COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL

Poor Crop Report from Missouri Gives Strength to Wheat.

CLOSES FIRM AT A SLIGHT ADVANCE

Lower Liverpool Cables Cause the Market to Open Weak and the Strength Only Comes Late—Other Markets Stagnant.

CHICAGO, March 26.—Wheat, after acting weak nearly up to the end of the session, closed firm at ⅛@¼c advance for the May option. Lower cables caused the weakness and the strong St. Louis market and a poor Missouri crop report the closing strength. Corn was almost stationary, closing a shade lower. Oats closed unchanged and provisions 2½@10c lower.

Liverpool, the fine spring weather at home and liberal northwestern receipts contributed to a break of from ¼ to ⅝c, with which trading in wheat commenced. The opening quotations for May were from 72½c down to 72¼c, compared with 72⅝@72¾c at the close of the market yesterday, and in the next forty-five minutes the price had been pressed down to 72½c. At that point a report of the Missouri agricultural department, giving the average condition of wheat for a number of the best counties in the state at 63 and suggesting that the full report would reveal a lower average, was received. That caused a recovery to 72¾c. Another crop report, however, was of quite a different character and caused enough selling to put the price back to 72¼c again. The smallness of these fluctuations shows how dull and narrow trading was. The report in question was from the Winter Wheat Millers' league, with headquarters at Indianapolis, and gave wheat conditions in the states named as follows: Ohio, 91; Michigan, 97; Kentucky, 93; Tennessee, 97½; Indiana, 77; Illinois, 50. Liverpool quoted a decline of ⅝d at the opening; Berlin a loss of ¾ mark. Chicago received 19 carloads. Minneapolis and Duluth received 458 cars, against 298 a week ago and 382 the corresponding day of the previous year. Exports from Atlantic ports were again small, amounting in wheat and flour to 193,000 bu. English consols were 5-16 of 1 per cent lower and it was rumored that French government securities had also declined. The latter rumor was said to have been the occasion of a strong spell in the market about 12:15 o'clock, when the May price took a run up to 72¾c. All day it kept well above the previous day's closing price for July and considerable higher than Chicago July price. During the last hour the price rallied to 73c, due largely to a sharp upturn at St. Louis, where July sold up to 75c. The closing was firm at 72¾c.

It was a simple case of continued stagnation in corn. Fluctuations covered a range of 3-16c, but it was not the result of any increase in the volume of business. The opening was a shade under yesterday's figures and there was scarcely enough to the market to change the price. Export clearances were 855,000 bu. May opened at 24½c, sold between 24⅝@24½c and 24⅝@24⅞c, closing at 24½c.

The only animation displayed by oats was around the opening, when shorts sold quite freely and brought about a slight decline. Offerings were readily accepted and after a period of weakness prices rallied. The firmness in wheat was a factor in the recovery. May opened a shade lower at 17¾@17⅛c, and sold to 16⅞@17c, rallied to 17⅛c, where it closed.

The provisions market was as devoid of interest as the grain markets. A small run of hogs had no perceptible effect on the market. Armour was credited with liberal selling and this brought about a gradual decline. At the close, May pork was 10c lower at $8.05@8.07½; May lard, 2½c lower at $4.22½ and May ribs, 5c lower at $4.62½.

Estimated receipts Saturday: Wheat, 9 cars; corn, 120 cars; oats, 112 cars; hogs, 8,000 head.

The leading futures ranged as follows:

Articles.	Open.	High.	Low.	Close.	Yest'y.
*Wheat—					
March.	71¼@¾	72⅜	71⅛	71⅞	71¾
May...	72¼@¾	73⅛	72⅛	72½	72⅝@¾
July...	70⅞@71	71⅞	70⅞@⅞	71⅜@¾	72⅛
Sept...	68⅝	69⅝	67¾	69⅝	69⅝
*Corn—					
March.	23¾	23⅞	23⅝@¾	23¾	23¾@⅞
May...	24⅛	24⅝	24⅛@⅜	24⅛	24⅛@⅜
July...	24½	25⅜	25⅛@⅜	25⅛@⅜	25⅛@⅜
Sept...	26¾	26¾	26⅝	26¾	26⅝@¾
*Oats—					
March.	16¾	16⅞	16⅝	16¾	16¾
May...	17⅛	17⅛	16⅞@17	17⅛	17⅛
July...	18	18	17⅞	18	18
Pork—					
May...	8 75	8 75	8 65	8 67½	8 75
July...	8 85	8 85	8 75	8 77½	8 87½
Lard—					
May...	4 25	4 25	4 20	4 22½	4 25
July...	4 35	4 35	4 32½	4 35	4 35
Sh't Ribs—					
May...	4 65	4 67½	4 62½	4 62½	4 67½
July...	4 70	4 70	4 65	4 67½	4 72½

* No. 2.

Cash quotations were as follows:

FLOUR—Quiet; winter patents, $4.50@4.60; straights, $4.00@4.20; spring specials, $4.50; spring patents, $4.00@4.10; straights, $3.40@3.70; bakers, $3.00@3.20.

WHEAT—No. 2 spring, 71¾@72⅞c; No. 3 spring, 71@71½c; No. 2 red, 84⅞@88⅝c.

CORN—No. 2, 24@24½c; No. 2 yellow, 24@24½c.

OATS—No. 2, 16¾@17c; No. 2 white, f. o. b., 20½c; No. 3 white, f. o. b., 17½@20c.

RYE—No. 2, 32@33½c.

BARLEY—Nominal; No. 3, f. o. b., 27@33c.

FLAXSEED—No. 1, 76¼@79.

TIMOTHY SEED—Prime, $2.70.

PROVISIONS—Pork, mess, per bbl., $8.60@8.65. Lard, per 100 lbs., $4.15. Bacon, short ribs sides (loose), $4.55@4.85. Dry salted shoulders (boxed), $4.75@5.00; short clear sides (boxed), $4.75@4.87½.

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

SUGARS—Cut loaf, $5.39; granulated, $4.76.

The following were the receipts and shipments today:

Articles.	Receipts.	Shipments.
Flour, bbls	8,000	7,000
Wheat, bu	14,000	48,000
Corn, bu	106,000	43,000
Oats, bu	138,000	176,000
Rye, bu	2,000	1,000
Barley, bu	35,000	30,000

On the Produce exchange today the butter market was firm; creamery, 10@18½c; dairy, 9@13c. Eggs, steady; fresh, 9c. Cheese, firm; 10¾@11c. Dressed poultry, steady; turkeys, 12@12½c; chickens, 7½@8c; ducks, 11@12c.

NEW YORK GENERAL MARKET.

Quotations of the Day on General Commodities.

NEW YORK, March 26.—FLOUR—Receipts, 5,600 bbls.; exports, 6,916 bbls. More or less depressed by lack of demand; city mill patents, $4.80@5.05; city mills, clear, $4.70@4.80; Minnesota patents, $4.20@4.40; Minnesota bakers, $3.75@3.90; winter patents, $4.55; winter extras, $3.15; winter low grades, $2.60. Southern flour, $4.25. Rye flour, dull; superfine, $2.60@2.65. Buckwheat flour, $3@$3½c.

BUCKWHEAT—34@35c.

CORNMEAL—Quiet; western, 59c.

RYE—Quiet; No. 2 western, 36¾@37c.

BARLEY—Quiet at 36½c.

BARLEY MALT—Dull; western, 45@55c.

WHEAT—Exports, 74,496 bu. Spot, firm; No. 2 hard winter 79¾c. Options opened easier, following weak cables, rallied gradually on more bullish crop news and closed firm and fairly active, with shorts good buyers on war talk and southwestern buying; closed ¾@¾c higher; No. 2 red, March, 80⅞@80½c; closed, 80½c; May, 78¾@79c; closed, 78¾c.

CORN—Receipts, 35,100 bu.; exports, 16,600 bu. Spot, dull; No. 2, 29¾c; yellow, 30⅝c. Options opened dull and steady, rallied later and closed unchanged to ⅛c higher; March closed at 29⅝c; May closed at 29¾c.

OATS—Receipts, 183,000 bu.; exports, 5,880 bu. Spot, dull; No. 2, 22c. Options quiet and unchanged; May closed at 21⅝c; July, 22⅝c.

HAY—Weaker; shipping, 50@65c; good to choice, 65@72½c.

HOPS—Dull; 1895 crop, 2½@5½c; 1896 crop, 6@11c; Pacific coast, 1895 crop, 2@5½c; 1896 crop, 8@12½c.

HIDES—Firm; Galveston, 13c; Buenos Ayres, 18½@19c; Texas, 10½c; California, 16c.

LEATHER—Firm; hemlock, 29@31c.

PROVISIONS—Beef, quiet; family, $8.50@10.00; extra mess, $7.50@8.00; beef hams, 18c; packet, $8.00@9.00; city, extra India mess, $14.50@15.00. Cut meats, firm; pickled bellies, $5.25@5.75; pickled shoulders, $5.25; pickled hams, $9.00@9.75. Lard, steady; western steam, $4.42½; refined, steady. Pork, fairly active and steady; mess, $9.75@10.75; short clear, $9.25@10.75.

TALLOW—Firm; city, 3¾c; country, 3½c.

BUTTER—Receipts, 3,357 pkgs.; market steady; western creamery, 14@19½c; Elgins, 19½c; factory, 7½@12c.

CHEESE—Receipts, 1,112 pkgs.; market steady; state, large, 9@12¾c; state, small, 9@12½c; part skims, 3@9c; full skims, 2½@3c.

EGGS—Receipts, 12,792 head; market steady; state and Pennsylvania, 10½@10½c; western, 10c; southern, 9½@9¾c.

OILS—Petroleum, United refined, $6.50; United closed at 6½c bid; Pennsylvania crude, steady; April, 3¾c bid. Cottonseed, prime summer yellow, 23@23½c; off summer yellow, 23c; butter grades, 26@26½c. Rosin, steady; strained, common to good, $1.65@1.67½. Turpentine, steady at 29¼@29¾c.

RICE—Steady; fair to extra, 3¾@6¼c; Japan, 4¼@4½c.

MOLASSES—Steady; New Orleans, open kettle, 23@30c.

METALS—Pig iron, steady; southern, $10.00@11.00; northern, $10.50@12.50. Copper, quiet; lake, brokers, $11.75; exchange, $11.75@12.00. Tin, easy; straits, $13.20@13.30; plates, easy. Spelter, quiet $4.10@4.20. Lead, quiet and easy in this market, but strong at St. Louis. Prominent brokers quoted the price unchanged at $3.30 and the exchange a shade easier on the basis of $3.27½@3.42½.

Liverpool Grain and Provisions.

LIVERPOOL, March 26.—WHEAT—Spot, quiet; demand poor; No. 2 red spring, 6s 1½d; No. 1 California, 6s 3d. Futures opened steady, with near and distant positions 5½d lower; closed quiet, ¼@⅜d lower; business equally distributed; March, nominal; May, 6s 1d; July, 5s 1d.

CORN—Spot, steady; American mixed, new, 2s 6d. Futures opened quiet, with near and distant positions ¼d lower; closed steady, March ¼d lower and other months unchanged; business about equally distributed; March, 2s 6d; April, 2s 6¾d; May, 2s 3d; June, 2s 3½d; July, 2s 3½d.

FLOUR—Steady; demand moderate; St. Louis, fancy winter, 4s 6d.

PROVISIONS—Bacon, steady; demand poor; Cumberland cut, 28 to 30 lbs., 29s; short ribs, 20 to 24 lbs., 28s 6d; long clear, light, 30 to 38 lbs., 27s 6d; long clear, heavy, 40 to 45 lbs., 27s; short clear backs, light, 18 lbs., 26s 6d; short clear middles, heavy, 45 to 50 lbs., 25s 6d; clear bellies, 14 to 16 lbs., 29s 6d. Shoulders (square), 12 to 13 lbs., 24s. Hams (short cut), 14 to 16 lbs., 43s. Tallow, fine North American, 18s 6d. Beef, extra India mess, 56s 3d; prime mess, 47s 6d. Pork, prime mess, fine western, 50s; medium western, 48s. Lard, quiet; prime western, 22s; refined, 24s.

CHEESE—Firm; demand moderate; finest American, white and colored, 57s 6d.

BUTTER—Finest United States, 90s; good, 55s.

OILS—Linseed, 15s. Petroleum, refined, 5¾d. Naphtha, 6¼d.

REFRIGERATOR BEEF—Forequarters, 4 3-8d; hindquarters, 6¼d.

HOPS—At London (Pacific coast), £3 15s.

Receipts during past three days: Wheat, 320,000 centals, including 24,000 American; American corn, 254,000 centals.

OMAHA GENERAL MARKET.

Condition of Trade and Quotations on Staple and Fancy Produce.

EGGS—Fresh gathered, 7½c.

BUTTER—Common to fair, 7¼@8c; choice to fancy roll, 10@12c; separator creamery, 18c; gathered creamery, 14c.

GAME—Blue winged teal ducks, $1.50; green wing, $1.25; red heads and mallards, $2.50@2.75. Canada geese, large, $6; small, $3.50@4.00.

VEAL—Choice fat, 80 to 120 lbs., are quoted at 7½@8c; large and coarse, 49@5c.

DRESSED POULTRY—Chickens, 7@8c; turkeys, hens, 11@12c; geese, (@8c; ducks, 9@10c.

LIVE POULTRY—Hens, 65@70c; cocks, 38@4c.

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

HAY—Upland, $4.50; midland, $3.50; lowland, $3; rye straw, $3.50; color makes the price on hay; light bales sell the best; only top grades bring top prices.

BROOMCORN—Extremely slow sale; new crop, delivered on track in country; choice green self-working carpet, per lb., 2@2½c; choice green, running to burl, 2@2½c; common, 1½c.

VEGETABLES.

GREEN PEAS—Per 20-lb. box, $2.25.

CUCUMBERS—Per doz., $2.00.

CAULIFLOWER—Per crate, $3.00@4.00.

ASPARAGUS—Per lb., 20c.

SPINACH—Per 2-3 bu. basket, 75c@$1.00.

TOMATOES—Per 7-basket crate, $3.00@3.50.

PIE PLANT—Home grown, per lb., 8@10c.

TURNIPS—Per bbl., $1.50.

OLD VEGETABLES—Beets, carrets, parsnips, per bbl., $1.50.

RADISHES—Per doz., 20c.

LETTUCE—Per doz., 20c.

ONIONS—Per doz., 25c.

PARSLEY—Per doz., 25c.

BERMUDA ONIONS—Per crate, $4.50.

SWEET POTATOES—Fancy Illinois, per bbl., $1.50@1.75.

ONIONS—Good stock, per bu., $1.25.

LIMA BEANS—Per lb., 3c.

BEANS—Hand picked navy, per bu., 95c@$1.00.

CABBAGE—Fancy stock, per 100 lbs., $1.75.

CELERY—Per doz., large, California, 75c.

POTATOES—Good native stock, per bu., 25@30c.

FRUITS.

STRAWBERRIES—Florida, per quart, 25c; Texas, per 24-quart cases, $4.50@5.00.

MALAGA GRAPES—Per keg, $7.

CRANBERRIES—Best Jersey, per bbl., $4.00; per crate, $1.50.

APPLES—Extra fancy, large, $2.25; choice, $2.00.

TROPICAL FRUIT.

ORANGES—California navels, 150s to 200s, $3.75; large sizes, $3.25@3.50; seedlings, $2.25@2.50.

LEMONS—Messinas, $3.25@3.50; choice California, $2.75; fancy, $3.

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

MISCELLANEOUS.

NUTS—Almonds, California, per lb., large size, 13c; Brazils, per lb., 10c; English walnuts, per lb., fancy, soft shell, 12@12½c; standards, 10@11c; filberts, per lb., 10c; pecans, polished, large, 9@10c; jumbo, 11@12c; large hickory nuts, $1.25 per bu.; cocoanuts, 4½c each.

FIGS—Imported fancy 4 crown, 20-lb. boxes, 12c; 5 crown 50-lb. boxes, 13@14c.

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; gal. cans, pure, per doz., $12; half-gal. cans, $6.25; quart cans, $3.50.

HIDES, TALLOW, ETC.

HIDES—No. 1 green hides, 6c; No. 2 green hides, 5c; No 1 green salted hides, 7½c; No. 2 green salted hides, 6½c; No. 1 veal calf, 8 to 12 lbs., 7c; No. 2 veal calf, 12 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, shearings (short wooled early skins), each, 15c; dry shearings (short wooled early skins), No. 1, each, 5c; dry flint, Kansas and Nebraska butcher wool pelts, per lb., actual weight, 4@5c; 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, 2¾c; tallow, No. 2, 2c; grease, white A, 2c; grease, white B, 2c; 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; coarse, heavy and chaffy, 8@9c; cotted and broken, coarse, 7@9c; cotted and broken, fine, 6@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.

FRESH MEATS.

DRESSED BEEF—Good native steers, 400 to 600 lbs., 6½c; extra forequarters, steers, 5c; good hindquarters, steers, 8½c; western steers, 6c; fancy heifers, 6c; good heifers, 5¾c; good forequarters, heifers, 4¾c; good hindquarters, heifers, 7¾c; good cows, 5¾c; fair cows, 5½c; common cows, 4¾c; cow forequarters, 4¼c; cow hindquarters, 7¼c.

BEEF CUTS—Tenderloins, 20c; boneless strips, 9c; strip loins, 7c; rolls, 8½c; sirloin butts, 8½c; shoulder clods, 5½c; rump butts, 5c; steer chucks, 4½c; cow chucks, 3½c; boneless chucks, 4½c; cow plates, 3½c; steer plates, 4c; flank steak, 6c; loins, No. 1, 13c; loins, No. 2, 11c; loins, No. 3, 8½c; No. 1 short loins, 15c; No. 2 short loins, 13c; No. 3 short loins, 11c; sirloin ends, 7½c; ribs, No. 1, 9c; ribs, No. 2, 8c; ribs, No. 3, 6½c; steer rounds, 6¼c; cow rounds, 5½c; cow rounds, shank off, 6¾c; cow rounds, shank and rump off, 7¼c; trimmings, 4c; beef shanks, 2½c; brains, per dozen, 25c; sweetbreads, per lb., 15c; sweetbreads (calves), per lb., 40c; kidneys, per dozen, 35c; ox tails, each, 20c; livers, per lb., 5c; hearts, per lb., 2c; tongues, per lb., 12c.

MUTTON—Lambs, 7½@8c; yearlings, 7c; sheep, 6½c; market racks (long), 8½c; hotel racks (short), 11½c; legs and saddles, 8c; lamb legs, 9c; breasts and stews, 3c; tongues, each, 5c; plucks, each, 3c.

PORK—Dressed pigs, 5½c; dressed hogs, 5c; tenderloins, 14c; loins, 6½c; spare ribs, 5c; ham sausage butts, 5½c; shoulders, rough, 5c; shoulders, skinned, 5½c; trimmings, 5c; leaf lard, not rendered, 5c; heads, cleaned, 3½c; snouts and ears, 2½c; backbones, 2c; cheek meats, 2½c; neckbones, 2c; pigs' tails, 3½c; plucks, each, 5c; chitterlings, 5c; hocks, 4c; hearts, per dozen, 25c; stomachs, each, 5c; tongues, each, 7c; kidneys, per dozen, 30c; brains, per dozen, 15c; pigs' feet, per doz, 30c; livers, each, 2c.

St. Louis Live Stock.

ST. LOUIS, March 26.—FLOUR—Quiet and unchanged; patents, $4.70@4.80; extra fancy, $4.40@4.45; fancy, $3.90@3.85; choice, $3.65@3.75.

WHEAT—Futures opened lower, but soon became firm and advanced steadily for awhile. Trading was light, however. Finally the market closed steady for May and ⅝c to ¾c higher than yesterday; spot, dull but higher; No. 2 red, cash, elevator, 84c; track, 84@86c; May, 83c asked; July, 74⅝@74¾c.

CORN—Futures were dull and easier. Receipts were heavier and there was only a fair demand. Prices closed steady, with but little change from yesterday; spot, steady; No. 2 cash, 21¼c bid; May, 22¼@22⅜c; July, 23⅝@23⅝c.

OATS—Dull, with no news to affect speculative prices; spot in good demand and steady; No. 2 cash, 18c bid; May, 19c; July, 18c bid.

RYE—Firm; 34c, track.

BARLEY—Firm.

CORNMEAL—$1.40@1.45.

BRAN—Dull and weak; sacked, east track, nominally 50@55c.

TIMOTHY SEED—Prime, $2.60@2.75.

FLAXSEED—Nominally 75c.

HAY—Quiet and unchanged; prairie, $4.00@7.50; timothy, $6.00@11.50.

DRESSED POULTRY—Chickens steady, old and young, 6@6½c; turkeys firm, 7@9c; ducks firm, 7½@8½c; geese dull, 3@4c.

BUTTER—Firm; creamery, 14@19½c; dairy, 8@15c.

EGGS—Steady at 7½c.

WHISKY—$1.17.

METALS—Lead, strong at $3.20@3.22½. Spelter, firm at $3.90 bid.

PROVISIONS—Pork, lower; standard mess, jobbing, $8.50@9.05. Lard, lower; prime steam, $4.00; choice, $4.10. Bacon (boxed), shoulders, $4.99; extra short clear, $5.37½; ribs, $5.50; shorts, $5.62½. Dry salted meats (boxed), shoulders, $4.87½; extra short clear, $5.00; shorts, $5.25.

RECEIPTS—Flour, 3,000 bbls.; wheat, 13,000 bu.; corn, 125,000 bu.; oats, 21,000 bu.

SHIPMENTS—Flour, 3,000 bbls.; wheat, 13,000 bu.; corn, 215,000 bu.; oats, 75,000 bu.

Kansas City Markets.

KANSAS CITY, March 26.—WHEAT—Active; No. 2 hard 77@78c; No. 2, 75@77c; No. 3, 72c; red, 81@94½c; No. 2, 80@85c; No. 2 spring, 76@78c; No. 3, 73c.

CORN—Unchanged; No. 2, May, 19@19½c.

OATS—Firm, but slow; No. 2 white, 19@21c.

RYE—Firm; No. 2, 31c.

HAY—Firm, unchanged; timothy, $8.50@9.00; prairie, $5.50@6.00.

BUTTER—Firm at 16@17c; dairy, 10@12c.

EGGS—Steady at 7½c.

New York Dry Goods Market.

NEW YORK, March 26.—Considerable business was done by buyers in the market for current requirements. The dealings included all classes of fabrics, with a demand for wool goods in the ascendant. Printing cloths very firm at 2 9-16c. Sales at Fall River for the week, 467,000 pieces.

Minneapolis Wheat Quotations.

MINNEAPOLIS, March 26.—WHEAT—Closed steady; May, 70¾c; July, 71¼@71⅝c; September, 67¾@67¾c; on track, No. 1 hard, 72⅝c; No. 1 northern, 71⅝c; receipts, 280 cars.

SURPRISES TO BUSINESS

Week Just Closed Has Been Prolific in that Direction.

LITTLE PERMANENT EFFECT IS NOTICED

General Confidence in the Approach of Better Times is Noted—Good Outlook for Winter Wheat Crop.

NEW YORK, March 26.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s Weekly Review of Trade tomorrow will say:

Rarely have markets sustained such surprises as they have received of late with so little loss. Foreign conditions and London alarms, the collapse of the iron ore combination, the destructive floods in the Mississippi valley and the decision of the supreme court against railway associations have been used to the utmost, but not even in railroads has the result been important. Were all associations to be abandoned any unimportant line could force all lines to rate cutting if it chose. With confidence that better times and larger business are coming, men are less disposed every day to throw away good investments, and the very fact that prices of products are low is regarded as a guarantee against much further decline. In all industrials the number of mills and shops at work gradually increases.

The grain markets have lost without reason the gain they made without reason the previous week. Wheat supplies are running out, but nobody believes that there is coming a famine before June, when the harvesting of southern wheat will begin. Western receipts were over a third smaller than last year, and for four weeks have been 7,611,449 bushels, against 11,834,929 bushels last year, but a better prospect for the crop of winter wheat has more weight. Atlantic exports, flour included, were nearly as large for the week as last year, and for four weeks have been 5,609,628 bushels, against 5,506,229 bushels last year. But corn exports have been 12,763,579 bushels, against 4,577,609 bushels last year. When Europe buys in corn the equivalent of 6,460,000 bushels at less than 69 cents the latter is not easily advanced above 69 cents.

Cotton was helped upward one-eighth of a cent by the flood, but lost half the gain, although manufacturing is more hopeful. Without change in prices, goods were in better demand and sales of 500,000 pieces of print cloths resulted in stronger tones.

A final dissolution of the lake iron ore pool has been expected ever since the Carnegie-Rockefeller deal and insures low prices for ore the coming year, though perhaps not lower than in 1895. Mesaba facilities for production have vastly increased, and all the great steel-making concerns have secured mines of their own, while means of transportation have been greatly enlarged. With assurance of cheap ore hesitation about various products should diminish, and the demand for finished iron and bars are still demoralized and at the lowest point, but for plates, sheets, wire rods and wire and all nails the demand is growing larger. The demand for rails continues enough to strengthen prices, although some for speculative purchases are offered below the present prices of the mills. Tin is a shade lower with larger arrivals, though the distribution has been considerable. Lead is decidedly stronger at 3.47 cents, but copper is weak at $11.75. Increases in coke productions appear and more is assured by the purchase of works by the Cambria company, and while quotations are unchanged outsiders are offering furnace at $1.75 per ton.

Special reports on wool in Boston have recorded larger sales for four weeks than ever before, 46,605,200 pounds, against 21,984,576 pounds in the same weeks of 1892. Much more than half is for speculation, as nothing like the full capacity of mills is employed. The wool market is steadily increasing, but slowly, as it is too early and despite results from changes which may be made in duties.

The failures for the week have been 291 in the United States, against 259 last year, and fifty in Canada, against thirty-nine last year.

WEEKLY CLEARING HOUSE TOTALS.

Aggregate of Business Transactions of the Associated Banks.

NEW YORK, March 26.—The following table, compiled by Bradstreet's, shows the total clearances at the principal cities and the percentage of increase or decrease, as compared with the corresponding week last year:

CITIES.	Clearings.	Inc.	Dec.
New York	$ 506,629,592	.8	.....
Chicago	69,286,171	.....	10.4
Boston	84,987,013	9.4	.....
Philadelphia	54,226,511	.....	11.7
St. Louis	22,430,948	9.2	.....
San Francisco	19,466,018	.....	3.6
Baltimore	12,741,274	5.8	.....
Pittsburg	14,880,732	2.0	.....
Cincinnati	10,281,600	.....	8.1
Kansas City	9,607,518	5.3	.....
New Orleans	6,709,404	.....	34.9
Buffalo	3,397,143	.....	.....
Milwaukee	3,682,141	.....	1.6
Detroit	4,849,890	.....	5.7
Louisville	5,056,002	1.8	.....
Minneapolis	4,771,645	.....	7.3
OMAHA	4,028,422	.....	7.9
Providence	4,479,700	.....	1.2
Cleveland	5,290,605	3.2	.....
Houston	5,619,328	40.6	.....
St. Paul	2,714,032	.....	27.6
Denver	1,922,578	.....	19.2
Indianapolis	3,571,183	.....	.....
Columbus, O.	3,592,600	3.3	.....
Hartford	1,914,415	.....	6.6
Richmond	2,056,759	6.2	.....
Washington	1,532,558	.....	10.1
Rockford	267,030	9.6	.....
Dallas	2,110,374	.....	9.0
St. Joseph	1,068,375	2.9	.....
Peoria	1,357,523	31.2	.....
Memphis	1,712,337	.....	9.2
Portland, Ore.	856,435	.....	2.1
Scranton	1,183,000	.....	15.4
New Haven	1,191,262	7.0	.....
Savannah	1,471,336	.....	26.8
Springfield, Mass.	1,108,763	.....	5.3
Worcester	1,223,000	.....	.....
Portland, Me.	1,031,800	.....	.....
Atlanta	1,002,701	.....	3.8
Fort Worth	1,121,075	.....	7.8
Waco	936,202	.....	22.1
Binghamton	390,140	.....	.....
Des Moines	595,871	.....	4.8
Grand Rapids	594,183	.....	8.7
Seattle	473,580	.....	16.2
Lowell	736,787	31.5	.....
Wilmington, Del.	617,537	.....	2.8
Norfolk	934,920	.....	.....
Sioux City	401,838	.....	21.8
Los Angeles	935,650	.....	12.7
Tacoma	382,896	.....	23.2
Spokane	1,237,267	.....	.....
Jacksonville	462,202	42.9	.....
Kansas City, Kan.	211,203	.....	15.9
Lincoln	182,911	.....	21.8
New Bedford	350,169	4.5	.....
Wichita	409,329	.....	6.4
Birmingham	362,874	.....	19.0
Topeka	344,012	11.0	.....
Lexington, Ky.	261,831	.....	6.1
Binghampton	265,600	.....	16.9
Bay City, Mich.	150,934	.....	26.8
Fall River	681,017	.....	3.8
Akron, Ohio	320,214	2.8	.....
Springfield, O.	136,816	.....	.....
Canton, O.	134,100	.....	8.8
Sioux Falls	41,798	.....	46.7
Fremont, Neb.	51,596	10.8	.....
Hastings, Neb.	72,615	28.5	.....
Chattanooga	250,801	.....	2.9
Fargo	106,322	.....	.....
Nashville	946,773	9.8	.....
Galveston	4,073,200	.....	5.3
Salt Lake	903,218	.....	5.5
Scranton	724,193	3.2	.....
Augusta	588,215	.....	13.0
Dayton	533,449	.....	4.3
Knoxville	412,461	6.4	.....
Kalamazoo	231,541	.....	36.7
Total United States	$ 887,300,998	1.3	.....
Exclusive of New York	380,671,406	4.2	.....

DOMINION OF CANADA.

Montreal	$ 8,565,247	6.9	.....
Toronto	5,839,878	.....	8.0
Halifax	1,087,421	1.8	.....
Hamilton	6,003,081	11.9	.....
Winnipeg	1,031,923	4.8	.....
St. John, N. B.	460,982	.....	.....
Total	$ 17,229,550	7.0	.....

REVIEW OF STOCK MARKET.

Transmissouri Freight Association Decision Unsettles Change Deals.

NEW YORK, March 26.—Bradstreet's review of the stock market will say:

There has been only one speculative factor in this week's markets—that is the decision of the supreme court in the Transmissouri Freight association. The news was most unexpected as well as unsettling in its effect. When it came out about noon on Monday the strength of the Vanderbilt securities and of Chicago Gas and some others was giving a bullish tone to the entire market. In spite of a continuance of bear pressure in New Jersey Central, at first the street was inclined to minimize the importance of the decision. Liquidation of long stock by interests which are supposed to know the feeling in railroad circles soon, however, made its appearance, and was followed by a series of interviews with men prominent in the transportation business, in which very gloomy views found expression as to the effect on rates if the decision prohibited all traffic contracts between the railroads.

The spread of such ideas, perhaps in a somewhat exaggerated form, resulted in a general selling movement, the extensive long account created during the recent advance being pretty thoroughly liquidated. The bear party in the exchange was from the beginning of the movement extremely active and aided the depression wherever stop orders could be reached or loosely held stock shaken out. It cannot be said, however, that there was a panicky feeling, and while American stocks were heavy in London, foreign interests were buyers here, rather than sellers, owing to the fact that there has been considerable short interest in the American department at London, which has apparently been covered on the break. The large short interest here was also effective in checking the severity of the declines on Wednesday, when news that wholesale withdrawals of railroads from the western associations seemed likely to result in even more serious demoralization of the market. The fact that the Joint Traffic association determined to maintain its organization for the present and that as yet the railroads have acted conservatively and are allowing no rate cutting, also had a good effect, and there was some appearance of support in Sugar and in the Vanderbilts. The full force of the downward movement was displayed in Jersey Central and in the grangers, particularly Burlington, which was vigorously hammered by the bears. On Friday the bearish pressure resulted in giving the market an oversold appearance, and short covering ensued, so that the close was firm in tone at little improvement in the general range of prices.

BRADSTREET'S WEEKLY REVIEW.

Unfavorable Features Appear to Be the More Numerous.

NEW YORK, March 26.—Bradstreet's tomorrow will say:

While the week is not without favorable features, unfavorable influences have been more numerous. Leading money markets show no improvement. Mercantile collections continue slow as heretofore, and the volume of funds offered is in excess of demands or discounts. The tendency of investments to improve has temporarily disappeared under the influence of the supreme court "anti-trust decision," which apparently threatens arrangements for the maintenance of railway rates, as well as railway trades union activity, so far as it may affect interstate commerce. The tendency of prices is downward, quotations being lower for wheat, Indian corn, oats, coffee, cotton and for pig iron and steel billets the outlook is for lower prices. Staples for which prices are higher include wool, raw sugar, wheat flour, petroleum, linseed oil and turpentine. Open sales of copper are quiet. Stormy weather, high water, floods in the Ohio, Mississippi and Missouri river valleys and in the country drained by tributary streams, have interfered with interior trade, and, in addition to loss of life, have damaged country roads, houses, farms, bridges, telegraph lines and railway tracks. The gradual increase in the number of industrial strikes is the outcome of a movement to secure higher wages and in some instances moderate advances have been obtained.

Recent activity in raw wool continues, and the prospect for an increased tariff on imported woolens causes merchants to purchase American goods more freely. The movement of cottons is not up to expectations, and in some lines it is disappointing. The most notable improvement in trade is confined to dry goods, hardware, agricultural implements, leather and shoes.

Exports of wheat (our included as wheat) from both coasts of the United States and from St. John, N. B., this week amount to 1,749,419 bushels, compared with 1,629,000 bushels last week, 1,774,000 bushels in the week a year ago, 2,562,000 bushels in the week two years ago, 266,000 bushels three years ago and as contrasted with 2,875,000 bushels in the like week of 1893. Exports of Indian corn continue heavy.

The rate of commercial mortality continues on a large scale, recent advices, the number of business failures throughout the United States being 228 this week, compared with 231 last week, 276 in the like week in 1896, 283 in the like week of March, 1895, 264 in the corresponding portion of 1894 and as contrasted with 179 in the corresponding period in 1893. There are forty business failures reported from the Dominion of Canada this week, compared with twenty-six last week, forty-three in the week a year ago and forty-nine in the last week of March, 1896.

STOCKS AND BONDS.

Market Opens with Downward Rush, but Takes On Fresh Strength.

NEW YORK, March 26.—Today's market opened with a downward rush, which seemed to indicate that the selling movement induced by the supreme court dec