

PROVISIONS CHEAPER.

Bank Runs and Tight Money Increase Competition.

New York's holiday dinners—Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's—will cost more this year than in the old days. And the average citizen will not be startled by this news. Indeed, it has become a regular thing, the expectation of increased expenditure. But, strange as it may seem at first glance, the increase is lessened because of the financial stringency and the troubles of the big banking houses.

Yes, in the piece of resistance of the holiday dinners, such as chickens, turkeys, ducks and geese, the price will be much less than it would have been had the banks and the general Paquotian stream of finance been running smoothly. So the aerial rates of the feast will be elevated more materially only by the price of vegetables, fruits and incidentals. The reason for this condition is that the speculation in poultry will be curtailed. The dealers, who were accustomed in other years to buying at this season by using their credit, will now be cut off because the banks from which they formerly obtained credit cannot at present accommodate them.

As for other articles that have to do with good living, the market shows an upward trend, but which in most cases is not likely to increase because the demand is not so high for the best grades that it drops this week of three cents a pound still left it two cents more a pound than it was last year. Eggs, too, have gone up, but a drop is expected after the holidays, so that persons who are now lamenting the high prices of retailers will be able in January and February to get their henry products at possibly a lower figure than they are paying now for the same goods. Staple vegetables and "keeping" fruits are about the same as they were last year, although Northern pears and all imported and California fruits have increased.

Henry Dowle, president of the Poultry Dealers' Association, who has been engaged in the business for more than thirty years, said in discussing the situation yesterday: "It is pretty safe to assume that a man who buys this year the same sort of dinner that he bought last year will be obliged to pay more for it. But that is only in accordance with the general increase in the cost of everything. Speaking of poultry, however, I feel safe in saying that prices throughout the market will be less than they were last year, with the exception of broiling spring turkeys. These are called for only by the most expensive hotel and club trade.

Understand this it is necessary to understand something of the poultry trade. First of all, it is not a business that can be considered as controlled. Every time there is an increase in the prices of chickens and other poultry that there is a poultry trade. It is not the case. The raising of poultry is scattered over a wide area. In fact, New York receives poultry from nearly every state east of the Rockies. Through California, the public that consumes the poultry is scattered over a wide area. Hence most of our poultry comes, there are buyers, and go out among the farmers and either purchase outright or contract for the chickens, turkeys and ducks for the coming year. This year the buying doubles and trebles. This year the price of the poultry is scattered over a wide area. In fact, New York receives poultry from nearly every state east of the Rockies. Through California, the public that consumes the poultry is scattered over a wide area. Hence most of our poultry comes, there are buyers, and go out among the farmers and either purchase outright or contract for the chickens, turkeys and ducks for the coming year. This year the buying doubles and trebles. This year the price of the poultry is scattered over a wide area.

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WAGON TRUCKS FOR BARRIS.

Would Solve National Guard Problem, Correspondent Thinks.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: The national guard, through many of its officers who are testifying before the Wainwright commission, is making a plea that the enlisted men be paid for their attendance at drills. This suggestion offers one of the most direct and obvious solutions to the many problems of national guard management that have been accumulating since the Spanish-American War, since when many radical changes have been made in the military system that have materially altered the status of the citizen soldier. To the average taxpayer the suggestion appears to entail only an additional and heretofore unnecessary expense. In support of this position figures are produced to show that the national guard is already a heavy burden upon the finances of both the city and of the state.

In a résumé of the annual cost of the New York National Guard your correspondent in Sunday's Tribune states that last year the city spent \$2,500,000 for salaries of armorer, caretaker and cleaners in the armories, and \$138,750 for light, fuel, supplies and repairs. Assuming that there are approximately ten thousand officers and men in the organized militia in this city (there were 12,324 in the state, according to this year's report), he computes that each individual is costing the city \$44 a year, and although covering the cost of the city's share of the national guard, it is not the purpose of his article to oppose or to endorse the idea that guardsmen should be paid for their attendance at drills, but "merely to let the taxpayers know what the national guard is costing them already."

It concludes with the very misleading query, "Do the taxpayers want to add to this amount by paying the men to drill or to do they not?" which demands only a negative reply. The more pertinent query is, "Do the taxpayers want a national guard or not?" If it was your correspondent's purpose to estimate the total cost of each guardsman, he omitted the very important items of uniforms, rifles, ammunition, transportation, maintenance and wages while on duty, the maintenance of the standard degree of discipline in a national guard organization maintained on the footing required by law.

The reasons why the question of payments for drill have come up now and not heretofore are familiar to those who have kept in touch with guard matters. The restrictions that surround a guardsman-to-day are far more severe than they were in 1890, and his duties are developing along more exacting lines. The maintenance of the standard degree of discipline in a national guard organization maintained on the footing required by law. The reasons why the question of payments for drill have come up now and not heretofore are familiar to those who have kept in touch with guard matters. The restrictions that surround a guardsman-to-day are far more severe than they were in 1890, and his duties are developing along more exacting lines. The maintenance of the standard degree of discipline in a national guard organization maintained on the footing required by law.

OYSTERS WORRIED.

SALES FALLING OFF.

Typhoid Germ Reports Hurt Trade, They Say.

The oyster dealers of New York have determined to make a strong effort to convert the public that reports of sewage contamination of the oyster beds are entirely wrong. In declaring the oyster beds are safe, they are not only declaring that the oyster beds are safe, but also that the oyster beds are safe. The oyster dealers of New York have determined to make a strong effort to convert the public that reports of sewage contamination of the oyster beds are entirely wrong. In declaring the oyster beds are safe, they are not only declaring that the oyster beds are safe, but also that the oyster beds are safe.

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MARKETS.

TOTAL DOMESTIC RECEIPTS.

Table showing total domestic receipts for various commodities like Wheat, Corn, Flour, etc., with prices per bushel or barrel.

Table showing cash quotations for various commodities like Cotton, Sugar, Coffee, etc., with prices per pound or bushel.

Table showing general market reports for various commodities like Beans, Peas, Potatoes, etc., with prices per bushel or barrel.

Table showing opening, high, low, and closing prices for various commodities like Cotton, Sugar, Coffee, etc.

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MARKETS.

EXPORTS.

Table showing export prices for various commodities like Wheat, Corn, Flour, etc., with prices per bushel or barrel.

Table showing cash quotations for various commodities like Cotton, Sugar, Coffee, etc., with prices per pound or bushel.

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MARKETS.

MOLESSES AND SYRUPS.

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OTHER MARKETS BY TELEGRAPH.

Chicago, Oct. 26.—CATTLE.—Receipts about 300 head; market weak; beef, \$2.00; veal, \$1.50; calves, \$1.00; hogs, \$1.00; sheep, \$1.00; lambs, \$1.00.