CONDITION OF OMAHA'S TRADE

Hot Weather Interferes to Some Extent with Business.

COUNTRY COLLECTIONS ARE VERY GOOD

Business Men Banking on Brilliant Prospects for Fall Trade—Produce Dealers Troubled with Explaining Losses.

This is the middle of the dull season and it will be some days yet before business men generally will make any great or persistent attempt to push business. The weather is too warm to talk business and most every one is content to wait until the approach of the fall season renders it more imperative before putting forth any great effort to do business.

Still, generally speaking, business is better. Sales at the present time possibly are no larger, taking into consideration the many different departments of trade, than a year ago, but the feeling is better and the prospects for the future far brighter than was the case twelve months ago. Buyers are feeling better and are manifesting much greater confidence in the future. Without exception they are anticipating a largely increased demand with the coming of the autumn and will place on their shelves larger stocks to meet the requirements.

Crop conditions in tributary territory are exceedingly favorable and with prices tending upward there is every reason for expecting that the coming season will be prosperous for the farmers and hence for the small merchants scattered all over the state. Already money in the country is easier and there yet remains considerable of last year's crop to be marketed, which will be converted into money as soon as the new crop is absolutely safe.

The entire business outlook is more promising than at any time in many months and the commercial skies begin to put on different hues as compared with those of the last four years.

PRODUCE MEN'S WOES.

While the heated term brings rest and many times recreation to the workers down in the jobbing district, it has very little of pleasure in store for the dealer in country produce. During the summer season the farmers all over the state figure on living on the product of their farms and cows and very few of them have any money to spend for groceries, the luxuries as well as the necessities being secured in exchange for butter and eggs. The marketing of these two staples is accordingly a much more important matter than many people would suppose.

During the extremely hot weather this month the shipment of butter and eggs any great distance without ice has been a difficult matter and the dealers in this city have been kept busy explaining to country shippers why their eggs arrived baked and their butter melted.

With butter the case is not quite so serious, as it can be set away in the ice box to cool and harden and can eventually be worked and put in good marketable condition. With eggs it is much more serious. Rotten eggs are about the poorest property that a man can possess and there is nothing to do with them but haul them down to the river and dump them in, and that is what the produce men of the city have been doing. The loss on the eggs received runs all the way from 25 to 50 per cent, the amount depending upon the condition at the time of shipment and the length of time on the road.

Shippers in the country cannot always understand why the losses are so heavy and perhaps they never will until they take a trip of two or three days' duration in a closed freight car, with no ice and with the thermometer close up to the 100 mark.

The annoyance from losses is always great during the heated term, but this year it has been unusually great, owing perhaps to the greater humidity of the air.

MIDSUMMER MONTH NOT SO DULL

Omaha Merchants Find Enough in July to Keep Them Busy.

W. H. Roberson, local manager of R. G. Dun & Co.'s Mercantile agency, says:

"The midsummer month is never as good for general business as either June or September. In a retail way it is usually bad because so many consumers are absent from their homes and in the jobbing line the demand even for necessities is considerably reduced. However, July thus far to our retail dealers has been better than they anticipated and no complaint is heard at the jobbing houses.

"Exposition matters are progressing very satisfactorily and the interest in the event of 1898 is rapidly spreading over the entire country. All the other great enterprises are moving forward and the fruition of our hopes is almost in sight at Tenth and Mason and in South Omaha.

"These dull summer months are good times for planning for future business, too, and merchants are looking with renewed confidence to the coming fall and winter. While it is about it, the Commercial club might take up and urge a little railway building to advantage. We need that Yankton connection worse than ever in view of the excellent crop prospects reported from South Dakota. We want the Santa Fe to extend its Superior branch to Omaha to open up New Mexico, the Texas Panhandle and western Kansas to the Omaha stock market, and finally we need and should have the old Nebraska Central enterprise revived and a direct connection with Des Moines, Ia., and Dubuque. The Illinois Central is less than 100 miles away and will be wanting in its usual enterprise if it does not fill the gap. The Santa Fe ought to be persuaded to extend its Des Moines line to Omaha to meet the superior branch here. These railway schemes are all feasible and with a general upward movement of commercial conditions ought to come to the front without delay."

STOCKS AND BONDS.

Market is Strong Save for a Slight Weakening at the Close.

NEW YORK, July 24.—The foregone conclusion that the tariff question would be settled and the continued prospects for good cereal and cotton crops lent the stock market further strength today, except in the final half hour, when short sales and some profit-taking diminished the day's rise a fraction, while trivial losses were suffered by Sugar, Lead, Chicago Gas and the Reading shares. Commission houses bought liberally in the early dealings, as did London, although it was a holiday there. The movement in the grangers was slightly mixed, with Rock Island gaining a fraction, while Burlington and St. Paul remained stationary and Omaha and Northwestern receded slightly. St. Paul had shown some temporary strength on having earned more for the third week in July than ever, except in 1892. On moderate dealings the southwesterns showed some improvement, Missouri Pacific gaining 1¼. The Baltimore & Ohio failed to announce an increased interest, General Electric, exceptionally, fell 2 per cent from the initial price, but it closed with a net loss of a point. Advances of a point or more were scored in the following: Rio Grande Western preferred, 2; Central Pacific, Delaware & Hudson, Denver & Rio Grande preferred and Mobile & Ohio.

High record prices have been the rule rather than the exception for the week under the stimulus of the approaching tariff settlement and the combination of good crops at home and shortages abroad. Wheat, on the week's tremendous exports, about 5,000,000 bushels, had made an extreme advance of 4¼c and a net rise of 1⅞c, with but three weeks before the crop is absolutely assured. There being no unfavorable advices, stocks continued the steady advance of the past two months and displayed irresistible strength, and predictions were not wanting that the boom in 1897-1898 might be duplicating that of 1888-1889. A variety of favorable influences operated to bring about the buoyancy in the week's stock market. Chief of them was the compromise on the tariff schedule with the knowledge that it would speedily effect a rapid rise in cereals owing to heavy export orders arising from the decreased world's visible supply. The large engagements of cargoes for Brazil, Austria, Peru, Argentine and other wheat-producing countries disclosed the needs of the foreign markets for our surplus and influenced tremendous trading in the grain market, where the shorts were badly squeezed. This circumstance was reflected in the value of the granger and southwestern shares to a notable extent on the theory that farmers, being enriched by the improved prices for their products, would expend a portion of their proceeds, so that the railroads would secure a lucrative westbound tonnage, as well as increased transportation rates on grain. The policy of severe retrenchment which many lines underwent during the late period of depression, which forced some roads into bankruptcy and scaled dividend disbursements in others, would make an economical handling of the westbound tonnage, which would augur well for net receipts and would provide more liberally for dividend payments. Exchanges at the various clearing houses reflected a larger business. Commercial failures are decreasing and resumption of industrial animation, together with more optimistic trade advices generally, unsettled the market; and usually unsettling influences were disregarded, as the engagement of $3,500,000 gold for export, the strength of foreign exchange because of anti-tariff imports and the continued sale of Americans by London. Bills were quoted at $4.88¼ in some instances, but the current rate was $4.87½. The gold export incident caused no alarm, the treasury being fortified with a large reserve already and constant accessions being made by the receipts of the yellow metal from the Klondyke district, together with considerable gold to be ultimately received from Austria in payment for American wheat. The general speculation was very broad and many long dormant shares vied with the recognized active stocks in point of animation. Purchases by inside interests were in evidence and reports of pool support were freely circulated. Investment shares were eagerly sought and the plethora of money at the prevalent low rates encouraged extensive purchases for long accounts. The money market was somewhat stiffer at times, call accommodations ranging up to 1½ per cent, although business was generally transacted at 1 per cent. Time loans were in better request, with short proceeds in most demand. The commercial paper market held quiet without essential change from the current rate of 2@4 per cent, according to maturity. The fall for the week of 1⅛c for silver bullion and ⅛c for Mexican dollars was in sympathy with the decline in London. With the exception of Rubber preferred, which lost 2¾ per cent for the week, the industrials were strong in anticipation of benefits from the new tariff law. Sugar made a net gain for the week of 1¼ per cent. Sugar tranzactions were on an enormous scale at the opening this week and blocks of 1,000 up to 2,500 shares were juggled about with unconcern by traders frantic to share in the excessive profits they thought would accrue to the company owing to favorable settlement, accorded it on the promise of the sugar schedule. The fact that the company had imported a large amount of raw sugar, which was considered likely to yield millions of profit and rumors that extra dividends would be in order were contributory influences in the advance, while the stock was not allowed to sag. But on the ensuing day the common registered 146, the highest price ever attained by the specialty. The advance culminated at this level and a recession followed to 140, with a subsequent recovery to 144, before the close of the week. The preferred stock bounded up to 111, reacted to 111, and closed at 113, a net gain of 4½ per cent. The activity in Sugar subsided as the week wore along and the standard shares assumed the leadership of the market in point of strength. Reports of purchases by powerful interests and advance in various grades of the stable contributed to the sensational rise. Lead and Tobacco common responded to prospective benefits to be derived from the new tariff. Tobacco common rising 4½, while the preferred rose 2½. Chicago Gas rose 5. Purchases in the general list were confirmed and the activity of the commission houses indicated an increase in public interest, which had been lax for some time. The continued dribble on the market for the foreign holding was explained by the unfavorable comment of the London newspaper press. A change of tenor in these columns toward the close of the week may have influenced the extensive London purchases, or they may be the covering of short contracts. The bears brought about a reaction about the middle of the week on the assumption that the tariff bill would be delayed, but subsequent assurances that it would be disposed of this week caused the best prices of the week to be recorded in the last two days. Expectations that amicable agreement would be effected in the soft coal difficulty strengthened the shares of roads largely dependent upon this tariff. The anthracite coal stocks were firm on satisfactory trade conditions and gossip as to the likelihood of an early dividend on Reading first preferred was responsible for a rise of 2½ per cent in that stock. Some attention was directed to local street railway securities by rumors of various impending consolidations. This lacked verification, but the strength of some of the roads concerned lent color to the report. The exceptional strength and activity of railway mortgages indicative of substantial backing to the market, created considerable enthusiasm among the bulls, who were sanguine of further marked enhancement in values. The only notable declines in the whole list were Rubber preferred and East River Gas, both of which receded more than 3 per cent. Among the advances of 2 points and over are the following: Rock Island, 6¾; Burlington, 4¾; St. Paul, 2¾; Brooklyn Union Gas, 5½; Missouri Pacific, 3¾; Texas Pacific, 3¼; St. Louis & Southwestern preferred, 2¾; Delaware & Hudson, 2¼; Morris & Essex, 2½; American Express, 2; Tobacco Scrip, 4; Canadian Pacific, 3; Denver & Rio Grande preferred, 2¼; Detroit Gas, 3; Erie first preferred, 2½; Great Northern preferred, 2¼; Illinois Central, 2½; Lake Erie & Western, 2; Louisville preferred, 2½; Manhattan, 2¾; Minneapolis & St. Louis preferred, 2; Starch first, preferred, 3¾; second preferred, 5; Pittsburg, Cincinnati, Chicago & St. Louis, 2, and United States Express, 5. The aggregate sales for the week reached the unusually large total of 2,815,700 shares.

The bond market during the week developed marked animation with notable improvement in values of many issues. The speculation was very broad, with purchases for investment account being discernable in many instances. The lower grade securities were quite generally dealt in and were largely taken for foreign account. The aggregate sales were $15,700,000. The principal advances were Oregon Improvement 1st, 8½ per cent; imperial Gas of Chicago, consols 6s, 4¾ per cent; Minneapolis & St. Louis 1st, Seaboard and Brooklyn Bridges, first trust receipts, 3½; Detroit Gas 5s, 4¾; Milwaukee, Lake Shore & Western 1sts, Ashland division, and American Spirits, 3; Central of Georgia incomes and Union Pacific 6s, 4½; St. Louis, Southwestern 1sts, Cleveland & Ohio 4½s, and Atchison, Colorado & Pacific 1sts, 2½, and Tennessee Coal 1sts, Birmingham division, Rock Island 5s and Kansas & Texas 4s, 2 per cent. Government bonds were quiet but generally strong.

The following were the closing quotations on the leading stocks of the New York exchange today:

Atchison	13⅛	St. Louis & S. F.	4¼
do pfd	26⅝	do pfd	10
Baltimore & Ohio	19⅝	St. Paul	88⅝
Canada Pacific	69¼	do pfd	111
Canada Southern	50¼	St. P. & Om.	65¾
Central Pacific	9⅛	do pfd	115
Ches. & Ohio	15¼	St. P. M. & M.	117
Chicago & Alton	148	So. Pacific	16½
C., B. & Q.	88⅝	So. Railway	9½
C. & E. I.	70	do pfd	30¼
C. C. C. & St. L.	27¾	Texas & Pacific	12
do pfd	65	Union Pacific	7¾
Del. & Hudson	114⅛	U. P. D. & G.	2½
Del., L. & W.	157	Wabash	6¼
Den. & Rio G.	11⅛	do pfd	15⅛
do pfd	44⅝	Wheel. & L. E.	1⅜
Erie (new)	15⅝	do pfd	5
do 1st pfd	40⅝	Adams Ex.	154
Ft. Wayne	166	American Ex.	115
Great Northern pfd	123	United States Ex.	46
Hocking Valley	3	Wells Fargo Ex.	107
Illinois Central	100	A. Cot. Oil	14¼
Lake Erie & W.	15	do pfd	65
do pfd	66⅝	Am Spirits	13½
Lake Shore	170	do pfd	31⅝
Louisville & Nash.	54	Am. Tobacco	81½
Manhattan L.	92⅝	do pfd	110
Met. Traction	111⅝	Chicago Gas	98⅛
Michigan Central	99	Cons. Gas	168¾
Minn. & St. L.	24¼	Com. Cable Co	166
do 1st pfd	33½	Col. F. & Iron	17½
Mo. Pacific	24	do pfd	80
Mobile & Ohio	21	Gen. Electric	33¼
Mo. K. & T.	14¼	Illinois Steel	34
do pfd	35	La Clede Gas	30½
New Alb. & Chi.	4	Lead	34¾
do pfd	14	do pfd	103¾
N. J. Central	88⅝	Nat. Lin. Oil	13
N. Y. Central	102	Pacific Mail	31
N. Y. Chi. & St. L.	13⅛	Pullman Pal.	171
do 1st pfd	65	Silver Certificates	59½
do 2d pfd	33	Stand. Rope & T.	6⅝
Norfolk Western	10⅛	Sugar	141
No. Amer. Co.	4⅝	do pfd	112¾
No. Pacific	13⅝	T. C. & Iron	24⅝
do pfd	42	U. S. Leather	7⅝
Ontario & W.	16¼	do pfd	67¾
Ore. R. & Nav.	22	U. S. Rubber	16
Ore. Short Line	17	do pfd	50⅝
Pittsburg	165	Western Union	85¼
Reading	23⅝	Northwestern	117½
Rock Island	82⅝	do pfd	163

*Offered.

Total sales of stocks today were 211,739 shares, including: Atchison preferred, 8,200; Chicago, Burlington & Quincy, 23,513; Louisville & Nashville, 15,629; Missouri Pacific, 8,257; Missouri, Kansas & Texas preferred, 4,771; Northern Pacific preferred, 2,950; St. Paul, 16,725; Southern Railway preferred, 5,797; Texas & Pacific, 3,635; General Electric, 6,365; Sugar, 20,755; Chicago Great Western, 3,285.

New York Money Market.

NEW YORK, July 24.—MONEY ON CALL—Steady at 1 per cent.

PRIME MERCANTILE PAPER—3@4 per cent.

STERLING EXCHANGE—Steady, with actual business in bankers' bills at $4.87¼ for demand and $4.86¼ for sixty days; posted rates, $4.87@4.87½ and $4.88@4.88½; commercial bills, $4.85¾.

BAR SILVER—59¼c.

MEXICAN DOLLARS—46¼c.

GOVERNMENT BONDS—Irregular.

RAILROAD BONDS—Strong.

STATE BONDS—Dull.

Closing quotations on bonds were as follows:

U. S. 2s, reg.	97½	Erie 2ds	66⅝
U. S. 4s, reg.	111½	G. H. & S. A. 6s	108¼
U. S. 4s, coup.	112¼	G. H. & S. A. 7s	106½
U. S. new 4s, reg.	124	H. & T. Cent. 5s	100⅝
U. S. new 4s coup.	125¼	H. & T. Cent. 6s	106
U. S. 5s, reg.	113⅝	I. & N. Uni. 4s	83½
U. S. 5s, coup.	114⅝	M. K. T. first 4s	86¼
Pacific 6s of '95	101⅝	M. K. T. second 4s	63¾
Ala., class A	106½	Mutual Union 6s	107
Ala., class B	104	N. J. C. Gen. 1sts	112⅝
Ala., class C	98	No. Pacific 1sts	117½
Ala. Currency	98	No. Pacific 2ds	56¼
La. New Con. 4s	96	No. Pacific 3s	90
Missouri 6s	100	N. W. Consols	147
N. C. 6s	125	N. W. S. F. Deb. 5s	117
N. C. 4s	102	Ore. Nav. 1sts	111
S. C. nonfund	1	Ore. Nav. 4s	86
Tenn. new set 3s	82	R. G. West 1sts	78
*Tenn. new set 5s	105	St. P. Consols 7s	137
Tenn. old set 6s	60	St. P. C. & P. W. 5s	116⅝
Va. Centuries	64½	St. L. & I. M. Gen. 5	80
Va. deferred	4	S. L. & S. F. Gen. 6	113
Atchison 4s	86⅝	Southern Ry. 5s	91
Atchison Second A.	52⅝	Tex. Pacific 1sts	93¼
Canada So. 2nds	107¼	Tex. Pacific 2ds	29¼
C. P. 1sts of '93	101⅝	U. P. 1sts of '96	103¼
D. & R. G. 4s	88¼	West Shore 4s	109
D. & R. G. 7s	110⅝		

*Offered.

London Stock Exchange.

LONDON, July 24.—The Stock exchange is closed today.

BAR SILVER—Dull at 27¾d per ounce.

MONEY—2¼ per cent.

The rate of discount in the open market for short bills is ⅝ per cent and for three months' bills, ⅝@13-16 per cent.

Gold is quoted at Buenos Ayres today at 165; Lisbon, 47; Rome, 104.70.

Boston Stock Quotations.

BOSTON, July 24.—Call loans, 2@3 per cent; time loans, 3@4½. Closing prices for stocks:

A. T. & S. F.	13⅝	West End pfd	95¾
American Sugar	144	W. Elec.	21
Am. Sugar pfd	113¾	W. Elec. pfd	50¼
Bay State Gas	3⅝	Wis. Cent.	2
Bell Telephone	227	Bel. Elec. Il.	159
Boston & Albany	213	Atchison pfd	26⅝
Boston & Maine	158	Atchison 4s	85
C., B. & Q.	88⅝	Allouez Mining Co	1
Fitchburg	91⅝	Atlantic	26
General Electric	37⅝	Boston & Montana	131
Illinois Steel	34	Butte & Boston	22⅝
Mexican Central	8⅝	Calumet & Hecla	320
N. Y. A. N. S.	66	Centennial	6⅝
Old Colony	180	Franklin	14
U. S. Leather	17⅝	Kearsarge	17⅝
Rubber	19	Osceola	34¾
San Diego	7½	Quincy	112
Union Pacific	7¾	Tamarack	126
West End	91⅝	Wolverine	11⅝

San Francisco Mining Quotations.

SAN FRANCISCO, July 24.—The official closing quotations for mining stocks today were as follows:

Alta	6	Justice	4
Alpha Con.	11	Kentucky Con.	5
Andes	12	Mexican	32
Belcher	20	Occidental Con.	9
Best & Belcher	42	Ophir	70
Bullion	8	Original	8
California	8	Potosi	44
Challenge Con.	4	Savage	27
Chollar	75	Sierra Nevada	96
Con. Cal. & Va.	135	Silver Hill	1
Con. Imperial	1	Union Con.	45
Crown Point	10	Utah Con.	4
Exchequer	2	Yellow Jacket	48
Gould & Curry	38	Standard	155
Hale & Norcross	91		

Silver bars, 60¾c; Mexican dollars, 47¾@48¾c; drafts, sight, 1½c; drafts, telegraph, 17¾c.

New York Mining Quotations.

NEW YORK, July 24.—The following are the closing mining quotations:

Choiar	70	Ontario	200
Crown Point	15	Ophir	68
Con. Cal. & Va.	125	Plymouth	12
Deadwood	95	Quicksilver	100
Gould & Curry	37	Quicksilver pfd	700
Hale & Norcross	87	Sierra Nevada	95
Homestake	2900	Standard	125
Iron Silver	31	Union Con.	40
Mexican	30	Yellow Jacket	43

Weekly Bank Statement.

NEW YORK, July 24.—The weekly bank statement shows the following changes: Reserve, increase, $1,324,675; loans, increase, $3,929,200; specie, increase, $146,700; legal tender, increase, $3,492,600; deposits, increase, $9,258,500; circulation, decrease, $106,600. The banks now hold $47,304,575 in excess of the requirements of the 25 per cent rule.

Financial Notes.

BOSTON, July 24.—Clearings, $16,542,018; balances, $2,262,861.

BALTIMORE, July 24.—Clearings, $2,546,107; balances, $397,197.

NEW YORK, July 24.—Clearings, $110,560,131; balances, $7,006,434.

PHILADELPHIA, July 24.—Clearings, $8,714,832; balances, $1,427,112.

CINCINNATI, July 24.—Clearings, $1,441,600; New York exchange, 25@50c per cent.

ST. LOUIS, July 24.—Clearings, $2,588,441; balances, $433,969. Money, 4@7 per cent. New York exchange, 25c discount bid, par asked.

NEW ORLEANS, July 24.—Clearings, $783,017.

MEMPHIS, July 24.—Clearings, 1,164,929; balances, $42,360. New York exchange, selling at $1.50 premium.

CHICAGO, July 24.—Clearings, $12,692,300; balances, $1,415,200. New York exchange, 10c premium. Sterling exchange, 10c premium. Sterling exchange demand, $4.87¼@4.88¼; sixty days, $4.84@4.84¼. Local stocks were fairly active, closing: West Chicago, 104¾; North Chicago, 74½; Strawboard, 28; Diamond Match, 144¾; Lake Street, 14¾; Metropolitan L., 5¾; New York Biscuit, 56; American Biscuit, 72.

Foreign Financial.

BERLIN, July 24.—Exchange on London, 20m 35⅝pfg for checks.

PARIS, July 24.—Three per cent rentes, 104f 25c for the account. Exchange on London, 25c for checks.

St. Louis General Markets.

ST. LOUIS, July 24.—FLOUR—Unchanged; patents, $3.90@4.10; straights, $3.70@3.80; clear, $3.30@3.60; low to medium, $2.25@3.00.

WHEAT—Futures strong and 1⅝@2⅛c higher than yesterday; spot, higher; No. 2 red, cash, elevator, 74½c bid; track, 75@76½c; No. 2 hard, cash, 70⅝c bid; July, 72⅝c; August, 74½c bid; September, 74¾@74⅞c; December, 75½c bid.

CORN—Futures fractionally higher than yesterday; spot, trading quiet and active; spot higher; No. 2 cash, 23½c; July, 23½c bid; July, 23½c; September, 23½@23⅝c.

OATS—Futures dull and firmer; spot higher; No. 2 cash, 16c bid; July, 15c; September, 17⅝c bid.

RYE—Higher at 35c.

BARLEY—Nominal.

CORNMEAL—$1.45@1.50.

BRAN—Firm; sacked, east track, worth 28@29c; east side country points, 22@25c.

SEEDS—Timothy, $2.50 lower, 75@$1.25. Prime timothy seed, $2.50@2.55.

HAY—Dull, steady and unchanged; timothy, $7.00@11.50; prairie, $4.00@8.00.

BUTTER—Steady; creamery, 11@15c; dairy, 8@12c.

EGGS—Quiet at 7c.

POULTRY—Chickens, weak; old hens, 6c; springs, 5c; ducks, springs, 6c; geese, springs, 6c; turkeys, old, 7½c; springs, 12@15c.

WHISKY—$1.15.

COTTON TIES—65c.

BAGGING—6¾@7½c.

METALS—Lead, lower, $3.65@3.67½. Spelter, easier, $4.12½.

PROVISIONS—Pork, steady; standard mess, jobbing, $7.50@8.00. Lard, higher; prime steam, $3.85; choice, $4.02½. Bacon (boxed), shoulders, $5.25; extra short clear, $5.70; ribs, $5.70; shorts, $5.80. Dry salt meats (boxed), shoulders, $4.90; extra short clear, $5.65; ribs, $5.20; shorts, $5.30.

Receipts: Flour, 4,000 bbls.; wheat, 47,000 bu.; corn, 20,000 bu.; oats, 41,000 bu.

Shipments: Flour, 4,000 bbls.; wheat, 16,000 bu.; corn, 42,000 bu.; oats, 14,000 bu.

Baltimore Markets.

BALTIMORE, July 24.—FLOUR—Firm and unchanged; receipts, 3,625 bbls.; exports, 168 bbls.

WHEAT—Unsettled; spot, 78@78¼c; September, 77¾@78c; steamer, red, 75@75¾c; receipts, 107,242 bu.; exports, 169,000 bu.; southern wheat, by sample, 78@85c; southern wheat, old grade, 77½@81½c.

CORN—Firmer; spot, 31½@31¾c; September, 31½@31¾c; steamer, mixed, 27½@27¾c; receipts, 52,241 bu.; southern white corn, 32@35c; southern yellow, 34@35c.

OATS—Steady; No. 2 white, 26@26½c; receipts, 13,557 bu.

RYE—Easier; No. 2 western, 41½c; receipts, 2,052 bu.

HAY—Firm; choice timothy, $13.50@14.00.

GRAIN FREIGHTS—Very quiet and unchanged.

BUTTER—Quiet and unchanged.

EGGS—Firm and unchanged.

CHEESE—Steady and unchanged.

Liverpool Grain and Provisions.

LIVERPOOL, July 24.—WHEAT—Spot, No. 2 red winter, stocks exhausted; No. 1 red northern, spring, 6s 8d.

CORN—American mixed, spot, new, 2s 9¼d; American mixed, old, 2s 10½d; July, 2s 3d; August, 2s 9¼d; September, 2s 10¾d.

FLOUR—St. Louis fancy winter, 8s.

PROVISIONS—Beef, extra india mess, firm, 55s; prime mess, medium, 45s. Pork, prime mess, western, steady, 45s; western medium, 42s 6d. Hams, short cut, 14 to 16 lbs., 35s. Bacon, short ribs, 26s 6d; long clear middles, light, 25s 3d; long clear middles, heavy, 25s; short clear middles, heavy, 25s; clear bellies, 27s 6d. Shoulders, square, 25s 6d. Lard, prime western, 21s 3d.

CHEESE—American, finest white and colored, 39s 6d.

TALLOW—Prime city, 17s 3d.

OILS—Cottonseed, Liverpool refined, steady, 16s. Turpentine spirits, firm, 20s 6d. Rosin, common, steady, 4s 6d.

St. Louis Live Stock.

ST. LOUIS, July 24.—CATTLE—Receipts, 3,600 head; shipments, 1,000 head; market steady for natives; no Texans received; good to best shipping steers, $4.55@5.00; bulk of sales, $4.35@4.75; dressed beef and butcher steers, $3.85@4.70; bulk of sales, $4.15@4.60; steers under 1,000 pounds, $3.60@4.35; bulk of sales, $3.85@4.00; stockers and feeders, $2.75@4.10; bulk of sales, $3.40@3.75; cows and heifers, $2.00@4.10; bulk of cows, $2.50@3.00; bulls, $2.00@3.50; Texas and Indian steers, grasses, $2.85@4.00; bulk of sales at about $3.65; cows and heifers, $2.40@3.15.

HOGS—Receipts, 10,000 head; shipments, 4,000 head; market steady on lights, strong to 5c higher on others; light, $3.55@3.60; mixed, $3.55@3.55; heavy, $3.50@3.60.

SHEEP—Receipts, 2,000 head; shipments, 300 head; market steady; native muttons, $2.90@3.75; culls and bucks, $1.40@3.00; Texas sheep, $3.00@3.75; lambs, $4.00@5.15.

Kansas City Markets.

KANSAS CITY, July 24.—WHEAT—Market active, about 1c under yesterday's close; No. 2 hard, 67@68c; No. 3, 65½@66½c; No. 4, 63@65c; No. 2 red, 70@70½c; No. 3, 68c; No. 4, 65@66c.

CORN—Market firm; No. 2 mixed, 22½@22c.

OATS—Market very slow, about 1c lower; No. 2 white, 20½c.

RYE—No. 2, 35c.

HAY—Demand good; prices firm and unchanged; new prairie, $5.00.

BUTTER—Market dull and slightly lower; creamery, 14@15c; dairy, 8@16c.

EGGS—Market weak at 6c.

Receipts: Wheat, 120,000 bu; corn, 21,000 bu.; oats, 22,000 bu.

Shipments: Wheat, 44,400 bu.; corn, 27,900 bu.; oats, 1,000 bu.

New York Dry Goods Market.

NEW YORK, July 24.—The week in the dry goods market has been notably unsatisfactory. Such advantages as might have accrued from the opening of lines of woolen goods at advanced prices have been delayed by the tariff bill, and they have been counteracted by the far exceeding dullness of the market for cotton goods in all grades. In staple cottons, particularly, the week has been almost a blank one. Sales have been very light and were at prices which sellers will not make public. Bleached and brown goods lines, coarse colored cottons and prints have shown no improvement through the week. In print cloths the week has been a very light one. The only quotation for extras is still 2½c for futures, but the sales were all last nil.

Philadelphia Produce Market.

PHILADELPHIA, July 24.—BUTTER—Steady; fancy western creamery, 15c.

EGGS—Firm; fresh nearby and western, 11@12c.

CHEESE—Unchanged.

COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL

Wheat Closes Strong at an Advance of a Cent and a Half.

BULL INFLUENCES ARE NOT MADE KNOWN

Reported Hot Winds in the Southwest Give an Independent Buoyancy to Corn, Which Gains Nearly a Cent.

CHICAGO, July 24.—Wheat closed strong today at an advance of 1½ cents. There was nothing made public that suggested any radical change in the situation, although strenuous claims were made of serious damage to the spring wheat crop by excessive rains. Corn was strong throughout on hot winds west and light country offerings, gaining ⅞c. Oats also improved ⅝c. Provisions were dull, but sympathized with the strength in the cereals and gained 2½@10c.

The Liverpool market declined 1¼d for the September future, but quoted spot unchanged. That showing a much smaller decline than had taken place here on the two preceding days revived the drooping spirits of the bull crowd and was the chief reason for the first spurt in price. Continental houses were good buyers of December wheat. A number of complaints were received, however, from the northwest of excessive moisture injuring wheat and of its having flooded lands. Chicago receipts were 121 cars, of which 115 were new, and 112,000 bu. were inspected out of store. A year ago 164 carloads were inspected, 159 of which were new. Minneapolis and Duluth received today 442 cars against 209 the corresponding week of the year before. The clearances of wheat and flour from both coasts for the week were equal to 1,758,828 bu., or about 650,000 bu. more than last week and compared with 3,073,000 bu. on the similar week of the previous year. The world's shipments to Europe for the week were estimated at 4,400 bu. The shipments from principal Atlantic ports were liberal, being equal to 570,000 bu., 480,000 bu. of which were in the raw grain. Wheat opened with a very general demand for September at a shade over the price at which it closed yesterday. Offerings were light to begin with, and in five minutes or so it had added 1⅝c to the lowest figures made around the start, and in five minutes more it was down again to the original bottom price. In another five minutes it had dropped ¼c more. The figures were 71⅝c and 71½c at the start. The first buying was very general among commission houses, local speculators and scalpers, but the buying rush quickly subsided and a bear raid brought a smart reaction from 71⅝c for September to 71¼c, which proved to be the low point of the session. The decline to 71¼c referred to did not last long. There was a quick rally to 71½c, and a leisurely advance of ¼c more, followed by a few swift bounds that took it to 72⅝c, reacted to 72¼c, and took another spurt to 72⅞c. After that the bears were too much demoralized to do anything. The sudden rise had what seemed a very inadequate explanation for so unanimous a buying fever as accompanied it. The house that has recently figured so prominently as the leading commission house for the bulls had an order for, it was said, not over 200,000 bu., but coming at a moment when a majority of the crowd were short, the prestige of the house was such that sellers disappeared for a time, and although the price was 7⅛c when they got their order, it was up to 72¼c before they were able to fill more than 75,000 bu. of it. The scare lasted until the close of the session and the market touched 72⅞c. September opened 1⅝c higher at 71½c, sold to between 71¼ @72c; closing at 72⅜@72½c.

The market for corn was excited throughout. Crop damage talks, which had almost died out, was revived early in the day, and telegrams poured in from the southwest relative to hot winds and scorched crops. Offerings of country shippers were not up to expectations, and shorts busied themselves in spreading the feeling that the more favorable weather predictions for Sunday would fail to materialize. The out inspection was 1,095,000 bu., Argentina shipped 1,541,000 bu., against 1,500,000 bu. last year. The reports from the southwest were accompanied by substantial backing in the shape of buying orders, and prices advanced steadily until the closing. September corn opened ¼c higher, at 26⅝c, sold at 26⅞c, advanced to 27⅝@27¾c, closing a shade from the top.

The strength of the corn market rather tended to trip up the short element on oats, and their liberal buying, which was the substance of the reaction taken by them, caused an independently firm feeling in the pit. Selling was not very urgent, yet sufficient to attend to all orders without restricting business. September opened from 17½c to 17¾c, sold to 17⅝c and was offered at the top price at the close, which shows a gain of ¾@⅞c since yesterday. The cash prices held steady. Receipts were 275 cars and shipments 28,000 bu.

Provisions were firm, supported by the run of hogs proving no larger than had been looked for, and the strength of the corn market. The result of the day's trading, which was small, was a 2½c rise in pork, 7½c in lard and 5c in ribs. September pork closed at $7.65; lard, $4.17½@4.20; ribs, $4.60.

Estimated receipts for Monday: Wheat, 207 cars; corn, 725 cars; oats, 300 cars; hogs, 33,000 cars.

Leading future range as follows:

Articles.	Open.	High.	Low.	Close.	Yesd'y.
*Wheat—					
July	75⅝	76⅝	75	76⅛@⅜	75⅝
Sept.	71⅝	73	71⅛	72⅝	71⅛@⅜
Dec.	72⅝	73⅝	72½	73⅝	72½
*Corn—					
July	.....	.....	.....	26¼	26¼
Sept.	26⅛	27⅝	26⅝	27⅝	26⅝
Dec.	27⅝	28⅝	27⅛	28⅝	27⅝
May	30⅝	31¼	30⅝	31¼	.....
*Oats—					
July	.....	.....	.....	17¼	17
Sept.	17⅝	17⅝	17⅛	17⅝	17⅛@⅜
Dec.	18⅝	18⅝	18⅛	18⅝	.....
May	20⅝	20⅝	20⅛	20⅝	20⅝
Pork—					
July	.....	.....	.....	7 70	7 57½
Sept.	7 75	7 77½	7 75	7 75	7 72½
Lard—					
Sept.	4 12½	4 20	4 12½	4 17½	4 10
Oct.	4 17½	4 22½	4 17½	4 22½	4 15
Dec.	4 25	4 27½	4 25	4 27½	.....
Sh't Ribs—					
July	.....	.....	.....	4 57½	.....
Sept.	4 52½	4 60	4 52½	4 60	4 50
Oct.	4 57½	4 65	4 57½	4 62½	4 55

*No. 2.

Cash quotations were as follows:

FLOUR—Firm; winter patents, $4.00@4.40; winter straights, $4.40@4.50; spring specials, $4.40; spring patents, $3.80@4.10; spring straights, $3.60@3.70.

WHEAT—No. 2 spring,