WEAKER MARKETS AND ANOTHER DECLINE —ALL GRAINS LOWER.

THERE WAS LITTLE OR NO SUPPORT GIVEN TO WHEAT AND IT SAGGED DOWN STEADILY.

AND CLOSING SHARPLY OFF.

CORN ALSO WAS LOWER, BUT MUCH STEADIER THAN WHEAT AND DECLINED LESS.

OATS WERE WEAK AND LOWER.

Office Republic,
Thursday, March 22, 1900.

Yesterday's sought decline in speculative grain values was followed this morning by a more important set-back to the bull interest and the situation in this country was weak, dull and depressed. There was no enthusiasm in to-day's operations in the local situation, there being a total absence of snap on the part of both bulls and bears, neither side displaying the least degree of aggressiveness, and a good part of the time after the opening the pit was almost deserted, while the different markets were nearly stationary. There were few fluctuations, and such as occurred come only at long intervals, and were generally narrow and uninteresting, indicating a decided lack of interest on the part of traders. There were no exciting incidents at any time during the hours of trading and the entire situation throughout the day was about as tame and stupid as it was possible for it to be without being wholly dead. Weakness and bearishness characterized every one of the markets, and in particular wheat, which closed off sharply, and was largely responsible for the let-down that took place in other grains.

Initial prices for wheat this morning were a fraction lower than they left off yesterday, showing that the weakness and bearishness developed then had gained considerably over night, and that the bears had pretty good control of things. There was little or no support given this market during the day and but feeble disposition shown to rally. On the contrary, continued weakness was exhibited, and in the absence of such support and pressure to sell prices sank lower and lower and at the final this grain showed a decline of ⅛c to ⅝@⅝c for the day. The early market information was of a character to relegate buyers to the background and bring sellers to the front. The weather conditions were springlike and favorable to the growing crop, the advices regarding which were all that bears could ask for. Receipts were again bearish, especially those in the Northwest, where the arrivals were 708 cars, as compared with 562 a week ago and 427 a year ago. Locally, 13-743 bu. were posted, against 9,955 bu. last year, and the stock in store showed an increase of 10,000 bu. Cables reported a let-down at Liverpool and London of ¼d, the latter reporting an inactive cargo market and the former a quiet, but firm cash market. On the strength of the above, the opening here for the May option was at ⅛c decline, at 70c, and July at 68⅝c, following which weak start there was an uninterrupted let-down to 69½c, and 65⅝@65¾c, respectively. The bulk of the selling was by bearishly-inclined traders, among whom were several leading operators, and most of the buying by shorts, the chronic bull not being in it at all. Later advices were no more encouraging for the bulls than that received early. There was a holiday in Paris and Antwerp, and no cables and only Berlin and Buda-Pesth heard from, Liverpool closed ⅝d off for the day, and the talk of exporters was very bearish. Clearances of flour and wheat from this country were light, at 237,000 bu., making 1,576,000 bu for the week, against 2,272,000 bu. last week, and 3,747,000 bu. last year for the same week. Late in the day there was a slight recovery due to the strength shown by corn, and a report from Minneapolis that stocks in the Northwest would probably show a decrease of 6,000,000 bu. for the month. Export sales of 28 loads were also reported, but the general cash demand was still poor. There was a rally to 69⅝c for May and to 65⅝@65¾c for July, but a weak spot developed later, and the former fell back to 69⅛c, or ⅛c lower for the day, at which it closed sellers, July declining to and closing at 65⅛@⅛c off, at 65¼c bid. March closed ⅛c down at 70⅛c nominal, and No. 2 hard for Sept. sold at 68½c.

While the local corn market showed a very decided undertone of weakness during the day, it was not so pronounced early as later, notwithstanding the unmistakable weakness displayed by the higher-priced grain. No attention was paid to Chicago, the old story, emanating from Chicago, that farmers still refused to sell and were bullish as ever, as receipts at that point and here were larger than they have been. Foreign markets were reported as dull and heavy to exporters and Liverpool showed ¼d decline from last night's closing prices. These unfavorable cables and the fine weather, together with the lower opening for wheat, were the weakening influences at the outset. The total arrivals at Western markets were 600,000 bu., against 2,000,000 bu. a year ago, including 36,700 bu. locally, as against only 7,500 bu. last year. Total shipments were 401,000 bu., and the export clearances 391,000 bu., making a total for the week as reported by Bradstreet's of 2,219,000 bu., compared with 2,000,000 bu. last week and 3,700,000 bu. a year ago.

The opening here was ⅛c lower for May at 35⅝c and ⅛c off for July at 36c. After May had declined to 35⅛@35¼c and July to 36c, a stronger tone was developed. Exports were only 21 loads, but it was reasoned out that the time for farm work was near at hand, which was construed to mean that receipts would fall off and this gave a better tone to the market. May sold up to 35⅝c, but late went off to 35⅛@35¼c, and closed ⅛c lower for the day at 35¼c sellers. July had 36⅝c bid and closed ⅛c off at 36c. March was nominally unchanged at 35½c.

The receipts of oats at primary Western markets to-day were posted at 320,000 bu., against 228,000 bu. last year; 16,800 bu. were received here, against 32,400 bu. a year ago. Shipments were 231,000 bu., and exports 13,000 bu. The weakness displayed by all other grains had a bad effect upon this cereal and May sold off ⅛c at 24½c. Later 24½@24⅝c was bid, but that was asked at close, being ¼@⅜c lower for the day. July was unchanged at 22⅝c sellers, and March nominally unchanged at 25c.

Trade Gossip.

—From a private and reliable source it is learned that receipts of wheat in New Orleans have been increasing steadily during several past weeks, though the public reports to the exchange have not shown this. A local exporter, interviewed by a representative of the New Orleans Times-Democrat, says that 81 cars wheat arrived there for week ending March 3, 124 cars for the following week, and 139 cars last week. Galveston has been receiving quite an amount of wheat. That market has 1,982,000 bu. in stock, and New Orleans 400,000 bu. The exports from both ports have been small for some time.

—The Cincinnati Price Current says: "The favorable week in Central States for wheat crop. Situation favorable in Western States. Grain still tenaciously held where pressed is doubtful. Spring wheat belated."

—Cash business here yesterday in Chicago was 320,000 bu. wheat, 125,000 bu. corn, and 25,000 bu. oats. At the seaboard, exporters bought 32,000 bu. wheat and 256,000 bu. corn.

—It is claimed that the large wheat receipts at Northwestern markets will continue until May 1, when the tax assessments are made up in that section.

—Paris and several other continental markets were closed to-day in honor of some holiday.

—Minneapolis wires: "I am told by elevator people farmers are selling their storage tickets, getting tired waiting for higher prices."

—To-day's receipts of wheat at the primary markets were 878,000 bu., against 596,000 bu. one week ago, and 410,000 bu. a year ago.

—Duluth expects an increase of 1,300,000 bu. and Minneapolis 250,000 bu. decrease in their wheat stocks. Not much change appears probable in the wheat visible.

—Harry Halliday, president of the Halliday Milling Company, at Cairo, Ill., says crop prospects never were better than they are now in their section and a good deal of old wheat still in the country, whereas the flour trade is dull.

—Pfarrius, the New York exporter, predicts a break of 5c to 7c in wheat, as a good deal of the so-called export business is being sold against in New York.

Cash Grain, Flour, Etc.

WHEAT—Cash market—Received, 68 cars, and 8 cars local. No sales from elevator stock heard of. As an elevator man put it, "There's too many virgins around for us to do anything." Offerings of straight country wheat were the largest in some time, but a better local demand, if none from the outside. A line of fancy did, brought 72c this side, but otherwise market lower. On the No. 2 red at 69⅝c this, 69c E. side, No. 3 at 68⅝c E. side and 50c bid for choice. 1 car No. 2 and No. 3 selling at 70c round. No. 4 winter at 69½c. No. 2 hard at 67@68½c. No. 3 do at 67c and 3 soft spring at 68½c. No. 2 do at 67c.

OATS—Cash market Received, 60 cars, and 5 cars local and 22 cars through. Easy, but not enough for sale. Though demand still light and offerings not in order to-day, No. 2 at 25½c, 25c and 24½c, which offered in vain. No. 3 white at 25½c, where offered in vain. No. 4 white at 25c. No. 2 white at 25½c. No. 3 do at 25c. No. 4 do at 24½c. No. 2 mixed at 24½c, and No. 3 do at 24c.

CORN—Cash market Received, 60 cars, and 2 cars local and 22 cars through. Easy, but not enough for sale. Though demand still light and offerings not in order to-day, No. 2 at 37c, 36½c and 36c, which offered in vain. No. 3 at 36½c, where offered in vain. No. 4 at 36c. No. 2 white at 37½c, but none available at that price. No. 3 white at 37c. No. 2 yellow at 37½c.

RYE—Cash market Received, 2 cars, and 1 car local. Firm, but no inquiry. Offered in vain at 59c for No. 2 and 58c for No. 3.

BARLEY—Cash market Received, 60 cars, and 1 car local. Very dull and weak, with only a fair demand for choice. Offered in vain at 47c for No. 2 fall, and 46c for No. 3 fall. No. 2 spring at 48c, and No. 3 spring at 45c.

FLAXSEED—Cash market Received, 60 cars, and 1 car local and 22 cars through. Easy, but not enough for sale. Though demand still light and offerings not in order to-day, No. 2 at $1.12 and $1.10, which offered in vain. No. 3 at $1.07, where offered in vain. No. 2 hard at $1.12, but none available at that price. No. 1 Northwestern at $1.15, but none available at that price.

TIMOTHY SEED—Market dull and easier, with only a fair demand. We quote at $1.60 per bu. for prime, and $1.65 for fancy, but not enough for sale. Receipts 1 car.

CLOVER SEED—Receipts 1 car. Market dull and easier. We quote at $6 per bu. for prime, and $6.25 for fancy, but not enough for sale.

BRAN—Market firmer, but quiet. We quote at 65c per 20 lbs in sacks, and 60c per 20 lbs in bulk, on track.

CORNMEAL—Old market firmer, but quiet. We quote at $1.60 per 100 lbs.

FLOUR—Market firmer, but quiet. We quote at $3 per bbl for fancy, and $2.75 for choice, in sacks, on track.

HAY—Received, 20 cars local and 50 cars through. Easy, but not enough for sale. Though demand still light and offerings not in order to-day, choice timothy sold at $12 per ton, and $11 for choice mixed. Prairie hay, $7@$8 per ton.

STRAW—Wheat straw, $5 per ton.

GRASS SEED—Clover, $6.50 per bu for choice, and $6 for prime. Timothy, $1.60 per bu for choice, and $1.65 for fancy. Hungarian, $1 per bu. Buckwheat, $1 per bu.

CLASSIFIED—Nominally $1.62.

CASTOR BEANS—Nominal at $1.12 per bu. for Cake, and $1.14 for Prime.

POTATOES—Easier, sale of 3 cars on the L. E. at 75c per bu.

BEAN—Easier and a better inquiry, sales of hand-picked at $1.70 per bu, and 10c more asked, and $1.60 for mixed. We now quote at $1.70@1.75 per bu.

SEEDS—Timothy, choice, $1.60 per bu.

CHICORY—Nominally at 7c per lb.

Prices on Change.

The following tables show the range of prices in future and cash grain:

	Yesterday.	Range.	Closed.
Wheat—March			
May			
July			
Corn—March			
May			
July			
Oats—March			
May			
July			

Cash wheat, corn and oats ranged:

	Last Year.	Wednesday.	To-day.
Wheat—No. 2 red			
No. 3 red			
No. 4 winter			
No. 2 hard			
No. 3 hard			
Corn—No. 2			
No. 3			
No. 2 white			
No. 3 white			
Oats—No. 2			
No. 3			
No. 2 Northern			
No. 2 white			
No. 3 white			
No. 4 white			

Movement of Grain.

Cities.	Receipts. Wheat.	Corn.	Shipments. Wheat.	Corn.
St. Louis				
Chicago				
Toledo				
Detroit				
Kansas City				
Milwaukee				
Minneapolis				
Duluth				
New York				
Baltimore				
Philadelphia				
Boston				
New Orleans				
Galveston				

Stocks of Grain in Store.

	To-day.	Yes'day.	Last y'r.
Wheat			
Corn			
Oats			
Rye			
Barley			
Contract grades—			
No. 2 white			
No. 2 hard			
No. 2 corn			
No. 2 white corn			
No. 2 oats			
No. 2 rye			
No. 2 barley			

Shipments of Flour.

St. Louis, 5,882 bbls.; Chicago, 15,840 bbls.; Detroit 800 bbls.; Milwaukee, 1,128 bbls.; Minneapolis, 46,950 bbls.; New York, 7,773 bbls. and 4,150 sks.; Baltimore 257 bbls.; New Orleans 125 bbls. and 6,276 sks.

ON THE PRODUCE EXCHANGE.

Local Egg, Poultry, Butter and Produce Markets.

The produce markets were generally quiet yesterday, as the shipping demand was very light and there was comparatively little buying for local account. Receipts were light, and buyers are taking hold very cautiously and the movement is light.

Potatoes were dull and slow. Receipts were light, but the demand was still lighter. Shippers were practically out of the market, and the local trade bought very sparingly. Fancy Burbanks and Mammoth Burbanks were salable to a limited way, but other eating varieties were hard to move. In the seed varieties early rose and Beauty of Hebron were in fair demand, but offerings are liberal and the market easier. Other seed varieties were dull.

Cabbage continues quiet and steady at unchanged prices. Receipts of new cabbage were light and the demand only fair, and stock is plenty, but offerings are ample for the demand, and the movement is slow.

Onions were quiet and while prices are not quotably lower, the feeling is easier. Spanish globes are in fair demand, but offerings of soft, sprouted and inferior stock are more liberal. Anything not first class is hard to move.

Tomatoes were firm. The demand improves with the warmer weather. Supplies are light. Choice ripe stock meets with ready sale, but nothing else is wanted.

Early vegetables are still scarce and in good demand, except cucumbers, spinach and kale, which are plentiful and lower.

Apples continue quiet. There is good demand, but offerings are light and choice fruit meets with ready sale. Stocks are very light and holders are firm in their demands.

Strawberries are coming and prices are tending upward. The demand shows considerable improvement and offerings are light.

Lemons are ruling firm as the warm weather has increased the demand, but offerings are light.

Strawberries were quiet and firm, as receipts were light, and were not with pen to supply the demand.

California pears, Malaga grapes and bananas were quiet and steady.

The poultry market was somewhat irregular. Live chickens were firm and in good demand, as shippers bought freely, and there was also good inquiry for local account. Turkeys were not so active, however, though light hens were in fair demand, but heavy stock slow. Ducks were also in fair demand, but geese were quiet.

Dressed chickens were dull and weak, as receipts were heavy, and the demand light on account of the unfavorable weather. Only choice light stock was wanted, and soft, heavy or rough stock was entirely neglected.

Game continues dull and weak on account of the heavy receipts and liberal offerings of inferior stock.

Eggs were dull and slow, as receipts were heavy and the demand light.

Pork continues quiet and unchanged, but a heavier decline is looked for soon, and the feeling is weak. Receipts are not quite so heavy as they have been recently. Most of the arrivals are spring and undersize, but good winter stock is still with ready sale.

Wool was dull and the market unsettled on account of the London wool sales, but the feeling is weak.

Hides were lower, but sold fairly well at the decline.

Eggs.

The market was lower again yesterday on account of the liberal offerings, and choice fresh stock sold off 3c. There was a good demand at the decline and the movement was heavy. Duck eggs sold at 15c a doz and goose eggs at 40c.

Receipts at St. Louis yesterday were 4,995 cases, and shipments 1,785 cases.

Dairy Products.

BUTTER—Roll butter was easier and firm yesterday, and medium grades of rolls and stock were in fair demand, but choice creamery was quiet. Prices were quotably lower. Creamery—Extra 24c; firsts 22@23c; seconds 20@21c. Dairy—Extra 19@20c; firsts 16@18c; grease firsts 15c. Ladle-packed—Extra 18@19c; firsts 15@16c; seconds 13@14c; inferior roll 12@14c; packed 12@14c.

CHEESE—Quote: Texas at 12½c, singles 12½c; A. J. C., Illinois, Twins 9½@9¾c, singles at 9@9½c; Wisconsin, N. Y. full cream 12½c, Limburger 11@12c; sales 1,000 lbs. bulk 11½@12c. Foregoing are jobbing prices from store.

Provisions.

Pork—Market buoyant and largely higher, but heavyweight quiet. Pork for ready sale at $11.50, this side at $12. Lard steady. L. S. prime steam 5½c, choice 5¾c.

Green Hams, Etc.—Car lots, f. o. b. E. side: Hams—14 av., 8¼c; 12c, 8¼c; 16c, 8¼c; 18c, 8c; 20c and 24c, 8¼c. Skinned hams—20@24 av., 9¼@9½c; 18@20c, 9¾@9¾c; 16c, 10¼@10½c. California, 6¾@7½c, as in average. New York shoulders, 6¾c. From the block, del.: Hams, 8¼@9¼c, as in average; bellies 8½c to 8¾c, New Orleans 6½c.

D. S. Meats—Bid lots in a jobbing way. Extra shoulders, 6¼c; clear sides 6¾c; bellies 6¾@6¾c. Dealers charge higher on small orders.

Bacon—Bid lots, c. c. meats in a jobbing way. Heavy to fancy light breakfast bacon at 8½c to 11¾@¾c; do. hams 10½c to 11½@¾c. California at 7½c, as in average. New York shoulders at 6¾c. Bid, plain smoked lots in a small way—extra short 6¾c; ribbs 7c; short clear sides 7¼c; bellies 7¾c. Dealers charge higher on orders.

Country Lard—6¼c to 7¼c, according to quality and package.

Country Bacon—Fair average prices uniformly cut and well smoked: Shoulders at 5½@6c; sides at 6½@6¾c, hams at 8c to 9c. Most of the lots irregularly cut and poorly handled—these sell on their merits.

Tallow—Country, No. 1 fat, No. 2 4¾@4¾c; packers' choice clear, cake 5¼c. Rendered—Quiet. Brown, 3c; yellow 3½c; white 3½c; packers' choice white 3¾@3¾c, yellow 4¼@4½c. Brown 4¼@4½c.

Beeswax—Harvested Mess $9.50. Furnish market $9.50, tongues at $8 per doz., dried at $11.50 to $12.

Hides.

All receipts keeping well up close at following. We quote round: Green salted A. stage receipts 8½c. Dry flint—Texas 12½c; average Texas 11½c; native Arkansas and Texas 10½c; Mississippi and Alabama 10½c; dry salted 11c. Wool and pelt selection—Green salted No. 1 Texas, No. 2 Texas, bull 10½c; cows and bulls, No. 1 Texas, No. 2 Texas, bull 10½c; cows and bulls, No. 1 Texas, No. 2 Texas, bull 10½c; dry salted No. 1 Texas 12½c; dry salted No. 2 Texas 11½c; Indian, green and salted 10½c; dry Indian 11½c; kip, green and salted 10½c; dry kip 11½c; calf, green and salted 12½c; dry calf 13½c.

Wool.

Market wholly nominal and unsettled.

Missouri & Illinois		Florida & Ga.	
Med. unwashed		Coast Texas	
Med. washed		Eastern Texas	
Fine unwashed		Eastern Ore.	
Fine washed		Valley Oregon	
Tub washed		Fine medium	
Kansas & Nebraska		Fine medium	
Bright medium		Fine fine	
Dark		Coarse	
Fine medium, 38		Med. clothing	
Fine fine, 37		Med. clothing	
Nebraska & Nebraska		Hard fine	
Bright medium		Hard fine	
Dark medium		Tubs	
Fine medium		Tubs	
Fine fine		Tubs	
Alabama Lt. & Bright		Tubs	
Medium		Tubs	

Furs.

Market active and demand up to offerings from winter fore part.

Mink—		Red Fox—	
No. 1 large		No. 1	
No. 1 medium		No. 2	
Small & medium		No. 3	
No. 2		No. 4	
No. 3		Gray fox	
Skunk		No. 1	
Black		No. 2	
Short stripe		No. 3	
Narrow stripe		No. 4	
Broad stripe		Otter—	
Texas fount		No. 1 large	
Northern do		No. 1 medium	
Southern do		No. 2	
All blue or unprime		No. 3	
Lynx—		No. 4	
No. 1		Beaver—	
Wild cat		No. 1	
Muskrat—		No. 2	
No. 1 winter		No. 3	
Fall (timber)		Bear—	
No. 1 prime		Bears	
		Muscatel	
		Baker	

Poultry, Game and Veals.

LIVE POULTRY—Chickens in demand and firm. Turkeys steady, with a fair demand; geese and ducks in good demand. Spring chickens sold 2@3 pounds and hens mostly 4 pounds. Live pigeons 75c per doz. Sparrows 50c.

DRESSED POULTRY—Market dull and easier. Turkeys in small supply, but chickens fair and. We quote as follows: Scalded and undrawn—Turkeys, 8@9c; chickens, 8@9c; hens, 8@9c; roosters, 6c. Dressed—Turkeys, choice fancy, 10@11c; good, 9@10c; ordinary, 8@9c; hens, choice, 9@10c; good, 8@9c; ordinary, 7@8c; roosters, 6c; spring chickens, choice, 12@13c; good, 10@11c; ordinary, 8@9c. Ducks, choice, 10@11c; good, 9@10c; ordinary, 8@9c. Geese, choice, 9@10c; good, 8@9c; ordinary, 7@8c. Pigeons and squabs, per dozen, choice, 75@80c; ordinary, 50@60c. Game—Quail, per dozen, choice, $1.50@1.75; ordinary, 75@$1.00. Rabbits, per dozen, choice, 75@80c; ordinary, 50@60c. Venison, choice, 8@9c; good, 7@8c; ordinary, 6@7c. Bear meat, 6@7c. Rough dressed poultry, 1c per lb less than smooth.

GAME—Market steady, with a fair demand. Select sweet only. Jacks, per dozen, per doz. Mallards and redheads, $2.75; green-wing teal $2.50; blue-wing teal $1.50; mixed teal, $1.50. Jacksnipe $1.50. Fine hares $1.75 per doz.

VEALS—Choice to fancy at 10c per lb for 8@9c. Good and thin, 7@8c. Stock quotable at 3@6c for thin stock and barks 4@6c. Choice for spring lambs 6@7½c per lb, thin and poor 5c.

Fruits and Vegetables.

APPLES—Market firmer. Quote: Eastern Baldwins and N. Y. Greenings, $3@3.25 for fancy greenings and russets at $2.75@3; sealed and damaged less. Western Ben Davis at from $2.75 in original packages, and for fancy repacked in standard bbls; genitrings $2.50@3.

STRAWBERRIES—Light supply, firm. Choice Florida quotable at 20@25c per quart in retail; crates 10c and 2c per quart in ventilated cases, left behind and off stock here.

ORANGES—In jobbing way from store dealers charge: Mexican in fair condition, at $2.50@3; Florida, $3@3.50; California navels at $3@3.50, and seedlings $2@2.50 per box. Quotable: Tangerines, $3@3.50; California navels at $3@3.50; seedlings, $2@2.50; for clear stock, $3@3.50; in the standard $3@3.50 for seedlings—usual discount for 40 sizes.

LEMONS—Quote new Messina at $3 per box; choice, $3.25@3.50; for fancy California at $3.75@4 per box.

POMEGRANATES—Quote at $3@3.50 per box; a small way at $4 per box.

CALIFORNIA DRIED FRUITS—Quiet and steady. Quote: Apricots, $2@2.50 per 40-lb box.

MALAGA GRAPES—Firm at $7@8.50 per bbl; for extra fancy, $9@10.

BERRIES—Quote: Cranberries, Jersey, $10@11 per bbl; Cape Cod, $3.50@4 per bbl; Eastern, $3.50@4 per bbl; Jersey, $3@3.50 per bbl; Cape Cod, $1@1.25 per box.

POTATOES—Quote: Burbanks, $1@1.25 per bushel; Mammoth Burbanks, $1@1.25 per bushel; Rose, $1@1.25 per bushel; Hebrons, $1@1.25 per bushel; Early Ohios, $1@1.25 per bushel; Early Rose, $1@1.25 per bushel; Beauty of Hebron, $1@1.25 per bushel; Early Vermont, $1@1.25 per bushel; Early Michigan, $1@1.25 per bushel; Early Rose, $1@1.25 per bushel; Early Ohio