ANTWERP IN THROES OF DIAMOND FEVER

Dealers, Seated at Green-Top Tables, Handle Stones as If They Were Poker Chips—Germans Reported Purchasers of Uncut Stones Since 1915.

ANTWERP, Sept. 6.—Antwerp is in the throes of a "diamond fever" as has never been known anywhere before. No less than six "diamond clubs" have been opened in the last three weeks.

The main feature of these clubs is a room filled with rows of small tables. The rooms look for all the world like card-playing establishments. The guests, however, whose presence gives the strangest appearance. There are smart young men dressed in the latest styles, and important looking men bearing the unmistakable mark of the stock exchange habitue, and clear old men with long beards and white linen, and ancient Prince Albert suits, all mingled together and making bargains among themselves for figures that would rejoice any heart. At each table, seated by twos and threes, they sit, opposite each other at the little green tables, carelessly fingering handfuls of uncut diamonds as if they were common pebbles.

The conversations are pretty much alike all over the room: "How much did you pay for this lot?" "Five hundred thousand guilders." "Right. I buy it with 5 per cent to you."

Then the money is handed over at once in cash. Then the sellers look around, lean over the shoulder of an acquaintance at another table and drive another bargain.

Thus the prices are pushed up in this extraordinary world "diamond exchange."

Before the war the uncut stone cost $28 a carat and $32 after cutting. Immediately after the declaration of war the price slumped to $23 and remained that low as long as 1915, when the Germans, beginning to get nervous about the value of paper money, started buying all the diamonds they could find.

Today a carat of uncut stones find an easy market at $150. Merchants need no longer seek customers. Credit is no longer given. As soon as a new consignment arrives from London the diamond clubs are filled to overflowing and the bidding starts with unheard-of zest.

The fact that Germans have been the heaviest purchasers of cut and uncut stones since 1915 is beginning to worry the allies, who find in it the explanation for the apparent optimism in Germany toward the economic future of the country.

It is said the greatest stock of diamonds in the world is now safely stored away by Germans who, when they choose, are in a position to command the market.

Markets

(Continued from Third Page.)

[illegible]	29.25	29.25	28.95	28.95
[illegible]	29.15	29.15	28.90	28.92
[illegible]	29.25	29.25	28.90	28.90
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	28.80
[illegible]	29.25	29.25	28.93	28.93
[illegible]	29.15	29.15	28.90	28.90
[illegible]	29.15	29.15	28.90	28.90

NEW YORK, Sept. 6.—Port movement—Receipts, 28,000; stock, 2[illegible]. Exports—Stock, 41,[illegible]. Today—Receipts, 4,000; exports, 5,901; for week—Receipts, 4,500; exports, [illegible]; for season—Receipts, 2[illegible]; exports, [illegible].

NEW ORLEANS, Sept. 6.—Determined [illegible] especially on the close, met the [illegible] tendency in cotton today, and [illegible] down to net declines during the [illegible] of the session. There was [illegible] taking of profits by holders of short [illegible] and it rained a [illegible] the demand from this source was [illegible] time and again by what appeared [illegible] fresh selling for short account, [illegible] of this character being encouraged [illegible] favorable view of the labor situation [illegible] the back of a spell of rainy and [illegible] favorable weather in the cotton [illegible]. The close was at the bottom and [illegible] net losses for the day of 22 to [illegible] points.

[illegible] opening the ring found a considerable demand from the interior [illegible] coming from shorts who wanted [illegible] over the week end and the [illegible] small gaining returns the first [illegible] Monday morning. The filling of these orders put prices 10 to 18 points over [illegible] close, but immediately after the [illegible] selling was met, after which [illegible] market slumped to a level of 20 to 30 [illegible] under the close of yesterday. For [illegible] fluctuations were rapid within [illegible] narrow limits, but rate in the last [illegible] came back to about the level [illegible] close on realizing by shorts [illegible] bring out more bear pressure than [illegible]. October closed at 28.85, Spots were [illegible] unchanged at 29 points for middling [illegible] were reported, making in all the [illegible] of the season thus far in the [illegible].

RICHMOND PRODUCE MARKET.
Wholesale Quotations.
(By Caskie G. Burch & Co.)
Richmond, Va., Sept. 6, 1919.

Butter			
Fancy, dairy, lb	0.60	@	.65
Fancy, creamery, lb	0.65	@	.70
Packing, per lb	42	@	45
Eggs.			
Fancy, dozen	51	@	52
Ordinary, dozen	51	@	52
Live Poultry			
Hens, over 4 lbs.	39	@	41
Hens, under 4 lbs.	35	@	38
Spring, 2 to 3 lbs.	35	@	38
Young, per lb.	30	@	32
Young, per lb.	28	@	34
Roosters, each	75	@	1.25
Fat, each	60	@	75
Large, fat, each	1.25	@	1.50
Fat, per lb.	23	@	..
Live Stocks			
Choice, per lb.	14	@	19
Fair to good, per lb.	8	@	12
Large, per lb., spring	12	@	14
Per lb.	7	@	12
Per lb.	6	@	7
Per lb.	12	@	14
Per lb.	10	@	11
Choice to poor	10	@	14
Hogs			
Per lb.	18	@	20
Per lb.	16	@	17
Per lb.	15	@	16
Wool			
Weight, fully washed	68	@	70
Sheep, Washed			
Per lb.	55	@	60
Per lb.	61	@	63
Per lb.	36	@	37
Per lb.	32	@	35
Per lb.	27	@	30
Hides			
Per lb.	16	@	17
Per lb.	15	@	16
Per lb.	12	@	13
Per lb.	10	@	11
Apples			
Per bbl.	5.50	@	6.50
Per bbl.	3.50	@	4.00
Peaches			
Per crate	3.00	@	4.00
Per crate	1.50	@	2.00
Pears			
Per bbl.	4.00	@	6.00
Per bbl.	3.00	@	3.50
Plums			
Per crate	2.00	@	3.00
Per crate	2.00	@	2.50
Onions			
N. C., per bbl.	5.00	@	6.00
N. C., per lb.	3c	@	4c
Potatoes			
Irish, per bbl.	4.00	@	4.50
Irish, per bbl.	2.00	@	2.50
Sweet	Not wanted		
Yams	Not wanted		
Per crate	75	@	1.00
Country Produce			
Hams, small, well smoked	45	@	48
Hams, medium, to well smoked	40	@	42
Shoulders, well smoked	31	@	32
Shoulders, well smoked	30	@	32
Per lb.	12	@	15
Per lb.	23	@	25
Dried Apples.			
Per lb.	12	@	15
Per lb.	10	@	11

RICHMOND STOCK MARKET.
(By Caskie G. Burch & Co.)
Richmond, Va., Sept. 6, 1919.

			Asked
Va. Coupon 4½s, 1921	[illegible]		[illegible]