CONDITION OF OMAHA'S TRADE

Weather Has Been Both Favorable and Unfavorable for Business.

MONEY GENERALLY REPORTED QUITE EASY

Jobbers and Manufacturers Report Active Demand for Merchandise—Merchants Buy with Confidence of Selling Early.

The weather during the greater part of the past week has been a decidedly restrictive influence over fall business of all kinds, the temperature ruling much too high for this season of the year. This appears to be a general complaint in almost all the markets of the country where the consequent light consuming demand has been plainly reflected in the sales of merchandise at first hands. At Omaha, however, in spite of the weather there has been a continued active demand for merchandise of all kinds and jobbers without exception have been very busily occupied in caring for wants of customers.

The traveling men on the road are meeting with the very best of success and mail orders in most lines are very satisfactory. Country merchants are buying with considerable of the old-time freedom—buying as if they had unbounded confidence in the future of trade.

The retail trade, especially in Omaha, has been hampered to a great extent by the continued unseasonable weather, consumers being slow buyers of cold weather goods so long as summer heat prevails. Still there is a fair business doing and retail merchants are generally taking a very cheerful view of the situation and fault-finding and complaints are the exception and not the rule.

In some localities east there is great complaint as to the harm that the warm weather is doing trade and business seems to have suffered much more severely from that cause than here. Eastern jobbers are also complaining that the warm weather in the north and the yellow fever in the south have had a very detrimental effect upon sales and they are anxiously looking forward to the time when the coming of cold weather will compel free buying of winter goods and at the same time stamp out yellow fever.

Representatives of eastern manufacturing and jobbing houses who have been in Omaha during the past few days generally report that business in this city and state is much better than in most other localities; in fact, some go so far as to say that there is no state in which the business conditions are so favorable as in Nebraska.

Bank clearings continue to show up favorably for this city, the percentage of gain as compared with last year being larger than for the balance of the country.

JOBBERS AND MANUFACTURERS.

J. I. Kelley of Butte, Mont., will start out on the road Monday for F. P. Kirkendall & Co.

The apple market continues on the up grade and those who would eat apples this winter will have to pay dearly for the luxury.

Salesmen representing Omaha wholesale shoe houses are out on the road with their spring lines and are meeting with very flattering success.

The Omaha School Supply company figures out that there are in Nebraska 12,000 to 14,000 teachers actively employed. This includes those engaged in the public, private and state schools.

California navel oranges will be in the market in time for the Thanksgiving trade. While it is a little early to name the price it is safe to say that they will sell a little under Mexican oranges.

The National Oil and Paint company is equipping its factory with steam heat and electric light. The company made a very large shipment of air floated iron paint to Deadwood the past week.

S. Louis Gillette, general superintendent of the clothing department of the United States Rubber company, was in the city the past week and reported finding trade here in better shape than in any other part of the country.

H. H. Summers, who travels for Drew, Selby & Co., large manufacturers of Portsmouth, O., was in Omaha the past week and reported finding business in this section of the country in very good shape and the general situation most encouraging.

There is considerable demand for competent and experienced clerks in some departments. A jobber remarked the other day that he knew of places for at least three boot and shoe clerks, but they had to be experienced help, which was not easy to get.

H. C. Jack, who travels for Hazen B. Goodrich of Haverhill, Mass., and who has been coming to Omaha regularly every season for the past twenty years, has been spending a few days in the city the past week calling on the retail trade. He reports finding trade at Omaha very good, and he will endeavor to induce his house to make an exhibit of goods of its manufacture at the exposition.

J. F. Pollard, representing E. P. Young & Co., manufacturers of shoe findings, etc., of Boston, was in the city yesterday calling upon the retail trade. Mr. Pollard has been coming to Omaha for a good many years and he says that he does not remember the time when the prospective trade conditions looked any better to him. In his opinion Nebraska is in the best shape of any state in the union so far as business is concerned.

The wet weather in this section started up free buying of rubber goods and jobbers in that line have been kept awake nights trying to figure out where they could secure the goods to fill all the orders received and keep their customers good natured. The demand for rubber goods has been more than equal to the output of the factories and all surplus stocks were long since exhausted. The coming of snow is likely to witness a still greater scramble after rubber goods.

A wholesale dealer in produce remarks that it is a pity that Nebraska farmers are so slow to grasp a situation when it is presented to them. This state grows very fine potatoes in some localities that will sell in competition with those from any state but the growers are so careless about mixing all kinds together that the attractiveness of the potatoes is ruined. Sometimes the fault lies with the shipper who buys different varieties and ships them all in one car. Colorado growers manage better and in consequence stock from that state is preferred and brings better prices.

The Southern Merchant says that those who have watched the course of wholesale trade in Baltimore during the last month have observed a characteristic difference in the demeanor of the western and the southern merchant. The former is nervous, excitable and bubbling over with energy, while the latter is moderate, contented and sociable to a degree. A merchant from the west gets off his train at the depot, hails a cab, flies to the wholesale store, and begins buying with grip sack in hand. He hurries through his purchases, orders large invoices, moves rapidly about, and leaves the impression that he is forever on the hustle. The merchant from the south is exactly the opposite. He comes to town and leisurely walks to his hotel or rides there in a car. He attends carefully to the details of hiring a comfortable room and looking after his meals. That done, he changes his raiment and puts himself in presentable condition. He then visits one or more wholesale houses where he expects to buy goods, and makes an appointment for the following day. At the hour agreed upon he appears and proceeds somewhat slowly to examine stock and to fill out his orders, aided by obliging clerks and salesmen. The western man buys largely and does it quickly; but the southern man gets only what he needs, buys closely and spreads the work of selecting goods over two or three days.

BUSY JOBBERS AND BANKERS.

Pulse of Omaha's Trade Continues Beating Full and Strong.

W. H. Roberson, local manager of R. G. Dun & Co.'s mercantile agency, speaking of trade for the week, says:

"The jobbing houses and manufacturers continue to report excellent trade, good collections and good prices. All are working full time and over hours to fill orders, and buying continues strong, although the depleted stocks of country merchants are now well sorted up. The best part of the new condition is the fact that cash controls asking now. Credits are easy and safe, but country merchants are taking their discounts, and the collection agencies are languishing for business.

"A new bank at one of the interior villages organized during the week reminds me it is a fact worthy of note that no bank suspensions in Nebraska have been announced for several months. The last report to the state board shows that twenty-five banks went out of business in 1896, but the deposits now, notwithstanding, are $2,000,000 greater than last year, and are increasing at a gratifying rate.

"The rains of the first of the week were general throughout the state, and have saved the fall grain and put the soil in excellent condition for fall plowing. The commercial sky in Nebraska is as clear as the beautiful October days, and the ozone of trade quite as invigorating as that in the atmosphere.

"South Omaha forges right ahead. Its hog pack for the season of 1897 to date is nearly 1,000,000 hogs, a gain of almost 300,000 over the corresponding period of 1896.

"At the risk of tiring your readers with repetition, but in the belief that even now our people do not fully appreciate what nature and a restored business confidence have done for this state, I wish to invite attention to the enormous value of our season's crops. Taking the value of our cereal products at the lowest estimate of the most conservative pessimist, I have heard quoted, and the yield for 1897 is agreed to be worth $300,000,000, exclusive of sugar beets, chicory, hay and vegetables; that is, the corn, wheat, oats, rye, flax and barley are worth $300,000,000. Now the total product of iron in 1896 was $57,688,000; of gold, $57,000,000; of copper, $15,786,000, and of silver, $32,200,000. In other words the Nebraska crop represents more in gold dollars than the total American product of both gold and silver. America produces one-fourth of the gold and one-fourth of the silver of the globe. Nebraska, with the proceeds of all its fields, farms, factories and ranches, contributed a greater volume of wealth to the world's store in 1897 than all the gold mines of the earth added in 1896. If we add the value of the product of two South Omaha packing houses to the cereal crop of 1897 the sum will exceed the total world's product of silver in 1896. We imported for the use of the American people in 1896 $89,000,000 worth of foreign sugar. Nebraska's cereal product is sufficient to pay the entire bill. The coffee imports were $85,000,000 and a single crop from our fields will more than pay for all the coffee used in the United States. It will be observed that without a mine in the state, almost without a stone quarry or a sawmill, this great agricultural state under normal conditions such as prevail at this time leads every state in the union in the forward march of commercial progress. Stand up for Nebraska! We have a right to be proud of its achievement and we ought to tell the world of its prosperity."

OMAHA GENERAL MARKETS.

Condition of Trade and Quotations on Staple and Fancy Produce.

EGGS—Good stock weak at 13c.

BUTTER—Common to fair, 9@10c; choice to fancy, 14@17c; separator creamery, 22c; gathered creamery, 20c.

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

LIVE POULTRY—Hens, 5@5½c; cocks, 3@4c; spring chickens, per lb., 6c; ducks, 6@7c; turkeys, 8@9c.

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

HAY—Upland, $5.50; midland, $5.00; lowland, $4.50; rye straw, $4; color makes the price on hay; light bales sell the best, only top grades bring top prices.

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

VEGETABLES.

CELERY—Good stock, large, 40c; small, 25@30c.

ONIONS—Per bu., 40@55c.

BEANS—Hand-picked navy, per bu., $1.40.

SWEET POTATOES—Per bbl., $2.25.

CABBAGE—Home grown, 1c.

POTATOES—Home grown, 40@55c; western stock, 60@70c.

FRUITS.

QUINCES—California, per box, $1.25@1.35.

APPLES—Winter stock $2.75@3.00; Jonathans and fancy varieties, $3.00@3.25; California Bellefloower, boxes, $1.60; Colorado Jonathans, boxes, $1.65.

GRAPES—California, $1.25.

CALIFORNIA AND COLORADO PEARS—Good winter nellis, $2.00@2.25; other varieties, $1.90@2.00.

NEW YORK GRAPES—Per 9-lb. basket, 13½@14c.

PLUMS—Idaho and Oregon, 75c@$1.00.

CRANBERRIES—Cape Cod, per bbl., $5.00@5.50; Wisconsin, boxes, $1.00@1.10.

TROPICAL FRUITS.

ORANGES—Mexican, per box, $4.50.

LEMONS—Messinas, $4.25@4.50; choice California, $4.00.

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, 12c; Brazils, per lb., 10c; English walnuts, per lb., fancy, soft shell, 12c; standards, 10@11c; filberts, per lb., 10c; pecans, polished, large, 9@10c; jumbo, 11@12c; large hickory nuts, $1.25 per bu.; cocoanuts, $4.50 each; peanuts, raw, 5@5½c; roasted, 6@6½c.

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

HONEY—Choice white, 15c.

KRAUT—Per bbl., $4.00; half bbl., $2.25.

MAPLE SYRUP—Five-gal. cans, each $2.25; gal. cans, pure, per doz., $12.00; half-gal. cans, 16 25 quart cans, $3.50.

DATES—Per 60 to 70-lb. boxes, 5c; Ford 9-lb. boxes, 9c.

FRESH MEATS.

DRESSED BEEF—Good native steers, 400 to 600 lbs., 7c; good forequarters, steers, 6c; good hindquarters, 9c; western steers, 6@6½c; fancy heifers, 6½c; good heifers, 6c; good forequarters, heifers, 5½c; good hindquarters, heifers, 8½c; good cows, 5½c; fair cows, 5½c; common cows, 5c; cow forequarters, 4½@5c; cow hindquarters, 7½@8c.

BEEF CUTS—Tenderloins, 15c; boneless strips, 8½c; strip loins, 6½c; rolls, 8c; sirloin butts, 8c; shoulder clods, 5½c; rump butts, 5c; steer chucks, 5½c; cow chucks, 4½c; boneless chucks, 4½c; cow plates, 3c; steer plates, 3½c; flank steak, 8½c; loins, No. 1, 14c; loins, No. 2, 10½c; loins, No. 3, 8c; sirloin ends, No. 1, 9c; ribs, No. 1, 11c; ribs, No. 2, 8½c; ribs, No. 3, 6c; steer rounds, 7½c; cow rounds, 7c; cow rounds off, 8c; trimmings, 4c; beef shanks, 2½c; brains, per doz., 35c; sweetbreads, per lb., 10c; sweetbreads (calves), per lb., 40c; kidneys, per doz., 35c; ox tails, each 5c; livers, per lb., 2½c; hearts, per lb., 2c; tongues, per lb., 11c.

MUTTON—Lambs, 7½c; sheep, 6½c; market racks (long), 8½c; hotel racks (short), 11c; legs and saddles, 8c; lamb legs, 10c; breasts and stews, 3c; tongues, each 3c.

PORK—Dressed pigs, 6c; dressed hogs, 5½c; tenderloins, 15c; loins, 7½c; spare ribs, 4c; ham sausage, butts, 6½c; shoulders, rough, 5c; shoulders, skinned, 5½c; trimmings, 4½c; leaf lard, not rendered, 5½c; heads, cleaned, 3c; snouts, per ears, 3c; backbones, 1½c; cheek meats, 3c; neck bones, 2c; pigs' tails, 3c; plucks, each 5c; chitterlings, 5c; hocks, 4c; hearts, per doz., 25c; stomachs, each 3c; tongues, each 5c; kidneys, per doz., 25c; brains, per doz., 15c; pigs' feet, per doz., 25c; livers, each 3c.

HIDES, TALLOW, ETC.

HIDES—No. 1 green hides, 7c; No. 2 green hides, 6c; No. 1 salted hides, 8½c; No. 2 green salted hides, 7½c; No. 1 veal calf, 8 to 12 lbs., 8c; No. 2 veal calf, 12 to 15 lbs., 6c; No. 1 dry flint hides, 14@15c; No. 2 dry flint hides, 8@10c; No. 1 dry salted hides, 9@10c; part cured hides, ½c per lb. less than fully cured.

SHEEP PELTS—Green salted, each 15@75c; green salted shearlings (short wooled early skins) each 5@10c; dry shearlings (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@5c; dry flint Colorado murrain wool pelts, per lb., actual weight, 3@4c; feet cut off, as it is useless to pay freight on them.

St. Louis General Markets.

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 23.—FLOUR—Unchanged.

WHEAT—Higher, closing ¼c for December and ⅛c for May above yesterday. December opened ⅛c higher than the advance of ¼c, declined ¼c, and subsequently regained all at the closing. Sellers at the top. Spot, higher; No. 2 red cash, elevator, 96c; track, 96½@97c; No. 2 hard cash, 88½c; December, $1.00¼; May, 98¼c bid.

CORN—Spot steady; futures markets strong, the close being ⅛c for December and ⅛c for May above yesterday. Spot, strong and higher; No. 2 cash, 24c bid; December, 24⅞c bid; May, 28¼c.

OATS—Futures dull but firm, with no trading. Spot steady; No. 2 cash, elevator, 19c bid; track, 19@19½c; No. 2 white, 21@21½c; December, 19c bid; May, 21¾c bid.

RYE—Higher, 46½c.

CORNMEAL—$1.45.

BRAN—Dull, quiet, with offerings small. Sales on direct orders are on a basis of 50c this side and east track.

FLAXSEED—Higher, $1.01.

TIMOTHY—Prime, $2.65.

HAY—Dull; prairie, $7.00@7.50; timothy, $7.00@10.00.

BUTTER—Firm; creamery, 16@23½c; dairy, 11@16c.

EGGS—Firm, 13c.

WHISKY—$1.20.

COTTONTIES—77c.

BAGGING—6⅝@7½c.

METALS—Lead, dull; early, $2.75 asked. Spelter, nominal, $4.02½.

POULTRY—Chickens, steady; old hens, 6½c; springs, 7@8c; ducks, 8@9½c; geese, 6c; turkeys, 7@8c.

PROVISIONS—Pork, unchanged; standard mess, jobbing, $8.50. Lard, lower; prime steam, $4.25; choice, $4.32½. Bacon, short ribs (boxed lots), $5.75; shorts, $6. Dry salt meats (boxed shoulders), $5.50; extra short clears, $5.25; shorts, $5.37½; shorts, $5.50.

RECEIPTS—Flour, 2,000 bbls.; wheat, 23,000 bu.; corn, 148,000 bu.; oats, 37,000 bu.

SHIPMENTS—Flour, 5,000 bbls.; wheat, 18,000 bu.; corn, 71,000 bu.; oats, 11,000.

Liverpool Grain and Provisions.

LIVERPOOL, Oct. 23.—WHEAT—No. 2 red, western winter, firm, 7s 8d; No. 1 red, northern spring, new, firm, 7s 7½d.

CORN—American mixed, spot, firm, 3s 1½d; October, steady, 3s 1½d; November, steady, 3s 1½d; December, steady, 3s 1½d.

FLOUR—St. Louis, fancy winter, steady, 16s.

HOPS—At London (Pacific coast), steady, £5 0s.

PROVISIONS—Beef, extra India mess, dull, 76s 6d; prime mess, dull, 55s 6d. Pork, prime mess, fine western, dull, 56s; prime mess, medium western, dull, 46s 3d. Hams, short cut, 14 to 16 lbs., firm, 35s. Bacon, Cumberland cut, firm, 28s 6d; short ribs, firm, 34s 6d; long clear middles, light, firm, 36s 6d; long clear middles, heavy, firm, 36s; short clear backs, firm, 32s 6d; clear bellies, firm, 42s. Shoulders, square, firm, 28s. Lard, prime western, firm, 23s 6d.

CHEESE—American finest white and colored, steady, 48s.

TALLOW—Prime city, steady, 18s 6d.

OILS—Cottonseed, Liverpool refined, dull, 15s. Turpentine spirits, steady, 24s 3d.

Grain Receipts at Principal Markets.

CHICAGO, Oct. 23.—Today's receipts: Wheat, 139 cars; corn, 533 cars; oats, 252 cars.

MINNEAPOLIS, Oct. 23.—Receipts today: Wheat, 780 cars.

PEORIA, Oct. 23.—Receipts: Corn, 92,200 bus.; oats, 12,200 bus.; rye, 600 bus.; whisky, none; wheat, 2,400 bus. Shipments: Corn, 4,800 bus.; oats, 17,200 bus.; rye, 11,200 bus.; whisky, 820 bbls.; wheat, none.

KANSAS CITY, Oct. 23.—Receipts: Wheat, 208 cars.

COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL

Bull Sentiment Prevails Throughout the Short Session.

WHEAT CLOSES FRACTIONALLY HIGHER

Corn and Oats Show Little Change, Although Held Firm by the Leader—Provisions Are Weak.

NEW YORK, Oct. 23.—The bull sentiment which prevailed in wheat at the close last night was apparent today and the prices were strong throughout the session, showing an advance of ⅛c for May and ⅞c for December. Corn was easier and held in place by the strength of wheat. Today's closing showed prices about unchanged. Oats followed corn and price changes were of no consequence. Provisions were weak. Pork was off 15c, lard 7½@10c and ribs 2½@7½c.

The revelation through yesterday's advance in wheat of the amount of bullish feeling underlying the market ignited a good deal of smoldering sentiment of a similar character that appeared to have existed throughout the country. The market felt the effect of that at the opening. Commission houses had all the buying orders they could manage for half an hour and selling was confined chiefly to the people who had good profits in long wheat they were willing to accept. The elevator people also had a little wheat to sell, presumably against purchases of cash wheat through the country at least that was supposed by the traders in the pit to be the basis of sales by Armour & Co. and the Weare Commission company of about 100,000 bu. each. That had no influence, however, at the time, for the sales referred to were made at from 84c to 84⅛c for December delivery and the price rose immediately after to 84⅝c, or ⅛c above the closing and highest price of the day before. Liverpool was 1½c above yesterday's because of the more material gain here. The exports from both coasts this week amounted to 5,522,000 bu., not any more than had been foreshadowed by the daily clearings, but showing the immense proportions that European shortage this country is being called on to make good. The Chicago receipts were 139 cars, of which thirteen were contract. The receipts a year ago were 188 cars. Minneapolis and Duluth got 971 cars, against 1,176 the preceding Saturday. Argentine shipped no wheat this week, against 96,000 bu. a year ago. The world's clearances from Atlantic ports were 433,000 bu. Flour and flour together. The December future was the stronger today, May getting from 1c discount, as it was yesterday, to 1⅜c today. The advance referred to above, when December rose to 94⅝c, was followed by a reaction to 93⅝c, but it quickly recovered again to 94c, and later, on the receipt of the Paris quotations showing an advance equal to 3¼c per ton for the January-April term, the early bullishness revived, December rising to 95c and May to 93⅝c at the close.

Corn moved through sympathy with wheat and after selling a shade higher early the market turned easier and the decline carried prices ¼c below the close yesterday. As the session advanced, however, the market developed a steadier tone and at the close values were about unchanged from yesterday. Car lot receipts were not as large as anticipated, 533 cars being inspected in, and the out inspection was moderate at 273,500 bu. The local movement made the receipts 355,700 bu. and shipments 523,880 bu., which indicates a vast improvement in the shipping demand. December opened at from 20⅞c to 20¾c, and the higher of those were the best figures of the day. The lowest and closing price was 20⅝c.

Elevator concerns were good sellers of oats, but outside of business done by them trading was of no consequence. The greater part of the trading was centered in May and was greatly in the way of profit-taking by those who bought yesterday. December opened at 18¾@18⅝c, touched 18⅞c, dropped to 18⅝c, and closed at 18⅝@18⅝c. May ranged from 21½c to 21¼c; was offered at 21¼c at the close.

Hog products had a sharp reaction from the advance of yesterday on active selling by the local crowd and from the fact that there was little or no support, prices met with little resistance in their downward course. Large receipts of hogs than expected with the lack of outside support were the factors which encouraged the selling. December pork opened at from $7.97½ to $8 and sold off to $7.85; December lard started at $4.42½ and declined steadily to $4.35@4.37½; December ribs ranged from $4.57½@4.60 down to $4.57½.

Estimated receipts Monday: Wheat, 195 cars; corn, 455 cars; oats, 240 cars; hogs, 42,000 head.

Leading futures ranged as follows:

Articles.	Open.	High.	Low.	Close.	Yestdy.
*Wheat—					
Oct.....	.....	.....	.....	94	93⅝
Dec.....	94⅛	95	93⅝	95	94⅛
May.....	93⅛	93¾	93⅛	93⅝	93⅝
*Corn—					
Oct.....	.....	.....	.....	25⅝	25⅝@⅝
Dec.....	26¾	26⅞	26½	26⅝	26¾@⅞
May.....	30¾	30⅞	30⅝	30⅝	30⅝
*Oats—					
Oct.....	.....	.....	.....	17½	17⅝
Dec.....	18⅝	18⅝	18⅝	18⅝	18⅛
May.....	21⅝	21⅝	21⅛	21⅛	21⅛
*Pork—					
Oct.....	.....	.....	.....	7 82½	.....
Dec.....	7 97½	8 00	7 85	7 87½	8 05
Jan.....	8 92½	8 95	8 80	8 82½	8 97½
Lard—					
Oct.....	.....	.....	.....	4 35	.....
Dec.....	4 42½	4 42½	4 35	4 37½	4 45
Jan.....	4 57½	4 57½	4 50	4 52½	4 60
Sh'Ribs—					
Oct.....	.....	.....	.....	4 62½	4 65
Dec.....	4 57½	4 60	4 55	4 57½	4 65
Jan.....	4 65	4 65	4 60	4 60	4 70

*No. 2.

Cash quotations were as follows: FLOUR—Firm; spring patents, $4.50@5.00; bakers', $3.00@3.80; straits, $4.40@4.70. WHEAT—No. 2 spring, 86c; No. 3 spring, 80@88c; No. 2 red, 95c. CORN—No. 2, 25¾c. OATS—No. 2, 18½c. RYE—No. 2, 46½c. No. 3 white, 21@21¾c. RYE—No. 2, 47½c. SEEDS—No. 1 flaxseed, $1.02½@1.06½; prime timothy, $2.60. PROVISIONS—Mess pork, per bbl., $7.85@7.90. Lard, per 100 lbs., $4.35@4.37½. Short ribs sides (loose), $4.45@4.75. WHISKY—Distillers' finished goods, per gal., $1.20. SUGAR—Cutloaf, $5.96; granulated, $5.34.

Articles.	Receipts.	Shipments.
Flour, bbls.....	.....	.....
Wheat, bu.....	90,000	147,000
Corn, bu.....	355,000	524,000
Oats, bu.....	241,000	608,000
Rye, bu.....	17,000	.....
Barley, bu.....	73,000	7,000

On the Produce exchange today the butter market was steady; creameries, 22c; dairies, 18c. Cheese, steady; fresh, 8@8½c. Eggs, firm, 14½c. Poultry, easy; turkeys, 8@9c; chickens, 6½c; chickens, springs, 7c; ducks, 7½@8c.

NEW YORK GENERAL MARKET.

Quotations of the Day on General Commodities.

NEW YORK, Oct. 23.—FLOUR—Receipts, 23,202 bbls.; exports, 4,261 bbls.; fairly active and firm at full prices; Minnesota patents, $3.10@5.50; winter extras, $2.20@2.65; Minnesota bakers, $4.35@4.50; winter low grades, $3.00@3.15. Rye flour, firmer; fancy, $3.00@3.50. BUCKWHEAT—Dull at 87@88c. CORNMEAL—Dull; yellow western, 59c. RYE—Firm; No. 2 western, 51½c. BARLEY—Firm; feeding, 29c. BARLEY MALT—Dull; western, 55@56c. WHEAT—Receipts, 33,000 bu.; exports, 41,934 bu.; spot, quiet; No. 2 red, 91⅝c. Options opened off from the curb price and ruled quiet and rather easier all the morning, influenced by liberal realizing and some foreign selling; closed irregular at unchanged prices; No. 2 red, May, 85 3-16@85⅜c; closing 84½c; December, 87 3-16@87 13-16c, closed 93⅝c. CORN—Receipts, 211,075 bu.; exports, 20,265 bu.; spot, easy; No. 2, 32c. Options opened steady, but eased off under realizing and the setback in wheat and closed ¼@⅝c net lower; May, 27½@27¾c, closed 25½c; December, 31½@31¾c, closed 31½c. OATS—Receipts, 142,800 bu.; exports, 49,462 bu.; spot, dull; No. 2, 22c. Options were dull and featureless at unchanged to ⅛c net lower; December closed at 23½c. HAY—Dull; shipping, $4.00@4.50; good to choice, $5.00@7.00. HOPS—Quiet; state, common to choice, 1896 crop, 4@6c; 1896 crop, 6@9c; 1897 crop, 14@18c; Pacific coast, 1896 crop, 4@6c; 1896 crop, 6@9c; 1897 crop, 14@18c; London market, 25@45c. HIDES—Steady; Galveston, 19@16c; Texas dry, 12@22½c; California, 17@18c. LEATHER—Steady; hemlock sole, Buenos Ayres, light to heavy weights, 20@21c; acid, 20@22c. PROVISIONS—Beef, steady; family, $8.00@10.50; extra, $7.50@8.50; beef hams, $24.00@25.00. Cut meats, firm; pickled bellies, $6.37½@7.25; pickled shoulders, $5.75; pickled hams, $5.00@5.12½. Lard, easy; western steam closed at $4.30; refined, 30c. Pork, dull; old mess, $8.75@9.50; new mess, $9.25@10.00; family, $11.00@12.00. Tallow, quiet; city, 3¼c; country, 3¼@3½c. OILS—Petroleum, dull; United closed nominal; Pennsylvania crude, nominally 85c. Rosin, steady; strained, common to good, $1.40@1.45. Turpentine, steady at 32@33½c. Cottonseed, steady; prime crude, 23c; prime crude, f. o. b. mills, 15@16c; prime summer yellow, 23½@23¾c; off summer yellow, 23@23¼c; butter oil, 27½@28c; prime summer white, 26½@27c; prime winter yellow, 29c. RICE—Firm; domestic, fair to extra, 4¾@6¼c; Japan, 4¾@5¼c. MOLASSES—Quiet; New Orleans, open kettle, good to choice, 25@31c. METALS—Pig iron, steady; southern, $10.25@11.25; northern, $10.50@12.00. Copper, dull; lake brokers, $10.12½. Lead, dull; domestic brokers, $3.75. Tin plates, quiet.

FREIGHTS—Steady; cotton by steam, 19.53; grain by steam, 4½c.

Coffee Markets.

NEW YORK, Oct. 23.—COFFEE—Options opened steady, unchanged prices; ruled inactive, with weak undertone following; disappointing European cables; continued heavy receipts at Rio and Santos and lower spot coffee markets. Selling checked somewhat by heavy United States warehouse deliveries. Closed barely steady, net unchanged to 5c lower. Sales, 8,750 bags, including: December, 16.25; March, 16.40; July, 16.55. Spot coffee, Rio, weak. Mild, quiet; Cordova, $10.00@15.00. Total warehouse deliveries from the United States, 16,255 bags, including 16,137 bags from New York; New York stock today, 268,004 bags; United States stock, 478,286 bags; afloat for the United States, 408,000 bags; total visible for the United States, 884,288 bags, against 587,892 bags last year and 564,186 bags in 1896.

SANTOS, Oct. 23.—COFFEE—Steady; good average Santos, 8,200 reis; receipts, 41,000 bags; stock, 1,177,000 bags.

HAMBURG, Oct. 23.—COFFEE—Opened quiet, closed about ¼ pfg. net higher; sales, 29,000 bags.

HAVRE, Oct. 23.—COFFEE—Opened steady; ¼f lower, at noon ¼f higher; sales, 10,000 bags.

RIO DE JANEIRO, Oct. 23.—COFFEE—Barely steady; No. 7, Rio, 400 reis; exchange, 7 15-16d; receipts, 13,000 bags; cleared for the United States, 9,000 bags; for Europe, 8,000 bags; stock, 427,000 bags.

Baltimore Markets.

BALTIMORE, Oct. 23.—FLOUR—More active, unchanged; receipts, 12,967 bbls.; exports, 116 bbls. WHEAT—Strong; No. 2 red, spot, month and November, 98⅞@99⅛c; December, 99@99¼c; steamer, No. 2 red, 93¼@94c; receipts, 91,025 bu.; exports, 99,997 bu.; southern, by sample, 93@99¼c; on grade, 94¼@99½c. CORN—Quiet and firmer; mixed spot, 31⅛@31½c; new or old, November or December, 31@31¼c; steamer mixed, 29¼@29½c; receipts, 37,089 bu.; southern white corn, 31@33c; yellow, 32@33c. OATS—Firm; No. 2 mixed white, 26½@27c; receipts, 16,759 bu. RYE—Active and higher; No. 2 western, 53@54c; receipts, 10,499 bu. HAY—Steady; choice timothy, $13.00@13.50. GRAIN FREIGHTS—Firm; steam to Liverpool, per bushel, 4½d, November. BUTTER—Steady; fancy creamery, 22@24c; fancy ladle, 13@14c. EGGS—Firm, unchanged. CHEESE—Steady, unchanged.

Kansas City Markets.

KANSAS CITY, Oct. 23.—WHEAT—About 2c higher, good grades fairly active, others slow; No. 1 hard, 77c; No. 2, 5 car lots, to arrive, 85½@85⅝c; No. 3, 80@85c; No. 4, 79@83c; No. 1 red, 84c; No. 2, 82½@91c; No. 3, 85@90c; No. 4, 84c; one car, 88c; No. 2 spring, 86½c; No. 3, 80c. CORN—About steady, slow; No. 2 mixed, 23½@23¾c. OATS—About steady, rather slow; No. 2 white, 19@20c. RYE—Firm; No. 2, 42½c. HAY—Active, firm; choice timothy, $8.00@8.50; choice prairie, $6.50. BUTTER—More plentiful, but quality poor; creamery, 22@23c; dairy, 16@20c. EGGS—Receipts light, demand heavy; Missouri and Kansas, 12½c. RECEIPTS—Wheat, 121,800 bu.; corn, 44,200 bu.; oats, 10,000 bu. SHIPMENTS—Wheat, 143,400 bu.; corn, 22,700 bu.; oats, 1,000 bu.

Toledo Markets.

TOLEDO, Oct. 23.—WHEAT—Higher and steady; No. 2 cash and October, 96½c; December, 97½c. CORN—Dull and higher; No. 2 mixed, 26c. OATS—No. 1 mixed, 18½c. RYE—Dull; No. 2 cash, 49c. CLOVERSEED—Active; prime cash and October, $3.82½. OIL—Unchanged.

California Dried Fruits.

NEW YORK, Oct. 23.—CALIFORNIA DRIED FRUITS—Quiet; evaporated apples, common, 5@6c; prime wire tray, 8½c; wood dried, prime, 9c; choice, 8¾@9c; fancy, 9@9½c; prunes, 5@8½c per lb., as to quality and size; apricots, Royal, 7@8½c; Moor Park, 9@11c; peaches, unpeeled, 7@11c; peeled, 12½@17c per lb.

Philadelphia Produce Market.

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 23.—BUTTER—Firm, good demand; fancy western creamery, 23c. EGGS—Firm and lower, 15c per dozen; fresh western, 18c.

Peoria Markets.

PEORIA, Oct. 23.—CORN—Firm and higher; No. 2, 24½c. OATS—Inactive; No. 2 white, 19½@20c. WHISKY—High proof spirits, $1.20.

San Francisco Wheat Quotations.

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 23.—WHEAT—Quiet; December, $1.49⅝; May, $1.47.

STOCKS AND BONDS.

Dealers Fear Spanish Developments and Are Cautious.

NEW YORK, Oct. 23.—Today's security market was intensely dull throughout. The only business done was by professional traders and this included some selling for foreign account. Some of the selling represented the placing of short contracts by bear traders, who argued that the danger of the Cuban question leading to strained relations with Spain indicated that prices would decline. The Sunday interval before trading will be resumed made these operators cautious in their ventures for fear of developments that may change the situation before Monday. The disposition to restrict operations for short turns was very obvious, and the only movement of prices seems to be due to professional manipulation. The total sales were less than 90,000 shares, a figure lower than for any Saturday in months. The greater part of these sales was of shares of industrial specialties, the railway list being decidedly neglected. Some firmness was manifest in the grainger shares on the belief that there would come from a favorable decision in the Nebraska maximum freight rate case, which is expected from the supreme court on Monday—that is to say a decision denying the right of the state of Nebraska to fix maximum freight charges by the railways. Sugar displayed some strength during the day and closed with a small net gain. Chicago Gas and Union Pacific were the only stocks traded in to the extent of more than 10,000 shares. Union Pacific was weak on the doubt cast upon the success of the reorganization plan, by talk of an opposition syndicate, which continues to be talked of in an ill defined way. Net losses are general, but reach a point or over in only a few cases.

The increase of the surplus reserve of the banks of $8,290,200, even with the legal reserve raised by an increase in deposits, was not counted a favorable factor in the stock market, though it naturally tends to ease in the money market and to strengthen the position of banks technically. The increase in the holdings of actual cash was $8,626,600, the gold arriving from Europe last Friday and Saturday being included. The liquidation of loans in face of this easy condition was shown by the total of $3,941,600. This was in large part due to the buying of commercial paper in this market by western banks, choice single named short paper having been placed with a Chicago bank during the week at 2½ per cent, according to a prominent authority. Numerous other western centers have offered money in New York and their deputies are reported to be higher on account of large payments of indebtedness by farmers and western business men who have realized on the grain crop. The quick movement of the grain crop has led to an early cessation of demand for funds for that purpose, and the interruption of the movement of the cotton crop defers the demand from that quarter. The release of funds in New York, as a consequence of this condition, has led to a marked easing of the money market, call loans yesterday and today being offered in abundance at 2 per cent, and in some cases below that. The money market is almost plethoric and falling off for funds is not looked upon in Wall street as an altogether favorable indication of progress of business. It is reported that a movement is on foot among New York banks to reduce the interest that they pay on the balances of out of town banks from 2 to 1½ per cent. This condition of the domestic money market is coupled with something very like stringency in the Berlin money market, owing to keen activity in business and loosening of rates in the London market as the result of efforts of the Bank of England to prevent gold coming to the United States. These efforts consisted of raising the price of gold bars and of American eagles and of borrowing largely with a view to bringing up the open market rate of discount to a parity with that of the bank, which remains at 3 per cent. The open market rate in London yesterday and today had about reached that point and it is reported that applications for loans are being made to the bank itself. The London rate of discount has crossed the New York rate, and the disparity tends to increase, so that the present movement of gold has come to a stop, in spite of the heavy trade balance in favor of this country. Exchange is being allowed to accumulate at this center. Exchange bankers sell demand sterling for future account at a rate which makes it profitable to buy these futures and to use money on long sterling bills as collateral until they mature. The effect is the same as though gold due to creditors in this country had actually placed in higher interest in London, instead of being imported. The operation is based on the tendency of the balance of trade to shift again later in the season. The greater ease in money has not resulted in any increase in speculation in the stock market, the underlying sentiment being that general business has not fully held its own with the first improv