

COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL

Wheat Ruled Firm Yesterday and Closed a Fraction Higher.

CORN STRONG ON LITTLE BUSINESS

In Oats the Market Was Extremely Dull and Uninteresting—Prices Were Pushed Up a Trifle and Closed Higher.

CHICAGO. May 2.—Wheat ruled firm today on a small business and closed with an advance of 3¢c. The movement of the stocks is at last apparently coming the way of the bulls. The visible supply gives evidence of a speedy reduction by export. Although foreign market traders inform the traders of this country that they have already more than enough from other sources, they continue to receive about one-half of all they need from the United States and Canada. These heavy shipments are now being felt in the stock here and without an overwhelming supply it was said: "What will the bears do?" Corn was firm and gained 1¢c. May oats were likewise 1¢c higher. Provisions are slightly lower.

Wheat was firm on extremely small receipts. Aside from the bearish effects lately caused by the state bulletins regarding the condition of the winter wheat, the situation was very quiet, with the bulls. The receipts were light and the shipments liberal. There were reports that the army worms were invading the wheat fields of Texas, and that chinch bugs were paying their respects to the plant in Kansas. The local market was steady, though some long wheat did not come out to help them to break wheat that they might cover their short sales. They began buying in a quiet way and trade was so small that a moderate amount of buying was sufficient to create a diversion in favor of the bulls. The market was a good industry, spring wheat for shipment at 1¢ per bushel over May prices, and some was sold for that early in the day. July opened 1¢c below Wednesday's close, at 59½¢, and last only 1¢c at the close.

Corn was firm on a remarkably small amount of buying, though there was no particular feature in the trade. July was weak for a moment at the start. Very little changed hands at first, quotations. It gradually strengthened until it touched 29¾¢ about the middle of the session. The closing prices were at the highest point of the day's range.

The market was extremely dull and uninteresting. Just before the closing prices were pushed up a trifle and closed at the high point of the day, or at an advance of 1¢c on May and from 1¢c to 3¢c on other futures.

Trading in provisions was no exception to the general quietness distinguished which prevailed in the other pits. Prices raised a trifle easier, but the decline was made as soon as the market opened. Pork lost 1¢c, but lard and ribs were unchanged.

Estimated receipts for Friday: Wheat, 72,000 bushels; corn, 170 cars; oats, 175 cars; hogs, 2,000 head.

The leading futures ranged as follows:

	Open.	High.	Low.	Close.
Wheat No. 2	57½	57½	57½	57½
July	59½	59½	59½	59½
May	60½	60½	60½	60½
Corn No. 2	37½	37½	37½	37½
Sept.	40	40	39½	40
Oats No. 2	33½	34	33½	34
June	33½	33½	33½	33½
July	29½	29½	29½	29½
Pork per lb.	25½	25½	25½	25½
May	12 25	12 30	12 25	12 17½
Lard 100 lbs	7 37½	7 37½	7 32½	7 35
May	7 37½	7 37½	7 32½	7 35
Sept.	7 05	7 10	7 05	7 10
Short Ribs	6 40	6 42½	6 40	6 42½
July	6 30	6 37½	6 30	6 35
Sept.	6 27½	6 35	6 27½	6 35

Cash quotations were as follows:

WHEAT—No. 2 steady and unchanged.

OATS—No. 2, steady; No. 3, spring, \$6.00 per bushel.

CORN—No. 2, steady; No. 3, fall, \$6.00 per bushel.

PROVISIONS—Meat, pork, per lb., \$2.25 per lb.; lard, per lb., \$1.25 per lb.; bacon, \$1.75 per lb.; ham, \$1.75 per lb.; salted hams, \$1.75 per lb.

BUTTER—Nominal.

PLAN SEED—No. 1, 25¢.

PEANUTS—Nominal; \$4.24.

PROVISIONS—Meat, pork, per lb., \$2.25 per lb.; lard, per lb., \$1.25 per lb.; bacon, \$1.75 per lb.; ham, \$1.75 per lb.; salted hams, \$1.75 per lb.

DAIRY—Nominal.

HIDES—Nominal.

FLAX—Nominal.

WHEAT—Dull; range on all grades.

CORN MEAL—Steady; yellow western, \$2.65 per bushel.

BUCKWHEAT—Dull; range on all grades.

WHEAT—Dull; steady; London market, steady to day.

HIDES—Nominal; wet salled New Orleans, \$4.00 per lb.; \$4.25 per lb.; Texas, selected, \$4.00 per lb.; Buenos Ayres, \$2.00 to 2.10 per lb.

BARLEY—Nominal.

PEANUTS—Nominal.

WHEAT—Nominal.

PROVISIONS—Meat, pork, per lb., \$2.25 per lb.; lard, per lb., \$1.25 per lb.; bacon, \$1.75 per lb.; ham, \$1.75 per lb.; salted hams, \$1.75 per lb.

BUTTER—Nominal.

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