CONDITION OF OMAHA'S TRADE

Jobbers Generally Reporting Some Gain Over Last Year.

COLLECTIONS ARE STILL SOMEWHAT SLOW

Consumers in the Country in Comfortable Circumstances and Able to Purchase What They Require—Produce Slow.

The approach of spring has invariably a stimulating effect upon business, which is already commencing to throw off the lethargy that has clung to it for the past month or more. The feeling in all branches of the jobbing trade is unmistakably better, and while there is not much increase in the volume of business doing from week to week, still there is a decided gain as compared with a year ago. This improvement in business as compared with the corresponding month of 1895, does not appear to be confined to one or two houses, or to any one line of business, but is general, practically all houses in every branch of the jobbing trade reporting some little gain over last season.

Plenty of orders are coming from country customers, and no doubt the great majority of the local jobbing houses are filling just about as many orders as they ever did, the only trouble is that the retail trade is buying more sparingly, the bills being small, thus indicating both a more limited consumption and greater caution than prevailed before the period of dull times set in.

A jobber who has been out over the state quite extensively, and has had exceptional opportunities for observation, says that the reduced consumption of goods in Nebraska is not due so much to the scarcity of money as many imagine. It is generally supposed that the short crops and low prices have placed the farmers where they could not afford to purchase more than the bare necessities. On the other hand the farmers have done very little complaining about the hard times, and there have been no calls the past winter from any section of the state for help, which would have been the case if the farmers were in such poor condition financially as generally supposed. The jobber mentioned explains the situation thus: "The drouth of 1894 taught the farmers a lesson that they will not soon forget. They had come into the habit of investing every cent in one or two other crops, and of buying everything else from the store. Many large farmers did not pretend to grow their own potatoes and gardens were scarce; it was so much easier to buy tomatoes and other canned goods than to can them. Many farmers did not even grow enough beans to supply their own tables, but obtained their supply from the local stores, which ordered from the Omaha jobbers, who had them shipped in from the east or from California. The loss of the corn crop cut off the farmers without the means of buying as usual, and in consequence they had to go on short rations until a new crop could be grown."

Last year every farmer made a great effort to grow everything that he would require for the support of his family, and with good success. This change of policy on the part of the Nebraska farmer, according to the investigating jobber, has caused the Omaha grocery houses the loss of no small amount of trade. The farmer does not have to buy nearly so much in the line of canned fruits and vegetables, dried fruits, etc., as formerly, nor is he buying as much fresh fruit and vegetables, as the wholesale fruit and produce houses can testify to.

This means the time being a loss of business, but in the end it will be a good thing because it will increase the farmer's purchasing power when it comes to other lines of goods and will leave more wealth in the state.

BANK CLEARINGS.

The bank clearings continue to show a gratifying increase over last year, the gain the past week being in excess of 20 per cent while the average gain for the whole country was only 9.8 per cent. Minneapolis shows about the largest gain of any city in the country, 44 per cent, but her gross clearings are only a little over $1,000,000 greater than Omaha's. Kansas City gains 22 per cent, St. Paul 1.6 per cent, St. Joseph 13 per cent and Denver reports a decrease of 5.4 per cent. It will be noted from this that Omaha is keeping pace with other cities in this part of the country, and no doubt if the live stock business could be put on its feet once more would soon forge ahead of its rivals.

If Omaha could secure the live stock shipments from Nebraska that rightfully belong to her it would make a great difference to the showing that this city would be able to make. A jobber is authority for the statement that the loss of business at South Omaha is hurting the jobbing trade of Omaha. A retail merchant from a town in the western part of the state was in the city the past week and remarked that since all the stock in his section had commenced going to Kansas City instead of South Omaha, it was not so convenient for him to buy his goods in Omaha. He said that he was an Omaha man and regretted to see all the live stock going away from here, especially as he was aware that he would take the trade of a good many country merchants with it. A good many retail merchants arrange it so that they can come in to buy their goods at the same time with a shipment of stock, and thus get a pass to the city and return, when otherwise they would have to pay for it. If the stock is going to some other city than Omaha that fact is an inducement for the merchant to make the same change.

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

The produce market of the past week has been very slow and it is no easy matter to see just why. Some lines of produce are exceptionally low, especially for this season of the year, as for example, butter and eggs. The consumption of eggs in this city is apparently the smallest that it has been for several years and at a time when the price makes eggs about the cheapest article of food in the whole list. The shipping demand, however, is good, and it is not difficult to keep stocks well cleaned up.

With butter the case is not so favorable. The consumption locally of that commodity is also very light, but at the same time the demand for shipment is extremely poor even at the low prices prevailing. There does not appear to be any outlet for it in the east. With poultry it is quite different. The receipts are very light, and as the demand is good, values have been forced up so that arrivals are bringing prices that are very satisfactory to shippers. In fact poultry is about the best selling article on the whole list of country produce.

The game business at this season of the year does not amount to anything, there being hardly anything in that line but rabbits, and they are in light demand.

FACTORY FACTS.

Notes About the Men Who Make the Wheels Go 'Round.

The Omaha & Grant Smelting and Refining works will construct a store house to cost about $5,000.

The W. A. Page Soap company has adopted the name of "The Western Soap company" and has increased its capital stock from $50,000 to $75,000.

East Omaha is to have a paint factory in the near future. The old cement works are to be remodeled and converted into a plant for the manufacture of paint.

The Drexel Shoe company has been awarded the contract for supplying the stone for a new church at York. About twenty-five carloads of cut stone will be required.

The Omaha & Grant Smelting and Refining company has placed an order with Wilson & Drake for three 200 horse power and patent multiple boilers for the Omaha Street Railway company for four 100 horse power tubular boilers to provide power necessary for the state fair traffic next fall.

By the use of the saw and by careful breeding the majority of the cattle fattened for the market have lost their head adornament, and it seems barely possible that the time may come when all domestic cattle will be hornless. While it may be comparatively easy to find a substitute for some products, manufacturers of combs, buttons, etc., are decidedly short of material and they are quite aware that the supply is gradually dwindling.

On Wednesday evening next there will be a meeting of the Manufacturers' association of Nebraska at the Commercial club rooms at 6:30 o'clock. A large attendance of manufacturers from out through the state is expected and the Omaha members will entertain them with a banquet. The general subject for discussion will be how to push Nebraska products to the front, thus encouraging the building of more factories and the employment of more people.

A traveling man from the east, who was in the city the past week, was discussing with a local manufacturer the peculiarity of American people in always preferring goods from a distance to those made at home and gave the following illustration: A large shoe manufacturing firm in a small New England town noticed that none of the residents of the town, not even his own employes, were wearing shoes made by him. It happened that his factory was the only industry of any importance located there. In fact it was the main support of the town. The manufacturer discharged all of his help and closed his factory. A week or two went by and the merchants were beginning to feel the scarcity of money and finally waited upon the manufacturer, who explained that he was tired of supporting a town that would not support him. It did not take the merchants long to come to the conclusion that they would carry in stock the shoes made in their own town.

OMAHA GENERAL MARKET.

Condition of Trade and Quotations on Staple and Fancy Produce.

EGGS—Fresh stock, 10@11c.

BUTTER—Common grades, 6c; fair to good stock, 7c; choice to fancy country, 12@14c.

VEAL—Choice fat, 70 to 100 lbs., are quoted at 6½@7c; large and coarse, 4@5c.

CHEESE—Domestic brick, 11½c; Edam, per doz., $9.50; Club house, 1-lb. jars, per doz., $3.50; Limberger, fancy, per lb., 11½c; Roquefort, 4-lb. jars, per doz., $5.60; Young Americas, 11½c; Twins, fancy, 11c.

POULTRY—Dressed—Chickens, spring, coarse and large, 5½@6c; ducks, choice, 10@11c; turkeys, choice, 12@13c; geese, 8c.

POULTRY—Live—C. Jacobsen of the Montana Poultry Packing and Supply company, quotes live poultry firm and wanted at: Hens and young roosters, 5½c; old cocks, 3½c; turkey hens, 8½c; young turkey gobblers, 7½c; old Toms, 6c; ducks, full feathered, 7c; geese, 6c.

HAY—Upland, $5.00; midland, $4.50; lowland, $4.00; rye straw, $3.50; color makes the price on hay; light bales sell the best. Only top grades bring top prices.

BROOM CORN—Extremely slow sale; new crop, delivered on track in country; choice green self-working carpet, per lb., 2½c; choice green, hurl, 2c; common, 1½c.

GAME—Jack snipe, 75c@$1.00; golden plover, $1.25; jack rabbits, per doz., $1.00; small rabbits, 50c@$1.00; mallard ducks, $3.50@3.75; red-head, $2.75@4.00; canvasback ducks, $5.00@8.00; teal, blue wing, $2.00@2.25; teal, green wing, $1.75@2.00; mixed ducks, $1.75@2.25; Canada geese, $6.00@7.50; snipe, $1.50@2.00; brants, $3.50; squirrels, per doz., 60@75c.

PIGEONS—Live, $1.00@1.20; dead pigeons not wanted.

VEGETABLES.

TOMATOES—Florida, per six-basket crate, $4.50 @5.00.

CAULIFLOWER—Per doz., $1.50.

CABBAGE—California scarce, per lb., 2c.

POTATOES—Fancy native stock, 30c; from store in small lots, 35@35c; Colorado stock, 45 @48c.

ONIONS—Per bu., 25@40c.

BEANS—Hand picked navy, per bu., $1.50.

SWEET POTATOES—Choice stock, $2.00@2.75 per bbl.

CELERY—California, per doz., No. 1, 90c; No. 2, 75c; western Nebraska, 40@45c.

LIMA BEANS—Per lb., 5c.

WATER CRESS—Per 16-qt. case, $1.75.

PIE PLANT—Hot house stock, per doz. bunches, 30c.

FRUITS.

Ten years ago the total output of summer fruits from California reached about 50,000,000 pounds for the entire season. In 1894 the exportation of fresh fruits reached 179,000,000 pounds. In 1895 there were imported from Spain 21,000,000 pounds of raisins with a production of 9,000,000 pounds in California, and total consumption in the United States of 30,000,000 pounds. In nine years later, there were imported only 14,000,000 pounds, while California produced 88,000,000 pounds, showing a total consumption of 102,000,000 pounds, or an increase of 72,000,000 pounds in raisins during nine years. Quotations:

ORANGES—California budded seedlings, fancy, $2.50; choice, $1.75@2.00; fancy navels, $3.50; choice, $2.50@3.25.

LEMONS—Messinas, $3.50@4.25; Californias, $3.25@3.50.

BANANAS—Choice large stock, per bunch, $2.00 @2.25; medium sized bunches, $1.75@2.00.

MISCELLANEOUS.

OYSTERS—Mediums, 15c; standards, 20c; extra selects, 25c; Hannan & Co's selects, 27c; New York counts, 30c; standard bulk, per gal., $1.10.

HONEY—Fancy white, per lb., 15c.

MAPLE SYRUP—Five gal. cans, each, $2.75; gal. cans, per doz., $12; ½ gal. cans, $6.25; quart cans, $3.75.

CIDER—Pure juice, per half bbl., $3; per bbl., $4.75.

SAUER KRAUT—Per bbl., $3.75; half bbl., $2.25.

FIGS—New crop, California, 10-lb. boxes, per lb., 10c; imported fancy, 20-lb. boxes, 15c; choice, 10-lb. boxes, 11½@12c.

DATES—New Persian, 60-lb boxes, per lb., 5½c; fards, 10-lb. boxes, per lb., 8c.

MAPLE SUGAR—Choice, per lb., 9@10c.

PRESERVES—Assorted, 20-lb. pails, each, $1.40.

COCOANUTS—Per 100, $4.50; each, 5c.

NUTS—Almonds, California, per lb., medium size, 10c; Tarragona almonds, per lb., large, 12½c; Brazils, per lb., 8c; Englisa walnuts per lb., shell, 12c, standards, 11@11½c; filberts, per lb., 10c; pecans, polished medium, 10c; large, 12c; peanuts, raw, 5½c; roasted, 7@7½c; hickory nuts, small, per bu., $1.75; hickory nuts, large, per bu., $1.50; black walnuts, per bbl., $2.

DRESSED MEATS.

BEEF—Good steers, 400 to 600 lbs., 5½@6c; good cows and heifers, 4½@5c; medium cows and heifers, 4½c; good forequarters cows and heifers, 3½c; good cow hindquarters cows and heifers, 6½c; cow rounds, 5c; cow chucks, 3c; beef tenderloins, fresh, 20c; frozen, 10c; beef rolls, boneless, 9½c; sirloin butts, boneless, 9½c; loin backs, 9½c; cow ribs, No. 3, 7½c; cow loins, No. 3, 8½c.

MUTTON—Dressed mutton, 6½c; racks, 10c; legs, 8c; saddles, 8c; stews, 3c.

PORK—Dressed hogs, 5c; pork loins, 6½c; spare ribs, 5½c; pork shoulders, 5¼c; pork shoulders, skinned, 5½c; pork trimmings, 5½c; tenderloins, 15c; pigs' feet, cleaned, per doz., 25c.

HIDES AND TALLOW.

HIDES—No. 1 green hides, 4c; No. 2 green hides, 3c; No. 1 green salted hides, 5c; No. 2 green salted hides, 4c; No. 1 green salted hides, 25 to 40 lbs., 3c; No. 2 green salted hides, 25 to 40 lbs., 4c; No. 1 veal calf, 5 to 15 lbs., 6c; No. 2 veal calf, 5 to 15 lbs., 4c; No. 1 dry flint hides, 7@8c; No. 2 dry flint hides, 5@6c; No. 1 dry salted hides, 6c; 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 15c; dry shearlings (short wooled early skins), No. 1, each, 10c; dry shearlings (short wooled early skins), No. 2, each, 5c; dry shearlings, Kansas and Nebraska butcher wool pelts, per lb., actual weight, 5@6c; dry flint Kansas and Nebraska Murrain wool pelts, per lb., actual weight, 4@5c; dry flint Colorado butcher wool pelts, per lb., actual weight, 4@6½c; dry flint Colorado Murrain wool pelts, per lb., actual weight, 4@5c; dry fleece and bucks, actual weight, 4@5c; feet cut off, as it is useless to pay freight on them.

TALLOW AND GREASE—Tallow, No. 1, 2½c; tallow No. 2, 2c; grease, white A, 2½c; grease, white B, 2c; grease, yellow, 2½c; grease, dark, 2c; old butter, 2@2½c; beeswax, prime, 25@27c; rough tallow, 1½c.

BONES—In car lots weighed and delivered in Chicago: Dry buffalo, per ton, $12.00@14.00; dry country, bleached, per ton, $10.00@12.00; dry country, lump and meaty, per ton, $6.00@8.00.

WOOL—Unwashed, fine heavy, 6@7c; fine light, 8@9c; quarter blood, 10@12c; seedy, burry and chaffy, 8@9c; cotted and broken, coarse, 7@9c; cotted and broken, fine, 6@8c. Fleece washed—Medium, 15@16c; fine, 14@16c; tub washed, 16@18c; black, 8c; bucks, 6c; tag locks, 2@3c; dead pulled, 5@6c.

FURS.

	No. 1 Lge.	No. 1 Md'm	No. 1 Sm'll	2	3
BEAR—					
Black	$20@25	$ 15 00	$ 8@10	$10@12	$ 5 00
Black Yearlings	12@15	10 00	7 00	7 00	3 00
Black Cubs	6@ 8	5@ 6	4 00	5 00	2 00
Black Montana & Mountain	18@22	14 00	10 00	10 00	4 00
Black Montana Yearlings	12 00	8 00	5 00	5 00	2 50
Black Montana Cubs	6 50	4 50	3 00	4 00	2 00
Silver Tips	20 00	12 00	8 00	9 00	4 00
Silver Tip Yrigs.	11 00	8 00	5 00	5 00	2 50
Silver Tip Cubs	6 00	4 50	3 00	3 00	1 50
Brown	20@25	16 00	12 00	12 00	5 00
Yearlings	10@12	8 00	6 00	8 00	4 00
Cubs	7 00	5 00	3 00	4 00	2 00
Badger	1@1 50	50	50	50	50
Fisher	8 00	6 00	4 00	4 00	2 00
FOX—					
Silver (according to beauty)	100 00	60 00	40 00	30 00	10 00
Silver Pale (according to beauty)	50 00	30 00	20 00	15 00	6 00
Cross	7 00	3 00	2 00	1 50	1 00
Red	1 50	1 25	1 00	75	25
Gray	75	50	40	35	15
Kit	50	40	30	20	10
Lynx	3 00	2 00	1 50	1 25	50
Marten	2 00	1 50	1 00	1 00	50
Mink	80@85	60	45	25	10
Mink Dark	85	65	45	20	10
Mountain Lion (perfect head and feet)	1@ 2				
Otter	8 00	6@ 7	5 00	4 00	2 00
Otter Pale	7 00	5 00	4 00	3 00	1 50
Raccoon	60@70	50	35	20	10
Raccoon, Black (as to beauty)	50@ 2				
SKUNK—					
Black, cased	1 25	75	50	50	25
Short striped	1 00	70	45	40	20
Narrow striped	50	40	25	20	10
Broad striped	20@25				
Wolverine	4 00	3 00	2 00	2 00	1 00
Wolf Mountain	3 00	2 00	1 50	75	40
Wolf Prairie	65@90	60	40	20	10
Beaver, per skin	5@ 6	4 50	2 00	4 00	2 00
Beaver Kits	2 00	1 50	75	50	25
MUSKRATS—					
Spring	8@10	9	7	6	
Winter		7	5	4	
Fall	2			3	
Kits				2	

Cotton Market.

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 15.—COTTON—Easy; middling, 7 7-16c; good ordinary, 7 1-16c; net receipts, 6,940 bales; gross receipts, 6,590 bales; exports, coastwise, 139 bales; sales, 3,000 bales; stock, 339,524 bales.

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—COTTON—Dull; middling, 8c; net receipts, none; gross receipts, 200 bales; exports, to Great Britain, 1,933 bales; to France, 1,527 bales; to the continent, 3,716 bales; forwarded, none; sales, none; stock, 187,306 bales.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 15.—COTTON—Quiet; 1-16c lower; middling, 7 11-16c; sales, 700 bales; receipts, 335 bales; shipments, 102 bales; stock, 73,246 bales.

'Frisco Wheat Quotations.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 15.—WHEAT—Steady; December, $1.13¾; May, $1.15¾; cleared, 207,938 centals wheat.

COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL

Wheat Was Weak and Closed Nearly One Cent Lower.

SPECULATIVE TRADE WAS QUITE FAIR

Corn Was Fairly Active and Sold Up Sharply Early but Lost the Advance Later.

CHICAGO, Feb. 15.—More from lack of support than anything else wheat today was weak and closed about ¾c lower. Traders have become timid from the disastrous effects of the past week's surprising fluctuations and as a consequence have become exceeding cautious. Corn and oats were but slightly affected and closed unchanged. Provisions had a downward tendency and showed material losses.

There was a fair speculative trade in wheat for the short session, the market having from ⅞c to 1c range. The feeling developed was a little unsettled and prices rather nervous. The start was weak. There were a good many selling orders on the market and some of the early sales were as low as 65¾c, or at a ¼c decline from the close last night. But the decline started some good buying, the strength being increased by a rumor that a cold wave would invade the winter wheat region tonight and possible damage to the growing crop was feared. As the strength developed, shorts began to cover and it did not take long to advance the price to from 66⅝c to 66¾c split. Among other routine news which helped to strengthen fluctuation was the more moderate northwestern movement and reports that the bulk of the same was coming from the elevators. But the buying fever gradually subsided and when the longs attempted to realize they found that the demand was exceedingly tame and in the effort to get rid of their holdings the price was gradually lowered nearly 1c and there was not much recovery. The Argentine shipments were a factor in producing weakness, for the trade has heard so much of the shrinkage in the crop and the bad quality of the wheat that the 880,000 bu shipped was a surprise. Yet, the total shipments for the first two weeks of February this year have been only 1,400,000 bu, against 1,800,000 bu, the same time last year, and 2,000,000 bu, the same time two years ago. May wheat opened about ¼c lower with sales at from 65¾c to 66c, improved gradually to from 66¾c to 66¾c split, then turned weak and sold off to 65½c, closing at 65½c bid.

Corn was fairly active and sold up sharply early, but finally lost all the advance. It was influenced some by wheat and also by the impression that the prospective change in the weather might cut off receipts. It followed wheat on the last break. May opened fractionally lower at 30¾c split, sold up gradually to 30¾c, but weakened later to 30¼c, where it closed.

Trading in oats was exceedingly quiet, nearly all the trading being done by country dealers. The market was influenced almost entirely by the action of wheat. May opened unchanged at 21¾c, sold up to from 21¾c to 21¾c and closed just steady at 21¾c bid.

Provisions were heavy, said to be because of much long stuff offered in anticipation of a heavy run of hogs next week. May pork started at a decline of from 2½c to 15c, dropped another 10c and wound up with a net loss for the day of 12½c at $10.10 per barrel. May lard at the close was worth $5.60 as against $5.70 on Friday afternoon. May ribs, which closed yesterday at $5.35, rested at $5.22½ today.

Estimates for Monday: Wheat, 165 cars; corn, 300 cars; oats, 200 cars; hogs, 30,000 head.

The leading futures ranged as follows:

Articles.	Open.	High.	Low.	Close.
Wheat, No. 2				
Feb	63⅜	64	63	63⅛
May	65⅜	66⅛	65⅛	65¾
June	65⅞	66⅜	65⅝	66⅜
Corn, No. 2				
Feb	....	....	....	28¾
May	30¼	30⅝	30	30⅜
July	31⅛	31⅛	31⅛	31⅛
Sept	32¼	32⅝	32¼	32¼
Oats, No. 2				
Feb	19⅜	19⅝	19¼	19⅜
May	21⅜	21⅝	21⅜	21⅜
July	21¾	21¾	21¾	21¾
Sept	21¾	21¾	21¾	21¾
Pork, per bbl				
Feb	10 00	10 00	9 87½	9 90
May	10 20	10 20	10 07½	10 10
July	10 37½	10 37½	10 25	10 25
Lard, 100 lbs				
Feb	5 50	5 50	5 42½	5 42½
May	5 67½	5 67½	5 60	5 60
July	5 80	5 82½	5 72½	5 75
Short Ribs—				
Feb	5 10	5 12½	5 05	5 05
May	5 27½	5 30	5 22½	5 22½
July	5 37½	5 40	5 30	5 30

Cash quotations were as follows:

FLOUR—Steady; winter patents, $3.50@3.80; winter straights, $3.00@3.50; bakers, $2.10@2.40; spring patents, $3.10@3.40; spring straights, $2.60@2.80.

WHEAT—No. 3 spring, 63@63¾c; No. 3 spring, 63½c; No. 2 red, 67½@68c.

CORN—No. 2, 28½c; No. 2 yellow, 28½c.

OATS—No. 2, 19½c; No. 2 white, 21¼@22¼c; f. o. b.; No. 3 white, 20@20½c; f. o. b.

RYE—No. 2, 38½c.

BARLEY—No. 2, nominal; No. 3, 27@36c; f. o. b., No. 4, 28c; f. o. b.

FLAX SEED—No. 1, 91½c.

TIMOTHY SEED—Prime, $3.87½@3.90.

PROVISIONS—Mess pork, per bbl., $10.00@10.10. Lard, per 100 lbs., $5.42½@5.45. Short ribs sides (loose), $5.10@5.15. Dry salted shoulders (boxed), $4.75@5.00. Short clear sides (boxed), $5.37½@5.50.

WHISKY—Distillers' finished goods, per gal., $1.22.

SUGARS—Unchanged; cut loaf, $5.81; granulated, $5.19; standard "A," $5.06.

POULTRY—Quiet; turkeys, 11½@13½c; chickens, 7½@9½c; ducks, 10@12c.

The following were the receipts and shipments today:

Articles.	Receipts.	Shipments.
Flour, bbls	6,000	6,030
Wheat, bu	19,000	46,003
Corn, bu	175,000	51,000
Oats, bu	210,000	110,000
Rye, bu	2,000	3,000
Barley, bu	50,000	20,000

On the Produce exchange today the butter market was firm; creamery, 14@18½c; dairy, 8@16c. Eggs, weak; fresh, 12¼@13c. Cheese, quiet; 9¼@10¼c.

NEW YORK GENERAL MARKETS.

Closing Quotations on the Principal Commodities and Staples.

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—FLOUR—Receipts, 16,500 bbls.; exports, 13,300 bbls.; dull and easy on spring patents and unchanged on other brands; city mill patents, $4.35@4.55; winter patents, $3.85@4.00; Minnesota patents, $3.60@3.75; Minnesota bakers, $2.90@3.20; spring low grades, $1.90@2.60. Rye flour, dull; superfine, $2.60@2.75; fancy, $2.70@2.90; buckwheat flour, dull; $1.25 spot.

BUCK WHEAT—Dull; 39@41c.

CORN MEAL—Dull; yellow western, lower at 73c; Brandywine, $2.25.

RYE—Quiet at 40@45c.

BARLEY—Quiet; malting, 41@47c; feeding, 33@37c.

BARLEY MALT—Firmly held; western, 47@54c.

WHEAT—Receipts, 900 bu.; exports, 23,800 bu. Spot, market firm; No. 2 red, 80¼c, f. o. b.; No. 1 hard, 75¾c, delivered. Options opened lower on heavy Argentine shipments and weak cables, rallied sharply on talk of Armour buying, which led to hurried covering by room shorts, but finally sold off under liberal realizing and closed heavy at ½@⅝c net loss; No. 2 red, February, closed at 73½c; May, 72¼@72¼c, closed at 72¾c.

CORN—Receipts, 56,600 bu.; exports, 300 bu. Spot, dull; No. 2, 36¼c. Options opened steady, advanced on good local country buying, finally eased off with wheat, and closed at ⅛@¼c net advance; February closed at 36¾c; May, 36¼@36 7-16c, closing at 36⅜c.

OATS—Receipts, 45,500 bu.; exports, 2,100 bu. futures; 19,000 bu. spot. Spot, dull; No. 2, 25½@25¾c. Options, dull and nominal, and closing unchanged to ⅛c up; February closed at 25¼c; May closed at 23¾c.

HAY—Steady; shipping, $7.50@8.00; good to choice, $8.00@9.00.

HIDES—Quiet; common to choice 1894 crop, 21½@23½c; 1895 crop, Pacific coast, 46@8c.

LEATHER—Quiet; wet salted New Orleans, selected, 44 to 45 lbs., 17c; Galveston, 25 to 25 lbs., 16c; Buenos Ayres, dry, 20 to 24 lbs., 16c; Texas, dry, 24 to 30 lbs., 9c; California, 21 to 25 lbs., 14c.

LEATHER—Firm; hemlock sole, Buenos Ayres, light to heavy, 20c; acid, 21@22c.

WOOL—Quiet; domestic fleece, 16@22c; pulled, 19@26c.

PROVISIONS—Beef, steady; family, 10@12c; extra mess, 8c; beef hams, 16c. Cut meats, dull; pickled hams, 8½@9c. Lard, weak; western steam, closed at $5.77½; May, $5.95, nominal. Pork, quiet; mess, $10.50@10.75; family, $11; short clear, $11.50@12.50.

TALLOW—Steady; city, 3⅜@3 13-16c; country, 3½@3 15-16c, as to quality.

PETROLEUM—Lower; United closed at $1.42 bid; refined, New York, $7.25; Philadelphia and Baltimore, $7.30; Philadelphia and Baltimore, in bulk, $4.80.

ROSIN—Quiet; strained, common to good, $1.60 @1.62½.

TURPENTINE—Quiet at 29½@30c.

BUTTER—Receipts, 3,175 pkgs.; market steady; western creamery, 12@19c; state creamery, 13@ 16½c; Elgins, 19c.

EGGS—Receipts, 6,984 pkgs.; market steady; state and Pennsylvania, 14½@14½c; western, 14½c; southern, 13½@13½c.

RICE—Firm; domestic, fair to extra, 3½@6c; Japan, 3¾@4c.

MOLASSES—Quiet; New Orleans, open kettle, good to choice, 29@31c.

METALS—Pig iron, quiet; southern, $11.75@ 13.25; northern, $12.00@12.50. Copper, steady; brokers, $10.50. Lead, steady; brokers, $3. Tin plates, quiet.

COTTON SEED OIL—Dull and heavy; prime crude, 22@22½c; prime crude, f. o. b., 17@20c; off grades, 20@21½c.

STOCKS AND BONDS.

Decided Heaviness Characterized the Final Trading of the Week.

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—Decided heaviness characterized the final trading of the week. This condition resulted partly from the efforts of the professional dealers, and, to a less extent, from liquidation for both domestic and foreign accounts. Manhattan, Tobacco and Leather preferred were the features of the speculation, and displayed notable weakness on moderate offerings. The emphatic denials of the recent favorable rumors in circulation about Manhattan and the unfavorable character of the quarterly report of earnings, published today, provoked a vigorous and effective attack by the traders. The stock dropped 3½ per cent to 104⅝, after an early gain of a point. The professionals raided Tobacco on the detection of realizing by insiders incidental to the encouraging annual statement of operations. The resulting loss reached 2⅝ per cent, with a subsequent rally of ⅞ per cent. A decline of 2½ per cent in Leather preferred, despite reports of improvement in the leather trade and of large recent sales by the company, caused some surprise, but the room scalpers brought out the old argument of the passage of the dividend against the stock. The concessions in the general market were mainly fractional.

Sugar improved about a point on further advances in foreign beet and domestic refined sugars, but eventually lost the gain, in sympathy with the weakness in the other shares. The closing was unsettled, very active and irregular in tone. The week's speculation has been unsatisfactory to all but the brokers, who devote their exclusive attention to quick turns in the market. There has been general complaint among commission men over the dullness of business. The progress making toward replenishing the gold reserve of the treasury, incidental to the latest government bond issue and the reports and gossip in relation thereto, have been the pivotal influence in Wall street. In the last few days it has become clear to experienced financiers that the net gold receipts to the treasury from the new $100,000,000 issue will fall considerably short of early anticipation, excited by the exceptionally large oversubscriptions. This, of course, is due to the fact that a fairly large proportion of the successful bidders will, in all probability, draw their gold from the treasury, and thus defeat the very object of the loan. Investors have adopted a cautious policy until the course of the money, exchange and mercantile paper markets can be more clearly forecast than at present. The failure of the free silver defeat in congress to stimulate foreign purchasing of our securities and the selling for the same interest attributed to increased friction over the Transvaal situation, together with the predictions of prominent European financiers of an early sharp revival of gold exports, exert a depressing influence upon the local speculative leaders. Trade reports are less encouraging, although returns of railroad traffic are mainly favorable.

The general market movement has been fairly active, in spite of the holiday interruption, and the course of prices erratic. The industrials attracted the greatest speculative attention, with Sugar and Tobacco, and fluctuating widely. Evidences of active manipulation by the insiders was manifest in each case. The first named was marked up 2 per cent to 115⅛, in anticipation of the early declaration of the regular dividends. A reaction to 111¾ followed, on fear of a bill in the United States senate, providing for the removal of the differential on the staple. Subsequently, on successive advances in foreign and domestic grades of the staple, the price rallied to 113⅞.

The annual report of the American Tobacco company was much more favorable than the street had anticipated, and covering of shorts coincident with its publication caused a rally to 83¾, as against 75⅝, the early low point. A reaction of 5⅝ occurred on realizing sales, but the net gain was 3⅝ per cent. Manhattan jumped five points to 113⅛ on reports of a lease to the Metropolitan Traction company. Denials of the story, and the unfavorable report for the December quarter were responsible for a slump to 104¾. The final quotation was 105¼. The aggregate sales were 1,289,504 shares.

The railway bond market today was fairly active, with a somewhat lower tendency in prices. The dealings amounted to $609,000. The speculation of the week was moderate in volume, and a firm tone prevailed, although some irregularity in values was noted. The total business was $12,122,000. The market for government bonds was strong, with the exception of 4s ½ per cent drop in the old 4s. Marked strength and exceptional activity characterized the dealings in the new 4s coupon. A single transaction of $507,000 took place, and the aggregate sales reached $1,020,000. For the week the unusually large total of $3,267,000 was recorded, the business being chiefly in the new 4s coupon. Slight concessions in prices were generally made, and reports of the liquidation of the 4s coupon bonds that had secured a large proportion of the new loan were current.

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

Atchison	16¼	N. Y. Central	97½
Adams Ex	155	N. Y. & N. E	44
Am. T. H	58	Ontario & W	15¼
Am. Express	112½	Oregon Imp	2¾
Baltimore & Ohio	36	Oregon Nav	11
Canada Pacific	57	O. S. L. & U. N	8
Canada Southern	47	Pacific Mail	29⅜
Central Pacific	15	P. D. & E	3¾
Ches. & Ohio	17⅜	Pittsburg	160
Chicago & Alton	154	Pullman Palace	159
C. B. & Q	76⅝	Quicksilver	10
Chicago Gas	67¼	do pfd	50
Consolidated Gas	157	R. G. W	16
C. C. C. & St. L	38	R. G. W. pfd	45
Colo. Coal & Iron	31¾	Rock Island	72
Cotton Oil Cert	17¾	St. Paul	73¾
Delaware & Hud	127¾	do pfd	128¾
Del., Lack. & W	161½	St. P. & Omaha	40¾
D. & R. G. pfd	40¾	do pfd	122
D. & G. W. pfd	20	Southern Pacific	20
E. & G. W. Co	13	Sugar Refinery	113⅜
Erie	16¾	Penn. Coa. & Iron	33¼
Erie pfd	38	Texas Pacific	8¾
Fort Wayne	162	C. & O. Cert. pfd	65
Ft. Worth pfd	130	Union Pacific	13¾
Gen. Electric	36	U. S. Express	83
Hocking Valley	17¾	W. St. L. P	7¾
Illinois Central	97	W. St. L. & P. pfd	18¾
Lake Erie & West	21¾	Wells Fargo Ex	108
do pfd	73½	W. stern Union	85¼
Lake Shore	141¾	Wheeling & L. E	12¾
Lead Trust	27¾	do pfd	39½
Louisville & N	50¾	U. S. R. & C.	20
L. & N. A	98	U. S. R. G	112¾
Manhattan Con	104⅞	T. E	30¼
Memphis & C	55	N. L	19
Michigan Cent	96	C. F. & I	20½
Missouri Pacific	23¾	do pfd	100
Mobile & Ohio	23¾	H. & T. C	14
Nashville Chat	65	T. St. L. & K. C	6
National Cordage	7¾	do pfd	10
Nat. Cordage pfd	11¾	T. St. L. & K. C. pfd	25
N. J. Central	106	S. R. R. fd	31¾
N. & W. pfd	7	Am. Tob. Co	79⅜
North Am. Co	5	do pfd	101⅞
Northern Pacific	4	Am. Tel. & C. Co	92
N. Pacific pfd	14¾	North Am. Co	5⅝
U. P. D. & G	5	Am. Sugar pfd	100¼
Northwestern	103¾	U. S. Cordage pfd	23
do pfd	145	U. S. Leather pfd	65¾
		U. S. Rubber	19⅜
		do pfd	85

* offered.

The total sales of stocks today were 104,300 shares, including: American Sugar, 21,600; American Tobacco, 16,900; Burlington, 4,000; Chicago Gas, 2,400; General Electric, 4,400; Louisville & Nashville,