A NEW NAPOLEON TO ARISE

From 1897 He Shall Rule France and Dictate Law to All Europe.

WILL AN OLD PROPHECY BE FULFILLED?

Trend of Events and Tendencies of the Present Said to Comport with Predictions Made Many Years Ago.

PARIS, France, Feb. 10.—(Special Correspondence of The Bee.)—Nearly half a century ago a most curious little pamphlet was published in London. It was entitled "The End of the Age in 1901," and was written by one Rev. M. Baxter. It sold on the street for 1 penny.

The pamphlet was a prophecy founded on the Book of Daniel and the Apocalypse of St. John the Divine, and contained a table of predicted events of the last decade of the nineteenth century.

The most striking thing about this quaint publication is the fact that the curious chain of predicted events begins with the rise of a new Napoleon in 1897, who shall rule France, and, through her, dictate law to Europe with more splendor than the great Corsican.

For many years the little lurid-covered pamphlet has lain about in odd corners, sewn with dust and forgotten; now, the strange unexplainable Napoleonic fever which is sweeping over France and Europe, in view of the crisis toward which the powers of the world seem to be hastening, has blown the dust from the leaves and the prophecy has been read with curiosity, with interest and with almost wonder. It has been translated and published in French, German, Spanish and Dutch.

Its prophecies, which follow a distinct biblical analogy, and form a consecutive chain of events mutually dependent on each other, are the more curious, because, in their general bearing, they comport with certain facts and tendencies of the present time, which the most far-seeing judgment could not then have divined.

A NEW EUROPEAN ALLIANCE.

Just before the new Napoleon shall arise, declares the prophecy, Europe will be arranged into a new, ten-kingdomed alliance or confederacy, which will include all of the states comprised in the ancient Roman empire of the Caesars. This, as expositors of all ages have agreed, was symbolized by Daniel's ten-horned wild beast, and by the ten-toed iron legs of his metallic human image. The two legs naturally correspond with the Roman empire's eastern and western divisions, each of which is therefore to become subdivided into exactly five kingdoms, corresponding to the five toes on each foot.

The countries of Caesar's original Roman empire consist at present of about twenty kingdoms or states which must be reduced to the number of ten confederated kingdoms, which can hardly be otherwise, says the prophecy, than as follows:

1. Britain—Separated from Ireland and India, and such of her colonies as never formed a part of Caesar's Roman empire. This seems to indicate that these countries will have parliaments of their own.

2. France—Enlarged to the Rhine so as to include all territories west of that river, Belgium, Luxembourg, Alsace-Lorraine, Switzerland and Tunis, and whatever of Baden, Wurtemburg and Bavaria is not added to Austria. This can come to pass in only one way—by France defeating and dictating terms to Germany.

3. Spain—With Portugal and northern Morocco.

4. Italy—Probably with Tripoli.

5. Austria—Losing its provinces of Bohemia, Moravia and Gallicia north of the Danube, which may be added to Germany, but gaining Bosnia, Herzegovina, and perhaps part of Servia.

6. Greece—With Thessaly, Epirus, Macedonia and Albania.

Either Austria or Greece will annex Montenegro.

It will be seen that the ten states are separated naturally into two groups, containing five eastern and five western states. These groups correspond to the two feet of Daniel's statue. These ten states are to be formed together into an alliance, which is denoted by the body of the statue. This alliance can be produced by only one cause—it will be a combination of these ten Roman nations to resist military attacks by Germany or Russia, which have never been Roman nations, and which will stand outside and apart from these ten kingdoms.

7. Turkey—reduced in size to ancient Thrace-with-Bythinia.

8. Syria—separated from Turkey.

9. Egypt.

10. The Balkan States—Bulgaria, Bohemia and part of Hungary and Servia.

This prophetic parceling points to the tremendous conflict which Europe is with dreadful certainty approaching—a gigantic struggle which will not have all of its virulence in the mutual hatred and jealousy of Germany and France. The prophecy infers that Germany will meet with overwhelming defeat and be driven altogether across the Rhine, so that the whole left bank will be annexed to France—a result necessitated if the old Roman empire be revived. Its revival implies, also, the victory for home rule for Ireland, either peaceably or by the renewal of the events of 1853-1857, and infers that England is to experience another mutiny in India, and perhaps the horrors of another eastern war. So says the prophecy.

"And there are seven kings," says the Apocalypse. "Five are fallen and one is and one other is not yet come; and when he cometh he must continue a short space." Following the governmental headships of the Roman empire, it will be seen that the Napoleonic dynasty became, in 1806, the seventh head of the empire, which dictated law to the rest. France, then, was this one of the seven heads of the monster whom the prophet Daniel saw, and the one of whom St. John spoke when he said: "And I saw one of his heads, as it were, wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed, and all the world wondered."

The Napoleonic dynasty "continued but a short space," until 1815, when, at Waterloo, it was "wounded to death by the sword." This is the dynasty, according to the prophecy, which is to be healed, and make the whole world wonder.

THE KING TO BE A NAPOLEON.

"And the beast that was and is not, even he is the eighth," said the angel to St. John. The beast that was and is not, and is again to be, is the Napoleonic dynasty.

Besides this natural inference, says this latter-day seer, the prophetic books of the bible declare explicitly that this king of the ten-kingdomed confederacy is to be named Napoleon. It is stated plainly in the second verse of chapter ix of the Apocalypse of St. John: "And they had a king over them, * * * but in the Greek tongue, hath his name Apollyon."

The king, therefore, says the prophecy, must have a name which in the Greek tongue is etymologically Apollyon—in the Greek aorist tense, Apoleon. The remarkable biblical chapter ends with this verse: "Here is wisdom. Let him who hath understanding count the number of the beast; for it is the number of a man; and his number is six hundred, three score and six"—666. The verse seems to show that this ruler is a man, and that in some way his name is denoted or represented by the symbolic number 666.

In the time when John wrote The Revelation there was only one way in which a number might stand for a man. In the Greek there was in use a curious method of letter writing by means of figures which was called dative inscriptive form. In this, by an arbitrary system of combination much like that of the so-called Roman numerals, each letter of the alphabet represented a certain numerical value, and was represented by its corresponding figure.

If this was meant by John when he said "the number of the man is 666," then the Greek name of this king must have the inscriptive value of 666. There is a Greek word which has long been known to have that value—it is the word Napoleonti, each letter of which has the following value:

N A P O L E O N T I
40 1 80 70 30 5 70 50 300 10— 666.

Napoleonti is the Greek form of the French "Napoleon."

NEW NAPOLEON TO BE KING OF SYRIA.

When Daniel had the vision of the ten-horned wild beast, and asked the meaning of the horns, he was answered, "And the ten-horns out of this kingdom are ten kings that shall arise, and another shall rise after them." This other little horn, which is to be a Napoleon, is to be a king, and first rule over some little kingdom partitioned out of one of the four Graeco-Macedonian Horn-Kingdoms of Greece, Syria, Thracian Turkey or Egypt. The little horn, says Daniel, "waxed exceedingly great toward the south and toward the east and toward the pleasant land." "The pleasant land" to the biblical writers, meant Judaea or Syria.

After coming to the crown of Syria, however, the Napoleon is to lay his plans for the head-ship of France. "And after the league made with him," says Daniel, "he shall work deceitfully; for he shall come up, and shall become strong with a small people. * * and he shall forecast his devices against the strong-holds, even for a time."

From being king of Syria, with a suddenness that bespeaks a peaceful vote of the ten nations, he becomes emperor of France, and thus head of the confederation. "And they worshipped the beast (Napoleon) saying, who is like unto the beast? Who is able to make war with him?"

The new Napoleon, says the prophecy, is to become more powerful even than in the time of the first Napoleon, possess military occupation of Rome, and restore the temporal powed of the pope. He is finally to dictate law to almost all of Europe, take Egypt, decree changes in laws and times, and finally to abolish Christianity.

WILL THE PROPHECY BE FULFILLED?

Strangely enough, the situation of the European powers seems to be so shaping itself as to cause those who watch the curious moves on the chess board of the world to ask themselves the question, "Is the old prophecy coming true?"

Certain it is that, though written so many years ago, when Europe was balanced under an entirely different adjustment of power—when the tendencies and alliances of the present time were by nothing less than a miracle to be inferred from the then existing conditions—that this old prophecy has sketched a future struggle for Europe toward which all present tendencies seem to be deepening.

In regard to the predicted Roman alliance the present shows only possibilities. The world is talking now of the dual alliance between Russia and France. Thus far, however, it has consisted most largely of a city covered with bunting, of the shouts of frantic Parisians, and the throwing in the air of greasy caps at Toulon. France has made much noise about it, but after all, does it mean much more than that she would give that Great Bear anything he asked with a view to a future creeping under the mantle of his protection? What Russia wants, of course, is a port on the Mediterranean and a waterway for her fleets through the straits. She is patting France on the back, apparently, but discreetly promising nothing. It is from the realization of this, perhaps, that Germany has all along smiled at the Franco-Russian fetes. Germany is waiting for the great struggle—one most imminent with her—which will have as its virus the mutual hatred of herself and France. Meanwhile she gives herself little concern about this new move of Russia, knowing that it will be balanced by counter moves of England.

England, on her part, seemed alone to have looked to the bottom of the Russian flattery of France, and has seen that it is full of menace to both herself and France—that it might mean nothing less than a possible reopening of the old eastern question, the dominance of the Mediterranean, and danger to India. Especially does England "fear the Greeks when they bring gifts," and it is this scarcely-expressed fear that is responsible for the present war scare in Parliament, and the efforts which are now being pushed for the increase of her navy.

The wondrous advancement of France has made since the catastrophe of 1870 and her increasing wealth are every year making her more and more a match for Germany. Under such conditions Russia would be most unlikely to take any decisive move, occupied as she is with thoughts of the east and of England. No. Russia might prove the broken reed, piercing the hand of France should she lean upon it.

Russia's object in the Mediterranean will sooner or later come to France like the stretching of an armed hand and then France will have no choice but to turn to England. A Russian fleet in the Mediterranean would be a terror to both and it will make common cause.

So much for France and Britain. Italy might join hands, too, and because of the jealousy of Germany and Russia, the international relations of Germany and Italy would rather help than hinder Italy in this coalition. Italy's nonchalance of late is perhaps due to the same cause as Germany's. Crispi is waiting. The feeling seems to be one of strained anxiety and waiting for the Franco-German imbroglio which is to precipitate the gigantic European struggle and foreshadow its end.

Should Germany be defeated in this, as the prophecy states, her weakened condition and her hatred of France would be more than sufficient to drive her to an alliance with Russia against the confederacy. From this view of the case, nothing seems more reasonable in its general outline than this predicted Latin alliance against Germany and Russia. This, however, is in the future; much more imminent seems to be England's loss of Ireland and India.

THE POSSIBILITIES OF A NAPOLEON.

But in the meantime, says the prophecy, the new Napoleon has arisen as king of Syria, from which he goes to the empire of France and becomes dictator of the confederacy.

The Napoleonic possibilities are limited to the direct line. At the death of the imperial prince, Louis Napoleon, in the Zulu war, in 1879, Prince Jerome Napoleon became the head of the Napoleon dynasty. On his death in March, 1891, his two sons, Prince Victor and Prince Louis Napoleon, cousins of the dead imperial prince, Louis, became the direct heirs of the empire. The eldest son, Victor, is the head of the dynasty.

Strangly enough, by way of indications toward the fulfilment of the prophecy, until very recently, Prince Louis Napoleon, who, by the way, is by far the more popular of the brothers in France, and who could count on the strongest support, has been in the Russian army and was colonel of a Russian regiment at Tiflis, in the Caucasus on the north Syria.

According to Daniel, Napoleon is to "stand up in place of the king of the north and obtain the kingdom of Syria by flatteries." Whether Russia be the "place of the north," and the king the czar himself, are matters for conjecture. It but adds to the strangeness of the circumstances when we remember that the czar has all along favored the young Napoleon, and would be more than inclined to help him, it may be, to a diminutive buffer kingdom, such as Syria, if, by so doing, he might strengthen his own frontier against Germany or help to strike a final blow at anarchy and nihilism in his own limits by assisting the forces allied for the downfall of French republicanism.

The present condition of popular feeling in France, chimes strangely in with the prophecy. The Napoleonic fever is abroad; it is in the air. It has become in popular opinion almost a certainty that if France falls as a republic, her only future is in the Napoleonic dynasty. There is still the party of the royalists who own a staunch allegiance to the old Bourbon line, and in the event of a revolution, the line of the Comte de Paris would not lack support, but the real strength of the royalist enemies of the republic is on the side of the empire and the Napoleon. With them would be thrown all the force of the protestant element of France, who fear another kingdom which might mean rife Catholicism and the returned power of the Jesuits.

Is Louis Napoleon the man who is to stand up—"a man of fierce countenance and understanding dark sentences, and of crafty policy, destroying many by peace."

In connection with that part of the prophecy that refers to the temporal power of the pope at this time, it is most remarkable to note that Lucien Bonaparte, who at his ordination in 1858, was pointed to as likely to be chosen pope some day, is now a cardinal, and is thus eligible to the office.

In foretelling the unparalleled success of the new Napoleon, the prophecy is but recalling the deeds of his great forerunner. The new comer is to be of the same audacious originality as Napoleon I., "and he shall speak great words against the Most High, and think to change times and laws." In 1812, when Cardinal Feach, the uncle of Napoleon I., tried to dissuade the emperor from his ruinous enterprise of invading Russia, Napoleon replied: "The great power I have already obtained forces me to become dictator of the world. My destiny is not yet accomplished. I must establish one universal code of laws—the Napoleonic code—one court of appeal, one coinage and monetary currency, with Napoleon's effigy stamped upon it, one system of weights and measures. I must make one nation out of all the European states, and Paris must be the capital of the world!"

This change of times and laws will, in the main, be the program of the new Napoleon. The French republican calendar was dated from September 22, 1792, and it would not be more startling should the new emperor in a similar manner, "think to change the times."

The new Napoleon is, moreover, to decree the abolition of Christianity. "And the king shall do according to his will, and he shall exalt himself, and magnify himself above every God, and shall speak marvelous things against the God of Gods."

This also, is only what happened in France in 1793. POST WHEELER.

LABOR NOTES.

A native painter in India earns 40 cents a day.

A mule driver in Morocco earns 10 cents a day.

The Pittsburg window glass factories are closing down.

A thresher in Turkey can command 40 cents a day.

The trades unions of Baltimore are agitating for a stringent child labor law.

Ten tinplate factories at Swansea, Wales, employing 3,000 hands, have closed down.

Employes of the St. Louis Stamping company have had their wages cut from 10 to 15 per cent.

A meeting of Vienna's unemployed, at which violent speeches were made, was dispersed by the police.

The Ohio miners in convention at Columbus are divided in sentiment on the proposed reduction in wages.

General Master Workman Sovereign is in conference at Pittsburg with the leaders of the Knights of Labor.

During the thirteenth century in France an archer received 15 shillings a month, a knight £4.10, a field marshal £15.

Persian laborers work from sunrise to sunset, with an hour's intermission at noon. No work is done on Friday.

Employes of the Washington mill at Lawrence, Mass., numbering 1,500, are on a strike against reduced wages.

The Fowler Car company's works at Elizabeth, N. J., have been closed indefinitely, throwing 300 men out of work.

Coal miners at Louisville and Lafayette have resumed work and settled their disputes with the mine operators.

Coal miners of the Edgerton and Quincy companies at Colchaster, Ill., have accepted a reduction of 12½ cents per ton.

The laborers in every occupation are paid from two to five times as much in the United States as in any country in Europe.

The Northern Pacific receivers have determined to accept the modification of the wage-reduction schedule asked for by the employes.

The New York legislature has reported favorably in the senate on a bill to appropriate $1,000,000 to furnish work for the unemployed.

The first of the Mansfield, Pa., rioters to be tried was Joseph Balechek, for assault. He was found not guilty, but assessed one-half of the costs.

In the English woolen mills female employes, though doing the same kind of work as the men, and often doing it better, receive only one-half the pay.

Plowmen and reapers in Bohemia are paid 30 cents a day; females employed at the same labor receive 20 cents, neither board nor lodging being furnished.

John Burns and other men prominent in English labor circles are to come to this country to confer with their brethren in the cause on this side of the Atlantic.

General Master Workman Sovereign says no charges have made against Mr. Powderly. He says another move will be made against Secretary Carlisle's bond issue.

The new Delta coal mines in Montana expect to take out 100 cars of coal daily and employ 500 men. The Boston and Montana copper smelter has largely increased its force.

The coal miners at Bevier, Mo., have agreed to accept the operators' new rule to extract coal by cutting instead of shooting solid. This gives work to expert miners only.

The talk among the locked out cigarmakers now is to establish a co-operative shop of their own, which can be done, as the union treasury is reported in a very satisfactory condition.

Grand Chief Ramsey of the railway telegraphers has gone to Milwaukee to meet the Northern Pacific receivers. He says his organization will acquiesce in whatever is done by the federation.

Notices have been posted at the Spearman, Alice and Mabel furnaces, Sharpsville, Pa., of a 10 per cent reduction. This makes the wages $1.05 per day for labor and $1.25 for turn work. The men will accept the reduction.

The Dayton (Tenn.) Coal and Iron company has blown out its furnaces and closed its mines because of a strike of from 800 to 1,000 employes, who demanded the reinstatement of three men who had been discharged by the manager.

The National Farmers Alliance has adopted a resolution stating that Secretary Morton, in his Chicago speech, entirely misrepresented the necessities of the farmers, and that his doctrines were false in principle and dangerous to the welfare of the American farmer.

It is not necessary to call a doctor for a cut or bruise; get Salvation Oil. Only 25c.

CURVES OF THE CROOKS.

A shoplifter, recently arrested, carried her plunder in a paper sack.

Emma Taylor, a female dip arrested in San Francisco, dresses in black and works at funerals.

Joseph Mann, arrested in New York, disguised himself as a monk and collected money and stole everything in sight.

The Indian Territory takes the lead with a boy bandit 12 years old, who alone held up a postmaster in daylight with a revolver, secured $75, and, jumping on his pony, escaped.

Arthur Meyer, a young New York clerk recently arrested, went to the postoffice and had his employer's mail changed to a new address. He then received and rifled letters of checks and money orders.

Detective Emil Sandmeyer of St. Louis once obtained a clew to where a large sum of money had been secreted by hearing the thief, whom he had been rooming with as a boon companion, talk in his sleep.

A boarding house thief who gave his name as William A. Crane, arrested in New York the past week, has a craze for collecting keys, sixty of which was found in his room, representing just so many houses he had gone through. He had eighty-two pawn tickets, besides a carload of stuff found at his house.

A young man out of work adopted a novel plan of obtaining money in St. Louis recently. His plan was to select the name of some wealthy citizen and write him a straightforward appeal for aid, signing it with the man's own name. Ten to one the busy business man would think possible it was some of his relatives, and give the aid needed.

A dangerous class of swindlers is now operating in the guise of servant girls. They secure positions as domestics and then systematically rob their employers. Carli Petersen, a bright girl, was recently sentenced to the penitentiary for two years in New York for that kind of work, and many complaints are continually made in this city of the same kind of work.

Mrs. Sweeney, the wife of a Chicago policeman, was apprehended upon the street by a stranger, who attempted to get possession of her pocketbook. She resisted, and when she was about to scream for help another stranger stepped up and demanded to know of the first man what he meant. "He tried to grab my pocketbook," explained Mrs. Sweeney. "Hand me your purse," said the second stranger. "I'll protect your property." The unsuspecting woman at once handed over her pocketbook, and now Mrs. Sweeney says the second man failed to return her property. As soon as he secured possession of the purse he told the woman he had to "catch a car," and the police officer's wife is now mourning the loss of a $3 purse, $4 and several small articles of jewelry.

Little pills for great ills; Dewitt's Little Early Risers.

JOBBERS NOT WORRYING

They Are Expecting a Good Spring Business and Are Prepared for It.

SIGNS THAT GIVE ENCOURAGEMENT

Wholesalers Well Pleased with Present Trade, Which is Improving Every Day—What Year's Business Will Be Judging from Indications Now.

That Omaha has a class of jobbers who are enterprising and capable, who have built up a trade that is to endure, has been abundantly demonstrated by the severe test of the last six months.

In spite of the conditions that have crippled all lines of trade alike it would be difficult to find a wholesaler in this city who complains of hard times or fails to express perfect satisfaction with his trade and prospects. That is not saying that the jobbing trade of the past few months has been equal to that of last year, which was a period of unusual activity. No one would be foolish enough to deny that thus far it has been a dull year, commercially speaking, but the fact remains that Omaha jobbers have held their own under the pressure of adverse conditions better than their competitors in other jobbing centers of the Missouri valley.

Not a single firm has been seriously embarrassed by the financial stringency. They saw the storm approaching and for the most part were as well prepared for it as it was possible for conservative and far-seeing business men to be. During the winter they have ordered conservatively and still have avoided the mistake of dealers at some other points, who now find it difficult to obtain their requirements of certain lines of goods in time to meet the demands of their trade. The Omaha jobbers have held themselves in readiness to meet the first signs of a return of business activity, and in several instances this foresight has won them valuable customers, who would otherwise have placed their orders, as heretofore, with Chicago houses.

While trade has been comparatively dull in most lines for the greater part of the season, the increased activity that has characterized the past thirty days has been felt to a greater extent in Omaha than in almost any other city in the west. While other cities experienced a spasmodic brightening of the commercial horizon and a following reaction that left them in doubt as to whether the improvement was really more than a temporary shifting of the clouds, the local jobbers have been favored with a steady and permanent gain which is rapidly approaching the limit of a really active trade.

There is not a jobber in Omaha who has not stocked up in anticipation of a fair spring business and every indication thus far goes to show that their confidence was not misplaced. Many of the dealers have enlarged their territory and are branching out in the expectation that the wave of returning prosperity will eventually leave business in better condition than it has been for several years back. This view is warranted by the fact that the conservative dealings of the past six months have left the trade in a more substantial, if not more prosperous condition and that with stocks down to a minimum in all lines of retail trade the impulse of really active business will necessitate a more liberal purchasing of goods than has been known in ordinary times.

It is generally believed that with spring weather trade will take a new lease of life and that the end of the spring months will show a gratifying aggregate. In an extended trip through the wholesale district a Bee reporter was unable to find a jobber who had any misgivings in regard to the issue of the season. All are hopeful and many seemed quite enthusiastic over the outlook for spring sales. The following expressions from leading jobbers show that they are far from feeling that the season will be a failure:

George E. Tibbs of M. E. Smith & Co.—While our February trade cannot be said to be as good as last year, we have noticed a marked improvement over January. Business seems to be enjoying a steady growth based on the legitimate wants of the trade, and I look for a good trade during the spring months. Our orders are increasing daily, both in number and proportions and we notice especially a strong demand for manufactured goods. We have lately had a number of heavy orders from the west, which indicate that business men out there have regained confidence and are disposed to take advantage of the present low prices on many lines of goods.

W. A. L. Gibbon—There has been a steady improvement during the past few weeks, and I look for an active trade as soon as good weather comes. There is every evidence of returning confidence on the part of our customers, and far from being discouraged, we expect to do a good business all through the spring.

Paxton & Gallagher—We are having a fair trade, and while we do not expect such a boom as the Omaha jobbers enjoyed last year, we believe that the spring trade will reach proportions that will compare favorably with the average of previous years. It is true that the retail merchants are buying conservatively, but this will make business all the better as soon as people get over their fancy that we are in the midst of a financial panic. There have been good crops all over Nebraska, Kansas, Iowa and Missouri, and the farmers have plenty of money which just as soon as they let loose of it will make things take a new aspect. Our customers generally say that they are doing a good business. They have worked their stocks down below the usual limit, and are paying their bills promptly. Under these conditions the slightest increase in their business must have a two-fold effect, as it will mean just so much business all along the line.

W. M. Glass, Secretary Lee-Clarke-Andreesen Hardware Company—Business is not just what it ought to be at this season, but we are not borrowing trouble. We naturally expect the spring business to come a little later than usual this year on account of the strain of the past six months, but I think that in the end we will have no reason to complain. Any one who thinks we have no confidence in that opinion should go into our warehouse and look at the stock of goods we have piled up. We have bought about as many goods as usual, and expect to sell them. The trade has been conservative, as creditors have so far only bought what they absolutely needed, and as soon as their business picks up they will have just so much more to buy.

Steele-Smith Grocery Company—We have done more business so far this year than we did last, and this is saying a great deal, as last year was a particularly active year in the jobbing line. We have expected a good healthy spring trade, and are prepared for it. The general conditions are much improved in Wyoming, Utah and other western states, according to the representations of our customers and traveling men, and we are also doing well in the Black Hills territory and all through Nebraska. The cattle prospects are excellent, and the recent snows give promise of good crops all around. Our collections are good, and the retailers are showing a disposition to increase the size of their orders instead of buying from hand to mouth as they have been doing for some time past.

C. S. Hayward, secretary Williams-Hayward company—We have no reason to be discouraged, although most of our customers are still ordering goods in small quantities. We are doing more business than last year, which may be due to the fact that we have branched out considerably, especially in Iowa. Collections are fairly good, and we look for a thoroughly satisfactory spring trade.

Z. T. Lindsey—We are having a fairly good trade and see no reason to complain. Of course the weather has a good deal to do with the trade in rubber goods, and as soon as we get the regular spring mud and rain we expect to do very nearly our usual business.

Kirkendall, Jones & Co.—We have had a good, steady business so far this year, and expect trade to improve continually from now on. The tendency still remains toward conservative buying, but there is a growing improvement in this respect, and the trade has been benefited rather than injured by the slow but sure policy that has been followed in all classes of business.

Robert Cowell of the Kilpatrick-Koch company—There has been a marked improvement in our trade in all lines in the past thirty days. So far from being dissatisfied, we are more than pleased with the present prospects, which are decidedly better than might have been anticipated a few months ago. The call for manufactured goods is really heavy, and our factory is hard pushed to fill orders on time. Spring lines are moving steadily, and the retailers seem to be beginning to realize that certain lines of goods are now on the market at prices below the cost of production. An agent of one of the largest manufacturing establishments in the country was in town the other day and he tells me that there is a renewed activity all through the west. Merchants who could not be induced to buy except in driblets thirty days ago are now ordering freely, and confidence seems, in a large measure, to have returned.

W. S. Wright, Rector-Wilhelmy Company—The hardware trade is showing a steady improvement, although building hardware must necessarily remain quiet until there is more building going on in the country. Retailers have allowed their stocks to run way down, and every time they sell an article they have to go to the jobber to replace it. On this account I look for marked activity as trade continues to improve.

CHICAGO GRAIN MARKET.

Wheat Still Forms an Interesting Feature of the Trading.

CHICAGO, Feb. 24.—Wheat declined today and May closed with 1c loss. Free selling, small export clearances, the mild weather and liberal receipts in the northwest were responsible for the weakness. A little buying caused a temporary reaction, but May closed only ⅛c inside the highest figures. May corn closed ¾c lower, May oats ⅛c lower, and provisions lower all around.

Wheat opened weak and without greatly diminished activity, as compared with the big business of the previous day. The starting price was at a decline of from ½c to ⅝c, the first transactions being at from 60¾c to 60½c, as compared with from 61c to 61⅛c at the end of yesterday's market. During the first hour and a half, which comprised the larger half of the short session, the range for May was inside of the limits of 60¼c to 60⅜c and 60⅝c. Some long wheat was sold out, and some short wheat covered, but there was not business enough to suggest that any changes occurred on any important lines on either side of the market. The more conservative of the bulls recognize the necessity of patience. But there is a more radical element on that side, which would be disheartened by an advance of less than 1c to 2c per bu. per day continuously and definitely, and are correspondingly ready to take a desponding view of their prospects on any intermediate counter marching during the bull campaign. The latter were the sellers of long wheat this forenoon. The cables were not suggestive of more than a very lukewarm sympathy with the past two days' advance here. The weather was mild, with a warm wave in view. Liverpool was quoted firm at the opening, but closed easier.

Bradstreet's give the exports of wheat and flour from both coasts for the week at 1,730,000 bu., compared with 2,005,000 bu. last week. The general expectation is that the Monday visible supply will show a decrease of 1,700,000 bu. Comparing the difference in the relative receipts this week and a year ago the decrease amounts to something over 2,000,000 bu. New York sent bearish dispatches, but reported export purchases of 23 boatloads. May declined to 60c, recovered to 60⅝c on a little buying, but was down again to from 60c to 60¼c at the close.

Corn was dull, the market ruling quiet and stagnant the entire session, prices keeping within fractional limits. An easier feeling prevailed, the market opening off ⅛c and sold down ¼c, most all of which was due to the action in wheat. At the decline the price held steady and the market closed with the price of May at the bottom figure.

In oats there was a moderate trade and an easy feeling, due to sympathy with wheat and corn, and on prospects of an increased demand. Prices receded ¼c and the market closed quiet at the inside.

Provisions were weaker and lower, easier early on the weakness in live hogs in the yards, the decline in wheat and free selling of pork by a prominent broker and lard by a leading packing institution. The volume of trading was very light with no outside support. A moderate reaction in wheat a little later on was responsible for the market improving to the opening prices of the day. When wheat broke this market declined in sympathy below the inside prices of the day and then rallied to a partial extent shortly before the end of the session on a little buying. The market was an extremely narrow and featureless one, with pork and ribs closing steady and lard firm. Compared with last night, May pork is 7½c lower; May lard 5c lower and May ribs 5c lower.

Estimated receipts for Monday: Wheat, 40 cars; corn, 460 cars; oats, 155 cars; hogs, 33,000 head.

The leading futures ranged as follows:

Article.	Open.	High.	Low.	Close.
Wheat No. 2—				
February	58	58⅝	57½	57⅝
May	60⅝	60⅝	60	60@60⅛
July	62⅛	62⅝	61⅝	61⅝@61⅞
Corn No. 2—				
February	34⅜	34⅞	34⅛	34⅛
May	36⅞	36⅞	36⅝	36⅝
July	37⅜	37⅜@37⅝	37⅜	37⅜
Oats No. 2—				
February	29	29	28⅝	28⅝
May	29⅝	29⅝	29⅛	29⅛
July	28⅛	28⅛	28	28
Pork per bbl.				
February				12 05
May	12 20	12 20	12 10	12 15
Lard, 100 lbs.				
February				7 55
March	7 30	7 30	7 27½	7 27½
May	7 20	7 20	7 17½	7 20
Short Ribs—				
July	7 12½	7 12½	7 07½	7 07½
February				6 20
May	6 30	6 30	6 25	6 27½

Cash quotations were as follows:

FLOUR—Steady.

WHEAT—No. 2 spring, 57⅝c; No. 3 spring, 53@57c; No. 2 red, 57⅝c.

CORN—No. 2, 34⅜c.

OATS—No. 2, 28⅝@29c; No. 2 white, 31@31½c; No. 3 white, 30@31¼c.

RYE—No. 2, 46½c.

BARLEY—No. 2, nominal; No. 3, 45@53c; No. 4, 40@45c.

FLAXSEED—No. 1, $1.39½.

TIMOTHY SEED—Prime, $4.10@4.15.

PROVISIONS—Mess pork, per bbl., $12.02½@12.05; lard, per 100 lbs., $7.55; short ribs, sides (loose), $6.22½@6.27½; dry salted shoulders (boxed), $6.25@6.50; short clear sides (boxed), $6.75@7.12½.

WHISKY—Distillers' finished goods, per gal., $1.18.

The following were the receipts and shipments today:

Articles.	Receipts.	Shipments.
Flour, bbls	10,000	8,000
Wheat, bu	9,000	15,000
Corn, bu	230,000	66,000
Oats, bu	182,000	76,000
Rye, bu	2,000	5,000
Barley, bu	52,000	30,000

On the Produce exchange today the butter market was easy, unchanged. Eggs, quiet; strictly fresh, 14½@17c.

UNCERTAINTY IN THE SENATE.

Wall Street is Watching the Finance Committee with Considerable Anxiety.

In his weekly letter Henry Clews, the Wall street expert, says:

"In Wall street speculative business continues to center principally in the class of stocks known as 'the industrials.' The continued uncertainty as to what may be the final status in the new tariff of certain articles which these trusts control naturally gives to this group of stocks an active speculative interest. This is especially so in regard to sugar, the duty on which still remains undecided. It seems to be reasonably sure that the senate will so strongly favor some duty on the article that the house may consent to its removal from the free list; and the best informed opinion inclines to the expectation that the duty on raw will finally range around 1 cent per pound. The thing on which congress is likely to differ widely is the duty on the refined article. The eastern members of both houses seem to preponderate in favor of a small protective duty on this grade, sufficient to prevent importations; and the south also is likely to favor that course for obvious reasons of interest. But the west, which grows increasingly rampant against any form of protection, may be expected to oppose any form or degree of favor to the Sugar trust. The difficulty of the subcommittee of the senate finance committe in reaching a report is suspected to cover some possibilities of a serious disagreement. Senators are said to find a much more positive public hostility to incorporating the income tax in the Wilson bill than they expected to encounter; and, in some quarters, it is deemed possible that the upper house may venture on the experiment of returning the bill to the house minus that odious and unpopular clause. The longer the measure remains in the senate the greater the danger of miscarriage from this cause is likely to become, for there can be no question that the public hostility to the tax, through the whole section from Chicago to Baltimore and Baltimore to Portland, Me., is most bitter and intense, and would alone suffice to consign to oblivion the party responsible for the outrage of adopting such a tax. It remains to be seen what these clouds on the horizon may betoken; but Wall street has its eye upon them as involving possibilities important to speculation.

"The rates for foreign exchange continue to rule, and under ordinary relations between the home and foreign money markets gold would now be flowing to Europe. Under existing conditions, however, neither England nor the continent want more gold, but would prefer to allow American balances to run until the rate of interest improves. There is little probability, therefore, of any noteworthy shipments of specie being made; and were it otherwise, the effect here, with our abundant supply of idle money, would be rather wholesome than otherwise."

OMAHA LIVE STOCK MARKET.

Receipts of Cattle and Sheep Are Light, but Hogs Are Plenty.

SATURDAY, Feb. 24.

Receipts of both cattle and sheep have been comparatively light this week, but there has been a sharp increase in hog supplies. The figures are as follows:

	Cattle.	Hogs.	Sheep.
Receipts this week	13,014	29,388	4,896
Receipts last week	11,646	23,451	10,383
Same week last year	17,644	16,673	15,970
Same week in 1892	13,014	28,642	8,077

This has been another very unsatisfactory week in the cattle market. Supplies have not been at all heavy, in fact they have been rather light, falling 1,600 short of last week and 4,600 short of the corresponding week last year. With an average demand prices would ordinarily have made a good advance, but the demand continues of the most indifferent and restricted character, and as a result prices are still dragging along on the bottom. On Monday and Tuesday prices were on the down grade and on Wednesday and Thursday they reacted slightly. On Friday the market weakened and today it was firmer again. It has been a very uneven and uncertain market, but the fluctuations are very limited, in fact the market is so low and weak the fluctuations are little more than spasmodic fluiterings. The ordinary run of light and medium cattle are selling at the lowest prices of the year, and while there has been perhaps a slight improvement in the market for the better, heavier grades for shipping and export prices are not more than 10c or 15c better than at the extreme low point on Tuesday of this week.

LITTLE FIRMER FEELING.

The supply today was not at all heavy and included some very decent beeves, although there were none that could be called choice. Buyers for the dressed beef houses all wanted supplies and as there was a fair inquiry from outsiders, the competition for the good heavy steers was active enough to advance prices a notch or two. For the general run of half fat and shortfed stock the market was perhaps a trifle more active and firmer than on Friday, but not quotably higher. The movement was reasonably active and the pens were cleared at an early hour.

Less than a third of the fresh receipts were cows and the general quality of the offerings was rather more satisfactory. There was very little noteworthy change in the market, supply and demand being evenly enough balanced to hold prices firm. Veal calves met with an active demand at good strong prices, and the market for rough stock was, if anything, a shade better than on Friday.

Business in stockers and feeders was very quiet, not an unusual condition of affairs on a Saturday. Prices have not changed materially all week and the volume of trading has been light. Stockers are bringing good stiff prices and feeders are still paying more than killers for half fatted and short fed stock. Good to choice feeders are quoted at $3.00@3.30, fair to good at $2.75@3.00, and lighter, commoner grades at from $2.75 down.

HEAVY SUPPLY OF HOGS.

It has been several moons since 40,000 hogs were received in a week at this point, and yet there were within 500 of that number received during the past six days. With similar conditions prevailing at all other points, the average of prices for the week has been lower, and the close about 15c lower than last Saturday. A slight increase in eastern shipping orders has helped to keep values from going down too fast, and as prices go down it is morally sure that eastern shipping orders will increase.

A noticeable feature at present is the large percentage of young hogs that are being marketed at present. A prominent buyer says the average age of the offerings will not run over 8 months, while the weighmasters' books show the average weight to be very little over 240 lbs. This means one of two things—either farmers have suddenly taken to marketing their hogs younger, or else the present comparatively satisfactory prices for hogs and the prospects of a lower market later on are causing farmers to rush their hogs to market as fast as they are anywhere near in marketable condition. Most people incline to the latter theory, and it is feared that the present free marketing may seriously curtail the spring and summer supplies.

The trade today was somewhat peculiar. A heavy run coming on the heels of a heavy week and making nearly 40,000 hogs for the past six days, 16,000 more than a week ago and 23,000 more than a year ago, gave buyers a big advantage and opening bids were largely at $4.75 to $4.80. Sellers were slow to accept so big a decline, and as shippers and speculators began to take a hand the market strengthened, fair to good hogs sold largely at $4.80 and $4.85 and toward the close the same hogs sold largely at $4.85 and $