

pound; ham, \$1.75 per pound; fresh sausage, \$1.25 per pound; fresh fish, \$1.25 per pound; sugar, \$1 per pound; condensed milk, \$1.50 per can; salt, 50 cents per pound; lobster (one-half pound can), \$3; fresh onions, \$1.50 per pound; potatoes, \$1 per pound; canned butter (2½ pounds), \$10; canned tomatoes, \$3.

As late as June 25 tobacco was selling at retail for from \$5 to \$7.50 per pound; cigars, \$25 per 100, and cigarettes, 50 cents per package.

On the above date flour sold on the river bank for from \$3 to \$6 a sack; bacon, 25 to 40 cents per pound; granulated potatoes, 35 to 50 cents per pound; butter, \$1 per pound. These abnormally low prices were due to the fact that the sellers had become disgusted with the situation and were anxious to leave the country.

During the latter part of the winter there was a whisky famine, what little stock there was being in the hands of a few saloon keepers, who charged \$1 per drink. The first liquor to reach Dawson from upriver was 100 gallons of brandy, which sold for \$75 per gallon. A favored individual, who had a permit for the entry of 2,000 gallons of whisky, arrived in Dawson early in May, and within an hour sold his cargo in bulk for \$45 per gallon. He subsequently assured his friends that after paying all fees and legitimate expenses he had cleared by his venture the sum of \$60,000. This supply was consumed within a few days. On June 8 the steamer *May West* arrived from below with 16 barrels of whisky, which was retailed by several saloons at \$1 per drink. The steamer *Weare*, which arrived on June 11, brought up from Fort Yukon 47 barrels of whisky and high wines and several tons of case liquors. The whisky was immediately distributed among the numerous saloon keepers, in accordance with orders placed by them, and within a few hours a score of saloons were running in full blast and selling whisky at the old price of 50 cents a drink. The price charged for the liquor by the commercial company was \$25 per gallon. One saloon keeper, whose allotment was 5 barrels, turned his purchase over to another dealer for \$37.50 per gallon, stating, as he received payment, that while he was grateful to the company for its kindness in selling him such a liberal supply, his duty to his customers required him to make the sacrifice, he having provided his bar from other sources with a better grade of whisky.

Large profits were made in clothing and all lines of furnishing goods brought down the river. Ordinary sack suits, which sell in the States for from \$10 to \$20, brought from \$50 to \$80 in Dawson; hats, which sell outside for \$1.50 at retail, sold for \$7; cowboy hats, costing \$3 at retail in the States, sold for \$10; shirts, which could be purchased outside for 75 cents, were disposed of readily for \$6; and \$3 shoes sold for \$15. Two men, who brought in a selected stock of merchandise weighing about 10 tons, sold their cargo in bulk to local dealers for \$65,000, making a profit on the transaction of \$48,000.

Notwithstanding the immense profits, amounting in many cases to