OYSTER PACKERS IN TROUBLE.

A Hard Season for the Canners — Warm Weather and Hard Times the Trouble.

The present season has been a bad one for the oyster packing industry in Baltimore. The warm weather which has prevailed throughout the country through the greater part of the winter, coupled with the cry of hard times in the West and Northwest, have served to make business exceedingly dull for the oyster shippers. The only cold weather there has been this season was in the latter part of November, and that brought about a boom in the market, and sent the price of shell oysters skyward. No matter how much cold weather there may be now, the best of the season is past, and the trade will not be able to gain what it has lost in the early part of the season. It is estimated that this year's shipments will be twenty-five per cent. less than last year, which was one of the best years the trade has ever known. Notwithstanding the dullness in business, prices of oysters in the shell have been and are still large. This condition is said to be due to the strong demand for oysters by canners of cove oysters, who, in order to keep going, are willing to pay high prices.

A member of one of the largest firms in the business said yesterday: "When the weather is as warm as it has been this winter, there is a dull market for oysters in the West. This has been the dullest season ever known, and the number of failures in business was never so large before. Two years ago Western business was very dull, because there was no money there, and as oysters are there classed as a luxury, they constitute one of the first articles of food that a man determines to do without. Prices have held up so far as the oysters in the shell are concerned, and between the high prices with which we have to buy and the low prices at which we have to sell there is but a small margin of profit. The high prices I think are caused by the increasing scarcity of oysters in the bay."

Another large packer who was consulted took a somewhat different view of the causes of the dullness of business. He said: "Business is dull, but I do not think the weather has much to do with it. I think there has been a

Scarcity of Money

in the West, and when the people haven't plenty of money, they do not buy oysters. The most oysters shipped to the West are consumed in restaurants and when times are hard, the restaurants feel it first. Another thing is that people have an idea in their neads that they will not pay more than a certain price for oysters, and this price coupled with that we have to pay for the raw stock in the shell, leaves no margin for profit. The weather has not been too warm for the shipment of oysters, if we could get the orders. The high prices which are being paid for oysters in the shell are the result of several causes. In the first place, the oyster business is now controlled by the commission merchants, who control the boats and market the oysters. In this way the supply has been controlled, and a glut prevented. Again, those who have oysters on hand expect a freeze and higher prices, and are consequently storing all they can. Then the canners of hermetically sealed oysters, otherwise known as cove oysters, are paying high prices and forcing others to do the same. As high as eighty cents a bushel has been paid this season for oysters, which had to be sold formerly at eighty cents a gal. At the present time oysters that ought to sell at forty cents a bushel are bringing fifty five to sixty cents. Tongers this year have made more money than ever before, and dredgers have also done well, as they have caught good cargoes and obtained good prices. One of the largest cove oyster packing plants in the city has not been opened this season, owing to the high prices which the raw oysters have been bringing."

Stock Watering in the West.

The prevailing prices of shucked oysters is now eighty cents a gallon, which in Chicago costs the buyers fifteen cents more additional for expressage. To make up for the additional cost, the Chicago dealer is popularly credited with adding a quantity of water to each can or bucket. At Minneapolis and Kansas City the quantity of water is increased, and at Salt Lake City a single gallon of oysters becomes three gallons, the packers say.

Aside from warm weather, there are other troubles with which the oyster shipper has to contend. He may have on hand a large lot of unshucked oysters, and a thunder storm may come along, as thunder storms sometimes do, even in winter. Such a mishap means a lot of dead oysters, as thunder kills them every time. In the early fall when thunder storns are more frequent, losses from this cause are quite heavy. Then foggy weather is also much against the keeping of oysters. Their keeping qualities depend very much on what waters they come from, as it has been demonstrated that fresh water oysters will keep much longer than those caught in salt water.

Should an extremely cold spell of weather now occur, the prices will doubtless climb skyward, unless the shippers have warning enough to lay in a good supply.

The Anne Arundel Contest.

Speaking of the Anne Arundel case, a leading democrat of Annapolis says:

"The election in Anne Arundel was in many respects a remarkable one. Although it was generally assumed before the election that the whole democratic ticket would be elected, yet when the ballots were counted it was found that Randall, the republican candidate for Senator, was elected by nearly two hundred and fifty majority, while Wells, the democratic candidate for clerk, was elected by one hundred and fifty. Candidates for other offices were elected from both parties. Those who know claim that the result, with the great differences in the vote precludes the idea of fraud and that the true will of the voter was fairly expressed.

"The contested election case Washington G. Tuck vs. George Wells for the office of Clerk of the Circuit Court was recently heard before the House committee on elections. No opportunity was given to Well's counsel to prepare for argument. Ex-Governor Whyte had been employed by Wells to argue his case, but owing to the brief time given to the hearing and the refusal of the committee to furnish copies of the testimony or permit an examination of the original he was compelled to withdraw from the case.

"The committee will report early next week, ordering a new election in the case of Wells and two of the judges of the Orphans' Court. This election will, it is estimated, cost the taxpayers of the county at least $1,500.

"In order to reach the conclusion that Wells was not elected the committee was compelled to count for Tuck the identical ballots that were unanimously rejected by the Circuit Court for Anne Arundel County in the contested case of Claude vs. Brashears for the office of State's attorney.

"Those who know claim that the democrats will win by an increased majority at the special election. A popular plan of making the nominations has been agreed upon. The democrats of the county will be invited, regardless of past differences, to meet at the courthouse in Annapolis and make nominations. The night of the day on which the nominations are made a democratic mass-meet- will be held to ratify the nominations. President Bruce and Senators Talbott, Hering and Carothers will address the meeting."

Friends of Dr. George Wells and of Grafton Duvall and Galloway Cheston, judges of the Orphans' Court, whose seats will be declared vacant, propose holding a mass-meeting in Annapolis to renominate them for their present positions.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the subscriber has obtained from the Orphans' Court of Kent county letters testamentary on the personal estate in Kent county, Maryland, of

MARY A. WILMER,

late of Kent county, Maryland, deceased.

All persons having claims against said deceased are hereby warned to exhibit the same, with the proper vouchers thereof, to the undersigned, on or before the 18th day of August, 1896, otherwise they may be excluded by law from all benefits of said estate. All indebted to said estate are requested to make immediate payment to the subscriber.

Given under my hand this 11th day of February, 1896.

PHILIP G. WILMER,
Executor.

Feb. 15, 1896—4t.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the subscribers have obtained from the Orphans' Court of Kent county letters of administration on the personal estate in Kent county, Maryland, of

HYLAND P. SMITH,

late of Kent county, Maryland, deceased.

All persons having claims against said deceased are hereby warned to exhibit the same, with the proper vouchers thereof, to the undersigned, on or before the 18th day of August, 1896, otherwise they may be excluded by law from all benefits of said estate. All indebted to said estate are requested to make immediate payment to the subscribers.

Given under my hand this 11th day of February, 1896.

RUTH A. SMITH,
JONATHAN R. SMITH,
Administrators.

Feb. 15, 1896—4t.

Order Nisi.

Carolene L. Hynson and Richard D. Hynson, executors of Richard Hynson, deceased, versus James J. Spear and Sarah E. Spear, his wife.

In the Circuit Court for Kent Co., in Equity.

ORDERED, this 13th day of February, 1896, that the sale of the Real Estate mentiond in these proceedings, made and reported by CAROLENE L. HYNSON and RICHARD D. HYNSON, Executors of Richard Hynson, deceased, under power of sale contained in the mortgage, copy of which was filed in the above entitled case, be ratified and confirmed, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the 15th day of April next:—Provided a copy of this order be inserted in some newspaper printed and published in Kent County, once in each of three successive weeks before the 15th day of March next.

The report states the amount of sales to be $7,500.00.

SAMUEL G. FISHER, Clerk.

True copy—Test:
SAMUEL G. FISHER, Clerk.

Feb. 15, 1896—4t.

Order Nisi.

R. Oscar Roe and Carrie B. Roe, administrators c. t. a. of Emily F. Edwards, deceased, plaintiffs, versus John L. Smith, administrator of James A. Edwards, deceased, Charles Edwards and Frank Yates Edwards, defendants.

In the Circuit Court for Kent County, in Equity.

ORDERED, this 13th day of February, 1896, by the Circuit Court for Kent county in Equity and by the authority of said court that the sale made and reported by JOHN W. TEMPLE, Trustee, for the sale of the real estate decreed to be sold in this cause, be ratified and confirmed, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the 15th day of April next;—Provided, a copy of this order be inserted in some newspaper printed and published in Kent county, once in each of three successive weeks before the 13th day of March, next.

The report states the amount of sales to be $2,009.00.

SAMUEL G. FISHER, CLERK.

True copy, Test:
SAMUEL G. FISHER, CLERK.

Feb. 15, 1896—4t.

E. W. F. SIMPERS!

Full Stock of

GROCERIES

NEW FRUITS and NUTS,
FANCY CHINAWARE,
TOILET SETS, TEA SETS,
GLASSWARE.

LAMPS AND LAMP GOODS
at the lowest CASH prices.

Tobacco and Cigars!

—Also we have—

SPECIAL BARGAINS

—IN—

CANTON FLANNELS, MUSLINS,
BED COMFORTS, KERSEYS,
MITS, CORSETS
MEN'S and WOMEN'S UNDERWEAR.

Balance of our Stock of

BOOTS AND SHOES

will be sold AT and BELOW COST.

Dec. 7, 1895. E. W. F. SIMPERS.

NEW GOODS!

NEW YEAR!

—AT—

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We carry one of the largest and best stocks of BOOTS and SHOES to be found in town.

Ladies' Handkerchiefs, Dress Goods, etc., at reasonable prices.

FRESH GROCERIES,

MEN'S NECKWEAR,

CHILDREN'S SUPPLIES, &C.

Jan. 4, 1896.

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UP-TOWN GROCERY.

Full Line Dry Goods and Notions

IN STOCK, ALSO,

Groceries and Provisions,

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SHOES! SHOES!

for Gents, Ladies and Children.

FLOUR.—We keep the WM. LEA & SONS FLOUR for sale by the barrel or sack, we think as cheap as you you can get it from the city, and we think their flour has no superior Come and see us and be convinced that our goods are good and cheap.

☞Country Produce wanted at highest price. Give us a call.

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CHESTERTOWN, ... MARYLAND.

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We keep the finest selection in all Standard Styles. It is a grand Stock for finding just what you want. Few can meet and none can beat our prices. You can't go wrong when you buy from us. Remember we deal fair and save you dollars.

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—AT—

THE SHOE STORE

We have an immense assortment of

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☞Mens' and Ladies' FINE SHOES of every description made to ORDER.

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All the leading kinds of SHOE-DRESSING, in Russet and Black.

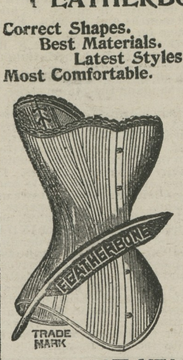
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Best Materials.
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1 inch Yellow Pine Boards, Edge, $12.50 per M.
1 inch Worked Yellow Pine Flooring, 15.00 per M.
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These goods are excellent value for the money. We have higher grades at higher prices. If you wish prices on other goods, write us and we will reply promptly.

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SHINGLES.

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We wish, if possible, to clear out our large stock of Underwear by January 1st, and in order to do so have determined to sell all lines FAR BELOW THEIR REAL VALUE.

Child's Merino and Jersey Ribbed Vests.
Ladies' Merino and Jersey Ribbed Vests.
Men's Wool Undershirts and Drawers.
Men's Red Wool Undershirts and Drawers.
Men's Wool Overshirts
Men's Cheviot Working Shirts.

Now is your chance to secure real bargains in Underwear.

MEN'S AND BOY'S BOOTS!

AT REDUCED PRICES!

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HARROWS, CULTIVATORS, PLOW TREES AND HAMES, all sizes, Single, Double and Three-Horse Trees.

GENERAL BLACKSMITHING and WHEELWRIGHTING. Satisfaction Guaranteed.

We have accepted the agency for the celebrated PAGE WOVEN WIRE FENCE, a sample of which may be seen at our factory.

Thanking the public for past patronage, and soliciting a continuance of the same

I am yours, respectfully,

W. A. HYLAND.

GALENA, MARYLAND.

JOHN B. HURTT & CO.

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Drugs, Glass, Paints, Oils, Varnishes,

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