

COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL

Wheat Gains Strength on Reports of Crop Damage. AT START, HOWEVER, WEAKNESS PREVAILS. Prices for Corn and Oats Show Regularity-Provisions Hold Their Own for a Time, but Later Drop of a Little.

CHICAGO, May 16.—Seasonal claims of damage from Hessian flies caused an advance of 1/2 a bushel in wheat today. Corn closed with a gain of 1/8 and oats 1/4. Pork declined 7/8 and lard and ribs 3/8.

Forcing weather throughout the spring wheat belt and heaviness abroad, despite an advance here yesterday, gave wheat a weak start. The selling was limited, however, and the market turned strong on numerous reports that the work of the Hessian fly had become serious, the entire run of the crop being threatened in several sections. The strength was not equal to the report. Rooming that 30 per cent of the wheat crop had been ruined by drought. July opened 1/4 lower at 70 1/2, declined to 70, advanced to 70 1/2 and closed with a gain of 1/8. Receipts were 1,257,000 bushels a year ago. Atlantic port clearances of wheat and flour were 1,000,000 bushels and 1,000,000 barrels, respectively. The world's visible supply of wheat is 1,000,000,000 bushels, with 30,000,000 bushels decrease last year.

Table with columns: Article, High, Low, Close, Yendy. Rows include Wheat, Corn, Oats, Pork, Lard, Ribs, etc.

Receipts Shipments. Flour, bbls. 15,000 14,000. Wheat, bu. 47,000 75,000. Corn, bu. 200,000 200,000. Oats, bu. 40,000 45,000. Rye, bu. 5,000 5,000. Barley, bu. 5,000 5,000. On the Produce exchange today the butter market was steady, creameries, 12 1/2; dairies, 10 1/2; fresh, 11 1/2; cream, 10 1/2; fresh, 11 1/2; cream, 10 1/2.

NEW YORK GENERAL MARKET. Quotations for the Day on General. NEW YORK, May 16.—FLOUR—Receipts, 22,182 bbls.; exports, 1,087 bbls.; dull but a shade steadier; winter patents, \$1.75-1.80; winter straight, \$1.65-1.70; N. M. winter, \$1.60-1.65; extra, \$1.55-1.60; Minnesota bakers, \$1.55-1.60; winter low grades, \$1.45-1.50; Rye flour, \$1.40-1.45; Cornmeal, \$1.35-1.40; Bran, \$1.25-1.30; Middlings, \$1.20-1.25; Shorts, \$1.15-1.20; Meal, \$1.10-1.15; Flour, \$1.05-1.10; Middlings, \$1.00-1.05; Shorts, \$0.95-1.00; Meal, \$0.90-0.95.

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