COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL

Wheat Opened Weak, but Became Strong Toward Noon.

EARLY TRADES WERE AT A DECLINE

This Was Ascribed to the Amount of that Cereal on Ocean Passage and the Rally Resulted from the Visible Supply Report.

CHICAGO, Feb. 26.—Wheat was weak at both ends and strong in the middle of today's session, closing with a loss of ⅞c for May. A decrease in the visible supply caused a temporary firmness, but free selling, an increase in the amount of wheat and flour on ocean passage and rumors favorable to "Farmer" Hatch's anti-option bill were too much for the bulls and the market was generally weak. Corn closed ⅝c lower; May oats ¼c lower and provisions lower all around.

The opening trades in wheat were at a decline of from ⅝c to ¾c as compared with the prices current on Saturday. There was a gradual hardening of the prices for an hour and a half, during which time particulars of the visible supply statement were coming in. That being satisfactory to the bulls, when it was completed the hardening process continued for a few minutes, and then dissolved entirely. The trade had been light during the time referred to and those who felt disposed to buy wheat on the announcement of a decrease of 1,410,000 bu. in the visible supply—which was the change announced in the week's stock—had already done so, when Pardridge and Leming came upon the scene with selling orders, which for a time appeared to have no limit. There were no buyers left on the spot to take those offerings sufficiently fast and the result was a collapse. The opening decline was ascribed to the following causes:

The amount of wheat on ocean passage showed an increase of 872,000 bu. since a week ago; the Liverpool market was a shade easier for futures, quoting ¼d decline; the New York stock and cotton markets had a weak start and the weather was not suggestive of any danger to the wheat plant. The subsequent rally was owing to the decreases in the visible supply as the returns came to hand. The opening for May was at from 59½c to 59⅝c and it gradually worked up to from 59¾c to 60c and then dropped like a struck steer to 59¼c.

The clearances from the four principal Atlantic ports amounted in wheat and flour to about 260,000 bu. The Indian shipments for the week were 160,000 bu. The taking of the Hatch anti-option measure out of the hands of the ways and means committee and placing it with the agricultural committee in the house of representatives today seemed a further stab administered to the market, which caused it to fall again before it had well recovered from the previous assault. The closing cables were discouraging, but after a break to 58⅞c May recovered a trifle, closing only ⅜c from the bottom.

There was a fair trade in corn, though prices did not cover a very wide range. The feeling was weak and the tone heavy from the start. The large receipts induced considerable selling. The opening trades showed declines of from ⅛c to ¼c, but the market held steady at these figures some little time, the buying of about 2,500,000 bu. of May by a prominent concern steadying the market. There was also good buying by commission houses, which was credited to a large individual trader, which also helped check the decline. After these buying orders were executed the offerings again increased and prices sagged down from ¼c to ⅜c, rallied a fraction, became quiet and closed with May but ⅛c from the day's bottom figures.

In oats there was a good trade early, there being very free selling by several large operators, but their offerings were well taken. Late in the day the trading was light and the offerings were not large. The influences were mostly bullish. The visible supply decreased 48,000 bu. last week. Receipts for the day were but 195 cars, with 190 cars expected tomorrow. May opened ⅜c lower, advanced ¼c and reacted ⅛c to the close midway between the day's top and bottom figures.

With the arrivals of live hogs at the yards largely in excess of the estimates and a decline in prices for them, provisions opened weak and lower and then ruled fairly steady for a time on the support accorded by a prominent commission house and two leading packing institutions. The volume of trading was light with corresponding offerings. A heavy feeling manifested itself subsequently, the market suffering a further decline on the weakness of wheat, many hogs arriving and the fact that there is practically no short interest out. There was, too, an almost entire absence of outside support. The trading was quite light. There was a moderate reaction near the end of the session, the packers bidding up the market and particularly for pork, the greater part of the loss being recovered, with the close steady. Compared with Saturday's close May pork is 20c lower; May lard 7½c lower, and May ribs 7½c lower.

Estimated receipts for tomorrow: Wheat, 70 cars; corn, 630 cars; oats, 190 cars; hogs, 26,000 head.

The leading futures ranged as follows:

Articles.	Open.	High.	Low.	Close.
Wheat, No. 2				
February..	57¼	57⅝	56⅝	57
May.....	59⅝@⅝	60	58⅞	59¼
July.....	61⅛@1⅛	61⅝	60¾	61
Corn, No. 2..				
February..	34	34	33⅝	33¾
May.....	36⅝@⅝	36⅝	36⅛	36⅛@¼
July.....	37⅛	37⅛	37¼	37¼
Oats, No. 2...				
February..	28¾	28¾	28¾	28¾
May.....	29¼	29⅜	29¼	29⅜
July.....	27¾	27⅞	27¾	27⅞@⅞
Pork per bbl				
February..	.....	.....	.....	11 87½
May.....	12 00	12 02½	11 87½	11 97½
Lard, 100 lbs				
February..	7 45	7 45	7 40	7 40
March.....	7 20	7 20	7 15	7 17½
May.....	7 10	7 15	7 07½	7 10
July.....	7 02½	7 07½	7 00	7 05
Short Ribs—				
February..	.....	.....	.....	6 15
May.....	6 20	6 22½	6 17½	6 20

Cash quotations were as follows:

FLOUR—Unchanged.

WHEAT—No. 2 spring, 57c; No. 3 spring, 58@61c; No. 2 red, 57c.

CORN—No. 2, 34½c.

OATS—No. 2, 28c; No. 2 white, 27@31½c; No. 3 white, 30½@31c.

RYE—No. 2, 46c.

BARLEY—No. 2, nominal; No. 3, 45@53c; No. 4, 45@46c.

FLAX SEED—No. 1, $1.39½.

TIMOTHY SEED—Prime, $4.10@4.15.

PROVISIONS—Pork, per bbl., $11.85@11.87½. Lard, per 100 lbs., $7.37½@7.40. Short ribs, sides (loose), $6.15@6.25; dry salted shoulders (boxed), $6.25@6.50; short clear sides (boxed), $6.75@7.12½.

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

SUGARS—Unchanged.

The following were the receipts and shipments for today:

Articles.	Receipts.	Shipments.
Flour, bbls.....	9,000	6,000
Wheat, bu.....	24,000	8,000
Corn, bu.....	260,000	82,000
Oats, bu.....	104,000	120,000
Rye, bu.....	3,000	.....
Barley, bu.....	27,000	17,000

On the Produce exchange today the butter market was quiet: creamery, 22@25c; dairy, 16@21c. Eggs, quiet, unchanged.

New York Markets.

NEW YORK, Feb. 26.—FLOUR—Receipts, 17,800 bbls.; exports, 17,600 bbls.; sales, 500 pkgs.; market dull and weak and lower to sell; exporters had few orders. Southern flour, dull. Rye flour, quiet. Buckwheat flour, dull; $2.25@2.40.

BUCKWHEAT—Easier; state, 68@70c; Canadian, 66@68c.

CORN MEAL—Quiet.

RYE—Dull.

BARLEY—Dull.

BARLEY MALT—Dull.

WHEAT—Receipts, 4,600 bu.; exports, 183,000 bu.; sales, 3,985,000 bu. futures and 260,000 bu. spot. Spot market fairly active but weaker; No. 2 red, in store and elevator, 60⅝c; afloat, 60⅝c; f. o. b., 62⅝c; No. 1 northern, New York, 64⅛@65⅛c. Options opened weaker under active local selling due to weak cables, a three-quarter million bushel increase in the amount of wheat on passage and milder weather west; rallied a little at midday on the visible supply decrease, sold off again under weak late cables, closing ⅞@1c net decline; No. 2, February, closed 60⅝c; March, 60¾@61⅛c, closed 60⅝c; May, 63@63⅝c, closed 63⅛c; July, 65⅛@66c, closed 65½c; August, closed 66½c; September, closed 67¾c; December, 70⅞@71 7-16c, closed 71c.

CORN—Receipts, 62,000 bu.; exports, 1,000 bu.; sales, 65,000 bu. futures and 55,000 bu. spot. Spot market more active but weaker. No. 2, 41½c in elevator; 42½c afloat; yellow, 43c. Option market opened weaker with wheat and in anticipation of a big movement west, further declined under active local offerings and closed at ⅝c net decline. February closed at 41⅝c; March, 41⅝@41 13-16c, closed at 41½c; April closed at 42½c; May, 42@42 5-16c; July, 43 3-16@43 5-16c, closed at 43⅛c.

OATS—Receipts, 30,000 bu.; exports, none; sales, 145,000 bu. futures and 36,000 bu. spot. Spot dull. No. 2, 32c; No. 2 delivered, 33½c; No. 2, 32c; No. 2 white, 34½c; No. 3 white, 31½c; track mixed western, 28@33½c; track white western, 30@42c; track white state, 35@42c. Options quiet and weaker all day with the other markets, closing ⅛@¼c net declines. February closed at 30c; March closed at 30⅝c; May, 33⅛@33 1-16c, closed at 33⅛c.

HAY—Firm; shipping, $6; good to choice, $6.00@8.00.

HOPS—Quiet; state, common to choice, 18@22c; Pacific coast, 18@22c.

HIDES—Quiet, unchanged; wet salted New Orleans selected, 45 to 60 lbs., 4½@5½c; Texas, selected, 35 to 50 lbs., 4@5c; Buenos Ayres, dry, 25 to 34 lbs., 10½@11c; Texas, dry, 24 to 30 lbs., 6c.

LEATHER—Quiet.

PROVISIONS—Beef, quiet. Cut meats, quiet; pickled bellies, 7¼@7¾c; pickled shoulders, 6¾c; pickled hams, 9½c. Lard, dull; western steam closed at $7.80@7.85; February, closed $7.80 nominal; March, $7.80 nominal; May, $7.45; refined, weak; continent, $8.25; S. A. $8.65; compound, 6¾c. Pork, steady.

BUTTER—Quiet; quotations for new butter: Western dairy, 12@16c; western creamery, 17@26c; western factory, 11@16c; Elgins, 29c; state dairy, 18@24c; state creamery, 16@29c, old.

CHEESE—Quiet; large, 9@11¾c; small, 10¼@12¼c; part skims, 5@10c; full skims, 2@2½c.

EGGS—Steady; state and Pennsylvania, 19@20½c; ice house, $2.50@3.00 per case; western fresh, 19½c; southern, 18@19½c; receipts, 7,415 pkgs.

TALLOW—Steady.

PETROLEUM—Dull; United closed at 80½c asked.

ROSIN—Steady; strained, common to good, $1.10@1.12½.

TURPENTINE—Steady; 29½@31c.

RICE—Quiet; domestic, fair to extra, 3¾@4c; Japan, 4¾@⅝c.

MOLASSES—Dull; New Orleans, open kettle, 27@34c.

PIG IRON—Quiet; American, $12.50@15.00.

COPPER—Dull; lake, $9.62½.

LEAD—Dull; domestic, $3.10.

TIN—Weaker; straits, $18.75, nominal; plates, depressed.

SPELTER—Firm; domestic, $3.85 asked.

COTTON SEED OIL—Market inactive; only small transactions on local account; advices from west and south indicate corresponding inactivity, with southern advices somewhat weak. Quotations: Prime crude, bbls., 28@29c; prime crude, loose, 24@26c; off crude, bbls., 25@27c; butter grades, 36@38c; prime summer yellows, 33@34c; off summer yellows, 31@32c; prime summer white, 36@37c.

SUGAR—Raw, steady; fair refining, 2⅝@2 13-16c; centrifugals, 96 test, 3 3-16c; sales, 7,100 bags centrifugal, 96 test, at 3 3-16c; 9,000 bags molasses sugar, 89 test, at 2 13-16c; also Saturday two cargoes centrifugal, 96 test, one to go to Philadelphia, 3 1-16c cost and freight. Refined more active.

Omaha Produce Market.

BUTTER—The receipts are fair, but good stock is comparatively scarce. The market is steady. Choice country, 16@17c; creamery, 26@28c.

DRESSED POULTRY—The receipts are light, but there is not sufficient demand to strengthen the market. Chickens, 6@7c; turkeys, 8@9c; geese and ducks, 9@10c. Inferior stock would sell below the above figures.

LIVE POULTRY—There is some call for choice stock and dealers have no difficulty in filling orders. Good stock is quotable at 5@6c.

VEAL—The receipts are somewhat more liberal and there is a moderate call for good stock; choice, good fat veals, 6@7c; thin or heavy, 3@5c.

EGGS—The receipts are small and the market is a little firmer, strictly fresh eggs, 13@14c; cold storage eggs, 6@8c.

HONEY—Choice white clover, 15c; California, 16c; dark honey, 12@13c.

OYSTERS—Medium, I X L, 16c; 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, 13@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; 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 on orders at 75@80c; Spanish onions, per crate, $1.50; yellow onions, in bbls., $2.75.

POTATOES—Nebraska, Iowa and Minnesota grown potatoes, in small lots from store, 70c; same in car lots, 65@68c; Colorado, from store, 75@80c; Colorado lots, 72@75c.

CABBAGES—Orders for cabbage from the country are filled at 2½c per lb.

CELERY—Extra fancy California, 60c@$1.00.

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

GREEN VEGETABLES—Spinach, per bbl., $2.50; salsify, 30@35c per doz.; radishes, per doz., 35c; onions, per doz., 35@40c; cauliflower, per doz., $1.00@1.25; lettuce, per doz., 25@45c; cucumbers, $1.00@2.00; tomatoes, per crate of 20 lbs., $1.50; string beans, $2.50 per 2-3-bu. box; parsley, per doz., 30@35c; egg plant, per doz., $2.25; asparagus, per doz., 85@90c; turnips, per doz., 75@85c; carrots, per doz., 75c; beets, per doz., 85c; water cress, per doz., $1.75@2.00.

FRUITS.

APPLES—There are but few apples on the market and the trade is largely going to oranges. Fancy westerns, $2.25 per box.

CRANBERRIES—Much of the stock is becoming too soft for shipment, but there is still a considerable demand for standard varieties. Cape Cod, per bbl., $6.00@6.25; bell and bugle, $6.00@6.25; Jersey, $6.00@6.25.

CALIFORNIA ORANGES—The stock is arriving in good condition and the trade is increasing. Riverside seedlings, regular sizes, $2.25; small sizes, $2; Riverside Washington navels, $2.75; Redland seedlings, regular sizes, $2.25; small sizes, $2; small sizes in 10-box lots, $1.90; Redland navels, $2.75; Riverside seconds, sizes 250 to 300, $1.8½@2.00.

TROPICAL FRUITS.

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

LEMONS—Messinas, fancy, $4; choice, $3.50.

ORANGES—Fancy Floridas, $3; choice Floridas, $2.75.

TANGERINES—Per box, $2.75.

GRAPE FRUIT—Per box, $4.

FURS.

BEAR—No. 1 black, large, $20.00@25.00; medium, $15; small, $8.00@10.00; black yearlings, large, $12.00@15.00; medium, $10; small $7; black cubs, large, $6.00@8.00; medium, $5.00@6.00; small, $4; black Montana and Rocky mountain, large, $18.00@22.00; medium, $14; small, $10; black Montana yearlings, large, $12; medium, $8; small, $5; black Montana cubs, large, $9.50; medium, $4.50; small, $3; silver tip, large, $20; medium, $12; small, $8; silver tip yearlings, large, $11; medium, $8; small, $5; silver tip cubs, large, $6; medium, $4.50; small, $3; brown, large, $20.00@25.00; medium, $16; small, $12; yearlings, large, $10.00@12.00; medium, $8; small, $6; cubs, large, $7; medium, $5; small, $3; badger—No. 1, large, $1.00@1.50; medium, 60c; small, 50c; fisher—No. 1, large, $8; medium, $6; small, $4; fox, silver, as to color, according to beauty—No. 1, large, $100; medium, $60; small, $40; silver, pale, according to beauty, large, $50; medium, $30; small, $20; cross, large, $7; medium, $3; small, $2; red, large, $1.50; medium, $1.25; small, $1; gray, large, 75c; medium, 50c; small, 40c; kit, large, 50c; medium, 40c; small, 30c; lynx, No. 1 large, $3; medium, $2; small, $1.50; marten, No. 1 large, $2; medium, $1.50; small, $1; mink, No. 1 large, 80c@$1.00; medium, 75c; small 65c; mink, dark, No. 1 large, $1; medium, 75c; small, 50c; mountain lion, perfect head and feet, No. 1 large, $1.00@2.00; imperfect skins, 25@50c; otter, No. 1 large, $8; medium, $6.00@7.00; small, $5; otter, pale, No. 1 large, $7; medium, $5; small, $4; raccoon, No. 1 large, 80c; medium, 60c; small, 50c; raccoon, black, as to beauty, No. 1 large, 50c@$2.00; skunk—black, cased, No. 1 large, $1.25; medium, 75c; small, 50c; short striped, large, $1; medium, 70c; small, 45c; narrow striped, large, 60c; medium, 40c; small, 25c; broad striped, large, 20@25c; wolverine, No. 1 large, $4; medium, $3; small, $2; wolf—mountain, No. 1 large, $3; medium, $2; small, $1.50; prairie, large, 70@75c; medium, 60c; small, 50c; beaver, per skin, No. 1 large, $5.00@6.00; medium, $4.50; small, $2; kits, large, $2; medium, $1.50; small, 75c; muskrats—winter, No. 1 large, 10@11c; medium, 9c; small, 7c; fall, large, 8@9c; medium, 7c; small, 6c; kits, large, 2@3c.

HIDES, TALLOW, ETC.

HIDES—No. 1 green hides, 2½c; No. 1 green salted hides, 2½@3c; No. 2 green salted hides, 1½@2c; No. 1 veal calf, 8 lbs. to 15 lbs., 6½c; No. 2 veal calf, 8 lbs. to 15 lbs., 5c; No. 1 dry flint hides, 5c; No. 2 dry flint hides, 3c; No. 1 dry salted hides, 4c. Part cured hides ½c per lb. less than fully cured.

SHEEP PELTS—Green salted, each, 25@60c; green salted shearlings (short-wooled early skins), each, 5@15c; dry shearlings (short-wooled early skins), No. 1, each, 5@10c; dry shearlings (short-wooled early skins), No. 2, each, 5c; dry flint, Kansas and Nebraska butcher wool pelts, per lb., actual weight, 5@3c; dry flint, Kansas and Nebraska murrain wool pelts, per lb., actual weight, 4@6c; dry flint, Colorado butcher wool pelts, per lb., actual weight, 4@7c; dry flint, Colorado murrain wool pelts, per lb., actual weight, 4@6c.

TALLOW AND GREASE—Tallow, No. 1, 4¼@4½c; tallow, No. 2, 3¾@4c; grease, white A, 4c; grease, white B, 3¾c; grease, yellow, 3c; grease, dark, 2½c; old butter, 2@2½c; beeswax, prime, 15@18c; rough tallow, 2@2½c.

St. Louis Markets.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 26.—FLOUR—Steady.

WHEAT—Lost ⅛c early, reacted ⅛c on the visible decrease, became weak again, lost ⅛c and closed ⅛c below Saturday's final prices, largely because of selling by shorts and weak cables. No. 2 red, cash closed at 53⅝c; February, 54⅛c; May, 56⅛c; July, 57⅝c.

CORN—Dropped ½c early on heavy arrivals, and closed without further change. No. 2 mixed, cash and February, closed at 32½c; May, 33½c; June, 33⅝c; July, 34½c.

OATS—No trading; prices nominal. No. 2 cash closed at 29½c; February, 29¼c; May, 29⅝c.

RYE—Nothing doing.

BARLEY—Slow; sales, Minnesota, 47@53c.

BRAN—Higher; 60c west track asked.

FLAX SEED—Firm; $1.35.

CLOVER SEED—Lower, quiet; $7.00@7.50.

HAY—Quiet, unchanged; prime to choice, $9.00@10.00.

BUTTER—Unchanged; separator creamery, 22@25c; choice dairy, 19@20c.

EGGS—Lower; 12c.

LEAD—Quiet, steady; $3.02½.

SPELTER—Firm; $3.85.

CORN MEAL—$1.70@1.75.

WHISKY—$1.15.

BAGGING—4@6c.

COTTON TIES—Unchanged; 85c@$1.00.

PROVISIONS—Lower. Pork, standard mess, $12.50. Lard, prime steam, $7.35. Dry salt meats, loose shoulders, $6; longs and ribs, $6.25; shorts, $6.40; boxed, 15c more. Bacon, packed shoulders, $6.75; longs, $7; ribs, $7.00@7.12½; shorts, $7.25@7.37½.

RECEIPTS—Flour, 6,000 bbls.; wheat, 8,000 bu.; corn, 124,000 bu.; oats, 47,000 bu.

SHIPMENTS—Flour, 8,000 bbls.; wheat, 18,000 bu.; corn, 38,000 bu.; oats, 6,000 bu.

Minneapolis Wheat Market.

MINNEAPOLIS, Feb. 26.—The market opened about ⅛c lower this morning with July the weaker month, and the difference between it and May narrowed to 1c from ⅛c the previous day. This feature was quite noticeable and accounted for by the theory that May wheat was influenced by the price of cash wheat, while July wheat was in sympathy with futures in other places. Track wheat has come up to February, passed February and reached May, and then passed May and today sold more than 2c above the May price, and February sold as high as May. It is estimated by many that May wheat will shortly sell as high as July. This is due to the small supply of cash wheat offered in the market. May opened at 57c; July, 58⅛c. May sold up to 57⅞c and July to 59¼c. Later May declined ⅛c, while July declined a full cent. Considerable cash wheat was sold, and May that had been sold against it was bought in, creating a greater demand for May than for July. The close was: February, 57⅛c; May, 57⅝c; July, 58⅛c. On track: No. 1 hard, 61c; No. 1 northern, 59c; No. 2 northern, 57½c. The track price today was ⅜c above the price of July, a very unusual thing for this time of the year. Country elevator stocks decreased 120,000 bu. for the week. Public stocks in Minneapolis decreased 347,000 bu. for the week. The flour market was steady.

Coffee Market.

NEW YORK, Feb. 26.—COFFEE—Options opened steady at 15 points decline for April, other months unchanged to 10 points lower, ruled generally weak, and closed steady at 10 points advance on February, and others generally unchanged to 10 points lower. Sales, 20,750 bags, including: February, $16.10; March, $15.55@15.60; May, $15.20@15.25; June, $14.85; July, $14.65@14.75; September, $14.20; October, $13.95.

Rio, dull; No. 7, 17.12½. Mild, inactive and easier; Cordova, 19.50@19.75. Sales, 1,800 bags Santos at $15.75 for No. 6; 600 bags Cordova, p. t.

HAMBURG, Feb. 26.—Market quiet, unchanged to ¼ pfg. higher. Sales, 9,000 bags.

HAVRE, Feb. 26.—Market quiet, unchanged to ¼f lower. Sales, 5,000 bags.

LONDON, Feb. 26.—Market dull, unchanged to 3d lower.

RIO DE JANEIRO, Feb. 26.—COFFEE—Quiet; No. 7, 17.50. Receipts during the week, 72,000 bags; shipments to United States, 29,000 bags; stock, 260,000 bags.

SANTOS, Feb. 26.—COFFEE—Quiet; good average, per 10 kilos, $17.10. Receipts during the week, 15,000 bags; stock, 92,000 bags.

New York Dry Goods Market.

NEW YORK, Feb. 26.—The week opened with the dry goods district under a raging storm of sleet and snow, and shows dullness, with trading confined to the smallest local orders and mail orders, which are disappointing the hopes of a great many houses who believed the market was on its way to substantial improvement. Cotton goods rule fairly active. Print cloths are quiet on the basis of 2¾c for extras. Prints, printed fabrics and woolens and worsteds are less active. Woolen goods, dress goods and foreign dry goods are receiving considerable attention, but actual buying is deferred. The jobbing trade is unfavorably influenced by the weather, but there is no pressure to sell and prices are generally unchanged.

Cotton Market.

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 26.—COTTON—Spot, steady; sales, 4,000 bales; low ordinary, 5 7-16c; ordinary, 5 15-16c; good ordinary, 6 3-16c; low middling, 6 13-16c; middling, 7 1-16c; good middling, 7 5-16c; fair middling, 8 3-16c. Futures, steady; sales, 86,200 bales. Market closing, 16@18c. March, $6.96 bid; April, $7.04@7.05; May, $7.14@$7.33@7.35; September, $7.33@7.35; October, $7.37@7.38; $7.39@7.35; spot, $7.33@7.35; October, $7.37@7.38; November, $7.39@7.41; December, $7.42@7.44. Receipts, net, 2,704 bales; gross, 2,809 bales; exports, none; stock, 208,400 bales.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 26.—COTTON—Lower, quiet; middling, 7½c; sales, 200 bales; receipts, 3,000 bales; shipments, 800 bales; stock, 62,200 bales.

Kansas City Markets.

KANSAS CITY, Feb. 26.—WHEAT—No. 2 hard, ½@¾c lower, 51@51½c; No. 2 red, 55@56c.

CORN—¼@¼c lower; No. 2 mixed, 31¼@31½c; No. 2 white, 31¾@32c.

OATS—Slow, weak; No. 2 mixed, 28@28½c; No. 3 white, 29@29½c.

BUTTER—Firm; creameries, 29@31c; dairy, 14@16c.

EGGS—Active and firm; 12½c.

RECEIPTS—Wheat, 13,000 bu.; corn, none; oats, none.

SHIPMENTS—Wheat, 45,000 bu.; oats, 11,000 bu.; corn, none.

Northwestern Miller's Report.

MINNEAPOLIS, Feb. 26.—The Northwestern Miller reports the stock of wheat in store in private elevators of Minneapolis at 1,085,000 bu., an increase over last Monday of 74,000 bu. The total stock at Minneapolis and Duluth is 24,308,558 bu., a decrease of 116,927 bu. The Market Record estimates the stock in country elevators at 5,695,000 bu., a decrease of 120,000 bu. The total northwestern stocks are thus made 29,003,558 bu., a decrease of 236,592 bu. for the week.

Liverpool Markets.

LIVERPOOL, Feb. 26.—WHEAT—Demand poor, holders offer moderately; No. 1 California, 5s 3d@5s 1½d; red western winter, 4s 10½d@4s 11½d.

CORN—Quiet; mixed western, 3s 8¾d.

PEAS—Canadian, 4s 10d.

PROVISIONS—Pork, prime mess, fine 75s. Beef, extra India, 87s 6d. Bacon, long and short clear, 35 lbs., 35s; long clear, 45 lbs., 36s 6d. Lard, 40s 6d.

Duluth Wheat Market.

DULUTH, Feb. 26.—WHEAT—The close was easy at ⅛c lower than on the corresponding day for July, which was ⅜c lower; for May, 1c lower; cash, 60c; February, 57½c; May, 61⅛c; July, 62⅝c; No. 1 northern, cash, 58⅝c; February, 56½c; May, 59⅝c; July, 61⅝c; No. 2 northern, cash, 55½c; No. 3, 48½c; rejected, 43c. On track: No. 1 northern to arrive, 59½c.

Oil Markets.

OIL CITY, Pa., Feb. 26.—National Transit certificates opened at 80; highest, 80; lowest, 80; closed, 80; sales, 116,000 bbls.; shipments, 122,377 bbls.; runs, 92,169 bbls.

PITTSBURG, Pa., Feb. 26.—National Transit certificates opened at 80; closed at 80; highest, 80; lowest, 80; no sales.

Wool Market.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 26.—WOOL—Little doing, with no change in prices.

STOCKS AND BONDS.

Week Opened Quiet on the Exchange with an Unsettled Tone.

NEW YORK, Feb. 26.—The week opened quiet on the Stock exchange, but with a decidedly unsettled tone to the speculation. A by no means inconsiderable amount of the buying was for the short account. Owing to the narrowness of the London market the arbitrage houses did little business, although there were some sales of Louisville & Nashville for the foreign account. The west was a heavy buyer of distilling, largely to cover short contracts, and Philadelphia bought Reading in the belief that the reorganization is almost realized.

Sugar was the leader of the market. After an advance of ⅞ per cent at the opening the stock began to sag and a heavy selling movement was developed on unfavorable tariff advices. Large blocks of stock were thrown on the market and resulted in a break in the shares of 2⅝ per cent, with only recovery of ¼ per cent at the close. The preferred stock recorded a decline of 1¾ per cent. Both shares were weak in the final dealings on a report that raw and refined sugars were to be taxed alike.

Distilling was moved up 1 per cent in the early dealings on purchases to cover short contracts. Then came rather free selling, as if a bull pool was endeavoring to liquidate on the advance, and prices took a dip of 1⅜ per cent. This was followed by renewed buying, resulting in a recovery of 1 per cent at the close. A strong tone characterized the dealings in the grangers, of which St. Paul was most prominent, and the closing figures show an advance on the day of ⅞ to 1⅞ per cent. The board of directors of St. Paul lines will meet March 8 to consider the dividend and the best opinion of the street is that the regular dividend will be declared. The January statement issued today is more favorable than was anticipated, and was the main cause of the strength of St. Paul and its sister stock. Lead declined from Saturday's closing of 1⅛ per cent on liquidation sales, induced by the recent break on the stock due to the proposed advance of the duty on white lead. Subsequently the lower range of values attracted purchasers with the result of an advance of 1⅛ per cent, of which only ⅛ per cent had been lost at the close.

In the final dealings the railway list was firm, notably for the grangers, while the industrials except Distilling closed rather heavy. The railway and miscellaneous bond list was weak throughout the day and closed depressed in tone.

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

Atchison.....	12⅛	No. Pac. pfd.....	17¼
Adams Express...	151	U. P. D. & G.....	5
Alton. T. H.....	21	Northwestern	103⅛
do pfd.....	110	do pfd.....	139
Am. Express....	111	N. Y. Central....	97⅞
Baltimore & Ohio	69	N. Y. & N. Eng...	11¼
Canada Pacific....	66¼	Ontario & W.....	15⅝
Canada Southern.	50	Oregon Imp.....	11½
Central Pacific...	13½	Oregon Nav.....	29
Ches. & Ohio.....	17¼	O. S. L. & U. N..	67
Chicago Alton....	130	Pacific Mail.....	17
C. B. & Q.....	75½	P. D. & E.....	4
Chicago Gas.....	62⅝	Pittsburg.....	146¼
Consolidated Gas.	156	Pullman Palace..	165
C. C. C. & St. L...	35¾	Reading.....	21⅜
Cotton Oil Cert...	27⅛	Richmond Term..	4
Del. Hudson....	126¼	do pfd.....	15
Del. Lack & W...	165	R. G. W.....	14⅛
D. & R. G. pfd....	29½	do pfd.....	42
D. & C. F. Co....	24⅝	Rock Island.....	65⅝
East Tenn.....	⅛	St. Paul	57⅝
Erie	16⅛	do pfd.....	108⅛
do pfd.....	37	St. P. & Omaha...	35¼
Fort Wayne.....	150	do pfd.....	111
G. Northern pfd..	101	Southern Pac....	22⅛
C. & E. I. pfd....	93	Sugar Refinery...	89⅛
Hocking Valley...	108⅛	Tenn. Coal & Iron	19⅝
Ill. Central.....	90½	Texas Pacific....	8
St. P. & Duluth...	123	T. & O. Cent. pfd..	69
Kingston & C.....	225⅝	Union Pacific....	18⅛
Lake Erie & W...	14	U. S. Express....	50
do pfd.....	63	W. St. L. & P.....	7
Lake Shore.....	126¼	do pfd.....	13⅞
Lead Trust.....	20¼	Wells Fargo Ex..	120
Louisville & N...	40⅝	Western Union...	84¼
Louisville & N. A.	8	W. & L. E.....	12⅛
Manhattan Con...	121⅛	do pfd.....	47¼
Memphis & C....	50	M & St. L.....	10⅛
Michigan Cent...	98	D. & R. G.....	9⅛
Mo. Pacific.....	22	G. E.....	37⅞
Mobile & Ohio....	17	N. Linseed.....	18
Nashville Chat...	79	C. F. & I.....	20
National Cordage.	15	do pfd.....	63
do pfd.....	30⅛	H. & T. C.....	2
N. J. Central.....	115	T. A. A. & N. M...	5⅛
N. & W. pfd.....	19¼	T. St. L. & K. C...	2
North Am. Co....	3⅛	do pfd.....	7
Northern Pacific..	4¼		

The total sales of stocks today were 149,395 shares, including: American Sugar, 2,700; Burlington, 7,100; Chicago Gas, 20,800; Distilling, 30,600; National Lead, 4,700; Reading, 3,300; St. Paul, 15,500; Western Union, 8,200.

New York Money Market.

NEW YORK, Feb. 26.—MONEY ON CALL—Easy at 1 per cent, last loan, and closed 1 per cent.

PRIME MERCANTILE PAPER—3½@5½ per cent.

STERLING EXCHANGE—Steady, with actual business in bankers' bills at $4.88¼ for demand and at $4.86@4.86⅛ for sixty days; posted rates, $4.87@4.89; commercial bills, $4.85¼@4.85⅝.

SILVER CERTIFICATES—39½@40½c.

GOVERNMENT BONDS—Firm. State bonds, dull.

The closing quotations on bonds:

U. S. 4s reg.....	113⅝	S. L. & S. F. Gen. M	87
U. S. 4s coup.....	113⅝	St. P. Consols....	128
U. S. 5s reg.....	112⅞	St. P. C. & P. 1sts.	108¾
U. S. 5s coup.....	117⅞	T. P. L. G. Tr. Rcts	70⅛
U. S. 4½s reg.....	96	T. P. L. G. Tr. Rcts	21
Pacific 6s of '95...	102	Union Pac. 1sts...	105¼
Louisiana stpd 4s.	90½	West Shore.....	103⅝
Missouri 6s.....	100	R. G. W. 1sts.....	68
Tenn. new set 6s.	102⅛	Atchison 4s.....	70⅛
Tenn. new set 5s.	100	Atchison 2⅛s A..	33⅝
Tenn. new set 3s.	77	G. H. & S. A. 6s...	92⅝
Canada So. 2nds..	104⅝	do 7s	95
Cen. Pac. 1sts....	103⅝	H. & T. C. 5s.....	103⅛
D. & R. G. 1sts...	113	do 6s.....	103
D. & R. G. 4s.....	73⅛	N. C. 6s.....	125¼
Erie 2nds.....	81⅝	do 6s.....	98
M. K. & T. Gen. 6s	42⅝	Tenn. old 6s.....	60
M. K. & T. Gen 5s	80	Va. Centuries.....	59
Mutual Union 6s..	111	do deferred.....	6⅝
N. J. Jn. Cert...	112⅝	S. C. non funded..	1½
No. Pac. 1sts.....	111¼	Ala. Class A.....	98
No. Pac. 2nds.....	83	Ala. Class B.....	100
N. W. Consols 58..	139	Ala. Class C.....	97
N. W. Deb. 5s....	109	Alabama Cur.....	96
St. L. & I. M. Gen. 5s	71		

*offered.

Boston Stock Quotations.

BOSTON, Feb. 26.

A. T. & S. F.....	12⅛	Westingh. Electric	31
Am. Sugar.....	80¾	do pfd.....	46
do pfd.....	83¼	Wis. Central.....	7⅜
Bay State Gas.....	9	Atchison 4s.....	92⅝
Bell Telephone....	168	Atchison 4s.....	70⅝
Boston & Albany..	205⅛	Gen. Electric 5s...	78½