## A GOOD IMPROVEMENT— ALL GRAINS CLOSE UP.

### SPECULATIVE GRAIN MARKETS STRONG.

### Corn Led in Point of Strength and the Close Was Much Higher—Wheat Gains Were Small.

Office Republic,
Wednesday, Sept. 26, 1900.

The speculative grain markets showed a well-defined disposition to do better this morning, but the developments were slow and for some considerable time after they opened up for business they hung around in a listless, half-hearted sort of a way, price changes being narrow and speculation slow and uncertain. It was plain to be seen, however, that confidence had been restored to a considerable extent and the tendency of prices was toward a higher level. This was particularly true of corn, which showed a betterment in values early in the day, and it was not long before the higher-priced grain was also going better, though the strength displayed was not to be compared with that of the coarser grain. Besides the strength shown, traders appeared to take more interest in pit operations and there was an encouraging increase to be noticed in the volume of business for the day, though it can truthfully be said that there was still room for improvement in this respect. As the day grew older the strength became more pronounced and prices did better. Corn held to the strength to the close, at which time the market was up and down, but wheat eased up low and closed with a small gain of less than ⅛c for the day.

There was a very good and encouraging reaction to-day in favor of a bull market in wheat and a slight betterment took place in prices, though the best prices for the day were not maintained throughout the entire day, a soft spot developing near the close. It was a slow and narrow market early, but later gained in force, and considering the character of the advices proved more forcefully than traders thought it capable of under the circumstances. The start was not in the least bit encouraging, the Dec. option opening far lower than it closed yesterday at 69⅞c and in a short time went off to 69c. The news and conditions at the time, like on yesterday, were bullish, but as trade was still confidential for sale the market was not improved favorably and bears showed a lack of confidence and made no effort to check the declining tendency of the market. Cable advices were not so very bad and could have been much worse. Liverpool reported a decline yesterday night of ½d, but London was quiet and steady for futures and English country markets equal to ½d to 1d higher, which was attributed to bad weather in Wales. There was a change to better weather conditions in the Northwest and the prospects were said to be for a continuance of the more settled conditions, and this caused Minneapolis to open the lower for the day. Bears made much of the damage to wheat in the shock by rains, and threshing and fall plowing delayed. The movement report was favorable on fall plowing, but also said that the average yield of the crop is smaller in Illinois and Ohio. The postings of receipts in the Northwest were small, the arrivals only being 404 cars, against 469 a week ago and 362 a year ago. At winter wheat markets the movement showed a falling off, but the arrivals were holding up well. Local receipts were 83,000 bu., against 100,000 bu. last week and 17,000 bu. a year ago.

It was well on toward the hour of noon when the markets commenced to show evidence of a change for the better, but when it once got well under way the improvement was uninterrupted and quite rapid. The most of the bears had evidently made the complete restoration of confidence on the part of the bulls and had a good effect, the situation soon being as strong as it was weak earlier. There was little that was encouraging to be gleaned from the cash quotations. Paris was up ⅛c, but Liverpool closed ¼d and London ¼d lower for the day. Antwerp was off ⅛c, Berlin lc and Dulac-Peath ¼c. Export clearances from this side were small, the aggregate for the preceding 24 hours being only 265,000 bu. in flour and wheat.

The rally that followed the change of front in wheat sent Dec. to 70½c, from which there was a drop back to 70c. Oct. in the meantime had sold up to 69⅞c, at which there were sales at 70½c. May being offered at 69¾c, and 69⅝c bid. Late there was a report that ocean freights had been cut 2c and that foreigners were again buying, but the cut in freights on the whole was not very encouraging. Sentiment, however, was bullish and the Dec. option advanced to 70⅞c, but as the export business was only 50 loads, the market fell back, and the close for the month was quiet at 70½c, with the trailing bid, Oct. had gone 69c bid, but the close was the same as yesterday, at 70½c; May sold up to 69¾c, and Sept. was nominally 2c better, at 69c.

Corn was the chief attraction in the local pit on change to-day, and especially during the opening hours of the day's session. One reason for this was in the fact that wheat ruled wildly erratic and without the strength shown by the cheaper cereal. Primary market receipts continue to show no less than those of last year and were 915,000 bu., compared with 1,236,000 bu. a week ago, 484,000 bu. a year ago. There were 1,000,000 bu. of corn received here, against 31,000 bu. last year. The shipments from Western markets were large at 501,000 bu., and the day's exports amounted to 402,000 bu. from the seaboard. The chief bullish factor in the market was the strength and excitement shown at Chicago in the Sept. option. The cables reported quiet markets, with Liverpool unchanged during the day. The Government crop report showed that the weather was favorable for gathering corn in all the principal States, and in many the bulk had been secured.

It has been a long time since such active and heavy trading has been seen in the local pit as was witnessed to-day, and the trading was chiefly on the buying side. The opening for Oct. was ⅝c higher at 36c, it was then offered down without a buyer to 35½c, but shortly rallied and sold at 36½c, but opened up to 36¾c at 7:30, and then bid up to 33¾@37c, while for Sept. 36½c was bid. There was no apparent let-up of the strength during the balance of the session, but still continued to lead in this respect, and finally closed higher at 37½c bid, 38c asked, sold up to 38⅛@38c, and at the close was offered at ⅝c advance for the day at 38⅛@38c. Sept. at the same time being offered at ⅝c gain and 36½c, while year was nominally 1½c at 33½c.

The strength lately shown by oats was again apparent this morning, and if anything was intensified by that shown by other grains, and especially by corn. The total receipts were 468,000 bu., against 332,000 bu. one year ago, including 31,200 bu. here, against 25,200 bu. last year. Shipments were 251,000 bu., and exports 31,000 bu. Trading was light, but Dec. sold ½c higher at 25c, and afterwards closed at that. Sept. was ⅛c up at 22⅝c bid, and May and 26½c bid at one time, but closed ⅛c higher for the day at 24⅝c nominal.

#### Traders' Gossip.

Of the past week's weather and crop conditions the Weather Bureau says: "Heavy rains in Central and Northern Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, the Dakotas, Minnesota, Wisconsin and Upper Michigan interrupted farm work and caused injury to crops, principal damage to the latter being confined to the shock grain in stock, while in Texas and Oklahoma cotton suffered most. Decided coolness in the Upper Ohio Valley, portions of the Lower Ohio and the Atlantic States and nine would prevail from Florida and northern of Alabama. Over the whole region conditions were favorable for farm work and maturing of late crops, except in the Lower Missouri Valley and in districts east of the Mississippi River. The week was favorable for gathering the unharvested corn crop, bulk of the crop being secured in many sections. While condition of the soil generally favorable for plowing for fall seeding, it was delayed in portions of Iowa and Missouri by the weather and by excessive rains in Wisconsin and Minnesota. Reports from the States of the Ohio Valley indicate the acreage of winter wheat will be smaller than usual, in some sections seeding purposely delayed to avoid Hessian fly."

Cash grain business in Chicago yesterday was 200,000 bu. wheat, mostly No. 1 Northern, and 37,000 bu. corn. At the seaboard exports thereof 45,000 bu. wheat, 82,000 bu. corn and 230,000 bu. oats.

There was a very decided difference between the wheat shipments made by Russia and the Danubian ports last week as compared with those by Russia and Broomhall, the former placing them at 2,776,000 bu. and the latter at 2,776,000 bu. Broomhall made the Russian shipments much smaller than Broomhall and Danubian shipments less. It looks like we had too many statisticians. Bradstreet's for Russia and Danubia yesterday reported that European supplies increased 9,000,000 bu. last week and later corrected the increase to 2,100,000 bu.

Primary wheat receipts were 1,192,000 bu., shipments 832,000 bu., against 1,000,000 bu. last Wednesday, 1,242,000 bu. a week ago, and 1,336,000 bu. 2 years ago.

From Winnipeg: "A great proportion of our wheat is irreparably damaged. There will be a very little contract stuff. Another cold, wet morning delaying cutting and curing. Barometer is rising, however, and we will probably get clear weather, but everything is soaked and it will take long time to save even what is left."

#### Cash Grain, Flour, Etc.

WHEAT—Cash market—Received 4,720 sks. and 80 ctrs. bulk; cut 2 cars through. Lower and a rather heavy undertone for soft winter. Offerings small, of good grades, which taken by local users and shippers. Receipts at New York were 12,000 bu. Liverpool was quiet and steady for futures, but spots were 1d lower. Paris quiet and steady. Antwerp was off ⅛c. Berlin was lc lower. Dulac-Peath ¼c lower. Export clearances were 265,000 bu. Bradstreet's reported that the visible supply increased 9,000,000 bu. last week, and later corrected the increase to 2,100,000 bu. Receipts here were 1,192,000 bu., shipments 832,000 bu., against 1,000,000 bu. last Wednesday, 1,242,000 bu. a week ago, and 1,336,000 bu. 2 years ago. Milling demand. No. 2 sold at 71c, and later sold bid. No. 3 sold at 70c.

CORN—Cash market—Received 29 cars local and 18 cars Western. Trading opened in good shape and continued lively and active throughout the day. Prices advanced ⅝c, closing ⅝c net higher. Receipts at New York were 1,000,000 bu. Liverpool reported a decline of ½d. Paris quiet and steady. Antwerp quiet and steady. Berlin lc lower. Dulac-Peath ¼c lower. Export clearances were 402,000 bu. Receipts here were 1,000,000 bu., against 31,000 bu. last year. Shipments were 501,000 bu. Milling demand. No. 2 sold at 38c, and later sold bid. No. 3 sold at 37c.

OATS—Cash market—Received 21 cars local and 10 cars Western. Trading opened in good shape and continued active throughout the day. Prices advanced ½c, closing ½c net higher. Receipts at New York were 468,000 bu. Receipts here were 31,200 bu., against 25,200 bu. last year. Shipments were 251,000 bu. Milling demand. No. 2 sold at 25c, and later sold bid. No. 3 sold at 24c.

Cash wheat, corn and oats closed:

| | Last Year. | Yesterday. |
|---|---|---|
| Wheat—No. 2 red | | 70½ |
| No. 3 red | | 69 |
| No. 4 red | | 67 |
| No. 2 hard | | 70½ |
| No. 3 hard | | 69 |
| No. 4 hard | | 67 |
| No. 2 white | | 70½ |
| No. 3 white | | 69 |
| No. 4 white | | 67 |
| No. 2 white | | 70½ |
| No. 3 white | | 69 |
| No. 4 white | | 67 |
| Corn—No. 2 | | 38 |
| No. 3 | | 37 |
| No. 4 | | 36 |
| No. 2 white | | 38 |
| No. 3 white | | 37 |
| No. 4 white | | 36 |
| Oats—No. 2 | | 25 |
| No. 3 | | 24 |
| No. 4 | | 23 |
| No. 2 white | | 26 |
| No. 3 white | | 25 |
| No. 4 white | | 24 |
| No. 2 Northern | | 25 |
| No. 3 Northern | | 24 |
| No. 4 Northern | | 23 |
| No. 2 white | | 26 |
| No. 3 white | | 25 |
| No. 4 white | | 24 |

#### Movement of Grain.

| Cities. | Receipts Wheat. | Corn. | Oats. | Shipments Wheat. | Corn. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| St. Louis | 41,000 | 100,000 | 20,000 | 48,000 | 12,000 |
| Chicago | 404,000 | 501,000 | 251,000 | 832,000 | 402,000 |
| Toledo | 2,000 | 4,000 | 1,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 |
| Detroit | 2,000 | 4,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 |
| Kansas City | 200,000 | 40,000 | 15,000 | 100,000 | 15,000 |
| Milwaukee | 1,000 | 2,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 |
| Minneapolis | 83,000 | 18,000 | 31,000 | 22,000 | 3,000 |
| Duluth | 22,000 | 2,000 | 1,000 | 20,000 | 1,000 |
| New York | 12,000 | 1,000,000 | 468,000 | 1,000 | 31,000 |
| Baltimore | 6,000 | 20,000 | 20,000 | 6,000 | 20,000 |
| Philadelphia | 3,000 | 20,000 | 20,000 | 4,000 | |
| Boston | 1,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 1,000 | |
| New Orleans | 4,000 | 30,000 | | 10,000 | |

#### Stocks of Grain in Store.

| | Today. | Yesterday. | Last yr. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Wheat | 2,000,000 | 2,000,000 | 2,000,000 |
| Corn | 2,000,000 | 2,000,000 | 2,000,000 |
| Oats | 2,000,000 | 2,000,000 | 2,000,000 |
| Rye | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 |
| Barley | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 |

Contract grades:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| No. 2 red | 1,000,000 | 1,000,000 | 1,000,000 |
| No. 3 red | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 |
| No. 2 hard | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 |
| No. 3 hard | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 |
| No. 2 white corn | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 |
| No. 3 corn | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 |
| No. 2 white oats | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 |
| No. 3 white | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 |

#### Shipments of Flour.

St. Louis, 11,000 bbls.; Chicago, 25,000 bbls.; Detroit, 600 bbls.; Milwaukee, 2,000 bbls.; Minneapolis, 67,000 bbls.; Duluth, 7,000 bbls.; New York, 4,000 bbls.; Baltimore, 21,000 bbls.; New Orleans, 5,000 sks.

## PRODUCE MARKETS.

### Local Fruit, Vegetable, Poultry, Egg and Butter Quotations.

St. Louis, Wednesday, Sept. 26.

The produce markets were quiet, but prices were generally well maintained. Receipts were moderate and demand was fair. Low grades of poultry were dull and prices were lower. Eggs were steady. Offerings were light and market firm. Butter was steady and unchanged. Offerings were light.

Potatoes were somewhat irregular. Fancy Northern stock was quiet and steady, but most other kinds were dull and prices were lower. Sweets were steady. Choice home-grown early Ohios were firmer and in fair demand.

Cabbage was dull and nominal and the market steady. Offerings were light.

Tomatoes were quiet and steady at unchanged prices. Offerings were moderate and the demand light.

Onions were weak and lower, as receipts were heavier, while the demand was slow. Fancy Spanish were nominally unchanged and steady.

Celery was in fair demand and prices were weak and firm, some heated and damaged stock being offered, which was hard to move.

Eating apples were more plentiful and the market was dull and weak.

Grapes were in fair demand and steady, with offerings about equal to the demand. Other vegetables were steady and unchanged.

Apples were quiet and steady. There was a fair demand for fancy and choice stock, but the receipts, which were heavy, were mostly common or inferior stock, which was not wanted. Quotations were nominally unchanged. Shipments of Michigan and California, and some home-grown fruit were heavy, the latter being mostly peaches. Peaches were quiet and weak. Pears were steady and in fair demand.

Poultry was quiet and steady. There was a fair demand for good stock, but the receipts, which were heavy, were mostly common or inferior stock, which was not wanted. Quotations were nominally unchanged. Shipments of Michigan and California, and some home-grown fruit were heavy, the latter being mostly peaches. Peaches were quiet and weak. Pears were steady and in fair demand.

Eggs were quiet and steady. There was a fair demand for good stock, but the receipts were heavy and prices were lower. Young turkeys were plentiful and lower, with demand light.

Sheep and lambs were quiet and unchanged.

Game was quiet and steady. Receipts were heavy, but mostly in bad condition, while the demand was confined to choice stock.

Wool was dull and unchanged. There was practically no demand, but holders were unwilling to make any further concessions.

Hides were steady and unchanged.

Beeswax was steady and the demand for fancy was fair.

#### Flour.

The market was quiet and steady to-day as usual during the past few weeks. There was a fair demand for the lower grades, which were in good shape, but the demand for the higher grades was light and there were plenty of offerings of the low grades, but holders of the higher grades were firm and not willing to make any concessions.

Receipts at the mills to-day were 1,761 sacks and shipments were 1,918 sacks.

#### Dairy Products.

Butter—There was a good demand for creamery, fancy dairy and choice dairy, but other grades were quiet and steady. Quotations: Creamery, fancy, 19@20c; creamery, choice, 18c; creamery, fair to good, 16@17c; ordinary creamery, 15c; fancy dairy, 18@20c; choice dairy, 16c; fair to good dairy, 14c; ordinary dairy, 12c; country, 10@12c; packing stock, 10c.

Eggs—Receipts were light and the demand was fair. Prices were firm at 17c for fresh, cases included, and 17c for cases.

Poultry—Receipts were heavy and the demand was fair. Prices were lower. Spring chickens quoted at 22c.

Game—Quotations are: Quail, $2.25 per doz.; squirrels at $1 per doz. for select large; squirrels at $1 per doz. for ordinary; rabbits, $1 per doz. for cottontails; $1 per doz. for jack-rabbits.

Fish—Quotations are: Buffalo, 8c per lb.; catfish, 8c per lb.; bass, 8c per lb.; pickerel, 8c per lb.; perch, 5c per lb.; crappies, 8c per lb.; mackinaw trout, 8c per lb.; salmon trout, 8c per lb.; white bass, 8c per lb.; blue pike, 5c per lb.; frogs, 5c per doz.; soft-shell crabs, $1 per doz.; shrimps, 15c per lb.; catfish, 8c per lb.; buffalo