COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL

Wheat Weakens on Heavy Increase in the World's Visible.

CORN SHADE HIGHER, OATS UNCHANGED

Prospects of Damage in the Cold Snap Not Realized in the Wheat Pit —Provisions Close Stronger.

CHICAGO, Dec. 12.—Wheat opened steady today on prospects of a freeze, but weakened on the heavy increase in the world's visible, May closing ¼@¾c under yesterday. May corn closed a shade up and May oats unchanged, Provisions were strengthened by a hog movement lighter than expected, small offerings and a good outside demand. May pork closing 17½c over yesterday, May lard and May ribs each up 5c.

May wheat opened ⅛c up at 69¼@69⅝c, all because some shorts saw prospects of damage in the cold snap following the recent mild weather. This advantage was lost on profit-taking and selling against calls. For some time the market held fairly well at the decline, shorts doing a bit of covering and the scalpers buying against puts. The report of a heavy increase in the world's visible, coming when it had been expected there would be little change in the figures, turned the tide against the price and May fell to 68¾c. Some of this was recovered on buying against privileges, but the close was easy, May ⅛@¼c lower at 69c. New York reported no wheat taken for export. Atlantic port clearances of wheat and flour were equal to 288,000 bu. Bradstreet's world's visible increased 3,670,000 bu. Local receipts were 94 cars, 21 of contract grade, most of it coming from private houses. Minneapolis and Duluth reported 462 cars, against 1,029 last week and 864 a year ago. Primary receipts were 827,000 bu., compared with 1,175,200 bu. last year.

Corn early was easy and very dull, but the close was firm. A trifle was nipped off the price shortly after the opening, but this was recovered. The steadiness was due principally to the small country offerings and the unwillingness of local holders to let go. The weather, too, has not turned enough to promise immediate encouragement to the movement. Receipt were liberal, 516 cars here and 457,000 bu., against 779,000 bu. a year ago at the principal western points. May ranged from 32¼c to 32⅜c, closing a shade up at 32⅜c.

The oats market held steady, but in a very dull and listless way, the range being only ⅛c. Bad weather for movement was a support. The shipping demand, while not sharp, was better than experienced in the other grain pits. Receipts here were 208 cars. May sold from 27⅛c to 24c, closing unchanged at 24c.

Provisions were firm—pork especially so. The opening was at a gain, and this, as the session progressed, with some animation at times, was added to in a way very encouraging to holders. Some dealers saw a little mystery in the strength, believing support more potent than the light movement, good shipping demand and small offerings at the bottom of the market. There was considerable execution by outside buying orders by commission houses and a little profit-taking by packers. May pork sold from $10.07½ to $10.22½, closing 17½@20c over yesterday at $10.22½; May lard from $5.35 to $5.40 and finished up at $5.40; May ribs ranged from $5.37½ to $5.42½, closing 5c better than yesterday at $5.42½.

Estimated receipts tomorrow: Wheat, 50 cars; corn, 225 cars; oats, 130 cars; hogs, 37,000 head.

The leading futures ranged as follows:

Articles.	Open.	High.	Low.	Close.	Yes'y.
*Wheat					
Dec.	65¾	65¾	65¼	65½	65½
May	69¼@¾	69¾	68¾	69	69⅛@¼
*Corn—					
Dec.	30⅜@½	30⅝	30	30⅛	30⅜
Jan.	30⅜	30⅜@⅞	30⅛@⅜	30⅜@⅞	30⅜
May	32⅝@¾	32¾	32½	32¾	32⅝@¾
*Oats—					
Dec.	22¼	22¼@⅜	22¼	22¼@⅜	22⅝@½
May	23¾@24	24	23⅞	24	24
Pork—					
Jan.	9 82½	10 00	9 82½	10 00	9 82½
May	10 10	10 22½	10 07½	10 22½	10 05
Lard—					
Jan.	5 37½	5 30	5 35	5 40	5 35
May	5 35	5 60	5 55	5 60	5 55
Ribs—					
Jan.	5 25	5 30	5 25	5 30	5 25
May	5 37½	5 42½	5 37½	5 42½	5 37½

*No. 2.

Cash quotations were as follows:

FLOUR—Steady; winter patents, $3.40@3.50; straights, $3.00@3.20; clear, $2.90@3.10; spring specials, $3.80; spring patents, $3.20@3.50; straights, $2.70@3.00; bakers, $1.90@2.50.

WHEAT—No. 3 spring, 63½@65c; No. 2 red, 66¼@68½c.

CORN—No. 2, 30⅝c; No. 2 yellow, 30¾@31c.

OATS—No. 2, 27⅝@23c; No. 3 white, 25¼@25⅝c; No. 3 white, 24⅝@25½c.

RYE—No. 2, 51½@52½c.

BARLEY—No. 2, 37@45c.

SEEDS—No. 1 flaxseed and northwest, $1.51. Prime timothy seed, $2.50@2.52½. Clover, contract grade, $8.00.

PROVISIONS—Mess pork, per bbl., $8.40@10.00. Lard, per 100 lbs., $5.05@5.35. Short ribs sides (loose), $5.15@5.45. Dry salted shoulders (boxed), $5.37½@5.50; short clear sides (boxed), $5.45@5.55.

WHISKY—Distillers' finished goods, on basis high wines, per gal., $1.23½.

SUGARS—Cut loaf, $5.70; granulated, $5.18. Following are the receipts and shipments for today:

Articles.	Receipts.	Shipm'ts.
Flour, bbls.	58,000	13,000
Wheat, bu.	150,000	8,000
Corn, bu.	248,000	135,000
Oats, bu.	332,000	201,000
Rye, bu.	13,000	1,000
Barley, bu.	178,000	15,000

On the Produce exchange today the butter market was steady; creameries, 16@25c; dairies, 16@22c. Cheese, steady at 11¾@12½c. Eggs, firm; fresh, 20c.

NEW YORK GENERAL MARKET.

Quotations for the Day on Various Commodities.

NEW YORK, Dec. 12.—FLOUR—Receipts, 33,412 bbls.; exports, 5,381 bbls.; quiet and easy, but not quotably lower; winter patents, $3.50@3.80; winter straights, $3.35@3.15; winter extras, $2.60@3.00; winter low grades, $2.25@2.40; Minnesota patents, $3.80@4.00; Minnesota bakers, $2.80@3.10. Rye flour, steadier and active; fair to good, $3.10@3.20; choice to fancy, $3.25@3.50. Buckwheat flour, steady at $2.25@2.35.

BUCKWHEAT—Nominal at 60c c. i. f. New York.

CORNMEAL—Quiet; yellow western, 80c; city, 78c; Brandywine, $2.25@2.35.

RYE—Steady; No. 2 western, 61c f. o. b. afloat; state, 57c, c. i. f., New York car lots.

BARLEY—Firm; feeding, 41c c. i. f., Buffalo; malting, 44@48c, c. i. f., Buffalo.

BARLEY MALT—Dull; western, 55@56c.

WHEAT—Receipts, 71,225 bu.; exports, 15,950 bu. Spot, steady; No. 2 red, 74¾c f. o. b. afloat; No. 1 northern, Duluth, 78¾c f. o. b. afloat to arrive (prompt); No. 1 hard, Duluth, 79¾c f. o. b. afloat (prompt). Options opened steadier at ⅛c advance on light receipts and favorable cables, but later experienced a sharp break, declining ⅜c in the afternoon. This was prompted by a large increase in Bradstreet's world's stocks and brought out heavy selling for both accounts in the absence of export demand. Closed steady on a little covering at ⅜c net decline; March, 74@74⅛c, closed, 74⅞c; May, 74⅛@74⅝c, closed, 74⅝c; July, 74½@74⅝c, closed, 74⅝c; December, 72@72 7-16c, closed, 72¼c.

CORN—Receipts, 152,100 bu.; exports, 165,892 bu. Spot, steady; No. 2, 40½c f. o. b. afloat and 39½c elevator. Options opened steady at 1-16c decline with wheat and held generally steady all day, with a small trade and fair export business, closing steady and unchanged to ⅛c net lower; May, 38 9-16@38⅝c, closed, 38⅝c; December closed, 38⅜c.

OATS—Receipts, 89,600 bu.; exports, 8,415 bu. Spot, steady; No. 2, 29½c; No. 3, 29c; No. 3 white, 30½c; track, mixed western, 29@31c. Options quiet but steady.

HAY — Steady; spring, 65@75c; good to choice, 80@85c.

HOPS—Quiet; state, common to choice, 1896 crop, 6c; 1898 crop, 7c; 1899 crop, 12@15c; Pacific coast, 1896 crop, 4@6c; 1898 crop, 7@9c; 1899 crop, 12@15c.

HIDES—Firm; Galveston, 20 to 25 lbs., 15½c; California, 21 to 25 lbs., 21½c.

LEATHER—Steady; hemlock sole, Buenos Ayres, light to heavy weights, 25@25½c; acid, 25@25½c.

PROVISIONS—Beef, steady; family, $12.50@13.00; beef hams, $22.50@23.50; packet, $11.50@12.00; city, extra India mess, $21.00@23.00. Cut meats, steady; pickled bellies $5.75@6.00; pickled shoulders, $5.75@6.00; pickled hams, $7.75@8.25. Lard, steady; western steamed, $5.67½; December, $5.65 nominal; refined, quiet; continent, $5.85; South America, $6.35; compound, $5.25@5.37½. Pork, firm; mess, $9.50@10.25; short clear, $10.50@12.00; family, $11.50@12.00. Tallow, firm; city, 4⅞@5c; country, 4⅝@5c.

RICE—Steady; domestic, fair to extra, 4@4¾c; Japan, 4¼@5c.

MOLASSES—Firm; New Orleans, open kettle, good to choice, 32@40c.

METALS—Further severe losses were sustained by tin and copper today. Following almost sensational breaks in the London market, unfavorable advices from producing points in the west, a flat refusal of buyers to proceed and a bad scare among local sellers, tin broke 100 points and copper about 25 points. Both markets were well nigh unsettled, with indications pointing to continued irregularity in the immediate future. Lead and spelter were relatively steady and unchanged. At the close the Metals exchange called pig iron warrants dull at a nominal price; lake copper nominal at $16.75@17.00; tin lower, weak and unsettled at $24.50@25.00; lead, steady at $4.65@4.75; spelter, dull at $4.60@4.70. The brokers' price for lead was $4.45 and for copper $17.00@17.25.

OMAHA GENERAL MARKET.

Condition of Trade and Quotations on Staple and Fancy Produce.

EGGS—Receipts light; fresh stock, 16c.

DRESSED POULTRY—Choice to fancy turkeys, 10c; ducks, 8c; geese, 8@9c; spring chickens, 6½@7c; hens, 6@6½c; roosters, 4@5c.

LIVE POULTRY—Hens, 5@5½c; spring chickens, 6c; old and staggy roosters, 3c; ducks and geese, 7@8c; turkeys, 8@9c.

BUTTER—Common to fair, 16c; choice, 18@20c; separator, 26c; gathered creamery, 22@23c.

PIGEONS—Live, per doz., 90c.

VEALS—Choice, 9c.

GAME—Prairie chickens, per doz., $5.50; grouse, $5; quail, per doz., $1.25; mallards, $3.00@3.25; blue wing teal, $1.75; green wing teal, $1.25@1.50; mixed ducks, $1.50@2.00.

OYSTERS—Medium, per can, 18c; standard, per can, 22c; bulk standard, per gal., $1.25; extra selects, per can, 30c; extra selects, per gal., $1.60; New York counts, per can, 37c; New York counts, per 100, $1.25.

HAY—Upland, choice, $6.50; midland, choice, $6; lowland, choice, $5; rye straw, choice, $5.50; No. 2 corn, 27c; No. 3 white oats, 22½c; cracked corn, per ton, $12; corn and oats, chopped, per ton, $12.50; bran, per ton, $13; shorts, per ton, $14.

VEGETABLES.

SWEET POTATOES—Per bbl., Kansas, $2.25; Jerseys, $4; large bbls., Nebraska, $2.75.

POTATOES—Per bu., choice, 30@35c.

CRANBERRIES—Cape Cod, $6.00@6.50.

Bell & Bugle, per bbl., $6.50; Jerseys, $6.25.

ONIONS—Retail way, yellow, 65c; red, 75@85c.

CELERY—Per doz., 25@30c; California, per bunch, 45@60c.

TURNIPS—Rutabagas, per lb., 1¼c; Canadian, 1¼@1½c.

CABBAGE—Per lb., 1¼c; Holland seed, 1½@2c.

CAULIFLOWER—Per crate, $2.50.

WATERCRESS—Per 15-qt. cases, $1.60.

MUSHROOMS—Per lb. box, 50c.

FRUITS.

APPLES—Choice western shipping stock, $2.75@3.00; New York stock, $3.50@4.00.

GRAPES—California Emperor, $2; Catawbas, per small basket, 15c; Malaga grapes, per bbl., $7.00@7.50.

PEARS—Western varieties, $2.50.

TROPICAL FRUITS.

ORANGES—Mexican, per box, $3.50@3.75; California navels, per box, $3.75@4.00.

LEMONS—California fancy, $4.25@4.50; choice California, $4.00@4.50; Messina, $4.50@4.75.

HIDES, TALLOW, ETC.

HIDES—No. 1 green hides, 5½c; No. 2 green hides, 7½c; No. 1 salted hides, 10c; No. 2 salted hides, 9c; No. 1 veal calf, 8 to 12 lbs., 9c; No. 2 veal calf, 12 to 15 lbs., 8c.

TALLOW, GREASE, ETC.—Tallow, No. 1, 4c; No. 2, 3¾c; rough, 2c; white grease, 2¾@3¼c; yellow and brown grease, 2¼@3c.

MISCELLANEOUS.

HONEY—Per 24-section case, $3.25@3.50.

NUTS—Hickory nuts, large, per bu., $1; shell barks, $1.25@1.35.

FIGS—California layers, per 10-lb. box, $1.00; California carton, per 10-lb. box, $1.10.

MAPLE SUGAR—Per lb., 9c.

CHRISTMAS GREENS.

TREES—5-ft., per doz., $2; 5 to 8-ft., per doz., $2.50; 7 to 9-ft., per doz., $3.50; 8 to 11-ft., per doz., $4.50; extra large sizes, 12 to 24-ft., $2.00@4.50.

HOLLY BRANCHES—Per case of about 60 lbs., $4.50@5.00; per bbl., $1.50@1.75.

MISTLETOE BRANCHES—Per lb., 20c; per 25-lb. box, $3.75; wreathing, 20 yds., 90c.

CHANGES IN AVAILABLE SUPPLIES.

Increase of Three Millions in Wheat East of Rockies.

NEW YORK, Dec. 12.—Special cable and telegraphic communication to Bradstreet's shows the following changes in available supplies, compared with the last account:

Wheat, United States and Canada, east of Rockies, increase, 2,070,000 bushels (Liverpool Trade News); afloat for and in Europe, increase, 600,000 bushels; total supply, increase, 3,670,000 bushels.

Corn, United States and Canada, east of Rockies, increase, 331,000 bushels.

Oats, United States and Canada, east of Rockies, increase, 516,000 bushels.

Among the more important increases not given in official visible supply statement are those of 875,000 bushels at northwestern interior elevators, 252,000 bushels at Chicago private elevators, 167,000 bushels at Milwaukee private elevators, 132,000 bushels at Cleveland, 118,000 bushels at Toledo, 100,000 bushels at Manitoba storage points, 75,000 bushels at Port Huron, 82,000 bushels at Depot Harbor and 70,000 bushels at Portland, Me.

The aggregate stock of wheat held at Portland, Ore., and Tacoma and Seattle decreased 194,000 bushels last week.

St. Louis Grain and Provisions.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 12.—WHEAT—Lower; No. 2 red cash, elevator, 68c; track, 71c; December, 68c; May, 71½@¾c; No. 2 hard, 67½@68½c; receipts, 8,202 bu.

CORN—Firm; No. 2 cash, 29¾c; track, 30¼@30½c; December, 29⅜c; May, 31¼c.

OATS—Firm; No. 2 cash, 24c; track, 24½c; December, 23⅜c; May, 24⅞c; No. 2 white, 26½@26¾c.

RYE—Higher at 53@53½c.

FLOUR—Firm; patents, $3.45@3.60; extra fancy, $3.10@3.20; clear, $2.75@2.90.

SEEDS—Timothy, steady at $1.90@2.15; flax, higher at $1.46.

CORNMEAL—Steady at $1.75@1.80.

BRAN—Steady; sacked, east track, 62c.

HAY—Steady and slow; timothy, $8.50@11.50; prairie, $6.00@8.50.

WHISKY—Steady at $1.23½.

COTTONTIES—$1.10.

BAGGING—Lower at 5¾@6½c.

HEMP TWINE—9c.

PROVISIONS—Pork, firm; standard mess, jobbing, $9.50. Lard, higher; prime steam, $5.30; choice, $5.22½. Dry salt meats, extra shorts, $5.37½; clear ribs and sides, $5.50. Bacon (boxed) shoulders, $5.75; clear ribs, $6.12½; clear sides, $6.25.

METALS—Lead, higher at $4.60; spelter, firm at $4.60.

POULTRY—Steady; chickens, 6c; turkeys, 6½c; ducks, 5½@6c; geese, 5c.

RECEIPTS—Flour, 6,000 bbls.; wheat, 8,600 bu.; corn, 50,000 bu.; oats, 30,000 bu.

SHIPMENTS—Flour, 10,000 bbls.; wheat, 9,000 bu.; corn, 44,000 bu.; oats, 35,000 bu.

Butter, Egg and Cheese Market.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 12.—BUTTER—Firm; fancy western creamery, 21c; fancy western prints, 23c.

EGGS—Steady; fresh nearby, 22c; fresh western, 22c; fresh southwestern, 20c; fresh southern, 19c.

CHEESE—Firm but quiet.

NEW YORK, Dec. 12.—BUTTER—Receipts, 6,145 pkgs.; steady; western creamery, 23@27c; June creamery, 22@25c; factory, 19½@20c.

CHEESE—Receipts, 4,227 pkgs.; fall made, fancy, 12¾@13c; fall made fancy, small, 12½@12¾c; late made, small, 12@12¼c.

EGGS—Receipts, 11,250 pkgs.; dull and heavy; western ungraded, at mark, 19@21½c; western, 21@24c, loss off.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 12.—BUTTER—Easy; creamery, 24@27c; dairy, 19@23c.

EGGS—Steady at 17c.

CHICAGO, Dec. 12.—BUTTER—Steady; creameries, 16@25c; dairies, 16@22c.

EGGS—Firm; fresh, 20c.

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 12.—BUTTER—Creamery, 22@25c; dairy, 18c.

EGGS—Another decrease in receipts strengthened market; fresh Missouri and Kansas stock, firsts, 15½c, cases returned; storage weak at 10@13c.

Kansas City Grain and Provisions.

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 12.—WHEAT—May, 62½c cash, No. 2 hard, 63@63½c; No. 3, 57@62c; No. 2 red, 68@69c; No. 3, 64@67c; receipts, 43 cars.

CORN—May, 27⅝c; cash, No. 2 mixed, 28¼@28⅜c; No. 2 white, 28½c; No. 3, 28c.

OATS—No. 2 white, 24½@25c.

RYE—No. 2, 46c.

HAY—Choice timothy, $9.00@9.50; choice prairie, $7.00@7.50.

RECEIPTS—Wheat, 25,800 bu.; corn, 8,400 bu.; oats, 4,000 bu.

SHIPMENTS—Wheat, 17,400 bu.; corn, 31,500 bu.; oats, 9,000 bu.

Liverpool Grain and Provisions.

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 12.—WHEAT—Spot, No. 2 red, western winter, firm, 5s 8d; futures steady; March and May, 5s 9¼d.

CORN—Spot, unchanged; futures, quiet; December, 3s 6¾d; January, 3s 6d; February, 3s 5½d.

Receipts of wheat during the last three days, 116,000 centals, including 84,000 American. Receipts of American corn during the last three days, 46,200 centals.

PROVISIONS—Hams, short cut, steady, 45s 6d. Bacon, Cumberland cut, dull, 31s 6d; short ribs, steady, 33s 6d.

Toledo Market.

TOLEDO, O., Dec. 12.—WHEAT—Lower and weak; No. 2, cash, 68c; December, 72½c; May, 72¼c.

CORN—Dull; No. 2 mixed, 31½c.

OATS—Dull and steady; No. 2 mixed, 24c.

RYE—Nominal; No. 2, cash, 56c.

CLOVERSEED—Active and steady; prime cash, old, $4.85; December, $5.57½; March, $5.67½.

Minneapolis Wheat and Flour.

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 12.—WHEAT—In store: No. 1 northern, December, 62⅜c; May, 65¼c; July, 67¼@67⅝c. On track: No. 1 hard, 69⅜c; No. 1 northern, 63c; No. 2 northern, 61¾c.

FLOUR—Business fair and buying confined almost entirely to domestic factors; first patents, $3.40@3.50; second patents, $3.20@3.30; first clear, $2.50@2.70.

BRAN—In bulk, $10.00@11.00.

Milwaukee Grain Market.

MILWAUKEE, Dec. 12.—WHEAT—Steady; No. 1 northern, 66½@67½c; No. 2 northern, 64½@65¼c.

RYE—Steady; No. 1, 56c.

BARLEY—Firm; No. 2, 43c; sample, 36@43c.

Peoria Market.

PEORIA, Dec. 12.—CORN—Steady; No. 2, 29c.

OATS—Easy; No. 3 white, 23½@23¾c.

WHISKY—Firm, on the basis of $1.23½ for finished goods.

Duluth Wheat Market.

DULUTH, Dec. 12.—WHEAT—No. 1 hard, cash, 64¾c; No. 1 northern, cash, 63¾c; December, 63¾c; May, 65¾c; No. 2 northern, 61¾c; No. 2 spring, 65¾c.

MOVEMENTS OF STOCKS AND BONDS.

Feverish Turn of the Market Following Monday's Shakedown.

NEW YORK, Dec. 12.—The stock market displayed a feverish tone as a consequence of the violent shakedown of yesterday. Although there was some belated liquidation prices were not without support at any time and where breaches were made in values the character of the buying at the decline made it look as though the manipulators had in view the purpose of taking on stocks. There was a notable volume of commission house buying, which indicated that outsiders had been attracted by the lower level of prices. There were points in the industrial list which displayed notable resistance all day and during the later part of the trading some positive strength. Some of the sharp declines in the railroad list, notably in the grangers, were attributed to a shifting of holdings from that group into some of the industrials. The grangers touched lower prices than in the demoralization of yesterday and they were practically the only stocks in the list to do so.

That there is still a large and aggressive bear party in the market was evident. Their tactics were moderately successful in the morning, especially in the cases of Tennessee Coal and Metropolitan Street Railway, which were forced down 5½ and 5¾, respectively.

Money at no time ruled over 8 per cent and in the afternoon was offered down to 4 per cent. Considerable talk abroad that some of the very large individual operators had become possessed of a liberal supply of funds and were taking on stocks. Traders generally turned to the bull side and marked up Tobacco