

# THE ENORMOUS MEAT PRICE PAID BY SALT LAKE CITY

A Citizen "Who Has to Pay the Price" Tells What it Costs for Steaks and Chops as Compared With What the People of Other Intermountain Cities Have to Pay—Mill Stone Around City's Neck.

To the Desert News: Westward it is alleged the course of empire takes its way. The same law has been observed to hold good for popular songs and trade unions. The east has been making a fight on graft as a principle of American life, and there is apparently no end in Salt Lake for the grocers and butchers of this city to stand up in meeting and explain wherein they are not conducting a gigantic trust in which they have forgotten all about letting the fellow live in their glory at being organized so that they may thrive at the cost of the consumer.

The need for this explanation has been called to the attention of the writer a good many times of late by men who drop in to Salt Lake for a visit from surrounding states only to find that they must pay more for a few mutton chops here than for a tenderloin steak at home, and that prices as a whole range 100 per cent over those in Denver, Butte, Anaconda and other intermountain cities.

Go anywhere in Salt Lake valley from Main street to Murray and every retailer quotes you exactly the same price on meat cuts. Pick up a Butte or an Anaconda paper and read the prices of the best markets for the same cuts, and you will find a tremendous difference. The local butcher tells you his apparently consciousness price, and when you catch him about it, and show that it is unreasonable, he smiles and says he does not charge that price to his regular customers, whom he knows, and if you wish to be one of these he will talk on another basis. This is merely the price agreed upon and at which meat is selling, and which the unsophisticated have to pay in the small shops, and the trade in general in the big ones.

**BUY AT MURRAY.**  
Recently not a few Salt Lake buyers have been forced to Murray markets, finding it cheaper to spend the 20 cents required for carfare to visit that city when anything like a large cut of meat was wanted than to get it in Salt Lake. Yet a Murray butcher whom I approached to investigate prices felt obliged to "stand by the union" and quote the same high prices that prevail here. However, he afterwards admitted that if I wanted to become a customer he would do much better by me.

**A POINTED INSTANCE.**  
A little shop was recently opened on Seventh South street, east of State street. The butcher is one of the Engle shopkeepers who figure close, and sell at what they can afford to, rather than at what they can hold up a customer for. A neighbor, whose name is known to me, but omitted in this communication for the reason that this is a question of principle rather than of specific instances, sent to the shop for 25 cents worth of mutton chops and got twice as much as he was accustomed to getting for the money. He found the butcher, on inquiry, was just selling at what he could afford to, and that the butcher was not more than at what the butchers had agreed upon as a universal rate.

**FOUR CENT MUTTON.**  
A short time ago Salt Lake was somewhat startled to find that the intermountain Salt Lake county once fed the inmates "four cent mutton." Four cent mutton was so surprising to unfortunates local buyers that they were at a loss to explain it, except by figuring that it must have been very bad meat when it was not. What would Salt Lake think of two-cent mutton, two-cent boiling meat, four cent pot roasts, six-cent round steak, five-cent shoulder steaks, seven-cent shoulder veal roasts, seven-cent shoulders of mutton, eight-cent mutton chops, ten-cent spare ribs, five-cent sausage, and five-cent hamburgers. At home he can't come within hailing distance of these prices, though he ought to have them. He must pay from 200 to 400 per cent of them, and yet they are what retailers advertise as top prices all the time in Butte and in Anaconda.

**JUST AS GOOD AS OURS.**  
A quick and ready answer of the butchers to these comparisons is, while Salt Lake only kill the best of steers, while they serve any kind of meat. Yet men from Butte and Anaconda don't do any shopping in the Salt Lake markets, while they do a whole lot about the enormous prices. Men from these places pledge their word that the

## DISTINCT STEP IN ADVANCE.

(Auburn, N. Y., Daily Citizen.)

Chronic Bright's Disease may have been an incurable disease in the past, but it is certainly curable now. M. L. Walley, the druggist, tells us of a remarkable recovery in this city. There was no question about the genuineness of the case. The patient, a lady, is connected with one of our prominent families. She was in a hospital swollen with dropsy, and the albumen was in such enormous quantities as to solidify in the tube.

Death was expected daily by the physician and family, when she was put on a specific from California that was in that State. The results created great surprise and relief. Symptoms began to subside and recovery was in sight. The patient finally completely recovered. The patient was actually passed for insurance.

A peculiar recovery by Fulton's renal Compound. The lady's name is Mrs. R. Lee Ball, F. J. Hill Drug Co., local Agents, Salt Lake City. When to suspect Bright's Disease—weakness or loss of weight; backache, watery ankles, head or eyelids; kidney trouble after the third month; urine may show sediment; falling vision; drowsiness; one or more of these, send for pamphlet.

beef there is of as high quality or higher than it is here, killed and packed in an excellent manner, and handled by the first-class shops, at what they can afford to, and for a reasonable and legitimate profit. In Salt Lake the prices are universal and extend everywhere, and surely the choicest steers and selected beef, that is sold to justify the fancy price, is hardly served over every block in the city.

The defense on quality is one that goes well, for a buyer who cares for his table, would dislike to have anything served that was not as good as could be bought. In the case of the cripple-foot shoe maker, who was arrested in New York, and who operated here for a long time, it was seen to what limits people would go who thought they were getting their money's worth in extra quality.

**SHOULD BE INVESTIGATED.**

The "News," I think, should investigate the matter beyond the retailer in the wholesale department, and back of that into the range where the sellers make the original profit on beef raising. I am not informed that Butte butchers can buy meat cheaper than Salt Lake butchers, but the question is apparently a promising one to turn the light on, and one in which contributions would be of value from wholesalers, stock raisers, and retailers, and if there is a justification for the high figures here, it has a right to let itself be known. If there is a holdup behind the retailers that forces them to their present prices, that also would make good reading to an expert public that is getting more and more where it is hard to live, owing to the prices of combinations in every field where he must make purchases.

**THE WAGE-EARNER.**

So far, American wage earners have had good pay, and have been able to take a few mutton chops home at night, and still have car fare left from the day's wages. In the east, however, the balance of money is getting on the wrong side, and the common citizen is getting more and more towards debt, despite the general prosperity. Recent magazine literature is calling attention to the condition, and there is a general demand for the trusts, and the unions, which seem both to use their power to equal extremes, to get down to doing things on a basis what they can afford to rather than for what they can get. It is declared to be the only permanently safe way, as hard times now would starve out a whole big class, before it would force prices down to their legitimate level, among mechanics, and trade people in general.

**STARTLING MEAT PRICES.**

The meat question, which is particularly under consideration here, is one field in which explanations could be made with apparent profit to all concerned. The following table shows the cuts of meat and their retail prices in different western cities, per pound. The Butte prices are taken from Lutey's market schedule, and the Anaconda prices from Boutin's, both houses among the biggest and best in the country. The Salt Lake prices do not vary in local markets materially:

	Salt Lake.	Butte.	Anaconda.
Prime rib roast	17-18	18	18
Rib shoulder steak	12 1/2	5	5
Round steak	15	6 1/2	5
Sirloin steak	17 1/2	10	10
Rib mutton chops	15	8	8 1/2
Leg of mutton	13	12	12 1/2
Mutton stew	15	2 1/2	2 1/2
Pot roast	10	4	4
Loaf of Veal	12 1/2	7	7
Veal steak	12 1/2	5	5
Broiling steak	12 1/2	2 1/2	2 1/2
Sausage meat	12 1/2	5	5

It will be observed that these prices in Salt Lake average more than 100 per cent, over those of the other cities. With the exception of a leg of mutton on which the price is nearly the same, there are none reasonably similar, and even in the case of the round steak, the price still stands around seven and eight cents per pound.

**WHAT BUTCHERS PAY.**

The butcher in Salt Lake usually pays about 6 cents a pound for whole beef critters, delivered to his shop, dressed. He divides the animal in a general way into three parts, consisting of the loin, the buttock and the fore-quarter. Hotels sometimes secure cheap meat by buying whole critters, and selling back the most expensive cuts at 12 cents or better, and thus securing the remaining cuts at cheaper than six cents a pound, average. But nowhere in the butcher's price list is beef under 6 cents a pound. Not in this schedule quoted above are the tenderloin and porterhouse steaks, for which 20 cents and 22 1/2 cents are charged respectively. Going down to the neck cuts and the common steak cuts, the prices still stay around seven and eight cents per pound.

**POSSIBLE PROFITS.**

The building up of paper profits is an attractive game for newspaper writers in the east these days, the private car lines are consequently rated as great profit makers. Mr. Armour has led back by offering an annual salary of something like \$80,000 to the man who can deliver the profits out of his car lines, which the newspaper men credit him with making. The figures on Salt Lake beef, that are at hand, make profits to the retailer look pretty big, but he can no doubt furnish figures, if he is disposed, which cut down his balance considerably. Here are some of the figures:

A butcher gets his beef at 4 cents a pound. An average critter weighs say 500 pounds, although they actually range from 350 to 600 pounds. The wholesaler divides it into four quarters, and gets \$30 for it. The retailer sells it out in six general divisions. These are: buttock, about 170 pounds; ribs, 50 pounds; loin, 100 pounds; brisket, 85 pounds; chuck, 100 pounds; and shanks, 35 pounds. His income in buttock, at about 12 cents average, \$20.40; ribs, at 15 cents, 7.50; loin at 18 cents, \$18; briskets, at 7 cents, \$5.95; chuck at 10 cents, \$8; shanks at say 8 cents, \$2.80. This brings the total for the beef to \$55.55, which is only a little less than 100 per cent profit for cutting up the beef. It is well known that retailers handle many staple food items for 10 and 20 per cent profit, and seldom make 50 per cent. Merchandise concerns figure likewise that 50 per cent is a "cheaper" proposition, and here would be an apparent raise of just three times what is reasonable, and twice what is generally considered clever.

One prominent shop in Salt Lake employs a cutter from whom it was learned, on a casual statement, that he cut up 12 steers a day, and thought this was a fair average for the three or four bigger shops. This would make their income on beef alone, apparently, \$702.00, and \$342.00 of this would be in excess of the cost of the beef. The same cutter said the whole critters cost 6 cents a pound dressed, to the shop, and not 7 cents, as is sometimes alleged.

**PROVE NOT INFECTED.**

An inquiry this afternoon in regard

to Prove prices, among consumers is to the effect that they do not approach Salt Lake prices. One consumer was found, who travels a great deal up and down the state, who always stops off at Prove to get his family meat supply, carrying it with him to Salt Lake, where, and surely the choicest steers and selected beef, that is sold to justify the fancy price, is hardly served over every block in the city.

The defense on quality is one that goes well, for a buyer who cares for his table, would dislike to have anything served that was not as good as could be bought. In the case of the cripple-foot shoe maker, who was arrested in New York, and who operated here for a long time, it was seen to what limits people would go who thought they were getting their money's worth in extra quality.

**THE REASON WHY.**

The reason for the poverty-producing prices to the man who is unfortunate to have to buy meat in Salt Lake is, in my opinion, founded upon the simple and significant fact that there is in this city a butcher's trust, if not in actual organized existence, at least in operation and effect. Never in all the years that are gone have the citizens of Salt Lake been in the hands of a stronger organization than that which now controls the prices of meat here. Talk about the eastern beef trust—it never was more powerful in the large sense than the Salt Lake butchers' trust in a small one. I am making a straight out from the shoulder talk. I am telling the truth and the meat consumers of this city know it. And now, Mr. Desert News, I again ask that the men who fix and control the price of meat in Salt Lake get up and tell us why we are obliged to pay them such enormous tribute. I am glad to see them prosper, and I observe, and no butcher can successfully refute the fact that they are making immense profits, and that there are more of them in the business than ever before. Some years ago there was an occasional failure among the butchers of this city. Now please name one who has had financial reverses since the organization of our little trust that has grown haughtier and more dictatorial every day. It can't be done. The subject upon which I write is one that I have given a good deal of attention to. I have been hoping that some set of men—judicial or otherwise, would exploit this matter and make an effort towards reducing prices to the point where a working man may have meat often at the orchard—still it is to tell of the genius of Puccini, and the story is so natural and simple, that all classes of auditors are charmed with it. Very admirably it was rendered last night. Mr. Sheehan, Mr. Sheehan, for his superb work in the part of Rudolph on the previous visit of the company, was in admirable voice, and the high A, B, and C notes, which have made him famous, rang over with the old time electrical effect. Very few tenors in the world sing in the upper register with the ease and thrilling effect that Mr. Sheehan does, and if Savage ever started anyone, he is, however, he is in no danger of doing, he would in all probability be the man. He is by no means a great actor, and at some telling moments of the play he might be considered indifferent, but his wonderful notes and his vocal all that. He does wake up occasionally, however, even in his acting, and the superb situation at the fall of the curtain, where he seizes the head of Mimi, and lets it drop when he discovers that she is dead, was admirably brought out last night.

**AMUSEMENTS.**

The second night of the opera season witnessed another grand outpouring of music lovers, another record breaking tale at the box office, and another night of enthusiastic appreciation on the part of the audience. "La Boheme," one of the foremost in the modern school of Italian opera, has been sung but once before in Salt Lake, when it was rendered by the Savage company with much the same cast as last evening. While the work is radically different from most of the other Italian operas, it is one of the most beautiful, and the music being placed on the orchestra—still it is to tell of the genius of Puccini, and the story is so natural and simple, that all classes of auditors are charmed with it. Very admirably it was rendered last night.

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**PROVE NOT INFECTED.**

An inquiry this afternoon in regard

# ROYAL Baking Powder

A Grape Cream of Tartar Powder Absolutely Pure

Royal makes the most delicious and healthful hot-breads, biscuit and cake.

For safety sake, use only a baking powder whose label shows it is made with cream of tartar.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Alum baking powders are considered so injurious to health, and their promiscuous sale a source of such danger, that their use is universally condemned by physicians and health officers. In many States the law requires that they shall be branded to warn consumers that they contain alum.

In the District of Columbia, under the laws of Congress, the use of alum in bread, biscuit, cake and other food is a misdemeanor.

Alum baking powders may be known by their price. Powders sold from ten to twenty-five cents a pound, or twenty-five ounces for twenty-five cents, are not made of cream of tartar.

## CHURCH NOTICES

Regular services of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will be held tomorrow, Sunday. Fast meetings being held in the respective wards at 2 o'clock p.m.; Sunday school at 10 a.m., and meetings in the city ward assembly rooms and adjacent wards as follows:

First	Second	Third	Fourth	Fifth	Sixth	Seventh	Eighth	Ninth	Tenth	Eleventh	Twelfth	Thirteenth	Fourteenth	Fifteenth	Sixteenth	Seventeenth	Eighteenth	Nineteenth
2:00	2:00	2:00	2:00	2:00	2:00	2:00	2:00	2:00	2:00	2:00	2:00	2:00	2:00	2:00	2:00	2:00	2:00	2:00

The High Priests of the Ensign Stake will hold their monthly meeting in room 23, B. Y. Memorial building, Monday, Feb. 5, at 7:30 p.m. The change in time and place being occasioned by the lecture of Prof. John B. DeMotte the same evening. A full attendance is desired.

**HAMILTON G. PARK, JOSEPH H. FELT, LEVI W. RICHARDS,** Presidency.

The officers of the Young Men's and Young Ladies' Mutual Improvement Associations of the Salt Lake Stake will hold their regular monthly meeting in room 23, B. Y. Memorial building, Monday, Feb. 5, at 7 p.m., the change in time and place being occasioned by the lecture of Prof. John B. DeMotte the same evening. A full attendance is desired.

**GEORGE Q. MORRIS, LUCY W. SMITH,** Superintendents.

The High Priests of Pioneer Stake will hold their regular monthly meeting in the stake hall on Sunday, Feb. 4, at 10 a.m. All members of the quorum are urged to attend.

**DAVID MCKENZIE, HUGH WATSON, JAMES LEATHAM,** Presidency.

The regular monthly meeting of the Priesthood of Pioneer Stake will be held in the stake hall on Sunday, Feb. 5, at 7:30 p.m. A full attendance is desired.

**WILLIAM McLACHLAN, SYLVESTER Q. CANNON, CHARLES H. HYDE,** Stake Presidency.

The High Priests' quorum of Liberty Stake will hold their regular monthly meeting in the Second ward meeting-house Monday, Feb. 5, at 7:30 p.m. A full attendance is desired.

**JOSEPH KEDDINGTON, WILFORD WOODRUFF, JR., JOHN D. H. McALLISTER,** Presidency.

The Sixteenth quorum of Seventy will meet Monday, Feb. 5, at 7:30 p.m., at the Tenth ward meeting-house. Special business will be presented.

The Tenth quorum of Seventy will hold its regular monthly meeting in the Second ward assembly rooms Monday, Feb. 5, at 7:30 p.m. All members of the quorum are urged to be present.

Ward	Hour	Ward	Hour
Big Cottonwood	2:00	Mill Creek	2:00
East Mill Creek	2:00	Murray	2:00
Emerson	2:00	Waterloo	2:00
Farmers	2:00	Wilford	2:00
Forest Dale	2:00	Winder	2:00
Granger	2:00	South Cottonwood	2:00
Grant	2:00	Sugar House	2:00
Hunter	2:00	Taylorsville	2:00

**OTHER CHURCHES.**

First Presbyterian church, corner east South Temple and C streets. Rev. W. M. Paden, D. D., pastor. Morning services at 11 o'clock; Sunday school at 12:30; Young People's meeting at 6:30; evening service at 7:45. Seats are free.

at all services, and the public cordially invited.

Y. M. C. A. men's meeting Sunday, 3:30 p.m. Address by Rev. Elmer I. Goshen. Subject, "The Kedron Hour of a Man's Life." Special music by the quartet. All men are invited both to the address and to the reading room during the afternoon.

Judge Willis Brown will talk to boys in the gymnasium at 4 p.m. Subject "Jiggers." All boys are welcome.

Our Savior's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Fourth East, between Fourth and Fifth South—Sunday Services at 10:30 a.m. in the English language. You are cordially invited to attend.

First Congregational Church, corner of Fourth East and First South streets, Elmer I. Goshen, pastor—Morning service at 11 o'clock; Sunday school at 12:30 p.m.; Christian Endeavor at 5 p.m.

Westminster Presbyterian Church, 132 south Fourth West, Rev. W. McLean W. Davis, pastor, 139 West Sixth South—Morning service, 11 o'clock, subject of sermon by pastor, "In Christ." Evening service at 7:30. Special gathering to celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the "Founding of Christian Endeavor." Good music and a short address on the "Leading Motives of Endeavor Work." Sunday school 12:15 p.m.; Junior Christian Endeavor at 4 p.m. No regular meeting of Christian Endeavor, as it will be superseded by the evening service. All cordially invited.

Endeavor Presbyterian Chapel, 632 west First North—Sunday school at 1:30.

## PILES 14 YEARS.

Terrible Case Cured Painlessly With Only One Treatment of Pyramid Pile Cure. Free Package in Plain Wrapper Mailed to Everyone Who Writes.

"I have been a terrible sufferer of piles for fourteen years. I have tried every kind of cure, but in vain. I have had many times of medicine I tried. But I found that it was impossible to get rid of them. I was suffering from the terrible torture, burning and itching of piles, will get instant relief from the treatment we send out free, at our own expense, in plain sealed package, to everyone sending name and address.

Surgical operation for piles is nerve-racking, cruel and rarely a permanent success. Here you can get a treatment that is quick, easy to apply and inexpensive, and free from the public and humiliating you suffer by doctors' examination.

Pyramid Pile Cure is made in the form of "easy to use" suppositories. The coming of cure is felt the moment you begin to use it, and your suffering ends. Send your name and address at once to Pyramid Pile Cure, 1535 Pyramid Building, Marshall, Mich., and get, by return mail, the treatment we will send you free, in plain, sealed wrapper.

After seeing for yourself what it can do, you can get a regular, full size package of Pyramid Pile Cure from any drug store at 25 cents each, or on receipt of price, we will mail you same ourselves if he should not have it.

**J. P. GARDNER**  
136-138 MAIN ST.  
THE QUALITY STORE.

p. m. Good music. All cordially invited.

## HAVE YOU DYSPEPSIA, INDIGESTION?

If to-day you suffer from impaired digestion, sluggish liver or impure blood, and you were told of a preparation which would cure you at a small cost would you try the remedy? There is a medicine—Green's August Flower. Go to your druggist's and buy a test bottle for 25 cents, or the regular size for 75 cents. If you have used all other dyspepsia remedies without satisfaction, or if you have never used any preparation for these distressing affections: loss of appetite, sleeplessness, nervousness, or any disorder of the stomach or liver, cure yourself quickly by using the infallible August Flower. It is not an alcoholic stimulant but quite harmless for general use. Get a copy of Green's Prize Almanac. At all druggists.

Store clothes are all right, but when you can get up to date tailor made ones for prices just as reasonable, and keep money at home, you should do it. Try Daniel's at 57 West Second South. Fit or no sale.

## GARDNER DAILY STORE NEWS

NEW 50c CAPS.

An early installment of our Spring Cap stock just received and immediately placed on sale, as we were almost entirely out of the Winter lines.

Some very pretty designs in blue serge and mixed patterns.

And unusual fifty cent qualities.

Many marked-down Suits and Overcoats for today's selling.

**ONE PRICE.**

**J. P. GARDNER**  
136-138 MAIN ST.  
THE QUALITY STORE.

After seeing for yourself what it can do, you can get a regular, full size package of Pyramid Pile Cure from any drug store at 25 cents each, or on receipt of price, we will mail you same ourselves if he should not have it.

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Best money making proposition in Utah, specially good for a doctor or live business men, only few hundred dollars for half interest. Address P. O. Box 6, or call at 253 E. West Temple.

## NEW HYMN BOOK AND PSALMODY.

A new edition of the L. D. S. Hymn Book (the twenty-fourth), revised under the direction of the Church Authorities, has just been issued by the Desert News. Many improvements will be observed. The names of the authors, as far as they could be ascertained, have been