

THE CONDITION OF TRADE.

Omaha Banks are Not Anxious to Make Loans.

THEY THINK THE STRINGENCY OVER.

Several Reasons Why Money is Kept Close in the West—A Symptom of Returning Confidence.

Whatever may have been the changes in business and financial circles, at more or less intervals, there have been no very important developments of a purely local nature. The Omaha banks remain in about the same attitude as a week ago and while they predict that the present month will see the removal of the last vestige of a money stringency they are not as yet disposed to be much more liberal in the matter of loans. The truth is that the demands made upon the banks are heavier than usual, as has been pointed out before. Companies representing eastern capitalists, who have formerly loaned vast sums in Nebraska—have shut down and borrowers have been forced to look elsewhere, that is, to the local banks. Another cause is also helping to keep money close in the west, and though it is of annual occurrence, it is more than usual at times. For the present, and that is the withdrawal of large amounts of money from local circulation and the sending of it to eastern money centers, in payment of the interest on bonds, mortgages, etc. But this very fact, while it keeps money closer here, is affording relief in the east. In this connection a Wall Street writer remarks that the happiness promise of the near future is not shown here by the condition of the eastern banks, but rather by the large amounts of money which are sent to flow into Wall Street and into the business markets of every commercial city through the payments of interest upon bonded debt and the redemption of obligations which, at the end of the year, necessitate their return. If any fact is necessary to show that no return of stringent conditions is likely, the testimony of this one would seem to be overwhelming.

The fact that the country banks in some localities are calling for commercial paper is regarded as a favorable sign, indicating a returning confidence. In the extreme east, if the reports of the financial press are to be relied upon, a feeling of uncertainty prevails, due to the financial mania which has been in vogue, or that may come up before the close of the present session. The sooner these mania ceases and the more the money is paid for the return of confidence. It is true, however, that the financial situation is steadily improving in the east and that money is being loaned more liberally.

The Omaha clearings for the past week show a gain over the previous week, but a decrease as compared with the corresponding week of last year.

Among the wholesalers trade is not so brisk as many would like to see it, but it has been fully as good as a year ago. The clearing for the part of January. The mild weather prevailing all over the state has made the movement of winter goods slow and that together with the shortage of crop, factors have made the retail dealers very cautious about loading up with heavy stocks of goods. For the same reasons, the wholesalers have not been able to force their goods upon the retail trade as they might under different circumstances. The war has been detrimental to trade in that it has made some Omaha houses that have been selling large bills of frontier supplies have experienced a marked falling off in sales. Collections in the country are in many cases not reported so good as before the first of January. During the fall and early part of the winter, the country trade was generally very fair. Country produce brought good prices and the farmers sold what they could and used the money for the payment of store accounts and for the purchase of goods thus making money plenty in the country at a time when it was close in the large cities.

In the matter of business failures Omaha continues to be remarkably fortunate and no business circles are showing any signs of a record in that name. Also can show as clean a record in that name. Also can show as clean a record in that name. Also can show as clean a record in that name.

As the matter now stands no very important changes are looked for in financial or business circles. A few weeks to come, but it is likely that affairs will be about as quiet as at present until the nearer approach of spring makes it possible to predict with some certainty what the spring trade will be.

OMAHA MARKETS.

CATTLE—Estimated receipts of cattle 2,000 as compared with 1,800 last Saturday. Market about steady on the best desirable heaves and slow and unclean, an undecided feeling was shown. With large receipts of butcher stock, market was slow and easier. Feeders are moving at a slow rate.

HOGS—Estimated receipts of hogs 5,000 as compared with 4,500 last Saturday. Market about steady on heavy hogs and strong, and higher on light hogs. The bulk selling at 14 1/2c and 15c, the average 14 1/2c, as compared with the prices paid was 2 1/2c, as compared with 2 1/2c Saturday and 1 1/2c Saturday of last week.

SHEEP—Estimated receipts of sheep 1,000 as compared with 1,200 last Saturday. Market about steady on heavy hogs and strong, and higher on light hogs.

Disposition of Stock. Showing the number of head of stock purchased on this market as reported by the exhibitors to the Stockyards company for January 10:

Table with columns: Buyers, CATTLE, No., and SHEEP, No. Lists various buyers and their respective stock counts.

Representative Sales. STEERS. No. A. V. No. A. V. No. A. V. No. A. V.

Table with columns: No. A. V., No. A. V., No. A. V., No. A. V. Lists representative sales for steers, cows, and sheep.

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