COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL

Moderately Active Business in Wheat and Corn and Prices Advance.

OATS AND PROVISIONS ALSO MOVE UPWARD

Condemnation of Twenty-Five Thousand Barrels of Flour by the New York Produce Exchange a Prominent Factor.

CHICAGO, Feb. 18.—Wheat ruled firm today and closed at an advance of about ⅝c after a session remarkable for the quiet way in which a moderately heavy business was transacted. Covering by shorts was responsible for the advance, their action being caused by strong cables and light northwest receipts. Corn and oats advanced ⅝c and ¼c, respectively, and provisions closed 10@15c higher.

Nearly all the history of the session in the wheat pit was made in the first hour and a half's trading, the news governing the day's fluctuations being practically confined to that which always comes in before or immediately after the opening of the regular board. May, which closed yesterday afternoon at 74⅝c, opened today at 74⅝@74¾c. That price was the lowest of the day. A steady though slow advance ensued, and though fluctuations were frequent, they were small and every decline was succeeded by a better advance, the price reaching 75⅝@75¾c by 11 o'clock. That small opening decline was caused by a rather disappointing opening at Liverpool, the first quotations from which market showed only ½d advance, and to the fact of the New York Produce exchange condemning 25,000 barrels of flour. The latter item, however, had a boomerang effect for it reduced the merchantable stock, and as the rejected flour was said to have been made from inferior winter wheat, it was taken as evidence that the demand for good Chicago wheat might be increased. Second cables and those following showed a steadily advancing tendency to the Liverpool market, and northwest receipts were again small, Duluth reporting 49 cars and Minneapolis 123, a total of 182 cars compared with 256 last week and 234 on the corresponding day of the year before. Receipts at Chicago were 29 cars. Atlantic port clearances were light, wheat and flour together being only equal to 222,000 bu. New York reported that foreign advices were generally bullish, but no acceptances were received of yesterday's cabled offers. The closing cables were in the main firm, the only market showing weakness being Antwerp. After the price had touched 75⅝@75½c, a sluggish reaction to 75c occurred. During the rest of the session the price kept between 75⅛@75¼c until near the close Liverpool reported a still further advance, to which fact was ascribed the extra firmness of the last ten minutes.

The closing price for May was 75⅛@75¼c.

Corn was firm and higher on a moderate amount of business. The small local receipts were the initial factor and when clearances of 927,000 bushels were reported active covering was started. Better cabled and the strength displayed by wheat were also factors. Some realizing was done in the last hour and part of the advance was lost. May opened a shade higher at 22⅜c, sold to 24⅛@24¼c, then reached to 24⅝@24¾c, when it closed.

Oats did not participate in the activity found in the other pits and the aggregate business was very small. A firm feeling prevailed, influenced by sympathy with wheat and corn, and at a slightly higher range of prices shorts did some covering. May opened at 17c, sold at 16⅝c, advanced to 18⅛@18⅛c, and closed at 17⅞c bid.

Provisions were firm all day and closed at substantially top figures. The day's receipts of hogs were much smaller than expected and resulted in a good opening advance. Pork was bought heavily and offerings in other commodities were readily accepted. At the close May pork was about 15c higher at $8.02; May lard 10c higher at $4.00, and May ribs 10c higher at $4.12½.

Estimated receipts Friday: Wheat, 20 cars; corn, 205 cars; oats, 320 cars; hogs, 23,000 head.

The leading futures ranged as follows:

Articles.	Open.	High.	Low.	Close.	Y'st'y.
*Wheat—					
Feb....	73 ⅜	74	73	73⅞	73⅛
May....	74⅝@⅞	75⅝@¾	74⅝	75⅛@¼	74⅝
July....	70⅝@71	71⅛	70⅝	71⅛	70⅝@71
Sept....	69⅝@⅞	70⅛	69⅝	69⅞	69⅝
*Corn—					
Feb....	22⅛	22⅛	22⅛	22⅛@⅛	21⅝@⅞
May....	23⅝	24⅛@¼	23⅝	24⅛@¼	23⅝@¾
July....	24⅞	25⅛	24⅞	25⅛@¼	24⅞
Sept....	20⅝	20⅞	20⅝	20⅞@⅞	20⅛
*Oats—					
Feb....	15⅛	15⅛	15⅛	15⅛	14⅞
May....	17	17⅛	16⅞	17⅛	16⅞
July....	17⅜	17⅜	17⅛	17⅜	17⅛
*Pork—					
May....	7 90	8 00	7 90	8 00	7 85
July....	8 05	8 12⅛	8 05	8 12⅛	7 95
*Lard—					
May....	3 95	4 00	3 95	4 00	3 90
July....	4 02⅛	4 07⅛	4 02⅛	4 07⅛	4 00
*Sh't Ribs—					
May....	4 05	4 12⅛	4 05	4 12⅛	4 02⅛
July....	4 15	4 17⅛	4 15	4 17⅛	4 12⅛

* No. 2.

Cash quotations were as follows:

FLOUR—Steady; winter patents, $4.55@4.60; straights, $4.10@4.30; spring specials, $4.80; spring patents, $4.60@4.80; spring straights, $3.40@3.70; bakers, $2.00@2.40.

WHEAT—No. 2 spring, 73⅝@74½c; No. 3 spring 72½c; No. 2 red, 84½@85½c.

CORN—No. 2, 22⅜@22½c; No. 2 yellow, 22⅜@22½c.

OATS—No. 2, 16@16¼c; No. 2 white, f. o. b., 18⅝@19½c; No. 3 white, 15½@15⅝c.

RYE—No. 2, 32½c.

BARLEY—No. 2, nominal; No. 3, f. o. b., 24½@32c; No. 4, f. o. b., 22½@27c.

FLAXSEED—No. 1, 74½@76½c.

TIMOTHY SEED—Prime, $2.50.

PROVISIONS—Pork, mess, per bbl., $7.90@7.95. Lard, per 100 lbs., $3.90. Short ribs, sides (loose), $3.95@4.20; dry salted shoulders (boxed), $4.25@4.50; short clear sides (boxed), $4.12½@4.25.

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

SUGAR—Cut loaf, $5.26; granulated, $4.64. The following were the receipts and shipments today:

Articles.	Receipts.	Shipments.
Flour, bbls.....	10,000	8,000
Wheat, bu.....	21,000	66,000
Corn, bu.....	192,000	152,000
Oats, bu.....	370,000	193,000
Rye, bu.....	6,000	.....
Barley, bu.....	121,000	23,000

On the Produce exchange to day the butter market was steady; creamery, 15@20c; dairy, 9@17c. Eggs, weak; fresh, 15c. Cheese, steady; 9½@10¼c. Dressed poultry, firm; turkeys, 11@11½c; chickens, 6@7c; ducks, 10@11c.

NEW YORK GENERAL MARKET.

Quotations of the Day on General Commodities.

NEW YORK, Feb. 18.—FLOUR—Receipts, 14,300 bbls.; exports, 10,835 bbls.; quiet, demand being checked by the advanced views of a few western mills; southern flour steady. City, winter patents, $4.60@4.65; Minnesota patents, $4.35@4.45; Minnesota bakers, $3.70@3.90; winter low grades, $2.00@2.90. Rye flour, easy; fancy, $2.80@2.90. Buckwheat flour, dull, $1.25.

BUCKWHEAT—Dull, 72c.

CORN MEAL—Dull; yellow western, 57c.

RYE—Dull; No. 2 western, 38c.

BARLEY—Dull; feeding, 25½c.

BARLEY MALT—Dull.

WHEAT—Receipts, 20,380 bu.; exports, 129,700 bu. Spot firm; No. 1 hard, 83½c. Options opened slightly easier under conflicting cable news, promptly rallied on higher private advices, bullish winter wheat news and covering, eased off at midday, but finally rallied again on export buying and closed ⅝@⅞c net higher; No. 2 red, February, closed at 82½c; May, 80⅝@81 5-16c, closed, 81c.

CORN—Receipts, 112,420 bu.; exports, 59,200 bu. Spot, dull; No. 2, 28½c. Options were firm all day; better cables, local covering and large clearances; closed ⅝c higher; February closed at 28⅝c; May, 29⅛@29⅜c; closed, 29⅜c.

OATS—Receipts, 118,800 bu.; exports, 20,565 bu. Spot, dull; No. 2, 21½c. Options, quiet, but steadier with the other markets, closing ⅛c higher; February closed at 21⅛c; May, 21¼c; closed, 21⅛c.

HAY—Easy; shipping, 50@55c; good to choice, $70@75c.

HOPS—Quiet; state, common to choice, 1895 crop, 5@7c; 1896 crop, 8@13c; Pacific coast, 1895 crop, 5@7c.

HIDES—Firm; Texas, dry, 10@18c; Galveston, 13c; California, 10@22c.

LEATHER—Firm; hemlock sole, Buenos Ayres, light to heavy weights, 19½@20½c.

BUTTER—Receipts, 2,128 pkgs.; Elgins, 20c; factory, 14@18½c; western creamery, 12@20c.

CHEESE—Receipts, 248 pkgs.; quiet; state large, 9@12¼c; state small, 9@12¼c; part skims, 5@9½c; full skims, 2@2½c.

EGGS—Receipts, 6,286 pkgs.; steady; state and Pennsylvania, 18½c; western, 12½@13½c; southern, 17½@17½c.

PROVISIONS—Beef, steady; family, $8.50@10.00; extra mess, $7.50. Beef hams, $19; packet, $8.00@9.50. Cut meats, pickled bellies, $4.25@4.87½; pickled shoulders, $5; pickled hams, $8.50. Lard, firm; western steam, $4.15; refined, firm. Pork, firm; mess, $8.00@9.00; family, $9.50@10.00. Tallow, quiet; city, 3¾c; country, 3⅝c.

OILS—Cottonseed, firm; prime crude, 20c; prime yellow, 23½c. Petroleum, steady; United closed at 81½c bid. Pennsylvania crude, steady; March, 91½c bid. Rosin, quiet. Turpentine, quiet.

RICE—Steady; fair to extra, 3¾@4¼c; Japan, 4¼@4¾c.

MOLASSES—Quiet; open kettle, good to choice, 22@32c.

METALS—Pig iron, dull; $11.00@12.50. Copper, firm; brokers, $12; exchange, $12. Tin, dull; straights, $12.85@13.10; plates, weak. Spelter, dull; domestic, $4.00@4.10. Lead, easier, with St. Louis market unsettled; exchange, $3.30; brokers, $3.05.

New York Dry Goods Market.

NEW YORK, Feb. 18.—More business is doing with first hands than becomes apparent to the ordinary observer, as through mail orders from principals and travelers the collective takings are comparatively large, but greatly disguised through shipments from the mills. Engagements cover reasonable specialties largely, though of plain staples there was more doing in wide sheetings and brown cottons. Ribbons are in good demand, as are place silks. Men's wear woolens are in good order request for new heavy weights, and for wool dress goods the demand is well maintained. Printing cloths are quiet and very steady at 2 11-16c.

OMAHA GENERAL MARKET.

Condition of Trade and Quotations on Staple and Fancy Produce.

EGGS—Fresh gathered, 12c.

BUTTER—Common to fair, 9@10c; choice to fancy roll, 12@14c; separator creamery, 20c; gathered creamery, 16@18c.

GAME—Blue winged teal ducks, $1.75; green wing, $1.50; redheads and mallards, $3.75; small rabbits, 40@50c; jacks, $1.00@1.25; squirrels, 60@70c; Canada geese, large, $6.00@7.00; small, $4.00@5.00.

CHEESE—Domestic bricks, 10½c; Edam, per doz. 49; club house, 1-lb. jars, per doz., $3.15; Limburger, fancy, per lb., 9½c; Roquefort, ½-lb. jars, per doz., $3.00; Young Americas, 10½c; twins, fancy, 10½c.

VEAL—Choice fat, 80 to 120 lbs., are quoted at 7@7½c; large and coarse, 4@5c.

DRESSED POULTRY—Chickens, 6@7c; turkeys, 10@11c; geese, 7@8c; ducks, 8@9c.

LIVE POULTRY—Hens, 5@5½c; cocks, 3@4c.

PIGEONS—Live, 75@90c; dead pigeons, not wanted.

HAY—Upland, $4.50; midland, $4; lowland, $3.50; 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., 2@2½c; choice green, running to hurl, 2@2½c; common, 1½c.

VEGETABLES.

SWEET POTATOES—On orders, per bbl., $1.75.

ONIONS—Good stock, per bu., $1.

LIMA BEANS—Per lb., 4c.

BEANS—Hand picked navy, per bu., $1.25@1.35.

CABBAGE—Fancy stock, per 100 lbs., $2.

CELERY—Per doz., 25c; fancy, large, 45c.

POTATOES—Good native stock, per bu., 30c.

FRUITS.

MALAGA GRAPES—Per keg, $7.

CRANBERRIES—Cape Cod, per bbl., $6.00@6.50.

APPLES—Fancy, New York, $1.60@1.65; extra fancy, large, $1.75.

CALIFORNIA PEARS—Per box, $2.

TROPICAL FRUITS.

ORANGES—Mexican, $2.75@3.00; California navels, 150s to 200s, $3.75; large sizes, $3.25@3.50; seeding, $2.75.

LEMONS—Messines, $3.00@3.50; choice California, $2.75; fancy, $2.75@3.00.

BANANAS—Choice, large stock, per bunch, $2.00@2.25; medium-sized bunches, $1.50@2.00.

MISCELLANEOUS.

HONEY—Choice, 13@14c.

CIDER—Clarified juice, per half bbl., $2.50; per bbl., $4.00@4.25.

MAPLE SYRUP—Five gal. cans, each, $2.50@2.75; gal. cans, per doz., $12; half-gal. cans, $6.25; quart cans, $3.50.

NUTS—Almonds, California, per lb., large size, 12c; Brazils, per lb., 10c; English walnuts, per lb., fancy, soft shell, 12@12½c; standards, 11@11½c; filberts, per lb., 10c; pecans, polished, large, 8@10c; jumbo, 11@12c; large hickory nuts, $1.25 per bu.; small, $1.50; cocoanuts, 50 each.

FIGS—Imported fancy, 5 crown, 30-lb. boxes, 12c; choice, 10-lb. boxes, 3 crown, 11c.

HIDES, TALLOW, ETC.

HIDES—No. 1 green hides, 5½c; No. 2 green hides, 4½c; No. 1 green salted hides, 7c; No. 2 green salted hides, 6c; No. 1 veal calf, 8 to 15 lbs., 7c; No. 2 veal calf, 8 to 15 lbs., 4c; No. 1 dry flint hides, 9@10c; No. 2 dry flint hides, 8@9c; No. 1 dry salted hides, 8@9c; part cured hides, ½c per lb. less than fully cured.

SHEEP PELTS—Green salted, each, 25@60c; green salted, shearlings (short wooled early skins), 15c; dry shearlings (short wooled early skins), No. 1, each, 5c; dry flint, Kansas and Nebraska butcher wool pelts, per lb., actual weight, 4@6c; dry flint, Kansas and Nebraska Murrain wool pelts, per lb., actual weight, 3@4c; dry flint Colorado butcher wool pelts, per lb., actual weight, 4@6c; dry flint Colorado Murrain wool pelts, per lb., actual weight, 3@4c; feet cut off, as it is useless to pay freight on them.

TALLOW AND GREASE—Tallow, No. 1, 3c; tallow, No. 2, 2½c; grease, white A, 3c; grease, white B, 2½c; grease, yellow, 2c; grease, dark, 1¾c; old butter, 2@2½c; beeswax, prime, 15@22c; rough tallow, 1c.

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

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, damp and meaty, per ton, $6.00@8.00.

DRESSED—Good native steers, 400 to 600 lbs., 6½c; good forequarters steers, 5c; good hindquarters steers, 7½c; western steers, 6c; fair to good heifers, 6c; good heifers, 5½c; good forequarters heifers, 4½c; good hindquarters heifers, 7½c; good cows, 5½c; fair cows, 5½c; common cows, 4½c; cow forequarters, 4½c; cow hindquarters, 7½c; tenderloins, 20c; boneless strips, 9c; strip loins, 7c; rolls, 8½c; sirloin butts, 8½c; shoulders clods, 5½c; rump butts, 5c; steer chucks, 4½c; cow chucks, 3½c; boneless chucks, 4½c; cow plates, 2½c; steer plates, 4c; flank steak, 6c; loins, No. 1, 12½c; loins, No. 2, 10½c; loins, No. 3, 8½c; No. 1 short loins, 14½c; No. 2 short loins, 12½c; No. 3 short loins, 10½c. Sirloin ends, 7½c; ribs, No. 1, 10½c; ribs, No. 2, 8½c; ribs, No. 3, 6½c; steer rounds, 6½c; cow rounds, 5½c; cow rounds, shank off, 6½c; cow rounds, shank and rump off, 7c; trimmings, 3½c; beef shanks, 2c; brains, per doz., 25c; sweetbreads, per lb., 15c; sweetbreads (calves), per lb., 20c; kidneys, per doz., 35c; ox tails, each, 2c; livers, per lb., 2½c; hearts, per lb., 15c; tongues, per lb., 12c.

MUTTON—Lambs, 7c; yearlings, 6½c; sheep, 6c; market racks (dong), 5½c; hotel racks (short), 11c; legs and saddles, 8c; lamb legs, 5c; breasts and stews, 2½c; tongues, each, 3c; plucks, each, 3c.

PORK—Dressed pigs, 5c; dressed hogs, 4¾c; tenderloins, 12½c; loins, 5½c; spare ribs, 4½c; ham sausage butts, 5c; shoulders, 5c; rough, 4½c; shoulders, skinned, 5c; trimmings, 4½c; leaf lard, not rendered, 5c; heads, cleaned, 3½c; snouts and ears, 2½c; backbones, 2½c; cheek meats, 3c; neckbones, 2½c; pigs' tails, 2c; plucks, each, 3c; chitterings, 5c; hocks, 4c; hearts, per doz., 25c; stomachs, each, 3c; tongues, each, 8c; kidneys, per doz., 10c; brains, per doz., 15c; pigs' feet, per doz., 20c; livers, each, 3c.

Coffee Markets.

NEW YORK, Feb. 18.—COFFEE—Options opened steady and unchanged to 5 points lower. Cables were disappointing, but the market ruled steady on European buying and later advanced 5 points, owing to the scarcity of sellers; closed steady; sales, 5,250 bags, including March at 9.10@9.15; May, 9.05@9.05; spot coffee, Rio, market dull; No. 7, invoice, 9.62½; jobbing, 10.87½. Mild, quiet; Cordova, 15.50@16.75; total warehouse deliveries from the United States, 10,858 bags; New York stock today, 344,756 bags; United States stock, 411,656 bags; afloat for the United States, 329,000 bags; total visible for the United States, 740,656 bags, against 484,150 bags last year.

HAVRE, Feb. 18.—COFFEE—Closed steady; net unchanged; sales, 25,000 bags.

SANTOS, Feb. 18.—COFFEE—Steady; good average Santos, 10,800 reis; receipts, 1,700 bags; stock, 406,000 bags.

HAMBURG, Feb. 18.—COFFEE—Declined ½ pfg.; sales, 22,600 bags.

RIO DE JANEIRO, Feb. 18.—COFFEE—No. 7, Rio, 16,700 reis; exchange, 8 9-16d; cleared for the United States, 7,000 bags; cleared for Europe, 6,000 bags; stock, 274,000 bags.

Cotton Markets.

NEW YORK, Feb. 18.—COTTON—Spot, steady; middling 7¼c; middling uplands, 7¼c; middling gulf, 7⅜c; sales, 671 bales. Futures closed very steady; sales, 113,500 bales; February, $6.82; March, $6.82; April, $6.88; May, $6.94; June, $6.99; July, $7.03; August, $7.07; September, $6.76; October, $6.67; November, $6.69; December, $6.74. The market opened steady 1 to 4 points higher on favorable cables and further advanced after the call 4 to 5 points on active buying for New Orleans and Liverpool account. The market then weakened to the lowest point under realizing by commission houses. The loss was partially regained on renewed buying for outside interests and small receipts at the ports. Advices from Fall River and the south were dullish. At 11 o'clock the market was steady at a net gain of 4 to 5 points, with sales of 70,000 bales.

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 18.—COTTON—Firm; middling, 6¾c; low middling, 6¼c; good ordinary, 6 3-16c.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 18.—COTTON—Steady; middling, 6¾c; sales, 50 bales; receipts, 1,360 bales; shipments, 1,348 bales; stock, 49,875 bales.

Chicago Stock Market.

CHICAGO, Feb. 18.—Nearly all the trading on the Stock exchange today was done in New York Biscuit, the announcement at the meeting by the American Biscuit company of its 25 per cent cut in prices renewing the activity. All offers were, as a rule, promptly taken up. Active stocks closed:

Canal and Dock.....	60	North Chicago	211
City Railway	210	New York Biscuit.	41½
M. & C. R. prefd..	38	Lake Street L.....	16⅝
Diamond Match ...	126½	West Chicago ss..	97
Packing preferred..	49½	West Chicago 5s..	102½
Metropolitan L. ...	45	Gas 5s.....	94⅞
West Chicago	99½		

London Stock Quotations.

LONDON, Feb. 18.—4 p. m. closing:

Consols, m'y..	111 13-16	St. Paul common..	77⅞
Consols, acc't.	111 15-16	N. Y. Central.....	95⅛
Can. Pacific.....	56	Pennsylvania.....	53⅛
Erie	14⅜	Reading.....	12⅝
Erie 1st pfd.....	35	Mex. Cen. new 4s.	69⅛
Ill. Central.....	94⅛	Atchison.....	14⅝
Mexican ordinary.	21½		

BAR SILVER—29 11-16d per ounce.

MONEY—1½@1¾ per cent.

The rate of discount in the open market for short bills, 1 15-16 per cent; the rate for three months' bills, 1 15-16 per cent.

New York Mining Quotations.

NEW YORK, Feb. 18.—The following are the closing mining quotations:

Bulwer.....	50	Ontario.....	900
Chollar.....	80	Ophir.....	80
Crown Point.....	20	Plymouth.....	18
Con. Cal. & Va....	150	Quicksilver.....	100
Deadwood	100	Quicksilver pfd....	1000
Gould & Curry.....	38	Sierra Nevada.....	35
Hale & Norcross...	95	Standard.....	170
Homestake.....	2900	Union Con.....	30
Iron Silver.....	32	Yellow Jacket.....	20
Mexican.....	35		

Sugar Markets.

LONDON, Feb. 18.—SUGAR—Cane, dull and nominate; centrifugal Java, 11s; Muscovado, fair refining, 9s 3d. Beet, steady, with only fair offerings; February, 9s 1½d; March, 9s 1½d.

NEW YORK, Feb. 18.—SUGAR—Raw, steady; fair refining, 2⅞c; centrifugal, 96 test, 3¼c. Refined, firm; crushed, 5c; powdered, 4⅝c; granulated, 4⅜c.

Kansas City Markets.

KANSAS CITY, Feb. 18.—WHEAT—Active, 1@2c higher; No. 2 hard, 78@80c, latter for fancy; No. 3, 74c; No. 2 red, 81c; No. 3, 80c; No. 4, nominally, 70@80c; No. 2 spring, nominally, 74@76c; No. 3, 71@73c.

CORN—Active and steady; No. 2 mixed, 16¾@17c.

OATS—Firmer; No. 2 white, nominally, 17@20c.

RYE—No. 2, 31c.

HAY—Steady, unchanged; timothy, $8.50@9.00; prairie, $5.00@5.50.

BUTTER—Quiet; creamery, 15@18½c; dairy, 10@13c.

EGGS—Steady at 12½c.

STOCKS AND BONDS.

Market Notable for Entire Absence of Features of Any Kind.

NEW YORK, Feb. 18.—Today's market for securities on the Stock exchange was notable for nothing but its excessive dullness, absence of feature and the narrow limits of the trading and the range of prices. Even the industrials, though they took up the bulk of what trading was done, were not largely dealt in. The market reflected no condition in the general outlook and was simply swayed by the manipulative efforts of room traders. As was inevitable in such a condition of apathy, prices were generally downward, though the volume of sales was not large. There was almost an entire absence of commission house buying, showing the lack of any outside speculative interest in the market. The bear element predominates and succeeds in depressing price, but the only result is that there is very little market left for them. The influence is that holders of securities are determined to wait for the chance of a more satisfactory market before parting with their holdings. The revival of a feeling of uneasiness over the enigma of the ultimate attitude of the great powers toward the Greeks in Crete, reflected from foreign exchanges, served to depress the market from the opening and there was selling of some international securities on foreign account. The anthracite coal group declined sharply on apprehensions over the conditions in the trade and in sympathy with the raid on Lehigh Valley in the Philadelphia market. New Jersey Central declined 1⅜ per cent, recovering the fraction, and others of the group receded a fraction, except Lackawanna, which improved ¾ per cent. Hocking Valley securities continued a violent decline on apprehensions of a default in the interest payments coming due on March 1. Officials of the road declined to make any statement and the stock declined 1⅝ to 4⅝ per cent, the lowest point yet reached, the preferred ruling at 12 bid and 25 asked, as compared with 40 at the last sale. The general 6s fell to 49½ and the 5s, after an initial gain of 1 per cent, slumped 4 points to 65. Wheeling & Lake Erie preferred also became prominent with a concession of 2⅛ per cent, in spite of the improved situation of the Ohio roads as to the traffic under the recent agreement. The industrials fluctuated irregularly, showing fractional net gains, however. American Spirits were active and well supported on the trade outlook. Tobacco and Leather were about firm, as was Sugar on buying based on the announced intention of its officials to adopt electricity as a motive power. The gain was lost later on revived rumors of a reduction in the dividend rate. Missouri Pacific was depressed to 19¼, but regained the loss on the publication of the earnings for the second week in February, showing an increase of $10,000. Practically all the railway reports received showed an encouraging increase in earnings, but the railway list was unable to withstand the general apathy of the market and declined fractionally for the most part. The market developed a somewhat firmer tone in the latter dealings and the closing was mainly steady.

The bond market displayed decided firmness generally on a wider volume of trade which was recorded in the listed securities. Improvements of substantial character were recorded in some of the high grade securities. Oregon Short Line issues were heavily dealt in and rose 1 per cent for 1s 6s, and others slightly improved. Manhattan consols were unusually erratic, but ended with a gain of 1 per cent. Kansas City firsts advanced 3 per cent, but the changes in the present speculative issues were unusually narrow. Purchasers for local and foreign investment account continue in considerable volume, with a growing demand for the low grade securities. The sales were $1,442,000.

The government bond market continued to maintain a fine tone on good inquiry by financial institutions. The new 4s, as a rule, absorbed the bulk of the transactions. Sales were 164,600 shares.

The Evening Post's London financial cablegram says: "The stock markets today after profound stagnation and dullness closed flat on complications in politics. Consols sold at 111 13-16. In all movements in consols just now it must be remembered that everything apart from politics favors a rise rather than a fall. Americans were listless, none of the big financiers yet showing a lead in either direction. The Paris and Berlin markets were dull.

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

Atchison.....	14⅛	Ontario & W.....	14⅝
Adams Ex.....	148	Oregon Nav.....	14
Alton, T H.....	50	O. S. L. & U. N....	15
Am. Express.....	110½	Pacific Mail.....	24⅛
Baltimore & Ohio.	19	Peoria, Dec. & E..	12
Canada Pacific...	54¼	Pittsburg.....	165½
Canada Southern..	44⅝	Pullman Palace...	154½
Central Pacific...	11	Reading.....	24⅜
Ches. & Ohio.....	16	R. G. W.....	12
Chicago & Alton..	162	do pfd.....	38⅛
C. B. & Q.....	73¾	Rock Island.....	66
Chicago Gas.....	76⅝	St. Paul.....	75¼
Consolidated Gas.	141⅛	do pfd.....	132¼
C., C., C. & St. L..	26⅝	St. Paul & Omaha.	48
Colo. Coal & Iron..	⅛	St. P. & O. pfd.....	130
Cotton Oil Cert...	1⅛	Southern Pacific..	15
Delaware & Hud..	107⅛	Sugar Refinery....	113⅝
Del., Lack. & W...	152½	Tenn. Coal & Iron.	26½
D. & R. G. pfd.....	40⅛	Texas Pacific.....	9⅛
East Tenn.....	14⅛	Tol. & O. Cen. pfd.	50
Erie.....	14⅝	Union Pacific.....	14⅝
Erie pfd.....	35	U. S. Express.....	35
Fort Wayne.....	163	W. St. L. & Pac....	6⅜
G. Northern pfd...	120	W. St. L. & P. pfd..	15⅞
C. & E. Illinois...	95	Wells Fargo Ex...	98
Hocking Valley...	4⅛	Western Union....	81⅝
Illinois Central...	91⅝	Wheeling & L. E...	1⅛
St. P. & Duluth...	18	do pfd.....	7
E. & T. pfd.....	29⅛	Minn. & St. Louis.	18⅝
Lake Erie & West.	16	Den. & R. G.....	10⅝
do pfd.....	68⅛	Gen. Electric.....	34⅛
Lake Shore.....	154	Nat'l Linseed.....	13
Louisville & N....	52⅝	Cent. Pacific.....	21
Louisville & N....	49	do pfd.....	90
L. & N. A.....	¼	Tol. St. L. & K. C.	4½
Manhattan Con....	87	do pfd.....	10⅝
Memphis & C....	15	Southern Rail.....	2⅞
Michigan Central.	89⅛	Southern Rail.....	27¾
Mo. Pacific.....	19¾	Tobacco.....	71⅞
Mobile & Ohio.....	20½	Tobacco pfd.....	100½
Nashville & Chat...	66	Am. T. & C. Co....	85
N. J. Central.....	97½	C. C. Co.....	150
N. & W. pfd.....	16⅛	Am. Sugar pfd....	102¾
North Am. Co....	4⅛	Leather pfd.....	56½
Northern Pacific..	14⅛	Rubber.....	29⅛
N. Pacific pfd.....	37⅛	Rubber pfd.....	70½
U. P., D. & G.....	1⅜	Cotton Oil pfd....	53
Northwestern.....	104	P. C. C. & St. L pfd	51
do pfd.....	138	Am. Spirits.....	13⅝
N. Y. Central.....	92⅝	Am. Spirits pfd....	33
N. Y. & N. E.....	37	O. R & N. 4s.....	42

The total sales of stocks today were 120,198 shares, including the following: American Sugar, 28,400; Burlington, 7,300; Manhattan Consolidated, 8,900; Missouri Pacific, 4,600; Columbus, Hocking Valley & Toledo, 6,800; Reading, 7,900; St. Paul, 6,000; New Jersey Central, 5,100.

New York Money Market.

NEW YORK, Feb. 18.—MONEY ON CALL—Easy at 1@1¼ per cent; last loan, 1½ per cent; close offered at 1@1½ per cent.

PRIME MERCANTILE PAPER—Blank.

STERLING EXCHANGE—Steady, with actual business in bankers' bills at $4.85¾@4.87 for demand and $4.85 for sixty days; posted rates, $4.85½@4.86 and $4.87½@4.88; commercial bills, $4.84.

SILVER CERTIFICATES—64⅝@65c.

BAR SILVER—64⅝c.

MEXICAN DOLLARS—50¾c.

GOVERNMENT BONDS—Firm; new 4s, reg., 122¼; coupon, 122½; 5s, reg. and coupon, 113; 4s, reg., 112¾; coupon, 113; 2s, reg., 95½; Pacific 6s of '98, 103½.

STATE BONDS—Dull.

RAILROAD BONDS—Firm.

Closing quotations on bonds were as follows:

U. S. new 4s, reg..	122½	Erie 2ds.....	65½
U. S. new coup...	122¾	G. H. & S. A. 6s...	104
U. S. 5s, reg.....	113⅜	do 7s.....	96
U. S. 5s, coup.....	113⅜	H. & T. C. 5s.....	109⅛
U. S. 4s, reg.....	113¼	do 6s.....	102
U. S. 4s, coup.....	113	M., K. & T. 1st 4s.	84¾
U. S. 2s, reg.....	95	do 2d 4s.....	58⅝
Pacific 6s of '95...	103¼	Mutual Union 6s..	110
Ala., class A.....	106	N. J. C. Gen. 5s...	117⅛
Ala., class B.....	105	No. Pacific 1sts...	115½
Ala., class C.....	97	do 2ds.....	55⅝
Ala. Currency.....	97	N. W. Con 8ds.....	141
La. New Con. 4s..	75¾	do S. F. Deb. 5s..	112
Missouri 6s.....	100	R. G. West. 1sts...	72¾
N. C. 6s.....	121	St. P. Consols 7s..	130
N. C. 4s.....	101	do C. & P. W. 5s.	113⅝
S. C. nonfund.....	⅛	St. L. & I. M. Gen. 5	76
Tenn. new set 6s..	77	St. L. & S. F. Gen. 6	111⅛
Tenn. new set 5s..	105	Texas Pac. 1sts...	88⅝
Tenn. old 6s.....	60	Texas Pac. 2ds...	21
Va. Centuries.....	61⅛	U. P. 1sts of '96...	104½
do deferred.....	6¼	West Shore 4s....	107
Atchison 4s.....	82	L. & N. unified 4s.	80⅛
Atchison 2d A....	47	Southern 5s.....	89¾
Canada So. 2ds...	107⅛	St. L. & N. 1sts...	111⅝
C. P. 1sts of '95...	102	O. R. & N. 4s.....	83⅝
D. & R. G. 7s.....	111½	N. P. 5s.....	88
D. & R. G. 4s.....	88		

Boston Stock Quotations.

BOSTON, Feb. 18.—Call loans, 1½@3½ per cent; time loans, 2¾@4 per cent. Closing prices for stocks, bonds and mining shares:

A. T. & S. F.....	14	W. Elec. pfd.....	50
American Sugar..	113⅛	Wis. Central.....	2
Am. Sugar pfd....	102¾	Ed. Elec. Ill.....	150
Atlantic & Pac....	5⅛	Gen. Elec. pfd.....	73¾
Bell Telephone...	219	Atchison pfd.....	22⅞
Boston & Albany.	200¾	Atchison 4s.....	81
Boston & Maine...	150	Gen. Elec. 5s.....	95⅛
Boston & M. pfd..	151¼	Wis. Cent. 1s.....	28¼
C., B. & Q.....	73⅛	Wis. Cent 6s.....	117⅛
Fitchburg.....	92	Allouez Mining Co	1
General Electric..	34⅛	Allouez.....	21½
Illinois Steel.....	33	Boston & Montana	119⅛
Mexican Central..	8⅛	Butte & Bost'n....	13⅝
N. Y. & N. E.....	60	Calumet & Hecla..	352
Old Colony.....	177	Centennial.....	6¼
Ore. Short Line...	15	Franklin.....	11⅛