A SMALL FRACTIONAL GAIN IN WHEAT TO-DAY

The Market Generally Firmer—The Cash Demand Better—Chicago Less Bearish.

Argentine Shipments Less Than Expected and Argentine Weather Less Favorable.

The Modern Miller Puts Out a Bearish Survey of the Winter Wheat Crop.

Minneapolis Chamber of Commerce, Feb. 20.—The grain markets opened steady and strong this morning, without much gimp. Cables were without particular change. Corn was active and firmer, partly on rumors of a strong combination of bulls in the July option. Wheat was steady and firm, with a fair trade at the level of yesterday's closing price. Temperatures all over the country were a trifle higher, with the outlook for clear and warmer weather to come. There was no precipitation worth noting anywhere. One strengthening item was the report of Argentine shipments. It was Broomhall's prediction that Argentine would send out 2,200,000, but she actually shipped 1,728,000 bu, or almost a half-million less than the prediction. This compares with 1,680,000 bu last week and 664,000 bu a year ago. A later cablegram from London said the Argentine advices were of rains over the country, causing some interference with threshing operations. Liverpool was ¼d up at the close, and Paris and other continental markets unchanged to a trifle lower.

The Chicago gossip carried a more hopeful tone than yesterday, and the traders there were inclined to turn for the moment from consideration of the foreign supply outlook to a more careful analysis of supply conditions at home. The Minneapolis millers are known to be doing a satisfactory flour business and considerable wheat is being consumed every day. It is true local stocks are not decreasing. But the bulls point to the fact that this is about the only important point where there is not already some evidence of a decreasing tendency, and that the decrease here is really going on, but is not evident on the surface; that, considering the matter of the Minneapolis milling supply, there is a decrease going on, the local stocks being maintained at the expense of stocks in country houses, which latter fact will show up later on. It would appear that millers everywhere are doing a fair business from the fact that cash demand, not only in the Minneapolis market, but at other milling points as well, was reported better this morning. The big depressing feature and the leading bear argument just now is the lack of export business. Little is heard of sales of wheat to go out. The principal export markets have been reporting light inquiry and only scattered business for a week or more. If a little export business would develop and continue from one day to another, the bulls for a long pull would have their position fortified and would feel certain of winning out by just waiting. But if we do not work up more export business than is now being reported, it will be in order to look for the bear argument that we are not on an export basis, and for pressure on the market to force the option lower.

San Francisco was off a trifle, not on anything weakening there or on any less active demand, but more in sympathy with the bearish gossip going west from Chicago. At the same time, the reports from three big Chicago houses this morning said that the most prominent Chicago bulls were adding to their lines on the dips, which is one reason why that market has so far held stubbornly against the bearish news. Near noon a runner came of 200,000 bu sold to go out via gulf ports, but it was impossible to locate the actual trade. Primary points had 418,000 bu, against 526,000 last year, and shipped 125,000, against 240,000. Minneapolis received 222 cars, against 330, and Duluth 100, against 62. Wheat and flour clearances were extremely light, amounting to only 35,000 bu, both wheat and flour.

The Modern Miller says there is no apprehension of damage to the winter wheat crop from the severe cold weather that recently swept over the country, except in sections where sleet without snow was experienced. The crop has had snow covering during most of the extreme cold, and was benefited rather than harmed thereby. The movement of wheat to market was further restricted by the blizzard. There is an urgent demand for wheat at the accumulative centers by outside mills, which cannot be met because of inadequate rail transportation.

Broomhall cabled that the visible supply of wheat in the chief ports of Argentine is to-day 2,576,000 bu, against 2,240,000 bu a week ago, and 1,616,000 bu a year ago. The visible supply of corn to-day is 187,000 bu, against 184,000 bu a week ago, and 134,000 bu a year ago. The Argentine wheat markets are steady in tone, with a moderate demand for export. Arrivals from the interior are large and the quality is satisfactory.

The May option sold up to 76⅝c near the close, and closed at 76½c. July closed at 76½@76⅝c.

In the cash market there was a firmer tone and prices relatively a fraction higher all around. No. 1 northern of any description and in almost any car was salable at 1c over, and a higher premium was paid for some lots. No. 2 northern sold from ¼c under to ½c over May, according to quality and the car containing it. The Great Northern and Northern Pacific wheat continues selling lower than other lots, owing to the inclination of the milling buyers to pass these lots, as the cars are not available for reloading out with flour.

THE FLOUR MARKET

STRENGTH AND ACTIVITY—GOOD SALES REPORTED DAILY.

Millers were in the market this morning for cash wheat and this tended to confirm the reports of good flour sales yesterday. The demand is satisfactory and while not up to the maximum capacity, is nevertheless fully double the demand at this time a year ago, and somewhat larger than is the general rule at this season. Domestic buyers are inclined to take hold more freely. Millers are very firm in their views and are holding prices firm and steady as quoted.

Shipments were not especially heavy yesterday, at 46,561 barrels, but there was more than this quantity put out, the unsatisfactory car situation operating to delay loading out.

First patents are quoted $3.05@4; second patents, $3.85@3.95; first clears, $2.55; second clears, $2.10@2.20.

THE CASH TRADE

QUIET AND FEATURELESS IN THE COARSE GRAINS.

FLAX—The market was steady and quiet without special feature. Minneapolis received 20 cars against 24 last year, and shipped 13.

Closing prices: Minneapolis cash, $1.14¾; to arrive, $1.14¾; February, $1.14¼; May, $1.16¼; July, $1.16¾.

CORN—No change of importance was noted in corn. No. 3 yellow closing at 41½c. Receipts, 19 cars; shipments, 6 cars.

OATS—No. 3 white oats closed at 33@33¼c. Receipts, 24 cars; shipments, 9 cars.

FEED AND MEAL—Prices are fairly steady. There is good demand for the better grades. Coarse corn meal and cracked corn, $14.75; No. 1 ground feed 2-3 corn, 1-3 oats, $15.25; No. 2 ground feed, ½ corn, ½ oats, $15.50@17.75; No. 3 ground feed, 1-3 corn, 2-3 oats, $15.75@16.00.

MILLSTUFFS—Good general demand is noted from all sources. The market is strong as quoted. Bran in bulk, $15@15.25; shorts, $15@15.25; flour middlings, $16.75@17; red dog, $18.75 f. o. b.; feed in 200-lb sacks at $1 per ton additional. Shipments 824 tons.

RYE—No. 2 closed at 47½c. Receipts, 10 cars; shipments, 4 cars.

BARLEY—Fair demand ruled for the good lots. Feed grades are quoted 42@50c; malting grades, 50@58c. Receipts, 15 cars; shipments, 18 cars.

HAY—Prices are easy as quoted. Upland choice, $10.50@11; upland, No. 1, $10@10.50; midland, $8@8.50; medium, $7@7.50; off color, $5.50@6.50; timothy, choice, $10.50@11; timothy, No. 1, $10@10.50; No. 2, $8@9.50; rye straw, choice, $6.50@7. Receipts, 83 tons; shipments, 12 cars.

CASH SALES REPORTED TO-DAY.

No. 1 hard, 1 car	$0.78⅝
No. 1 northern, 5 cars	.77½
No. 1 northern, 5 cars	.77¼
No. 2 northern, 7 cars	.76½
No. 2 northern, 5 cars	.76⅝
No. 2 northern, 10 cars	.76
No. 2 northern, 2 cars	.76¼
No. 2 northern, 2,000 bu, to arrive	.76¼
No. 3 wheat, 1 car	.73½
No. 3 wheat, 2 cars	.75
No. 3 wheat, 1 car	.73⅝
No. 3 wheat, 1 car	.74¾
No. 3 wheat, 1 car	.74½
No. 3 wheat, 1 car	.74
Rejected wheat, 1 car	.70½
Rejected wheat, 4 cars	.72
Rejected wheat, 1 car, smutty	.74½
Rejected wheat, 1 car	.71½
Rejected wheat, 2 car	.74
Rejected wheat, 1 car	.71
No grade wheat, part car	.70
No grade wheat, part car	.60
No. 4 yellow corn, 2 cars	.38
No. 4 corn, 1 car	.39
No grade corn, 3 cars	.36
No grade corn, 4 cars	.32
No grade corn, 4 cars	.31
No grade corn, 1 car	.31½
No grade corn, 1 car	.34
No grade corn, 1 car	.35½
No. 3 white oats, 1 car, choice	.34
No. 3 white oats, 4 cars	.33
No. 3 white oats, 1 car	.33½
No. 3 white oats, 1 car	.33¼
No. 3 white oats, 1 car	.33⅜
No. 3 white oats, 2 cars	.34
No. 4 white oats, 1 car	.32¾
No. 3 oats, 1 car	.32½
No. 3 oats, 1 car	.32
No grade oats, 1 car	.32
No grade oats, 1 car	.31¾
No. 2 rye, 3 cars	.47
No. 2 rye, 2 cars	.47¼
No grade rye, 1 car	.47
No. 4 barley, 1 car	.52
No. 5 barley, 1 car	.44½
No. 5 barley 1 car	.46½
No. 1 flax, 3 cars	1.14½

RANGE OF WHEAT PRICE IN MINNEAPOLIS

	Open.	High.	Low.	Close To-day.	Close Yesterday.	Close Year Ago.
May	$ .76¼@76⅜	$ .76⅝	$ .76¼	$ .76½	$ .76⅝	$ .74¼
July	.76½	.76⅝@76¾	.76⅜	.76⅝	.76½@76⅝	.75½@75⅝

THE DAY'S RESULTS

	—May Wheat.— Close To-day.	Close Yesterday.	—July Wheat.— Close To-day.	Close Yesterday.
Minneapolis	$ .76½	$ .76⅝	$ .76⅝	$ .76½@76⅝
Chicago	.77⅝	.77⅝@77½	.73⅞	.73⅞@74
Duluth	.77⅜	.77⅞	.77¼	.77½
St. Louis	.72⅞@73	.72⅞@73	.71⅛@71¼	.71 @71⅛
Kansas City	.68 @68⅛	.67¾@67⅞	.65⅞	.65⅝
New York	.81⅛	.80¾	.78½	.78½

CLOSING CASH PRICES

On Track—No. 1 hard, 78¼c; No. 1 northern, 77¼c; No. 2 northern 76¼@76½c
No. 1 flax, $1.14¾; No. 3 yellow corn, 41½c.
No. 3 white oats, 33@33¼c; No. 2 rye, 47½c.
Barley, 42c to 58c.

Lowest		35⅝	31½@⅝
Close—			
To-day		35⅞	32⅜@⅞
Yesterday		35¾	32¾
Year ago		43⅛	35¾

OTHER GRAIN MARKETS

DULUTH GRAIN, Feb. 20.—Wheat was in a rut, varying from 77½c to 77½c for May. Business was very dull and the closing was lifeless at 77⅜c. Flax was stationary all day, closing at $1.16¼, the same as yesterday.

Receipts—Wheat, 100 cars; oats, 36; rye, 1; barley, 8; flax, 27. Shipments—Barley, 2,801 bu; flax, 17,835 bu.

Close: No. 1 hard, cash, 77⅝c; to arrive, 77⅝c; No. 1 northern, cash, 76⅝c; to arrive, 76⅝c; May, 77⅝c; July, 77¼c; No. 2 northern, cash, 74⅝c; No. 3, 71⅝c; flax, cash, $1.13¾; to arrive, $1.14½; May, $1.16¼; July, $1.16⅝; oats, cash, 34c; May, 35c; rye, cash, 49c; May, 50½c.

NEW YORK GRAIN AND FLOUR, Feb. 20.—Flour—Receipts, 11,102 brls; sales, 4,100 pkgs; quiet and steady. Buckwheat Flour—Quiet; $1.90@2.20, spot and to arrive.

Wheat—Receipts, 7,600 bu; sales, 600,000 bu; opened easy on cables, but later rallied on strength in the northwest markets. May, 80 11-16@80 15-16c; July, 78⅝@78½c.

Rye—Dull; state, 57@62c c i f New York; No. 2 western, 62c f o b afloat.

Corn—Receipts, 72,000 bu; sales, 50,000 bu; firmer on poor grading and light receipts; February, 59½c; May, 51 15-16@52½c; July, 50@50¼c.

Oats—Receipts, 42,000 bu; advanced a little on light country offerings and coverings; track, white, 43½@48c.

Close: Wheat—May, 81⅛c; July, 78⅛c. Corn—May, 52¼c; July, 50⅝c.

LIVERPOOL GRAIN, Feb. 20.—Wheat, spot, dull; No. 2 red western winter, 5s 1½d; No. 1 northern spring, 6s 9d; No. 1 California, 6s 11d; futures steady; March, 6s 2¾d; May, 6s 1⅝d; July, 6s 7⅛d. Corn, spot, steady; American mixed, old, no stock; futures, steady; March, 4s 5¾d; May, 4s 3d. Receipts of wheat during the past three days 237,000 centals including 38,000 American. Receipts of American corn during the past three days 82,800 centals. Weather, clear.

TOLEDO GRAIN, Feb. 20.—Wheat—Dull and higher; cash, 77⅝c; May, 80¼c; July, 76c. Corn—Dull and higher; February, 46½c; May, 45½c; July, 45c. Oats—Dull and higher; February, 38c; May, 36⅝c. Rye—No. 2, 53½c. Clover-seed—Dull and firm; February, $7.12½; March, $7.17½; prime timothy, $1.80; prime alsike, $7.50.

MILWAUKEE GRAIN, Feb. 20.—Flour—Steady. Wheat—Firm. Close: No. 1 northern, 78¾c; No. 2 northern, 78¼@79½c; May, 77⅝c; sellers. Rye—Steady; No. 1, 51½@52c. Barley—Steady; No. 2, 64c; sample, 45@55c. Oats—Lower; standard, 35c. Corn—May, 45⅝c bid.

Wheat—Puts, 77⅝c bid; calls, 77¾@77⅞c. Corn—Puts, 45⅝c bid; calls, 45¾c.

KANSAS CITY GRAIN, Feb. 20.—Close: Wheat—May, 68@68½c; July, 65⅞@66c; cash No. 2 hard, 88@69c; No. 2 red, 70@71c. Corn—April, 38¼c; May, 38⅛@38⅜c; July, 38½c; cash No. 2 mixed, 38½@40½c; No. 2 white, 40⅝@41¾c. Oats—No. 2 white, 35@36c.

ST. LOUIS GRAIN, Feb. 20.—Close: Wheat—Firm; No. 2 red cash elevator, 71c; May, 72⅞@73c; July, 71¼@71½c; No. 2 hard, 71@71½c. Corn—Firm; No. 2, cash, 41c; May, 41⅝c; July, 41⅜c. Oats—Lower; No. 2 cash, 36c; nominal; May, 35½c; July, 31¾c, nominal; No. 2 white, 38.

CHICAGO SEED AND COARSE GRAIN, Feb. 20.—Rye, May, 50⅝c. Flax, May, $1.20@1.21. Timothy, Feb. $4. Clover, February, $11.65; Barley, cash, $44@56c.

Flax, cash, northwest, $1.19; southwest, $1.14.

GRAIN TRADE GOSSIP

Winnipeg—Snowing little; zero.
Grand Forks—Cloudy, west wind; 18 above.
Fargo—Part cloudy, mild; 5 above.
Casselton—Cloudy, warmer.
Hillsboro—Cloudy, calm, mild.
St. Cloud—Cloudy, cold, light snow during night.
Comstock—Cloudy and much warmer.
Fergus Falls—Part cloudy, calm, cold.

Total clearances of wheat and flour to-day, exclusive of Portland, less than 35,000. This is probably the smallest day on the crop.

Bradstreet's clearances—This week, 2,713,000 bu; last week, 2,856,000 bu; last year, 3,609,000 bu. Corn—This week, 3,739,000 bu; last week, 1,930,000 bu; last year, 247,000 bu.

Clearances—Wheat and flour, 36,000 bu. Corn, 769,000 bu. Oats, 2,000 bu.

Stocks of grain in Chicago public elevators on Monday last: 3,097,000 bu, contract; 2,531,000 No. 1 northern; 1,446,000 No. 2 red, winter. In private elevators, 3,528,000 bu of all kinds.

PROVISIONS

CHICAGO PROVISIONS, Feb. 20.—Provisions opened strong on higher prices for hogs and on a good demand for pork and ribs from brokers, supposed to be for the account of local packers. May pork was 5c to 10c higher at $17.70 to $17.75; May lard was 2½@5c higher at $9.67½, while ribs were up 3c to 7½c at $9.70 to $9.72½.

Close: Pork, May, $17.65; July, $17.05; September, $16.70.

Close: Lard, February, $9.55; May, $9.55; July, $9.40; September, $9.40.

Close: Ribs, May, $9.50; July, $9.45; September, $9.40.

NEW YORK PROVISIONS, Feb. 20.—Beef—Steady. Pork—Steady. Lard—Steady; prime western steam, $10.15.

MISCELLANEOUS

NEW YORK COTTON, Feb. 20.—The cotton market opened firm at an advance of 4@13 points on cables that were a good deal better than had been required to match the closing of the New York market the previous day. On the call and after it, trade was very heavy and the entire market was in a nervous, feverish mood with fluctuations frequent and violent. Thus within 10 minutes after opening the market had a setback of 7 to 8 points; rallied from the decline, again declined to the lowest and still later worked back again to the top of the opening call basis. The movement of cotton continues small with port receipts for the day as estimated at 22,000 bales for the day, against 33,126 last year.

At noon the market was weak and irregular, with prices net 1 to 3 points lower under feverish selling of long cotton and a absence of support. The south was a heavy seller on the break. Spot was nominal; middling uplands 10c; middling gulf, 10.25c. Estimated receipts at the ports to-day were 22,000 bales, against 37,130 last week and 33,126 last year. For the week, 150,000 bales against 197,181 last week and 166,930 last year. To-day's receipts at New Orleans were 5,973 bales, against 7,831 last year, and at Houston, 2,498 bales against 4,355 last year.

Spot closed steady; middling uplands, 10.05c; middling gulf, 10.30c. Sales, 1,779 bales.

NEW YORK COFFEE AND SUGAR, Feb. 20.—Coffee futures opened steady at a partial decline of five points under liquidation, and selling by importers and houses with German connections. The market at midday remained steady on the opening basis. Sales to then were 12,000 bags, including March, 4.45, May 460, July 475, September 490, October and November 500, December 515, January 530. At Rio weak. No. 7 Rio, 4, $6.25. Exchange 11 13-16d. Receipts, 12,000 bags. Cleared for the United States, 5,000; for Europe, 10,000. Stock, 52,000.

New York, Feb. 20.—All grades of refined sugar were advanced 5 points to-day.

Sugar—Raw, firm; fair refining, 3½c; centrifugal, 96 test, 3⅝c; molasses sugar, 3c; refined, firm; crushed, 5.15c; powdered, 4.85c; granulated 4.75c.

Coffee—Steady; No. 7, Rio, 5⅝c.

Molasses—Quiet; New Orleans, 32@40c.

NEW YORK LEAD AND COPPER, Feb. 20.—Copper—Firm, $12.30@13.95. Lead—Firm.

PEORIA WHISKY, Feb. 20.—Whisky—On the basis of $1.30 for finished goods.

BAIL REFUSED FOR MURDERER TILLMAN. Columbia, S. C., Feb. 20.—Chief Justice Pope yesterday refused the application for bail for James H. Tillman. It was the rule of the court in such cases to make no explanation of the reasons governing the decision.

"Murder was the taking of human life with malice aforethought." He must do his duty and decline the application without prejudice to the case of the defendant.

AN OPENING RALLY

Stocks Depressed Yesterday Come to the Front Early This Morning.

St. Louis & San Francisco Gains Four Points After a Depression.

New York, Feb. 20.—There was an irregular recovery in prices at the opening to-day, with a few prominent stocks lagging with small declines. Stocks which were most depressed yesterday led in the rally, Metropolitan Street Railway, Amalgamated Copper and St. Paul showing large fractional gains. St. Louis & San Francisco moved up strongly nearly three points.

Buying orders predominated in the later dealings and the support extended to yesterday's weak features around a better feeling. St. Louis & San Francisco met realizing orders and lost a point of its opening gain, but was pushed up again to 84¾, a rise of four points. The first preferred and second preferred gained 2¾ and ¾, respectively. Hocking Valley, rose 2¾. Substantial advances were also made in St. Paul, Atchison, New York Central, Amalgamated, Tennessee Coal, Smelting preferred, Metropolitan Street Railway, Metropolitan Securities and Brooklyn Transit, which ruled between one and two points higher.

There was little life in the market outside of a few strong stocks, but prices were well maintained. The St. Louis & San Francisco group was the feature. The first preferred rose 3¼, the second preferred 4⅞, and Kansas City, Fort Scott & Memphis preferred 2¼. The United States Pipe stocks, Allis-Chalmers and St. Louis Southwestern preferred rose 1@1⅜.

Prices of the St. Louis & San Francisco stocks were shaded on profit-taking sales, but the market otherwise was firmer, with some demand from transcontinental group. Obscure stocks were more generally dealt in and registered some sharp changes. American Beet Sugar advanced four points, the preferred 12, Maryland Coal preferred 5, Minneapolis, St. Paul & Sault Ste. Marie 2½, New York Central 1⅜, and Kanawha & Michigan, Annaconda and Erie second preferred 1 point. Metropolitan Street Railway and Amalgamated rose a fraction higher than before.

Active bidding for Metropolitan street railway carried it up 2½ above yesterday's close, but other stocks continued sluggish and uninteresting. Consolidated Gas fluctuated very erratically and showed a gain of one point at one time, as did Pressed Steel Car preferred and Wabash preferred. Northwestern sold at a decline of 4½ with allowance for the stock subscription rights off, and Toledo, St. Louis & Western preferred lost one.

Bonds were steady at noon.

Stock quotations reported for The Journal by Watson & Co., Chamber of Commerce, Minneapolis.

Closing prices are bid.

Sales.	Stocks—	High-est.	Low-est.	—Close— Bid. Feb.20	Bid. Feb.19
200	Am. Cot. Oil	46¼	46	46	45⅛
200	do pr	97¼	97	97¼	97¼
700	Am. Car	41⅛	41	41½	40⅞
500	do pr	92½	92	92½	92
1,200	Am. Locomot.	30⅝	30½	30½	30⅜
200	do pr	95½	95	95	95
200	Am. Ice	10⅝	10½	10⅝	10⅝
500	do pr	39¼	38½	38½	38¼
4,400	Am. Sugar	131	130	130⅝	130
200	do pr	122	121⅞	122	121⅞
4,000	Am. Smelting	52¾	51	52⅛	50¾
700	do pr	97¾	97½	97⅝	96¾
39,300	Amal. Cop.	73¼	72	73¼	71¾
1,800	Anacon. Cop.	128	117½	119⅞	118
9,900	A. Top.&S.F.	87⅝	87	87½	87
600	do pr	100½	100⅜	100⅜	100¼
9,900	Balt. & Ohio	98⅞	98⅛	98⅝	98¼
2,000	do pr	93¼	93	93	92
5,800	Brook. Rap. Tr.	70	69	69½	68¾
1,600	Canadian Pac	137⅝	137	137⅝	136¾
1,300	Ches. & Ohio	51⅝	50¾	51¼	50¾
300	Chi. & Alton	35¼	35	35⅜	35
100	do pr	71½	71¼	71½	71½
200	Corn Products	33⅞	33⅝	33½	32¼
2,000	do pr	84¾	84½	84¾	84⅝
2,300	Chi. Gr. West.	27	26¾	27	27
	do pr B			41¼	44
	Chi. Term			17½	17½
	do pr			33	32¼
800	Col. Fuel & I.	75	74⅝	74⅝	74
	Col. Southern			20½	20½
	do 1st pr			70½	70¼
	do 2d pr			44½	44
	Col. H. C. & I.	21⅞	21½	21¾	21¾
6,100	Consol. Gas	218¾	217¼	218½	217½
200	Con. Tobac. pr			116½	116
200	Del. & Hudson	180	179	179	178½
200	Del., Lack. & W.			260	260
	Den. & Rio G.			40½	40½
	do pr			88⅞	88¾
	Du., S.S. & At.			11⅞	11⅞
	do pr			27¾	27¼
16,200	Erie	39½	39⅛	39⅛	38⅝
11,200	do 1st pr	70½	69⅞	70⅜	69⅞
1,400	do 2d pr	60	59⅛	59⅞	59
	Evans. & T.T.			68¼	68¼
	do pr			95½	95½
1,800	Gen. Electric	200½	199	199⅝	199
	Great Nor. pr			209	200
2,600	Hocking Val.	106½	104¼	105¾	103½
1,300	do pr	98½	98	98¼	97¾
200	Illinois Cent.	144⅞	144⅛	144½	144
	Inter. Paper			18	18
	do pr			73⅞	73¾
	K. C. & South	33½	33	33¼	33¼
	do pr	58⅝	58	58⅝	57½
700	Louis. & Nash	126	125¾	126	125½
1,100	M., St.P. & Soo	78	76⅛	77¾	76
100	do pr			128¼	127¾
1,400	Manhattan			142½	141⅞
19,500	Met. St. Ry.	139¾	137¾	139½	137¼
100	Minn. & St. L.			106	106
11,400	Missouri Pac.	113⅝	112½	113½	112½
500	M., K. & T.	28¾	28¼	28¾	27¾
500	do pr	62	61½	62½	61
1,900	Mexican Cent.	26¾	25⅞	26⅝	25¾
	Mex. Nat	19⅛	18¾	19	18¾
700	Mobile & Ohio	27¼	27	27½	27¼
1,700	Norfolk & W.	74¾	73⅞	74⅝	73⅞
	North Am. Co.			116	116
	Nor. Securities	112¼	111⅝	112¼	111⅞
4,100	N. Y. Central	148⅝	147¾	148	147
200	N.Y.,C. & St.L.	42½	41⅞	41⅞	41¾
1,400	Ontario & W.	33½	33⅛	33⅜	33¼
800	Pressed Steel	63⅝	63	63½	63⅜
2,000	do pr	95	94	94½	93
6,900	Penn. R. R.	149¼	149	149¼	148⅞
700	People's Gas	104½	104¼	104¼	103⅝
6,200	Reading	63	62⅝	63	62½
200	do 1st pr			86¼	86
200	do 2d pr			75	75
1,600	Repub. Steel	22⅛	21¾	22	21⅜
700	do pr	79¾	79½	79¾	79¾
	Rubber Goods	28½	28	28¼	28¼
	do pr	84	83½	83½	83¼
12,000	R. Island, new	49⅝	48¼	49½	48¼
2,200	do pr	81½	80¼	81½	80¼
16,700	St. L. & S. F.	84¾	81⅛	84½	80¾
2,700	do 1st pr.	88	85	87½	84¾
15,000	do 2d pr.	76⅞	72¼	76	72
600	St. L. & S. W.	27¾	27½	27½	27
300	do pr	62	61¾	62	61¾
7,700	St. Paul	177⅝	176¾	177	176¼
5,300	South. Pacific	64½	63⅝	64⅛	63¾
15,600	Southern Ry.	35½	34⅞	35¼	34⅞
200	do pr			94½	94¾
1,00	Tenn. Coal & I.	66½	65½	65½	65½
600	Texas & Pac.	41⅝	41	41½	40⅞
	T., St.L. & W.			29	29
	do pr			44½	45
13,900	Union Pacific	102	101⅛	101⅝	100⅞
700	do pr	95	94⅝	94⅞	94½
4,400	U. S. Leather	14⅛	13⅝	13⅞	14
1,100	do pr	94	93⅝	93½	93¼
	U. S. Rubber			17½	17½
	do pr			54	53½
7,800	U. S. Steel	39¼	38⅝	39	38⅝
4,700	do pr	88¾	87¾	88	87½
700	U. S. Realty	25⅝	25	25⅝	25⅛
600	do pr	70½	69½	70	70
7,000	Wabash	31⅞	30¼	31½	30¾
54,700	do pr	53¼	50¾	53¼	50¼
400	West. Union	89⅞	89⅝	89½	89⅞
100	Wheel. & L.E.			26	25
100	do 1st pr			60¼	59
100	do 2d pr			36⅝	36¼
1,000	Wisconsin Cen.	28	27¾	28	27½
1,100	do pr	55⅝	55	55¼	52⅝

Total sales, 405,300.

MONEY REPORTS

NEW YORK, Feb. 20.—Noon—Money on call steady at 2¾ per cent; prime mercantile paper, 4¾@5½ per cent; sterling exchange firm at $4.87.75@4.87.875 for demand, and at $4.84.60@4.84.65 for 60 days; posted rates, $4.85½ and $4.88½; commercial bills, $4.83@4.84¼. Bar silver, 48¼c; Mexican dollars, 37¾c. Government bonds steady; refunding 2s, registered 107½; coupon 107½; 3s, registered 107, coupon 107; new 4s, registered 134½, coupon 135½; old 4s, registered 109¼, coupon 109¼; 5s, registered 102¾, coupon 102¾.

NEW YORK, Feb. 20.—Exchanges $205,143,392; balances, $8,464,407.

MINNEAPOLIS, Feb. 20.—Bank clearings to-day, $1,633,036.57; New York exchange, selling rate, 30c premium; buying rate, 25c discount; Chicago rate, 25c discount; London 60-day sight documentary exchange $4.84.

CHICAGO, Feb. 20.—Clearings, $25,296,064; balances, $1,457,765; New York exchange, 30c discount; foreign exchange, unchanged; sterling posted at $4.85 for 60 days and $4.88 for demand.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 20.—Clearings, $20,075,181; balances, $3,234,637. Money, 4½@5 per cent.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 20.—Clearings, $2,873,331; balances, $405,302; money, 5 per cent.

LONDON, Feb. 20.—The amount of bullion withdrawn from the Bank of England to-day was £10,000 for shipment to South America.

PARIS, Feb. 20.—4 p. m.—Three per cent rentes, 100 francs 2½ centimes. Exchange on London, 25 francs 16 centimes.

LONDON, Feb. 20.—Gold premium at Madrid, 33.45.

BERLIN, Feb. 20.—Exchange on London, 20 marks, 50¼ pfennigs.

BOSTON, Feb. 20.—Exchanges, $22,311,521; balances, $2,975,964.

LONDON CLOSING STOCKS, Feb. 20.—Consols for money, 92⅝; consols for account, 92½; Anacondas, 6; Atchison, 89½; Atchison preferred, 102⅝; Baltimore & Ohio, 101; Canadian Pacific, 140½; Chesapeake & Ohio, 52; Chicago Great Western, 23; Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul, 181½; DeBeers, 21¾; Denver & Rio Grande, 41; Denver & Rio Grande preferred, 91½; Erie, 40; Erie first preferred, 72¼; Erie second preferred, 61½; Illinois Central, 148; Louisville & Nashville, 128½; Missouri, Kansas & Texas, 28¾; New York Central, 151½; Norfolk & Western, 75⅝; Norfolk & Western preferred, 93; Ontario & Western, 34; Pennsylvania, 76¼; Rand Mines, 11; Reading, 31⅞; Reading first preferred, 45; Reading second preferred, 38¼; Southern Railway, 36; Southern Railway preferred, 97; Southern Pacific, 65¼; Union Pacific, 100⅝; Union Pacific preferred, 97; United States Steel, 39¼; United States Steel preferred, 90¼; Wabash, 31½; Wabash preferred, 52.

Bar silver, steady, 22¼d per ounce. Money, 3½@4 per cent. The rate of discount in the open market for short bills is 3⅛@3⅝ per cent; for three months' bills is 3½ per cent.

FINANCIAL GOSSIP

An official of the steel company says in his opinion the company's gross earnings this year will be $30,000,000 greater than those of 1902.

McDonald of New York to Charles E. Lewis—I have just made the round of the leading specialists and find their books are almost bare of selling orders. This is particularly true of Union Pacific and Atchison. Steels alone have large orders in to sell at about 40. Senator Quay wires a friend on the floor that the chances of passing the Aldrich bill this session are somewhat foggy and if it does pass it will be without amendment.

Watson & Co. from New York—We have been hoping for a rising market as our letters have indicated, believing that the great profits shown by the coal roads as well as by the grangers, would have an effect on speculation and revive a bullish interest. While we are not willing to retreat entirely from that position, yet we must admit a sense of discouragement when we observe how easily the market is depressed by rumors, many of which can be easily disproved. In other words, the market lacks support and is at the mercy of the room trader should he feel disposed to hammer prices. So far as actual values are concerned stocks are probably not dear and a good many of them could be bought with chances of a reasonable profit. We would rather buy for ourselves than sell at the moment, and yet the public are not here to give a broad character to speculation nor to offer a reasonable resistance. The market may run down a trifle further, but it should find support before it has gone far and we then might justly expect a rally.

New York to L. T. Sowle & Sons—Chances strongly against gold shipments Tuesday. Manhattan operating ratio will be reduced to under 50 per cent on completion of Electrical facilities. Rumors current on Metropolitan authoritatively denied. International Great Northern will probably issue bonds to retire underlying bonds and for new construction. Banks have lost to sub-treasury $2,460,000 since Friday. Erie will make very big showing of earnings for January.

Watson & Co. from New York—There was some selling by tired holders yesterday. It was said that the pressure was brought about by Keene. It was also said that owing to the coming holidays some holders wished to lighten their line. We feel bullish on the market and would advise buying on all declines.

Whallon, Case & Co., from New York—We think this leather common and preferred will go up a good deal if other markets hold steady. I know there has been about 40,000 shares of stock bought by good parties and to-day Day & Heaton have bought it as high as 14. If any of your friends are bullish get them to take on some. I think in a bull market it will advance more than most of the list, and in declining market will go down less.

GENERAL PRODUCE

OFFICIAL QUOTATIONS OF THE MINNEAPOLIS PRODUCE EXCHANGE.

Friday, Feb. 20.—Extra creamery butter, firm. Packing stock, steady. Strictly fresh eggs, lower. Fancy country dressed veal, steady. Poultry, steady. Green fruits, steady. Apples, steady. Potatoes, firm.

BUTTER—Extra creameries, per lb, 25c; firsts, 22c; seconds, 17@20c; dairies, extra, 21c; firsts, 15½@16c; seconds, 11@12c; roll and prints, 11@14c; packing stock, 8@11c; fresh renovated, 19c.

EGGS—Strictly fresh, cases included, loss off, per doz, 16½c; strictly fresh, case count, 15½c; checks and seconds, 8c; cold storage, candled, 11c; at mark, 9c.

CHEESE—Twins or flats, fancy, 14½c; twins or flats, choice, 13½c; twins or flats, fair to good, 12½c; daisies, fancy, 15c; Young Americas, fancy, 15c;