# COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL

## Wheat, Oats and Corn Advanced and Closed Quite Strong.

## PROVISIONS WERE IRREGULAR ALL DAY

### Extreme Dullness in Trade and the Report of More Gold Shipments Were Weakening Factors.

CHICAGO, Jan. 17.—The wheat, corn and oats markets today rose out of a rather heavy condition in the last ten minutes of the session and closed strong at the best prices of the day and at gains of ⅝c in wheat and ¼c in corn and oats. Provisions were irregular in the further advance which they made today, having had to halt while knocking out an organized band of raiders from the wheat pit, who attempted to prevent them going higher, but made a costly failure. Pork closed at an advance over yesterday of 27½c, lard 5c and ribs 10c.

Partly due to the strong start in provisions and in part for reasons peculiar to its own surroundings, the wheat market commenced the day at a little improvement. Wheat, which closed on the day before at 59⅝c for May, had very few sellers at that this morning, and plenty who bid 59¾c and almost immediately 59⅞c. The early Liverpool cables quoted some advance there, and this, with the moderate receipts in the northwest, amounting to only 373 cars, helped the market to advance ¼c early. But the extreme dullness in trade and the report of more gold shipments were weakening factors, under which there was a gradual decline to 59⅛c, with every appearance of going still lower, but the fresh bullishness of the provision pit started it up again, and it was once more before 12 o'clock wanted at 59⅞c. But the non-appearance of the cold wave here and the heavy storm out on the Pacific coast sapped support which had previously been an unobtrusive reliance of the bills. The clearances of wheat and flour from the Atlantic seaboard were only moderate, and later Liverpool advices quoted the early gain all lost. Berlin was reported as opening from ½ to ¾ mark lower. A probable decrease of only 500,000 bu. or 600,000 bu. in the visible supply for the week was another point in favor of the bears. The second advance to 59⅞c had for its cause, besides the revival of bull speculation in provisions, a reported sale of 500,000 bu. of wheat at Duluth to go, all rail, to New York. In addition to this were reported 1,250,000 bu. engaged there for May-June shipment by lakes. The market in the last ten minutes of the session became quite strong, the price of May getting a bulge to 60¼c, finally closing at that figure.

Corn was quiet and sold off some at one time, influenced by the weakness in wheat and the expectation of more liberal country deliveries. But later wheat recovered, and as provisions had a good bulge, corn followed and sold up ¼c. May opened unchanged at from 28⅜c to 28⅞c, split, fell to 28½c, then up to 28¾c, closing firm with the advance in provisions at from 28¾c to 28⅞c.

Oats were quiet and featureless. The market was confined to narrow limits, and at the close showed little change.

Disappointment in the number of hogs received at the stock yards once more started the provision men on a hunt for pork, lard and ribs, for which they offered much higher figures than were current as the session was closing yesterday. Pork started at from $10.25 to $10.30, dropped back to $10.15, then climbed to $10.45 and closed at that figure. Lard rose from $5.00 to $5.07½ and was wanted at $5.07½ as the market was closing. Ribs, from $5.12½, rose to $5.25, making the highest price at the close.

Estimated receipts for Saturday: Wheat, 70 cars; corn, 650 cars; oats, 190 cars; hogs, 15,000 head.

The leading futures ranged as follows:

| Articles. | Open. | High. | Low. | Closing. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Wheat, No. 2 | | | | |
| Jan..... | 59⅝ | 57⅞ | 56¾ | 57⅞ |
| Feb..... | 57⅝ | 57¾ | 57 | 57¾ |
| May..... | 59⅝ | 60¼ | 59⅛ | 60¼ |
| July..... | 60 | 60¾ | 60 | 60¾ |
| Corn, No. 2.. | | | | |
| Jan..... | 26¼ | 26⅜ | 26¼ | 26⅜ |
| Feb..... | 28⅝ | 28⅝ | 28⅛ | 28⅝ |
| May..... | 29¾ | 29⅞ | 29⅛ | 29⅞ |
| Sept..... | 30¾ | 30¾ | 30⅛ | 30¾ |
| Oats, No. 2.. | | | | |
| Jan..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 17⅝ |
| Feb..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 18⅛ |
| May..... | 19⅛ | 19⅝ | 19⅛ | 19⅝ |
| July..... | 20 | 20⅛ | 20 | 20⅛ |
| Pork, per bbl | | | | |
| Jan..... | 9 95 | 10 15 | 9 85 | 10 15 |
| May..... | 10 25 | 10 45 | 10 15 | 10 45 |
| Lard, 100 lbs | | | | |
| Jan..... | 5 65 | 5 72½ | 5 65 | 5 70 |
| May..... | 5 92½ | 6 00 | 5 92½ | 5 97½ |
| Short Ribs— | | | | |
| Jan..... | 4 90 | 5 00 | 4 87½ | 5 00 |
| May..... | 5 15 | 5 25 | 5 12½ | 5 25 |

Cash quotations were as follows:

FLOUR—Steady; winter patents, $3.00@3.60; winter straights, $2.10@3.50; spring patents, $3.10@3.25; spring straights, $2.40@2.75; bakers, $2.10@2.35.

WHEAT—No. 2 spring, 57½@58½c; No. 3 spring, 56@57½c; No. 2 red, 62½@62¾c.

CORN—No. 2, 26⅝c; No. 2 yellow, 26½c.

OATS—No. 2, 18c; No. 2 white, 20@20½c; No. 3 white, 18@19½c.

RYE—No. 2, 37c.

BARLEY—No. 2, nominal; No. 3, f. o. b., 33@35½c; No. 4, 24@30c.

FLAX SEED—No. 1, 92c.

PRIME TIMOTHY SEED—$3.80.

PROVISIONS—Mess pork, per bbl., $10.15; lard, per 100 lbs., $5.67½@5.70; short ribs, sides, loose, $4.95@5.00; dry salted shoulders, boxed, $4.62½@4.75; short clear sides, boxed, $5.12½@5.25.

WHISKY—Distillers' finished goods, per gal., $1.22.

SUGARS—Cut loaf, $5.75; granulated, $5.12; standard "A," $5.

POULTRY—Firm; turkeys, 9@12c; chickens, 7@8½c; ducks, 11@12c.

The following were the receipts and shipments today:

| Articles. | Receipts. | Shipments. |
|---|---|---|
| Flour, bbls..... | 6,000 | 6,000 |
| Wheat, bu..... | 29,000 | 71,000 |
| Corn, bu..... | 348,000 | 143,000 |
| Oats, bu..... | 302,000 | 161,000 |
| Rye bu..... | 3,000 | 2,000 |
| Barley, bu..... | 24,000 | 18,000 |

On the Produce exchange today the butter market was steady; creamery, 17@22c; dairy, 11@18c. Eggs, steady; fresh, 16@17c. Cheese, quiet; 8¾@9¼c.

## NEW YORK GENERAL MARKET

### Closing Quotations on the Principal Commodities and Staples.

NEW YORK, Jan. 17.—FLOUR—Receipts, 26,000 bbls.; exports, 37,100 bbls.; rather steadier on the firmness in wheat, but demand proved small. Minnesota patents, $3.40@3.50; winter patents, $3.60@3.75; winter straights, $3.40@3.45; winter extras, $2.65@2.00; winter low grades, $2.20@2.60. Rye flour, quiet; superfine, $2.55@2.75. Buckwheat flour, dull; $1.30.

BUCKWHEAT—Quiet; 39½@40c.

CORN MEAL—Dull; yellow western, coarse, 70c; Brandywine, $2.35.

RYE—Inactive; western, 42@45c.

BARLEY—Dull; western, 38@43c; feeding, 32@37½c.

BARLEY MALT—Neglected; western, 49@55c.

WHEAT—Exports, 26,000 bu. Spot, steady; No. 2 red, 70⅝c; No. 1 hard, 70⅝c. Options were dull, but steady all the forenoon, receiving some help from firm cables and foreign buying. In the afternoon prices advanced on a sudden demand from shorts and sympathy with provisions and closed ⅝@⅞c higher; No. 2 red, January, closed at 68⅝c; May, 67⅝@67⅞c, closed at 67⅝c.

CORN—Receipts, 19,800 bu.; exports, 4,000 bu. Spot, dull; No. 2, 35½c. Options opened steadier at first on covering, declined on talk of big receipts, and finally rallied with wheat and closed ⅛c higher; January closed at 35½c; May, 34⅞@35⅛c, closed at 35⅛c.

OATS—Receipts, 20,000 bu.; exports, 29,400 bu. Spot market, dull; No. 2, 24c. Options opened quiet, but steady; closing ⅛c higher; January closed at 24c; May, 24⅛@24½c, closed at 24½c.

HAY—Dull; shipping, $8.00@8.50; good to choice, $9.50@10.00.

HOPS—Steady; state, common to choice, 1894 crop, 2⅝@8c; 1895 crop, 4@10c; Pacific coast, 1894 crop, 3@7c; 1895 crop, 4@10c.

HIDES—Nominal; Galveston, 12c; Buenos Ayres, dry, 18c; Texas, dry, 16c; California, 18c.

WOOL—Steady; domestic fleece, 16@22c; pulled, 19@26c.

PROVISIONS—Beef, quiet; family, $10.00@12.00. Cut meats, quiet; pickled hams, $5.25@5.75. Lard, firm; western steam, closed at $5.95 asked; January, $5.80, nominal. Pork, firmer; mess, $10.50@11.00; short clear, $11.25@12.50; family, $10.50@11.00.

TALLOW—Steady; city, 3⅝c; country, 4c.

CHEESE—Receipts, 1,321 pkgs.; quiet; state large, 7½@10c; small, 7¾@10½c; part skims, 2¼@6c; full skims, 2@5c.

PETROLEUM—Firmer; United closed at $1.40 bid; refined, New York, $7.75; Philadelphia and Baltimore, $7.70; Philadelphia and Baltimore in bulk, $5.30.

ROSIN—Quiet; strained, common to good, $1.60@1.65.

TURPENTINE—Quiet; 32½@33c.

RICE—Firm; domestic, fair to extra, 3¾@4c; Japan, 3¾@4c.

MOLASSES—Steady; New Orleans, open kettle, good to choice, 29@26c.

BUTTER—Receipts, 4,993 pkgs.; market steady; creamery, 15@24c; Elgins, 24c.

EGGS—Receipts, 9,009 pkgs.; market quiet; state and Pennsylvania, 15½@16½c.

METALS—Pig iron, weak; southern, $11.75@13.00; northern, $12.00@13.50. Copper, easy; brokers' price, $10; exchange price, $9.75@9.85. Lead, quiet; brokers' price, $2.80; exchange price, $2.00@2.02½. Tin, steady; straits, $13.90@13.95.

COTTON SEED OIL—Dull; practically no export demand, and local buying indifferent, quotations nominal; prime crude, 24@24½c; butter grades, 30c; prime summer yellow, 28@30c.

## OMAHA GENERAL MARKET.

### Condition of Trade and Quotations on Staple and Fancy Produce.

The situation in the egg market is very far from satisfactory to the selling interests. The continued mild weather has been favorable for a very heavy production, and receipts have been large, and promise to be still larger, as information from the country would lead to the belief that stocks on hand are large. In the face of these facts there is a very poor consuming demand and stocks in cold storage at the leading centers are large. The supply of fresh stock is so large as to preclude any possibility of any immediate improvement, and even if the market could rally under the large receipts there are the cold storage stocks to be reckoned with. Unless something happens to change the course of the market cold storage men can hardly avoid heavy losses, as the market is very little above what it cost to put the eggs away, and the shrinkage this late in the season is bound to be large. Quotations:

EGGS—Strictly fresh stock, 13@14c.

BUTTER—Fair to good stock, rolls, 11c; packing stock, tubs, 9@10c; choice to fancy country, 14@15c.

VEAL—Choice fat, 70 to 100 lbs., are quoted at 6@7c; large and coarse, 4@6c.

CHEESE—Domestic brick, 11½c; Edam, per doz., $9.50; Club House, 1-lb. jars, per doz., $3.50; Limberger, factory, per lb., 11½c; Roquefort, ½-lb. jars, per doz., $2.60; Young Americas, 11½c; Twins, fancy, 11c.

POULTRY—Dressed—Chickens, 6½@8c; ducks, choice, 9@10c; turkeys, choice, 10@12c; geese, 7½@9c.

HAY—Upland, $5.50; midland, $5; lowland, $4.50; rye straw, $4; color makes the price on hay; light bales sell the best. Only top grades bring top prices.

BROOM CORN—Extremely slow sale; new crop, delivered on track in country, choice green self-working carpet, per lb., 2¼c; choice green, running to hurl, 2¼c; common, 1½c.

GAME—Jack snipe, 75c@$1.00; golden plover, $1.25; jack rabbits, per doz., $1.50@1.75; small rabbits, 75c@$1.00; mallard ducks, $1.50@3.75; redheads, $3.75@4.00; canvasback ducks, $5.00@5.00; teal, blue wing, $2.00@2.25; teal, green wing, $1.75@2.00; mixed ducks, $1.75@2.25; Canada geese, $5.00@7.50; small geese, $4.50@5.00; brants, $3.50; squirrels, per doz., 60@75c.

PIGEONS—Live, very slow; dead pigeons not wanted.

VEGETABLES.

CAULIFLOWER—Per crate, $2.75@3.00, or $1.50 @1.75 per doz.

CABBAGE—California stock, per lb., 2c.

POTATOES—Fancy native stock, 50c; from store in small lots, 50@55c; Colorado stock, 50@55c.

ONIONS—Per bu., 25@40c.

BEANS—Hand picked navy, per bu., $1.50.

SWEET POTATOES—Choice stock, $2.75 per bbl.

CELERY—California, per doz., No. 1, 50c; No. 2, 75c; Kalamazoo, 35c.

LIMA BEANS—Per lb., 5c.

WATER CRESS—Per 16-qt. case, $1.50@1.75.

FRUITS.

MEXICAN STRAWBERRIES—None.

APPLES—Fancy New York, $3.25@3.50; choice Western, $2.50@2.60; Utah apples, per box, $1.50.

CRANBERRIES—Jersey, $8.75; Cape Cod, $10; McFarlin's, $10.

MALAGA GRAPES—Per 60-lb. bbl., $5.50@6.00; per 65 to 70-lbs., gross, $7.00@7.50.

TROPICAL FRUITS.

ORANGES—California budded seedlings, regular sizes, $3; 250 to 288 sizes, $2.50@2.75; navels, $3.75; large sizes, $3.25.

LEMONS—California, per box, $3.50@4.00; Messinas, $4.00@4.25.

BANANAS—Choice large stock, per bunch, $2.00 @2.25; medium sized bunches, $1.75@2.00.

NUTS.

OYSTERS—Mediums, 15c; standards, 20c; extra selects, 25c; Branca & Co. selects, 27c; New York counts, 30c; standard bulk, per gal., $1.10.

HONEY—Fancy white, per lb., 15c.

MAPLE SYRUP—Five-gal. cans, each, $2.75; gal. cans, per doz., $12; ½-gal. cans, $6.25; quart cans, $3.75.

CIDER—Pure juice, per half bbl., $3; per bbl., $4.75.

SAUERKRAUT—Per bbl., $3.75; half bbl., $2.25.

FIGS—New crop, California, 10-lb. boxes, per lb., 10c; imported fancy, 20-lb. boxes, 15c; choice, 10-lb. boxes, 11½@12c.

DATES—New Persian, 60-lb. boxes, per lb., 5½c; fards, 10-lb. boxes, per lb., 9c.

MAPLE SUGAR—Choice, per lb., 9@10c.

PRESERVES—Assorted, 20-lb. pails, each $1.40.

COCOANUTS—Per 100, $4.50; each, 5c.

NUTS—Almonds, California, per lb., medium size, 10c; Tarragona almonds, per lb., large, 12½c; Brazils, per lb., 8c; English walnuts, per lb., fancy soft shell, 12c; standards, 11@11½c; filberts, per lb., 10c; pecans, polished medium, 10c; large, 12c; peanuts, raw, 5½c; roasted, 7@7½c; hickory nuts, small, per bu., $1.75; hickory nuts, large, per bu., $1.50; black walnuts, per bbl., $2.

DRESSED MEATS.

BEEF—Good western steers, 400 to 600 lbs., 5½@6c; good cows and heifers, 4¾@5c; medium cows and heifers, 4½c; good forequarters cows and heifers, 3½@3¾c; good hindquarters cows and heifers, 6@6½c; cow rounds, 5c; cow chucks, 3½c; steer chucks, 4@4½c; beef tenderloins, fresh, 20c; frozen, 17c; beef rolls, boneless, 8½c; sirloin butts, boneless, 8½c; loin backs, 6½c; cow ribs, No. 2, 6@7c; cow loins, No. 3, 7½@8½c.

MUTTON—Dressed mutton, 6c; racks, 9c; legs, 7½c; saddles, 7½c; stews, 3c.

PORK—Dressed hogs, 4¾c; pork loins, 6c; spare ribs, 5½c; pork shoulders, 4½c; pork shoulders, skinned, 4¾c; park trimmings, 4c; tenderloins, 13c; pigs' feet, cleaned, per doz., 35c.

FURS.

| | No. 1 Lge. | No. 1 Md'm | No. 1 Sm'll | 2 | 3 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| BEAR— | | | | | |
| Black ..... | $20@25 | $ 15 00 | $ 8@10 | $10@12 | $ 5 00 |
| Black cubs, yrlings.. | 12@15 | 10 00 | 7 00 | 7 00 | 3 00 |
| Black Cubs..... | 6@ 8 | 5@ 6 | 4 00 | 5 00 | 2 00 |
| Black Montana & Mountain ..... | 18@22 | 14 00 | 10 00 | 10 00 | 4 00 |
| Black Montana Yearlings ..... | 12 00 | 8 00 | 5 00 | 5 00 | 2 50 |
| Black Montana Cubs ..... | 6 50 | 4 50 | 3 00 | 4 00 | 2 00 |
| Silver Tip..... | 20 00 | 12 00 | 8 00 | 9 00 | 4 00 |
| Silver Tip Yrlgs. | 11 00 | 8 00 | 5 00 | 5 00 | 2 50 |
| Silver Tip Cubs.. | 6 00 | 4 50 | 3 00 | 3 00 | 1 50 |
| Brown ..... | 20@22 | 16 00 | 12 00 | 12 00 | 5 00 |
| Yearlings ..... | 1@1½ | 8@ 1 | 5@ 8 | 5@ 8 | 4 0 |
| Cubs ..... | 7 00 | 5 00 | 3 00 | 4 00 | 2 00 |
| Badger ..... | 1@1 50 | 60 | 50 | 50 | 50 |
| Fisher ..... | 8 00 | 6 00 | 4 00 | 4 00 | 2 00 |
| FOX— | | | | | |
| Silver (according to beauty)..... | 100 00 | 60 00 | 40 00 | 30 00 | 10 00 |
| Silver Pale (accord'g to bea'y) | 50 00 | 30 00 | 20 00 | 15 00 | 6 00 |
| Cross ..... | 7 00 | 3 00 | 2 00 | 1 50 | 1 00 |
| Red ..... | 1 50 | 1 25 | 1 00 | 75 | 25 |
| Gray ..... | 75 | 50 | 40 | 35 | 15 |
| Kit ..... | 50 | 40 | 30 | 20 | 10 |
| Lynx ..... | 3 00 | 2 00 | 1 50 | 1 25 | 50 |
| Marten ..... | 2 00 | 1 50 | 1 00 | 1 00 | 50 |
| Mink ..... | 80@85 | 60 | 45 | 35 | 15 |
| Mink Dark..... | 85 | 65 | 45 | 30 | 10 |
| Mountain Lion, (perfect head and feet)..... | 10 2 | | | | |
| Otter ..... | 8 00 | 6@ 7 | 5 00 | 1 00 | 2 00 |
| Otter Pale..... | 7 00 | 5 00 | 4 00 | 3 00 | 1 50 |
| Raccoon ..... | 60@70 | 50 | 35 | 20 | 10 |
| Raccoon, Black (as to beauty).. | 50@ 2 | | | | |
| SKUNK— | | | | | |
| Black, cased..... | 1 25 | 75 | 50 | 50 | 25 |
| Short striped..... | 1 00 | 70 | 45 | 40 | 20 |
| Narrow striped..... | 50 | 40 | 25 | 20 | 10 |
| Broad striped..... | 20@25 | | | | |
| Civet cats ..... | 4 00 | 3 00 | 2 00 | 2 00 | 1 00 |
| Wolf Mountain..... | 3 00 | 2 00 | 1 50 | 75 | 40 |
| Wolf Prairie..... | 65@90 | 60 | 40 | 20 | 10 |
| Beaver, per skin. | 5@ 6 | 4 50 | 2 00 | 4 00 | 2 00 |
| Muskrats..... | 2 00 | 1 50 | 75 | 50 | 25 |
| Spring ..... | | | | | |
| Winter ..... | 8@10 | 9 | 7 | 4 | |
| Fall ..... | | 9 | 7 | 3 | |
| Kits ..... | 2 | 2 | 1 | 3 | |

A decided change has come upon the country market, according to the Chicago Shoe and Leather Review. Buff hides have dropped from 7½c to 7c. A week ago the price was 7½c. The quotations of country hides are less staple than packer hides, for the reason that the latter are in fewer and stronger hands. There are people who affirm that buffs are on the down grade, now that the grubby season is on, and they freely predict 6c as the coming figure. On the contrary, there are others who refuse to become rattled at a slight decline, and insist that the old bull argument of scarcity will be just as effective as ever in a few days.

Dealers say the fall kill is coming in very slowly. There were perhaps eight cars of buffs in the market at the time the break occurred. The small kill and the Lenten season will tend to make buffs scarce in March. Grubs are late this year in putting in their appearance, but before long the take-off will likely run from 50 to 80 per cent No. 2. The folly of buying hides that under such conditions is obvious.

There were sales of over 2,000,000 pounds of packers' tallow within the last few days. This was the accumulation of some time of one of the packers, who finally became tired and sold out at the market. Nothing has transpired since and the market is sagging, the tendency being toward still lower prices. With soapmakers not buying and packers making tallow right along it does not take an expert to see which way the wind is blowing. Quotations:

HIDES AND TALLOW.

HIDES—No. 1 green hides, 4½c; No. 2 green hides, 3½c; No. 1 green salted hides, 6c; No. 2 green salted hides, 5c; No. 1 green salted hides, 25 to 40 lbs., 6c; No. 2 green salted hides, 25 to 40 lbs., 5c; No. 1 veal calf, 8 to 15 lbs., 7c; No. 2 veal calf, 8 to 15 lbs., 5c; No. 1 dry flint hides, 8@10c; No. 2 dry flint hides, 6@7c; No. 1 dry salted hides, 7c; part cured hides, ½c per lb. less than fully cured.

SHEEP PELTS—Green salted, each 25@60c; green salted shearlings (short wooled early skins), each 15c; dry shearlings (short wooled early skins), No. 1, each, 10c; dry shearlings (short wooled early skins), No. 2, each, 5c; dry flint Kansas and Nebraska butcher wool pelts, per lb., actual weight, 8@9c; dry flint Kansas and Nebraska Murrain wool pelts, per lb., actual weight, 6@8c; dry flint Colorado butcher wool pelts, per lb., actual weight, 4@6½c; dry flint Colorado Murrain wool pelts, per lb., actual weight, 4@5c; dry pieces and bucks, actual weight, 4@5c; feet cut off, as it is useless to pay freight on them.

TALLOW AND GREASE—Tallow, No. 1, 3¼c; tallow No. 2, 3c; grease, white A, 3¼c; grease, white B, 3c; grease, yellow, 2½c; grease, dark, 2c; yellow butter, 3@3½c; beeswax, prime, 15@22c; rough tallow, 1½c.

BONES—In car lots weighed and delivered in Chicago: Dry buffalo, per ton, $12.00@14.00; dry country, bleached, per ton, $10.00@12.00; dry country, damp and meaty, per ton, $6.00@8.00.

WOOL—Unwashed, fine heavy, 6@7c; fine light, 8@9c; quarter blood, 10@12c; seedy, burry and chaffy, 8@9c; cotted and broken, coarse, 7@8c; cotted and broken, fine, 8@9c. Fleece washed—Medium, 15@18c; fine, 14@16c; tub washed, 16@18c; black, 8c; bucks, 6c; tag locks, 12@2c; dead pulled, 5@6c.

### Dry Goods Market.

MANCHESTER, Jan. 17.—Cloth, dull and easy; yarns, quiet, with very little business.

FALL RIVER, Mass., Jan. 17.—Print cloths very dull at 2c.

NEW YORK, Jan. 17.—There was a continuation of the demand of previous reports, and more business was done in staple, fancy and fine cottons, and for clothing woolens there was some improvement in the orders for new heavy weights. Dress goods did relatively better than other fabrics. Printing cloths, however, were very dull and quotations nominal at 3c.

# SITUATION IS PERPLEXING

## Both the Financial and Tariff Questions Are Disturbing Factors.

## SPECULATION IN PRODUCTS INACTIVE

### Orders for Manufactured Goods Generally Below Producing Capacity—Stocks of Pig Iron Accumulate but Prices Are Higher.

NEW YORK, Jan. 17.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s Weekly Review of Trade, which issues tomorrow, will say: The situation could hardly be more perplexing for business men. Practical merchants, manufacturers or bankers can have little sympathy for those who minimize their difficulties. None doubt that the government will raise money to meet its obligations, but how far the money market will be disturbed or the treasury reserve first diminished no one can say. The business world cannot know as yet how far foreign questions may upset calculations, though there seems every reason to expect a peaceful settlement. It cannot know what may be the duties on any import in any class of imports a month hence, whether imports are likely to exceed exports and draw away gold or whether the deficit of revenue will continue or what other taxation will be levied. Failure of the senate to take any action upon the financial measures proposed by the president or those passed by the house affects unfavorably all branches of business.

Under such adverse circumstances it is actually encouraging that shrinkage in transactions and resulting commercial disasters have not been greater. But four large failures within a day or two indicate that the same condition cannot continue without much embarrassment.

Speculation in products was not very active and wheat was practically unchanged, though Atlantic exports for two weeks, flour included, have been 4,483,190 bushels, against 4,273,125 bushels last year. Wheat receipts still make short crop predictions ridiculous, amounting for two weeks of January to 5,421,976 bushels, against 2,559,122 bushels last year.

Corn receipts were also liberal, and exports about five times last year's.

Cotton receipts still indicate a yield nearly as small as Mr. Neil's reiterated estimate of 6,500,000 bales, but it is yet to be seen whether supplies held for better prices are of consequence. The price declined an eighth, with accounts of narrower demand by spinners abroad and declining prices for goods in this country. No branch of manufacture has progressed, for all are unavoidably waiting, both for the settlement of financial doubts and for a demand which does not yet appear. Cotton goods are not quotably lower, but concessions to secure business are reported in many cases, and many of the mills have been running largely in anticipation of orders not yet received. There is a little better inquiry for staples, with indications that dealers' stocks are running low.

The opening of fine and fancy woolens has brought no change in prices, and revisions caused by recent openings of worsteds have been generally for lower prices. There has been some increase in the demand, but not enough to keep most of the mills running full. Sales of wool in two weeks have been 4,994,000 pounds domestic and 6,862,300 pounds foreign, against 6,269,615 domestic and 4,410,200 pounds foreign last year.

The pig iron output weekly January was 207,481 tons, a decrease of 9,316 tons, or 4.3 per cent, in December, and unsold stocks increased 91,125 tons, or over 20,000 tons weekly, while the output of iron companies, whose stocks are not reported, produced in December 342,926 tons. The production is so far beyond the present demand for finished products that temporary stoppage of many furnaces is expected. Yet pig iron is higher, Bessemer about 50 cents and gray forge and anthracite 25 cents, although finished products are generally weaker, with less demand. Controllers of the coke and ore output are said to have agreed to maintain prices above those of 1895, which makes dearer pig iron, but if orders for finished products do not materialize the increased advance in materials can hardly be maintained.

Minor metals are weaker, with copper at $9.75, lead at 3 cents and tin at 13 cents.

Failures for the past week have been much larger in magnitude, numbering 395 in the United States, against 373 last year, and eighty-one in Canada, against sixty last year.

## WEEKLY CLEARING HOUSE TOTALS.

### Aggregate Business Transacted by the Associated Banks.

NEW YORK, Jan. 17.—The following table, compiled by Bradstreet's, shows the total clearances at the principal cities and the percentage of increase or decrease, as compared with the corresponding week last year:

| PLACES. | Clearings. | Inc. | Dec. |
|---|---|---|---|
| New York ..... | $ 598,445,714 | 15.0 | ..... |
| Chicago ..... | 89,062,914 | 0.9 | ..... |
| Boston ..... | 85,693,253 | ..... | 5.9 |
| Philadelphia ..... | 67,397,053 | 0.5 | ..... |
| St. Louis ..... | 24,740,563 | ..... | 8.8 |
| San Francisco ..... | 14,417,990 | 8.2 | ..... |
| Baltimore ..... | 15,120,762 | ..... | 6.2 |
| Pittsburg ..... | 13,350,330 | 17.6 | ..... |
| Cincinnati ..... | 12,819,500 | ..... | 12.9 |
| Kansas City ..... | 11,916,154 | 13.3 | ..... |
| New Orleans ..... | 12,715,712 | 7.6 | ..... |
| Buffalo ..... | 4,726,278 | 14.8 | ..... |
| Milwaukee ..... | 5,385,473 | 19.2 | ..... |
| Detroit ..... | 6,539,266 | 9.7 | ..... |
| Louisville ..... | 7,228,553 | 0.5 | ..... |
| Minneapolis ..... | 6,751,925 | 28.4 | ..... |
| OMAHA ..... | 4,573,221 | 13.3 | ..... |
| Providence ..... | 5,977,600 | 10.3 | ..... |
| Cleveland ..... | 6,657,793 | 25.4 | ..... |
| Houston ..... | 5,951,529 | ..... | 17.2 |
| St. Paul ..... | 4,397,410 | 27.6 | ..... |
| Denver ..... | 3,419,310 | 10.7 | ..... |
| Indianapolis ..... | 4,928,022 | 13.8 | ..... |
| Columbus, O. ..... | 3,257,500 | ..... | 20.8 |
| Hartford ..... | 2,728,853 | 3.0 | ..... |
| Richmond ..... | 2,607,321 | ..... | 3.3 |
| Washington ..... | 2,639,924 | 10.3 | ..... |
| Dallas ..... | 2,401,441 | 8.1 | ..... |
| St. Joseph ..... | 1,143,344 | ..... | 15.6 |
| Peoria ..... | 2,037,267 | ..... | 2.4 |
| Memphis ..... | 3,547,372 | 53.0 | ..... |
| Portland, Ore. ..... | 1,582,245 | 33.3 | ..... |
| Rochester ..... | 1,697,522 | 3.6 | ..... |
| New Haven ..... | 1,874,511 | 17.6 | ..... |
| Savannah ..... | 3,119,594 | 21.8 | ..... |
| Springfield, Mass. ..... | 1,531,402 | ..... | 1.1 |
| Worcester ..... | 1,362,642 | ..... | 2.8 |
| Portland, Me. ..... | 1,332,299 | ..... | 3.6 |
| Atlanta ..... | 1,750,777 | 43.4 | ..... |
| Fort Worth ..... | 1,687,348 | ..... | 22.5 |
| Wichita ..... | 1,466,981 | ..... | 39.2 |
| Syracuse ..... | 1,156,729 | 22.1 | ..... |
| Des Moines ..... | 1,109,219 | ..... | 1.7 |
| Grand Rapids ..... | 976,091 | ..... | 9.3 |
| Seattle ..... | 538,231 | 31.8 | ..... |
| Lexington ..... | 683,774 | ..... | 2.1 |
| Wilmington, Del. ..... | 781,090 | 5.2 | ..... |
| Norfolk ..... | 1,124,184 | 4.6 | ..... |
| Sioux City ..... | 603,057 | ..... | 10.1 |
| Los Angeles ..... | 1,126,519 | ..... | 10.4 |
| Tacoma ..... | 522,521 | 12.6 | ..... |
| Spokane ..... | 436,386 | 52.9 | ..... |
| Jacksonville ..... | 121,693 | ..... | 36.0 |
| Lincoln ..... | 426,093 | ..... | 20.2 |
| New Bedford ..... | 589,712 | 26.9 | ..... |
| Wichita ..... | 418,696 | ..... | 19.3 |
| Birmingham ..... | 459,163 | 34.2 | ..... |
| Topeka ..... | 401,799 | ..... | 14.1 |
| Lexington, Ky. ..... | 342,424 | 3.0 | ..... |
| Binghampton ..... | 376,600 | 8.6 | ..... |
| Bay City, Mich. ..... | 240,701 | ..... | 28.9 |
| Fall River ..... | 259,521 | ..... | 2.3 |
| Akron, O. ..... | 255,191 | 16.9 | ..... |
| Springfield, O. ..... | 293,057 | 9.7 | ..... |
| Canton, O. ..... | 186,000 | 3.9 | ..... |
| Sioux Falls ..... | 93,098 | 55.0 | ..... |
| Fremont, Neb. ..... | 67,646 | ..... | ..... |
| Hastings, Neb. ..... | 66,340 | 3.1 | ..... |
| Chattanooga ..... | 277,446 | 29.4 | ..... |
| Fargo ..... | 203,323 | 18.0 | ..... |
| Nashville ..... | 1,199,192 | 15.5 | ..... |
| Toledo ..... | 1,497,663 | ..... | ..... |
| Galveston ..... | 2,908,583 | ..... | 4.5 |
| Dayton ..... | 710,762 | ..... | ..... |
| Salt Lake ..... | 1,669,015 | 43.1 | ..... |
| Scranton ..... | 763,288 | 3.5 | ..... |
| Kalamazoo ..... | 311,568 | 19.1 | ..... |
| Helena ..... | 857,697 | ..... | 18.8 |
| Totals United States | $1,062,791,224 | 8.5 | ..... |
| Exclusive of New York | 464,345,510 | 1.3 | ..... |
| DOMINION OF CANADA. | | | |
| Montreal ..... | $ 10,953,498 | ..... | 9.2 |
| Toronto ..... | 6,874,777 | 9.0 | ..... |
| Halifax ..... | 1,390,306 | 13.9 | ..... |
| Hamilton ..... | 681,362 | 9.6 | ..... |
| Winnipeg ..... | 1,153,995 | 15.0 | ..... |
| Totals ..... | $ 21,053,846 | ..... | 0.4 |

The clearings at the following cities are not included in the totals, because of no comparison for last year: Toledo and Dayton. The amounts credited to Waco, Houston and Galveston not included in total, because containing other items than clearings.

## WAITING AND NARROW CONDITION.

### Uncertain Condition in the Money Market Keeps Down Trade.

NEW YORK, Jan. 17.—Bradstreet's financial review tomorrow will say: Waiting and narrow conditions have prevailed in the stock market all this week. The assurance that the government bond issue will be fully subscribed does not prevent the existence of a feeling of suspense pending the close of the bids, on February 5. Even with the modifications embodied in Secretary Carlisle's circular of last Thursday, which extends the payment after the first 20 per cent in allotment over a period of three months, there is thought to be reasonable danger of a disturbance in the money market. The dissolution of the Morgan bond syndicate, announced on Wednesday last, was no doubt inevitable, as no reason could be found for its continued existence. It would seem, however, that this action renders the preparations to bid for the bonds and to pay for them after allotment more scattered, and, therefore, more likely to produce an effect on rates for money, to say nothing of the probably increased withdrawals of gold from the treasury which would result. Efforts to obtain gold for bond subscription purposes continue, and a premium of ⅛ to ¼ per cent, or a little higher, has been paid for supplies, the same rates being also quoted for legal tenders. Large transactions on this basis occurred early in the week, both in specie and legal tenders, though the immediate demand has slackened, and the premium has fallen off correspondingly.

The anomalous spectacle has been presented of gold both arriving from and being shipped to Europe at the same time, the former movement being an artificial work, profitable only on account of the premium referred to above. If the statement is true that the specie received here was simply a return of all that had been shipped from this country, and that in some cases the original boxes had not been even opened, it is evident the process simply increases the drain on the treasury reserves.

Under these circumstances it is easy to understand both the continued absence of public support and the hesitation of large speculative interests to move the market. The absence of selling pressure and the improvement of prices for "Americans" in London caused covering of shorts and some buying by the smaller traders during the early part of the week. London's purchases were, however, on a limited scale, and represented the closing of professional bear accounts in that market, and at the close of the week the tendency abroad in regard to our stocks was less favorable.

## SMALL ORDERS FOR STAPLE GOODS.

### Dry Goods, Clothing, Hats and Shoes Show the Most Active Demand.

NEW YORK, Jan. 17.—Bradstreet's tomorrow will say: While general trade has not shown a widespread tendency to revive from the holiday depression, there are favorable features of a revival in iron and steel prices and continued heavy cereal exports. Reports from Baltimore, New Orleans, Buffalo and in certain lines at Chicago, St. Louis, St. Paul and Minneapolis jobbers in staple lines report business slow. Travelers are on the road, but returns are irregular, in only a few places indicating the usual volume of orders for spring delivery. Relatively, greatest improvement is shown in the request for dry goods, clothing, hats and shoes. Prints and ginghams are only fairly active, with mills at work in spite of the reduced demand.

Exports of wheat (flour included as wheat) from both coasts of the United States were 3,210,000 bushels this week, as compared with 3,716,000 bushels last week, 3,584,000 bushels in the corresponding week a year ago, 3,333,000 bushels in the same week two years ago, and 3,637,000 bushels in the third week of January, 1893.

Business failures in the United States for the week number 412, as compared with 446 for the previous week, 317 for the corresponding week last year, 401, 290 and 405 for the corresponding periods in 1894, 1893 and 1892.

## STOCKS AND BONDS.

### Dullness Was the Chief Character of the Security Speculation.

NEW YORK, Jan. 17.—Dullness was the main character of the stock speculation today, and, as usual under a similar condition, a sagging tendency in prices was noted. The aggregate dealings did not exceed $110,000, a volume of business that would in a regulation market be recorded in a single hour or less. Of such a market detailed account is almost superfluous, while the semi-stagnation illustrates the purpose of the larger operators to postpone dealings upon an important scale until the political and financial outlook is clearer. Should the money continue reasonably easy during the comparatively short interval before the bids for the government loan are opened and the success of the loan is demonstrated, an improved condition of affairs in Wall street is expected as a rule, providing, of