (UP)—Cattle receipts today were 2000 in a mostly steady market.

Hog receipts were 2000. The market was steady to 25 cents lower.

Sheep receipts were 800. The market was quotably steady.

Cattle: 2000; good 1100 to 1300 pound steers, \$11.50 to \$12.50.

Hogs: 2000; medium weight hogs, medium to choice, \$9.75 to \$10.65.

Sheep: 800; lambs 84 pounds down, good and choice, \$11.75 to \$12.75.

Another drop in the general level of farm prices is shown in the index released by the U. S. Department of Agriculture for the period from November 15 to December 15, 1929. It dropped one point from the previous index to 135 per cent of the pre-war level. At this figure, however, it is one point higher than the 1928 figure for the same period.

A hog-feeding plan, to be introduced into 32 counties of the state by the University of Illinois this year, will save farmers \$10,000,000 a year, it is said.

HOW TO RAISE POULTRY

By Dr. L. D. LeGear, V. S., St. Louis, Mo.

Dr. LeGear is a graduate of the Ontario Veterinary College, 1892. Thirty-six years of veterinary practice on diseases of live stock and poultry. Eminent authority on poultry and stock raising. Nationally known poultry breeder. Noted author and lecturer.

ARTICLE XIX

When Nature 'Mothers' the Eggs—

Don't Leave the Whole Job to Your Hens If You Use Nature's Method of Hatching—Careful Following Out of Simple Rules Insures a Maximum Degree of Success.

Editor's Note: This is another story in a series of 52 stories on poultry raising, written by the well known national poultry authority, Dr. L. D. LeGear, V. S., of St. Louis. The entire series will appear in this paper. Our readers are urged to read them carefully and clip them out for future reference.

The question which is best, hen or incubator, has been discussed pro and con almost as much as that prime favorite of old time high school debating societies: "Which came first, the chicken or the egg?" The real solution of the problem depends largely of circumstances. For a number of reasons, the commercial poultry raiser is forced to use the incubator. For the owner of the average back yard or farm flock, however, it often happens that hens will serve the purpose just as well and for a much smaller outlay. Unlike the commercial breeder, he can usually afford to wait until his hens are broody and the problem of securing enough broody hens for his entire hatch is not very often encountered.

As far as results are concerned, one method is as good as the other if proper methods are employed.

First of all, considerable care should be exercised in the selection of hens used for hatching eggs. The following points are very important. The hen should have a well developed broodiness; should be even tempered, free from nervousness and not too offensive when approached while setting. A yearling or two-year old is more dependable than a pullet; never use pullets if you can avoid it. Use only hens that are large enough to thoroughly cover the desired number of eggs with a little to spare. Use only healthy, vigorous hens, in good flesh and having bright eyes and red combs.

Eggs should not be put under any hen until she has shown well developed signs of broodiness. It is a good plan to put several china eggs under her ladyship at first and confine her to the nest for a day or two. If at the end of the second day she still shows unmistakable signs of broodiness, remove the china eggs and give her the eggs to be hatched. Let her feel the eggs under her before releasing her. Then confine her to the nest a day or two so that there will be no danger of her deserting her trust.

A sitting hen should be given a place to herself where she cannot be disturbed by other hens trying to crowd into the nest with them. When it is necessary to set hens indoors, each one should have an individual run fenced off with chicken wire. If that is not practical, hens must be confined to their nests and only released at regular intervals so they can eat and exercise. Unless this plan is followed, you will often find two or more hens crowded onto one nest with eggs growing cold in the other nests.

If sitting coops are placed on high ground with sufficient drainage all around, nests may be placed directly on the ground. Scoop out a depression so the nest can be properly shaped to keep the eggs from rolling out. If conditions make it necessary to have a floor in the coop sod or loose dirt can be used to support the outer edges of the nest. Better still, make the nest in a box about six inches deep and 15 inches square for ordinary breeds. For Asiatics, nest boxes should be from 18 to 20 inches square. Pack sod or earth in the corners around them out. Then arrange your nesting material inside the depression so formed. The use of sod or earth is advisable because it helps to conserve the moisture so necessary during incubation.

To my mind, the ideal nesting material is clean fine straw or hay. It is difficult to shape a nest with long coarse straw. Leaves are sometimes used for nests and are quite satisfactory.

Having provided the hen with adequate nesting facilities, the next consideration is to provide proper food and exercise. The hen should be permitted to leave the nest occasionally to eat and exercise, but must not be allowed to stay off the eggs until they get chilled. Feed her equal parts of wheat and corn on the ground in a pan near the nest, but feed a mash. Provide plenty of pure fresh water, grit and charcoal. The sitting hen will usually leave the nest once a day for feed and water. If she does not, take her off and close the nest so she can't get back too soon. If she stays away too long, take her gently away from the food and put her back on the nest. If the weather is rather cool, she should not leave the eggs for more than 10 or 20 minutes. In mild weather she may stay away somewhat longer.

Visit your hens regularly while they are sitting and watch them closely. If a hen is a good sitter she will stick right on the job and give you very little trouble, but some hens are restless, mash the eggs by moving about or mash

newly hatched chicks. Chicks should be taken from such hens as fast as they are hatched and put in an incubator or under some other hen. Always remove empty shells. Otherwise they may smother other eggs and smother the chicks struggling to get out of their shells. Also whenever an egg is broken during the earlier stages of hatching, remove it. If its contents are smeared over other eggs, wipe them clean with a wet cloth and return them to the nest at once. Use only lukewarm water for this purpose. Make necessary examination of the nests while your hens are eating to avoid disturbing them.

Needless to say, thorough examination of nests and coops is necessary. The coop or building in which hatching is done should be thoroughly disinfected at least once a week. The nest should not only be kept clean as suggested above, but the hen should be thoroughly dusted with lice powder before hatching is started and again on the 17th day. (Copyright, 1929, by Dr. L. D. LeGear, V. S.)

COMMUNITY LANDSCAPE DEVELOPMENT

By D. VICTOR LUMSDEN

Bureau of Plant Industry, U. S. Department of Agriculture

Each year the American Society of Landscape Architects meets in Washington, D. C., and discusses problems having to do with the beautification of land areas throughout the United States. Private properties, municipal, state, and national parks, city plans, playground areas and other projects are discussed, with the result that a national policy constantly exists and the work of landscape beautification progresses with the other arts and industries.

It is not possible, however, for one group of professional men alone to bear such an enormous burden for a country the size of ours. We must, therefore, look to other means for carrying out the details of a program as large as that of national beautification.

Throughout the United States at the present time there is a development which is contributing a commendable part of the landscape improvement of the nation. This is the garden club movement, which has advanced in such a phenomenal way in the last decade. Few, indeed, are the cities and towns which do not boast of some active civic organization for fostering and discussing plans for landscape beautification. While some of these clubs function solely to promote home gardening, many make themselves heard in civic matters pertaining to landscape development.

The incentive for beautifying home grounds can be increased when the owners can assemble to discuss matters of common interest, resulting in an improved appearance of the community. Modern transportation enables large masses of people to judge the beauties of a number of towns and cities in a single day.

If your community does not compare favorably with others nearby in both private and public grounds it will suffer.

Through many agencies the United States is improving its landscape beauty where changes have had to be made from the original natural setting. To care for our modern needs we must have densely populated cities, super-highways and provision for air travel. As these develop, we must also follow space with suitable plans to protect native landscapes and furnish beautiful settings where they do not exist.

LUMBER NOT ANY BETTER

Cold Weather Lowers Production; Market May Improve

By C. C. CROW

Editor Crow's Pacific Coast Lumber Digest

(Reprinted from The Oregonian)

There has been no outstanding development in the lumber market during the past week unless it is the noticeable improvement in the frame of mind of the manufacturers, who have become reconciled to the enforced shutdowns and are now beginning to see the benefits that will be derived from this sharp falling off in production.

It is estimated conservatively that there has been more than 400,000,000 feet taken out of the normal cut during the past four weeks, and even under the most favorable circumstances it is probable that before the weather moderates and the ice and snow disappear the total curtailment will amount to 500,000,000 feet, which establishes a new record.

There are scarcely any logging camps throughout the fir belts that are making any attempt to operate, and it will be impossible to get into the woods except in rare instances before the 15th of February, and should the low temperatures hold on, many loggers predict that there will be only a minimum amount of logging done between now and the first of March.

Log Prices to Advance

Already the prospects of a log shortage have begun to have an effect on the lumber market. On Puget sound it is rumored that the loggers plan to advance the price on No. 1 fir logs \$2 per thousand and other grades \$1 per thousand on the first of next month.

With the uncertainty of future sawing programs the manufacturers are becoming cautious about booking business, and the buyers are finding their limited placements hard to get on the mill order files, with the result that there has during the last few days been a general stiffening in prices.

Estimates of building programs for 1930 indicate that there will be 20 per cent more money put into residential structures than there was in 1929. As present prospects point to an extensive program for remodeling and erection of two-story family houses, this will mean more to the lumber industry than it will to manufacturers of other building materials. Lumbermen are also much encouraged over the announcement of the railroads which were made at Hoover's conference, wherein they stated that their expenditures for improvements would be \$272,000,000.

600 more than for the same period in 1929.

Mill Men More Confident

In the final analysis the underlying influences that shape conditions for the lumber market are becoming active, with the supply greatly reduced and the potential demand nearing the point where it will become a reality, and lumber manufacturers of the north-

west are steadily gaining more confidence in the outlook for the year. It is felt that business will be getting under way within the next 30 days, for it is generally known that the retailers, factories and industrial users of lumber have extremely low stocks and they will have to make placements

during the next four weeks to take care of their early spring requirements.

In the meantime, as soon as the weather improves so that the mills can get under way again it will require from three to four weeks for the average mill to clean up the business already on its books practically all of which is past

due on delivery, and under such favorable conditions the lumber industry appears to be on the eve of an improvement which should gain momentum as the season advances and see an extremely prosperous condition the latter half of the year.

For results see Herald-Examiner



RUDY VALLEE

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"Coming events cast their shadows before"

"It's toasted"

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