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THE MACDOUGALL & SOUTHWICK CO., SEATTLE, U. S. A.

PURCHASING PRICES.

The following prices are being offered to the producer by the local dealers, for delivery in round lots on the dock and in the car at Seattle:

Grain—Oats, \$26; barley, \$16@16.50; wheat (chicken feed), \$18; bran, \$13; shorts, \$14.

Hay—Puget Sound, \$13.50; Eastern Washington timothy, \$16; alfalfa, \$11.50 per ton.

Eggs—Strictly fresh ranch, 25@27c. Butter—Fsh ranch, 15@16c; creamery, 25@27c.

Poultry—Live chickens, 11@12c; live turkeys, 12@13c; ducks, 12c.

Livestock—Choice beef cattle: Cows, 3½@3¾c; steers, 4@4½c; choice sheep, 4½@5c; hogs (live), 5@5½c; calves (live), 4@5½c.

Hides, Pelts and Wool—Heavy and salted steers, over 60 lbs., 7½c; medium, sound, per lb. 7c; light, sound, under 56 lbs., 6½c; cows, sound, all weights, 6½c; stags, bulls and oxen, 4½c; salted kips, 6½c; calves, per lb. 8½c; green hides 1c less than salted. Dry hides, per lb., 12c; dry culls, 1-3 less; summer deer, per lb., 20@25c; winter deer, dry, 14@20c; papery deer, 12@16c; dry elk, 8@10c; green elk, 4@5c; sheep pelts, 25c@\$1.20; shearlings, 15@40c; Eastern Washington wool, 8@11c; Western Washington wool, 15c; dirty or timber burned, 12@14c; tallow, 2@3½c.

JOBGING QUOTATIONS.

Butter—There has been some speculation as to how soon the price of butter will drop. We have heard it expressed that the influx of butter from California, where a very favorable dairy season has opened up, would so weaken the market that the price would go down. It is true that

this outside butter has been coming in quite freely, but the price of State creamery has not been affected, and The Ranch is in a position to state that the price of State creamery will not change before the last of next week, unless from some extraordinary large importations not now in sight. State creamery men may, therefore, feel assured that the value of their product will not immediately fluctuate in the Seattle market. Jobbing quotations on Washington creamery are 30c per lb.; eastern creamery, 25@27c.

Cheese—Native Washington, 12@14c; eastern, 12@14c; half skim, 7@8c.

Eggs—Strictly fresh ranch, 26@29c; eastern, 22@25c.

Honey—California comb, 12½@13c; strained, 7½@8c.

Poultry—Live chickens, 13@14c; live turkeys, 13@14c; dressed turkeys, 16c; ducks, 14c.

Vegetables—Potatoes, \$15@18; rutabagas, \$1 per sack; beets, 85c@\$1 per sack; turnips, 75@90c per sack; cabbage, 2c; lettuce, 45@50c per doz.; celery, 35@50c per doz.; radishes, 10c per doz.; green onions, 10c per doz.; yellow Danver, \$1.75@2.25; squash, 2@3c. Apples, 75c@\$2 per box, according to variety; fresh cider, 35c per gallon.

C. W. Chamberlain & Co. and John W. DeCamp & Co., two well known Seattle commission firms, have consolidated, and will hereafter be known as Chamberlain, Hamilton & Co. This makes a very strong house, with large capital and splendid operating forces. The quarters which the new firm occupies are the largest of any commission firm in Seattle. Altogether there seems to have been every advantage gained by the consolidation, and there

is no doubt that it will take and hold a place as one of the foremost business institutions on the Pacific Coast.

NEW CROPS FOR ARID LANDS.

Frederic V. Colville of the Department of Agriculture, writes to Orange Judd Farmer as follows:

"Among the great forces which are working to promote western development, the plant life which clothes the western areas and the different forms of new plants which may be introduced play an important part. When it is remembered that after every acre of land which it is possible to reclaim through irrigation by the utilization of every drop of water which now flows to waste shall have been placed under cultivation, there must yet remain in the neighborhood of 500,000,000 acres of arid land, which must always remain arid, and only suitable for grazing purposes, a moment's thought will show what the introduction of even a single new plant would mean which would increase the profit even a few cents an acre.

"Great are the possibilities of western development through the conservation of her flood waters and the dividing up of her great irrigable areas into small 10 and 20-acre homes, but the complete and symmetrical development of the west will be reached when all the vast area of grazing land shall produce its highest value in arid land crops. The native grasses are not always the most productive by any means, and experiments must be made to find the best plant which grows in the world for each particular section.

"This class of work is now being undertaken to a limited extent by the Department of Agriculture. Several trained botanists are traveling all over

the world investigating different plants, and where they give promise of use in this country, securing seeds and sending them here for trial at our various experimental stations and farms. Only the most systematic work in this regard is effective, for a half-trial or a trial in only one section of the country is little better than no trial at all.

"It can be stated without fear of question that the United States has profited to the extent of millions of dollars annually through the introduction of new plants into the country from abroad. Kaffir corn is a familiar instance to westerners. This plant has practically redeemed the semi-arid regions of western Kansas. Here ordinary corn is a failure four-fifths of the time, but Kaffir corn is uniformly a good crop. Broom corn millet is another arid land plant which undoubtedly means millions of wealth to the arid or semi-arid regions. It possesses the peculiar virtue of growing during periods of moisture and making good forage, but when moisture is withheld, simply suspending its growth instead of dying, until the next rain. Everyone knows what alfalfa is to the west. This is an introduced plant. The date palm is another product of the eastern countries which the Department of Agriculture is spending considerable money in introducing in good varieties. Our southwestern conditions are favorable for its profitable growth, and it is hoped that before many years America will grow all the dates which she needs for consumption."

FOR SALE

Some good young Berkshire sows; can breed to Plumper; 2d under six months at Toronto, 1900.

SHANNON BROS. Cloverdale, B. C.