M. D. FLOWER, Pres. H. B. CARROLL, Gen. Supt.

ST. PAUL UNION STOCK YARDS,

South St. Paul, Minn.

Best Equipped and Most Advantageous Market for the Shippers in the Northwest.

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1,000 Beeves and 2,000 Hogs Wanted Daily.

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LIVE STOCK COMMISSION MERCHANTS,

Room 19 Exchange Bldg., Union Stock Yards, So. St. Paul, Minn., and Union Stock Yards, Chicago, Ill.

All Correspondence will receive prompt attention. Liberal advances made on consignments. References—Union Stock Yards or any Commercial Agency.

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Room 21 Exchange Building, South St. Paul, Minn.

Highest market prices obtained for stock. Prompt attention given to all correspondence and orders. References: Any commercial agency.

BOARD OF TRADE ACTIVE

AND JANUARY WHEAT SHOWED 1-2c GAIN AT THE CLOSE

CORN AND OATS FOLLOWED

Provisions on a Dull Day's Business Closed at Prices Practically Unchanged From Saturday.

	Close.	Prev. Day.
May wheat, Minneapolis	74½	74
May wheat, Chicago	73⅞	73¼
May wheat, Duluth	75⅝	74⅞
May wheat, St. Louis	73⅝	73⅛
May wheat, New York	79¼	78¾

CHICAGO, Dec. 3.—Wheat was fairly active and firm today, on bullish statistics, higher cables and a reduction in the estimated Argentine surplus, January closing ½c higher. May corn closed ½c up and May oats ⅛@¼c improved. Provisions at the close were but little changed from Saturday.

Wheat was a firm and fairly active market. January opened ⅜@⅝c over Saturday, at 70¾@71c, under the influence of an advance at Liverpool, world's shipments, 2,000,000 bu less than estimated, the amount being only 5,650,000, and a decrease of 336,000 bu on passage. Commission houses and shorts were buyers. The heavy Northwest receipts caused selling during the forenoon, and January reacted to 70⅜c. Later the visible decrease of 82,000 bu, Snow's estimate reducing the Argentine exportable surplus to 37,000,000 bu and reports of export inquiries at New York, where the market showed considerable strength, resulted in a rally to 71¼c for January. On local profit-taking January reacted to 70⅞c, but closed firm ½c higher at 70⅞@71c. New York reported 5 loads taken for export. Seaboard clearances in wheat and flour were equal to 485,000 bu. Primary receipts aggregated 1,524,000 bu, compared with 657,000 bu last year. Minneapolis and Duluth reported 12 cars, against 559 last week and 920 a year ago. Local receipts were 116 cars, 5 of which were contract grade.

Corn was firm and in moderate demand, and a fair improvement in price. Country offerings were small, and the weather threatened to curtail the movement from first hands still further. A liberal part of the demand was from shippers. Liverpool was higher for both futures and spot. The small stocks of contract corn were also a consideration. Of today's receipts, 32 cars, but 11 cars graded contract, and there was no movement from private warehouses. January sold between 36¾@36¼c, and closed strong, ½c up, at 36⅞@36¼c.

Oats were fairly active and easy during the first hour and steady in the end with wheat. Receipts were 148 cars, the cash demand was slack. May sold between 23⅝c and 23⅞c, and closed ⅛@¼c higher, at 23⅞c. The spread between December and May oats, at one time 2¾c, but at the close was at but 2⅝c discount.

Provisions were dull and featureless. January pork sold between $11.95 and $11.85, closing 2½c lower, at $11.87½; January lard between $6.77½@6.80 and $6.72½@6.75, with the close a shade higher, at $6.72½@6.75, and January ribs between $6.20 and $6.15, closing a shade higher, at $6.71½.

Estimated receipts tomorrow are: Wheat, 150 cars; corn, 560 cars; oats, 325 cars; hogs, 3,000 head.

The leading futures ranged as follows:

	Open-ing.	High-est.	Low-est.	Close-ing.
Wheat—				
December	70¾-½	70¾	70½-¼	70½-⅝
January	70¾-71	71¼	70¾	70⅞-71
May	73⅝-74	74⅛	73⅝	73⅞
Corn—				
December	35½-⅝	36⅛-¼	35¼	35¼
January	34¾	35⅛	34¾	35-35¼
May	36-36⅛	36⅜-½	36	36⅜-½
Oats—				
December	21¼	21¼-⅜	20⅞	21¼
May	23¾	23¾-⅞	23⅝	23¾
Mess Pork—				
January	11 87½	11 95	11 85	11 87½
May	11 82½	11 87½	11 82½	11 82½
Lard—				
December	6 97½	7 02½	6 97½	6 97½
January	6 75	6 80	6 72½	6 77½
May	6 82½	6 85	6 80	6 82½
Short Ribs—				
January	6 15	6 20	6 15	6 17½
May	6 22½	6 25	6 22½	6 25

Cash quotations were as follows: Flour dull and steady. Wheat—No. 3, 67@70½c; No. 2 red, 71½73½c. Corn—No. 2, 36@36¼c; No. 2 yellow, 36¼c. Oats—No. 2, 22@23¼c; No. 2 white, 26½@27c; No. 3 white, 25½@26c. Rye—No. 2, 46¼c. Barley—Fair to choice malting, 55@57c. Flax Seed—No. 1, $1.64½. No. 1 Northwestern, $1.65½. Timothy Seed—Prime, $4.10@4.30. Pork—Mess, per bbl, $11@11.12½. Lard—Per 100 lbs, $7@7.02½. Short Ribs—Sides (loose), $6.50@7. Shoulders—Dry salted (boxed), 5¾@6⅛c. Sides—Short clear (boxed), $6.55@6.65. Whisky—Basis of high wines, $1.27. Sugars—Cut loaf, 6.15c; granulated, 5.60c; confectioners' "A," 5.55c; off A, 5.40c. Clover Seed—Contract grade, $10. Receipts—Flour, 35,000 bbls; wheat, 221,000 bu; corn, 558,000 bu; oats, 423,000 bu; rye, 3,000 bu; barley, 116,000 bu. Shipments—Flour, 24,000 bbls; wheat, 268,000 bu; corn, 881,000 bu; oats, 401,000 bu; barley, 12,000 bu. On the Produce exchange the butter market was quiet; creameries, 15@24c; dairies, 13@20c. Cheese active at 10¼@11½c. Eggs quiet; fresh, 23c.

SLIMMER & THOMAS,

LIVE STOCK BROKERS.

Orders taken for all kinds of live stock and time given to responsible parties. Correspondence solicited.

SOUTH ST. PAUL Minnesota. SIOUX CITY, Iowa.

MINNEAPOLIS.

MINNEAPOLIS, Chamber of Commerce, Dec. 3.—There was a stronger tone to wheat this morning and the price rallied ½c. There was no noticeable selling pressure and scalping shorts covered on the indication of a decrease in the wheat visible which was announced at noon at 82,000 bushels decrease. Minneapolis had 825 cars against 680 last year. Duluth 87 against 240. Liverpool closed ¼ to ⅜d higher. Kansas City received 212,000 bushels against 47,000 last year. World's shipments were less than estimated, 5,850,000, against 5,435,000 last year. Russia did not ship the amount anticipated, 1,784,000 bushels.

Wheat closed firm at ½c advance from Saturday, May at 74½c. The market showed tendency to react from quite a steady slump in price in the closing up of December wheat. The English wheat visible decreased 683,000 bushels.

Cash wheat trading began on the same basis and in much the same depressed tone as on Saturday. Receipts were 825 cars and this was about the quantity offered. Some of the best wheat in went on sale to millers, but was offset by low grades unsold on Saturday, and offered again this morning. Millers were on hand and took selections, buying very moderately on the whole. The bulk of the wheat went to elevators. The premium held steady around 2c under May for No. 1 northern. For No. 2 northern the range was 1 to 1½c below December price, with sales at varying figures from 69c to 70½c. No. 3 wheat showed improvement and more of it sold to 65c, several lots going at 67c to 68c. Rejected wheat was depressed. There was good inquiry, but elevators held out for concessions. Smutty rejected sold at 56c, the ordinary ranging from 58c to 63c. No grade sold below Saturday, few cars bringing 58c, and the bulk going lower, some of it to 50c.

The following was the range of prices of wheat today:

	Dec.	May.
Opening	71⅜	74⅛@¼
Highest	72	74⅞
Lowest	71¼	74@74⅛
Close—		
Today	71¾	74½
Saturday	71⅛	74
Year ago	61⅜	65⅜

On Track—No. 1 hard, 74½c; No. 1 northern, 72½c; No. 2 northern, 69¼@70¼c.

Puts, May wheat, 74¼@74⅜c.

Calls, May wheat, 74⅞@75c.

Curb, May wheat, 74⅜c.

Flax—Receipts are commencing to run lighter. Seventy-four cars were in for two days, and about 60 were on sale. Demand was excellent. The general market showed no marked change; spot No. 1 was quoted firm and futures firm and steady. On the local board the offerings brought satisfactory figures, and rejected sold closer to the No. 1 quotation. Inquiry came from all classes of buyers, and trust was in the market. local crushers took some good lots, and there was a shipping business. Average prices for rejected were 2c over Saturday's figures. No. 1 brought about the same, going around $1.53, but low grades sold up closer, some rejected to 9c under, at $1.50. Other rejected sold at $1.48 and to $1.45. No grade flax was higher by several cents all around, a number of lots going at $1.27 and up. Minneapolis received 74 cars, against 42 last year. Duluth received 15 cars and Chicago 14.

Closing prices: Minneapolis, cash, $1.60½; to arrive, $1.60½; May, $1.61½. Duluth, cash, $1.61; to arrive, $1.61; December, $1.61; May, $1.61.

Flour—There is nothing new in the general situation. Prices are quoted unchanged. Trade continues light. The mills are still grinding at reduced capacity, and one large company has only two mills running steadily. Shipments were light at 29,870 bbls. First patents are quoted at $4@4.10; second patents, $3.75@3.85; first clears, $2.80@2.90; second clears, $2.05@2.15.

Millstuffs—Trade is dull. Millers report light business and indifference on the part of buyers. The general tendency is weaker, but there has been no change in prices as quoted. Bran in bulk, $11.50@11.75; flour middlings, $12.50@12.75; bulk shorts, $11.50@11.75; red dog in 140-lb sacks, $14; feed in 2 0-lb sacks, $1 per ton additional; in 100-lb sacks, $1.50 per ton additional. Shipments are running light and were 1,127 tons.

Feed and Meal—All quotations are lower by 75c per ton. With a continued easy cash corn market, feed prices are reduced in sympathy. Trade is fair. Coarse corn meal and cracked corn are quoted at $13.75; No. 1 feed, $14; No. 2 feed, $14.25; No. 3 feed, $14.50; granulated corn meal in cotton sacks at the rate of $1.95 per bbl.

Corn—There was a break in cash corn and business was on a lower range all around. Receipts were heavier and offerings correspondingly large. The market was easy from the start. Early trades showed ½c loss, and prices continued sliding off. No. 2 selling to 32c, against 33½c on Saturday. No. 4 corn sold to 32@32¼c. No. 3 yellow is quoted 33½c; No. 3 corn, 32@32½c; No. 4 corn, 32c. Receipts 137 cars; shipments, 20 cars.

Oats—The market was on the decline throughout. Eigty-two cars were in and sixteen cars were shipped. Early sales brought prices up to Saturday's figures, but later it was more difficult to get firm figures. No. 3 white sold around 23½c, and later sold at 23c and to 22½c. No grade oats sold at 22c, and some no. 3 that barely held grade were let go at 22c. Later good No. 3 sold at this price, no grade selling at 20c. No. 3 white is quoted at 23c; No. 3 oats, 22@22½c.

Barley—Receipts were 32 cars and shipments 10 cars. The market was active and firm. No. 4 sold at 47c. No. 5 sold at 42@45c, no grade barley at 40c. Shippers were the principal buyers. Feed grades are quoted at 38@42c; malting grades, 43@51c.

Rye—The market is firm and steady; No. 2 is quoted at 45½c bid for choice. Receipts 3 cars; shipments 1 car.

Hay—Receipts for two days were 325 tons. The market is firm and steady. Choice timothy is quoted at $14@14.50; Minnesota upland, $12.50@13; Iowa upland, $12.50@13; coarse to medium, $7@9; rye straw, $6@7.50.

STATE GRAIN INSPECTION.

	Northern No.1H.	No.1.	No.2.	No.3.	Rej.	Gd.
Great Nor.	..	24	32	31	8	19
C., M. & St.P.	..	14	40	15	4	17
M. & St. L.	..	4	19	5	4	4
Soo Line	..	..	3	2	2	..
Nor. Pacific	..	..	3	10	2	10
C., St.P., M. & O.	..	10	13	11	11	1
St. Paul & D.	..	..	..	..	1	3
Total	..	52	110	74	32	54

Other Grains—Winter wheat, 14; No. 3 corn, 59; No. 4 corn, 4; No. 3 oats, 34; No. grade oats, 1; No. 2 rye, 3; No. 4 barley, 6; No. 5 barley, 9; no grade barley, 4; No. 5 barley, 9; no grade barley, 4; No. 1 flax, 2; rejected flax, 31; no grade flax, 14.

Cars Inspected out—Wheat—No. 1 northern, 26; No. 2 northern, 8; No. 3, 8; no grade, 14; No. 3 corn, 24; No. 3 oats, 7; No. 5 barley, 9; no grade barley, 2; No. 1 flax, 2; rejected flax, 61; no grade flax, 9.

DULUTH.

DULUTH, Minn., Dec. 3.—Wheat trading was fairly active today, and was confined almost wholly to the May option. It opened ½c up, at 74⅞c, sold at 75c immediately, and advanced to 75½c at 10:35, sold at 75½c at 11:50, at 75¾c at 12:10, at 75½c at 12:30, at 75⅜c at 1:10, and closed at 75¾c. Cash sales were 90,000 bu at December price for wheat in store, and 1c over for to arrive wheat.

Wheat stocks decreased 567,317 bu last week, and the close aggregated 5,404,808 bu, as follows: No. 1 hard, 155,247 bu; No. 1 northern, 2,791,770 bu; No. 2 northern, 690,803 bu; No. 3 spring, 29,593 bu; no grade, 159,029 bu; rejected, 42,568 bu; special bin, 1,299,382 bu; Western, 238,627 bu; winter, 99,087 bu; Coarse grain stocks: Corn, 189,159 bu, increase 110,614 bu; oats, 666,687 bu, increase, 24,249 bu; rye, 233,059 bu, increase, 21,000 bu; barley, 342,591 bu, increase, 9,447 bu; flax, 575,653 bu, decrease 507,979 bu.

The close—Wheat, cash, No. 1 hard, 73¾c; No. 1 northern, 71⅝c; No. 2 northern, 65c; No. 3 spring, 55⅝c; to arrive, No. 1 hard, 74⅝c; No. 1 northern, 72⅝c; December No. 1 northern, 71⅝c; May, No. 1 Northern, 75⅝c. Oats, 23½@23¾c. Rye, 46½c. Barley, 40@58c. Flax, to arrive, $1.61½; cash, $1.61½; December, $1.61½; May, $1.61½. Corn, 37c. Cars inspected: Wheat, 87; corn, 18; oats, 1; rye, 1; barley, 2; flax, 15. Receipts: Wheat, 122,890 bu; corn, 13,739; oats, 5,510; rye, 5,991; barley, 3,646; flax, 21,595. Shipments: Wheat, 531,621 bu; barley, 533; flax, 251,554.

OTHER GRAIN MARKETS.

New York, Dec. 3.—Flour—Receipts 30,565; exports 15,064; quite steady all day, and a little more active at former prices. Wheat—Receipts, 39,175; exports, 173,098; spot, firm; No. 2 red, 78⅞c f. o. b afloat No. 2 red, 76⅞c elevator; No. 1 northern Duluth, 82⅝c f. o. b. afloat; No. 1 hard Duluth, 86⅞c f. o. b. afloat. Options closed firm and ⅛@¾c higher; No. 2 red January, 77 5-16@77 11-16c, closed 77⅞c; March, 79 3-16@79⅞c, closed 79¾c; May, 79 11-16@79½c, closed 79¼c; December, 76⅜@77⅛c, closed 76⅞c. Corn—Receipts 126,750 bu; exports, 274,064 bu; spot firm; No. 2, 46¾c elevator and 45¾c f. o. b. afloat. Options closed firm at ¼@¾c net advance; January, 43@43¼c, closed 43¼c; May, 42@42½c, closed 42⅛c; December, 44⅛@44 3-16c, closed 44⅛c. Oats—Receipts 36,400 bu; exports, 20,000 bu; spot quiet; No. 2, 26½c; No. 3, 26c; No. 2 white, 29½c; No. 3 white, 28¾c; track mixed western, 26@27½c; track white, 28½@34c.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 3.—Wheat—No. 2 red cash, 70⅝c; December, 69⅞c; January, 71c; May, 73½@73⅝c; No. 2 hard, 69@69½c. Corn—No. cash, 35½c; December, 34⅝c; May, 35c. Oats—No. 2 cash, 34½c; December, 23¼c; May, 24½@24⅝c; No. 2 white, 27c.

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 3.—Close—Wheat—November, 63c; May, 66@66⅝c; cash, No. 2 hard, 65@66c; No. 2red, 67@69. Corn—December, 32⅞c; May, 34¼@34⅜c; cash, No. 2 mixed, 32¾@33c; No. 2 white, 34c. Oats—No. 2 white, 24½@25¼c.

PRODUCE AND FRUIT.

Butter—Steady and in active demand. Receipts light. Creameries, extras, 24c; firsts, 22c; dairies, hand separator, 21c; extras, 19@20c; ladles, extras, 15@16c; packing stock, 13c.

Cheese—Market steady and active. Twins, fancy full cream, 12½c; full cream, Young America, new, 11½@12c; brick, No. 1, 10@11c; brick, No. 2, 9½c; Swiss cheese, old, 12½@14c; Limburger, as to grade, 8½@11c.

Eggs—Market steady; receipts fair. Fresh stock, cases included, loss off, 19@20c.

Beans—Market firm. Fancy navy, per bu, $2.25@2.35; medium hand-picked, per bu, $1.60@1.80.

Peas—Yellow peas, $1.25; fancy green, $1.30.

Potatoes—Steady; fair demand. New potatoes, bu, 25@30c.

Vegetables—Beets, per dozen, 40c; lettuce, per dozen, 30c; parsley, per dozen, 15c; tomatoes, California, basket, 75c; spinach, bu, 50c; turnips, bu, 25c; beans, wax, bu, $1.50; string beans, bu, $1.50; cucumbers, dozen, 75c; carrots, bu, 60c; new turnips, dozen, 60c; horseradish, lb, 10c.

Cabbage—Steady. Per crate, 75c.

Onions—Steady. Home-grown onions, cwt, 90@$1.

Apples—Market well cleaned up and good stock commands firm prices at advanced quotations. Apples, fancy, $2.75@3.50.

Lemons—Receipts liberal; demand good. Fancy Messinas, box, $3.75@4; California, per box, $3.75@4.

Oranges—Jamaicas, box, $3.

Nuts—Hickory, per bu, $1@1.25; black walnuts, per bu, 75c@$1; new California walnuts, lb, 14c; peanuts, raw, per lb, 6c; peanuts, roasted, lb, 7c; Brazils, per lb, 4c; pecans, medium, 11@11½c; hazelnuts, per lb, 5@8c; chestnuts, new, per lb, 12@15c.

Bananas—Supply moderate; demand active. Choice shipping, $2@2.50.

Figs and Dates—Figs, new California, box, 85c@$1; Fard dates, 10-lb boxes, 8@9c; Hallowee dates, new, 5½c.

Apple Cider—Sweet, per bbl, $5; sweet, per half bbl, $2.75; hard, per bbl, $5.

Dressed Meats—Demand light; supply fair. Veal, fancy, 6c; medium, 5c; hogs, country dressed, 7c; milk lambs, pelts off, 7c.

Poultry—Demand fair; receipts liberal. Springs, per lb, 6@6½c; mixed, chickens, 6c; hens, 5½@6c; turkeys, 7c; ducks, fancy, 5@6c; geese, 5c.

Fish—Fair demand. Pike, per lb, 5c; croppies, per lb, 4@5c; pickerel, per lb, 4c; frog legs, per dozen, 4@8c.

MISCELLANEOUS.

COFFEE AND SUGAR—New York, Dec. 3.—Coffee—Spot Rio steady; No. 7 invoice, 7⅝c. Mild, market quiet; Cordova, 9½@13½c; futures closed steady with prices off to 10 points net lower. Total sales were 17,000 bags, including December at 6.20c; January at 6.20@6.30c; March at 6.45@6.50c, May at 6.55@6.60c; July at 6.60@6.65c; September at 6.70@6.75c; October at 6.70@6.75c. Sugar—Raw firm; refined steady.

METAL MARKET—New York, Dec. 3.—Advices from abroad were a shade better for tin and influenced the local situation materially. Prices here were some 25 points higher, and the market closed firm at $28, nominal. Lake copper ruled quiet at $17. Pig iron warrants were also quiet and unchanged at $9.50@10. Lead was quiet at $4.37½; spelter easy at $4.30@4.35. The broker's price for lead was $4, and for copper $17.

COTTON MARKET—New York, Dec. 3.—Cotton spot closed dull, 1-16 lower; middling uplands, 10 1-16c; do gulf, 10 Sales one. Cotos futures closed firm; December, 9.92c; January, 9.83; February, 9.77; March, 9.73; April, 9.70; May, 9.66; June, 9.64; July, 9.61; August, 9.32; September, 8.66.

BUTTER AND EGGS—New York, Dec. 3.—Butter—Receipts, 60,152 pkgs; firm; June creamery, 18@23½c; factory, 12@15½c. Cheese—Receipts, 5,130 pkgs; firm; large September, 10⅝@11c; small do, 11@11¼c; large late made, 10¼@10¾c; small do, 10¾c. Eggs—Receipts, 6,352 pkgs; strong; Western regular packing at mark, 20@25; Western loss 28c.

Elgin, Ill., Dec. 3.—Butter firm at 23c. None offered. Output for the week 1,370 tubs.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS.

A. McDonnell and wife to M. McDonnell, lt 42, blk 6. Smith's subdpart Stinson's div. $1 00
H. C. Clausen and wife to S. J. Clausen, lt 8, A. J. Reid's rearr lt 3, 4, 5 and 6, blk 27 Marshall's add 50 00
A. Guy to H. P. Guy, lt 20, blk 12, Holcombe's add 1 00
Total $52 00

FOR TEN YEARS.

Convicted Criminal Confesses He Has Been Cracking Safes.

EMPORIA, Kan., Dec. 3.—H. L. Weber and F. Holmes were today sentenced to ten years each in the penitentiary for robbery. On the way to the penitentiary Weber confessed that he had been cracking safes for ten years, and that he belongs to one of the best organized gangs that every operated in Kansas, of which E. F. Estelle was a prominent member. Estelle escaped from the penitentiary recently. Weber's wife, who had been arrested for complicity with her husband, has been released.

Akron Rioters Sentenced.

AKRON, O., Dec. 3.—Judge Kohler today sentenced three more of the convicted rioters, John Boden and Richard Hullet being sent to the penitentiary for one year each, and Claude Bender to the workhouse for thirty days. William Dewitt was convicted today of participating in the riot, making the tenth conviction.

California Wines Advanced.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 3.—The price of California wines has advanced four cents a gallon. Aside from the short supply the principal reason for this increase is stated to be the fact that the California Wine association and certain dealers have reached an amicable business understanding. The yield of wine this year is about six million gallons less than last year, and grapes for wine making purposes have been as high as from $12 to $22 a ton.

California Via the "Sunshine Route" (C., M. & St. P. Ry.).

Every Wednesday a fine Pullman tourist sleeper leaves Twin Cities (St. Paul 8:15 a. m., Minneapolis 8:05 a. m.) via C. M. & St. P. Ry., and run through to Los Angeles, arriving there every Sunday morning.

Price of double berth in this car $6.00.

Before making your arrangements for California get particulars as to "Sunshine Route."

Hundreds of Northwestern people patronize this popular service every season—it traverses one of the most interesting portions of America.

For comfort and ease it is not surpassed.

Cheapest rates are obtainable via this route. Inquire of ticket agents, or write J. T. Conley, Asst. Gen. Pass. Agent.

STOCK MARKET WAS QUIET

DELIVERY OF THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE HAD NO APPARENT EFFECT

PRICE CHANGES IRREGULAR

While Baltimore & Ohio Was a Loser, Other Railroad Stocks Showed Sharp Gains on the Day's Trading.

	Close.	Prev. Day.
Bar silver, New York	64⅝	64⅝
Call money, New York	3½-5	3½-4½

NEW YORK, Dec. 3.—Speculative activity continued rather depressed in stocks today. Business was on a diminishing scale and lacked even the isolated features of great activity—and strength which gave it character on different days last week when the tendency to contract dealings was already manifest. The opening of congress and presentation of the president's message are looked to by tradition to supply motives for moving prices, but it can hardly be said that any general influence was exercised on prices by those today. The message was made a device by professional traders to effect some movement in the steel stocks. That is to say, alarmist's rumors were current before its appearances on the stand taken on the "trust" question. The stocks proved vulnerable to the bear attack and the decline brought out considerable offerings of long stocks effecting a decline at one time in Tennessee Coal of 4¾ and in Steel and Wire of 3¼. These were the weakest stockers and they rallied on short covering, 1¾ and 1¼ respectively. On the other hand, sugar was fairly buoyant, rising at one time 3⅜ and closing with a net gain of 2⅜ per cent. In the outside market also Standard Oil sold at 810, leaving all previous records far behind it. The upward rush of over six points in Pacific Mail was made at the opening and was prompted by the general concurrence in the views reported from the party leaders in Washington as to the prominent place given by the ship subsidy bill in the party programme for the session. There was quite a large short interest caused in the stock which emphasized the rise. The same was true of sugar, which recovered its Saturday loss with the approach of the dividend meeting. The dividend meeting, however, was postponed from today and the stock became quiet. The railroad list was extremely irregular. Baltimore & Ohio suffered sharply on account of the legal proceedings to enjoin the payment of the dividend on the common stock pending the decision of the rights of the preferred stock to share equally with the common stock in dividends over 4 per cent. There were also conspicuous stocks in the railroad list which gained sharply, including Pennsylvania as the leader. The fact that neither the gains nor the losses persisted showed the professional character of the dealings. Notwithstanding the reduced activity, there was a sharp hardening in the call money rate to 6 per cent late in the day, at which figure it required a million dollars to meet the needs of belated borowers who have held out for better terms. This seemed to emphasize the effect of Saturday's bank statement, but nevertheless it is common belief that the important features of the statement were due to the temporary provision for the December 1st payments, the trust companies calling loans for that purpose, thus driving borrowers to resort to the banks, while the trust companies also increased their cash deposits with the banks in order to draw on them. It is believed that the disbursement of December dividends will soon come back to the market, but the renewed large demand for currency from the interior is very important. Today $350,000 went into the sub-treasury for transfer to New Orleans and $200,000 for transfer to Chicago. Such a rate of depletion of cash reserves of the banks is certain to have marked influence on the money market.

The absorption of bonds continued large and important and prices were generally higher. Special features were Chicago & Alton, 3½'s, Kings county elevated 4's and the 4 per cent issues of the Norfolk & Western, Union Pacific and Reading. Total sales, par value, $4,505,000. United States new 4's declined ¼ per cent on the last call.

STOCK QUOTATIONS.

Furnished by Charles H. F. Smith & Co., members of the New York Stock Exchange, Pioneer Press building, who have direct wires to Chicago and New York. Closing prices are bid:

	S'l's	High	Low	Closing. 1	Closing. 3
Am. Hoop	1200	28½	27¾	27⅞	28½
do pfd	40	76	75½	75	76
Am. Steel & W.	23700	43¾	40½	41⅛	43⅜
do pfd	3000	86⅝	85	85¼	86
Anaconda M. Co	100	49	49	49	49
Am. Tobacco	13500	108	106¾	107⅞	107¼
Am. Tin Plate	1800	42½	42⅛	42	42¼
Atch., T. & S. F.	15600	40⅛	39¼	39½	40¼
do pfd	13300	84¼	83¾	83⅞	84
B. & O.	6000	80⅝	79⅛	79½	81¼
do pfd	3500	86¾	85½	85¾	85¼
Brok. R. T.	10300	73	71¾	72⅜	72½
C., B. & Q.	2000	137¼	136⅜	136½	[illegible]
Con. Tobacco Co.	4600	36⅜	35⅞	35⅝	36
do pfd	400	92½	92	92	92
Ches. & Ohio	16100	38½	37⅜	37⅞	38¼
Chi. & Alton	7200	41½	40¾	40¾	41½
do pfd	1400	77½	76¾	76⅞	77
Col. F. & I.	400	51⅝	58¾	57	51½
Chi. G. W.	900	14⅝	14½	14¼	11⅝
C. G. W. D. 4 p. c.	200	91	90¾	90¾	90¾
do pfd A.				78½	78½
do pfd B.	100	38½	38½	38½	38⅞
Con. Gas	3000	195½	193½	194½	193¼
Den. & Rio G.	2000	25⅛	24⅞	25⅛	25¼
do pfd	6200	79	78¼	79⅛	78⅞
Erie	2800	14⅜	14¼	14⅛	14¼
do 1st pfd	2500	40¾	40¼	39⅞	40¼
do 2d pfd	600	21	20½	20	20
Fed. Steel	18700	49⅝	48⅛	48¾	49½
do pfd	1900	76⅛	75¼	75¼	76⅛
Gen. Elec. Co.	400	167½	167	167	167½
Gt. Nor. pfd	500	182	180	180½	181½
Ill. Cent.	1400	125	125	124¾	124½
Louis. & Nash.	3500	84¼	83¼	83¾	84
Leather	14100	13⅝	12⅞	12¾	13½
do pfd	200	75⅝	79	75	75
Man. Con	12700	109¾	108¾	108½	109
Met. Trac	7100	171⅜	169¾	170	171
Minn. & St. L.	600	65½	65	65	65
do pfd	100	100½	100½	99½	99½
Missouri Pac	9100	61¼	60	60	60½
Nor. Pac	11000	71⅛	70⅝	70½	71
do pfd	3700	83	82¼	82½	82¾
N. Y. Cen	11600	145⅞	142⅝	142⅞	142½
Nat. Steel Co.	2200	36¾	35¾	35¾	35½
do pfd	100	92½	92½	92	92
Ont. & West	4700	25⅜	25	25	25¼
P. S. C Co.	800	52¼	50¼	50¾	52
do pfd	700	85¾	85	82½	85
Penn. Ry	19700	143⅝	142¼	142¾	142¼
Pac. Mail	8600	49½	46	47½	43⅛
People's Gas	7100	101	99⅝	100⅛	100
Pullman	800	204	201	201	200
R. I. & S.	500	16½	16	15¾	16
do pfd	400	65¾	65	64⅞	65⅜
Reading	690	20	19¾	19¾	19¾
do 1st pfd	2300	64½	64½	63¾	61¾
do 2d pfd	800	32	31⅝	31½	31½
Rock Island	2500	115¼	115¼	116⅜	115½
South. Ry	3200	18⅞	17½	18⅜	18⅛
do pfd	21600	68½	67½	67⅝	67⅝
South Pac	24500	42⅞	42⅛	42⅜	42⅛
St. L. & S. W.	5300	16½	15¾	16¼	15½
do pfd	13400	39	37⅝	38⅞	37
Sug. Refinery	85400	134¾	130½	133¾	130⅞
do pfd	300	117½	117	117¼	11
St. Paul	10600	128⅜	126⅝	127¼	127⅛
do pfd	100	176	176	175½	175½
T. C. & I.	15200	72¼	67½	69	72¼
Tex. Pac	14600	20½	19⅝	20⅛	19¾
Union Pac	20200	72½	71⅞	71⅞	72½
do pfd	3900	82⅜	82	82	82
U. S. Rubber	4400	29½	28⅝	29	28½
do pfd	400	86	85	85½	86

Total sales 653,000.

BONDS.

U. S. ref. 2s, reg	105⅝	N. Y. C. 1sts	105⅝
do coup	105⅞	N. J. C. gen. 5s	ofd 127½
do 3s, reg	110	Nor. Pacific 3s	70⅞
do 3s, coup	110	do 4s	105¼
do new 4s, reg	138	N. Y. C. & S. L. 1s	107¼
do new 4s, coup	138	N. & W. con. 4s	100
do old 4s, reg	115	Or. Nav. 1sts	111
do old 4s, coup	116	do 4s	104½
do 5s, reg	113¼	Or. S. Line 6s	127½
do 5s, coup	113¼	do con. 5s	116½
District 3s, '65s	124½	Reading gen. 4s	92
Atch. gen. 4s	102½	R. G. W. 1sts	100¾
do adj. 4s	89½	S. L. & I. M. con. 5s	113½
Cana. So. 2ds	104½	S. L. & S. F. gen. 6s	128
Chesa. & O. 4½s	103¼	St. Paul con.	174
do 5s	120	St. P., C. & P. 1sts	119⅝
C. & N. W. con. 7s	139	do 5s	121⅞
do S. F. deb. 5s	119½	So. Pacific 4s	83
Chi. Term. 4s	94	So. Ry. 5s	112¾
Col. So. 4s	84⅞	S. R. & T. 6s	ofd 70
D. & R. G. 1sts	100½	T. & P. 1sts	113¾
Erie gen. 4s	75¼	do 2ds	77
F. W. & D. C. 1sts	75	Union Pacific 4s	107⅞
Gen. Elec. 5s	139½	Wabash 1sts	116¾
Iowa Cent. 1sts	114	do 2ds	104⅞
L. & N. uni. 4s	100⅝	West Shore 4s	114⅞
M., K. & T. 2ds	71¾	Wis. Cent. 4s	86½
do 4s	94¼	Va. Centuries	92

NEW YORK MONEY—Money on call firmer at 3½@5 per cent; last loan, 5 per cent. Prime mercantile paper, 4@4¾ per cent. Sterling exchange firm, with actual business in bankers' bills at $4.85⅝ for demand and at $4.81⅝@4.81¾ for sixty days. Posted rates, $4.82½ and $4.86½. Commercial bills, $4.80¾@4.81¼. Silver certificates, 64@65c. Bar silver, 64⅝c. Mexican dollars, 50c.

W. M. C