CONDITION OF OMAHA'S TRADE

"Substance of Things Hoped For" Still Supports the Local Dealers.

FAIR REALIZATION OF THEIR TRUST

Last Six Days Did Not Come Up to Expectations, but Showed Some Genuine Signs of a Betterment of Trade.

When such a period of business as this country has passed through seems to be succeeded by some indications of returning activity, the natural tendency of human nature is to expect too much. For six months past business men have worried along in the face of commercial stagnation and disaster with the hope that the pressure of the spring trade would in a large degree relieve the present troubles. Many dealers have allowed this hope to grow to dimensions that are entirely unwarranted under the existing conditions. With the present uncertainty in regard to tariff legislation, which forces both importers and manufacturers to a conservative policy, and with doubt and distrust still rampant where the movement toward better things must have its initiative, it is evident that to expect an immediate and radical change in business conditions is the height of folly. The fact that for several weeks past there has been a decided and apparently permanent improvement in nearly every line of trade should be sufficient to satisfy the most sanguine. That the improvement is but slight does not matter. Anything different would be unnatural and therefore less likely to be founded on a stable basis. The celerity with which eastern investors iled their claims on the bond issue, together with a decided impulse in general trade, carried the idea to some that hard times were over and that prosperity was coming back with a rush which would be altogether impossible. Consequently it is not surprising that the record of the week just past is alluded to as not being "as favorable as was expected." But this should not be taken as reason for discouragement. Because some people allowed their expectations to run away with their judgment it does not necessarily follow that because these expectations are not quite gratified all hope is ended.

SUFFICIENT FOR THE MOVEMENT.

While the improvement during the past six days has not been as marked as during the preceding week, it is enough to afford substantial evidence that the previous movement was not ephemeral, but a genuine indication of returning confidence and more active trade. It is worthy of note that there is a decidedly firmer feeling on the markets in many lines of staple goods. In the grocery line this is noticeable in the case of sugar and provisions, and the same indications are apparent in some lines of dry goods.

That the retail merchants are not ordering in larger quantities is a sufficient indication that they have not yet entirely regained their confidence. Higher prices are to be expected in numerous lines of goods and it would naturally be expected that the retailers would stock up more heavily in anticipation of the advance. Cotton goods are selling below the cost of production and some hardware staples are on the market at a figure where the manufacturers prefer shutting down their plants to producing stock at ruling prices. This, together with an anticipated advance in the provision market, should boom jobbing trade under ordinary conditions.

But there is certainly no evidence of a boom. The present improvement is purely natural, and in the face of the fact that merchants generally are not sufficiently sure of their ground to order more than their immediate necessities require. This should be a satisfactory assurance that the increased activity will gradually become more pronounced as confidence extends to the ramifications of trade.

The local jobbers have experienced a satisfactory week, although in some lines the improvement has not been as noticeable as during the week before. Grocers report that business is constantly looking up, and the dry goods jobbers notice a more liberal movement along all lines. Boots and shoes show some improvement, and the spring lines are being ordered more freely than ever before. The trade in building hardware is naturally very quiet, but in staple lines there is more activity.

The clearing house reports show that Omaha is holding her own with other western cities. As for some time past the decrease from last year is less than at Denver, Sioux City, Milwaukee or St. Paul. The following is the record for the past six days:

Monday	$ 841,269.01
Tuesday	721,71.76
Wednesday	800,552.77
Thursday	734,739.64
Friday	778,493.05
Saturday	672,677.03
Total	$4,566,894.26

AS DUN SEES IT.

Many Good Reasons for Faith in the Future Advanced.

Mr. W. H. Roberson, manager of R. G. Dun & Co., says:

"The Commercial club has scored several good points in favor of Omaha in the matter of freight discrimination, of which it behooves our jobbers and packers to take early advantage. If the club is as successful in the next eight months as it has been in the last, most if not all the grievous burdens which have borne down upon this city's trade in this particular will be lifted. It is perhaps not proper to specify exactly what changes have been effected, but jobbers and packers will be interested in knowing that they open up a large and very rich territory on the other side of the Missouri river and shut out competition from two other sections which by the geographical conditions belong to Omaha and should not be open on equal terms to Kansas City or St. Joseph. These rate discriminations grew up gradually, and have to be removed gradually. Spasmodic outbursts of indignation have not been productive of lasting results in dealing with the transportation companies. The peaceful, persuasive methods of Commissioner Utt have accomplished more, and have also shown that when you once get the actual facts before the railway managers they are willing to be fair and are personally friendly to this metropolis.

"Business in Omaha shows no material improvement in any line, though the hopes of dealers are again springing up as the winter passes. The winter trade is over and an early spring would stimulate trade. Last fall everybody went to the World's fair, and tailors, haberdashers, milliners and other dealers in the useful and ornamental articles which go to make up the 'good clothes' of the average man and woman found sales extremely slow. A leading milliner says he never saw trade in his line so dull, because many of the economical ladies carried their spring bonnets over for fall. He thinks with the opening of the next season all dealers in his line, as well as dress goods, will note an immediate improvement and a brisk trade.

"The suggestion applies to only one line of retail trade, but the fact is that perhaps never before in the history of the country were so small stocks of almost every commodity which Americans regard as essential to good living carried by the smaller distributors. Canada has had no panic. Mexico is enjoying better trade conditions than ever before. Even Argentine Republic has for a year been prospering. The United States cannot always remain in the dumps. We must get out soon and people are beginning now to count upon better times when spring opens.

"In Nebraska trade and the demand for money are 'spotted' and hysterical. Bankers say some interior towns have more money than they need and others are calling for more than they can get. Country merchants are one day on the top shelf of hope and order freely. On the next they are morose and will not talk purchase to the traveling men. The deposits are not increasing at our banks, but good loans are not refused. The congestion in New York and eastern cities was slightly relieved by the bond purchases, but money is still seeking the Atlantic centers and nothing is being developed to turn it westward, except desultory purchases of mercantile paper, which is taken readily at 4 and 5 per cent.

"In the midst of all the discouragement in business circles stands out the curious fact that real estate dealers are strong in their belief that city property is too cheap to escape buyers. One wideawake firm and its immediate clients have purchased $160,000 worth of Omaha property the past year. The head of the concern says it makes him almost weep to see the 'snaps' which want of ready cash compels him to permit to slip by untaken.

"The canal project is taking on new life. A Commercial club committee has gone carefully over the plans and is bubbling over with enthusiasm. A $1,000,000 bond proposition is one of the luxuries Douglas county will be called upon to indulge in when the promoters of this most meritorious of all Omaha's pet schemes are ready to turn on the light.

"The irrigation convention is attracting a good deal of attention and deserves well at the hands of Omaha. Irrigation means a good deal to this city and the members of the convention gathered from all the transmissouri region are the representatives of the country upon whose proper development this city's future depends."

WHY THEY FAILED.

Causes of Business Disaster in Nebraska Located by Bradstreet's.

The Bureau of Labor and Industrial Statistics of the state recently asked Bradstreet's agency for a copy of an analysis of mercantile failures in the state of Nebraska during 1893 and the following is the report furnished by the agency.

Failures in business in the state of Nebraska in 1893, classified as to causes:

Failures due to	No.	Assets.	Liabilities.
Incompetence	38	$ 549,750	$ 876,786
Inexperience	12	28,100	45,232
Lack of capital	184	626,275	968,358
Unwise credits	33	502,100	710,065
Failures of others	11	927,561	1,093,455
Extravagance	6	40,312	50,474
Neglect of business	7	48,000	76,828
Competition	1	4,500	6,000
Disaster	36	202,200	290,500
Speculation	1	275,000	523,000
Fraud	28	112,600	196,174
Totals	360	$3,316,398	$4,842,872

Twelve Nebraska banks suspended payments, which are not included in the above statement, as they had assets in excess of liabilities, and therefore did not fail. They are classified as to causes of suspension as follows:

Failures due to	No.	Assets.	Liabilities.
Lack of capital	3	$ 338,000	$ 250,000
Failures of others	2	1,130,000	930,000
Disaster	7	1,089,000	689,000
Totals	12	$2,557,000	$1,869,000

Omaha Produce Market.

BUTTER—There is no change in the market and trade is quiet, especially on the medium grades. Choice country, 16@17c; packing stock, 10c.

DRESSED POULTRY—The receipts are light and there is no apparent increase in the demand. Chickens, 6@7c; turkeys, 8@9c; geese and ducks, 9c. Inferior stock would sell below the above figures.

LIVE POULTRY—The shipments are increasing and there is a fair demand for choice stock. Good stock is quotable at 5@6½c.

VEAL—The receipts are light and there is a good demand for choice stock; choice, good fat veals, 7@8c; thin or heavy, 4@6c.

EGGS—The colder weather has caused a better feeling and the market is a trifle firmer. There is no sale for cold storage or salted eggs at any price. Strictly fresh eggs are quoted at 12@13c.

HONEY—Choice white clover, 15c; California, 16c.

OYSTERS—Medium, I. X. L., 13c; horseshoes, 18c; extra standard, 20c; selects, 21c; extra selects, 22c; company selects, 25c; counts, 30c.

NUTS—Chestnuts, 12c per lb.; Italian chestnuts, 12@13c; almonds, 16@17c; English walnuts, 12@14c; filberts, 12c; pecans, large, 13@14c; pecans, medium, 10c.

CIDER—Pure juice, per bbl., $5.50; half bbl., $3.25; Oregon, per bbl., $5; half bbl., $3; bbl.,$3.25; Oregon, per bbl., $5;half bbl., $3; clarified cider, per bbl., $5; half bbl., $3.

SAUERKRAUT—Per bbl., $5.50@6.00; half bbl., $3.00@3.25.

VEGETABLES.

BEANS—California hand-picked navy, $1.90@2.00; western navy, $1.75@1.80; common white beans, $1.50@1.75.

ONIONS—Onions are quoted at 60@70c and on orders at 75@80c; Spanish onions, per crate, $1.50.

POTATOES—Nebraska, Iowa and Minnesota grown potatoes, in small lots from store, 70c; same in car lots, 65c; Colorado, from store, 75@80c; Colorado lots, 72@75c.

CABBAGE—Orders for cabbage from the country are filled at 2½@2¾c per lb.

CELERY ROOTS—According to size, 40@60c per doz.

CELERY—Good stock, 35c; extra fancy California, 50c@$1.00.

SWEET POTATOES—The supply is fair; good stock, per bbl., $3.25@3.50.

GREEN VEGETABLES—Spinich, per bbl., $2; salsify, 30@35c per doz.; radishes, per doz., 35c; onions, per doz., 20c; cauliflower, per doz., $1.50@2.00; lettuce, per doz., 25@45c; cucumbers, $2.25@3; per crate of 20 lbs., $1.50; string beans, $2.50 per 2-3-bu. box; parsley, per doz., 30c; egg plant, per doz., $2.25; asparagus, per doz., 75c; turnips, per doz., 75@85c; carrots, per doz., 75c; beets, per doz., 85c; water cress, per doz., $1.75@2.00.

FRUITS.

APPLES—The supply is light on this market and prices higher; fancy westerns, $2.25 per box.

CRANBERRIES—Cranberries are arriving very freely and are in good demand; Cape Cod, per bbl., $8.00@6.50; bell and bugle, $6.50; Jersey, $6.00@6.25; bell and cherry, $5.

CALIFORNIA ORANGES—The stock is arriving in good condition; Riverside seedlings, per box, $2.25; Washington navels, Redland navels, $3.25; Redland seedlings, $2.50.

TROPICAL FRUITS.

BANANAS—Prices remain about steady; per bunch, large, $2.25@2.50; per bunch, small to medium, $2.00@2.25.

LEMONS—New Messina lemons, size, 300, $4.50@5.00; size, 360, $4.00@4.50.

ORANGES—Fancy Floridas, $2.75; choice Floridas, $2.60.

TANGERINES—Per box, $2.75.

GRAPE FRUIT—Per box, $4.

St. Louis Markets.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Feb. 10.—FLOUR—More active; prices unchanged.

WHEAT—Started ¼c up today, but was hammered down by selling fully 1c, but the drop was so large, considering the prevailing local prices, that a rally brought the quotation up to a close ⅝c below yesterday. Heavy receipts and weak cables did the work. No. 2 red, cash, closed at 53c; February, 53¼c; May, 57⅛c; July, 58½@58⅝c.

CORN—Was weakened by the smash in wheat, and lost ⅜@¾c; No. 2 mixed, cash, closed at 32⅝c; February and March, 33c; May, 33½c; July, 34⅝@34¾c.

OATS—Lower; No. 2 cash, closed at 28c; February, 28⅛c; May, 29⅝c.

RYE—49c bought No. 2.

BARLEY—Nothing doing.

BRAN—Firm; 64c bid, cast track.

FLAX SEED—$1.32.

CLOVER SEED—Unchanged; $8.40@6.75.

HAY—Prime to choice timothy, $9@10.

BUTTER—Firm, unchanged; creamery, 24@25c; choice dairy, 20@21c.

EGGS—Higher; 12½c.

LEAD—Weak; $3.10 asked.

SPELTER—Strong, in good demand; $3.50 bid.

CORN MEAL—$1.70@1.75.

WHISKY—$1.15.

BAGGING—Unchanged; 6½c.

COTTON TIES—Unchanged; 95c@$1.

PROVISIONS—Dull; easy. Dry salt meats, loose shoulders, $6; longs and ribs, $6.25; shorts, $6.40; boxed, 15c more. Bacon, hacked shoulders, $6.75; longs, $7.12½; ribs, $7.25; shorts, $7.50.

RECEIPTS—Flour, 2,000 bbls.; wheat, 13,000 bu.; corn, 96,000 bu.; oats, 34,000 bu.

SHIPMENTS—Flour, 5,000 bbls.; wheat, 2,000 bu.; corn, 42,000 bu. oats,, 12,00 bu.

Cotton Market.

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 10.—COTTON—Steady; sales, 5,500 bales spot; spot to arrive, 15,000 bales; low ordinary, 5 11-16c; ordinary, 6⅝c; good ordinary, 6 1-16c; low middling, 7 1-16c; good middling, 7 9-16c; middling fair, 8¼c; receipts, net, 4,160 bales; gross, 4,160 bales; exports, Great Britain, 10,250 bales; continent, 3,837 bales; coastwise, 2,800 bales; stock, 310,900 bales. Futures, steady; sales, 34,100 bales; February, $7.59; March, $7.37@7.38; April, $7.47@7.48; May, $7.56@7.57; June, $7.64@7.65; July, $7.71@7.72; August, $7.76@7.77; September, $7.70@7.71; October, $7.71; November, $7.73 bid.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 10.—COTTON—1-16c higher, steady; middling, 7¾c; receipts, 9,000 bales; good middling, 7¾c; receipts, 800 bales; shipments, 700 bales; stock, 60,390 bales.

Liverpool Markets

LIVERPOOL, Feb. 10.—WHEAT—Dull; demand poor; holders offer moderately; No. 1 California, 5s 3½d@5s 3¾d; No. red western winter, 4s 11½d@5s 2d.

CORN—Firm; demand fair; mixed western, 4s 4½d.

PROVISIONS—Pork, prime mess, fine, 75s. Beef, extra India, 99s. Bacon, long clear, 35 lbs., 36s; short clear, 35 lbs., 37s. Lard, 28s 3d.

Duluth Wheat Market.

DULUTH, Feb. 10.—WHEAT—Closed ¼c lower than yesterday for both cash and futures. No. 1 hard, cash, 55¾c; February, 57½c; May, 61¼c; July, 62¼c; No. 1 northern, cash, 56c; February, 56¼c; May, 60c; July, 61¼c; No. 2 northern, cash, 54¼c; No. 3, 49½c; rejected, 54c; on track, No. 1 northern to arrive, 59¼c.

COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL

May Wheat Scored a New Low Price Record Yesterday.

THAT CEREAL STARTED QUITE STRONG

Corn Was Quiet Most of the Session, but an Uneasy, Unsettled Feeling Permeated the Market—Price Changes Fluctuated with Wheat.

CHICAGO, Feb. 10.—May wheat sold down to 60c today, a new low price record, and closed with a loss of from ⅜c to ⅝c. After a steady opening on the cold weather and larger exports a loss of 1c was caused by free liquidation and pressure to sell. A reaction of ¼c ensued on covering by shorts, followed by a decline at the close on more selling. May corn closed ⅜c lower, May oats ¼c lower, and provisions with but little change.

Wheat started higher with May ⅛c up at 60⅞c. The cold weather gave the bulls some encouragement, as did also the large export clearances, and they soon had May up to 61c. Renewed pressure to sell, presumably in consequence of the expectation that the next visible supply statement would show an increase, started a decline, however, and May went down with a rush, landing at 60c. The market seems to have acquired the habit of making new low price records and the astonishing low price created but little excitement and no panicky indications followed. It had been expected that a decline of 60c would develop another demoralizing bunch of stop loss orders, but the orders did not materialize. This somewhat alarmed the shorts and they proceeded to cover with the result that May reacted ⅜c and held steady for a time at 60¾c. Northwestern receipts were again, however, numbered among the bearish influences.

Minneapolis and Duluth reported a total of 406 cars compared with 176 on the corresponding day last year. Liverpool advices were also rather bearish and as the session neared its close the selling again became free, and the firmer feeling wore away, taking with it ⅝c for May and that month closed ⅝c above the day's bottom figures. May opened at 60⅞c, advanced ⅛c, lost 1c, reacted ¾c, and declined ⅝c to the close at 60⅝c.

Corn was quiet most of the session, but an uneasy, unsettled feeling permeated the market. Price changes were governed largely by the action of wheat, and the decline today was due entirely to the action of that cereal. The opening trades showed a fractional loss, but that was soon recovered, when dealings again increased and prices sagged down from ⅛c to ⅜c, rallied from ⅛c to ¼c, declined from ⅛c to ⅜c and closed with May but ⅛c above the day's bottom figures.

Oats were easier in sympathy with wheat on moderate selling by longs. Prices receded ¼c and closed easy after opening unchanged. There was moderate buying early, but later buyers appeared to have been filled up and May finished at the bottom.

Provisions opened strong and higher on estimated light receipts of live hogs for next week and good bidding prices advancing moderately. The offerings of all kinds of products were very little, and there was an effort on the part of some of the local operators to advance values, but the continued weakness in wheat had the contrary effect. Some support was given to the market by two or three leading packing institutions, prices advancing for a time with only slight reactions. The improvement in wheat from the lowest price on record also contributed to the strength in this market. Later on it declined to nearly the inside prices of the day on increased offerings and the withdrawal of the previous support, with the closing weak, most of the early advance being lost. Compared with last night, May pork is 5c higher, May lard 2½c lower, and May ribs unchanged.

Estimated receipts for Monday: Wheat, 78 cars; corn, 600 cars; oats, 203 cars; hogs, 24,000 head.

No session of the Board of Trade Monday—legal holiday in Illinois; birthday of Abraham Lincoln.

The leading futures ranged as follows:

Articles.	Open.	High.	Low.	Close.
Wheat, No. 2				
February	56⅝	56⅝	55⅞	56¼
May	60⅞	61	60	60⅝
July	62¼@⅝	62⅝	61⅛	61⅞
Corn No. 2				
February	34¼	34⅜	34⅛	34⅛
May	37	37⅛	36⅝	36⅝
July	37⅞	38	37⅝	37⅝
Oats No. 2				
February	28	28	27¾	27¾
May	29⅝	29⅝	29⅜	29⅜
July	28	28	27⅝	27⅝
Pork per bbl				
February	.....	.....	.....	12 02½
May	12 07½	12 27½	12 07½	12 02½
Lard, 100 lbs				
February	7 37½	7 37½	7 30	7 30
Short Ribs				
February	7 25	7 25	7 20	7 20
May	7 17½	7 20	7 12½	7 12½

Cash quotations were as follows:

FLOUR—Weak.

WHEAT—No. 2 spring, 56¼c; No. 3 spring, 55c; No. 2 red, 56¼c.

CORN—No. 2, 34⅜c.

OATS—No. 2, 27¾c; No. 2 white, 30@30½c; No. 3 white, 28¾@29c.

RYE—No. 2, 44c.

BARLEY—No. 2, nominal; No. 3, 44@45c; No. 4, 40@46c.

FLAX SEED—No. 1, $1.39.

TIMOTHY—Prime, $4.10@4.15.

PROVISIONS—Mess pork, per bbl., $12.05@12.07½; lard, per 100 lbs., 7.30@7.35; short ribs sides (loose), $6.17½@6.22½; dry salted shoulders (boxed), $6.25@6.50; short clear sides (boxed), $6.75@7.12½.

WHISKY—Distillers' finished goods, per gal., $1.17.

SUGAR—Cut loaf, $5.30; granulated, $5.45; standard A, $4.42.

The following were the receipts and shipments today:

Articles.	Receipts.	Shipments.
Flour, bbls	7,000	6,000
Wheat, bu	40,000	9,000
Corn, bu	400,000	36,000
Oats, bu	221,000	85,000
Rye, bu	8,000	5,000
Barley, bu	89,000	39,000

On the Produce exchange today the butter market was quiet; creamery, 20@26c; dairy, 15@21c. Eggs, firm; strictly fresh, 14@14½c.

New York Markets.

NEW YORK, Feb. 10.—FLOUR—Receipts, 10,200 bbls.; exports, 13,700 bbls.; sales, 4,650 pkgs. Weaker to sell but demand very light. Winter wheat flour relatively steadier than spring on account of depleted stocks. Prices nominal. City mill patents, $4.15@4.25; winter straights, $2.70@3.95; Minnesota patents, $3.90@4.25; winter extras, $2.00@2.55; Minnesota bakers, $2.25@3.60; winter, low grades, $1.60@2.20; spring, low grades, $1.60@1.85; rye flour, quiet; superfine, $2.70@2.85; fancy, $2.85@2.90; buckwheat flour, easy, $2.35@2.40.

BUCKWHEAT—Dull; Canadian ex-bond, 70@72c.

CORN MEAL—Dull; brandy wine, $2.70.

RYE—Nominal.

BARLEY—Quiet; No. 2 Milwaukee, 62@63c; No. 2, 61½@62c.

BARLEY MALT—Quiet; western, 60@80c; six-rowed, 90@95c.

WHEAT—Receipts, none; xports, 126,000 bu.; sales, 58,555,000 bu. futures. Spot active but lower; No. 2 red, in store and elevator, 62⅝c; afloat, 63⅝@64½c; f. o. b., 63⅝c; No. 1 northern, 63⅝c. Options opened firmer, but soon turned weak, and under heavy liquidation and foreign selling made a new low price record. Trading was heavy all the morning. Exporters were again good buyers of cash wheat. The market rallied at the close and was ⅛c lower for the day. No. 2 red, February, closed 62⅝c; March, 62⅝@63 11-16c, closed 63⅛c; May, 65 1-16@66c, closed 65⅝c; June closed 66½c; July, 67⅝@68¼c, closed 67½c; August, 68@68⅝c, closed 68¼c; December, 72@72 11-16c, closed 72c.

CORN—Receipts, 79,[illegible] bu.; exports, 126,600 bu.; sales, futures, 16,000 bu. Spot, dull; No. 2, 42c nominal in elevator, 43c nominal afloat. Options were steady all the morning on light offerings, closed steady and unchanged to ⅛c net advance; February closed 42⅛c; March closed 42½c; May, 42⅛@42¼c, closed 42⅛c.

OATS—Receipts, 11,600 bu.; exports, 400 bu.; sales, 35,000 bu. futures and 38,000 bu. spot. Spot dull but higher; No. 2, 35½@36c; No. 2, delivered, 36½@37c; No. 3, 36c; No. 2 white, 37c; No. 3 white, 36c; track mixed western, 36@37½c; track white western, 37@41c. Options dull but firmer; May closed ¼c advance; February, closed 34⅝c; March, closed 34½c; May, 34 9-16@34⅝c, closed 34⅝c.

HAY—Quiet; shipping, good to choice, $6.50@8.50.

HOPS—Quiet; state common to choice, 15@22c; Pacific coast, 16@22c; London market, holders offer moderately.

HIDES—Market quiet; wet salted, New Orleans selected, 45 to 65 lbs., 4½@4½c; Texas selected, 35 to 50 lbs., 4@5c; Buenos Ayres, dry, 20 to 24 lbs., 19½@19c; Texas dry, 24 to 30 lbs., 6c.

LEATHER—Hemlock sole, Buenos Ayres light to heavy weights, 14@19c.

PROVISIONS—Cut meats, quiet; pickled bellies, 7½@8c; pickled shoulders, 6¾c; pickled hams, 9½c. Lard, quiet; held; western steam closed at $7.35 bid; sales, 600 tierces, at $7.30@7.35 for export. February, closed $7.35 nominal; March, $7.60 nominal; May, $7.75 nominal; refined, steady; continent, $8.25; compound, $6.50@6.75. Pork, quiet; new mess, $14.00@14.25; extra prime, $13.00@13.50; family, $15; short clear, $15.00@17.00.

BUTTER—Dull and weaker; western dairy, 13½@17c; western creamery, 18@27½c; western factory, 12@16c.

CHEESE—Steady; large, 11⅝c; small, 10½@12⅝c; part skims, 4@10c; full skims, 2@3c.

EGGS—Active and higher; western, fresh, 14@15c; southern, 14@15c.

TALLOW—Active; city, $3 per pkg., 6⅝@6½c; country, 5½@5¾c.

PETROLEUM—Dull; United closed at 81c asked.

TURPENTINE—Firm; 33@33½c.

RICE—Domestic, 4½@6c.

MOLASSES—Dull; New Orleans, open kettle, good to choice, 26c.

PIG IRON—Dull; American, $12.00@15.00.

COPPER—Dull; $9.75.

LEAD—Quiet; domestic, $3.25.

TIN—Quiet, nominal.

COTTON SEED OIL—Exporters practically out of market. Inquiry on western account small. Sales include 200 bbls. prime yellow at 23½c, 100 bbls. at 33c and 100 bbls. butter oil at 35c. Sales prime crude at 7 cents mill reported at 26c. Quotations: Prime crude, bbls., 25@26c; off crude, bbls., 25@27c; prime crude, loose, 25@27c; prime summer yellow, 31@34c; off grade summer yellow, 32@33c; butter grades, 35@37c; prime summer white, 37@38c.

SUGAR—Raw, firm; fair refining, 2⅞c; centrifugal, 96 test, 3½c; sales, 2,000 tons Muscovado, 89 test, 2¾c; refined, steady; No. 6, 3 1-16@3¼c; No. 7, 3⅛@3 13-16c; No. 8, 3¼@3 11-16c; No. 9, 3 7-16@3⅝c; No. 10, 3⅜@3 9-16c; No. 11, 3 5-16@3½c; No. 12, 3⅜@3 7-16c; No. 13, 3 3-16c; off A, 3⅞@4 1-16c; mould A, 4⅝@4 9-16c; standard A, 4@4⅛c; confectioners' A, 4 3-16c; cut loaf, 4⅝@5 1-16c; crushed, 4⅝@5 1-16c; powdered, 4⅝@4 9-16c; granulated, 4⅛@4 5-16c; cubes, 4⅜@4 9-16c.

MINNEAPOLIS WHEAT MARKET.

New Low Price Record Scored and the Trade Expects Further Decline.

MINNEAPOLIS, Feb. 10.—There was a heavy decline in wheat during the past week, with large receipts in the country that had been sold to arrive the previous week, coming in. These large receipts probably had considerable effect upon the general market, but as compared with other places, this market has been well sustained, and a great deal of the long wheat previously held has not changed hands, with little probability that it will, as much of it is held for use of mills after delivery in May. The total receipts for the week were 1,085,570 bu., which was nearly twice as much as received for the same week last year. The receipts at Duluth were 182,364 bu., making 1,250,000 bu. received here and at Duluth in the six days. An unusual amount of wheat came from the southwest, and has not been counted in the northwestern elevator stocks.

Farmers marketed freely, but they did not sell nearly the amount that has been received in Minneapolis and Duluth. As the sources from which much of the week's receipts came are not figured up in the stocks in northwest country elevators, the exact amount is not known, but it is probable, however, that the farmers marketed about 750,000 bu. during the week in the three states. The line elevators upon which country stock reports are based will not show very much change in the amount they hold. The natural inference will be that farmers marketed as much as has been received at terminal points, but this is not correct for the reason before stated that much of it came from sections not estimated in these reports. It is not likely that country elevators will show very much change when the reports are made out Monday. The supplies in this city will show some increase, estimated at about 200,000 bu., in public and private storage. The mills have been grinding steadily and probably have increased the output above last week, but not to a very large extent. May opened at 57⅞c and closed at 55⅞c after selling at 56⅝c, the lowest point of the day, which was the lowest point ever reached here by May. July opened at 59⅝@59½c and closed at 58⅝c after selling at 58⅜c. There was a fair trade, but it was not as brisk as yesterday.

The trade has no positive opinions to express. Has the bottom been reached? No one will say so. How much lower will the price go? Some are bold enough to say that May will sell at 50c in this market. During the decline today there were moderate free receipts, but not large, the general course of the market being almost steadily downward. Changes were made with the closing some ⅜@⅝c below the opening. A good many small lots of long wheat were sold out during the day, but the parties holding large supplies for May delivery as well as for July had their holding at the close. The sales of cash wheat today ranged from 59⅝c to 60c for No. 1 hard, from 57½c to 59⅝c for No. 1 northern and from 56c to 56½c for No. 2. Track wheat closed: No. 1 hard, 59½c; No. 1 northern, 57½c; No. 2 northern, 55⅝c.

The flour market was very dull, but reported sales were about usual for the amount manufactured, so that it is probable that there was no increase in the amount on hand. That same condition existed during the week and millers were not disposed to produce much faster than the stocks were taken up. A little flour that was on hand before was sent to Duluth to hold in store for the opening of navigation, but this amount was not large. Millers are still asking nominally the same prices that they were before the last decline in wheat, but it is understood that some decline was accepted. In many instances the general range of asking prices for first patents was from $3.25 to $3.60, while the bulk of the sales were at prices between. Bakers ranged from $1.65 to $1.85 for fine grades. Low grades are in many instances run in with the feed, as the prices of the latter commodity are comparatively high.

The daily output of the mills grinding today, it is supposed, will be somewhere near 20,500 bbls. Bran advanced during the week to $11, but the high prices checked business, but the production is well provided for by sales previously made. Some lots sold for $10.75 in cars for shipment.

Kansas City Markets.

KANSAS CITY, Feb. 10.—WHEAT—Steady at yesterday's prices; No. 2 hard, 49½@50c; No. 2 red, 51@53½c.

CORN—In fair demand and ⅛c higher; No. 2 mixed, 30½@30¾c; No. 2 white, 31⅛@31½c.

OATS—Weak and unchanged; No. 2 mixed, 27@27½c; No. 2 white, 28½@29c.

EGGS—Very firm; 12c.

RECEIPTS—Wheat, 23,000 bu.; corn, 1,000 bu.; oats, none.

SHIPMENTS—Wheat, 4,000 bu.; corn, none; oats, none.

RYE—Steady; No. 2, nominally 44c.

FLAX SEED—Firm; $1.26@1.27.

BRAN—Firm; 57@59c.

HAY—Dull and weak; timothy, $8.00@9.00; prairie, $5.00@6.00.

BUTTER—Quiet and easy; creamery, 19@24c; dairy, 14@16c.

EGGS—Very firm; 12c.

Coffee Market.

NEW YORK, Feb. 10.—COFFEE—Options barely steady at unchanged prices to 10 points decline, surplus relieved, under unsatisfactory cables and closed easy at 5@15 points net decline. Sales, 16,000 bags, including: February, $16.15; March, $15.80@15.90; April, $15.55; May, $15.35@15.50; July, $14.85; September, $14.40. Spot coffee, Rio, dull and heavy; new, $17.12½; mild, market easier. Cordova, $20.00@20.25.

SANTOS, Feb. 10—Market firm; good average, 19.60; Receipts, 2,000 bags; stock, 15,000 bags.

HAMBURG, Feb. 10.—Market barely steady; sales, 19,000 bags; unchanged to ⅛pfg decline.

LONDON, Feb. 10.—Dull; 3@6d lower.

Milwaukee Markets.

MILWAUKEE, Feb. 10.—FLOUR—Quiet and steady.

WHEAT—Quiet and steady; No. 2 spring, 56½c; No. 1 northern, 62½c; May, 58⅝c.

CORN—Dull; No. 3, 33½c.

OATS—Firm; No. 2 white, 29¾c; No. 3 white, 28¾@29¼c.

BARLEY—Steady; No. 2, 49½c; sample, 43@48c.

RYE—Weak; No. 1, 46½c.

PROVISIONS—Weak; pork, $12.10; lard, $7.60.

RECEIPTS—Flour, 3,500 bbls.; wheat, 27,300 bu.; barley, 54,400 bu.

SHIPMENTS—Flour, 10,800 bbls.; wheat, 2,000 bu.; barley, 29,600 bu.

Wool Market.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 10.—WOOL—In better demand; prices unchanged.

STOCKS AND BONDS.

Share Speculation Dragged Along Slowly Yesterday Without Feature.

NEW YORK, Feb. 10.—The share speculation during the two hours which the exchange was open for business dragged along slowly without a single feature of interest. The market was perhaps the narrowest on record, the fluctuations being confined within a range of ¾ per cent. The grangers moved within a radius of ½ per cent, St. Paul closing at yesterday's prices, Burlington moving up ⅛ per cent and Northwestern and Rock Island declining ⅛ per cent and ¼ per cent respectively.

St. Paul was bought at the opening in anticipation of a better showing for the first week in February than for any previous week in some months, but when the figures were published showing a decrease of only $3,451 compared with the same week of 1893, the announcement seemed to give no strength to the shares, which actually sold off a small portion. As a matter of fact the first week of February last year was so stormy and filled in with snow that traffic was unusually light. The statement of the company is, therefore, not so favorable as would appear on the surface. Of the industrials Sugar was the only moderately active stock, but it kept within the ¾ per cent limit of fluctuation, closing ¼ per cent higher than on yesterday. General Electric shows an advance of ¾ per cent and Chicago Gas ½ per cent, while Distilling declined ⅜ per cent. The uncertainty of the situation relative to the tariff and revenue bill restricts the dealings in those industrials which will be affected by the measure.

The bank statement made no impression on the speculative fraternity, the decrease in the reserve being expected by reason of the heavy subscriptions to the new government loans from this city and the other changes being mainly the result of operations in connection with the loan. The stock market at the close was as firm as could be on such a light volume of business. The railway and miscellaneous bond market was dull, but firm.

The Post says: Only a few of the industrial stocks scored any change of note today whatever. In Sugar certificates, Chicago Gas and General Electric there was a timid covering of speculative shorts during the first half hour, following which came total dullness. Outside of these the stock market closed almost exactly where it opened, and without a fluctuation of real importance. Last week St. Paul's gross earnings showed a decrease of only $3,451 from a year ago; but this was because the week of 1893 was marked by heavy storms and snow-blocked traffic. Silver bullion recovered sharply on the home and foreign markets. It is not at all improbable that some more sensational surprises are in store for speculators on both sides of this slippery silver trade.

Wheat was demoralized today under renewed liquidation. Influences generally were of a discouraging character. The Chicago private wires brought bearish news. The fact that the Argentine was raising goodly crops of wheat was offered as if a new factor. The flour trade was reported as even more demoralized than wheat. Weather and crop conditions were favorable, with snow storms in the wheat regions. Confidence was wholly lacking and the flood of selling orders swept prices swiftly down to lower levels and practically without reaction, panic conditions prevailing.

Foreign markets, per private advices, were comparatively steady in view of the home situation. The readiness to buy on these declining markets is a hopeful sign.

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

Atchison	11⅝	Northern Pacific	4¼
Adams Express	152	No. Pac. pfd	17⅛
Alton, T. H.	21	U. P. D. & G.	5⅛
do pfd	146	Northwestern	102¾
Am. Express	112	do pfd	138
Baltimore & Ohio	70	N. Y. Central	99⅛
Canada Pacific	70⅝	N. Y. & N. Eng.	11⅞
Canada Southern	49⅝	Ontario & W.	15¼
Central Pacific	12⅝	Oregon Imp.	12⅛
Ches. & Ohio	17⅝	Oregon Nav.	20
Chicago Alton	120	O. S. L. & U. N.	6⅝
C., B. & Q.	75⅝	Pacific Mail	17
Chicago Gas	83⅞	P. D. & E.	4
Consolidated Gas	124	Pittsburg	146¼
C. C. C. & St. L.	36⅛	Pullman Palace	167⅛
Colo. Coal & Iron	10	Reading	21⅜
Cotton Oil Cert.	27⅞	Richmond Term.	4
Del. Hudson	130¾	do pfd	14
Del. Lack. & W.	168⅛	R. G. W.	14⅛
D. & R. G. pfd	30⅛	do pfd	42
D. & C. F. Co.	28⅞	Rock Island	46¾
East Tenn.	⅛	St. Paul	57⅞
Erie	15⅝