WOOL SALES DAYS

Schedule Prepared for Eastern Oregon Season.

AT PENDLETON ON MAY 24

Some Contracting Done at Arlington at Prices 25 Per Cent Better Than Last Year's—Grain Trade Is Very Quiet.

The dates that have been fixed for the wool sales days in Eastern Oregon for the coming season are as follows:

Pendleton—May, 24, June 4.
Heppner—May 27, June 18, July 1.
Shaniko—June 1, June 15, June 29.
Baker—June 5, June 22.
Ontario—June 7, June 21.
*Joseph—June 24.
Enterprise—June 25.

Changes in the schedule may be made later when the buyers have conferred with the growers' association.

The market continues quiet, so far as contracting is concerned. Aside from the Baker County business previously reported in these columns, about 15,000 fleeces of half-blood and Lincolns have been bought on the sheep's backs at Arlington. The prices paid were not made public, but are understood to be about 25 per cent higher than the prices that prevailed last year. Dealers do not look for any great amount of buying in Oregon between now and shearing time.

Contracting in Montana is going on despite reports of buyers having withdrawn, and it is now estimated that fully 18,000,000 pounds of the state's clip have passed under contract since trading commenced. Practically all Boston firms making a practice of handling Montana wool are among the buyers, though some firms have had more courage than others. It is not known that higher than 20 cents has been paid for any quantity, but no recent business has been accomplished at a lower figure. Growers, however, in many cases are asking several cents more than 20c.

Latest reports in regard to Utah and Nevada are to the effect that between 75 and 90 per cent of the clips of those sections has been contracted. Contracting is also proceeding in Wyoming and other sections, but little if anything is being accomplished in the Central or fleece wool states.

Commenting on the situation the Boston Commercial Bulletin says:

Up to date the grower has practically dictated terms, and the season has started with the tendency in his favor. Much higher prices than last year have prevailed in all sections where important contracts have been consummated, and at present the outlook is more in favor of higher than lower prices. What is to happen when the wools arrive here is a question not easily answered. Dealers, however, have confidence in the situation, realizing that consumption is heavy and increasing and that receipts will come on a bare market.

CHICAGO SLUMP CHECKS LOCAL TRADE

Wheat Business Is Very Quiet, but Prices Are No Lower.

The slump in Eastern and foreign wheat markets put an end to all speculative buying in the local market yesterday. At the same time holders showed no weakness. Prices, therefore, were unchanged. The demand from outside points for all the cereals was light and trading was small.

Shipments for the week are reported by the Merchants Exchange as follows: Argentine shipments, 6,216,000 bushels; last week, 5,768,000 bushels, last year, 6,116,000 bushels. Australia shipments, 1,296,000 bushels; last week, 1,840,000 bushels; last year, 288,000 bushels.

Bid and asked prices were posted at the Board of Trade as follows:

	Bid.	Asked.
WHEAT.		
March	$1.07½	$1.08
April	1.08	1.09
OATS.		
March	1.80	1.82½
April	1.81¾	1.85
BARLEY.		
March	1.41½	1.42
April	1.42	1.43¼

Receipts in cars were reported by the Merchants' Exchange as follows:

	Wheat	Barley	Flour	Oats	Hay
Feb. 27-28	43	5	36	4	10
March 1	38	5	8	6	10
March 2	28	1	12	8	9
March 3	9	3	2	1	2
March 4	21	4	11	3	11
Total last week	205	23	55	17	61

UNUSUAL COURSE OF EGG MARKET.

Prices Advance at a Time When They Usually Decline.

Old-timers in the Front-street egg trade cannot remember a season when egg prices have steadily advanced at this time of year, as they have been doing lately. Most of them attribute the strength of the market to the fact that consumption has outgrown production in this part of the country. Sales were made on the street yesterday at 25 and 26 cents, and in spite of very fair receipts, the supply was entirely cleaned up. As two cars of Oklahoma eggs will be in next week, it is possible the market will react and seasonable prices again prevail. Three or more cars of Eastern eggs are nearly due at Seattle and that is likely to check the Seattle demand on this quarter for eggs. With the Northern drain at an end and an additional imported supply on the local market, present prices can hardly be maintained in the coming week. Some of the experts in the market predict a drop almost to the 20-cent point.

City creameries report a gradual increase in their make of butter, but not sufficient yet to weaken the market in any way.

ORANGE PRICES ARE FIRMER.

Market Is Overstocked With Mexican Tomatoes.

The orange market was well cleaned up and very strong yesterday. Shipments from California will be light from now on. The supply of navels will only last from four to six weeks longer.

A car of celery will arrive this morning. The stock of celery in Southern California is exhausted and only a few cars are left in Northern California.

Shipments of Winningstat cabbage will begin next week and Placentia will begin shipping about April 1.

The market is overstocked with Mexican tomatoes, on which the price has been cut to $2 per crate. Some Florida tomatoes were received yesterday and offered at $4.50.

Advices from Los Angeles are to the effect that the first car of Texas Bermuda onions is on the way to that city. A small part of the shipment will be brought to Portland.

CANNED GOODS AND RETAIL TRADE.

California Fruit Canners' Association Will Not Sell Direct.

PORTLAND, March 5.—(To the Editor.)—Under the date of March 3 there appeared an article in your paper signifying that the California Fruit Canners' Association had made the Retail Grocers' Association a proposition for handling their goods direct and eliminating jobbers in this particular line of goods. In contradiction I wish to state that this report is without foundation. It is true, however, that we are attempting to interest the trade in our own brands and that we are quoting prices to them far below what goods of this quality have heretofore been sold.

I wish to state emphatically that it is not our intention to eliminate the jobber or to sell direct to the trade and that our relations with the jobbers have at all times been friendly. This error is probably caused from the fact that direct representatives of the association have been calling upon the retail trade soliciting orders, but every order taken has been put through whatever jobber the retailer designated and the goods have been sold entirely with this understanding. R. E. M'MURRAY,

Representing California Fruit Canners' Association.

Mohair Quiet in the East.

Mail advices from Boston are that there is practically nothing being done in mohair, domestic stock being as quiet as foreign hair. Prices, however, are holding nominally steady at the following quotations: Combing, 25@28c; carding (choice), 22.25c; carding (average), 17@19c; inferior, 14@16c; Nolls (first combings), 16@18c; Nolls (second combings), 19@20c.

Bank Clearings.

Clearings of the Northwestern cities yesterday were as follows:

	Clearings.	Balances.
Portland	$1,291,361	$146,138
Seattle	1,525,882	145,115
Tacoma	837,016	57,056
Spokane	1,000,327	102,292

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Grain, Flour, Feed, Etc.

BARLEY—Producers' prices: Feed, $30 per ton.

WHEAT—Track prices: Bluestem, $1.16@1.18; club, $1.08; red Russian, $1.01; Valley, $1.05.

FLOUR—Patents, $5.65 per barrel; straights, $4.65; exports, $4.10; Valley, $5.10; graham, 40s, $5.20; whole wheat, quarters, $5.40.

OATS—Producers' prices: No. 1 white, $38 per ton.

MILLSTUFFS—Bran, $26@26.50 per ton; middlings, $33; shorts, $28@30; chop, $20@23; rolled barley, $30@31.

HAY—Timothy, Willamette Valley, $13@15 per ton; Eastern Oregon, $16@18; clover, $12@13; alfalfa, $14.50@15; grain hay, $13@14; cheat, $13.50@14.50; vetch, $13.50@14.50.

Dairy and Country Produce.

BUTTER—City creamery, extras, 36c; fancy outside creamery, 32@35c per lb.; store, 18@20c. (Butter fat prices average 1½ cents per pound under regular butter prices.)

EGGS—Oregon ranch, 25@26c per dozen.

POULTRY—Hens, 15½@16c; broilers, 20@25c; fryers, 18@20c; roosters, old, 11@12c; young, 14@15c; ducks, 20@22c; geese, 10c; turkeys, 18@20c.

CHEESE—Fancy cream twins, 16½@17c per lb.; full cream triplets, 16½@17c; full cream, Young America, 17½@18c.

VEAL—Extra, 10½@11c per pound; ordinary, 7@8c; heavy, 5c.

PORK—Fancy, 9½c per lb.; large, 8@8½c.

Vegetables and Fruit.

FRESH FRUITS—Apples, 75c@$2.75 box.

POTATOES—Buying price, $1.25@1.35 per hundred; sweet potatoes, 2½@3c per pound.

SACK VEGETABLES—Turnips, $1.25 per sack; carrots, $1.25; parsnips, $1.50; beets, $1.50; horseradish, 10c per pound.

TROPICAL FRUITS—Oranges, navels, $2@2.75 per box; lemons, $3@4; grape fruit, $4.25@4.75 per box; bananas, 5½@6c per pound; pineapples, $2.75@3.25 per dozen; tangerines $1.75 per box.

ONIONS—Oregon, buying price, $1.75@1.90 per hundred.

VEGETABLES—Artichokes, 90c doz.; asparagus, 15@20c per pound; beans, 20c; cabbage, 2½@3½c per pound; cauliflower, $2 per crate; celery, $4.50 per crate; cucumbers, $1.75@2.25 per dozen; lettuce, hot house, $1.25@1.50 per box; lettuce, head, 75c@$1 per dozen; onions, 40@50c per dozen; parsley, 30c per box; sprouts, 12½c per lb.; tomatoes, $2@$4.50.

Groceries, Dried Fruits, Etc.

DRIED FRUITS—Apples, 8½c per lb.; peaches, 7½@8c; prunes, Italians, 5¾@6¼c; prunes, French, 4@6c; currants, unwashed, cases, 9½c; currants, washed, cases, 10c; figs, white fancy, 50-lb. boxes, 6¼c; dates, 7¼@7½c.

SALMON—Columbia River, 1-pound talls, $2 per dozen; 2-pound talls, $2.05; 1-pound flats, $2.10; Alaska pink, 1-pound talls, 95c; red, 1-pound talls, $1.45; sockeyes, 1-pound talls, $2.

COFFEE—Mocha, 24@28c; Java, ordinary, 17@20c; Costa Rica, fancy, 18@20c; good, 16@18c; ordinary, 12¾@16c per pound.

RICE—Southern Japan, 4¾c; head, 6¼c@7c.

NUTS—Walnuts, 12@13c per pound by sack; Brazil nuts, 16c; filberts, 15c; pecans, 7c; almonds, 13@14c; chestnuts, Italian, 11c; peanuts, raw, 5¾@6c; pinenuts, 10@12c; hickory nuts, 10c; cocoanuts, 90c per dozen.

SUGAR—Granulated, $5.75; extra C, $5.25; golden C, $5.15; fruit and berry sugar, $5.75; plain bag, $5.65; beet granulated, $5.55; cubes (barrel), $6.15; powdered (barrell), $6. Terms: On remittances within 15 days, deduct ¼c per pound; if later than 15 days and within 30 days, deduct ⅛c per pound. Maple sugar, 15@18c per pound.

SALT—Granulated, $13 per ton, $1.90 per bale; half ground, 100s, $7.50 per ton; 50s, $8 per ton.

BEANS—Small white, 6¼c; large white, 5½c; Lima, 5c; pink, 3¾c; bayou, 4c; Mexican red, 5¾c.

POTATO SUPPLY SMALLER

PRICES ARE ADVANCED TO $32 A TON AT SEATTLE.

Eggs Weaker on Heavy Receipts. Wheat Buyers and Sellers Are Apart.

SEATTLE, Wash., March 5.—(Special.)—Potato prices were advanced to $32 on the street today, an advance of $2 over the previous quotations. Stocks are cleaning up and many shippers have notified commission men that they have now emptied their pits.

A car of bananas reached here today, but so green that retailers refused to touch them. Two cars are said to be due tomorrow.

Apples took a decidedly weak turn, except spitzenbergs and winesaps, which are in limited supply and fairly active demand.

Eggs are weaker and lower on heavy receipts. Most houses were selling at 28 cents, a drop of 2 cents from yesterday. The decline is unwelcomed by several large houses on the street who have high bids out to shippers. Small dealers, however, were strong enough to force values down.

For club wheat $1.08 was offered on the Merchants Exchange with no sellers, and $1.20 was asked for bluestem, but there were no buyers.

QUOTATIONS AT SAN FRANCISCO.

Prices Paid for Produce in the Bay City Markets.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 5.—The following prices were quoted in the produce market today:

Potatoes—Oregon Burbanks, $1.75@1.90; sweets, $1.75.

Onions—$2 per cental.

Millstuffs—Bran, $28.50@30; middlings, $33.50@35.50.

Vegetables—Garlic, 10@12½c; green peas, 8@10c; string beans, nominal; asparagus, 6@8c; tomatoes, $1@1.50; egg plant, 25@30c.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 35c; creamery seconds, 33c; fancy dairy, 31c.

Cheese—New, 14@15c; Young America, 15@16½c; Eastern, 17½c.

Eggs—Store, 23c; fancy ranch, 24c.

Poultry—Roosters, old, $4@5; young, $7@9; broilers, small, $4.50@5; broilers, large, $5.50@6.50; fryers, $6.50@7.50; hens, $5@9; ducks, old, $4.50@5.50; young, $8@8.

Wool—Spring, Humboldt and Mendocino, 16@19c; Mountain, 5@8½c; Nevada, 9@14c.

Hay—Wheat, $22@25; wheat and oats, $21@24; alfalfa, $15@19; stock, $12@15; straw, per bale, 50@75c.

Fruits—Apples, choice, $1.50; common, 60c; bananas, $1.25@3.50; limes, $7.50@8; lemons, choice, $3; common, $1; oranges, $1.50@3; pineapples, $2@3.

Receipts—Flour, 10,057 quarter sacks; wheat, 1170 centals; barley, 6900 centals; oats, 1600 centals; beans, 93 sacks; potatoes, 8190 sacks; bran, 240 sacks; middlings, 50 sacks; hay, 570 tons; hides, 1280.

New York Cotton Market.

NEW YORK, March 5.—Cotton futures closed steady, March, 9.51c; April, 9.46c; May, 9.47c; June, 9.41c; July, 9.42c; August, 9.37c; September and October, 9.48c; November and December, 9.24c; January, 9.22c.

Spot closed quiet. Middling uplands, 9.85c; middling Gulf, 10.10c. No sales.

GAINS ARE GENERAL

Strength of Coppers Lifts Entire Stock Market.

LABOR QUESTION LOOMS UP

Harriman Alleged to Have Secured an Option on the Kansas City Southern—Inflow of Money From the Interior.

NEW YORK, March 5.—The movement of the stock market today was still under the restraint of its professional limitation. The day's transactions were attributed almost wholly to the trading class and the operations were not pushed beyond rather narrow limits. The constant response of the financial markets to the variations in the tenor of news from the Balkans gives warning of the power of disturbance lying in that subject. Today its influence was favorable.

Some slight speculative liquidation was induced by the dip in prices, after which another upward swing set in. The whole market showed considerable sympathy with Reading. The approach of the end of a week seems to bring pressure on Reading on the part of those who assume that a verdict in favor of the commodities clause has been formed by the Supreme Court, which each arriving Monday, being decision day for the court, may see handed down.

The beginning of conferences between representatives of miners and the anthracite operators is apparently awakening some new apprehensions over the outlook for the anthracite companies. The labor question is looming into prominence also in the steel trade. The abrogation of the continuous working agreement between the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers, and the Western Bar Association does away with the assurances of work at the mills pending a wage agreement after July 1, and there were reports current of coming wage reductions in other branches of the iron trade.

Erie still suffered from the dread that compliance will not be found possible with the requirement of the Public Service Commission for the number of consents of bondholders to make the issue permissible.

The sustaining point in the market was found in the copper industrials. The strength in this group helped to pull up prices after the force of these depressing factors had been somewhat spent. There was professional short covering as well. Publication of the details of orders for equipment by the New York Central had the same helpful effect that was shown by that company's order for steel rails.

The estimates of the week's currency movement gave promise of a substantial addition to the cash holdings of the banks by the inflow from the interior. The money market was soft in consequence. At the same time, discounts were rather firmer in London, foreign exchange rates rose and a further outgo of gold was made probable.

An alleged option of purchase of the Kansas City Southern held by E. H. Harriman was the assigned reason for the rise in those stocks. The Canadian Pacific group was conspicuous also.* At the end of the day the recovery had restored the price level to higher than at the outset and gains were general.

Bonds were heavy. Total sales, par value, $2,680,000. United States 4's coupon advanced ¼ on call.

CLOSING STOCK QUOTATIONS.

	Sales.	High.	Low.	Closing Bid.
Amal Copper	53,400	67¼	66¾	66¾
Am Car & Foun.	4,800	49¼	47¾	48½
do preferred	100	110½	110½	110
Am Cotton Oil	500	52¾	52	52¾
Am Hd & Lt pf.	200	37½	37	37
Am Ice Securi	4,900	28	26¾	27¾
Am Linseed Oil	.....	.....	.....	15
Am Locomotive	1,000	52¾	51	51¾
do preferred	300	112	111¾	111½
Am Smelt & Ref.	3,000	82¾	81	82¾
do preferred	100	103½	103½	103½
Am Sugar Ref.	400	129	128¾	129½
Am Tobacco pf	.....	.....	.....	214
Am Woolen	100	28¾	28¾	28½
Anaconda Min Co.	4,700	41½	39¾	41½
Atchison	11,600	103¾	102¾	103¾
do preferred	200	102	102	102
Atl Coast Line	.....	.....	.....	118
Balt & Ohio	2,200	107½	106¾	107½
do preferred	.....	.....	.....	93
Brook Rap Tran.	11,600	72¾	71¼	72¾
Canadian Pacific	11,600	167½	166	167½
Central Leather	400	28¼	28¼	28
do preferred	100	102	102	101
N J Central	.....	.....	.....	225
Ches & Ohio	50,700	65¼	63¾	65¼
Chicago Gt West	500	7¼	6¾	6¾
Chicago & N W	300	176	176	176
C, M & St Paul	8,600	142¼	141½	142¾
C, C, C & St L	.....	.....	.....	74½
Colo Fuel & Iron	3,200	32¾	31¾	32½
Colo & Southern	1,000	63½	63	63
do 1st preferred	300	82	81½	82
do 2d preferred	900	79¾	78½	78½
Consolidated Gas	2,300	128	126¾	127½
Corn Products	200	17¾	17¾	17¾
Del & Hudson	100	173½	173½	173
D & R Grande	1,000	44	42½	43¾
do preferred	200	85¼	85	85
Distillers Securi	500	35¾	35¼	35¼
Erie	7,400	26	24¾	25¾
do 1st preferred	2,200	40¾	40	39¾
do 2d preferred	100	31	31	30
General Electric	200	152½	152	152½
Gt Northern pf	4,900	140¾	138½	140
Gt Northern Ore	1,600	68½	67½	67½
Illinois Central	500	141	140¾	140
Interborough Met	600	14¾	14½	14¾
do preferred	1,500	42¾	41¾	42
Int Paper	600	10½	10¼	9½
do preferred	100	50½	50½	50
Int Pump	500	35¾	34½	35¾
Iowa Central	200	28¼	28	28
K C Southern	48,300	46¾	45¾	46¾
do preferred	9,700	74½	72	74¼
Louis & Nashville	1,800	128¾	127½	128¾
Minn & St L	800	53¾	52¾	53
M, St P & S S M	1,600	149	139	144½
Missouri Pacific	2,600	88	86½	86½
Mo, Kan & Texas	11,400	39¾	38	39½
do preferred	100	73	73	73
National Lead	1,300	75¼	74½	75
N Y Central	4,400	123¾	122½	123¾
N Y, Ont & West	800	44½	43¾	44¼
Norfolk & West	1,600	86¾	86	86¾
North American	.....	.....	.....	80
Northern Pacific	6,000	137½	135¾	136¾
Pacific Mail	.....	.....	.....	30¼
Pennsylvania	3,300	129½	128¾	129¾
People's Gas	800	110¾	109¾	110¼
P, C C & St L	.....	.....	.....	89
Pressed Steel Car	100	35½	34½	35
Pullman Pal Car	.....	.....	.....	168
Ry Steel Spring	800	41	39¾	39¾
Reading	50,200	123½	122¼	123¾
Republic Steel	1,200	19¾	18	19¼
do preferred	200	72	71	71
Rock Island Co.	1,000	22½	22	22½
do preferred	2,300	62½	60¾	62
St L & S F 2 pf	100	37½	37½	37¼
St L Southwestern	100	22½	22½	22½
do preferred	.....	.....	.....	50
Sloss-Sheffield	100	71½	71½	71
Southern Pacific	19,400	117½	115¾	117¾
do preferred	800	122	121	121¾
Southern Railway	500	24¼	23¾	24¼
do preferred	500	62½	62	62¾
Tenn Copper	300	37¾	37¾	37½
Texas & Pacific	300	31¾	31¾	31¾
Tol, St L & West	600	45½	45	45¼
do preferred	1,000	68½	67¾	68
Union Pacific	51,300	175¾	173½	175¼
do preferred	200	95¼	95¼	94¾
U S Rubber	.....	.....	.....	29
do 1st preferred	100	102½	102½	102½
U S Steel	56,200	45	43¾	44¾
do preferred	2,100	111	110¾	110¾
Utah Copper	200	46¾	46¾	46¾
Va-Caro Chemical	600	43¾	43½	42¾
do preferred	.....	.....	.....	114
Wabash	400	17½	17	17½
do preferred	2,700	44½	43	44
Westinghouse Elec	300	78	78	77
Western Union	100	65½	65½	65½
Wheel & L Erie	.....	.....	.....	9
Wisconsin Central	6,400	50½	48¾	50½
Am Tel & Tel	800	128½	128½	128¾

Total sales for the day, 565,800 shares.

BONDS.

NEW YORK, March 5.—Closing quotations:

U. S. ref. 2s reg.	101	D & R G 4s	97½
do coupon	101½	N Y C G 3½s	93
U. S. 3s reg.	100¾	North Pacific 3s	74½
do coupon	101	North Pacific 4s	103¼
U. S new 4s reg.	119	Union Pacific 4s	103¼
do coupon	120¼	Wisc'n Cent 4s	94½
Atchison adj 4s	100¾	Japanese 4s	85¾

Stocks at London.

LONDON, March 5.—Consols for money, $4 3-16; do for account, $4 1-16.

Anaconda	8¼	N. Y. Central	126
Atchison	106¼	Norfolk & West	88¾
do pf	104¼	do pref	89
Balt & Ohio	110¾	Ont & Western	43½
Can Pacific	171¼	Pennsylvania	66¼
Ches & Ohio	66	Rand Mines	7⅝
Chi Grt West	7¼	Reading	63
C. M. & S. P.	145½	Southern Ry	24¾
De Beers	12½	do pref	64¾
D & R G	45	South Pacific	119½
do pref	87½	Union Pacific	178½
Erie	26¾	do pref	96½
do 1st pf	41½	U S Steel	45¾
do 2d pf	31½	do pref	113¾
Grand Trunk	18½	Wabash	17½
Ill Central	144½	do pref	46
L & N	151½	Spanish 4s	95¾
Mo K & T	110¾		

Money Exchange, Etc.

NEW YORK, March 5.—Money on call, easy, 1¾@2 per cent; ruling rate, 1¾ per cent; closing bid, 1¾ per cent; offered at 2 per cent.

Time loans, very soft; 60 days, 2¼@2¾ per cent; 90 days, 2¾ per cent; six months, 2¾ per cent.

Prime mercantile paper closed at 3½@4 per cent.

Sterling exchange strong, with actual business in bankers' bills at $4.8535@4.8590 for 60-day bills and at $4.88 for demand.

Commercial bills, $4.85¾@4.85⅞.

Bar silver, 50¾c.

Mexican dollars, 44c.

Government bonds, firm; railroad bonds, heavy.

LONDON, March 5.—Bar silver—Steady, 23¼d per ounce.

Money—2¼@2½ per cent.

The rate of discount in the open market for short bills is 2¾ per cent; three months' bills, 2⅞@2 3-16 per cent.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 5.—Silver bars—50¼c.

Mexican dollars—45c.

Drafts—Sight, 5c; telegraph, 7½c.

Sterling—60 days, $4.86; sight, $4.88¼.

Daily Treasury Statement.

WASHINGTON, March 5.—Today's statement of the Treasury balances in the general fund shows:

Available cash balance	$140,969,433
Gold coin and bullion	39,469,425
Gold certificates	48,523,100

IMPROVES THE DEMAND

PRICE READJUSTMENTS AID INDUSTRIAL RECOVERY.

Good Movement in Agricultural Implements and Supplies—Business Failures Decreasing.

NEW YORK, March 5.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s weekly review tomorrow will say:

Already the price readjustments are beginning to work toward the expected improvement in demand and the hint President Taft's inaugural declarations favorable to "that measure of stability" which is "essential to the life and growth of all business," are important contributions toward making stronger the hope of full industrial recovery.

Both in sentiment and amount of business in sight, the iron and steel trade shows some improvement. In spite of the upward tendency of raw material, buyers of cotton goods make a determined effort to secure a lower level of quotations. No new business is reported in woolen goods.

The demand for hides continues slack, with a further seasonable weakness in prices. The dry hide market is quiet. The leather trade is still dull and unsatisfactory.

IMPROVEMENT IN JOBBING TRADE.

Number of Business Failures Steadily Decreasing.

NEW YORK, March 5.—Bradstreet's tomorrow will say:

Weather irregularities and tariff and price revision uncertainties combine in making a rather quiet tone in trade and industry, pending clearer views of these and Winter wheat crop possibilities. The best trade reports come from the Central West and Central Southwest and in jobbing trade show moderate improvement. The urgent need of rain in Texas is accentuated this week, while in the West and the South business is still rather dull.

Most activity is noted in the finer lines of dress goods. Agricultural implements and supplies are displaying continued good movement. Cuts in iron and steel have as yet brought out only a moderate amount of business.

Collections are irregular and not better than fair as a whole.

Business failures in the United States for the week ending March 4 were 219, against 244 last week, 287 in the like week of 1908, 172 in 1907, 177 in 1906 and 199 in 1905. Canadian failures for the week number 33, which compares with 40 last week and 49 in the like week of 1908.

Wheat, including flour, exports from the United States and Canada aggregate 2,900,000 bushels, against 2,491,199 last week and 2,953,908 this week last year. For the 36 weeks ending March 4 exports are 140,196,652 bushels, against 159,094,165 in the corresponding period last year.

Corn exports for the week are 760,550 bushels, against 779,764 last week and 1,481,487 in 1908.

Bank Clearings.

NEW YORK, March 5.—Bradstreet's bank clearings report for the week ending March 4, shows an aggregate of $3,330,711,000 as against $2,615,589,000 last week and $2,211,533,000 in the corresponding week last year.

		Pct.
New York	$2,072,797,000	76.3
Chicago	308,943,000	17.6
Boston	184,060,000	43.0
Philadelphia	135,246,000	15.8
St. Louis	71,931,000	19.8
Pittsburg	46,730,000	10.8
Kansas City	34,437,000	47.0
San Francisco	41,635,000	16.2
Baltimore	29,063,000	44.9
Cincinnati	28,443,000	8.5
Minneapolis	18,924,000	25.3
New Orleans	18,981,000	21.4
Cleveland	16,382,000	12.1
Detroit	12,107,000	16.0
Omaha	17,705,000	26.8
Louisville	14,157,000	9.4
Milwaukee	12,762,000	17.2
Fort Worth	11,748,000	
Los Angeles	13,153,000	16.2
St. Paul	10,071,000	*9.3
Seattle	9,100,000	23.9
Denver	10,065,000	40.3
Indianapolis	8,610,000	12.9
Spokane, Wash.	7,124,000	35.8
Providence	7,851,000	47.4
Portland, Or.	7,533,000	28.4
Richmond	6,768,000	34.9
Albany	5,594,000	25.2
Washington	5,700,000	4.4
St. Joseph	8,830,000	42.5
Salt Lake City	5,825,000	65.0
Columbus	6,561,000	41.1
Memphis	5,583,000	2.8
Atlanta	5,180,000	18.2
Tacoma	4,168,000	10.2
Savannah	2,802,000	47.8
Toledo, O.	4,261,000	10.0
Rochester	3,920,000	10.3
Hartford	4,032,000	13.2
Nashville	3,788,000	10.4
Houston	267,568,000	88.3
Galveston	15,698,000	10.1

*Decrease.

Eastern Mining Stocks.

BOSTON, March 5.—Closing quotations:

Adventure	7¾	Mont C & C	25
Allouez	38¾	Nevada	17¾
Amalgamated	68¾	Old Dominion	49½
Arn Com	35¾	Osceola	129
Atlantic	15	Parrot	28
Butte Coal	23	Quincy	87½
Cal & Ariz	101½	Shannon	14
Cal & Hecla	625	Tamarack	82
Centennial	23½	Trinity	13½
Copper Range	76	United Copper	12¼
Daly West	9½	U S Mining	40
Franklin	13¾	U. S. Oil	29½
Granby	94	Utah	30
Greene Cananea	9¼	Victoria	40¾
Isle Royale	29	Winona	5
Mass Mining	58	Wolverine	147
Michigan	10½	North Butte	69½

NEW YORK, March 5.—Closing quotations:

Alice	200	Little Chief	10
Brunswick Con.	3	Mexican	58
Com Tun stock	25	Ontario	375
do bonds	15	Ophir	104
C C & Va	31	Standard	150
Horn Silver	65	Yellow Jacket	35
Leadville Con	4		

Dairy Produce in the East.

CHICAGO, March 5.—Butter — Steady. Creameries, 22@28c; dairies, 20@25c.

Eggs—Steady; at mark, cases included, 18@19½c; firsts, 20c; prime firsts, 21c.

Cheese—Strong. Daisies, 15½@16c; twins, 14½@15c; Young Americas, 16@16½c.

NEW YORK, March 5.—Butter—Fancy fresh, steady; other grades, easy. Creamery, thirds to firsts, 21@27½c; creamery, held common to special, 20@28c.

Cheese—Firm, unchanged.

Eggs—Easy.

BAD BREAK IN WHEAT

General Selling Carries Prices Down With a Rush.

MARKET OFF ABOUT 3 CENTS

Drop at Chicago Follows the Receipt of Bearish Domestic and Foreign News—Patten Reported to Be Selling.

CHICAGO, March 5.—Wheat broke from 1⅝ to 3⅛@3⅜c on the Board of Trade today, owing to general liquidation based on extremely bearish domestic and foreign news. May sold off to $1.15 and July to $1.03¾, a loss of 4⅛c and 3⅜c, respectively, compared with the high points for the season established two days ago. The market closed weak at almost the bottom.

The market opened weak at declines of ⅝ to 2⅛@2⅜c. The weakness at the start was due to rumors, later denied by the interested parties, to the effect that many shorts in the May delivery had made private settlements with the leading bull, and to a decline of ¼ to 1 penny at Liverpool. There seemed to be little support to the market on the break, except from small shorts, and although prices made slight gains from the opening low points, there was no well defined rally.

News of the day was unusually depressing. Liverpool reported that Argentine offerings were liberal and that the visible supply of wheat in the South American country was increasing rapidly and also that India was offering wheat more freely. In this country demand for cash wheat showed a marked abatement and crop reports were more reassuring to the bears.

In the final half of the session the market experienced another sharp decline, due to reports that the leading long had been selling freely through commission houses. The market closed extremely weak at net losses for the day of 1⅝ to 2⅞c, compared with yesterday's final quotations, May being at $1.15¾@1.15½ and July at $1.03@1.03¾.

Corn was weak all day, closing almost at the bottom, with net declines for the day of ¼ to ⅜c. May closed at 67¾ to 67⅞@67½c and July at 66¾@66⅝c.

Sentiment in oats pit was bearish all day. At the close prices were ½@⅝c lower compared with yesterday's close, May being at 55¾@56c and July at 50¼c.

Provisions were firm all day. At the close prices were a shade to 2½@5c higher than the previous close.

The leading futures ranged as follows:

	Open.	High.	Low.	Close.
WHEAT.				
May	$1.17½	$1.17½	$1.15	$1.15¼
July	1.05¾	1.05¾	1.03¾	1.03¾
Sept	.98½	.98½	.97¼	.97¼
CORN.				
May	.68	.68¼	.67¾	.67½
July	.67¾	.67¾	.66¾	.66¾
Sept	.67	.67¼	.66¾	.66¾
OATS.				
May	.56¾	.56¾	.55¾	.56
July	.50¾	.50¾	.50½	.50¼
Sept	.41½	.41¾	.41½	.41¼
MESS PORK.				
May	17.25	17.42½	17.25	17.25
July	17.35	17.45	17.35	17.37½
LARD.				
May	10.00	10.05	9.97½	10.02½
July	10.07½	10.12½	10.05	10.12½
SHORT RIBS.				
May	9.17½	9.22½	9.15	9.20
July	9.23¾	9.32	9.27½	9.25

Total clearances of wheat and flour were equal to 120,000 bushels. Exports for the week, as shown by Bradstreet's, were equal to 2,957,000 bushels. Primary receipts were 439,000 bushels, compared with 422,000 bushels the corresponding day a year ago. Estimated receipts for tomorrow: Wheat, 59 cars; corn, 352 cars; oats, 181 cars; hogs, 23,000 head.

	Receipts.	Shipments.
Flour, barrels	21,200	23,100
Wheat, bushels	49,200	85,600
Corn, bushels	402,500	319,500
Oats, bushels	368,000