

been selected for comparisons, holding type of celery, size of celery, basis of sale and seasonal prices constant.

Comparison was made between U. S. No. 1 and 80-89% U. S. No. 1 grades for both F.O.B. and consigned sales of size 6 dozen Golden celery, to compare the prices received for the two grade classifications on two different bases. F.O.B. sales are ordinarily made on the basis of description, "over the wire, sight unseen." Consigned sales are made after the celery has been shipped to market and the buyer has had a chance to inspect it. In the case of F.O.B. sales, the grade described must necessarily be a price-influencing factor. In the case of consigned sales, however, price is likely to reflect grade only to the extent that the grading is based on the factors for which the trade will pay at time of inspection. Because of the many factors held constant, the comparison of prices has been based on fewer observations than might be desirable under ideal conditions. During most of the weeks of the season there were sales of over five lots of size 6 dozen Golden type celery of the selected grades and bases of sale included in the comparison.

An average seasonal price difference between the two grades was obtained by weighting each individual week's price difference by the number of sales of the particular grade for which there were the fewest number of sales during that week. In so weighting, the comparisons, based on only a few sales, received less weight than those based on a large number of sales. Such a method of weighting probably overweights the price difference for the weeks with a large number of sales, because the method assumes a straight line relationship between the number of cases and the reliability of the data. However, in view of the limited number of lots of celery sold and because in no single week was there an unusually large number of lots sold, this method of weighting is the most satisfactory. The weighted average seasonal difference for F.O.B. sales was 18.5 cents compared with 17.3 cents for consigned sales. That is, size 6 dozen Golden type celery U. S. No. 1 grade sold F.O.B. for an average of 18.5 cents more per crate than the 80-89% U. S. No. 1 grade of the same size and type.

The average seasonal difference, however, does not reveal the variation in differences during individual weeks. During 24 weeks there were F.O.B. sales of both U. S. No. 1 grade and 80-89% U. S. No. 1 grade size 6 dozen Golden type celery (Table 48). During 12 of these weeks the F.O.B. sales for size