Provisions, Produce, Live Stock, Etc.

UNSETTLED TONE ON STAPLE LINES

BUTTER DRAGS SERIOUSLY, BUT EGGS ARE ACTIVE.

The Tendency Is Toward a Lower Range on Both Products—A Turn to Colder Weather Gave Hen Fruit a Temporary Firmness—Fruit Movement is Heavy.

While not as sharp a drop in produce prices is reported this week as last, the decline has been of imporance to the producer, averaging 60 cents to the tub of butter and 75 cents a case on eggs. The decline on the latter promised to be greater, but stormy weather had a bracing effect.

The outlet at present is confined to retailers, as storage buyers have not as yet entered the field and are not likely to do so before April 1. Outside speculators are showing interest in the situation and asking prices on contract eggs for April delivery. Around $5 per case seems the present asking figure for No. 1 goods, but no contracts have been made or are likely to be at that price. A year ago to-day candled eggs were 15 cents, so that values are on about the same basis now.

Butter has shown depressed tone all the week, and quotations are a little bit stiff when it comes to forcing out the goods in a jobbing way. On general movement in a small way to retailers full quotations are secured, but many large holders would be glad to clean up their boxes of extras at 22 cents. Dairies have shown the same weak tone and lower range, and do not move out satisfactorily at the lower figures. Packing stock buyers have laid down and are not taking in any stock that can be dodged, as their products are lower and outlet nominal.

The cheese list shows no change of importance. Fancy well-cured brick is about the only line not in sufficient supply. New goods are coming in freely, but do not fill the bill with a good many customers.

Poultry and dressed meats are steady. Owing to moderate arrivals, the former keeps well cleaned up and values hold to a firm range. Veal has been coming too plentifully to allow a firm maintaining of values, and top grades show a half-cent lower range.

Quotations on rabbits and squirrels have been withdrawn, as the demand has fallen to nominal proportions with milder weather.

Potatoes have advanced 5 cents per bushel on all grades. Receipts are more liberal than thirty days ago, but the demand is also heavier, as retailers generally have come into the market for supplies, as stock put away in the fall is virtually cleaned up. Holders at country points have a firm view, as all information is to the effect that more stock in storage was frozen than was looked for. Some arrivals are reported from Washington, but not in large enough quantities to prove serious competition for home-grown, as carrying charges are so heavy.

Cabbage is firm, with a fair supply. There are plenty of Spanish and Bermuda onions in crates now coming, and moving out well, which cuts into the call for home-grown to a greater or less extent. Parsnips are 25 cents per bushel higher, with light offerings.

The green vegetable list has been added to by moderate arrivals of green and wax beans, but prices are too high to attract the general public. Cucumbers and radishes are higher.

The fruit list continues to show marked advances. Apples are higher, but the quality is the best ever for the season, and they are freely taken by the trade. Cheap oranges are a thing of the past, values now ranging around $2.50@2.75 per box for desirable shipping fruit. The supply is lighter, but nevertheless there is a fine range of sizes. Lemons show no change. Bananas and cranberries also hold to former prices, but stocks on the latter are becoming well reduced, and $10 per barrel for nice, firm berries will soon be the prevailing figure. Illinois sweet potatoes are scarce and higher. Strawberries are in good supply, and selling well for the season. Quality is very good. The honey market is quiet. Offerings are heavy, and outside parties are anxious to unload, which gives some unsettled tone on prices.

PROVISIONS

CHICAGO PROVISIONS, March 12.—A fair demand for pork and lard imparted a steady tone to provisions. Shorts and commission houses were the principal buyers. A stronger hog market was the main factor in bringing out the improved demand. May pork opened a shade to 2½@5c higher at $13.97½@14. Offerings were light and the price firmed up to $14.02½. May lard opened 6c higher at $7.35, while ribs were unchanged at $7.25. Close: Pork—May, $14.25; July, $14.47½. Lard—May, $7.37½; July, $7.52½. Ribs—May, $7.35; July, $7.47½.

NEW YORK OIL, March 12.—Petroleum, unsettled; refined, all ports, $8.60@8.65.

NEW YORK PRODUCE, March 12.—Butter—Receipts, 4,187 pkgs; steady; extra fresh creamery, 24c; creamery, comon to choice, 15@23c; state dairy, 14@21c; held creamery, 14@20c. Cheese—Receipts, 1,607 pkgs; quiet; state full cream, fancy small and large colored and white September, 12c; late made, 10¾c. Eggs—Receipts, 9,268 pkgs; firb; state and Pennsylvania, near-by average finest, 21c; state and Pennsylvania, seconds to firsts, 19@20c; western firsts, 20c. Poultry—live and dressed, nominally unchanged.

CHICAGO PRODUCE, March 12.—Butter—Weak; creameries, 14@23½c; dairies, 13½@21c. Eggs—Steady; at mark, cases included, 17@17½c. Cheese—Steady; daisies, 11c; twins, 10½@10¾c; Young Americas, 11c. Poultry—Live, steady; turkeys, 12c; chickens, 12c; springs, 12c. Potatoes—Strong; Burbanks, 80@91c; Rurals, 87@93c; red stock, 85@92c. Veal—Easy; 50 to 60 lbs, 4@4½c; 65 to 75 lbs, 4½@5½c; 80 to 125 lbs, 5½@6½c; 85 to 110 lbs, 6½@8c.

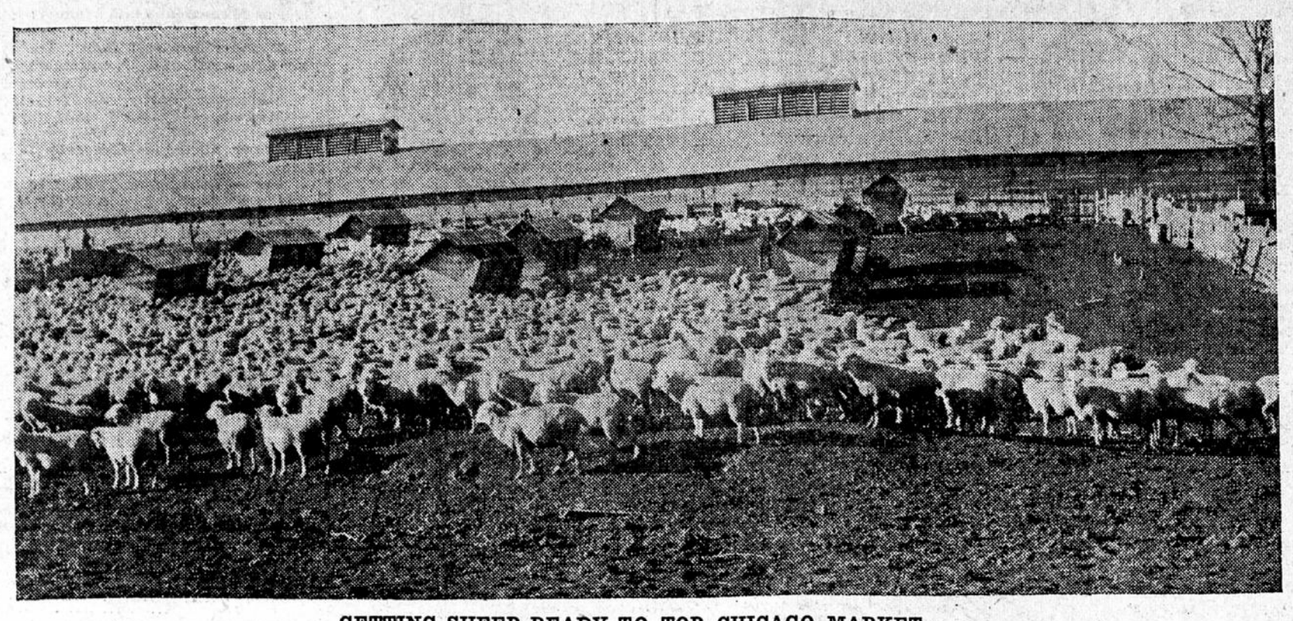
NEW YORK PROVISIONS, March 12.—Beef and Pork—Steady. Lard—Dull; prime western steam, $7.65.

STAMPING OUT TEXAS ITCH

The Dakotas are taking prompt action to eradicate the itch or scab that has broken out among the herds of these states. The disease was spreading rapidly, and last fall some herds were quarantined on the market, causing owners considerable inconvenience and in most cases loss. A dispatch from Pierre, S. D., says that some time ago Gov. Herreid, by request of State Veterinarian Foster, asked the agricultural department to take action in assisting in stamping out the mange, or Texas itch, which prevails in herds in many parts of the state. The local remedy of dipping does not appear to be effective in eradicating the disease, and the national department was called upon for its assistance. In response to his request Gov. Herreid has received a telegram from Washington that an expert would be sent to the state to work with the state veterinarian as soon as the weather is warm enough for operations.

At Dickinson, N. D., J. E. McCoul, inspector for Bowman county, has completed his work and reports a number of cases of scab. C. F. Higgins, who has just completed his work in the southern half of Billings county, found a few suspect cases, and forwarded scrapings to Mr. Van Es and has been advised that it was not scab.

The most common vegetables of Liberia are the sweet potato, cassada, yam and tania. The cassada is a root varying in size from three to eight inches in length and from three to eight inches in circumference. When it is cooked it tastes very much like a fresh chestnut. This root is the vegetable most extensively cultivated by the natives and forms, with the rice, their chief diet. The fecula of the cassada is made into tapioca.



GETTING SHEEP READY TO TOP CHICAGO MARKET

GENERAL PRODUCE

Official quotations of the Minneapolis Produce Exchange, corrected up to 12 m., Saturday, March 12.—Butter, easy. Eggs, higher. Poultry, firm. Veal, weak.

BUTTER—Creameries, extra, lb, 22½c; creameries, firsts, 20c; creameries, seconds, 16c; dairies, extra, 18c; dairies, firsts, 15@16c; dairies, seconds, 11½c; packing stock, 7@11½c; renovated, extras, 17c; renovated, firsts, 11½c; roll and print, fancy, 14c; roll and print, fair to good, 11½c.

EGGS—New laid, case count, current receipts, cases included, 15c; candled, loss off, per doz, 16c; dirties, $3 per case for candled; seconds and checks, per case, $3.

CHEESE—Twins or flats, fancy, 11@12½c; twins or flats, fair to choice, 9c; twins or flats, fair to good, 7c; Young Americas, fancy, 13c; brick, No. 1, 14c; brick, No. 2, 9c; brick, No. 3, 6@6½c; primost, No. 1, 8c; primost, No. 2, 6c; pultost, 9c; Swiss, No. 1 block, 15c; Swiss, No. 2 block, 12c; daisies, No. 1, 12½c; Limburger, No. 1, 12c.

DRESSED POULTRY—Undrawn turkeys, fancy, small, 16c; choice or young toms, 15c; old toms, 13c; culls, 6@7c; chickens, springs, fancy, 13c; springs, fair to good, 11@12c; hens, fancy, 12½c; fair to good and small, 9@10c; old roosters and culls, 6@7c; ducks, fancy, heads off, 13c; fair to good, 9@11c; geese, fancy, heads off, 11c; fair to good, 8@9c; frozen stock, 1@2c less.

LIVE POULTRY—Turkeys, 10@12½c; hens, 10c; young roosters, 10@11c; old roosters, 5c; ducks, 10@11c; geese, 9@10c.

DRESSED MEATS—Veal, fancy, per lb, 7½c; fair to good, 6@6½c; small overweight, 4@6c; mutton, fancy, 5@6c; lambs, yearlings, 4@9c; hogs, 5½c.

FISH—Pickerel, 6c; bullheads, 6c.

CABBAGE—Per 100 lbs, $6.50.

POTATOES—White, per bu, car lots, sacked, 90@95c; mixed, per bu, car lots, sacked, 85@90c; small lots, sacked, $1.

ONIONS—Per bu, $1.25; Spanish, crate, $2; Bermuda, crate, $2.75.

PIGEONS—Live, per doz, $1; dead, doz, 75c.

DRIED PEAS—Fancy yellow, per bu, $1.50; medium, $1.25; green, fancy, $1.40; medium, $1.10; marrowfat, $2.

BEANS—Quotations include sacks. Fancy navy, per bu, $2.35; choice navy, $2.10; medium, hand-picked, $2.10; medium, fair, $1.25; medium mixed and dirty, 65@70c; brown, fancy, $2.50; brown, fair to good, $1.50@1.90; Lima, California, per lb, 6c.

APPLES—Northern Spys, per brl, $5.50@6; Greenings, $4@4.50; Baldwins, $4@4.50; Russets, $4.50; Ben Davis, $4.25@4.50.

ORANGES—California navels, extra, fancy, 96s to 250s, $2.75; fancy, 96s to 250s, $2.50.

LEMONS—California, fancy, as to size, $3.50@4; choice, $3.25@3.75.

SWEET POTATOES—Illinois, per brl, $4.50.

STRAWBERRIES—Per quart, 60c.

CRANBERRIES—Late Howes, per brl, $10; Jerseys, per brl, $7.50@8; Jerseys, bu boxes, $2.50; Wisconsin Bell and Bugle, $7.50.

GRAPES—Malagas, per keg, $9@10.

HONEY—New fancy white, 1-lb sections, 12c; choice white, 1-lb sections, 10@11c; amber, 10c; goldenrod, 10c; extracted white, in barrels, 7½c; extracted amber, 7½c.

BANANAS—Fancy, large bunches, $2.75@3; medium bunches, $2.50@2.75; small bunches, $1.75@2.

VEGETABLES—Radishes, per doz bunches, 40@85c; lettuce, per doz, 35@40c; lettuce, heads, 80@40c; celery, California, fancy, 75@90c; mint, per doz, 50c; parsnips, bu, $1.25; cucumbers, per doz, $1.75@2; tomatoes, 6-basket crates, $4.50; carrots, per bu, 90c@$1; cauliflower, per crate, $3.25@3.50; parsley, doz, 60@65c; green onions, shallots, per doz bunches, 85c; rutabagas, bu, 75@85c; pieplant, lb, 8c.

HIDES, WOOL, FURS, PELTS

REVIEW OF THE MARKET BY THE NORTHWESTERN HIDE & FUR CO.

The market for hides this week remains about unchanged. Receipts are large for this time of year and the average quality is gradually getting poorer. All the dealers dread the coming spring season, when so many damaged hides will come in, owing to the soft weather and the neglect to properly salt before shipping by the country shippers, especially those in North Dakota and northern Minnesota. They appear to forget that it is warmer here than there, and also forget that it will get warmer after they have shipped. Hides that start as No. 1 are likely to be No. 2 before they reach the market for the want of salt. It would be better for them to hold them back until thawed and then salt them. Their returns then would be much more satisfactory.

The tallow market is not so good as it was, but good stock still brings high prices. Tallow is ¼c to ¼c less in Chicago, with no change here.

Receipts of furs large and in fair demand at the reduced prices recently prevailing. Will be able to give report of the London fur sales next week.

Nothing new to report on others.

	No. 1.	No. 2.
Green salted heavy steer hides	8¾	7¾
Green salted cow hides	7¾	6¾
Green salted light hides	7¾	6¾
Green salted bull hides	7	6
Green salted veal calf	11¼	10
Green kip	9½	8
Green salted long-haired kip	8½	7
Green salted deacons	45	@55

Green salted branded, 1½c per lb less than free of brands.

Green or green frozen, 1c less each grade.

Green salted horse or mule hides, large	$3.20	2.20
Green salted horse or mule hides, medium	2.50	1.75
Green salted horse or mule hides, small	1.70	1.00
Dry flint Montana, Oregon, Washington and Idaho hides, flat	14	@15½
Montana bulls and fallen hides	10	@11
Dry flint Minnesota, Dakota, Wisconsin and similar	12	10½
Dry flint calf skins	16	14
Green salted pelts, large to small, each	20	1.10
Dry flint territorial pelts, per lb	10	@11
Tallow, in cakes	5¾	4¾
Tallow, in barrels	4¾	3¾
Grease, light	4⅝	3⅝
Wool, medium, unwashed	10	@17
Wool, coarse	15½	@16½
Wool, fine, unwashed	12	@14
Feathers, goose	40	@45
Feathers, duck	34	@40
Feathers, chicken	3	3¼
Feathers, turkey	2¾	@ 3
Dry ginseng root, per lb	$5.80	@6.00
Green, for planting, per lb	1.25	@
Seneca root, per lb	65	@67
Beeswax, yellow	29	
Beeswax, dark	24	

CHICAGO HIDE MARKET.

Heavy green salted, cured, lb, 7¼c; light green salted, cured, lb, 7¼c; damaged, green salted, lb, 6¼c; green, No. 2, lb, 5¼c; green, No. 1, lbs, 6¼c; salted bull hides, lb, 6¼c; part cured, No. 1, lb, 6¾c; part cured, No. 2, lb, 5¾c; green bull, lb, 4½@5¼c; salted bull hides, damaged, lb, 5¼c; kip, lb, 6¼@8c; green salted calf, lb, 9c; dry flint, lb, 13½c; deacons, each, 45@50c; slunks, each, 25c; glue stock, lb, 2@3½c; horse hides, each, $1.50@2.75; pony hides, each, 75c@$1.

OMAHA LIVE STOCK, March 12.—Cattle—Receipts, 300; market nominally steady; beef steers, $3.50@5.25; cows and heifers, $2.70@3.70; canners, $1.90@2.60; stockers and feeders, $3.75@4.25; calves, $3@5.50.

Hogs—Receipts, 3,800; market generally 5c higher; heavy, $5.25@5.35; pigs, $3.75@4.75.

Sheep—Receipts, 1,000; market steady; sheep, $2.75@5.05; lambs, $5.10@5.75.

England gets about $5,000,000 worth of new gold from Africa every month and $7,000,000 worth out of Australia.

CHICAGO WEAKER SO. ST. PAUL FIRM

LOCAL TONE MORE FAVORABLE TO CATTLE SHIPPERS.

Hogs on the Rise Early in the Week but Off Again Later, Closing About Steady—Desirable Mutton Brings Good Prices—Lambs in Continued Good Sale at Firm Figures.

South St. Paul, March 12.—Receipts of cattle here this week total about 2,500, compared with 2,797 last week and 4,144 the same week last year. This week's calf receipts were about 375, against 527 last week and 1,121 the same week last year. There has been a dull and lower market at Chicago on medium and common killing steers; in fact, all kinds grading under choice have sold there at a decline. The local demand, however, has been strong for all useful killing grades, and, with several times the supply coming needed to meet the requirements of the local trade, values have not materially changed from a week ago. All cow stuff, grading above the canner class, sold on about steady basis. Canner cows show decline of 10 cents to 15 cents. There are very few good beef or butcher cattle being received here, and the bulk of the killing stuff coming is made up of warmed-up steers, and common to fair she-stock. Bulls have been dull at lower prices and are quoted 25 cents lower than at the start last week. Veal calves have sold steady, with the best grades going at $5. A good demand prevails for all the better grades of milch cows and springers, with prices having shown some strength on such kinds. Prices range from $18 to $40, with a few of the best selling above the latter figure. The demand for stock and feeding cattle has been better than for some time past, and the week closes with the yards cleared and prices on the more desirable grades of all weights in a 10 to 15-cent higher notch than at last week's closing. Few traders can see any material improvement in values for the common kind. As spring approaches, the demand for good young stockers to put on grass should broaden considerably.

Hogs—The week's hog receipts total about 14,800, compared with 18,952 last week and 14,537 in corresponding week last year. During the first half of the week prices showed a steady upward tendency, the market gaining 20 to 25 cents in three days. Prices broke 10 cents on Thursday, and, with a decline again Friday of nearly 15 cents, the market at the close of that day's trading was no better than steady with Saturday of the week previous. Indications are that the local run will be light from now on, and a feeling prevails at other points that the movement marketward will not be liberal for the next thirty to sixty days. It is figured that muddy roads will be a factor in the marketing. Farmers are bullish on the future and consider 5-cent hogs good property.

Sheep—There were about 16,500 sheep received here this week, compared with 12,835 last week and 4,608 the like week last year. Prices for desirable mutton grades have ruled higher, values the last few days showing an advance of 10 to 15 cents over a week ago. Lambs have been quiet, at steady prices. Very little good fat native stock is coming, and packers are obtaining a good share of their supplies from local feed lots. Good to choice fat ewes are quotable from $3.75 to $4, and a fair class of ewes for slaughter sold around $3.50. Best fat lambs are selling from $5 to $5.25, with a fair class of killers going from $4.50 to $4.75. Choice yearling wethers sold during the week up to $5, and good fat wethers are quotable from $4 to $4.35.

Estimated receipts at the Union stockyards today: Cattle, 100; calves, 25; hogs, 2,200; sheep, 300. Cars, 33.

The following table shows the receipts from Jan. 1, 1904, to date, as compared with the same period in 1903:

Year.	Cattle.	Calves.	Hogs.	Sheep.	Cars.
1904	25,865	4,090	236,996	212,182	4,812
1903	28,440	5,513	179,131	141,260	4,027
Inc.	.....	.....	57,865	70,922	785
Dec.	2,575	1,423	.....	.....	.....

The following table shows the receipts thus far in March, as compared with the same period in 1903:

Year.	Cattle.	Calves.	Hogs.	Sheep.	Cars.
1904	4,720	865	27,969	27,383	650
1903	6,137	1,648	21,851	18,329	618
Inc.	.....	.....	6,118	9,004	32
Dec.	1,417	783	.....	.....	...

Official receipts for the past week are as follows:

Date—	Cattle.	Calves.	Hogs.	Sheep.	Cars.
March 4	378	44	2,212	4,205	57
March 5	124	11	2,473	30	37
March 7	531	38	2,562	9,027	94
March 8	674	167	2,856	3,939	79
March 9	479	55	1,866	268	44
March 10	223	46	2,211	435	39
March 11	368	56	2,757	1,911	58

Railroads entering the yards reported receipts for the day by loads as follows: Chicago Great Western, 5; Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul, 7; Minneapolis & St. Louis, 10; Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha, 10; Chicago, Burlington & Quincy, 1; total, 33.

Disposition of stock Friday, March 11:

Firm—	Cattle.	Hogs.	Sheep.
Swift & Co.	211	2,539	189
W. G. Bronson	7	..	25
Leo Gottfried	1	..	102
Haas Bros.	..	26	..
J. T. McMillan	..	109	..
Stimmer & Thomas	15	..	..
J. B. Fitzgerald	25	..	..
Other buyers	3	18	..
Country buyers	231	..	..
Totals	493	2,692	316

HOGS—

Date—	Av Wt.	Av. Cost.	Price ranges.
March 4	196	$4.82	$4.70@5.20
March 5	209	5.04	4.70@5.40
March 7	195	4.99	4.75@5.25
March 8	202	5.16	4.90@5.55
March 9	211	5.28	4.90@5.55
March 10	202	5.17½	5.00@5.50
March 11	206	5.06	5.10@5.30

Prices 5 to 10c higher. Receipts light. Quality better. Prices range $4.95 $5.40; bulk, $5.10 to $5.20; light and mixed hogs of common quality are quotable from $4.90 to $5; good, light and desirable mixed from $5.05 to $5.25, and good to strictly choice medium and heavy hogs from $5.30 to $5.45.

Hogs—36, 259 lbs, $5.40; 100, 245 lbs, $5.25; 66, 215 lbs, $5.20; 162, 200 lbs, $5.15; 72, 201 lbs, $5.10; 33, 162 lbs, $5; 12, 156 lbs, $4.95.

Pigs and Underweights—14, 142 lbs, $4.80; 8, 142 lbs, $4.75; 16, 140 lbs, $4.35; 10, 100 lbs, $4.25.

Stags and Boars—1, 500 lbs, $3.30; 1, 560 lbs, $3.25; 1, 380 lbs, $2.

CATTLE—Receipts light. Prices not quotably changed from yesterday. The week's trade has shown no material change on beef and butcher cattle. Canners and bulls 10c to 15c lower than a week ago. Veals steady. Best milch cows stronger. The better grades of stockers and feeders are strong to 15c higher than late last week. Sales:

Butcher Steers—5, 1,116 lbs, $3.75; 2, 995 lbs, $3.50; 2, 1,110 lbs, $3.25.

Butcher Cows and Heifers—3, 306 lbs, $2.65.

Cutters and Canners—3, 1,063 lbs, $2.25; 2, 960 lbs, $2; 1, 740 lbs, $1.50.

Butcher Bulls—1, 1,270 lbs, $2.65; 1, 1,410 lbs, $2.50; 1, 1,650 lbs, $2.25.

Veal Calves—6, 108 lbs, $4.75; 3, 160 lbs, $4.60; 3, 96 lbs, $4; 2, 265 lbs, $3.

Stock and Feeding Steers—4, 640 lbs, $3.

Stock Cows and Heifers—2, 735 lbs, $2.

Stock and Feeding Bulls—1, 1,020 lbs, $2.50.

Milch Cows and Springers—2 cows, 1 calf, $35; 1 cow, $25; 1 cow, 1 calf, $23.

SHEEP—Receipts light; market steady; fairly desirable western ewes sold at $3.75; some good native lambs at $5.75 and good western yearling ewes and fair ewes of local feeding at $4.25 and $3.50 respectively. Sales:

Killing Sheep and Lambs—14 lambs, 78 lbs, $5; 5 shorn lambs, 72 lbs, $4.25, 197 western ewes, 102 lbs, $3.75; 73 western ewes, 95 lbs, $3.50.

Stockers and Feeders—10 feeding lambs, 74 lbs, $3.75.

Among the shippers on the market were: R. T. Harris, Dakota, Neb.; First National bank, Iowan; N. Olson, Dawson; R. H. Kempton, Watertown, S. D.; A. Altman, Holmer Bros., Fairfax; A. Wittsack, Waconia, Riley Bros., Ellsworth, Wis.; A. J. Graves, Prior Lake; Molm & Donaldson, Morristown; Dawald & Hoban, Waterville; L. M. Weston, Dodge Center; G. Christenson, Hazelrun.

CHICAGO LIVE STOCK

Receipts for the week, up to and including Friday, compared with the corresponding period last week, increased 3,300 cattle and decreased 26,400 hogs and 12,700 sheep. Compared with a year ago, there was an increase of 1,800 cattle, 3,200 hogs and 14,200 sheep. Compared with two years ago, cattle increased 8,500, hogs decreased 47,200 and sheep increased 22,000.

Total receipts for 1904 to date, as compared with the corresponding period of 1903, were as follows:

	Cattle.	Hogs.	Sheep.
1904 to date	648,889	1,911,833	920,014
Same time in 1903	622,273	1,692,752	784,824
Increase	26,616	219,081	135,190

Receipts for March, 1904, to date, compared with the corresponding period a year ago:

	Cattle.	Hogs.	Sheep.
March to date	80,885	196,135	132,476
Same period, 1903	108,430	187,295	123,149
Increase	.....	8,840	8,327
Decrease	18,545	.....	.....

In beef cattle the great bulk of the receipts consisted of common and medium grades, which are in less demand than any other. The market has been burdened with this class of stuf with the result that all cattle below $5 are 15c to 25c lower than a week ago with the exception of those common enough for feeders to use. This competition saved this class from sinking to a lower level. Butcher stock is selling at steady prices, supplies generally being small and demand quiet. Stockers and feeders closed somewhat weaker, prices at close being from about $2.75 for stock cattle to $4.15 to $4.25 for choice 1,000-lb steers, $4 being about the average for desirable steers. The hog market closed Friday 15c to 30c lower than Thursday's range, with most of the decline on choice heavyweights. The late market was better, however. Friday's average price, $5.37; bulk, $5.25 to $5.45. Sheep trade generally brisk and strong to 10c higher. Export weathers, 151 lbs, sold on contract at $5, but traders say they would have brought that on the open market. Many good yearlings sell readily around $5. Lambs sold quickly at steady prices, quotable up to $6, Friday's top for westerns being $5.90.

DRESSED BEEF AND MUTON.

Following are the wholesale prices per 100 lbs for dressed beef and mutton in Minneapolis:

Steers, $6@7.50; cows, $5@6; heifers, $6@6.50; wethers, $6.50; ewes, $6; lambs, $9.

CHICAGO HORSE MARKET.

Trade genrally is backward, but compared with a week ago is broader and values firmer at the following prices:

	Poor to fair.	Good to best.
Drafters	$125@165	$170@250
Loggers and feeders	75@135	140@195
Chunks	65@ 95	100@140
Expressers	110@150	160@185
Farm mares and small chunks	50@ 65	70@110
Light drivers	65@135	150@200
Actors and coachers	100@175	200@450
Carriage pairs	250@350	350@700
Western (branded)	12@ 30	40@ 55
Plugs and scrubs	10@ 20	25@ 40
Mules	60@160	165@210

SIOUX CITY LIVE STOCK, March 12.—Receipts of cattle at this point for the week foot up close to 4,500 hed, inadicating a decrease of 800 head from last week. The bulk of the supply were stockers, altho there was a liberal percentage of killing cattle on the market. The trade in stockers has been very satisfactory and prices early in the week advanced 10c to 15c over last week. The market ruled active each day and the good stockers and yarling strs wr in dmand and wr pickd up grdily by th buyrs on arrival. Th bst of th 800 nd 1,000 wters sold from $3.65 to $3.85, nd the bulk of the medium quality cattle at $3.35@3.60. Yearling steers sold up as high as $3.75, but the most of the sales of fair to good steers changed hands at $3.25@3.60. The common steers of all weights were slow sale, but were cleaned up each day at $2.50@$3.00. The heifer barket was satisfactory and with quite a few orders in the trade in advance in values was noted, and prices ruled generally a dime higher than last week, which was the first advance this class of cattle has seen for some time. Sales were from $2.00@2.50. There was a bad spot in the market on Thursday owing to severe storm that raged all day, and the advance the earlier part of the week was about all lost. The receipts were light ,however, and the decline was entirely due to the inclemency of the weather. Thre was a bteter tone to the trade later in the week , and with good weather there is every reason to believe that the earlier advance will be in line for the market the coming week.

The fat cattle market has been showing a general tendency towards higher values and prices close the week 10c to 15c higher than last. The steer offerings comprise entirely short fed cattle that sold from $3.50 to $4.40. The best cows changed hands at $3.00@3.50, with the bulk of the sales in fair to medium cows and heifers selling from $2.50@2.85. Canners and cutters at $1.75@2.30.

Hogs—The marketing of hogs has been light at this and other points an dalthe the packers have been bearish the light marketing has been a bullish factor in the trade. Considerable fluctuation has been noticed, but vaules close the week a good nickel higher than last, with the advance mostly on the heavier weights.

Cattle, 150; hogs, 20,000. Hogs 5c higher. Sales: 80, 180 lbs, $4.95; 48, 260 lbs, $5.15; 60, 310 lbs, $5.30.

Cattle—Steady. Sales: 18 beeves, 1,180 lbs, $3.50; 9 beeves, 1,300 lbs, $3.80; 4 beeves, 1,400 lbs, $4.40; 10 cows, 800 lbs, $2.80; 10 cows, 680 lbs, $2.70; 8 cows, 1,140 lbs, $3.30; 8 stockers, 760 lbs, $3.10; 10 stockers, 800 lbs, $3.30; 8 stockers, 1,140 lbs, $3.80; 8 yearlings, 480 lbs, $3; 10 yearlings, 580 lbs, $3.25; 8 yearlings, 600 lbs, $3.65.

KANSAS CITY LIVE STOCK, March 12.—Cattle—Receipts, 100; market unchanged; beef steers, $3.80@5.25; southern steers, $3.50@4.40; southern cows, $2.40@3.25; native cows and heifers, $2@4.20; stockers and feeders, $3.25@4.40.

Hogs—Receipts, 2,000; market 5@10c higher; heavy, $5.30@5.40; packers, $5.20@5.35; pigs and lights, $4.40@5.15.

Sheep—Receipts, 500; market, steady; sheep, $2.70@5; lambs, $4.75@5.50.

RANGE CONDITIONS

Miles City, Mont., Stockgrowers' Journal: N. A. Eggleston, of Sandstone, says that while they are not overstocked with snow in that vicinity the stock outlook is not the best.—J. O. Loudermilk, from Jordan, gives good reports of the stock business thereabouts, but along the river he says there are a good many dead ones.—Lawrence Higgins, foreman for the LU—, C. O. Loudermilk and the J cattle and riders for the W—, Hat X, Bow and Arrow and other outfits ranging on the north side of the Yellowstone, recently went over to round up all the cattle that have drifted down to the river and will throw them over to the south side of the track and let them drift.

The Bismarck Tribune said recently that the last storm was "the 565th of the winter."

A Lincoln, Neb., exchange says: At Cedar Rapids, Iowa, a city half the size of Lincoln, a local company has been formed to go into the packing business with a paid up capital of $25,000. Nearly all of the butchers of the city and fifty other leading business men are among the stockholders. The capitalization and manner of organization indicate that this is a company formed primarily to supply its own locality with dressed meat, and that it is in effect a co-operating butchering establishment. This is along the line of suggestions that have been made to Nebraskans as a means of getting full value for their live stock and reasonable charges for their dressed meat supply. Probably the Cedar Rapids enterprise will lead to a fight with the packers in which the latter will have every advantage except the sympathy of the public, and that lack they do not seem to mind as a rule. The price of meat is likely to go down in Cedar Rapids to a point less than cost, and the cities that have no such competition will be called upon to pay the cost of the war. Should a dozen or two cities like Cedar Rapids go into the packing business at the same time, however, it is likely that such methods of warfare could not be carried on, and the meat business would be reduced to a legitimate competitive basis.

The value of wheat screenings is best understood by taking some note of what experiment stations have done with it. In the Montana experiment station, where some comparative values were ascertained, it was shown that wheat screenings were the most valuable for feeding to lambs, while barley proved the most efficient for wethers.

The Belle Fourche Bee says that cattle interests in the extreme northwestern part of the state have suffered severely these past few weeks. The homesteaders have been filing upon and taking up the best water locations, along which they hold their small bunches of cattle in pastures, and the large herds thus cut off from the usual water locations have suffered severely, with considerable loss. On account of their wandering in search of water they are thin and weak and the loss in spring storms will probably be a heavy one. This will cause a further withdrawal of the large herds of cattle from South Dakota unless they can secure locations on leased lands on Indian reservations. Many of the large outfits drew out last fall and sought new locations or sold their cattle in small bunches to the small homesteaders, and the few large outfits which are yet operating will have to follow those who have gone before.

Jacob Ziegler, Lincoln, Ill., says in an exchange: "I find from my shipping bills, which I have saved for twenty-five years, that the average price received for my stock in Chicago during that period was $4.93 per 100 pounds for sheep, $4.86 for steers and $4.85 for hogs. The average weight was: Sheep, 126½ pounds; steers, 1,354 pounds, and hogs, 218½ pounds. They were all necessarily of good stock to average those weights.

Witnesses have been summoned in the Bartlett-Richards land fencing cases in Nebraska, and the case is set for trial Friday, March 11, in the United States district court. This will be the first of the land fencing cases brought to trial.

The citizens of Miles City, Mont., are making great preparations for the coming annual meeting of the Montana Stockgrowers' Association, Tuesday, April 19th. For years Helena has fought to have the meeting changed to that city, but Miles City, always popular with the stockmen, has succeeded in voting down the capital city. It will not be surprising to see the question bob up again this year.

T. A. Schrieber, of Mercer county, N. D., reports that the severe weather has worked havoc among stock but that with good weather from now on, ranch men will be able to pull through all right.

The loss to the owners of the larger outfits who are wintering their cattle on the ranges has already been large, says the Sturgis (S. D.) Press, and that their misfortunes will be further increased there seems no doubt. The cattle drifted with the late storms from their ranges into the settlements, where they tarried for days without feed and water. The owners are doing their utmost to drive them back to where they can get grass enough to keep them alive, but many are so weak that it is doubtful if they can be brought back to their feeding grounds. The smaller outfits, who have their cattle confined within winter pasturages, are not losing. The losses will have a tendency to break up the open range system. The limits are narrowed by fences, and the conditions are bad, and yearly growing worse, for those who depend upon the open range for winter provender for their herd.

"Two feet of snow on the level," is the report of Harry Nicholls, a Wyoming ranchman shipping from Cokesville. He says they have had fine sleighing since the middle of November. Snow fell early in the season and has covered the ground ever since. It has been impossible to use the ranges and it has been necessary to feed everything since the winter set in. Nothing has suffered, however, as there is generally a good deal of snow in this section and stockmen prepared for it. Mr. Nicholls cut 200 tons of alfalfa last summer and other ranchmen put up amounts to correspond with the number of cattle they intended to carry through the winter. The altitude of Cokeville is 6,200 feet.—Omaha Journal-Stockman.

Sheepmen on the ranges of the far west say that they never had a more favorable winter than the one they have just passed through. This is a sort of a compensation for the rough one they had a year ago. It has been necessary to feed but comparatively little hay, though the wiser flockmasters were well provided with it in case of emergency. Very few sheep were lost in Idaho and Utah and a big crop of lambs is reasonably expected. There has been about enough snow to furnish the necessary moisture and prospects are more favorable than they were a year ago.

Mrs. Valentine Tilton and Miss Eveline Perrin of New Hampton, Iowa, are probably the oldest twins in the country. They recently passed their ninety-second birthday.

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