CROP OF ARGENTINA

Prospects Are Improving in South American Country.

WEATHER MORE FAVORABLE

Foreign Markets That Draw Supplies From Here Show No Uneasiness Over the Present Situation.

Argentine weather and crop conditions have for some time been important influences in the speculative markets of this country, and in a somewhat lessened way in those of Europe. Unsettled weather has prevailed in the South American republic for several weeks, the periods of fine weather being few and far between, besides short-lived. Claims of damage and denials of serious damage have been made, besides assertions that damage was only to the quality, and not to the quantity.

The fact that a crop reporter has been sent to the Argentine from this country to investigate and report the crop condition, and that this person was employed by a Minneapolis grain house that figured prominently in the bull scare in the Spring wheat crop, which reports have been proven by the Government's crop statements to have been grossly exaggerated, says the Modern Miller, made the trade of both America and Europe discredit the advices he cabled to his house. However, they exerted an influence in domestic centers at times when the market was in a receptive condition for anything of a bullish character. The latest and most reliable cables from the Argentine report the weather improving. One cable read, "Weather clear and fine; wheat harvest operations proceeding favorably." Foreign markets that draw supplies from South American exporting countries evince no uneasiness over the situation there.

The special correspondent of the Northwestern Miller cabled from Buenos Ayres, under date of December 13:

"Prospects are improving. In the south the weather is cold, and some fear of frost is felt."

The exports from Argentina for the first nine months of this year were as follows:

United Kingdom	281,922
United States	.....
France	16,307
Germany	145,440
Belgium	241,512
Italy	3,050
South Africa	17,130
Brazil	149,672
Orders	1,069,496
Sundries	231,576
Totals	2,132,414
9 months 1903	1,018,418
9 months 1902	587,051
9 months 1901	891,421
9 months 1900	1,836,288

Big Wool Contract at Weiser.

WEISER, Idaho, Dec. 20.—(Special.)—One of the largest wool contracts ever made in this county was concluded yesterday by Frank Johnson, of Boise, when he contracted for more than 250,000 pounds of the 1905 wool clip. The contract price was 15½c, 5c per pound advance payment. The wool clip of this county is more than 3,000,000 pounds.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Grain, Flour, Feed, Etc.

The wheat market has taken on a holiday tone, and very little business is being transacted. While prices are nominal, the undertone of the market is firm.

WHEAT—Export values, Walla Walla, 81c; bluestem, 85c; milling, Walla Walla, 86c; bluestem, 88@90c; Valley, 87c; Eastern basis, Walla Walla, $2@2.50; bluestem, 90c.

BARLEY—Feed, $22 per ton; rolled, $23.50@24.50.

OATS—No. 1 white, $1.30@1.32½; gray, $1.35@1.40 per central.

FLOUR—Patents, $4.65@4.85 per barrel; straights, $4.30@4.45; clears, $3.85@4; Valley, $4.10@4.25; Dakota hard wheat, $5.50@7.50; Graham, $3.50@4; whole wheat, $4@4.25; rye flour, local, $4.50; Eastern, $3@3.10.

MILLSTUFFS—Bran, $19 per ton; middlings, $25; shorts, $21; chops, U. S. Mills, $19; linseed dairy food, $18; linseed oilmeal, 1½c per pound.

CEREAL FOODS—Rolled oats, per 90-pound sacks, $6.75; lower grades, $5.75@6.25; oatmeal, steel cut, 50-pound sacks, $8 per barrel; 10-pound sacks, $4.25 per bale; oatmeal (ground), 50-pound sacks, $7.50 per barrel; 10-pound sacks, $4.25 per bale; split peas, $4.50 per 100-pound sack; 25-pound boxes, $1.25; pearl barley, $4 per 100 pounds; 25-pound boxes, $1.25 per box; pastry flour, 10-pound sacks, $2.50 per bale.

HAY—Timothy, $14@16 per ton; clover, $12 @13; grain, $12@13; cheat, $12@13.

Vegetables, Fruit, Etc.

Business was brisk in the fruit and vegetable lines, the demand running largely to citrus fruits, apples and California vegetables. Potatoes continue strong in view of light receipts.

VEGETABLES—Turnips, $1 per sack; carrots, $1; beets, $1.25; parsnips, $1.25; cabbage, 1½c; lettuce, head, 15 c per dozen; parsley, 20c dozen; tomatoes, $1.25 per crate; cauliflower, $1 per dozen; egg plant, 10@15c per pound; celery, 50@75c per dozen; peas, 6@8c per pound; beans, green, 7c; wax, 7c; pumpkins, 1@1½c per pound; peppers, 5c per pound; rhubarb, $1.85 per box.

ONIONS—New, $2@2.15, buyers' prices.

HONEY—$3@3.25 per case.

POTATOES—New Oregon, fancy, 75@90c; common, 60@65c, buyers' price; Merced sweets, 1¼@1½c; new California, 4c per pound.

RAISINS—Loose Muscatels, 4-crown, 7½c; 5-layer Muscatel raisins, 7½c; unbleached seedless Sultanas, 6½c; London layers, 3-crown, whole boxes of 20 pounds, $1.85; 2-crown, $1.75.

DRIED FRUIT—Apples, evaporated, 6@8½c per pound; sundried, sacks or boxes, none; aprikots, 10@11c; peaches, 9@10½c; pears, none; prunes, Italians, 4@6c; French, 2½@3½c; figs, California blacks, 5½c; do white, none; Smyrna, 20c; Fard dates, 6c; plums, pitted, 6c.

DOMESTIC FRUITS—Apples, fancy, $1@1.50; cooking, 60@75c; figs, 55c@$2.50 per box; California, $1.25@1.50; pears, pound, 75@$1; cranberries, $9.50@11 per barrel; persimmons, $1.25 per box; strawberries, $2 per box.

TROPICAL FRUITS—Lemons, fancy, $2.75@3.75; choice, $2.75 per box; oranges, new navels, $2@2.50; mandarins, $2.50 per box; tangerines, $1.50@2 per box; grapefruit, $3@3.50 per box; bananas, 5@5½c per pound; pomegranates, $2.25 per box.

Butter, Eggs, Poultry, Etc.

Receipts of dressed turkeys were good yesterday, and will be large today. The price was steady at 20c to 21c, and it was the opinion on Front street that the quotation during the remainder of the week will be near this figure. Eggs are coming in fairly well, but the strong demand holds prices up. Butter is weak, and city brands are likely soon to go lower.

EGGS—Oregon ranch, 27@27½c; Eastern, 25c.

CHEESE—Full cream twins, 13@13c; Young Americas, 13@13½c.

BUTTER—City creameries: Extra creamery, 30c per pound; fancy creamery, 22½@25c. State creameries: Fancy creamery, 23@27½c; California, fancy creamery, 22@25c; store butter, 12@14c.

POULTRY—Hens, 11@11½c; old hens, 10@10½c; mixed chickens, 9@9½c; old roosters, 7½@8c; do young, 9½@10c; Springs, 13½ to 2-pound, 10½@11c; broilers, 1 to 1½-pound, 7½@10c; dressed chickens, 11@12c; turkeys, live, Spring, 16@17c; do dressed, 19c; do choice, 20@21c; geese, live, 8@9c; do dressed, 10@12½c; ducks, old, $6@6.50; do young, as to size, $7@8; pigeons, $1@1.25.

GAME—Wild geese, $3@3.50; Mallard ducks, $2.50@3; widgeon, $2@2.50; teal, $1.50@2.

Meats and Provisions.

BEEF—Dressed—4@6c per pound.

MUTTON—Dressed, 4½@5½c per pound; lambs, 5½@6c per pound.

HAMS—Ten to 14 pounds, 12½c per pound; 14 to 16 pounds, 12½c; 18 to 20 pounds, 12½c; California (picnic), 9c; cottage ham, 9½c; shoulders, 9c; boiled ham, 21c; boiled picnic ham, boneless, 14c.

VEAL—Dressed, 100 to 125, 7@7½c per pound; 125 to 200, 5@6c; 200 and up, 3½@4c.

PORK — Dressed, 100to 150,6@6½c per pound; 150 and up, 5½@6c.

BACON—Fancy breakfast, 18c per pound; standard breakfast, 17c; choice, 15c; English breakfast, 11to 14 pounds, 14c; peach bacon, 13c.

SAUSAGE — Portland ham, 12½c per pound; minced ham, 10c; Summer, choice dry, 17½c; bologna, long, 5½c; wienerwurst, 8c; liver, 5c; pork, 9c; blood, 5c; headcheese, 12½c; bologna sausage, link, 4½c.

DRY SALTED MEATS—Regular short clears, 10c salt, 11c smoked; clear backs, 9¾c salt, 10¾c smoked; Oregon export, 20 to 25 pounds, average, 10½c salt, 11½c smoked; Union butts, 16 to 18 pounds, average, 8c salt, 9c smoked.

PICKLED GOODS—Pickled pigs' feet, ½-barrels, $5; ¼-barrels, $2.75; 15-pound kit, $1.25; pickled tripe, ½-barrels, $5; ¼-barrels, $2.75; 15pound kit, $1.25; pickled pigs' tongues, ½-barrels, $6; ¼-barrels, $3; 15-pound kit, $1.50; pickled lambs' tongues, ½-barrels, $9; ¼-barrels, $5.50; 15-pound kits, $2.75.

LARD—Kettle-rendered: Tierces, 9½c; tubs, 10c; 50s, 10c; 20s, 10½c; 10s, 10½c; 5s, 10¾c. Standard pure: Tierces, 8c; tubs, 8½c; 50s, 8½c; 20s, 8¾c; 10s, 9¼c; 5s, 9½c. Compound: Tierces, 6½c; tubs, 6¾c; 50s, 6¾c; 10s, 7¼c; 5s, 7¾c.

Groceries, Nuts, Etc.

COFFEE—Mocha, 28@28c; Java, ordinary, 16@20c; Costa Rica, fancy, 18@20c; good, 16@18c; ordinary, 10@12c per pound; Columbia roast, cases, 100s, $13; 50s, $19.25; Arbuckle, $15.38; Lion, $15.38.

RICE—Imperial Japan, No. 1, $5.87½; Southern Japan, $3.50; Carolina, 4½@6c; brokenhead, 2¾c.

SALMON—Columbia River, 1-pound talls, $1.75 per dozen; 2-pound talls, $2.40; 1-pound flat, $1.85; fancy, 1-pound flats, $1.80; ½-pound flats, $1.10; Alaska pink, 1-pound talls, 85c; red, 1-pound talls, $1.45; sockeyes, 1-pound talls, $1.75; 1-pound flats, $1.85.

SUGAR—Back basis, 100 pounds: Cube, $6.50; powdered, $6.25; dry granulated, $6.15; extra C, $5.65; golden C, $5.55; fruit sugar, $6.15; advance over sack basis as follows: Barrels, 10c; half barrels, 25c; boxes, 50c per 100 pounds. (Terms: On remittance within 15 days, deduct ¼c per pound; if later than 15 days and within 30 days, deduct ⅛c per pound; no discount after 30 days.) Beet sugar granulated, $6.05 per 100 pounds; maple sugar, 15@18c per pound.

SALT—California, $9.50 per ton; $1.30 per bale; Liverpool, 50s, $15.50; 100s, $15; 200s, $14.50; half ground, 100s, $5.25; 50s, $5.75.

NUTS—Walnuts, 13½c per pound by sack, 1c extra for less than sack; Brazil nuts, 15c; filberts, 14c; pecans, jumbos, 14c; extra large, 15c; almonds, I. X. L., 16½c; chestnuts, Italians, 15c; Ohio, $4.50 per 25-pound drum; peanuts, raw, 7½c per pound; roasted, 9c; pinenuts, 10@12½c; hickory nuts, 7c; cocoanuts, $5@6c per dozen.

BEANS—Small white, 9c; large white, 3¾c; pink, 3¾c; bayou, 3¾c; Lima, 5½c.

Hops, Wool, Hides, Etc.

HOPS—Choice, 29@30c; prime, 27@28c per pound.

WOOL—Valley, 19@20c per pound; Eastern Oregon, 10@17c; mohair, 25@26c per pound for choice.

HIDES—Dry hides, No. 1, 16 pounds and up, 15@15½c per pound; dry kip, No. 1, 8 to 16 pounds, 12c; dry calf, No. 1, under 8 pounds, 16c; dry, salted bulls and stags, one-third less than dry, flint; salted hides, steers, pound, 7@8c; under 50 pounds and cows, 6½@7c; stags and bulls, sound, 4@4½c; kip, sound, 15 to 20 pounds, 7c; under 15 pounds, 5c; green (unsalted), 1c per pound less; culls, 1c per pound; horse hides, salted, $1.50@2 each; dry, $1@1.50 each; colts' hides, 25@50c each; goatskins, common, 10@15c each; Angora, with wool on, 25c@$1.

TALLOW—Prime, per pound, 4@5c; No. 1 and grease, 2½@3c.

Oils.

GASOLINE—Stove gasoline, cases, 24½c; iron barrels, 18c; 86 degrees gasoline, cases, 32c; iron barrels or drums, 26c.

COAL OIL—Cases, 21½c; iron barrels, 16c; wood barrels, none; 62 degrees, cases, 22c; barrels, 15½c. Washington State test burning oils, except headlight, ⅛c per gallon higher.

LINSEED OIL—Raw, barrels, 54c; cases, 59c. Boiled: Barrels, 56c; cases, 61c. Ons cent less in 250-gallon lots.

TURPENTINE—Cases, 85c; barrels, 81c.

WHITE LEAD—Ton lots, 7½c; 500-pound, 7¾c; less than 500-pound lots, 8c.

LIVESTOCK MARKET.

Prices at Portland Union Stockyards Yesterday.

Receipts at the Portland Union Stockyards yesterday were 232 cattle, 287 sheep and 69 hogs. The following prices were quoted at the yards:

CATTLE—Best steers, $3.25@3.50; medium, $2.75@3; cows, $2@2.50.

HOGS—Best large, fat hogs, $5.25; light hogs, $4.25@4.75.

SHEEP—Best Eastern Oregon and Valley, $3.25@3.50; lambs, $3.25.

EASTERN LIVESTOCK.

Prices Current in Chicago, Kansas City and Omaha.

CHICAGO, Dec. 20.—Cattle—Receipts, 6000. Market, steady; good to prime steers, $5@7; poor to medium, $2.75@4.25; stockers and feeders, $2@4.15; cows, $2@4; calves, $3@6.50; heifers, $1.75@4.15; canners, $1@2.35; bulls, $2@4.

Hogs—Receipts today, 28,000. Market, steady to lower; mixed and butchers, $4.40@4.65; good to choice heavy, $4.60@4.72½; light, $4.30@4.35; rough heavy, $4.35@4.50; bulk of sales, $4.50@4.65.

Sheep—Receipts, 22,000; sheep weak to 10c lower; lambs, 10@15c lower; good to choice wethers, $4.40@5; fair to choice mixed, $3.50 @4.50; Western sheep, $3@5.15; native lambs, $4.25@6.75; Western lambs, $5.50@6.65.

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 20.—Cattle—Receipts 20,000; steady. Native steers, $3.30@6.50; native cows and heifers, $1.75@5.00; stockers and feeders, $2.50@4.00; bulls, $2.00@4.00; calves, $3.00@6.50; Western steers, $3.00@5.00; Western cows, $1.75@3.50.

Hogs—Receipts 12,000; steady. Bulk, $4.45@4.65; heavy, $4.65@4.70; packers, $4.50@4.65; pigs and lights, $4.00@4.60.

Sheep—Receipts 5000; strong to 10c higher. Muttons, $4.00@5.25; lambs, $5.00@6.65; range wethers, $4.00@5.60; ewes, $3.75@4.50.

SEATTLE PRODUCE MARKET.

Jobbing Quotations of the Puget Sound City.

SEATTLE, Wash., Dec. 20.—(Special.)—The following are today's produce quotations in this city:

WHEAT—Club, 88c; bluestem, 91c.

OATS—White, per ton, $28@29; gray, per ton, $26@28.

BARLEY—Feed, per ton, $23@24.

HAY—Timothy, per ton, $19@20; clover, per ton, $14@15; grain, per ton, $14@15.

POTATOES—Fancy, per ton, $20@22.

ONIONS—Fancy, per cwt., $2.50@2.75.

BUTTER—Fancy, creamery, 30@32c; ranch, 20@30c.

EGGS—Best ranch, per dozen, 36c.

APPLES—Fancy, per box, $1@1.25.

Mining Stocks.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 20.—Official closing quotations for mining stocks today were as follows:

Ajax	$ .04	Hale & Norcross	$1.00
Andes	.16	Justice	.08
Belcher	.17	Mexican	1.00
Best & Belcher	.85	Ophir	3.15
Bullion	.16	Overman	.06
Caledonia	.55	Potosi	.15
Challenge Con.	.17	Savage	.11
Choller	.11	Seg. Belcher	.03
Confidence	.70	Sierra Nevada	.58
Con. Cal. & Va.	1.40	Silver Hill	.58
Con. Imperial	.01	Union Con.	.44
Crown Point	.13	Utah Con.	.03
Exchequer	.45	Yellow Jacket	.15
Gould & Curry	.16		

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—Closing quotations:

Adams Con.	$ .20	Little Chief	$ .05
Alice	.60	Ontario	5.75
Breece	.15	Ophir	1.00
Brunswick Con.	.09	Phoenix	.08
Comstock Tun.	.08	Potosi	.09
Con. Cal. & Va.	1.30	Savage	.19
Horn Silver	1.55	Sierra Nevada	.35
Iron Silver	1.90	Small Hopes	.26
Leadville Con.	.02	Standard	2.00

BOSTON, Dec. 20.—Closing quotations:

Adventure	$ 3.50	Mohawk	$ 49.50
Allouez	17.75	Mont. C. & C.t	5.13
Amalgamated	67.75	Old Dominion	25.50
Atlantic	16.00	Osceola	92.00
Bingham	34.50	Quincy	102.00
Cal. & Hecla	651.00	Shannon	8.88
Centennial	24.50	Tamarack	118.00
Copper Range	65.25	Parrot	26.00
Daly West	12.00	Trinity	8.75
Dominion Coal	66.00	U. S. Mining	24.38
Franklin	11.00	U. S. Oil	19.75
Grancy	5.00	Utah	46.00
Isle Royale	26.00	Victoria	4.25
Mass. Mining	8.50	Winona	11.50
Michigan	9.00	Wolverine	104.00

Dried Fruit at New York.

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—The market for evaporated apples is steadily held, with demand improving; prime, 4½@4¾c; choice, 5@5½c; fancy, 6@6½c.

Prunes are selling in small lots, but the undertone is easy, with quotations ranging from 2c to 5¾c, according to grade.

Apricots remain firm and unchanged. Choice are quoted at 10c; extra choice, 10½@11c; fancy, 11½@15c.

Peaches are in moderate jobbing demand, with desirable sizes scarce. Choice are quoted at 9½c; extra choice, 10½@10¾c; fancy, 11½ @12c.

New York Cotton Market.

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—Cotton—Futures opened easy at a decline of 8@10 points, and closed steady at a net loss of 22@24 points.

STOCKS OFFERED LIGHTLY

ONLY ELEMENT OF STRENGTH IN NEW YORK MARKET.

Dullness of Trading Is Profound at Times—Large Operators Withdrawn From Exchange.

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—The strength on today's dull market was due to the light offerings of stocks. The dullness was really profound at times. The total for the day, although only about 500,000 shares, conveys no adequate idea of the dullness, as this business, small as it was, was largely concentrated in a few active stocks. The operators on a large scale, who have made the great markets of the recent past, seem to have withdrawn by common consent, and to have left the dealings to a smaller, but still progressive class. There is a pretty general agreement that revived activity is not to be looked for until after the holiday period. The large energies and resources devoted to the great annual settlements divert much from the stock market. This factor seems less operative than usual this year, owing to the abundance of money offerings in the loan market. The call loan rate seems to begin to stiffen toward the end of the year, and little is done at as high as 2 per cent. The loans are made on time for periods up to six months, but at 3½ and 3¾ per cent, and there is only a languid demand even at these rates. Pressure continues upon the urgent supply, and also upon that of London, the average being in favor of Berlin.

Along with the general agreement in the probability of dull trading until New Years are expressions of confidence in higher prices when the market does become active again. These expressions of confidence influence the small buying such as was in evidence today. Attention is alert also to discover signs of the investment buying which it is an old tradition to look for in Wall street during December. This is supposed to come from capitalists who expect to receive dividends and interest at the first of the year and will see an advantage in securing their desired holdings before others who are seeking the same ends. The picture of capitalists of resources sitting down to await the immediate receipt of their increment of wealth for new outlays does not appeal for its great verisimilitude to all demands.

There was some realizing in the United States Steel stocks on the additional advances in prices of products. Southern Pacific moved in response to rumors of a coming dividend. Foreign exchange was easier, but New York exchange at Chicago receded to near par. Gains were not fully retained, but the closing was firm.

Bonds were firm. Total sales, par value, $3,320,000. United States bonds were unchanged on call.

CLOSING STOCK QUOTATIONS.

	Sales.	High.	Low.	Closing bid.
Atchison	6,500	85¾	84¾	85⅝
do preferred	2,300	103	102	102½
Baltimore & Ohio	9,100	100⅝	99⅞	100⅛
do preferred	.....	.....	.....	95½
Canadian Pacific	1,500	131	130	130⅝
Central of N. J.	700	190	190	190
Chesapeake & Ohio	1,400	48½	48	48⅛
Chicago & Alton	1,400	43¾	41	42½
do preferred	.....	.....	.....	75
Chi. Great Western	2,800	22⅝	22½	22½
Chi. & Northwestern	1,000	208	206⅝	207
Chi., Mil. & St. Paul	9,900	170⅝	169½	170⅛
do preferred	.....	.....	.....	182
Chi. Term. & Trans.	100	11⅞	11⅞	12⅛
do preferred	1,200	22	22	22
C., C., C. & St. L.	600	91	90½	90½
Colorado Southern	900	23⅞	23½	23⅛
do 1st preferred	1,900	59⅞	58½	59
do 2d preferred	1,400	38⅝	38	38
Delaware & Hudson	5,600	185⅝	185⅛	185¼
Del., Lack. & West.	.....	.....	.....	350
Denver & Rio Grande	100	31⅞	31⅞	31⅞
do preferred	1,900	88⅞	88⅛	88⅞
Erie	15,200	37⅝	37	37⅝
do 1st preferred	48,00	75⅛	74½	75
do 2d preferred	3,200	56⅛	55¼	56
Hocking Valley	.....	.....	.....	90½
do preferred	400	93	92⅞	92½
Illinois Central	1,200	155	154½	154⅝
Iowa Central	300	29¼	29	28⅝
do preferred	300	56¼	56	55⅝
Kan. City Southern	300	29	28⅝	28⅝
do preferred	500	63	63	63
Louisville & Nashv.	3,400	140⅝	140¼	140⅝
Manhattan L.	100	163½	162½	162
Metrop. Securities	1,700	80½	79	79
Metropolitan St. Ry.	5,100	123½	122	121⅞
Mexican Central	1,100	21½	20⅝	20⅝
Minn. & St. Louis	.....	.....	.....	92
M., St. P. & S. S. M.	1,000	90½	90	90½
do preferred	200	146⅝	146⅝	146½
Missouri Pacific	3,900	109½	108½	108⅝
Mo., Kan. & Texas	800	31	30⅝	30½
do preferred	200	63	62	62
National of Mex. pfd.	.....	.....	.....	80⅝
New York Central	27,000	142⅝	140½	141⅞
Norfolk & Western	7,500	79¼	78⅝	79
do preferred	.....	.....	.....	92
Ontario & Western	1,900	44	43¼	43⅝
Pennsylvania	42,100	137⅞	136⅝	137⅝
P., C., C. & St. L.	.....	.....	.....	100
Reading	41,600	79⅞	78½	78⅝
do 1st preferred	300	90½	90½	89½
do 2d preferred	200	81⅝	81⅝	81⅛
Rock Island Co.	7,600	33⅝	33⅛	33⅝
do preferred	500	84½	83½	83⅝
St. L. & S. F. 2d pfd.	200	67⅝	67½	67½
St. L. Southwestern	400	25	24⅞	24⅞
do preferred	.....	.....	.....	57½
Southern Pacific	64,700	64½	61⅞	64⅝
do preferred	2,700	118⅝	118⅛	118½
Southern Railway	6,200	35	34⅛	34⅝
do preferred	400	96⅝	96⅛	96⅝
Texas & Pacific	100	34⅝	34⅝	34⅝
Toledo, St. L. & W.	200	36	35⅝	35½
do preferred	500	53⅝	52⅝	53¼
Union Pacific	39,500	111¼	110	110⅝
do preferred	1,400	95⅝	95⅛	95½
Wabash	300	22	22	22
do preferred	100	43½	43½	43¼
Wheeling & L. Erie	100	19¼	19¼	18⅝
Wisconsin Central	.....	.....	.....	21½
do preferred	400	45⅝	45½	45½
Express companies—				
Adams	.....	.....	.....	236
American	100	209⅝	209⅝	209
United States	.....	.....	.....	119
Wells-Fargo	.....	.....	.....	237
Miscellaneous—				
Amalgamated Copper	17,400	68	66⅝	67⅝
Amer. Car & Foundry	10,700	35¼	33	35
do preferred	1,200	93½	93½	93⅛
American Cotton Oil	100	36¼	36¼	36
do preferred	.....	.....	.....	93
American Ice	700	6½	6½	6½
do preferred	500	38½	38¼	38½
American Linseed Oil	.....	.....	.....	15½
do preferred	.....	.....	.....	27
American Locomotive	3,600	34½	32½	34⅝
do preferred	100	102½	102½	102⅝
Amer. Sm. & Refining	17,000	82	79⅝	81¼
do preferred	400	115⅝	113½	113
Amer. Sugar Refining	7,500	141⅝	140⅝	141⅝
Anaconda Mining Co.	.....	.....	.....	101
Brooklyn Rapid Transit	2,900	61½	61	60⅝
Colorado Fuel & Iron	1,600	46½	46	46½
Consolidated Gas	600	201⅝	201½	201⅝
Corn Products	1,000	21⅛	21⅛	21⅛
do preferred	100	79	79	78⅝
Distillers' Securities	400	38	37⅝	37½
General Electric	400	186½	186½	185½
International Paper	1,500	25½	25	24⅝
do preferred	300	78	77½	77½
*International Pump	.....	.....	.....	32
do preferred	.....	.....	.....	85
National Lead	400	23⅝	23½	23⅝
North American	.....	.....	.....	101
Pacific Mail	400	43½	42⅝	43½
People's Gas	1,800	107½	106⅝	107½
Pressed Steel Car	800	30½	29⅝	30½
do preferred	100	90½	90½	90⅝
Pullman Palace Car	.....	.....	.....	264
Republic Steel	200	16½	16½	16⅝
do preferred	700	68½	68½	68
Rubber Goods	300	26⅝	26	26⅛
do preferred	100	94	94	94
Tenn. Coal & Iron	4,300	72½	71⅝	71½
U. S. Leather	29,000	14½	13⅝	14½
do preferred	10,000	101½	101	101⅝
U. S. Realty	100	80½	80½	79½
U. S. Rubber	.....	.....	.....	22
do preferred	500	94	93½	93½
U. S. Steel	15,400	29⅝	29¼	29⅝
do preferred	40,100	92⅝	92	92½
Westinghouse Elec.	300	183½	183	182½
Western Union	700	92⅝	92⅝	92⅝

Total sales for the day, 558,200 shares.

*Ex dividend.

BONDS.

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—Closing quotations:

U. S. ref. 2s reg.	104⅛	C. & N. W. C. 7s	124
do coupon	104⅛	D. & R. G. 4s	102
U. S. 3s reg.	104⅛	N. Y. Cent. 1sts	101
do coupon	104⅛	Nor. Pacific 3s	75⅝
U. S. new 4s reg.	130⅝	do 4s	105⅝
do coupon	131	So. Pacific 4s	94
U. S. old 4s reg.	105⅝	Union Pacific 4s	106⅛
do coupon	106⅝	Wis. Central 4s	93
Atchison Adj 4s	94⅛		

Stocks at London.

LONDON, Dec. 20.—Consols for money, 88 1-16; consols for account, 88 13-16.

Anaconda	5⅛	Nor. & Western	80⅝
Atchison	86⅝	do preferred	95
do preferred	105⅛	Ont. & Western	44⅝
Balt. & Ohio	102⅝	Pennsylvania	70⅛
Can. Pacific	134⅝	Rand Mines	11⅛
Ches. & Ohio	49⅛	Reading	40⅛
C. Gt. Western	23⅛	do 1st pref	46⅝
C., M. & St. P.	174⅛	do 2d pref	41½
DeBeers	18	So. Railway	35⅝
D. & R. G.	31⅝	do preferred	98⅛
do preferred	90⅛	So. Pacific	63⅝
Erie	30⅛	Union Pacific	123
do 1st pref	76⅝	do preferred	87⅛
do 2d pref	56⅝	U. S. Steel	29⅝
Illinois Central	158⅝	do preferred	94⅛
L. & N.	134	Wabash	22⅛
M., K. & T.	31⅝	do preferred	44⅛
N. Y. Central	144⅛	Spanish 4s	89⅝

Money, Exchange, Etc.

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—Money on call, steady, 2½@3 per cent; closing bid, 2¾@4 per cent; asked, 3 per cent. Time loans, easy and dull; 60 and 90 days and six months, 3½@3¾ per cent. Prime mercantile paper, 3¾@4 per cent.

Sterling exchange, easier, with actual business in bankers' bills at $4.8735@4.8740 for demand and at $4.8465@4.8470 for 60-day bills. Posted rates, $4.85½@4.88. Commercial bills, $4.84¾.

Bar silver, 61c.

Mexican dollars, 45½c.

Bonds—Government, steady; railroad, firm.

LONDON, Dec. 20.—Bar silver, steady, 27¼d per ounce.

Money, 2½@3 per cent.

The rate of discount in the open market for short bills is 2 15-16@3 per cent; three months' bills, 2 15-16@3 per cent.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 20.—Silver bars, 61c.

Mexican dollars, 51c.

Drafts—Sight, 2½c; telegraph, 5c.

Sterling on London, 60 days, $4.84¾; sight, $4.87¾.

Bank Clearings.

	Clearings.	Balances.
Portland	$711,861	$129,251
Seattle	741,375	169,122
Tacoma	539,615	46,917
Spokane	437,720	61,604

Daily Treasury Statement.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—Today's Treasury statement shows:

Available cash balance	$143,871,377
Gold	84,412,425

SAN FRANCISCO MARKETS.

Most Activity Is Shown in the Apple Trade.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 20.—(Special.)—Most of the local markets feel the approaching holidays. Outside of a few lines, business is quieting down. Unusually cold weather also checked trade in fruits. Apples showed the most activity. Receipts were lighter. Good medium and fancy grades are in steady demand at well-maintained prices. The market for Northern apples is largely in control of one firm, and it is well protected. Oranges showed a little more movement at unchanged prices. Three carloads arrived. Other citrus fruits were unchanged.

The market for potatoes and onions is largely of a holiday character. Leading dealers do not expect much change until after New Year's. Fancy grades of both are in light supply, and prices steady. Oregon potatoes and onions brought by the Columbia are not yet unloaded, as the steamer had to go to the seawall to discharge grain. Garden vegetables were in lighter supply and firm for choice offerings.

The grain market was much quieter. Spot prices for all leading cereals were firm, but futures were easier, notably May wheat, which had a sharp decline following Chicago. Choice feed barley and oats were strong. Feedstuffs were firm. Hay was quiet.

Butter was quieter, with some dealers shading prices. Cheese was easy. Eggs were firmer for selected. Receipts, 20,000 pounds butter, 32,000 pounds cheese, 14,000 dozen eggs.

Dressed turkeys were in more demand.

VEGETABLES—Garlic, 5@7c; green peas, 4 @6c; string beans, 8@10c; tomatoes, $1.25@ 2.25; egg plant, 6@7c.

POULTRY—Turkey gobblers, 18@20c; roosters, old, $4@4.50; do young, $5@6; broilers, small, $2.50@3; large, $3@3.50; fryers, $4.50@ 6; hens, $4@6; ducks, old, $5@5.50; do young, $3.50@5.50.

CHEESE—Young America, 12½@13½c; Eastern, 13@15c.

BUTTER—Fancy creamery, 25c; creamery seconds, 20c; fancy dairy, 19c; dairy seconds, 17c.

EGGS—Store, 27½@30c; fancy ranch, 40c.

WOOL—Lambs', 16@18c.

HAY—Wheat, $10@14; wheat and oats, $10@ 13.50; barley, $9@11; alfalfa, $9@11.50; clover, $7@9; stock, $5@7; straw, 40@65c.

MILLFEED—Bran, $18@19; middlings, $25@ 28.

HOPS—1904, 26@28c.

FRUIT—Apples, choice, $1.25; do common, 50c; bananas, $1@3; Mexican limes, $4; California lemons, choice, $2.75; do common, $1; oranges, navels, $1@2; pineapples, $1.50@3.50.

POTATOES—Early Rose, $1.10@1.20; River Burbanks, 40@60c; River reds, 60@65c; Salinas Burbanks, $1@1.40; sweets, 60@85c; Oregon Burbanks, 85c@$1.10.

RECEIPTS — Flour, 16,348 quarter sacks; wheat, 31,868 centals; barley, 3600 centals; oats, 3300 centals; do Oregon, 900 centals; beans, 1900 sacks; corn, 300 centals; potatoes, 6745 sacks; bran, 3267 sacks; middlings, 20 sacks; hay, 140 tons; wool, 60 bales; hides, 104.

Wool Markets.

BOSTON, Dec. 20.—The little demand for wool now in evidence in the wool market is principally for lots of scoured wool, especially in supers and wools of that grade. Prices are steady. The general opinion is that the available supply of domestic wool in the market here