

COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL

Wheat Started Easy at a Fraction Under Monday's Prices.

CORN WAS INCLINED TO BE WEAK

Provisions Ruled Strong at Improved Prices—Combination in Lead One of the Bullish Features of the Day's Market.

CHICAGO, March 27.—The frost damage to wheat was again the principal factor in that market, but its probable extent was so belittled that prices at the close were 5c lower than on the previous afternoon. Corn was firm, oats and provisions strong.

Wheat started easy with no animation at about 5c below the previous day's closing prices. The same belief of the power of a frost to kill the wheat in its growing stage, as was expressed by a majority of traders yesterday, was again more emphatically asserted this morning, and discussions upon the subject continued to be quite general during the dull intervals in the session, but the only conclusion arrived at by both parties was that it would be necessary to wait two or three weeks for confirmation of either side of the argument.

Dispatches from all points of the winter wheat growing country were numerous, but were no more in accordance with the damage or the reserve than were the opinions of the operators on the local market.

The receipts here and in the northwest were rather larger than on the day before, and it appeared that this country and Canada are still supplying the market with wheat in more than one-half of what they are willing to take. A report from St. Louis to the effect that 200,000 bu. of wheat had been worked for export from there was the first matter that created a slight renewal of confidence in this market. The closing cables brought somewhat better quotations from the continent, but Liverpool was about as before, but wheat continued weak and declined to 55c and 55 1/2c, its previous lowest point, closing at 55 1/2c.

The corn market was inclined to be weak early in the session on account of the same feeling prevailing in wheat at that time. It became firmer later on, however, on account of export and on the estimate of only 100 carloads for tomorrow. The receipts today were 207 cars. The Liverpool market was quoted firmer at 45 1/2c advance, and the amount reported on ocean passage was 720,000 bu. smaller than a week ago. The export quotations on the Board of Trade, which became firmer later on, were 42c for No. 2, corn at 2c in store under the May price of No. 2, Carrington-Hannah were the sellers and Irwin-Greene the buyers, and the shipments are expected to be heavy to the river to Kingston. There was a good business transacted in oats. The crowd in general was offering freely and the shorts, headed by Patton Bros., bought quite freely. Champlin was also a good buyer. Taken altogether, considerable stiff changed hands. Prices were steady, but steadily advanced and gradually advancing, closing at the top of the day. The stocks of contract oats in store showed a slight increase this week, but were nevertheless short, and this had considerable to do with influencing shorts to buy.

The provision market ruled strong at improved prices. The Board of Trade, which was regarded as a very bullish feature of the present situation, and the comparatively small stock of meats and the good consumption demand at present, were pointed to as another.

Estimated receipts for tomorrow: Wheat, 22 cars; corn, 190 cars; oats, 114 cars; hogs, 200 head.

The leading futures ranged as follows:

Table with columns: Article, Open, High, Low, Close. Rows include Wheat, Corn, Oats, Flour, etc.

On the Provisions Exchange today the butter market was steady, fresh cream, 10c; drier, 10 1/2c.

NEW YORK, March 27.—Wheat—Receipts, 36,000 bushels; exports, 25,000 bushels; market dull, outside of a 2-cent advance; prices, 115c; the bull; to be shipped at the opening of navigation; shippers were offering freely, but their bids were too low; 7c flour, steady; buckwheat flour, unchanged.

BUCKWHEAT—Very dull; Canadian, ex-bond, 75c.

CORN MEAL—Dull.

RYE—Nominal.

HARLEY—No. 2 Milwaukee, 65 1/2c; No. 1, 66c; No. 3, 64c.

TIMOTHY SEED—Prime, \$4.50.

PROVISIONS—Pork, 10c; lard, 10c; beef, 10c; tallow, 10c; butter, 10c; eggs, 10c.

WHEAT—No. 2, 115c; No. 3, 114c; No. 4, 113c; No. 5, 112c; No. 6, 111c; No. 7, 110c; No. 8, 109c; No. 9, 108c; No. 10, 107c; No. 11, 106c; No. 12, 105c; No. 13, 104c; No. 14, 103c; No. 15, 102c; No. 16, 101c; No. 17, 100c; No. 18, 99c; No. 19, 98c; No. 20, 97c; No. 21, 96c; No. 22, 95c; No. 23, 94c; No. 24, 93c; No. 25, 92c; No. 26, 91c; No. 27, 90c; No. 28, 89c; No. 29, 88c; No. 30, 87c; No. 31, 86c; No. 32, 85c; No. 33, 84c; No. 34, 83c; No. 35, 82c; No. 36, 81c; No. 37, 80c; No. 38, 79c; No. 39, 78c; No. 40, 77c; No. 41, 76c; No. 42, 75c; No. 43, 74c; No. 44, 73c; No. 45, 72c; No. 46, 71c; No. 47, 70c; No. 48, 69c; No. 49, 68c; No. 50, 67c; No. 51, 66c; No. 52, 65c; No. 53, 64c; No. 54, 63c; No. 55, 62c; No. 56, 61c; No. 57, 60c; No. 58, 59c; No. 59, 58c; No. 60, 57c; No. 61, 56c; No. 62, 55c; No. 63, 54c; No. 64, 53c; No. 65, 52c; No. 66, 51c; No. 67, 50c; No. 68, 49c; No. 69, 48c; No. 70, 47c; No. 71, 46c; No. 72, 45c; No. 73, 44c; No. 74, 43c; No. 75, 42c; No. 76, 41c; No. 77, 40c; 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