COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL

All Board of Trade Pits Are Quiet Throughout Day.

PRICES, HOWEVER, GENERALLY RISE

Corn, Oats and Provisions All Go Up, Wheat Alone Balking and Closing Steady to an Eighth Down.

CHICAGO, March 20.—Quietness prevailed in the grain and provision pits today, but higher prices were realized, with the exception of wheat, which closed about steady, with May ⅛c lower. May corn was ¼c higher and oats were up a fraction and May provisions closed from 10@15c higher.

Trading in wheat was small and the market held steady throughout the day, after rallying partially from a weak opening. The unexpectedly large Argentine shipments, together with lower cables, were responsible for an opening decline in May of 7⅛@7⅜c. Selling orders were quite liberal at the start and May eased off to 75¾c, but the strength in corn and fears of damage by the colder weather soon caused a rally, most of the early loss being regained, and May advanced to 76⅛@76¼c. Covering by shorts held the market steady the latter part of the day and the close was ⅛c lower at 76⅛c. Clearances of wheat and flour were equal to 267,000 bushels. Primary receipts were 400,000 bushels, against 474,000 bushels a year ago. Exports of wheat and flour for the week, as reported by Bradstreet's, were equal to 2,396,000 bushels, compared with 4,336,000 bushels a year ago. Minneapolis and Duluth reported receipts of 258 cars, which, with local receipts of 135 cars, none of contract grade, made the total receipts for the three points 373 cars, against 293 last week and 296 a year ago.

There was a fair trade in corn, but the business was confined largely to local account. The feature of the trading was the buying of May and selling of July by brokers supposed to be acting for local provision interests. Weather conditions were bullish and small receipts, together with a good cash demand, added to the strength of the situation. Closing prices were strong and near the top. May being up ⅝c at 44¾@45⅛c, selling between 44⅝c and 44⅞c. Local receipts were 201 cars, with two of contract grade.

Oats were helped some by the strength in corn, but there was a little change in prices and the trading was mostly by scalpers. After selling between 34⅝c and 35⅛@35¼c, May closed a shade higher at 35⅛c. Local receipts were 235 cars.

Light receipts of hogs and higher prices at the yards caused a strong opening in provisions, and with a good commission house demand, together with buying for export account, a further advance was made. May pork closed 15c higher at $18.15, May lard was also up 15c at $10.15; ribs were 10@12½c higher at $9.90@9.92½.

Estimated receipts for tomorrow: Wheat, 15 cars; corn, 130 cars; oats, 210 cars; hogs, 9,000 head.

The leading futures ranged as follows:

Articles	Open.	High.	Low.	Close.	Yes'y.
*Wheat					
May	73¾@74	74⅛@¾	73¾	74⅛	74¼
July	70⅝@71	71¼@⅝	70⅝	71⅛	71⅜@¼
Sept.	69⅜	69¾	69⅜	69⅝	69¾
*Corn—					
Mch.	42⅞	42⅞	42⅝	42⅞	42⅜
May	44 @¼	44⅞	44	44½@⅝	44 @¼
July	43⅝@¾	44⅛@¼	43⅝	43⅞@¾	43⅝
Sept.	42⅝@¾	43⅜	42⅝	43⅛	42⅝@¾
*Oats	33⅛			33⅞	33⅜
Mch.					
May	33¼@⅜	34⅝@¾	33⅛	34⅜	34¼@⅜
July	31⅜	31⅝	31¼	31⅝	31⅛
Sept.	28⅝	28⅝	28¼	28⅝	28¼
Pork—					
May	18 07½	18 25	18 07½	18 15	18 00
July	17 25	17 40	17 25	17 35	17 20
Sept.	17 12½	17 15	17 05	17 10	17 00
Lard—					
May	10 05	10 15	10 05	10 15	10 00
July	9 90	9 97½	9 90	9 92½	9 87½
Sept.	9 90	9 92½	9 87½	9 90	9 85
Ribs—					
May	9 87½	9 92½	9 87½	9 92½	
July	9 67½	9 62½	9 57½	9 60	
Sept.	9 50	9 50	9 45	9 50	9 42½

*No. 2.

Cash quotations were as follows:

FLOUR—Dull and easier; winter patents, $3.60@3.70; straights, $3.30@3.40; spring patents, $3.40@3.80; straights, $3.10@3.30; bakers, $2.40@2.80.

WHEAT—No. 2 spring, 76@77c; No. 3, 76¼c; No. 2 red, 73½@75c.

CORN—No. 2, 42½c; No. 2 yellow, 42¾c.

OATS—No. 2, 33⅛c; No. 3 white, 34¼@35¼c.

RYE—No. 2, 49¼c.

BARLEY—Good feeding, 42@45c; fair to choice malting, 47@55c.

SEEDS—No. 1 flax, $1.10; No. 1 northwestern, $1.12½; clover contract grade, $10.25.

PROVISIONS—Mess pork per bbl., $18.00@18.10. Lard, per 100 lbs., $10.05@10.15. Short ribs sides (loose), $9.75@9.90. Dry salted shoulders (boxed), $8.75@8.87½. Short clear sides (boxed), $10.37½@10.50.

Following are the receipts and shipments of flour and grain yesterday:

	Receipts.	Shipments.
Flour, bbls	19,400	26,300
Wheat, bu	21,400	21,000
Corn, bu	142,500	275,900
Oats, bu	184,200	154,300
Rye, bu	6,700	6,400
Barley, bu	36,000	21,100

On the Produce exchange today the butter market was easier; creameries 17@17½c; dairies, 14@22c. Eggs, firm, at mark, cases included, 13¾@13½c. Cheese, steady, firm, 13@13½c.

NEW YORK GENERAL MARKET.

Quotations of the Day on Various Commodities.

NEW YORK, March 20.—FLOUR—Receipts, 27,860 bbls.; exports, 40,962 bbls.; firm on spring patents, but easy on winter; Minnesota patents, $4.00@4.30; Minnesota bakers, $3.20@3.40; winter patents, $3.70@4.00; straights, $3.50@3.65; clears, $2.80@3.10; low grades, $2.40@2.90. Rye flour, dull; fair to good, $2.80@3.20; choice to fancy, $3.25@3.45.

CORNMEAL—Steady; yellow western, $1.10; city, $1.08; Brandywine, $3.40@3.55.

RYE—Steady; No. 2 western, 65½c, f. o. b. afloat; state, 59@60c, c. i. f. New York.

BARLEY—Steady; feeding, 47c, c. i. f. Buffalo; malting, 52½@56c, c. i. f. Buffalo.

WHEAT—Receipts, 22,800 bu.; exports, 83,691 bu. Spot, steady; No. 2 red, 79¼c, elevator, and 83¼c f. o. b. afloat; No. 1 northern Duluth, 87½c, f. o. b. afloat; No. 1 hard Manitoba, 88¼c, f. o. b. afloat. Options—Big Argentine shipments caused an early break in wheat today, from which the market slowly rallied towards noon, with corn and on cold weather news holding about steady in the forenoon on a small trade. The closer was steady at a partial ¼c net decline. March closed 82¼c; May, 78⅝@79 1-16c, closed 79c; July, 76 7-16@76⅝c, closed 76¾c; September, 74½@75c, closed 75c.

CORN—Receipts, 86,000 bu.; exports, 9,161 bu. Sales, 125,000 bu.; futures, 200,000 bu. Spot, spot, firm; No. 2, 51c, elevator, and 52c f. o. b. afloat; No. 2 yellow, 53c; No. 2 white, 51c. While March corn, in absence of further covering, broke this morning, late options turned very strong and higher on bad weather, light receipts and a big export trade, closing ⅝c higher against ⅛c net loss on March. March, 49⅝c, closed 51c; May, 50@50⅛c, closed 50⅛c; July, 49 5-16@49¾c, closed, 49¾c.

OATS—Receipts, 11,300 bu.; exports, 25,431 bu. Spot steady; No. 1, 43½c; standard white, 42½c; No. 2 white, 43¼@43½c; No. 3 white, 42c; track white, 43¾@44c. Options generally firm all day with corn. May closed 39¾c.

HAY—Steady; shipping, 55@70c; good to choice, 80@$1.00.

HOPS — Quiet; state, common to choice, 1902, 24@30c; 1901, 20@25c; olds, 12@20c; Pacific coast, 1902, 24@29c; 1901, 20@23c; olds, 7@12c.

HIDES—Firm; Galveston, 20 to 25 lbs., 15c; Texas dry, 23 to 30 lbs., 14c.

LEATHER—Firm.

PROVISIONS—Beef, steady; family, $14.00@15.00; mess, $9.50@10.50; beef hams, $20.50@21.50; packet, $12.00@13.00; city, extra India mess, $23.00@24.00. Cut meats, quiet; pickled bellies, $10.25@11.50; pickled shoulders, $8.00@9.25; pickled hams, $11.50@12.00. Lard, firm; western steamed, $10.40; continent, $10.55; South America, $10.75; compound, $7.50@8.00; refined, firm. Pork, firm; family, $19.50@20.00; short clear, $19.00@21.50; mess, $18.00@18.75.

TALLOW—Firm; city, 5¼c; country, 6@6¼c.

RICE—Firm.

BUTTER—Receipts, 5,326 pkgs.; firm, state dairy, 26@27c; creamery, extra, 28c; creamery, common to choice, 19@28c.

CHEESE—Receipts, 2,573 pkgs.; firmer; fancy, large, full cream, fall made, colored, 13¾@13¾c; fancy, large, white, 14¼@14¾c; fancy, small, colored, 13c; fancy, small, white, 14c.

EGGS—Receipts, 10,620 pkgs.; unsettled; state and Pennsylvania, average best, 17½c; western, fancy, 16c.

POULTRY—Alive, nominally unchanged; dressed, steady, unchanged.

METALS—There was another sharp advance in the London tin market today, following yesterday's decline. Prices there rained £7 12s 6d, with spot closing at £134 17s 6d and futures at £125 7s 6d. The local market was quiet but steady and higher, with spot quoted at $28.50@29.00.

Copper was 2s 6d higher for spot, which was quoted at £66 7s 6d in London, but 7s 6d lower for futures, or at £66 2s 6d for futures. Here copper was unsettled. At is

said that sales of lake have been made at about quotations, but it is also reported that leading holders are asking a little over quotations. Standard is quoted at 114.00; lake and electrolytic at $14.75@15.00; and casting at $14.50@15.00. Lead was unchanged in London, at £13 15s, and in New York at $4.65@. Spelter lost 2s 6d in London, closing there at £23 1s 6d, while here it continued firm at $5.75. Iron in Glasgow closed 57s 3d and in Middlesborough at 52s 7½d. Locally, iron was unchanged. No. 1 foundry northern is quoted at $24.00@24.50; No. 2 foundry northern, $23@23.50; No. 1 foundry southern and No. 1 foundry southern soft, $23.50@24.50. Warrants are nominal.

OMAHA WHOLESALE MARKET.

Condition of Trade and Quotations on Staple and Fancy Produce.

EGGS—Weak; fresh stock, 11¼@12c.

LIVE POULTRY—Hens, 10@10½c; roosters, according to age, 5@6c; turkeys, 13@16c; ducks, 9@10c; geese, 9@10c; chickens, per lb., 10@10½c.

DRESSED POULTRY—Chickens, 11@12c; hens, 11@12c; turkeys, 15@18c; ducks, 11@12c; geese, 11@12c.

BUTTER—Packing stock, 13c; choice dairy, in tubs, 15@17c; separator, 27@28c.

OYSTERS—Standards, per can, 25c; extra Selects, per can, 35c; New York Counts, per can, 45c; bulk extra Selects, per gal., $1.25; bulk Standard, per gal., $1.35.

FROZEN FINNED FISH—Trout, 9@10c; herring, 5c; pickerel, 8c; pike, 9c; perch, 6c; buffalo, dressed, 7c; sunfish, 3c; bluefish, 3c; whitefish, 9c; salmon, 16c; haddock, 11c; codfish, 12c; mackerel, 20c; Spanish mackerel, per lb., 40c; lobsters, green, per lb., 35c; bullheads, 10c; catfish, 14c; black bass, 20c; halibut, 15c.

BRAN—Per ton, $15.50.

HAY—Prices quoted by Omaha Wholesale Dealers' association: Choice No. 1 upland, $8. No. 2, $7.50; medium, $7; coarse, $6.50. Rye straw, $6. These prices are for hay of good color and quality. Demand fair; receipts light.

CORN—43c.

OATS—29c.

RYE—No. 2, 45c.

VEGETABLES.

NEW CELERY—Kalamazoo, per doz., 25c; California, per doz., 45@75c.

POTATOES—Per bu., 40c.

SWEET POTATOES—Iowa and Kansas, $2.50.

SEED POTATOES—Northern grown, per bu., 75@80c.

NEW PARSLEY—Per doz. bunches, 45@50c.

NEW CARROTS—Per doz. bunches, 40c.

LETTUCE—Per doz. bunches, 45c.

BEETS—New southern, per doz. bunches, 45c; old, per bu., 40c.

PARSNIPS—Per bu., 40c.

TURNIPS—Per bu., 40c; Canada rutabagas, per lb., 1½c; new southern, per doz. bunches, 50c.

ONIONS—Red Wisconsin, per lb., 1c; white, per lb., 2c; Spanish, per crate, $1.75.

SPINACH—Southern, per doz. bunches, 50c.

LEMONS—California fancy, $3.25; choice, $3.

NAVY BEANS—Per bu., $2.50.

WAX BEANS—Per bu., box, $3; string beans, per bu., box, $2.50.

CABBAGE—Holland seed, per lb., 3½c.

TOMATOES—New Florida, per 6-basket crate, $4.50.

CAULIFLOWER—California, per crate, $3.00.

FRUITS.

APPLES—New York stock, $3.00@3.50; California Bellflowers, per bu. box, $1.50; Western, $@.50.

GRAPES—Malagas, per keg, $6.00@7.00.

TROPICAL FRUITS.

FIGS—California, per 10-lb. cartons, 90c.; Turkish, per 25-lb. box, $4@@@.

ORANGES—California navels, fancy, $3.00@3.25; choice, $2.75; Mediterranean sweets, $2.25; sweet Jaffa, $2.50.

DATES—Persian, in 70-lb. boxes, per lb., 6@c; per case of 30-lb. pkgs., $2.25.

MISCELLANEOUS.

POPCORN—Per lb., 2c; shelled, 4c.

HIDES—No 1 green, 5½c; No. 2 green, 5c; No. 1 salted, 6c; No. 2 salted, 5c; No. 1 veal calf, 8 to 12 lbs., 8½c; No. 2 veal calf, 12 to 16 lbs., 6c; dry hides, 8@12c; sheep pelts, 25@35c; horse hides, $1.50@2.50.

NUTS—Walnuts, No. 1 soft shell, per lb., 15c; hard shell, per lb., 14c; No. 2 soft shell, per lb., 13c; No. 2 hard shell, per lb., 12c; Brazils, per lb., 12c; filberts, per lb., 12c; almonds, soft shell, per lb, 16c; hard shell, per lb., 15c; pecans, large, per lb, 12½c; small, per lb., 11c; cocoanuts, per doz., 60c; chestnuts, per lb., 10c; peanuts, per lb., 5@6c; roasted peanuts, per lb., 7c; black walnuts, per bu., $1; hickory nuts, per bu., $1.00; cocoanuts, per 100, $4.

OLD METALS, ETC.—A. B. Alpfin quotes the following prices: Iron, country mixed, per ton, $11; iron, stove plate, per ton, $8; copper, per lb., 8½c; brass, heavy, per lb., 6½c; brass, light, per lb., 5½c; lead, per lb., 3c; zinc, per lb., 2½c.

MAPLE SUGAR—Ohio, per lb., 10c.

HONEY—Utah, per 24-frame case, $3.25. Colorado, $3.50.

St. Louis Grain and Provisions.

ST. LOUIS, March 20.—WHEAT—Lower; No. 2 red, cash, elevator 69c, nominal; track, 73@75c; May, 68¾@69c; July, 67¾c; No. 2 hard, 70@73c.

CORN—Lower; No. 2 cash, 40¼c; track, 41½@44c; May, 40¾c; July, 40¼c.

OATS—Dull; No. 2 cash, 34½c, nominal; track, 35½c; May, 33⅜c; July, 30c, nominal; No. 2 white, 37½@38c.

RYE—Steady at 50c.

FLOUR—Steady; red winter patents, $3.70@3.85; extra fancy and straight, $3.00@3.25; clear, $2.75@2.90.

SEEDS—Timothy, steady, $2.00@2.80; prime worth more.

CORNMEAL—Steady, $2.30.

BRAN—Dull, weak; no bids, but possibly 75c could be realized for sacked, east track.

HAY—Steady; timothy, $11.00@16.00; prairie, $7.00@11.00.

IRON COTTON TIES—$1.65.

BAGGING—5¾@6½c.

HEMP TWINE—8c.

PROVISIONS — Pork, higher; jobbing, standard mess, $18.15. Lard, higher, $9.75. Dry salt meats (boxed), firm; extra shorts, $9.75; clear ribs, $10.00; short clears, $10.12½. Bacon (boxed), firm; extra shorts, $10.62½; clear ribs, $10.87½; short clear, $11.

METALS—Lead, strong at $4.60. Spelter, strong at $4.55.

POULTRY—Steady; chickens, 10@10½c; turkeys, 13c; ducks, 15c; geese, 7½c.

BUTTER—Steady; creamery, 21@24c; dairy, 18@21½c.

EGGS—Lower; 11¼c, fresh.

	Receipts.	Shipments
Flour, bbls	6,000	19,000
Wheat, bu	21,000	62,000
Corn, bu	52,000	98,000
Oats, bu	101,000	82,000

Liverpool Grain and Provisions.

LIVERPOOL, March 20.—WHEAT—Spot, dull; No. 2 red western, winter, 6s 11½d; No. 1 northern, spring, 6s 7½d; No. 1 California, 6s 8½d. Futures, quiet; March, nominal; May, 6s 1¾d; July, 6s 1¼d.

CORN—Spot, American mixed, new, steady at 4s 4d, old, quiet at 5s 4½d. Futures, quiet; May, 4s 2¼d; June, 4s 1¾d; July, 4s 1¾d.

FLOUR—St. Louis fancy, quiet, 5s 3d.

PROVISIONS—Beef, easy; extra India mess, 83s 6d. Pork, firm; prime mess, 62s 3d. Hams, short cut 14 to 16 lbs., steady, 55s 6d. Bacon, Cumberland cut, 24 to 30 lbs., firm, 52s 6d; clear bellies, 14 to 24 lbs., steady, 54s 6d; long clear middles, light, 28 to 34 lbs., steady, 53s 6d; long clear middles, heavy, 35 to 40 lbs., steady, 53s; short clear backs, 35 to 40 lbs., steady, 53s; clear bellies, 14 to 16 lbs., steady, 54s. Shoulders, square, 11 to 13 lbs., steady, 52s. Lard, prime western, in tierces, firm, 51s; American refined, in pails, firm, 53s 9d.

BUTTER—Fine United States, nominal; good United States, steady, 108s.

CHEESE—Strong; American finest white, 63s; American finest colored, 63s.

TALLOW—Prime city, 27s 6d; Australian in London, dull, 32s 6d.

Receipts of wheat during the past three days, 102,000 centals, including 84,000 American.

Receipts of American corn during past three days, 61,000 centals.

Kansas City Grain and Provisions.

KANSAS CITY, March 20.—WHEAT—May, 64¾c; July, 62¾c; cash, No. 2 hard, 69@71c; No. 3, 66@68c; No. 2 red, 70@73c; No. 3, 66@69c.

CORN—April, 35½@36c; May, 36½@36¾c; July, 36¼c, cash No. 2 mixed, 35½@36c; No. 2 white, 38c; No. 3, 38c.

OATS—No 2 white, 35½@36½c; No. 2 mixed 34c.

RYE—No. 2, 45c.

HAY—Choice timothy, $12.50; choice prairie, $8.50@9.00.

BUTTER—Creamery, 21@25c; dairy, fancy, 19c.

EGGS—Fresh, 10¾c.

	Receipts.	Shipments.
Wheat, bu	44,800	28,800
Corn, bu	45,000	61,800
Oats, bu	14,000	21,000

Duluth Grain Market.

DULUTH, March 20.—WHEAT—To arrive, No. 1 hard, 75¾c; No. 1 northern, 74¾c; No. 2 northern, 72¾c; May, 74¾c; July, 74¾c.

OATS—May, 33c.

Peoria Market.

PEORIA, March 20.—CORN—Firmer; No. 3, 38¾c.

OATS—Steady; No. 3 white, 33c.

Minneapolis Wheat, Flour and Bran.

MINNEAPOLIS, March 20.—WHEAT—May, 73¾@74¼c; July, 71¾@74c; on track, No. 1 hard, 76¾c; No. 1 northern, 75¼c; No. 2 northern, 74¼c.

FLOUR—First patents, $3.75@3.95; second patents, $3.65@3.75; first clears, $2.75; second clears, $2.00@2.15.

BRAN—In bulk, $12.

WEARE GRAIN AND ELEVATOR CO.

Omaha Branch 110-111 Board of Trade Building.

CHICAGO, March 20.—WHEAT—The market has been influenced by larger Argentine shipments than expected. The lack of cash demand and less alarming weather map than anticipated. Prices at one time were ½c under Thursday, but there was a partial recovery on local buying. Cables were lower on the large Argentine shipments. Clearances were only 267,000 bu., mainly flour. Clearances for the week were 2,396,000 bu., or 2,000,000 under last year and 1,000,000 under last week. The Modern Miller was emphatically bearish on the crop outlook. Argentine shipments were 3,352,000 bu., compared with 1,240,000 last week and 1,288,000 last year. Primary receipts were 400,000 bu., against 474,000 last year. Primary shipments were 187,000 bu., against 192,000 last year. Northwest receipts were 247 cars, against 253 a year ago. Local receipts were 15 cars, with none contract. Estimates for tomorrow, 15 cars. New York reports 15 loads taken for export. There was a sale of a cargo of No. 1 northern here. A cold wave is predicted for Illinois and Indiana, but warmer weather is promised elsewhere.

CORN—The market has been strong the futures up ¾@⅞c and the cash ½@⅝c higher. The market has been influenced by the wet weather, but the principal motive has been buying for July, credited to Cudahy, and buying of May and selling of July by Armour brokers. There was some selling of July by Patten. Argentine shipments were only 16,000 bu., but Argentine crop news was favorable. Clearances were 171,000 bu. New York reports 11 loads taken for export. Local receipts were 201 cars, with two contract. Estimated for tomorrow, 130 cars. Cables were lower. There was no eastern demand for corn, but elevator people absorbed the cash offerings. Clearances for the week, 3,072,000 bu. Primary receipts were 577,000 bu., against 216,000 last year. Primary shipments were 496,000 bu., against 197,000 last year.

OATS—The market has been small and unimportant and prices have not held. There was some demand from elevator people and possibly some selling by Patten, but all on a very small scale. Local receipts were 235 cars, with eight contract. Estimates for Saturday, 210 cars. Clearances, 15,000 bu. The cash market was 1c higher.

PROVISIONS—The market opened strong. Logan and Bryan bought May pork early. Local packers were sellers. Trade has been fair. The cash demand is good and shipments of meats heavy. There were 11,000 hogs, and the market active and 10c higher. Estimates for tomorrow, 9,000 head. Hogs in the west today, 30,700 head, against 47,500 last week and 41,700 last year.

WEARE GRAIN AND ELEVATOR CO.

Philadelphia Produce Market.

PHILADELPHIA, March 20.—BUTTER—Firm, good demand; extra western creamery, 27c; nearby prints, 32c.

EGGS—Steady; fair demand; fresh nearby, 15c at the mark; western, 15c; southwestern, 14½c; do, fair to good, 14c.

CHEESE—Quiet but firm; New York full creams, prime small, 14¾@14¾c; fair to good small, 13¾@14c; prime, large, 14@14¼c; fair to good, large, 13¾@13¾c.

Toledo Grain and Seed.

TOLEDO, March 20.—WHEAT—Market dull; cash, 74¾c; May, 76¾c; July, 73¾c.

CORN—Active, firm; March, 46c; May, 42¾c; July, 35¾c.

OATS—Dull, steady; March, 36c; May, 34¾c; July, 31¾c.

RYE—No. 2, 54c.

SEEDS—Clover, active, steady; cash, $7.40; March, $7.35; April, $7.05; October, $5.47½; prime timothy, $1.90.

NEW YORK STOCKS AND BONDS

Shares Sell Freely on Renewed Activity in Market.

NEW YORK, March 20.—General improvement was shown by the stock market today. The absence of selling pressure at the opening caused the professional element to run a number of issues with the result that numerous material gains were registered. Southern Pacific was one of the few exceptions, showing more or less weakness throughout the day. The bulk of today's business was done during the morning session, though in the last hour the market resumed its early activity and closing prices were in many instances the best of the day. The better feeling was more pronounced in the afternoon because of the greater ease in the time money market, some loans being made at 5 per cent. It was the general opinion that barring untoward events the situation should from now on improve. The early gains took in Canadian Pacific, Louisville & Nashville, St. Paul, several specialties, including Minneapolis & Omaha, which advanced 4 points, and the steel stocks. Later there were improved prices for Baltimore & Ohio, the Erie, New York Central, St. Louis & San Francisco issues and Rock Island. The advance in the last two was accompanied by reports that an early announcement of the dividend deal would be made. In the industrial group prices reached a higher level in Tennessee Coal, Colorado Fuel, Consolidated Gas, General Electric and National Lead. Sugar shares were weak throughout and Amalgamated copper was barely steady, though making a fractional net gain.

The decline in sugar followed the operations of a specialist who offered the stock down in hand share lots. A feature of the early afternoon was the sudden demand for Metropolitan, which was said to come from the Gates short interest. On fairly large transactions the stock made a net gain of 4 points, closing at the top. Missouri Pacific developed some strength by reason of its statement of earnings, which was one of the most gratifying features of the day. The hard coal stocks were fairly strong, though not in active demand, and St. Paul advanced on what was reported to be inside buying. London traded in about 12,000 shares here, buying slightly on balances. The day's business was comparatively small and commission houses continued to report a dull public interest. Much of the buying came from the various pools and cliques that were prominent on the short side up to a few days ago. There was no change in the foreign exchange situation. Demand sterling rose a trifle in the morning, but eased off to $4.8725 toward the close. Very little business was reported. Money both for time and demand loans was offered in abundance, but the demand was again only moderate. The increasing stringency of the market during the day led to a more general buying for numerous minor stocks which had not figured in the rally to any extent. These included Chicago Terminal issues, Colorado Southern issues, Lake Erie, Evansville & Terre Haute and several other obscure properties. North American made a jump of 4 points, but this was not in the full advance, and several other high grade stocks which have been recently liquidated improved.

The bond market maintained a firm tone throughout the day, but was somewhat less active than on yesterday. Total sales, par value, $1,710,000.

United States new 4s and 5s advanced ⅛c on the last call.

The following are the closing prices on the New York Stock exchange:

Atchison	84½	Texas & Pacific	29
do pfd	93¾	Toledo, St. L. & W	24¾
Bal. & Ohio	86	do pfd	44
do pfd	82½	Union Pacific	94¾
Canadian Pacific	111½	do pfd	91
Canada So.	73	Wabash	23
Ches. & Ohio	47¾	do pfd	39¾
Chicago & Alton	33¾	Wheeling & L. E.	24¾
do pfd	80	do pfd	80
Chicago & G. W.	23¾	American Ex.	212
C. & N. W.	187½	United States Ex.	208
Chicago Ter. & Tr.	17¾	Wells-Fargo Ex.	220
do pfd	32	Amal. Copper	73¾
C. C. C. & St. L.	93¾	Amer. Car & F.	40¾
Colorado So.	23¾	do pfd	109
do 1st pfd	68½	Amer. Ice	18¾
do 2d pfd	42¾	Amer. Lin. Oil	15¾
Del. & Hudson	171½	do pfd	40¾
Del. L. & W.	253	American S. & R.	49¾
Denver & R. G.	37¾	do pfd	91¾
do pfd	91¾	Anac. Mining Co.	123¾
Erie	38¾	Brooklyn R. T.	67¾
do 1st pfd	68¾	Col. Fuel & Iron	48
do 2d pfd	53¾	Colo. Gas	20½
Great Nor. pfd	187	Cont. Tobacco pfd	114½
Hocking Valley	102	Gen. Electric	186
do pfd	98	Hocking Coal	20¾
Illinois Central	140½	Inter. Paper	17
Iowa Central	23¾	do pfd	71¾
do pfd	60	Inter. Power	15½
Lake Erie & W.	42½	Laclede Gas	82½
do pfd	112	National Biscuit	44¾
L. & N.	122½	National Lead	21¾
Manhattan L.	141¾	No. American	104¾
Met. St. Ry.	158¾	Pacific Coast	45
Mex. Central	24¾	Pacific Mail	38¾
Mex. National	14¾	People's Gas	101¾
Minn. & St. L.	103¾	Pressed S. Car	41¾
do pfd	110¾	do pfd	93½
M., K. & T.	26¾	Pullman P. Car	220
do pfd	54¾	Republic Steel	20¾
N. J. Central	178	do pfd	78
N. Y. Central	123¾	Sugar	124½
Norfolk & W.	72¾	Tenn. Coal & Iron	47¾
do pfd	80	Union Bag & P.	12¾
Ontario & W.	34¾	do pfd	74
Pennsylvania	144¾	U. S. Leather	13¾
Reading	81¾	U. S. pfd	81
do 1st pfd	87¾	U. S. Rubber	16¾
do 2d pfd	82¾	do pfd	52
St. L. & S. F.	32¾	U. S. Steel	37¾
do 1st pfd	80	do pfd	91¾
do 2d pfd	71¾	Western Union	85½
St. L. & S. W.	29¾	Amer. Locomotive	37
do pfd	67	do pfd	94
St. Paul	171¾	K. C. Southern	22
do pfd	189	do pfd	63
So. Railway	33¾	Rock Island	24¾
do pfd	80	do pfd	73

Bank Clearings.

CHICAGO, March 20.—Clearings, $25,822,326, balances, $2,005,702. New York exchange, 10c premium; foreign exchange, unchanged; sterling posted at $4.85 for sixty days and at $4.88 for demand.

NEW YORK, March 20.—Clearings, $231,729,769, balances, $6,674,520.

BOSTON, March 20.—Clearings, $19,988,887; balances, $1,219,493.

PHILADELPHIA, March 20.—Clearings, $18,096,982; balances, $2,480,148; money, 5 per cent.

BALTIMORE, March 20.—Clearings, $3,692,689; balances, $568,914; money, 6 per cent.

ST. LOUIS, March 20.—Clearings, $6,399,496; balances, $647,642; money, steady at 5@6 per cent; New York exchange, 20c premium.

CINCINNATI, March 20.—Clearings, $3,249,200; money, 4½@6 per cent; New York exchange, 10@15c premium.

WEEKLY BANK CLEARINGS.

Summary of Business Transacted by the Associated Banks.

NEW YORK, March 20.—The following table, compiled by Bradstreet, shows the bank clearings at the principal cities for the week ended March 19, with the percentage of increase and decrease as compared with the corresponding week last year:

CITIES.	Clearings.	Inc.	Dec.
*New York	$1,358,118,417		3.4
*Chicago	165,658,102	2.8	
*Boston	150,493,785	2	
*Philadelphia	108,070,569		1.5
*St. Louis	45,794,641		7.0
Pittsburg	50,418,415	28.0	
*San Francisco	31,827,027	29.0	
*Baltimore	21,951,150	1.9	
Cincinnati	21,603,200	7.1	
*Kansas City	17,900,156	4.9	
Cleveland	16,757,393	31.0	
*Minneapolis	12,011,912	3.6	
New Orleans	13,030,271	13.1	
Detroit	9,696,008	2.2	
*Louisville	10,517,418	19.0	
OMAHA	7,984,974	6.9	
Milwaukee	7,152,056	11.8	
*Providence	7,029,000	14.8	
*Buffalo	5,559,018	11.5	
*St. Paul	5,665,315	19.6	
Indianapolis	5,315,154	29.0	
Los Angeles	6,279,627		
*St. Joseph	6,507,002	16.5	
Denver	4,005,629		7.6
Richmond	3,853,711	15.1	
Columbus	3,876,900	11.2	
Seattle	4,174,451	37.1	
Washington	3,919,577	5.0	
*Savannah	3,794,229	59.4	
Memphis	3,972,241	8.1	
Albany	2,852,489		3.2
Salt Lake City	2,795,562		13.0
*Portland, Ore.	3,639,475	26.8	
*Toledo	2,855,402	39.5	
Fort Worth	3,080,553	2.8	
Peoria	2,520,633		22.4
Hartford	2,527,643		
Rochester	2,280,843		
Atlanta	2,891,865	26.3	
Des Moines	2,547,397	21.6	
New Haven	1,629,823	8.6	
Nashville	2,265,426	31.1	
Spokane, Wash.	2,128,134	39.0	
Grand Rapids	1,763,550	17.2	
Sioux City	1,682,134	5.4	
Springfield, Mass.	1,491,575	6.4	
Norfolk	1,622,530	17.9	
Dayton	1,712,164	27.3	
Tacoma	2,069,688	69.3	
Worcester	1,554,206		
Augusta, Ga.	1,696,017	58.9	
Portland, Me.	1,336,763	19.5	
Scranton	1,430,473		5.6
Topeka	1,798,038	6.1	
Syracuse	1,237,709	12.7	
Evansville	1,170,962	32.5	
Wilmington, Del.	1,100,401	8.3	
Birmingham	1,241,341	30.2	
Davenport	801,556		16.3
Fall River	968,963		3.7
Little Rock	872,316	6.2	
Knoxville	1,076,345	65.7	
Macon	781,000	14.5	
Wilkesbarre	890,622	11.1	
Akron	728,900	16.3	
Springfield, Ill.	676,561	9.1	
Wheeling, W. Va.	684,538		11.6
Wichita	835,169	42.7	
Youngstown	627,913		4.1
Helena	403,719		17.2
Lexington	677,753		9.7
Chattanooga	703,188	28.0	
Lowell	505,464		
New Bedford	561,066	43.5	
Kalamazoo	627,175	43.4	
Fargo, N. D.	415,646	19.4	
Canton, O.	530,000	15.7	
Jacksonville, Fla.	385,241		5.1
Greensburg, Pa.	438,284		
Rockford, Ill.	469,795		4.6
Springfield, O.	439,006	10.6	
Binghamton	382,600	13.0	
Chester, Pa.	359,049	9.7	
Bloomington, Ill.	382,819	29.4	
Quincy	443,619		3.6
Sioux Falls, S. D.	263,784	5.6	
Mansfield, O.	180,913		
Jacksonville, Ill.	269,201	61.0	
Fremont, Neb.	162,233	30.6	
Utica	2,303,333		
Decatur, Ill.	262,540	7.6	
Houston	12,336,000		1.7
Galveston	8,989,000	6.4	
Charleston	1,172,819		
Totals, U. S.	$2,165,759,079		.8
Outside New York	207,640,662	6.27	

CANADA.

Montreal	$ 23,109,831	24.1	
Toronto	17,158,698	15.4	