

CONDITION OF OMAHA TRADE

Too Much Cold and Disagreeable Weather Hinders Business.

JOBBER TRADE BETTER THAN LAST YEAR

No Important Features Developed in Trade Circles During the Past Week - Local Enterprises of All Kinds Held Back by the Cold and Hazy Weather.

The weather of the past week has been such that very little activity could be expected beyond the supplying of the actual necessities of trade. There could be no great activity or rush in business circles with the weather so cold as to make it disagreeable to be out and with the wind at the dance point and in many instances it will keep his feet. From almost all parts of the state come reports of bad weather and a consequent dull trade. Under the circumstances it is saying a good deal to report the jobbing trade of Omaha as fair.

In some parts of the state there have been rains that have relieved the farmers and merchants of any fear of immediate damage to the newly planted crops. The dry weather has had more to do with making trade quiet than all other causes put together, as the country merchants will not buy freely if there is any danger of a drought. A reasonable amount of rain at this time would be a great help to all lines of business besides doing good to the farming interests.

A year ago at this time the business of the state was suffering from a hard freeze which kept the farmers at home and made trade with the country merchants very slack. The continuance of the rainy weather during May caused a fear that the farmers would be unable to get in their corn crop and the country trade was quiet. This fear has been allayed and the volume of trade is generally reported in excess of the corresponding time last year, which is upon the whole quite satisfactory.

The local retail trade like the wholesale trade has suffered from the unfavorable weather and is generally reported quiet by merchants.

Banking Business. The bank clearings show a very decided increase over the same week last year which would seem to indicate that there is some improvement in the volume of business that is being transacted. The volume of clearing house cities there are very few that can compare with Omaha in the matter of clearing in clearing banks. The clearing banks of last year's mark and Kansas City shows only about one half of the gain made by Omaha.

At the time of the last call for statements of the condition of the business of the national banks The Bee published statements of all the clearing banks together with a summary. Reports have since come to hand from the controller of the currency of the United States showing the condition of the national banks of Nebraska as given at the time of the March statement. There are in Nebraska 120 national banks outside of Omaha and nine in Omaha. For the purpose of showing the relative standing between the banks of Omaha and the balance of the state the following abstract from the controller's report is given. The column marked Nebraska includes the totals for all the national banks outside of Omaha, while the column headed Omaha gives the totals for the nine national banks in this city.

Table with 2 columns: Nebraska and Omaha. Rows include Assets, Liabilities, and various financial metrics.

Notes Concerning the Men Who Make the Money Go Round. The work of preparing for the coming exposition is consuming all the spare time of the manufacturers of the state, and that is about the only subject that they will talk about outside of the regular routine of business. Although it is still a month before the doors of the exposition will be thrown open to the public, the preparations for the exposition have been nearly all arranged and the majority of the manufacturers have already decided upon what they will exhibit and are preparing to carry out their plans. There are a few who are behind in applying for space and determining upon plans for their exhibits and they will be called upon by the first of the week by the hustling committee and urged to make a move before it is too late.

W. J. May of the State Fish Commission is taking great interest in the subject of making an exhibit of live fish at the exposition in addition to the regular manufacturers' exhibits and the committee has the assistance that the manufacturers have appropriated \$500 to be used in building tanks and exhibits for the live fish exhibit. The different kinds of fish besides a good many other varieties.

The railroads have agreed to return free of charge to the state the fish exhibit tanks and they will probably grant a half fare rate during the time that the exposition is open. Traveling men who have been out of the state for a long time and are now dealers of the state are taking a great deal of interest in the exposition and that a great many of them will attend. As there are no other exhibits of the kind in the state, the Business Men's association who will be given tickets to Omaha and return there is every promise that the state will be benefited in relation to the bringing in of the delegates to the State Business Men's association following at their last meeting, April 19th.

Where to Shop? The whereabouts of Mr. C. W. Masher seems to be only a matter of conjecture now. Some say he is still at the Millard while others assert that he has departed for Lincoln. He is in the custody of Deputy Marshal Hubbard, however. Masher's attorney says he will produce him at any stage of the game when the court calls for him. Mr. Masher did not plant any trees yesterday. He has planted so many trees never came up that he decided to let one Arbor day pass without trying his hand.

Wheat Led an Advance in the Grain Markets Yesterday.

There were large buying orders for corn and oats were firmer and higher. Partly in sympathy with wheat, but due also to the bad weather.

Chicago, Ill., April 22 - Wheat led an advance in the grain markets today and for the first time in many months the bull investors came from the foreign continent. There was a large buying order from abroad received at this and other points which today's advance prevented being filled, however, holders asking more than they would have accepted yesterday. July contracts were 1/2 cent higher, as against 7/8 cent on the day before. May was remarkably slow and closed at 72 1/2 as compared with 72 yesterday. Corn and oats were firmer and higher, partly in sympathy with wheat, but also due to the bad weather. Provisions were dull and closed slightly lower than yesterday's final prices.

While the buoyancy was somewhat checked by the financial outlook, the feeling seemed to be better yesterday in this respect and the bank statement was regarded as favorable. The climate was again doing a good deal of buying, but Logan, Schwartz-Dapke, Kennett, Hopkins, Armour and others also bought freely. Partridge was a seller, and there was scattered selling generally against cattle. Cattle were higher and continental markets were said to be excited, with Paris from 1 1/2 to 2 1/2 cent higher. The market was said to be excited, with Paris from 1 1/2 to 2 1/2 cent higher. The market was said to be excited, with Paris from 1 1/2 to 2 1/2 cent higher.

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COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL

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