

MARKET REPORTS

Egg Situation Is Now Under Control

Potatoes and Hay Both Make a Sensational Advance of Several Cents.

A coup d'etat is the way some of the dealers characterize the stroke that was made a day or two ago in the egg situation by which all the available stock was purchased by the market and it is considered now that the market will be much firmer and less liable to eruptions of a speculative order than it has been for some time. The egg question has been really quite dizzy during the last few weeks and the old time resident who in years past went occasionally to take a look at the open board and still have the speculative blood coursing through their veins, could have had a good deal of excitement and plenty of action and a chance at a few thousand cases of hen fruit. With the actual cost of laying the goods down at \$100 much of a loss could not have been suffered when purchased at \$20. The coup executed, however, was principally through Wm. Barlow, the Third Avenue dealer. He bought up everything in sight and also on the trail between here and Whitehorse and when he had collected all that was to be had he sold it to two firms and they are the only two houses in the city from whom eggs can be bought. Others may offer them for sale but they will have to go to one or the other in order to fill their orders. The immediate result was of course an advance in a figure slightly above the actual cost of importation and where they sold this time last week in market quantities for \$20 a case they now command \$27.50 in five case lots or \$35 by the single case. The amount on the trail is slightly prohibitive. Scarcely has 300 cases and left Whitehorse yesterday morning, having arrived on the Dolphin, and while it is doubtful if many more consignments arrive at Skagway for shipment over the ice, on account of the lateness of the season, still should the price advance much more the temptation may prove irresistible to some who are willing to take a long chance in making the trip over the ice. Even at \$28 a case net to the importer there is not enough in it to make the venture particularly profitable when one considers the risk at this season of the year. Two other commodities made a spectacular jump yesterday. Hay has been rather quiet though in good demand at 6 1/2 and 6 cents but now the prime article commands 7 cents a pound. Dealers have suddenly figured out a short market and the advance of 100 a ton is due to the discovery. It has always been given out this season that there was a sufficient stock on hand to last out the season without any difficulty, but it appears the figures were to the bad. The other advance referred to is in spuds which have jumped from 14 to 17 cents wholesale and the indications are that the 20 cent mark will be struck before the middle of the month is reached. Some of the large companies have sufficient stock on hand to last out the season though none to sell to the dealers. Fully seven weeks must lapse before any new stock can be expected from the outside. Onions remain the same as last week and it is doubtful if they advance to any higher figure. The stock is not particularly plentiful, but there is sufficient. The market reporter on the News made a most glaring error in his report contained in yesterday evening's paper. He quotes sugar as having advanced to 3 cents which is not true at all. There are a few dealers in town who have done their utmost to boost up sugar so they could come clear on their present holdings, which with interest and storage charges stands them fully 8 1/2 cents, but one of the big companies has just as persistently refused to be a party to the corner. The outside speculators referred to bought their sugar last fall on time and at a low price with the distinct understanding that the bill should be settled before January 1, otherwise a higher figure and interest would be charged on the account, the importers taking a chance on being able to unload at a profit before the first of the year. But that they have been unable to do, and in the meantime the fixed charges have been accumulating until now in order to break even they must get between 8 and 9 cents or suffer a loss. One of the big companies is still selling sugar at 6 1/2 to the consumer and a representative of the company has stated that they have sufficient to carry them through until their first boat arrives from Andreaski where they have an additional fifty tons ready to be forwarded here. Dealers can not buy at the price quoted or in fact at any price at all, but consumers can get all they need at the same old figure. As stated last week milk is a thing of the past as it is doubtful if two dozen cases could be gotten together if the entire camp were searched. This applies particularly to Eagle and Reindeer, the two brands in most general use. A matter that will interest the dealers as well as the consumers is as to the probable date of the opening of the river and the arrival of fresh goods. Last year the river opened on May 14 and it was just a week later, on the 21st, when the first boat arrived from lower Lebarge. How much longer the overland trail can be used is a matter of conjecture. On the upper end it is as good as worn out now and a new trail is being broken from Whitehorse down the river by way of the lake to the foot of Lebarge. That, however, can surely not be used to any great extent by freighters as from the foot of Lebarge to a connection with the new overland there is no way of reaching except by the old cutoff across to Mackay's which has not been used at all this winter and which must be in a very hard condition. Once at Whalen's at the Yukon crossing there would be no difficulty in traveling the balance of the way to Dawson, as this end of the trail will doubtless be good for several weeks yet. Getting around Thirtymile river is where the difficulty comes in.

NO EVIDENCE OF PARTIALITY

Shown to Liquor Men of Dawson

Refuting Imputation of "Senior" Member That Police Were in With Liquor Dealers.

"Extraordinary circumstances require extraordinary measures," said Mr. Justice Macaulay in the police court yesterday afternoon in giving his judgment in the case of Binet Bros. who were charged with selling liquor on their licensed premises during closed hours. "When the people, and the saloon men themselves, through their chosen representative, the senior member of the Yukon council, rise up in holy horror and declare to the world that Dawson is getting worse and worse; that vice is rampant, and that the law is not being enforced; and when the people's representative goes so far as to intimate and even accuse the police with conniving with law breakers, then it is time for extraordinary methods to be adopted to suppress the crime." Of all the saloon men—who were charged with disposing of liquor during closed hours Binet Bros. of the Marconi bar were the only ones who made an attempt to fight the case. The balance pleaded guilty and were each fined \$50 and costs. The evidence of Constables Bourke and Greaves who were the witnesses for the prosecution was to the effect that on Sunday morning acting under instructions they had gone into the Marconi bar in civilian's clothes and had asked for a drink. The first time they called they were refused, for what reason neither could remember. They had returned and asking again for drinks one of the proprietors had given them the drinks and had taken one himself. They had paid for the drinks and the money had been claimed. On cross examination both claimed to have been so although neither could remember what reason had been given when the first drink had been refused. Mr. J. E. Binet was called for the defense and stated that on Sunday morning the two constables had come into the Marconi and asked for a drink they were told that it was during closed hours and no liquor would be sold. They went away and came back in about an hour and again calling for a drink, witness had said "I know what you are after. You want to get me to sell you a drink and then you will lay an information against me." "Oh, no," they replied "we would not do that way to you." He had then out of compassion for them as they looked thirsty and tired given them a drink and taken one himself. Attorney Aikman who appeared for the defense stated to the court that while under the provisions of the ordinance the defendant was guilty he would ask for a dismissal on the ground that he had been almost forced into committing the crime. That the saloon men in general were afraid of the police and when pressed in such a manner as the defendant had been they were afraid to refuse. His lordship stated that while he did not approve of the method adopted to obtain evidence yet he could only find the defendant guilty. "The defendant," stated his lordship, "was undoubtedly induced to commit the crime, and it is pretty hard to have to convict him on that account. I do not approve the method nor do I believe the policemen approve of such methods but they have to do their duty the same as I do. It was carrying the matter a little too far to go the second time after once being refused. The temptation was too strong for Binet the second time and he fell." "As far as the matter of the saloon men being afraid of the police goes, it does not seem to me that there has been any reason for such a condition to exist. In the two years that I have occupied the police magistrate's bench in Dawson this is the first time that any such cases have come before me. It is a matter of congratulation to both the saloon men and the policemen that the law is so well observed. In no other place in Canada, that I have ever been in is the law as strictly observed and it was a great surprise to me to know that there was any violation of the law." "If extraordinary methods have to be adopted who is to blame? It is the people of Dawson. The saloon men themselves—I presume—through their chosen representative have announced that the law is not being enforced. Surely when the person who is chosen by the people to represent them (I think it is considered by everyone that he is the representative of the people and the mouthpiece of the saloon men themselves) cries out in holy horror that the law is not being observed and the authorities are accused of conniving with the saloon men it is time for extraordinary methods to be taken. "The police having taken extraordinary methods I suppose the saloon men are wondering which one of them the police are conniving with. I think their efforts show by the number of cases which have come before me that they were quite impartial. I will have to find the defendant guilty and will fine him \$50 and costs."

J. P. MORGAN

Would Like to Dodge Customs Man.

Washington, March 14—J. Pierpont Morgan and Secretary Shaw conferred at the treasury department for about two hours yesterday about the financing of a collection and how its owner could enjoy it in this country without paying a huge sum for the privilege.

No conclusion was reached, but Morgan was told that he could organize an institution of his own to exhibit the collection, or he could remain abroad a year and then bring the treasures in as household effects. These are the only choices aside from paying the inevitable 60 per cent ad valorem tax. As Morgan's collection of paintings, bric-a-brac, bronzes and objects of art is valued at more than \$4,000,000 the duty would amount to the tidy sum of \$2,500,000. Morgan has just been planning extensive additions to his residence in New York with a view of housing the superb collection of pictures and pottery, much of which is invaluable that he has accumulated during his trips to Europe. By throwing her new Venetian palace open to the public, which obtains cards at infrequent intervals, Mrs. "Jack" Gardner of Boston has got around the customs regulations, and while practically retaining the ownership of her art treasures, permits them to figure as articles brought for exhibition. This plan does not appeal to Morgan and he does not like the idea of paying \$2,500,000 duty. Dingley tariff, for example, on a single piece of porcelain plate for which he recently paid \$10,000. While the trustees of the Metropolitan Museum of Art may import a picture for exhibition, a private individual can not, unless he organize an institution of his own. Morgan does not intend to exile himself abroad for a year to achieve his purpose. Neither does he desire to import his treasures for a temporary period. FOR SALE—Good Dog Team—two first-class leaders. Apply 305 Duke street. Klondike Dairy—Phone 1474.

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Bible School Lesson for April 5. Title—Paul's farewell to Ephesus. Golden Text: "Remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive." Acts 20, 35.

Bible School Lesson for April 5 (continued). Warns them of dangers which shall beset them from without and within. From without will come "grievous wolves," false teachers who had already afflicted other parts of the church. The Gnostics, who denied the divinity of Christ, the Nicolaitans, who were licentious voluptuaries, and many others gave great distress to the apostles.