CONDITION OF OMAHA'S TRADE

Jobbers Jubilant Over Favorable Turn in Business Affairs.

COUNTRY COLLECTIONS SATISFACTORY

Money Much Easier and Obligations of All Kinds Being Met with Surprising Promptness—Growth of Live Stock Industry.

The general business situation at the end of the week in this locality was very much what it was at the close of the week before—that is, entirely satisfactory to the jobbing and manufacturing interests of the city. Confidence in the future is increasing, the prospects are good, and the actual amount of business doing is larger than the most sanguine dared to hope for three months ago. The volume of sales as compared with previous weeks is well maintained and gradually expanding. At the same time it is very near to the season of midsummer dullness and the fact that business has not as yet commenced to suffer is of itself a subject for congratulation.

The month of June has closed and it requires no very deep research to bring out the fact that great improvement has taken place during the thirty days included in that period. The improvement is to be seen not only in an increased volume of business, but in commercial thought and action as well, and those who have failed to recognize the bettered conditions are out of tune with the times.

"Why is it that it takes two days to get goods from you now where it only required one day a few months ago?" writes a country merchant to a local jobber. "I will tell you," answers the jobber. "We could fill your orders in the past, and all others received, and then have plenty of time for play. Things have changed; we can't do it now. We thank you for the kick. It reminds us of old times when there was plenty of snap to trade, when everybody was in a hurry and when the demand was always a little in advance of the supply. We hope you may have plenty of the same kind of kicks from your customers." This little bit of correspondence between a merchant in the country and a city jobber will perhaps give a clearer idea of the actual condition of trade than any explanation, however closely it might go into details.

EASY FOR THE FARMER

All improvement in business, especially in the west, which is an agricultural and stock country, comes from the soil. The farmers were the first to recover from the pinch of hard times and the money obtained from the sale of their farm crops and live stock they carried prosperity to the country merchants, who have passed it along to the city jobbers and manufacturers. From the latter class it is spreading in all directions and is contributing to the general improvement in all departments of trade in the city.

A week ago mention was made of the changed tone of eastern financial papers in regard to the west and quotations were given as an evidence of the truth of the assertion. The following from a recent Chicago Economist, which has been quoted in the Commercial Price Current and other papers of a like class, will serve to still further illustrate this point:

"But the most encouraging element in the situation is the returning prosperity of the agricultural class. In former years many of the farmers of the west made money rapidly and spent it unwisely. Afterward when wheat sold below a bushel and fluctuated between that price and 70 cents, went to half that price, it was commonly believed that the farmers were not getting the cost of production of their grain, and the most dire prophesies as to the fate of the country were made. As a matter of fact prudent and skillful men among the farming class did fairly well in the worst times. But the decline in the prices of agricultural products and the farmers' lessons of economy. As a consequence they are probably better off now than ever before, having paid a large percentage of their debts and being in a position to reap the advantages of the low prices for many articles which they have to buy. Meanwhile the price of wheat has recovered to a fairly satisfactory level, and the other leading cereal, corn, is sold at a handsome profit in the form of animals. It can be stated without qualification that current reports from the best sources in regard to the farmers are the most satisfactory for many years, and the outlook is good."

LOOKS ALL RIGHT FOR NEBRASKA.

Reports from the country the past week bearing upon the growing corn crop have all been of a most encouraging character. While the season was late to commence with, ample rains and hot weather have pushed the crop ahead rapidly and no state has ever better prospects than Nebraska. In fact the great corn growing states of Iowa, Illinois, Indiana and Ohio have poor prospects and the wise men of the clearing board of Trade are already figuring on an advance in the price of corn early in July and winter which would mean much to Nebraska should the present brilliant prospects for a large crop be realized.

The live stock market at South Omaha continues to attract a good den of attention from feeders in most all departments of the business a very reliable index of what may be expected in the way of trade from the country during the next few months.

During the month just closed there arrived at South Omaha 68,861 cattle, 376,978 hogs and 58,366 sheep. As dry only pointed out in the market reports, the receipts of cattle were the largest of any month of June in the history of the yards, while the receipts of hogs were the heaviest for any month of June except June, 1895, when the crop failure of that year compelled the farmers to rush their corn to market long before it was matured. Such a showing at this time is especially encouraging to the friends of the South Omaha market.

It is a well known fact that during the first months of the year business at South Omaha was not up to former years, but there has been shown a barrel-ish to show that the total volume of business for the six months of the year now passed is not so very much behind the record made even during the best years. In 1893 and 1894 the receipts of cattle for the first six months were 1,000,000 during each year of that period this year. In the receipt of hogs, 1891, 1892 and 1893 were the big years. The actual figures for the first six months of the years indicated are as follows:

Year	Cattle.	Hogs.	Sheep.
1897	321,878	792,013	342,937
1896	258,168	660,488	314,461
1895	296,261	905,454	97,777
1894	575,018	831,599	124,704
1893	494,221	678,906	126,944
1892	342,761	881,652	89,484
1891	362,947	802,787	74,611
1890	296,215	614,992	72,287

It will be observed from the foregoing figures that the increase in the receipts of sheep this year has been so large that there is no comparison between this and former years.

Those business men who wonder why collections are so much improved in the country, and where the money is coming from, may perhaps gain some information from the foregoing figures if they will bear in mind that cattle are now selling at prices that will average $10 per head or over, and hogs $5.

MANY BRIGHT PROSPECTS AHEAD.

Merchants Reported to Be Enjoying a Heavy Trade.

W. H. Roberson, local manager of R. G. Dun & Co.'s Mercantile Agency, speaking of the week past in trade, says:

"D. E. Ier's announcement that the beet sugar and glucose works are assured had been anticipated. Nevertheless the community will respond with a thrill to the final announcement which ought to come very soon.

"Speaking of beet sugar brings to mind the fact that this important staple is in great demand in Omaha just now, and it will not surprise me to learn that the entire stock is exhausted before the week is out. I know the Western Sugar Refining company, which has hitherto been largely relied upon, has withdrawn from this market leaving sale for every pound of its product on the coast. The fruit workers and preservers of California are putting up an immense pack and before the week's experience an unusual demand. Local jobbers are hurrying on imported sugar. One house has several carloads of Austrian sugar in transit, but how its orders, all have ordered supplies by fast freight, and the jobber predicts there will not be a barrel in town by Tuesday night.

"The earth against local beet sugar factories has been pretty well disposed of by facts heretofore, but when it is known that one house here received $8,000 in a single check for beet seed for Grand Island, all doubt about the extent and importance of this Nebraska industry should be forever at rest.

"There is also a situation in the coffee trade, but it is different. The fight on Arbuckle and the overproduction of coffee have forced the price of all grades, and coffee is cheaper today than ever before, and still going down.

CONDITION OF JOBBING TRADE.

"In the various jobbing lines trade is good for the season and retail dealers are encouraged by the conditions. Usually July and August are light for retailers. So many families go away for the summer that it affects the volume of business. One large wholesale establishment dealing in news, novels etc., is authority for the statement that July and August at this point show a falling off of fully 20 per cent in his line. Of course, this is exceptional. Other districts where there are pleasure and health resorts, enjoy the reverse of this condition.

"Omaha is a great distributing center for manufactured products, like yeast, jellies, soaps and baking powder. One house here began making a high grade baking powder about a year ago and boasts today that it sells more of this article in Nebraska than any other manufacturer in the country. This should afford encouragement to others.

"The Bee's campaign of home industries is largely responsible for the substantial results achieved by Nebraska manufacturers of meritorious goods.

"The announcement from Salt Lake City of the filing of articles of incorporation for reorganizing the Union Pacific railway is significant of the approaching termination of the receivership. The next thing of importance to Omaha is this reorganization. Being the natural and actual terminus of the great transcontinental line, Omaha's interests have always been close to the Union Pacific and Omaha hopes for a very early conclusion of the pending litigation.

"At South Omaha there is the usual activity and the commencement of active work on Armour's plant has a stimulating effect all along the line.

"Things are moving our way."

OMAHA GENERAL MARKETS.

Condition of Trade and Quotations on Staple and Fancy Produce.

EGGS—Bulk of sales, 7c. Hot weather is causing heavy losses, in some cases as high as nine to eight dozen per case.

BUTTER—Common to fair, 7c; choice to fancy, 10@12c; separator creamery, 15c; gathered creamery, 12c.

VEAL—Choice fat, 80 to 120 lbs., quoted at 7@8c; large and coarse, 4@5c.

LIVE POULTRY—Hens, 5c; cocks, 3@4c; spring chickens, per lb., 12@15c; ducks, 6c.

PIGEONS—Live, 75@80c; dead pigeons not wanted.

HAY—Upland, $5.00; midland, $4.50; lowland, $4.00; Fe straw $4.00; 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 hurl, 2@2½c; common, 1½c.

VEGETABLES.

GREEN PEAS—Per ½-bu. basket, 50@60c.

PIE PLANT—Per lb., 1½c.

CUCUMBERS—Per doz., 20@40c.

TOMATOES—Per 4-basket crate, 90c@$1.00.

RADISHES—Per doz., 10@15c.

ASPARAGUS—Per doz., 30@35c.

WAX BEANS—Per ½-bu. box, 75c.

STRING BEANS—Per ½-bu. box, 50c.

PARSLEY—Per doz., 20@25c.

ONIONS—Per lb., 2c.

LIMA BEANS—Per lb., 3c.

BEANS—Hand-picked navy, per bu., $1.10.

CABBAGE—Good stock, 2c.

POTATOES—New, per bu., 90c.

FRUITS.

APRICOTS—Per case, $1.15@1.25.

CALIFORNIA CHERRIES—Per 10-lb. box, $1.00@1.10; quiet sales, $1.25@1.75.

BLACKBERRIES—Per 24-qt. case, $1.25@1.35.

APPLES—No shipping stock.

GOOSEBERRIES—Per 24-qt. case, $1.50.

SOUTHERN PEACHES—Per ½-bu., 75c@$1.00.

RED RASPBERRIES—Per 24-qt. case, $3.00@3.50.

TROPICAL FRUITS

ORANGES—Mediterranean sweets, $3.50; St. Michaels, $3.00.

LEMONS—Messinas, $5.00@5.50; choice California, $4.25@4.50.

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., 6c; English walnuts, per lb., fancy, soft shell, 12@13c; standards, 9@11c; filberts, per lb., 9c; pecans polished, large, 9@10c; jumbo, 11@12c; large hickory nuts, $1.25 per bu.; cocoanuts, 4@5 each.

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

HONEY—Choice, 12@13c.

CIDER—Clarified juice, per half bbl., $2.35; per bbl., $4.50@5.00.

MAPLE SYRUP—Five-gal. cans, each, $2.25; gal. cans, pure, per doz., $12; half-gal. cans, $6.25; quart cans, $3.50.

FRESH MEATS.

DRESSED BEEF—Good native steers, 400 to 600 lbs., 5½c; good forequarters, steers, 5½c; good hindquarters, 8½c; western steers, 6½c; heavy heifers, 6½c; good heifers, 6c; good forequarters, 5c; good hindquarters heifers, 8c; good cows, 5c; fair cows, 5½c; common cows, 5c; cow forequarters, 4½c; cow hindquarters, 7½c.

BEEF CUTS—Tenderloins, 12c; boneless rumps, 9c; strip loins, 8c; rolls, 8½c; sirloin butts, 8½c; shoulder clods, 6c; rump butts, 8c; steer chucks, 5c; cow chucks, 4c; boneless chucks, 6½c; rattle rounds, 5½c; steer plates, 3c; flank steaks, 6c; cow plates, 2½c; short plates, 3c; flank steaks, 6c; cow plates, 2½c; short plates, 3c; flank loins, No. 1, 8½c; No. 2 short loins, 10½c; sirloin ends, 10½c; ribs, No. 1, 10c; ribs, No. 2, 8c; ribs No. 3, 6½c; steer rounds, 7c; cow rounds, 5½c; steer chucks, 5c; cow chucks, 4c; steer flank and rump off, 5c; trimmings, 3½c; beef shanks, 2½c; brains, per doz., 25c; sweetbreads, per lb., 10c; sweetbreads (calves), per lb., 40c; kidneys, per doz., 25c; ox tails, each, 2c; livers, per lb., 2½c; hearts, per lb., 12c; tongues, per lb., 10c.

PORK—Dressed pigs 5½c; dressed hogs, 5c; tenderloins, 9½c; loins, 5½c; spare ribs, 3½c; ham sausage butts, 5c; shoulders, round, 4½c; knuckles, 4½c; trimmings, 4c; fat backs, 4c; lard, not rendered, 4½c; heads, cleaned, 3c; snout and ears, 2c; hucklebones, 2c; cheek meats, 3c; neck bones, 2½c; pigs' tails, 3c; plucks, each, 5c; chitterlings, 2c; bones or hearts, per pail, 2½c; stomachs, each, 3c; tongues, each, 5c; kidneys, per doz., 10c; brains, per doz., 15c; ribs, per doz., 25c; livers, each, 3c.

HIDES, TALLOW, ETC.

HIDES—No. 1 green steer, over 60 lbs., No. 2 green hides, 4½c; No. 1 green salted hides over 60 lbs., No. 2 green salted hides, 4½c; No. 1 veal, 4½ to 12 lbs., 5½c; No. 2 veal, 4½ to 12 lbs., 4½c; No. 1 dry flint hides, 8c; No. 2 dry flint hides, 6½c; No. 1 dry salted hides, 6½c; part cured hides 1c per lb. less than fully cured.

SHEEP PELTS—Green salted, each, 25@60c; green salted shearlings (short wools early skins), each, 15c; dry shearlings (short wools early skins), No. 1, each, 5c; dry flint, Kansas and Nebraska butcher wool pelts, per lb., actual weight, 10@12c; dry flint, Kansas and Nebraska wool pelts, per lb., actual weight, 8@9c; dry flint Colorado butcher wool pelts, per lb., actual weight, 40@5c; dry flint Colorado murrain wool pelts, per lb., actual weight, 3½@4c; fat cut off, as it is useless to pay for it, 2c per lb.

TALLOW AND GREASE—Tallow, No. 1, 3½c; tallow, No. 2, 2c; grease, white A, 2c; grease, white B, 2c; grease, yellow, 2c; grease, dark, 1½c; old butter, 2@2½c; brown, prime, 1½@2c; trough scrapings, 1c.

WOOL—Unwashed, fine heavy, 6@7c; fine light, 9@8c; quarterblood, 10@12c; seedy, burry and chaffy, 8@9c; cotted and broken, coarse, 7@9c; cotted and broken, fine, 8@9c. Pleece washed, medium, 15@16c; fine, 16@17c; tub washed, 16@18c; black, 8c; bucks, 6c; tag locks, 2@3c; dead pelted, 2@6c.

BONES—In carlots, weighed and delivered in Chicago: Dry buffalo, per ton, $12.00@14.00; dry county, loose, delivered in yards, $10.00@12.00; dry county, dump and meaty, per ton, $6.00@8.00.

STOCKS AND BONDS.

Week Has Been One of Settling Down After an Excessive Rise.

NEW YORK, July 3.—Dealings were small on the Stock exchange today in the aggregate and about one-third of the small total was absorbed by Tobacco, in which there was heavy selling and a notable decline in price. A half day's session of the Stock exchange preceding two days' suspension would naturally account for the dullness in part. Many dealers and brokers left town yesterday and took no part in the holiday today at all, but it was expected that there might be a large volume of transactions during today's short session when the exchange suffering declined to grant a request by members last week to adjourn over from Friday, July 2, to Tuesday, July 6. The animation of the market at the time the request was denied warranted the assumption that a suspension for two entire days would cut off a large volume of business. The decline in activity today cannot all be attributed to the fact that two days' suspension is to follow. The dullness reflects the continued conviction of dealers in securities that the present state of the market is as high as conditions warrant. The prevalence of this sentiment might be expected to hold the market without causing actual decline. But the heavy liquidation in Tobacco, a sharp decline in Tennessee Coal and Iron and the intelligence of the lower prices for American securities in London affected the tone of the market and were added to as far as possible by the efforts of the bear contingent. Manipulation for the decline and short selling were quite palpable and proved effective in the narrow and rather neglected market. Nevertheless there was not lacking a reflex of confidence in business improvements. These results showed no wide recessions, notwithstanding the shrinkage of the day's dealings. Aside of the special cases mentioned, and Reading first preferred, the latter stock closing a point lower, Tobacco sagged at one time 2½ points below yesterday's close and closed at 93, which is a net decline of 2¼ per cent. Sugar and Iron fell 2⅜ per cent and recovered only the fraction of that figure, the weakness being due to reports of labor troubles with the company's employes. Brooklyn Rapid Transit was also under exceptional pressure for general weakness and suffered 1¾ per cent, closing strong at the top. Rio Grande Western preferred also showed further advance of 2 points. Otherwise fractional net losses were general, and in the closing hour there was a partial recovery from the lowest prices of the day.

The tone of confidence in the general outlook for business indicated as being a factor today has been manifested during the week and perhaps in a progressive degree as the week has drawn to a close. The continued strength in the iron and steel industry has caused a degree of dissatisfaction with the progress made toward improvement in that business, a business which Wall street habitually looks to as a fairly reliable monitor of business affairs. The strike of coal miners in the Pittsburg coal-mad districts of Pennsylvania, Ohio, West Virginia, Indiana and Illinois has grown in impressiveness to the minds of security holders. The coal trade industry itself and the roads which transport the products have been regarded as a drag on the general improvement and the prospect of further disorganization and demoralization in the industry is regarded as a serious drawback to industrials in the future. These facts tend to reinforce the arguments constantly harped upon by the bears, during the period of the present advance in stocks, that prices of securities were outstripping the improvement in business and discounting an improvement that was, as yet, only prospective. As a result the week has witnessed the culmination for the time being at least of the advance in prices of securities and the first clearly defined reaction since the movement set in over a month ago. There has succeeded a condition of dullness which has grown more marked as the week advanced. The market has, however, retained a large degree of steadiness and even of firmness in many leading stocks. The strike is proving helpful to the settled view of consolidation and liquidation. Monday and Tuesday saw the heaviest transactions on the Stock exchange of any day since that following the election last fall. On Monday all offerings seemed nothing more than the professional element taking advantage of the temporary reversals of the steady advance in stocks. But Tuesday's transactions made it evident that the buying element which has led the advance has to a large extent liquidated its holdings and generally prepared at once to buy for another upward step in the market. St. Paul has been the leader of the market all week in point of activity and enormous speculative holdings in Burlington have been sold out and transferred to St. Paul. The weekly statements of gross earnings of St. Paul have shown an increase for each week in June over the corresponding period in any year since 1892. For the fourth week in June the earnings reported 3—nearly are in excess of the corresponding week for any year in its history, with the exception of 1892. Peoria did gain on the week is 1½ per cent and Burlington's net loss is nearly equal. The statement of both roads for May was also mainly good. The returns of most of the railroad companies of the country for May will show an improvement over the figures of last year, but the most striking feature of these is the net earnings that show gains at the expense of continued retrenchment in cost of operation and unincreased gross returns. In other cases the increased gross returns are eaten up by added cost of maintenance and equipment, reflecting the recuperation that occurred during the period of depression, and now made feasible by increased earnings. The number of properties which have come through the hands of depression in such good condition as to be able to make large improvements available to the stockholders is comparatively small. A feature of the week has been the decline in sterling exchange to below the point where gold can be sent profitably, even with the considerable premium prevailing, which is still offered for gold in Europe. A special order for $500,000 in gold which was received from Europe on Thursday found no takers. It is the general belief of exchange and specie export houses that this marks the termination of the outgoing gold movement for this year. The growth of bank clearings in June indicates an increased activity in business, though it is to be noted that the increase of banks outside New York is, according to the Financial Chronicle, only 5 per cent, over last year, while in New York City the increase is 8 per cent, supposed to be largely due to stock speculation. Deposits in New York clearing house banks are several millions in excess of the highest previous record and currency continues to meet the demand. The loans of these banks are $3,178,217 greater than the expansion in the deposits for the same period last year. This indicates a step toward the absorption of the surplus idle funds in the New York banks, which has been a feature for many months, and reduces the excess of deposits over loans. Net changes for the week in the stock market are mostly losses in the active shares, but they only reach as high as a point in a few shares. Tobacco is off 2¼ per cent, Sugar 1¾ per cent and Chicago & Eastern Illinois preferred off 2½ per cent. On the other hand, Sugar is up 2 per cent, Rio Grande preferred 8½ per cent, Rio Grande common 5¼ per cent, East River Gas preferred 3 per cent, Chicago Gas 1 per cent, Brooklyn Transit, Long Island, Pittsburg, Cincinnati, Chicago & St. Louis preferred and East River Gas 4 per cent or over and quite a number of stocks, mostly inactive ones, a less amount.

The bond market was very quiet during the week. Operations for foreign account were less notable. The high prices for prime mortgages are forcing more generous purchases of low-priced liens. The aggregate sales were $9,205,000. The sales of stocks aggregate 1,287,000 shares, against 1,600,000 last week, 1,700,000 the week before, 1,400,000 the week before that, 1,000,000 the week before that and 1,000,000 the week before that.

Closing quotations on bonds were as follows:

U. S. new 4s reg.	125½	C. P. 1st of '95	101¾
U. S. new 4s coup.	125½	D. & R. G. 4s	87¾
U. S. 5s reg.	114⅝	Erie 2d	70¼
U. S. 5s coup.	114⅝	G. H. & S. A. 6s	102½
U. S. 4s reg.	111¾	do 2s	87¾
U. S. 4s coup.	111¾	H. & T. C. 5s	109¾
Pacific 6s of '95	107¾	M. K. & T. 1st 4s	84½
Ala. class A	105	do 2d 4s	61¾
Ala. class B	105	Mutual Union 6s	107
Ala. class C	98	N. J. C. Int. 6s	117
Ala. Currency	98	No. Pacific 1st	117
La. New Con. 4s	96	No. Pacific 2d 3s	67¾
Missouris	100	N. W. Con. 7s	143¾
N. C. 6s	122	do S. F. 6s	117
N. C. 4s	102	R. G. W. 1st 4s	75¾
S. C. non-fund	½	St. P. Con. 1st 7s	130¾
Tenn. new 3 6s	83	St. P. C. & P. W. 5s	111¾
Tenn. new 3 5s	105	St. L. & I. M. 1st 5	89¾
Tenn. old 6s	69	St. L. & S. F. Gen. 6s	113¼
La. Centrals	64	Texas Pac. 1st 5s	92¾
do deferred	3	Texas Pac. 2d 5s	27
Michigan 4s	87½	U. P. 1st of '96	103½
do 2d A	59¾	West Shore 4s	104
Canada So. 2nds	107½	L. & N. unified 4s	85

Boston Stock Quotations.

BOSTON, July 3.—Call loans 2@3½ per cent; time loans 2½@4 per cent. Closing prices: Atchison, 9½@9¾; Boston & Albany, 213 bid; Boston & Maine, 160 bid; Chicago, Burlington & Quincy, 74¼ bid; Fitchburg preferred, 135 bid; Mexican Central, 9 bid; Old Colony, 174 bid; Rubber, 124 bid; Stock Yards, 59 bid; Wisconsin Central preferred, 39 bid; Allouez Mining Co., 50 bid; Atlantic, 21 bid; Bingham Mining Co., 5 bid; Boston & Montana, 12.75 bid; Boston & Albany, 97¾ bid; Boston & Maine, 156½ bid; Calumet & Hecla, 300 bid; Centennial, 17¾ bid; Franklin, 15 bid; Kearsarge, 9 bid; Osceola, 26 bid; Quincy, 116⅜ bid; Tamarack, 128 bid; Wolverine, 105¾ bid.

London Stock Quotations.

LONDON, July 3.—1 p. m. closing:

Consols, m'y	112⅝	St. Paul com.	83¾
Consols, acct.	112 11-16	N. Y. Central	104¾
Can. Pacific	60¾	Pennsylvania	54⅛
Erie	15	Reading	21¼
Erie 1st pfd	44¾	Illinois Central	97½
Ill. Central	96½	Atchison	17¾
Mexican ord.	23¼	L. & N.	82⅜

BAR SILVER—Quiet at 27 9-16d per ounce. MONEY—¾ per cent.

The rate of discount in the open market for short bills is 1 11-16@1¾ for six months 1 13-16@1¾ per cent. Gold is at a premium of 1-32@1-16 per cent.