

GENERAL BUSINESS IS GOOD

LOCAL MARKETS SHOW MUCH STRENGTHENING DEMAND IN ALL DEPARTMENTS.

A big general falling off of business was anticipated after the holidays had passed, but it looks as though the Missoula business man was never to get a rest...

I have made casual inquiry among the merchants carrying lines other than those handled by myself and I find that every house in town has had as prosperous a season as I have enjoyed.

The business man referred to was only one of number questioned on the same subject, all of whom gave practically the same reply. The butcher, the baker and the candle-stick maker all got their share of the holiday business and act as though they were disappointed in the non-arrival of a post-holiday slump of trade all along the line.

The usual of our trade this season lies in the fact that the transactions were made chiefly for cash, a gratifying condition surely.

Notwithstanding the excellent business reported during the past two weeks, the local trade emporiums were plentifully stocked with staple and fancy goods well displayed on counter, in case and in show window.

There have been very few price changes noted in either the retail or wholesale departments in the past seven days except on a minor scale. Eggs were subject to a slight decline, being quoted about 5 cents per dozen lower.

Wholesale Markets. No price change is noted among the commission and jobbers' quotations prevailing for staple products.

Outs and wheat, \$1.25 per hundred weight. Baled hay, \$10 per ton at shipping stations on the Bitter Root; loose hay on street, \$14.

Potatoes and other staple vegetables are firm and moving freely at standard prices.

No change is noted in butcher stuff prices, which are as follows: Good steers range from \$3.75 to \$4.25 on foot, with no exceptional demand.

With a fair demand, hogs are bringing from \$5.50 to \$6 per hundred weight, live weight.

Past ewes are in fair demand at \$3.50 to \$4, while good wethers are bringing from \$3.75 to \$4.50.

Veal calves are in fair call at \$5 to \$6, live weight.

Retail Markets. The retail fruiterers are showing a varied line of staple goods, but are placing many new and fancy fruits.

Oranges, grape fruit, tangerines, bananas, dates and figs form the principal stock in trade in these arcades. The following prices to retail:

Oranges, 25c to 25c per dozen; lemons, 25c to 25c; grape fruit, \$1.50 per dozen for Florida, California, 75c per dozen; tangerines, 50c; grapes, 30c per box, 25c per pound; pines, 40c to 50c each; choice bananas, 40c; dates, fancy, 15c per pound; figs, 15c to 25c per pound; cranberries, 20c per quart; Apples—Fancy Snow, 60c per box; Maiden Blush, 75c per box; Northern Spy and Gravenstein, \$1.50 per box; McIntosh, \$1.75 per box.

Groceries. With the exception of a newly received consignment of pure maple sugar, the grocers displayed little other than standard goods.

Vegetables. In this department the household produce lingers in the market in small quantities. Lettuce, cucumbers, young onions, radishes, string beans, parsley and find fair demand.

The following prices govern the vegetable market: Spuds, 1 1/2c per pound; dry onions, 2c per pound; sweet potatoes, 5c per pound; carrots, 2c per pound; cauliflower, 15c each; cabbage, 4c per pound; brussels sprouts, 30c per quart; white turnips, 2c per pound; rutabagas, 3c per pound; beets, 2c per pound; parsnips, 3c per pound; green peppers, 5c per dozen; hothouse lettuce, 40c per pound; hothouse tomatoes (California product) 20c per pound; cucumbers, 25c each; young onions, 3 bunches for 25c; string beans, 25c per pound; radishes, 3 bunches for 25c; young carrots, 2 bunches for 25c; young beets, 2 bunches for 25c; parsley, 10c per bunch; egg plant, 30c per pound.

Dairy Products. Strictly fresh eggs, 50c per dozen; butter, best cream, 40c; or 2 pounds for 75c; dairy products are selling at about 5c lower per pound; American cheese, 25c per pound; brick, 25c per pound; American Swiss, 30c per pound; McLaren's, 20c and 35c per jar; Canada cream, 15c roll; Edelweiss Jammer, 60c per can; pati de fol gras, 60c per pound.

Retail Meat Prices. Dressed poultry—Chickens, ducks, geese, 20c per pound; turkeys, 20c to 25c per pound.

Beef cuts, 8c to 10c; pork, 10c to 12c; mutton, 10c to 12c; veal, 8c to 10c; Bologna, 15c each.

glean hares, 20c per pound; jack rabbits, 75c each.

Retail Fish Prices. Salmon, 15c; halibut, 15c; rock cod, 15c; silver smelts, 15c; herring, 12 1/2c; fresh cod, 15c; perch, 15c; salmon trout, 22c.

Oysters, crabs and lobsters—New York counts, 60c per quart; standards, 60c per quart; Olympia, 50c per quart; shell oysters, 20c per dozen. Dungeness crabs, 35c each; medium crabs, 25c each.

Among Fuel Dealers. The several grades of bituminous and lignite coal which reach Missoula are finding plenty of demand at regulation prices.

The favored Rock Springs and Owl Creek are in greatest demand. The following prices rule: Rock Springs, per ton, \$8.50; Owl Creek, \$8.50; Bear Creek lump, \$7.75; Bear Creek nut, \$7.75; Sheridan lump, \$7.75; Sheridan, egg, \$7.50.

Wood Fuel. Dry cottonwood, per cord, \$5; fir, pine and tamarack, \$6.50; green slab wood, 16-inch length, is selling rapidly at \$2.50 per load delivered.

SHIPS ARRIVE AT SUEZ CANAL

(Continued From Page One.)

The object of curious study by European admiralties. A member on the staff of the intelligence office of the British admiralty called attention some weeks ago when war in the Balkans was discussed, that the United States would have a force in the eastern Mediterranean in January, holding the balance of power in the event of naval Europe being divided.

Passage is Safe. The passage of the canal is regarded as safe even for 15,000-ton vessels such as the Connecticut class, which will be the heaviest fighting ship that ever has gone through.

Follows Old Canal. The canal is 87 miles long, 66 miles through dry land and 21 through the Menzaleh, Ballah, Timnah and Bitter Lakes. There are some doubtful places where the wash in sandy cuttings tend to fill in the channel, but for the greater part the soils are tenacious and the channel dependable.

The views which the officers and men of the American fleet will have in passing through the canal in part will be splendid and in part dull, but always with vast historical background.

Washington Hears. The arrival of the American fleet at the entrance of the Suez canal was announced in a cablegram received by the navy department today.

No Change Ordered. No change in the itinerary has been ordered and unless it is decided to make such a change in accordance with the offer of their services to Italy before the fleet leaves Suez, the battleships will proceed according to the plans long ago agreed upon.

Chicago Ticket. It is possible that the Chicago ticket scalping charges may be reopened. The application of Manager Joe Kelly for the enforcement of his contract with the Boston National league team, will probably be presented and numerous applications for reinstatement by players will occupy the attention of the commission.

Looks Good. Denver, Jan. 3.—Apparently James J. Corbett is sincere in his announced desire to re-enter the prize ring and endeavor to bring back to a white man the world's heavyweight championship won by Jack Johnson, the colored fighter from Galveston.

Both Parties Caucus at Helena. Mrs. Grace Catlin of Custer; general clerks, C. A. Metcalf, Granite, Miss O'Connell, Park.

Represents the House. The republicans of the house also held a caucus tonight and selected the list which will be presented tomorrow morning.

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In the Realm of Sports

"I'LL FIGHT HIM," BASEBALL OFFICIALS SAYS CORBETT WILL MEET

"GENTLEMAN JIM" INSISTS THAT HE WILL MEET CHAMPION JOHNSON.

COMMISSION WILL SETTLE SOME WEIGHTY PROBLEMS—CONTRACT TO BE DISCUSSED.

Cincinnati, Jan. 3.—Many important matters are to come before the annual meeting of the national baseball commission, which opens in this city tomorrow.

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There is a feeling of relief in Italy that their majesties are coming home. The American ambassador, Lloyd C. Griscom, has appointed a committee of Americans to which will be entrusted the work of utilizing the money received from the United States to the best advantage for the earthquake sufferers.

Both at Messina and Reggio the guards are having difficulty in protecting the survivors and the vast treasure in the ruined buildings from the hands of thieves that are swarming everywhere. It is reported that six Russian sailors have been shot by looters at Messina and that 16 criminals have been killed at the same place within the last 24 hours.

Six hundred persons engaged in pillaging have been arrested. In an engagement at Reggio between the police and bandits two of the police were killed.

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Military zones have been established throughout Calabria. Rapine and Murder. The minister of justice who is now in Messina, has sent the following dispatch to Premier Giolitti: "The service continues against the pillagers who Saturday night came in conflict at Reggio with the police forces, resulting in the death of one Bersagliere and one customs guard."

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GARDEN CITY GIVES TO VICTIMS

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Always in the Lead

The House That Makes Good The Ever Popular

Bijou Theater

An especially attractive offering for Monday and Tuesday, introducing films shown for the first time in the west. As a headliner.

Leah, the Forsaken

This beautiful story is delightfully told in films Leah, a Jewess, with several of her people, is observed in conversation at a number of Christian churches, the worshippers are observed and drive them away. At the parish church, the worshippers are observed leaving, among them Magistrate Lorenz, Father Hermann and Madalena, a charming young girl whom Lorenz has chosen as the wife of his son Rudolph.

They proceed to the home of Lorenz, where Rudolph is observed seated on a bench meditating. The young man is upbraided by the father for his failure to attend religious services and while in conversation Leah appears, closely followed by the angry mob. The crowd makes a rush toward her, the priest raises the cross before them and they cower in fear.

Beneath a large cross in the forest, Leah is waiting expectantly. Rudolph appears and the lovers, for such they are, rush into each other's arms. The young man asks Leah to marry him and leave home. She promises and after vowing eternal fidelity the lovers part, agreeing to meet the following day at the same place and from there leave for other parts. Nathan, an apostate Jew, has stolen up behind the pair during their conversation, hears all and gleefully departs unnoticed. He proceeds directly to the home of the magistrate and tells of Rudolph's love for the Jewess. Lorenz is furious, will not believe the tale and bids Nathan begone. At this time Rudolph appears and being asked for the truth, haughtily admits his love for Leah. The old magistrate is heartbroken and the villagers leave the church, she falls in a faint.

Again at the cross in the forest, Rudolph is seen as Leah appears before him. She upbraids him for his faithlessness, while he shows her the empty purse and accuses her. She at last comprehends the situation and indignantly denies having taken the money. Rudolph also sees the mistake, falls to his knees and asks for pardon. Leah haughtily draws away, tells of her suffering and bitterly cursing him, departs.

Five years elapse and outside Rudolph's home he and Madalena and their little child are seated. Leah comes upon the little girl, kisses the child lovingly. The villagers come upon the pair and jeer the Jewess. The noise brings Rudolph and Madalena from the house and Leah points to Nathan, the leader of the mob, denounces him as an apostate Jew, a thief and the instigator of her unhappiness. Rudolph shows the empty purse justifying the charge. Nathan is taken in hand by the officers and dragged away. Leah staggers weakly, then falls dead at Rudolph's feet. "True till death."