

A WEAKER TONE IN CHICAGO POTATOES

Compulsory Grading Of Potatoes Has
Been Ordered By Food Men—
Can't Get Cars For Shipping

(From the Packer)
Chicago, Illinois—Last week the potato market lost the strength which it had gained the week before.

Potato operators say the present market is purely one of car service; that is, the market is being held at its present level only because of the difficulty in getting a sufficient number of cars in shipping sections. There also seems to be a scarcity of motor power inasmuch as in some instances after cars are loaded several days elapse before they are picked up.

The farmers have sold more freely since the milder weather set in and as a result there is quite a little accumulation of stock in warehouses at loading stations, since operators have been unable to get cars in which to move potatoes to market.

According to reports the total shipments of potatoes from all producing sections last week showed an increase of 304 cars over the preceding week but the increase would have been much greater had the rolling stock been available. It is generally thought that the farmers will sell more freely from now on and the leading question in the minds of everyone interested in the potato industry is whether or not sufficient cars will be available.

The demand, both locally and from the outside territory, has been fair although buyers have only been taking such stock as were needed for immediate trade, preferring to wait to see what the market would do before they bought heavily.

Seed potato men state that there has been a fair demand from a wide territory but that the car supply has restricted the movement. Where cars are obtainable preference was given to seed stock, rather than table stock, as many of them have orders which should now be delivered or rolling but which they have been unable to get out. Triumphs were quoted mostly at \$3.40@3.55 per cwt., Cobblers around \$3. Rose \$2.20 and Early Ohio \$2.60, f. o. b. shipping points.

Wednesday the Chicago table stock market was weaker with Wisconsin and Minnesota white stock selling at \$2@2.15 per cwt. Western stock sold at \$2.10@2.25. Receipts were 40 cars.

Thursday the market continued easy with Minnesota and Wisconsin

white stock selling at \$2.15. Western stock was quotable at \$2.10@2.20. Receipts were 26 cars.

The market continued weak Friday with prices about 5c lower all around. Receipts were 40 cars. Weather was cold.

Compulsory Grading Ordered
Washington, D. C.—The food administration has issued the following rule regarding the compulsory grading of potatoes:

"Rule 3A.—The licensee in commercial potato growing districts shall assort and grade his purchases and shipments of potatoes according to the grade described in Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Markets Document No. 7.

"Note.—The United States Food Administration is convinced that a general adoption of those grades will be beneficial to producer and consumer alike, will tend to decrease waste and encourage the production of better quality, thus stimulating increased consumption. This has been clearly demonstrated by careful investigations conducted by the Bureau of Markets of the United States Department of Agriculture.

"The Food Administration recognizes that in some sections, local conditions may be such that an immediate and strict enforcement of these grades might be inadvisable. It feels, however, that in such sections as there has been a general effort on the part of shippers to adopt this grading that those not co-operating are unfair and that their actions are detrimental to the best interests of the potato industry, and while due consideration will be given to peculiar conditions obtaining in any section no technical attempt to evade the purpose of the rule will be tolerated. The matter will so far as possible, be handled by co-operation with the United States Department and various State Departments of Agriculture and through associations of growers and shippers. We shall insist on the sincere and earnest co-operation of every licensee in this connection."

Large Receipts At Houston
Houston, Texas—Large receipts of Irish potatoes were reported at Houston, 24 cars having arrived between Saturday night and Tuesday morning. This was said to be unusually heavy receipts for this market.

A part of these potatoes are frost bitten and some of them are frozen. They are coming from the far north where the weather has been cold and the recent moderation has allowed them to get through. Dealers here say that some of the cars have been diverted to other points while the cars unloaded here have been carefully gone over and the damaged potatoes removed. This has made much extra work.

Force of Habit.
Bank Cashier—"You owe us a considerable overdraft, madam. What shall we do about it?" She—"You may charge it, please."—Judge.

on potatoes owing to the large supply. They were quoted at \$2.35@2.40 per cwt.

Cabbage is very scarce in the Rio Grande country, the recent freeze having hit the young cabbage hard. It is quoted here at 5 1/2¢ per pound.

Seed potatoes are coming in spasmodically. There is such a big demand that every shipment that arrives is quickly cleaned up. Prices are unchanged. Triumphs are bringing \$4.75 per cwt., and other varieties \$3.75 per cwt.

Car Shortage In Minnesota
Minneapolis, Minnesota—The Minnesota potato market was steady last week. There has been a good demand for both seed and eating stock. The car shortage, however, has practically stopped shipments and the movement has been very light. The weather during the week was fine for shipping but the operators are unable to get nearly enough cars to move the seed to the South and snippers say they fear there is no relief in sight. The Minnesota Potato Traffic Association has been promised cars for the movement of seed stock but they have not yet arrived.

The movement of Red River Ohio is increasing and indications in the valley are that shipments will be heavy by March 1. Operators hold little stock and supplies in the warehouses are light. Because of a short crop last fall the amount of Red River left in the valley is small in comparison with former years, and while the stock in some cases is small the quality otherwise is claimed to be fine, free from field frost and decay. The car shortage in the valley is not so bad as in the sandland districts.

Tuesday the market was firm. In many cases operators have refused to quote prices until they are able to move orders on hand. Triumphs were quoted at \$3.50@3.60 per cwt. sacked basis loading stations. Cobblers at \$3.10@3.20, Early Ohio at \$2.20@2.30 and white stock at \$1.95@2.10 loading stations.

Wednesday and Thursday the market was somewhat weaker. The demand for seed, however, was good but the movement was light owing to the car shortage. Receipts from the growers are not heavy as the shippers are taking very little stock inasmuch as they are unable to ship heavily. Thursday although the market was a little unsteady there was no change in prices over those quoted the first of the week. Friday the market was unchanged also.

Well-Groomed Farm Horse.
and loose hair out of the brush, says a writer in an exchange. Because of its steel teeth and general harshness and stiffness, the currycomb should never be used about the limbs. There are some people who can use it on the legs and about the bony places of the horse's anatomy without irritating the animal past all endurance. They are softer-handed than most of us.

The broomcorn brush takes the place of the currycomb in cleaning the horse's legs. In using the currycomb it should be laid flat and carried lightly in a succession of curved strokes, until all the dust and scurf that may be in the horse's coat has been loosened. Then take the brush and with it thoroughly cleanse the hair and the skin.



COMB AND BRUSH FOR HORSE

Equipment Needed in Every Stable
Whether on Racetrack or Farm—
Use for Currycomb.

A currycomb, a broomcorn brush, a scraper, a stiff brush and a number of rags of the right sizes should be a part of the grooming equipment of every stable, no matter whether the stable is located on a farm or at the edge of a racetrack. In most instances the currycomb should be used only to lightly raise and loosen the sweat and scurf over the fleshy portions of the horse's body, the main reliance being placed upon the brush.

The brush is the best implement for cleaning the body, as it does the work well and easily, and does not irritate the horse. I find that the principal use for the currycomb in cleaning most horses is in using it to scrape the dirt



Well-Groomed Farm Horse.

After using the brush take a dampened cloth and go over the surface, following this by rubbing with a dry cloth. In cleaning and grooming the head and the legs use the stiff broomcorn brush, clean with the hairbrush, and finish the operation with the dampened and dry cloths.

ALFALFA PASTURE FOR HOGS
Care Should Be Exercised That It Is Not Pastured Too Closely Cut Occasionally.

For "growing out" little pigs and carrying over dry sows a good pasture is a valuable asset to the hog raiser. Alfalfa makes the best pasture for hogs. In pasturing alfalfa, care should be taken that it is not pastured too heavily. If this is done, the alfalfa will be badly killed out in two or three years and it will be necessary to reseed. Pasturing should never be carried on so heavily but that one-half ton of hay per acre can be cut three times a season. The occasional cutting of the alfalfa induces new shoots to grow, and hence greatly improves the pasture for the pigs.

HANDLING ALFALFA FOR HAY

Plant Should Be Allowed to Stand Until Well in Bloom—Sprinkle With Salt and Lime.

To make the best horse hay, alfalfa should be allowed to stand until well in bloom, according to the Nebraska College of Agriculture. In curing horse hay, it is well to keep in mind that the dust which is present in so much alfalfa is largely a result of the presence of foreign moisture, such as rain or dew, at making time, rather than the presence of a little moisture within the plant. If alfalfa hay is stored in the barn for horses, it is well, while mowing it away, to sprinkle it generously with a mixture of equal parts of salt and air-slaked lime.

MAKING SUCCESS WITH HOGS

Breed and Feed Well and Give Good Care—Don't Allow Litters to Lose Growth.

1. Select large, roomy, stretchy dams.
2. Breed to boars whose ancestry shows tendency to growthiness.
3. See that sow is in prime condition every day she carries the litter.
4. Don't allow the litters to lose an hour's growth from lack of proper nourishment or exposure after farrowing.
5. Use every precaution at weaning time to see that growth is maintained.
6. Bone-making feed must predominate in first six months of pig's life.
7. Maintain balanced ration later on and be sure the pigs grow every day.

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