SMALL GAINS WIPED OUT

Demand So Near Zero at Higher Level That Prices Sag Badly.

BONDS DULL BUT STEADY

Principal Active Stocks Show Losses of About a Point. Closing Easy.

(By Associated Press.)

NEW YORK, Feb. 26.—An attempt was made to carry the rally in prices in stocks, which set in yesterday, still further to-day. Only slight gains were established, and at the higher level the demand had dwindled to so near the zero point that the traders abandoned their efforts to carry on the rise. There was some increase in the selling pressure, but this did not develop to a noticeable extent until the sagging from lack of demand had already set in. News developments to-day were not of importance, but the current news indicated the continuance of some of the unfavorable features which have kept the market under pressure for some time past. Railroad earnings made an unfavorable showing both for gross and net, with the exception of a few of the Southwesterns. Atchison, Wabash and Hocking Valley represented the prevailing downward tendency of net earnings in their January returns. The dealings for foreign account were small, but the uncertainties of the foreign situation were not without influence in the local market.

The promise of a further increase in the cash reserves of the banks as a result of the week's currency movement, failed to rally the market, as the piling up of reserves has reached a point which arouses fears that it represents a decline in business activity.

The additional fire losses involved in the Rochester fire following so soon after the Baltimore disaster, was a depressing influence. The principal active stocks show losses on the day of about a point, and the closing was easy.

Bonds were quite steady, but dull and featureless. Total sales, par value, $760,000.

United States bonds were unchanged on call.

Total sales were 316,610 shares.

NEW YORK, Feb. 26.—Money on call easy; highest 2 per cent.; lowest 1 3-4; ruling rates 1 3-4; last loan 2; closing bid 1 3-4; offered at 2. Time loans steady; sixty days 3 to 3 1-4; ninety days 3 1-4 to 3 1-2; six months 3 3-4to 4. Prime mercantile paper 4 3-4 to 5 1-2 per cent. Sterling exchange strong after weakness, with actual—business in bankers' bills at $4.86.45 to $4.86.55 for demand, and at $4.83.45 to $4.83.55 for sixty day bills. Posted rates $4.84 to $4.84 1-2 and $4.87. Commercial bills $4.83 1-4 to $4.83 1-2; bar silver 57 3-4; Mexican dollars 45 1-2.

RICHMOND STOCK MARKET.

Richmond, Va., Feb. 26, 1904.

SALES.

Virginia Centuries—1,000 at 93½; Virginia-Carolina Chemical Co. Col. Trust 5 per cent. bonds—1,000 at 93¼.

STATE SECURITIES.	Bid.	Asked
North Carolina 4s, C., 1910	102	...
North Carolina 6s, C., 1919	132	...
Va. 3s, New, C. and R., 1932	...	93½
Va., Centuries, 2-3, C. and R., 1991	92	93½
CITY SECURITIES.		
Richmond City 4s, R., 1920-1930	101	102
RAILROAD STOCKS.		
Atlanta and Char. 1st 7s, R., 1907	107	...
A. C. L. R. R. Con. Tr. 4 p. c.	92⅝	92¾
Georgia Pacific 1st 6s, C., 1922	118	...
Georgia, So. and Fla. 1st 5s, 1945	110	...
Georgia and Ala. Con. 5s, 1945	102	...
Rich. and Meck. 1st 4s, 1948	...	88
Western N. C. 1st 6s, C., 1914	112	...
S. A. L. Con. 1st 4s, 1950	97	98
RAILROAD BONDS.		
Atlanta and Charlotte	100	150
Atlantic Coast Line "A"	100	105
Atlantic Coast Line com.	100	105
Chesapeake and Ohio	100	29
Norfolk and Western com.	100	56
R., F. and P. Div. Oblig.	100	200
Seaboard Air Line pfd.	100	15
Seaboard Air Line com.	100	8½
Southern Railway pfd.	100	78
BANK STOCKS.		
Broad Street Bank	25	27
First National Bank	100	200
Merchants National	100	250
Metropolitan Bank of Va.	25	23
Savings Bank of Richmond	25	50
State Bank of Virginia	100	158
Union Bank of Richmond	100	165
Virginia Trust Company	100	101
MISCELLANEOUS.		
Va.-Car. Chem. pfd 8 p. c.	100	101
Va.-Carolina Chemical com.	100	25
Va.-Car. C. Co. Col. Tr. 5 p. c.	92½	93½

COTTON MARKETS.

NEW YORK, Feb. 26.—The cotton market opened firm at an advance of 20@40 points under active covering and further support from spot interests, attracted by sensationally strong Liverpool cables and the continued light movement. There was some hesitation as a result of fears that notices, it being the first March notice day in the local market, might prove a depressing factor, but it soon became evident that all tenders were being promptly stopped, and while the advances led to considerable realizing, causing some irregularity, the market ruled generally firm. The local bull leader who had been reported a heavy seller recently was credited with having sent some of the notices out, it was reported, for cotton of a very undesirable grade, in some instances rejected by the New England mills as unfitted for their purposes, but the cotton appeared to be wanted and soon after the opening the party in question was said to be buying March, May and July. The advancing tendency thus created was continued and accelerated shortly after mid-day by the very bullish showing of the week-end statement. This showed the intoight for the week ending to be under recent estimates and a decrease as compared with last year of about 55,000 bales. This makes an average decrease per week since the first of the month of over the amount the bulls claimed necessary to bring out a crop of below 10,000,000 bales, and was believed to point to a very bullish visible supply statement to-morrow, although the overland to mills and Canada and the estimated taking by Southern mills ran under last week's figures. The estimates for to-morrow's receipts also ran very light. There were rumors that a large interest had been caught heavily short, and with important apparent aggressive buyers the market with only unimportant reactions worked rapidly upward with March reaching 14.39, May 14.73, and July 14.71 just before the close. These were net gains of 77@82 points on the positions named. The close was steady at practically the best prices of the day or net 28@29 points higher on the general list with February showing the greatest advance. Sales were estimated at 700,000 bales. The local bull leader was a particularly aggressive buyer in the late market with room opinion indicating that his purchases were to cover recent sales. The New Orleans market ruled very firm and many bullish telegrams were received from there, tending to increase the bullish excitement here, which appeared to be attracting a renewal of public buying.

Receipts at the ports to-day were 12,544 bales against 16,564 bales last week and 28,247 last year. For teh week 63,000 bales against 86,306 last week and 143,947 last year. To-day's receipts at New Orleans were 2,651 bales against 8,459 last week, and at Houston 2,082 bales against 2,945 last year.

Cotton futures opened strong and closed steady:

	Open.	High.	Low.	Close.
February	13.99	14.65	14.65	14.35
March	13.80	14.39	13.78	14.34
April	13.95	14.47	14.14	14.35
May	14.18	13.73	14.29	14.60
June	14.25	14.58	14.23	14.58
July	14.26	14.71	14.25	14.68
August	13.87	14.17	13.85	14.15
September	12.49	12.82	12.49	12.80
October	11.70	11.87	11.70	11.86
November	11.60	11.60	11.60	11.65
December	11.49	11.52	11.40	11.53

Spot cotton closed quiet, 55 points higher; middling uplands, 14.75; middling gulf, 15.00; sales, 125 bales.

Cotton, quiet; middling, 14.75; gross receipts, 2,551 bales; sales, 125 bales; stock, 76,534 bales.

Add 10 bales to the week's net receipts.

Total to-day at all seaports—Net receipts, 12,544 bales; export to Great Britain, 1,958 bales; to the Continent, 6,569 bales; stock, 637,661 bales.

Consolidated at all seaports—Net receipts, 64,877 bales; export to Great Britain, 23,131 bales; to France, 347 bales; to the Continent, 19,422 bales.

Total since September 1st at all seaports—Net receipts, 6,376,093 bales; export to Great Britain, 1,914,649 bales; to France, 634,611 bales; to the Continent, 2,290,777 bales; to Japan, 37,183 bales; to Mexico, 22,368 bales.

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 26.—COTTON—Spot cotton good inquiry, but factors are asking ⅛@¼c. above board figures.

Futures opened steady and prices were 22@32 points up on the active positions. The advance was attributed to the improvement in Liverpool and New York and continued bullish statistical features. Leading bulls were heavy buyers of March, May and July publicly, but the general belief was that they were buying all old crop positions. The fluctuations were wide and frequent, but the trend of prices was distinctly upward. The market closed steady. The net gains were, on February to July 66@63 points, August 50, September 45 and October 25.

Cotton futures quiet and steady; February, 14.15 bid; March, 14.15@14.20; April, 14.28@14.30; May, 14.59@14.60; June, 14.81@14.83; July, 14.69@15.00; August, 14.20 bid; September, 12.65; October, 11.70@11.75.

The following the total net receipts of cotton at all ports since September 1st:

Galveston, 2,162,111 bales; New Orleans, 1,716,203 bales; Mobile, 156,976 bales; Savannah 1,041,725 bales; Charleston, 145,234 bales; Wilmington, 45,750 bales; Norfolk, 475,869 bales; Baltimore, 21,121 bales; New York, 31,597 bales; Boston, 15,279 bales; Newport News, 10,549 bales; Philadelphia, 9,411 bales; Brunswick, 86,065 bales; Pensacola, 110,314 bales; Port Arthur, 55,316 bales; Port Townsend, 26,626 bales; San Francisco, 10,632 bales; El Paso, 400 bales; Eagle Pass, 4,143 bales; Laredo, 4,440 bales. Total, 6,576,093 bales.

PRODUCE MARKET.

NEW YORK, Feb. 26.—FLOUR—Continued firm and very quiet. Rye Flour—Firm. Buckwheat Flour—Dull. Rye—Firm. Barley—Quiet.

Wheat—Spot quiet; No. 2 red, $1.00. Options witnessed a severe break at the opening on the lower cables, better weather West and a flood of selling orders. Later there was a rally, but this was only momentary as prices again turned weak and closed easy at a loss of 1¼@2c. May closed at $1.05; July, $1.01⅞; September, 94c.

Corn—Spot quiet; No. 2 nominal. Options broke with wheat, rallied on large clearances, but declined later with provisions and closed weak at ⅝@1c. net decline. May closed at 62½c.; July, 61⅝c. Oats—Firm; No. 2, 55½c.

Beef—Steady. Cut Meats—Firm. Lard—Steady; refined, steady. Pork—Steady. Tallow—Firm; city, 5¼c. Rosin—Weak; strained, $2.75@2.80. Turpentine—Weak.

Coffee—Spot Rio, steady. The market for coffee futures opened steady at an advance of 10@20 points on scattering demand and European buying. The market until near the close ruled steady and firm. Then a sudden bear raid broke prices sharply and the close was barely steady, a decline of 5 points on January, while other months were unchanged to 10 points higher. Sales, 65,000 bags. Sugar—Raw, firm; fair refining, 2⅞@2 15-16c.; centrifugal, 96 test, 3⅝@3 7-16c.; molasses sugar, 2⅝@2 11-16c.; refined, firm. Confectioners' A, $4.85; mould A, $4.85; cut loaf and crushed, $5.20; granulated, 4.50; cubes, $4.75.

Rice—Steady. Molasses—Firm. Butter—Firm; extra fresh creamery, 26c.; State dairy, 14@22c. Cheese—Steady; State, full cream and fancy small, colored, September, 12c.; late made, 10½c.; small white, September, 12c.; late made, 10½c. Eggs—Unsettled, State and Pennsylvania, nearby, average finest, 25c.

Potatoes—Steady; Long Island, $3@3.62; Jerseys, $3@3.37; Jersey sweets, $1.50@4.00; State and Western, sacks, $2.75@2.90. Peanuts—Firm; fancy handpicked, 5½c.; other domestic, 3¾@5¼c. Cabbages—Firm; domestic, per ton, $25@35.00; per 100, $5@10.00. Cotton—By steam to Liverpool, 12c.

CHICAGO, ILL., Feb. 26.—Crashing down twice to-day, following a break in price at Liverpool, wheat for May delivery went 5½c. below last night's final figure. The market closed ½c. above the low points; July wheat closed a net loss of 1½c. May corn is down ⅝@⅞c.; oats ⅛c., and provisions a shade to 27½c. lower.

The leading futures ranged as follows:

	Open.	High.	Low.	Close.
WHEAT—No. 2.				
May	107	1.07	1.04⅝	1.04⅝
July (old)	98¼	99	96⅞	97⅝
July (new)	97½	98¼	95⅝	96⅝
Sept. (old)	92½	93¼	91⅝	91⅝
Sept. (new)	91	91½	90⅝	90⅞
CORN—No. 2.				
Feb.	...	...	...	53½
May	57	57⅞	56½	56⅞
July	55½	56½	55	55⅞
Sept.	56⅝	57	56	56½
OATS—No. 2.				
Feb.	...	...	...	42⅞
May	45⅞	45⅞	44⅞	45⅝
July	42	42⅝	41⅝	42⅛
MESS PORK—Per bbl.				
May	16.15	16.67½	16.10	16.30
July	16.20	16.75	16.20	16.42½
LARD—Per 100 lbs.				
May	7.95	8.20	7.95	8.05
July	8.15	8.35	8.15	8.22½
SHORT RIBS—Per 100 lbs.				
May	7.97½	8.15	7.97½	8.02½
July	8.07½	8.22½	8.07½	8.10

Cash quotations were as follows: FLOUR—Firm. Butter—Steady; creameries, 14@26c.; dairies, 14@22½c. No. 2 spring wheat, 98c.@$1.06; No. 3, 90c.@$1.03; No. 2 red, $1.03⅝@1.03½. No. 2 corn, 53c.; No. 3, 52½c. No. 2 yellow, 54c. No. 2 oats, 42½@43½c. No. 3 white, 44@46c. No. 2 rye, 72@76c. Good feeding barley, 41@43c.; fair to choice malting, 45@55c. No. 1 flaxseed, 1.12; No. 1 northwestern, $1.18½; prime Timothy seed, $3.07½. Mess pork, per barrel, $16.25@16.50; lard, per 100 pounds, $7.82½@7.87½; short ribs sides (loose), $7.75@8.00; short clear sides (boxed), $7.87½@8.00. Whiskey, basis of high wines, $1.27. Clover, contract grade, $11.25. Eggs—Steadier at 21@22c. Cheese—Steady at 10½@11¼c. Receipts—Wheat, 33,200 bushels; corn, 595,000 bushels; oats, 181,000 bushels.

BALTIMORE, MD., Feb. 26.—FLOUR—Firm and unchanged. Wheat—Easy; spot and contract, $1.11 bo. No. 2 red, Western, $1.13; the month, $1.11. Corn—Easy; spot and the month, 45c. Oats—Firm; No. 2 white, 50@50½c. Rye—Strong; No. 2 uptown, 83@84c.

RICHMOND GRAIN MARKET.

Richmond, Va., Feb. 26, 1904.

QUOTATIONS

WHEAT—		
Longberry (car lots)	$1.12	@$1.14
Mixed (car lots)	1.12	@ 1.14
Shorberry (car lots)	1.12	@ 1.14
No. 2 red (car lots)	1.12	@ 1.14
Va. bag lots	1.00	@ 1.12
CORN—		
White (Va.) bag lots	53	@ 55
No. 2 white (car lots)	54	@ 54½
No. 3 white (car lots)	52	@ 53
No. 2 mixed (car lots)	52	@ 53
No. 3 mixed (car lots)	51½	@ 52
OATS—		
No. 2 mixed (car lots)	46	@ 46½
No. 3 mixed (car lots)	45½	@ 46
No. 2 white (car lots)	47	@ 48
Winter seed (bag lots)	55	@ 60
Ear corn (car lots), 70 lbs	54	@ 55
RYE (bag lots)	65	@ 68

CATTLE MARKETS.

RICHMOND LIVE STOCK MARKET.

(Sales at Union Stock Yards.)

Richmond, Va., Feb. 26, 1904.

Receipts for the week ending Monday:

CATTLE—Receipts, 259 head. Market active. Best steers, 5¼@5½c.; medium to good, 4½@5c.; common to fair, 3½@4c.; best heifers, 4½@4½c.; medium to good, 3½@4c.; common to fair, 2½@3c.; oxen, 3½@4½c.; bulls, 2¾@3½c.; calves, 5½@7c.; fresh cows, $20@40.

HOGS—Receipts, 2,537 head. Market 10@15c. stronger. Good hogs, 5.40@5.60c.; roughs, 4½@5c.; fat sheats, 5@5½c.

SHEEP—Receipts, 147 head. Market steady. Good sheep, 4½@5½c.; common to fair, 3½@4½c.; bucks, 3@4c.

CHICAGO, ILL., Dec. 26.—CATTLE—Receipts, 3,000 head. Market active and strong. Good to prime steers, $4.90@5.75; poor to medium, $3.50@4.60; stockers and feeders, $2.50@4.20; cows, $1.50@4.20; cows, $1.50@4.00; heifers, $2.00@4.50; canners, $1.50@2.40; bulls, $2@4.00; calves, $3.50@7.00; Texas-fed steers, $4.00@4.60. Hogs—Receipts to-day, 33,000 head; to-morrow 25,000 head. Market strong to 5c. higher. Mixed and butchers, $5.35@5.75; good to choice heavy, $5.70@5.80; rough, heavy, $5.40@5.65; light, $5.25@5.55; bulk of sales, $5.40@5.70. Sheep—Receipts, 800 head. Market strong to 10c. higher. Good to choice wethers, $4.25@4.60; fair to choice mixed, $3.65@4.25; native lambs, $4.50@6.00.

NEW YORK, Feb. 26.—BEEVES—Receipts, 3,456 head. Steers, steady; bulls and fat cows, trifle easier; medium and common cows, steady; all sold. Steers, $4.55@5.40; oxen and stags, $4.15@4.75; bulls, $3.25@4.30; cows, $1.75@3.75; choice fat Ohio do., $4.25. Calves—Receipts, 87 head. Market firm. Veals, $5@9.25; little calves, $3.50@4.50; no Western. Dressed calves steady; city dressed veals, 8½@13½c. per pound; country dressed, 7@11c. per pound. Sheep and Lambs—Receipts, 1,066 head. Sheep, steady to strong; lambs, 10@20c. per pound lower. Sheep, $4.35@5.00; lambs, $5.25@6.62½. Hogs—Receipts, 3,960 head. Feeling very firm on Buffalo advices; no sales reported.

PITTSBURG, PA., Feb. 26.—CATTLE—Supply light; market steady. Choice, $5.10@5.35; prime, $4.90@5.15; fair, $3.40@4.15. Hogs—Receipts, 15 double decks; market slow. Prime heavy, $5.35@5.60; mediums, $5.55@5.60; heavy yorkers, $5.55@5.60; light yorkers, $5.50@5.65; pigs, $5.25@5.50; roughs, $4@5.15. Sheep—Supply firm; market low. Prime wethers, $4.90@5.00; culls and common, $2.50@3.00; choice lambs, $6.40@6.50; veal calves, $7.85@8.25.

CINCINNATI, O., Feb. 26.—HOGS—Steady at $4@5.80. Cattle—Dull at $2.25@4.50. Sheep—Steady at $3@4.60; lambs, $1.50@6.40.

MISCELLANEOUS MARKETS.

PEANUT MARKET.

PETERSBURG, VA., Feb. 26.—PEANUTS—The market remains unchanged. The offerings are light, the planters holding their products for better prices. Spanish peanuts are firm at $1.15 per bushel; Virginia peanuts are very firm at 4½@4¾c. per pound.

NORFOLK, VA., Feb. 26.—PEANUTS—Farmers' market higher on all grades; fancy, 4¾@4¾c.; strictly prime, 4½@4⅝c.; prime, 4⅛@4¼c.; machine picked, 3½@4⅞c.; common grades, 3½@3c.; Spanish, $1.10@1.12½. Market firm.

DRY GOODS MARKET.

NEW YORK, Feb. 26.—Buyers of dry goods have been operating quietly, and there is little which can be expected in near future of very great increase. The outlook for general buying does not show any indications of free purchases, but a good many firms need merchandise for immediate shipment. Jobbers continue fairly active and reports from the country are fairly satisfactory.

COTTONSEED OIL MARKET.

NAVAL STORES.

WILMINGTON, N. C., Feb. 26.—SPIRITS TURPENTINE—Nothing doing; receipts, 9 casks. Rosin—Nothing doing; receipts, 720 barrels. Tar—Firm at $1.40; receipts, 157 barrels. Crude Turpentine—Firm at $2.25@4.00; receipts, 48 barrels.

SAVANNAH, GA., Feb. 26.—TURPENTINE—Quiet at 59c.; sales, 75 casks; receipts, 58 casks. Rosin—Firm; sales, 1,136 barrels; receipts, 1,796 barrels; exports, 7,430 barrels.

CHARLESTON, S. C., Feb. 26.—TURPENTINE AND ROSIN—Nominal—Nothing doing. Quotations omitted.

NEW YORK, Feb. 26.—The market for cottonseed oil to-day showed more activity and ruled firm. Prime crude, f. o. b. mills, 32½@33c.; prime summer yellow, 39½c.; off summer yellow, nominal; prime white, 41@41½c.; prime winter yellow, 41½c.

MARINE INTELLIGENCE.

PORT OF RICHMOND, FEB. 26, 1904.

ARRIVED.

Steamer Berkeley, Shelly, Norfolk, merchandise and passengers, Old Dominion line.

SAILED.

Steamer Pocahontas, Graves, Norfolk and James river landings, mercandise and passengers, Virginia Navigation Company.

Steamer Berkeley, Shelly, Norfolk, merchandise and passengers, Old Dominion Line.

PORT NEWPORT NEWS, FEB. 26, 1904.

ARRIVED.

Schooner Marie O'Tell, Boston.

Schooner William H. Yerkes, Providence.

SAILED.

Steamer Rio Jano, Norfolk.

Steamer Albano, Norfolk.

BANK CLEARINGS.

Richmond and Other Southern Cities Show Big Increase.

(By Associated Press.)

NEW YORK, Feb. 26.—The following table, compiled by Bradstreet, shows the bank clearings at a number of the principal cities for the week ended February 25, with the percentage of increase and decrease, as compared with the corresponding week last year. Sixty-four other cities are included in the totals:

New York $861,846,542, decrease 21.0.
Chicago $149,367,501, decrease 4.
Boston $102,576,496, decrease 8.7.
Philadelphia $89,599,428, decrease 14.5.
St. Louis $46,377,430, increase 12.1.
Pittsburg $30,838,903, decrease 14.1.
San Francisco $21,939,014, decrease 7.9.
Baltimore $14,284,135, decrease 17.9.
Cincinnati $18,480,050, decrease 6.7.
Kansas City $18,822,345, increase 8.6.
New Orleans $21,373,361, increase 55.1.
Louisville $9,427,702, increase 10.3.
Memphis $4,331,270, increase 10.5.
Richmond $4,251,476, increase 43.2.
Washington $3,241,129, increase 7.3.
Savannah $2,327,332, decrease 26.6.
Fortworth $3,319,224, increase 46.0.
Atlanta $9,693,753, increase 3.6.
Nashville $2,213,198, increase 9.1.
Norfolk $1,473,721, decrease 4.2.
Augusta $1,180,224, decrease 48.5.
Birmingham $1,345,927, increase 5.9.
Knoxville $1,211,610, increase 16.2.
Little Rock $1,073,590, increase 16.0.
Macon $690,000, decrease 22.1.
Chattanooga $676,103, decrease 6.1.
Jacksonville $746,043, increase 95.3.
Houston $11,192,279, decrease 16.5.
Galveston $6,404,000, decrease 22.2.
Charleston, S. C., $1,007,899, increase 1.9.
Totals, United States $1,552,930,489, decrease 14.2.
Outside New York $691,083,947, decrease 4.0.
Totals, Canada $42,617,615, increase 3.1.

WEEKLY TRADE REVIEW.

Spring Trade Asserting Itself Despite Cold Weather.

(By Associated Press.)

NEW YORK, Feb. 26.—Bradstreet's Review of Trade this week says:

Spring trade is asserting itself, despite abnormally cold weather, heavy snows or congested transportation facilities in widely separated sections. Where weather conditions have been favorable, as in the South, distributive trade has been good, and generally in excess of a year ago. In the southwest milder weather has brought out more country buyers.

Manufacturing industry shows some enlargement of activity, especially in glass-making and iron and steel, production of pig iron being nearly double that of two months ago. Anthracite coal is active and strong, but production and shipments of this product, of bituminous coal and coke and of raw materials generally are hampered by the weather. The bituminous coal outlook is additionally unsatisfactory, because it is almost universally believed that a strike against reductions of wages will occur on April 1st in the western Pennsylvania and West Virginia fields.

New Orleans reports collections better than last year. Savannah reports a good and increased demand for lumber; Memphis that business exceeds a year ago; Montgomery that jobbing trade is heavy, but that farm work is retarded by incessant rains. Spring-like weather helps fruits and vegetables at Jacksonville, and business at most Tennessee points compares well with a year ago.

War talk is still an influence tending to strengthen food products, but to depress raw cotton. Railway earnings are not as encouraging as in the past, owing partly to the congestion growing out of blockaded shipments, but partly to cutting of grain freight rates.

COTTON STATEMENT.

Decrease Under Last Year for February of 128,000 Bales.

(By Associated Press.)

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 26.—Secretary Hester's weekly cotton statement, issued to-day, says:

For the twenty-six days of February a decrease under last year of 128,000, and a decrase under the same period year before last of 28,000.

For the 179 days of the season that have elapsed the aggregate is behind the same days of last year 126,000, and behind the same days year before last 73,000.

The amount brought into sight during the past week has been 133,913 bales, against 165,817 for the same seven days last year and 187,871 year before last.

The movement since September 1st shows receipts at all United States ports 6,401,421, against 6,488,227 last year. Overland across the Mississippi, Ohio and Potomac Rivers to Northern mills and Canada, 722,659, against 845,335 last year. Interior stocks in excess of those held at the close of the commercial year, 810,901, against 250,590 last year. Southern mills takings 1,201,000, against 1,178,072 last year. Total movement since September 1st 8,636,011, against 8,762,224 last year.

Foreign exports for the week have been 47,732, against 186,546 last year, making the total thus far for the season 4,893,216, against 5,052,517 last year.

The total takings of American mills, North, South and Canada, thus far for the season have been 2,903,289, against 2,820,373 last year.

Stocks at the seaboard and the twenty-nine leading Southern interior centers have decreased during the week 27,730 bales, against a decrease during the corresponding period last season of 134,402.

Including stocks left over at ports and interior towns from the last crop and the number of bales brought into sight thus far from the new crop, the supply to date is 8,893,810, against 8,977,203 for the same period last year.

BEARS SELL FREELY.

Bulls, However, Seem Willing to Take All Cotton Offered.

(By Associated Press.)

NEW ORLEANS, LA., Feb. 26.—The cotton market had a spectacular effect to-day, although there was nothing artificial about the trade.

It opened steady and from twenty-two to thirty-two points up on the near months. Some of the pessimism that has characterized the market lately was still seen, and bears sold freely. This brought forth heavy support from the bulls, and prices were forced up point by point until they were one-half a cent higher than yesterday's close. At no time were prices anywhere near the closing prices of yesterday. At the close they showed a net gain for the day of sixty to sixty-three points in March, May and July.

The bulls boosted March at every opportunity, and proved conclusively that they were anxious to take on heavy loads of spot cotton.

Although the advances of the day were wide, the close was quiet and steady, and the rise in prices was regarded as wholly legitimate, when the statistical position and the growing demand from spinners were taken into consideration.

Visiting Mr. Spessard.

Messrs. E. E. Seaton, paymaster of Low Moor Iron Company, of Virginia, and W. M. Corghill, superintendent of the Fenwick mines of the Low Moor Iron Company, are in the city visiting their representative, Hon. N. E. Spessard. They were on the floor of the House yesterday.

Very Bad English.

Mayor Taylor has received a letter addressed "the Mair of the Sitty of Richmond." The letter says that God is not pleased with the way things are being conducted here. It was dated Brooklyn, N. Y., and found its way speedily to His Honor's waste basket.

TICKETS FOR THE TRAMPS

Rev. George H. Wiley Suggests a Plan to Aid Mendicants Without Giving Money.

For three years Rev. George H. Wiley, manager at the Nineteenth Street Mission, has issued "lodging and lunch tickets." The face of the ticket is of this character:

GOOD FOR A 5 CENTS LUNCH
at
METHODIST INSTITUTE,
Corner Nineteenth and Main Streets,
RICHMOND, VA.

Two Tickets Good for Lodging.

The purpose is to sell these tickets in lots of five, ten or twenty, at five cents each to the business men or housekeepers, to be used when men or boys apply for money to buy food or lodging. The advantage will be seen at once if the man is really in need. He can be given the necessities of life without the opportunity to buy whiskey, which always arises when money is given.

Rev. W. A. Cooper, pastor of the St. James Church, is greatly interested in the use and spread of these tickets among the people, and has personally secured the following places to sell them: Times-Dispatch office, News Leader office, R. Edgar Shine's drug store, twenty-eighth and Broad Streets, and H. G. Forstman's drug store, Pine and Main Streets, thus placing them in easy reach of persons in all parts of Richmond.

Prominent gentlemen in the religious work of the city have consented to have their names and influence used to endorse and commend these tickets, as follows: Rev. Robert Strange, D. D., of St. Paul's Episcopal Church; Right Rev. A. Van de Vyver, bishop of the Catholic Church; Rev. W. R. L. Smith, D. D., of the Second Baptist Church; Rev. Edward N. Calisch, Beth Ahabah; Rev. Russell Cecil, D. D., of the Presbyterian Church, and, of course, all the Methodist preachers of he city. In fact, so far as we know, the entire clergy believes it an excellent plan to prevent the injury often arising from the giving of money to mendicants. All who desire to do so may possess themselves of these tickets at the above named places.

COUGHING

is but another symptom of a congested state of the throat and lungs. COLDS are invariably the cause of it all. Therefore take

"COLD TOP"

and ward off all pains and aches. Price 25c. at all druggists. POLK MILLER DRUG CO., 834 E. Main St.

FINANCIAL.

C. W. Branch & Co
BANKERS and BROKERS
Members of New York Cotton Exchange and Chicago Board of Trade

New York Correspondents—
LADENBURG, THALMANN & CO
PRINCE & WHITLEY.
LEHMAN BROS.

Private Wires to { NEW YORK, BOSTON, CHICAGO.

Increased to six per cent.

BUSINESS AND PERSONAL ACCOUNTS Solicited by

The State Bank of Virginia
1111 E. Main St. — — Richmond, Va.

THE STOCK OF THE GEORGE A. TREADWELL MINING COMPANY, 27 William Street, New York, is considered by many conservative investors the best investment now offered on the market.

COTTON.

Cotton, Wheat, Corn and Coffee Losses

Claims against brokers and commission merchants for unauthorized closing of contracts on New York, New Orleans, Chicago and other Exchanges, collected by THE CREDIT CLEARING HOUSE.

Correspondence invited. No fees charged unless service rendered.

Address, The Credit Clearing House, Collection Department, 346 Broadway, New York, or 200 Monroe Street, Chicago, Ill.

AUCTION SALES—This Day.

By Geo. W. Mayo, Auctioneer.

BANKRUPT SALE.

In pursuance of an order of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, entered on the 22d day of February, 1904, in the matter of Weinberg Bros., Bankrupts, the undersigned will sell at public auction, as a whole or in lots and parcels to suit the trade, the entire stock, choses in action, fixtures and furniture belonging to the Bankrupts, situated at the storehouse No. 11 West Broad Street, Richmond, Va., on

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27TH, 1904,
AT 10 O'CLOCK A. M.,

The above mentioned property consists of an assortment of Ladies' Wear, Two Upright Glass Showcases, One Large Glass-Front Wall Case, One Skirt Rack, and Store and Office Furniture. The choses in action consist of a large number of installment contracts for Ladies' Wear sold to various persons.

EMMETT SEATON
MELVIN FLEGENHEIMER,
Receivers.

Geo. W. Mayo, General Auctioneer.
A. P. Montgomery, Salesman.
feb 24-4t

AUCTION SALES, Future Days

By J. Thompson Brown & Co., 1113 Main Street.

COMMISSIONER'S SALE OF Two-Story Detached Brick Dwelling, No. 100 East Jackson, Cor. First Including Small Store In Rear.

By virtue of a decree of the Richmond Chancery Court, in the suit of Wayne vs. Wayne, entered February 20, 1904, appointing the undersigned Special Commissioner for that purpose, we will sell at public auction, on the premises,

TUESDAY, MARCH 1ST, AT 5 P. M.,
TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER,

the property described in said decree as follows: All that lot of land, with improvements thereon, fronting 40 feet, more or less, on the north line of Jackson Street at its intersection with First Street, and running back between the east line of First Street and a line parallel therewith 80½ feet. The dwelling contains 8 rooms with city improvements; and this is considered one of the most PROMINENT CORNERS in that section.

TERMS—One-fourth cash, balance 6, 12 and 18 months, 6 per cent. interest added, title retained by the court till all purchase money is paid or by deed of trust upon usual terms, as may be preferred; sale made subject to confirmation by the court.

WALLACE F. BROWN,
Special Commissioner.

Brown & Co., Auctioneers.
The bond required by the above decree has been given.
C. O. SAVILLE, Clerk.
feb 25-tds

By Pollard & Bagby, Real Estate Auctioneers.

COURT SALE BY AUCTION OF TWO-STORY FRAME DWELLING NO. 1211 ON EAST SIDE OF ST. JAMES, BETWEEN COUTTS AND HILL STS.

In execution of a decree of the Chancery Court of the city of Richmond in suit of Stewart M. Wells et als. vs. Thornton Wyatt, trustee, et als., entered February 18, 1904, we will sell by auction, on the premises, on

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 29TH, 1904,

at 5 o'clock P. M., the above mentioned four-room, 2-story dwelling. Lot 15 feet front by depth of 120 feet to alley in rear.

TERMS: One-third cash, residue in two equal installments at 6 and 12 months from day of sale, credit payments to be evidenced by notes with interest added and title retained.

WM. ELLYSON,
GILES B. JACKSON,
Special Commissioners.

The bond required of the Special Commissioners by the above decree has been duly given.
Teste: CHAS. O. SAVILLE, Clerk.
feb 24-tds

By J. D. Carneal & Son, RealEs tateAuctioneers.

TRUSTEE'S AUCTION SALE OF A GOOD DETACHED SEVEN-ROOM DWELLING.

By virtue of a certain deed of trust, dated February 10, 1903, and recorded in the Richmond Chancery Court clerk's office in D. B. 176 A, page 406, default having been made in a portion of the debt secuerd thereby, and having been required by the beneficiary so to do, I will, on

THURSDAY, MARCH 3, 1904,

at 4:30 P. M., on the premises, proceed to sell at public auction the property conveyed therein, viz.: All that certain lot, piece or parcel of land, with the improvements thereon, lying and being in the city of Richmond, Virginia, designated as No. 1514 West Leigh Street, and bounded as follows, to wit: Commencing at a point on the north side of Leigh Street, distant FORTY-ONE (41) FEET and FOUR INCHES east of Lombardy Street and running thence eastwardly along the said north line of Leigh Street and fronting thereon TWENTY-TWO (22) FEET SIX (6) INCHES, thence back from said front between parallel lines ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY (120) FEET to an alley.

TERMS: Whereas the deed requires all cash, yet better terms can be had and will be announced at sale.

J. D. CARNEAL,
feb 27-5t Trustee.

For Rent, OFFICES IN TIMES BUILDING.
Light, Water, Heat and Janitor
FOR TERMS APPLY TO
T. M. WORTHAM & CO., Agts,
18 North Ninth Street.

STEAMBOATS.

OLD DOMINION STEAMSHIP CO.
Night Line for Norfolk

Leave Richmond every evening (foot of Ash Street) 7 P. M. Steamers stop at Newport News in both directions. Fare $2.00, includes stateroom berth; meals, 50c each.

FOR NEW YORK.

By Chesapeake and Ohio Ry., 9 A. M., 4 P. M.; by Norfolk and Western Ry., 9 A. M., 3 P. M. All lines connect at Norfolk with direct steamers for New York, sailing daily (except Sunday) 7 P. M.

K. F. CHALKLEY, City Ticket Agent.
JOHN F. MAYER, Agent, Wharf Foot of Ash Street, Richmond, Va.
H. B. WALKER, V. P. & T. M., New York.

BAY LINE TO BALTIMORE
Via C. & O. Rwy. and Old Point
U. S. MAIL ROUTE.