THE SPECULATIVE MARKETS

Board Operators Were Interested in the Wheat Pit Throughout the Day.

PRICES RANGED AT AN ADVANCE

Influential Factors in the Bullish Situation Were the Published Reports Concerning the Plans of a Gigantic Bull Clique.

CHICAGO, Ill., Feb. 18.—The wheat pit was the center of interest on the board today and in fact nearly monopolized the trading, operators in the other pits waiting for the outcome of the excitement as they feared the influence of that market on the other commodities dealt in on the floor. The dealings were accompanied by a good deal of excitement and much nervousness with prices ranging at a decided advance. A very influential factor in the bullish situation for a time was the published statement that the market was in the control of a bull clique with Standard oil, the nitrate beds and the bonanza millions at its command.

There were other causes of strength, however. Cables were strong and higher. Liverpool was 1½d up, London was 6d higher on cargoes nearly due and 3d on those that were two months out, but 3d lower on those for immediate shipment according to the Board of Trade cables. Bradstreet's showed a decreased available stock of 2,250,000 bu. on both coasts. The weather, too, was threatening, a cold wave being expected to follow the warm rains which were reported from most of the winter wheat area. Then there was the Cincinnati Price Current's crop summary, which said that the last week was the most trying one the crop has yet experienced. In addition to this there was a rumor that the Illinois state crop report would give the condition of wheat as 77 per cent, against 81 per cent in December. May wheat closed yesterday at 92½c. On the curb this morning it sold as high as 94½c. The opening this forenoon was somewhat ragged with sales at 93½c to 94c. The advance was met by a flood of sales of long wheat which was held at a profit and of sales against calls, and although many shorts were scared and covered, they offered very heavy and the market sagged off to 93c. Then there was a reaction to 93¾c, another recession to 93¼c, followed by a little more firmness. During the last hour the market continued unsettled. May sold off to 93⅛c, reacted to 93⅝c, held for some time around that figure, then closed at 93⅝c, the top figures for the day. The cause of the sudden bull news attributed to higher closing cables and the fact that some operators had sold themselves short early in the day went to cover, not caring to risk having their deals open over night in view of the bullish appearance of the situation. Among the first sellers today were Irwin, Green, Logan, Bigelow, Cousselman & Day, Gifford, Wright and Mitchell. Ream was on the floor for the first time in some weeks and sold a good deal of wheat between 91c and 93⅞c, but covered most of it on the subsequent break. Partridge continued to sell short and was called heavily for margins.

Corn was quiet and with fluctuations confined to a comparatively narrow range and closed steady. Values at Liverpool were high, but Bradstreet's reported an increase of 1,114,000 bu. in the available supply. May opened ¼c higher at 42c, fluctuated between 41¾c and 42¼c and closed steady at the top.

Oats quiet and steady and closed at the highest figures of the day.

Hog products firm on the whole through strong, they with the range of prices for grain. May pork closed at $11.80 yesterday and opened at $11.90, sold at $12.00, weakened gradually to $11.85, rallied and closed at $11.97½. Lard and ribs showed slight gains.

Estimated receipts for tomorrow: Wheat, 125; corn, 425; oats, 188; hogs, 22,000.

The leading futures ranged as follows:

ARTICLES.	OPEN.	HIGH.	LOW.	CLOSE.
WHEAT—No. 2				
February	$ 90¾	$ 91¾	$ 90	$ 91¾
May	94	95	93	93
CORN—No. 2				
February	40⅜	40¾	40¼	40¾
March	41⅜	41⅜	41	41¼
May	42	42¼	41¾	42¼
OATS—No. 2				
February	29⅛	29¼	29	29¼
May	31⅜	31½	31¼	31½
MESS PORK—				
February	11 65	11 70	11 55	11 67½
May	11 90	12 00	11 85	11 97½
LARD—				
February	6 47½	6 50	6 47½	6 50
May	6 62½	6 65	6 62½	6 65
SHORT RIBS—				
February	5 82½	5 87½	5 82½	5 87½
May	6 00	6 05	6 00	6 05

Cash quotations were as follows:

FLOUR—Nominally unchanged; spring patents, $4.30@4.60; winter patents, $4.30@4.55; bakers, $4.30@4.60; straight, $4.30@4.50.

WHEAT—No. 2 spring wheat, 91¼c; No. 3 spring wheat, 84½c; No. 2 red, 95½@95¾c.

CORN—Higher; No. 2, 40¼c; No. 3 yellow, 37½@38c.

OATS—No. 2, 29¼@29¾c; No. 2 white, 30¾@32c; No. 3 white, 29½@31½c.

RYE—No. 2, 86c.

BARLEY—No. 2, 56c; No. 3, f. o. b, 40@52c; No. 4, 30@46c.

FLAX SEED—No. 1, 97½c.

TIMOTHY SEED—Prime, $1.20@1.26.

PORK—Mess pork, per bbl., $11.67½; lard, per cwt, $6.30; short ribs sides (loose), $5.87½; dry salted shoulders (boxed), $5.00@5.25; short clear sides (boxed), $6.20@6.25.

WHISKY—Distillers' finished goods, per gal., $1.14.

Receipts and shipments today were as follows:

ARTICLES.	RECEIPTS.	SHIPMENTS.
Flour, barrels	19,000	19,000
Wheat, bushels	79,000	57,000
Corn, bushels	179,000	120,000
Oats, bushels	174,000	206,000
Rye, bushels	7,000	5,000
Barley, bushels	60,000	66,000

On the Produce exchange today the butter market unchanged; fancy creamery 27@27½c; fine western, 25½@26½c; ordinary, 2@24c; selected dairy, 22@23c; ordinary, 18@21c. Eggs, 17@18c.

CHEESE—Unchanged; full cream cheddars, 11¼@11¾c; flats, 11¼@11½c; Young Americas, 1@13c.

HIDES—Unchanged.

TALLOW—Unchanged.

New York Markets.

NEW YORK, Feb. 18.—FLOUR—Receipts, 23,743 pkgs; exports, 3,604 bbls; 26,756 sacks; firmer, fairly active; sales, 26,150 bbls.

CORN MEAL—Firm.

WHEAT—Receipts, 126,000 bu.; exports, 160,555 bu.; sales, 7,415,000 bu. of futures; 158,000 bu. of spot. Spot market higher, quiet; No. 2 red, $1.08¼@1.09 in store and elevator; $1.08¾@1.10¼ afloat; $1.07¾@1.11¼ f. o. b.; No. 3 red, $1.01½; ungraded red, 93½@$1.11¼; No. 1 northern, 93½; No. 1 hard, $1.11¼@1.11½; No. 2, northern, $1.09@1.09½; options advanced 1c to 1½c on an unfavorable western crop report and a sharp rise in California, together with reports that San Francisco speculators and the Standard Oil company were long on May, and as affected by the decrease in supplies shown in Bradstreets, better cables and foreign buying declined ¼@½c on scalping, advanced 1½@1¾c with shorts covering; firm at 1¼@2½c over yesterday. Sales include No. 2 red, February, $1.07; March, $1.08¾@1.08¾, closing $1.08½; April, $1.09¾@$1.09, closing $1.08; May, $1.04¾@1.06, closing $1.06; June, $1.02½@1.04¼, closing $1.04; July, $1.00⅞@$1.02⅞, closing $1.01⅞.

RYE—Stronger; western, 98c@$1.02.

BARLEY—Dull and weak.

BARLEY MALT—Quiet.

CORN—Receipts, 121,075 bu.; exports, 125,189 bu.; sales, 555,000 bu. of futures; 256,000 bu. of spot; spot market firmer and fairly active; No. 1, 48¾@49½c in elevator; 48½c afloat; ungraded mixed, 46@51½c; No. 3, 47¾@48½c; steamer mixed, 48¼@48¾c. Options on light offerings and better cables advanced ¼@¾c and closed firm. February, 48¾c, closing 48¾c; March, 48¾@49½c, closing, 49½c; April, 49¾@50c, closing, 50c; May, 49¾@49¾c, closing, 49¾c; June, closing, 48¾c; July, 49@49½c, closing 49½; April, 49¾@50c, closing 50c; May, 49¾@49¾c, closing 49¾c; June, closing 48¾c; July, 49@49½c, closing 49½c.

OATS—Receipts, 44,075 bu.; exports, 132,237 bu.; sales, 110,000 bu. of futures; 31,000 bu. of spot; spot quiet but firmer; options dull but firmer; February, 34½c; March, 36¼@36½c, closing, 36½c; May, 37¼@37½c, closing, 37½c; spot No. 2 white, 38c; mixed western, 36@37½c; No. 3 white, 37@38c; No. 2 Chicago, afloat, 37@37½c.

HAY—Quiet but easy.

HOPS—Easy but quiet; state common to choice, 20@25½c; Pacific coast, 19@25c.

SUGAR—Raw, more active and steady; sales, 139 hhds. muscovado, 92 test, at 3 7-16c, 9,840 bags centrifugals, 96 test, at 3 7-16c and 4,750 bags molasses sugar, 89 test, at 2¾c; refined, quiet but firm. The outside prices are those posted by the trust. Such prices cover the rebate: No. 1, 3¾@3⅞c; No. 11, 3 1-16@3 5-16c; No. 12, 3 3-16@3 5-16c.

MOLASSES—New Orleans quiet.

RICE—Quiet.

PETROLEUM—Steady and quiet; United closed at 6½c for March.

COTTON SEED OIL—Dull.

TALLOW—Firm; city (@2 for packages), 4⅝@4¾c.

TURPENTINE—36@36½c.

EGGS—Quiet, lower; western, 21½@22c; receipts, 4,382 packages.

PORK—Quiet but steady; mess, $9.75@10.50; extra prime, $10.00.

CUT MEATS—Firm, quiet; middles dull.

BUTTER—Quiet, steady; rolls, 17@21c; Elgin, 28c.

CHEESE—Moderate demand, strong; part skims, 6@10½c.

PIG IRON—Steady, quiet; American, $15.75@$18.

COPPER—Dull, firm; lake, $10.75.

LEAD—Quiet; domestic, $4.12½@4.15.

TIN—Quiet, firm; straits, $19.70@19.75.

LARD—Higher; western steam, closed at $6.87½; options sales, 250 tierces; easy at $6.80; March $6.82; May, $6.94; July, $7.10.

Omaha Produce Markets.

POULTRY—Good chickens, 9@10c; geese, ducks and turkeys, 11@12c.

BUTTER—Good country roll, 10c; fair, 16@8c.

FRUITS—California navels, $3.50@3.75; California tangerines, $3.00 per box; Florida oranges, brights, $3.00; russets, $2.00@2.75; Florida tangerines, $3.50@4.00, half boxes; western apples, choice, $2.00@2.50 per bbl., fancy stand pight brands more; New York apples, $2.75@3.00; fancy lemons, $3.00@3.25; choice stories, $3.50@4.75; grapes, per bbl., $8.00@9.00; bananas, crated, $3.00@2.50; cranberries, $8.50@7.00.

VEGETABLES—California cabbage, 2½@3½c per lb, in crates; home grown lettuce, 4c per doz.; potatoes, dull; California cauliflower, $2.50@2.50; onions, 80c@$1.00 per bu.; Nebraska hand picked beans, $1.00@2.00; medium, $1.50@1.75; celery, 35@40c; sweet potatoes, $2.75@2.50.

FLOUR—Omaha Milling company's Reliance Patent, $2.50; Invincible Patent, $2.40; Lone Star Superlative, $2.25; Snowflake, $1.90; Fancy Family, $1.80; S. F. Gilman's Gold Medal, $2.55; Snow White, $2.30; Snowflake, $2.00; low grade, $1.60; Queen of the Pantry, $2.00.

HIDES—No. 1 green salted hides, 4½@4½c; No. 2 green salted hides, 3½@4c; No. 1 green salted hides, 25 to 40 lbs., 4½@4½c; No. 2 green salted hides, 25 to 40 lbs., 3½@3½c; No. 1 veal calf, 8 to 15 lbs., 6c; No. 2 veal calf, 8 to 15 lbs., 4c; No. 1 dry flint hides, 5@8c; No. 2 dry flint hides, 5@5c; No. 1 dry salted hides, 5@6c. Tallow, No. 1, 3½@4c; tallow, No. 2, 3½c; grease, white A, 4@4½c; grease, white B, 3½@3½c; grease, yellow, 3c; grease, dark, 2½c; old butter, 2@2½c; beeswax, prime, 16c; rough tallow, 1½@2c.

HAY—The market is oversupplied and good hay went at $5.00.

EGGS—Market weak. A few round lots went at 16c to shippers. Single case lots to the retail trade went as high as 17c.

St. Louis Markets.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Feb. 18.—FLOUR—Higher; family, $3.00@4.25; choice, $3.40@3.40; fancy, $3.80@5.25; patents, $4.40@5.55.

WHEAT—Opened excited and 1½c higher; a reaction of ⅝c followed with a very unsettled feeling, then prices shot up 2c and closed 2⅝c above yesterday; No. 2 red cash 93@94½c; March, 95½c bid; May closed at 96½c; July, 91½c.

CORN—Cash, steady; No. 2, 36⅝c; options higher, closing ⅜c above yesterday; closed 60¼c bid; May, 38¼c.

OATS—Higher and steady; No. 2 cash, 31@31¼c; May, 32¼c.

RYE—Dull; 77c bid.

BARLEY—Dull; no sales reported.

HAY—Dull; prairie, $7.50@8.50; timothy, $8.00@13.00.

BRAN—Steady; 72@74½c.

LEAD—Quiet; $4.18¾ asked.

FLAXSEED—Higher, 92c.

BUTTER—Unchanged; creamery, 15@25c; factory packed, 6@22c; roll, 12@18c.

EGGS—Lower at 16c.

CORN MEAL—Firm at $2.10.

WHISKY—Steady at $1.14.

BAGGING—Quiet at 5⅞@7½c.

IRON COTTON TIES—$1.20@1.25.

PROVISIONS—Very quiet, with only a job trade doing.

PORK—$11.62½ for new; $9.25 for old.

LARD—$6.30.

DRY SALT MEATS—Loose lots shoulders, $5.50; longs and ribs, $5.50@5.60; shorts, $5.60@5.70; hams, $9.00@9.00.

RECEIPTS—Flour, 4,000 lbs.; wheat, 45,000 bu.; corn, 244,000 bu.; oats, 15,000 bu.; rye, none; barley, 8,000 bu.

SHIPMENTS—Flour, 9,000 lbs.; wheat, 13,000 bu.; corn, 105,000 bu.; oats, 24,000 bu.; rye, 1,000 bu.; barley none.

Minneapolis Wheat Market.

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., Feb. 18.—It had been three months to a day since wheat sold above 80c in this market, but it sold there today and went ¾c above, a 2c advance over last night's close. There was a good deal of excitement in the pit for longs were anxious to close out on any inducement. The price went off ⅝c then it came back to 80c. Partridge undertook to cover in Chicago near the close and the market advanced on his buying. The local market went to 80¾c and then as his buying stopped the price would break a little. But it snapped up quickly to a close at 80c, a price not reached in this market since November 10. The cash market was very active and millers appeared anxious to get hold of all the No. 1 northern they could. The price was bid over 2c above last night's cash close, and today No. 1 northern sold readily at from 88c to 88½c. Receipts here were 279 cars and at Duluth and Superior 113 cars. There was a large advance in the market between yesterday's close and today's opening. Closing prices: No. 1 hard, cash, 86¼c; February, 86c; May, 94½c; No. 1 northern, cash, 87½c; February, 87½c; May, 92¾c; No. 2 northern, cash, 80½c; No. 3 northern, 59c; rejected, 63c. On track: No. 1 hard, 89c; No. 1 northern, 88c.

Omaha Grain Market.

Prices based on delivery at Mississippi river points. Nebraska inspection, and ten days' shipment, unless otherwise stated. Cash grain calls for ship ment within five days.

WHEAT—No. 2 spring, 83c bid; No. 3, 77c bid. RYE—No. 2, 82c bid.

OATS—No. 2 white, 31c. No. 3 white, 30½c bid, 31½c asked; No. 2, mixed, 30c bid; No. 3, colored, 30c bid.

CORN—No. 3 or better, 30 days shipment, 36¾; No. 3, white, 39¼.

Among the sales were: 25,000 No. 3 or better 2 corn, 10 days, St. Louis terms, 36c; 10,000 No. 3 corn, February, St. Louis terms, 37c; 5,000 No. 3 or better, St. Louis terms, 36½c; 50,000 No. 3 or better corn, 30 days, 36¾c; 2,500 No. 3 white corn, 39¼c.

BOARD OF TRADE NOTES.

A. Nolte, Elkhorn, Neb., was on the board.

William Van Dohren was in looking over the grain situation.

J. H. Nichols of Des Moines was among the visitors on the board.

Kansas City Markets.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Feb. 18.—WHEAT—Went sailing and sold generally at prices to 1½c better than yesterday; No 2 hard, 80c; No 2 red, 86c.

CORN—Was steady and prices were unchanged; No. 2 mixed, 34½c; No. 2 white, choice, 36¾c.

OATS—Wanted and higher; No. 2, mixed, 29½@31c.

RYE—Strong; 78c for No. 2.

FLAX SEED—86c, on the basis of pure.

BRAN—Firm; 65c for sacked.

HAY—Little firmer but unchanged in price; timothy, $8.50 per ton; prairie, $5.00@6.00.

BUTTER—The market had a higher tendency but prices are not changed.

EGGS—In good demand and firm at 16c.

CHEESE—Young America, 12c.

RECEIPTS—Wheat, 21,000 bu.; corn, 4,000 bu.; oats, none.

SHIPMENTS—Wheat, 34,000 bu.; corn, none; oats, 2,000 bu.

Liverpool Markets.

LIVERPOOL, Feb. 18.—WHEAT—Strong, demand poor; holders offer sparingly; No. 1 California, 8s 2½d per cental; red western spring, 8s 2d@8s 2½d; No. 2 red winter, 9s ½d@9s 1d.

CORN—Firm; demand fair; mixed western, 4s 6¼d per cental.

LARD—Prime western, 55s per cwt.

TURPENTINE SPIRITS—28s 9d per cwt.

New York Dry Goods Market.

NEW YORK, Feb. 18.—Trade in dry goods was of a steady character with increasing tendencies, orders being larger in some instances, with deliveries still in arrears. Business in prints picked up considerably, especially in the way of delivery of goods held subject to delivery orders. Blankets were more in request. The jobbing trade was fair in all departments.

Milwaukee Markets.

MILWAUKEE, Wis., Feb. 18.—WHEAT—Firm; No. 2 spring, 89c.

CORN—Steady; No. 3, 38c.

OATS—Quiet; No. 2 white, 31½c; No. 3 white, 30@30½c.

BARLEY—Easy at 54c.

RYE—Firm; No. 1, 86c.

LARD—$6.65.

Havana Sugar Market.

HAVANA, Feb. 18.—Sugar firmer, but not quotably higher; sales, 1,600 bags centrifugals 96½ to 97 degrees polarization sold at $3.21½@3.22½ gold per quintal; 1,000 bags centrifugals 95½ degrees polarization sold at Sagua at $3.19½ gold per quintal.

Coffee Market.

NEW YORK, Feb. 18.—Options opened steady and unchanged to 10 points up; sales, 8,250 bags, including: March, $13.10; April, $12.80; May, $12.70; June, $12.45@12.50; July, $12.30@12.35; December, $11.85@11.90; spot Rio, steady and quiet; No. 7, $14.25.

Cincinnati Markets.

CINCINNATI, O., Feb. 18.—WHEAT—Strong; No. 2 red, 96@97c.

CORN—Stronger; No. 2 mixed, 40½@41c.

OATS—Stronger; No. 2 mixed, 32½c.

WHISKY—$1.14.

Toledo Grain Market.

TOLEDO, O., Feb. 18.—WHEAT—Higher; No. 2 cash and February 97½c.

CORN—Steady; No. 2, cash, 41c.

OATS—Quiet; No. 2, cash, 33c.

Traders' Talk.

CHICAGO, Ill., Feb. 18.—Counselman & Day to Cockrell Bros.: Wheat opened excited at 1½c to 1¾c, based on higher cables. A bullish tone to the Price Current's summary, a decrease of 2,250,000 bu. in stocks reported by Bradstreet's, and a sensational press report intimating that wheat had advanced on manipulation, caused considerable early selling. Late cables quoted opening advances sustained and winter wheat markets reported a good export demand, which caused active buying later and gave the market a strong closing at 2¼c advance. We think that the prominent shorts have been skeptical of any sustained advance and have not yet begun to cover. Corn and oats were quiet but ruled firmer on satisfactory export demand and closed respectively ⅛c and ¼c to ⅜c higher than yesterday. Provisions opened higher in sympathy with grain markets but lost the advance on a large run of hogs. Closing receipts at the yards, however, were about 5c higher with hogs all sold and the product recovered when grain ended up strong. Buying was light and the market promises to rule rather quiet for the balance of the month.

CHICAGO, Ill., Feb. 18.—Kennett, Hopkins & Co. to E. A. McWhorter: A sensational story in a morning paper that the Standard oil people are long 6,000,000 to 8,000,000 bu. of wheat in American markets opened wheat very strong. On the little breaks there was some covering, but many pressed their deals and sold more. New York was a conspicuous seller and sent several week cables for the purpose of breaking the market, but with only temporary success. They were badly beaten at the game and were pretty good buyers at top figures. Foreign markets continue to lead in strength, and we look for higher prices, but it is a good time to exercise caution, and it would seem advisable to take profits on long stuff on these sharp rallies. Corn and oats have been dull and neglected, following wheat in a feeble way. All closed better, especially corn, but with no indications of material strength. Provisions were featureless, inactive and very dull, although they closed with apparent strength gleaned from sympathy in wheat.

CHICAGO, Ill., Feb. 18.—F. G. Logan & Co. to J. S. Sands Commission Company: The wheat market today had a portion of the advance we have been looking for and closed at the top price after scoring an advance of nearly 2½c over yesterday's highest figures. Cash wheat was taken at the seaboard and at St. Louis and was wanted here and at Minneapolis, but was not easy to obtain in quantities. Public cables were firm and higher. All this shows that the legitimate situation is healthy and to this was added speculative conditions of hard weather abroad and the mild to be followed by cold weather in the country called attention to the precarious condition of our winter wheat crop. We look for strong or foreign markets tomorrow and higher ones here, as timid holders sold out, tempted by so rapid an advance, and we think it has gone into stronger hands.

Corn and provisions were firm, but more in sympathy with wheat than any strength of their own, though this soft weather will be against grading of the former.

STOCKS AND BONDS.

Firmer Temper Prevailed with Slight and Insignificant Fluctuations.

NEW YORK, Feb. 18.—The stock market today continued to diminish in its volume but a firm temper prevailed with slight and, in most cases, insignificant fluctuations in the general list while the important movements were confined to a half dozen stocks, moved by special cause. There was less heard about gold shipments and the apparent buying for foreign account stimulated a somewhat better feeling among the professionals and the market, despite its dullness, presented during the most of the day a strong feeling. Western Union was one of the most prominent features of the day. It rose steadily, though slowly, and retained most of its improvement at the close of the day. The Richmond & West Point stocks also exhibited some strength. The Coalers, with the single exception of Reading, which showed only an ordinary amount of business, were quite neglected. Among the active shares Northern Pacific preferred was the only one which gave evidence of being subjected to any pressure, and the declaration of the usual 1 per cent failed to elicit any response other than the recovery of the early fractional loss. The New Eng and failed to show any of its late strength, but the grangers were quiet throughout with the exception of St. Paul. There were a few material advances among the low priced shares, and those conspicuous were Lake Erie and Western, which responded to a dividend on the preferred, the latter rising 3¼ per cent. Then coal was especially conspicuous in the forenoon by a rise of 2 per cent on reported settlements of difficulties with miners. Another feature was Hocking Valley, which rose nearly 2 per cent on what was considered inside buying, but a stop order of 500 shares broke Edison 1½ per cent, only a portion of which was recovered.

The general market opened firmly active and strong, at advances ranging to ¾ per cent, but the subsequent dealings failed to increase this advantage much, and while a larger number of the stocks were traded in, the transactions were of the hand to mouth order and fluctuations were on a strict parity with the business. Some change in tone occurred during the day, but the close was quiet and firm, generally at small fractional gains over last night's figures. The only important advances, however, were Chicago Gas, which was subject to the usual manipulation.

Government bonds have been dull and easier.

State bonds have been dull and steady.

The following are the closing quotations for the leading stocks on the New York Stock exchange today

Atchison	14⅛	do preferred	144⅞
Adams Express	145	N. Y. Central	114¾
Alton, T. H.	45	N. Y. Chi & St. L.	19¾
do preferred	126	do preferred	36
American Express	117	Ohio Mississippi	21⅝
B. C. R. & N.	70	do preferred	83
Canada Pacific	89	Ontario & Western	21
Canada Southern	51¼	Oregon Improvement	27
Central Pacific	32½	Oregon Nav	89
Ches & Ohio	25¼	North American	16⅝
do 1st preferred	62	Pacific Mail	38
do 2nd preferred	42½	D. L. & W.	150⅛
*Chicago & Alton	145	*Pittsburg	156
C., B. & Q.	108⅝	Pullman Palace	188½
C., C., C. & St. L.	71¾	Reading	35⅝
Del. Hudson	130	Rock Island	90¾
Del. L. & W.	157⅝	St. L. & S. F. 1st pfd	75
D. & R. G. pfd	49¾	St. Paul	79⅝
East Tennessee	7⅝	do preferred	127
do 1st preferred	47	St. P., Min. & Man	113
do 2nd preferred	18¾	St. Paul & Omaha	48
Erie	32⅞	do preferred	113
do preferred	74⅝	Tenn. Coal & Iron	45½
Fort Wayne	145	Texas Pacific	10¾
Ill. & East ill	68½	Pol. & O. Cen. pfd	85
Hocking Valley	32⅝	Union Pacific	85¾
Houston & Texas	36	U. S. Express	48
Illinois Central	106⅝	Wabash St. L. & P.	13⅝
St. Paul & Duluth	44	do preferred	30⅝
Kansas & Texas	17⅛	Wells Fargo Ex	140
Lake Erie & West	24⅝	Western Union	88½
do preferred	77¾	Am. Cotton Oil	14¾
Lake Shore	124	Colorado Coal	36¾
Louisville, N. Nash	75¾	*Homestake	85
Louisville & N. A.	46⅞	Iron Silver	47
Memphis & Char	26	Ontario	45
Michigan Central	106⅝	Quicksilver	3⅝
*Mil. L. S. & W.	92⅝	do preferred	19
do preferred	128⅝	Sutro	2
Minn. & St. L.	8⅝	Bulwer	45
do preferred	20	Rich. & W. P. Ter	16⅝
Missouri Pacific	63	Wisconsin Central	18⅝
Mobile & Ohio	34	Great Northern pfd	125¾
Nashville Chatt	86⅝	Chicago Gas	80⅛
N. J. Central	138	Lead Trust	20
Norfolk & West pfd	50	Sugar Trust	81⅞
Northern Pacific	24⅝	O. S. L. & U. N.	28¾
do preferred	58⅝	Distillers	40⅝
U. P., Denver & G.	21	R. G. W.	37⅝
Northwestern	117¾		

*bid.

The total sales of stocks today were 316,460 shares, including: Atchison, 8,664; Chicago Gas, 4,400; Delaware, Lackawanna & Western, 3,100; Erie, 14,30; Hocking Valley, 8,354; Louisville & Nashville, 6,200; Northern Pacific preferred, 16,030; New England, 14,990; Reading, 37,003; Richmond & West Point, 1,400; St. Paul, 16,900; Union Pacific, 7,733; Western Union, 28,934.

Financial Review.

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—The Post says: Just now the most interesting factor in the stock market is the struggle of the bulls to support the market sufficiently to make it absorb the good prices the quantities of long stock overhanging it. Whatever be their attitude towards the foreign sellers of our securities, there can be no doubt that the large financial interests here are exertin; themselves to the uttermost to hold the market strong. Their position is not easy, for by the entire absence of enthusiastic buying from the outside, one extensive professional interest on the long side is closed, but only by the creation of another. The covering of shorts which made this morning's market has become an insignificant factor. Hence all efforts are bent toward attracting again to the outside investment interest which was so important a factor in the market a month ago. This possibility perhaps explains the present caution of the bears.

New York Money Market.

NEW YORK, Feb. 18.—MONEY ON CALL—Easy at 1½@2 per cent; last loan, 2 per cent; closed offered at 2 per cent.

PRIME MERCANTILE PAPER—3½@5 per cent.

STERLING EXCHANGE—Quiet but steady at $4.85½ for sixty-day bills and $4.88 for demand.

The closing quotations on bonds:

U. S. 4s reg	110¼	Mutual Union 6s	*108
U. S. 4s coup	110¾	N. J. C. Int. Cert	112
U. S. 4½s reg	*109	North. Pacific 1st	116¾
Pacific 6s of '95	*109	North Pacific 2nds	114¼
La. stamped 4s	82	Northwestern Con	137
Tenn. new set 6s	105	North. Debent. 5s	110⅝
Tenn. new set 5s	98	St. L. & I. M. Gen. 5s	85¾
Tenn. new set 3s	71¼	St. L. & S. F. Gen. M.	107¾
Canada So. 2nds	108⅝	St. Paul Consols	178½
Cen. Pacific 1sts	106	St. P., C. & Pac. 1sts	116⅝
Den. & R. G. 1sts	117⅝	Tex. P. L. G. Tr. Rcts	8¾
Den. & R. G. 4s	*80	Tex. P. R. G. Tr. Rcts	22
Erie 2nds	107	Union Pacific 1sts	109¾
M. K. & T. Gen. 6s	80⅝	West Shore	104
M. K. & T. Gen. 5s	50¾		

*bid

Financial Notes.

NEW ORLEANS, La., Feb. 18.—Clearings, $1,841,433.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Feb. 18.—Today's clearings were $1,465,400.

NEW YORK, Feb. 18.—Bank clearings today, $139,500,042; balances, $6,346,612.

BALTIMORE, Md., Feb. 18.—Bank clearings today were $2,421,815; balances, $311,857; rate, 6 per cent.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Feb. 18.—Bank clearings today, $13,949,003; balances, $2,129,073. Money, 3½ per cent.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Feb. 18.—New York exchange selling at par. Clearings, $645,535; balances, $260,583.

CINCINNATI, O., Feb. 18.—Money, 3@6 per cent; New York exchange, 25@50c premium; clearings, $2,067,100.

BERLIN, Feb. 18.—The statement of the Imperial Bank of Germany shows an increase in specie of 1,750,000 marks.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Feb. 18.—Bank clearings, $4,502,967; balances, $341,379. Money, 6@7 per cent; exchange on New York, 60c premium.

HAVANA, Feb. 18.—Spanish gold, 2.40¼@2.40½; exchange on the United States, short sight gold, 8¾c premium; on London, 18¾@19c premium.

BOSTON, Mass., Feb. 18.—Bank clearings today, $14,467,851; balances, $1,660,622. Rate for money, 2½ to 3 per cent. Exchange on New York, 15 to 20c discount.

PARIS, Feb. 18.—Three per cent rentes 95f. 87½c for the account. The weekly statement of the Bank of France shows an increase of 6,850,000 francs gold and 4,225,000 francs silver.

CHICAGO, Ill., Feb. 17.—Money, easy at 4½@6 per cent. Clearings, $7,365,541. New York exchange, 30c discount. Sterling exchange firm; $4.85¾ for sixty-day bills and $4.88 for sight drafts.

London Stock Market.

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LONDON, Feb. 18.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to THE BEE.] No change was made today in the bank rate, which remains at 3 per cent. As regards new business this has been a very quiet day on Stock exchange. Taken as a whole the markets have presented a more or less favorable appearance. Indian rupee paper has given way ½ to ½ per cent. Home rails have been dull anyway, due to the want of business, while, the return of wintry weather has not been without effect. Metropolitan and Sheffield deferred have given way ⅛ per cent and most others ⅛ to ¼ per cent. Canadian lines are depressed in sympathy, especially Grand Trunk issues, which are substantially lower. Miscellaneous securities have been comparatively neglected. Money has not been so much wanted in Lombard street today, while the supply of floating capital has been increased by the payment of the Great Western railway dividend. Short loans have been obtained at from 2 to 2¼ per cent discount. The market has been quiet. Two and three months' bills are quoted at from 2⅝ to 2¾ per cent.

LONDON, Feb. 18.—The following were the London stock quotations closing at 4 p. m:

Consols, money	99 11 16	Illinois Central	108½
do. accounts	99¾	St. Paul common	80¼
N. Y., P. & O. bds	37¼	New York Central	117½
Can. Pacific	91⅝	Pennsylvania	56⅛
Erie	34⅝	Reading	29⅝
Erie seconds	99¾	Nex. Con. new 4s	43

BAR SILVER—41 1-16d.

MONEY—2½@2¾ per cent

Rate of discount in the open market for both short and three months bills, 2⅝@2¾ per cent.

The bullion in the Bank of England increased £270,000 during the week. The proportion of the Bank of England's reserve to liabilities which last week was 41.81 per cent is now 45.16.

Boston Stock Market.

BOSTON, Mass., Feb. 18.—The following were the closing prices on stocks on the Boston stock market today:

Atchison & Topeka	40⅛	Franklin	11¼
Boston & Albany	201⅛	Kearsarge	10
Boston & Maine	166	Osceola	24
C. B. & Q.	108¼	Santa Fe Copper	22½
Eastern R. R.	122	Tamarack	148½
Fitchburg R. R.	85¾	Anniston Land Co	29¾
Flint & Pere M. pfd	79	Boston Land Co	6⅛
Mass. Central	16⅛	San Diego Land Co	16
New York and Boston	4¾	West End Land Co	18⅝
N. Y. & N. England	33¼	Bell Telephone	203
do 78	121	Lamson Store S.	15⅝
Old Colony	170	Water Power	37⅝
Wis. Cen. common	18¼	C. M.	8
Allouez Min. Co. new	1⅝	N. E. T.	51½
Atlantic	9	B. & B.	14½
Boston & Montana	35	Houston Thomson	59¾
Calumet & Hecla	257½		

San Francisco Mining Quotations.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Feb. 18.—The official closing quotations for mining stocks today were as follows:

Alta	100	Navajo	5
Bulwer	45	Ophir	2⅝
Best & Belcher	2⅝	Potosi	100
Bodie Consolidated	55	Savage	130
Challar	15	Sierra Nevada	150
Consol. Cal. & Va.	475	Union Con	160
Crown Point	120	Utah	35
Gould & Curry	145	Yellow Jacket	85
Hale & Norcross	215	N. Q.	25
Mexican	160	I. X. L.	20
Mono	100	N. B. L.	20

LIVE STOCK MARKETS.

Cattle Still Plenty and Hogs Scarce at Omaha—Prices Steady to Higher.

OMAHA, Feb. 18.—Four days' receipts foot up 12,418 cattle, 26,391 hogs and 1,237 sheep, against 10,291 cattle, 22,881 hogs and 3,068 sheep for the same four days last week.

There was a fair average run of cattle here and the general quality of the offerings was much the same as it has been of late, rather indifferent. Shippers took two or three loads of the best heavy cattle, but their purchases were so light they had no perceptible effect on the general market. Dressed beef buyers had the market practically in their own hands and the owners could take his choice of selling at their price or going on to Chicago. Bids were so mean that many took the latter end of the dilemma and shipped their cattle through. Trading was dull and dragging all mornings and at noon only a small proportion of the steers on sale had changed hands. In the afternoon the trade was a little more lively, but at unimproved prices. The general market was slow and weak throughout, but hardly enough different from Wednesday to quote. Good 1,100 to 1,300-lb. steers sold from $3.40 to $3.90, while 950 to 1,100-lb steers sold from $3.00 to $3.40. There were plenty of decent cattle still in first hands at the close of business.

The more desirable grades of butcher stuff were in good demand and firm. Outside butchers wanted a few cattle and the local demand was active enough to enable sellers to realize steady prices on nearly everything in this line. There was a tolerably free movement and a fair and re