COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL NEWS

The last week in April, from a trade standpoint, was highly satisfactory, and as reflected in bank clearings, shows a material gain over the corresponding week last year. Perhaps the worst feature of the business is the continued weakness in the wheat market, although, in spite of a great many bearish factors, the price does not show much of a change for the worse. The Eastern wool dealers are still holding aloof, being unable to bring the grower and consumer together at a satisfactory price, but this is not affecting general trade, as growers can secure all the money they need as advance on their clip. There has been a decided improvement in the market for potatoes, and prices advanced over 10 cents per cental during the week. The demand from San Francisco has picked up again, and the prospects are favorable for good prices for all of the best stock still unsold. The onion season is about over, and receipts are so small that an accurate quotation is impossible. They are selling in a small way at 6½ to 7 cents per pound, but the steamer due from California tomorrow will probably bring some new crop onions sufficiently well matured to answer the purposes of the old stock at much lower figures.

There is no change in the hop situation, the first-class stock being practically all out of the way and the remnants selling at all sorts of prices except high prices. There was considerable strength displayed in the egg market during the week, and prices moved up over a cent. They sold on Friday as high as 14 and 14½ cents, but were inclined to drag at 14 yesterday, and some of the dealers are afraid that a mistake was made in holding them above 13½ cents. If arrivals are large in the coming week, the price may recede again. Poultry, after a couple of weeks of strength, flattened out yesterday, and some concessions were made in order to clean up stocks. Spring chickens are especially plentiful and difficult to sell at good prices, and for anything but fancy stock very poor prices were gladly accepted yesterday. The butter market, after a considerable display of weakness, seems to have made a pause around 35 and 37½ cents. There are a few selects still bringing 40 cents, but conditions are not favorable for this figure being maintained for anything much longer. The market will probably settle down reasonably steady at about 35 cents. In the fruit line, California strawberries are coming along quite plentifully, and sold yesterday as low as 10 and 12½ cents per pound, with the best going at 15 cents per pound. California cherries are in the market, but as yet are too high to be quotable. Another car of bananas is due tomorrow, and oranges are still coming in quite freely for the late varieties, although the navels are no longer plentiful.

WHEAT.—In from 30 to 40 days, harvesting will be under way in some of the favored spots east of the mountains, and in less than 60 days it will be in pretty full swing. The experience of the past has taught us that a vast amount of damage can be done to the Northwestern wheat crop in less than 30 days, in fact, in less than 30 hours, but, compared with past seasons, there has never been a time in the history of the country when the outlook was more favorable for a bumper crop than it is at this date. The Pacific Northwest has no monopoly on this favored condition of affairs, for, with few exceptions, much the same reports come from all over the United States. On the Coast, California alone reports a rather dubious outlook for a considerable portion of the crop. The San Francisco papers mention the matter rather guardedly, but from private advices received in this city the outlook does not favor as large a crop in California as was harvested last year. At the same time, there is such a large amount of wheat to be carried over in California that there will be no shortage that will have much effect on a very strong tonnage situation.

That shipowners have unbounded faith in the continuance of present high rates is apparent by the action of the owners of the Allerton. This vessel has remained idle at Astoria for a week and during that time has refused several offers of 40 shillings. The inability of exporters to secure ships at reasonable rates naturally prevents them from buying wheat, and the market for the past week has been about as lifeless and uninteresting as it ever gets to be. The general run of quotations have been around 52 and 53 cents for Walla Walla, with a few small sales of heavy stock reported at prices a shade higher. Valley has been in nominal demand only at 52 and 53 cents, and Bluestem at about 56 cents. There is not much business done at these prices, and the market is bound to drag until either shipowners or wheatholders give way.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Grain, Flour, Etc.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 52@53c; Valley, 52@53c; bluestem, 56c per bushel.

Flour—Best grades, $2 60@3; graham, $2 50; superfine, $2 10 per barrel.

Oats—White, 35c; gray, 32@33c; stained, 29@30c per bushel.

Barley—Feed, $14@14 50; brewing, $17 per ton.

Millstuffs—Bran, $12@13 per ton; middlings, $18@19; shorts, $13@15; chop, $14.

Hay—Timothy, $9@10; clover, $7@7 50; Oregon wild hay, $6@7 per ton.

Butter, Eggs, Poultry, Etc.

Butter—Weak; fancy creamery, 35@40c per roll; dairy, 30c; store, 20@25c per roll.

Eggs—13½@14c per dozen.

Poultry—Chickens, mixed, $4@4 50 per dozen; hens, $4 50@5; ducks, $6@7; geese, $8@10 per dozen; turkeys, live, 15c; dressed, 17 @ 18c per pound.

Cheese—Full cream, twins, 12½@13c; Young America, 14c per pound.

Vegetables, Fruit, Etc.

Vegetables—Parsnips, 60@75c; carrots, 50c; turnips, 60 @ 75c; onions, 3@4c per pound for new, 6½@7c for old; cabbage, 90c@$1 per cental; potatoes, 40@60c per sack; sweet potatoes, 3c; peas, 4c; beans, 10@12c; asparagus, 4@5c; new potatoes, 2@2½c per pound.

Fruit—Lemons, $2 50@3; oranges, $3@3 25 per box for navels, $2 per box for seedlings; pineapples, $4 50@6 per dozen; bananas, $2 50@3 per bunch; Persian dates, 7½@8c per pound; strawberries, $1 50@2 per crate.

Dried fruit — Apples, evaporated, 7@8c per pound; sun-dried, sacks or boxes, 4@5c; pears, sun and evaporated, 5@6c; plums, pitless, 4@5½c; prunes, Italian, 3½@5½c; silver, extra choice, 5 @ 6c; figs, Smyrna, 22½c; California black, 5@6c; do white, 10c per pound.

Groceries, Nuts, Etc.

Coffee—Mocha, 23@28c; Java, fancy, 26@32c; Java, good, 20@24c; Java, ordinary, 18@20c; Costa Rica, fancy, 18@20c; do good, 16@18c; do ordinary, 10@12c per pound; Columbia, roast, $12 25; Arbuckle's, $13 75; Lion, $12 75 per case.

Sugar—Cube, $5 72½; crushed, $5 72½; powdered, $5 72½; dry granulated, cane, $5 22½; beet, $5 12½; extra C, $4 72½; golden C, $4 60; net; half barrels, ¼c more than barrels; maple sugar, 15@16c per pound.

Beans—Small white, 3⅝c; bayou, 4c; Lima, 6c per pound.

Salmon — Columbia river, 1-pound talls, $1@1 50; 2-pound talls, $2@2 50; fancy, 1-pound flats, $1 65@1 75; ½-pound fancy flats, 85@95c; Alaska, 1-pound talls, $1 20@1 30; 2-pound talls, $1 90@2 25.

Grain bags—Calcutta, $7@7 10 per 100 for spot, $6 50@6 62½ for July-August.

Nuts—Peanuts, 6½@7c per pound for raw, 10c for roasted; cocoanuts, 90c per dozen; walnuts, 10@11c per pound; pine nuts, 15c; hickory nuts, 7c; chestnuts, 15c; Brazil, 11c; filberts, 15c; fancy pecans, 12@14c; almonds, 15 @ 17½c per pound.

Coal oil — Cases, 21½c per gallon; barrels, 17½c; tanks, 15½c.

Rice—Island, 6½c; Japan, 5½c; New Orleans, 4½@5½c; fancy head, $7@7 50 per sack.

Hops, Wool, Hides, Etc.

Hops—2@8c per pound.

Wool—Valley, 12 @ 13c for coarse, 16@18c for best; Eastern Oregon, 10@15c; mohair, 20@27c per pound.

Sheepskins—Shearlings, 15@20c; short-wool, 25@35c; medium-wool, 30@50c; long-wool, 60c@$1 each.

Pelts — Bear skins, each, as to size, $5@15; cubs, each, $1@5; badger, each, 50c; wildcat, 25@75c; housecat, 5@25c; fox, common gray, 40c@$1; do red, $1 75@3 50; do cross, $2 50@6; lynx, $2@4 50; mink, 40c@$1 75; marten, dark Northern, $5@10; do pale, pine, $2@4; muskrat, 8@12c; skunk, 50@80c; otter (land), $4@8; panther, with head and claws perfect, $1@3; raccoon, 25@80c; wolf, mountain, with head perfect, $3 50 @ 5; wolverine, $2 50@6; beaver, per skin, large, $6@7; do medium, per skin, $4@5; do small, per skin, $1@2; do kits, per skin, $1@3.

Tallow—5@5½c; No. 2 and grease, 3½@4c per pound.

Hides—Dry hides, No. 1, 16 pounds and upward, 15@15½c; dry kip, No. 1, 5 to 16 pounds, 15c per pound; dry calf, No. 1, under 5 pounds, 15@16c; dry salted, one-third less than dry flint; salted hides, sound steers, 60 pounds and over, 8½@9c; do 50 to 60 pounds, 8@8½c; do under 50 pounds and cows, 7½@8c; kip, 13 to 30 pounds, 7½@8c; do veal, 10 to 14 pounds, 7½c; do calf, under 10 pounds, 7½c; green (unsalted), 1c per pound less; culls (bulls, stags, moth-eaten, badly cut, scored hair slipped, weather-beaten or grubby), one-third less.

Meat and Provisions.

Mutton — Gross, best sheep, wethers and ewes, sheared, $3 50@3 75; dressed, 7@7½c per pound; spring lambs, 5@5½c per pound gross.

Hogs—Gross, choice heavy, $5; light, $4 50; dressed, 5@6½c per pound.

Veal—Large, 6½@7½c per pound; small, 8@8½c.

Beef — Gross, top steers, $4 @ 4 50; cows, $3 50@4; dressed beef, 6½@7½c per pound.

Provisions — Portland pack (Shield brand). Hams, smoked, are quoted at 13c per pound; picnic hams, 9½c per pound; breakfast bacon 13½c; bacon, 9½c; backs, 9½c; dry salt sides, 8½c; dried beef, 17½c per pound; lard, 5-pound pails, 10c; 10-pound pails, 9⅞c; 50s, 9⅝c; tierces, 9½c per pound. Eastern pack (Hammond's): Hams, large, 13c; medium, 13½c; small, 13¾c; picnic hams, 9½c; shoulders, 9½c; breakfast bacon, 12¾c; dry salt sides, 8½@9½c; bacon sides, 9@10½c; backs, 10c; butts, 8c; lard, pure leaf, kettle rendered, 5s, 10½c, 10s, 10⅜c.

NEW YORK STOCK MARKETS.

BONDS.

U. S. 2s, ref.*	102½	Gen. Electric 5s	120
U. S. 2s, reg.	99½	N. Y. Central 1sts	110½
do 3s, reg.	108¾	North. Pacific 3s	65⅞
do 3s, coupon	109½	do 4s	103⅞
do new 4s, reg.	133½	Oregon Nav. 1sts	108
do new 4s, coup.	134½	do 4s	103⅜
do old 4s, reg.	114¼	Oregon S. L. 6s	128
do old 4s, coup.	114	do con. 5s	115
do 5s, reg.	112	Rio Gr. West. 1sts	99
do 5s, coupon	113¼	St. Paul consols	172½
Dist. Col. 3-65s	112	St. P. C. & P. 1sts	120
Atchison adj. 4s	100⅛	do 5s	122
C. & N.W. con. 7s	143	Union Pacific 4s	104⅝
do S. F. deb. 5s	121½	Wis. Central 1sts	91½
D. & R. G. 1sts	105	Southern Pacific 4s	83½
do 4s	99½		

*When issued.

STOCKS.

The total sales of stocks today were 214,900 shares. The closing quotations were:

Atchison	26½	Union Pacific	56⅜
do pref	70½	Union Pac. pref	77
Balt. & Ohio	80½	Wabash	8⅜
Can. Pacific	96¾	do pref	23
Can. Southern	54	Wheeling & L. E.	10
Ches. & Ohio	30⅜	do 2d pref	29½
Chi. Gr. Western	13½	Wisconsin Central	17⅛
C., B. & Q.	125⅞	P. C., C. & St. L.	60
Chi., Ind. & L.	25½	EXPRESS CO.'S.	
do pref	57	Adams	120
Chi. & East. Ill.	102	American	146
Chicago & N. W.	161	United States	48
C., R. I. & Pac.	108⅜	Wells-Fargo	125
C., C., C. & St. L.	61⅞	MISCELLANEOUS.	
Colo. Southern	6⅞	Amer. Cotton Oil	36⅞
do 1st pref	42½	do pref	93
do 2d pref	16½	Amer. Malting	4⅜
Del. & Hudson	115	do pref	21
Del., Lack. & W.	179	Amer. Smelt. & R.	38
Denver & Rio Gr.	19⅝	do pref	89
do pref	70⅞	Amer. Spirits	2½
Erie	12⅝	do pref	17
do 1st pref	36⅝	Amer. Steel Hoop	26
Great North. pref	157½	do pref	75
Hocking Coal	17	Amer. Steel & W.	38
Hocking Valley	40⅛	do pref	77½
Illinois Central	114⅛	Amer. Tin Plate	27
Iowa Central	17½	do pref	78
do pref	50½	Amer. Tobacco	104½
Kan. C., P. & G.	18	do pref	133
Lake Erie & W.	31½	Anaconda Min. Co.	47
do pref	95	Brooklyn R. T.	74⅞
Lake Shore	210	Colo. Fuel & Iron	41⅛
Louis. & Nash.	82¼	Cont. Tobacco	27⅞
Manhattan El	93⅛	do pref	81½
Met. St. Ry.	158⅞	Federal Steel	49⅞
Mexican Central	13½	do pref	68¾
Minn. & St. Louis	64	General Electric	136⅞
do pref	96	Glucose Sugar	49
Missouri Pacific	57⅞	do pref	95
Mobile & Ohio	43½	Int. Paper	24⅜
M., K. & T.	11⅞	do pref	64
do pref	35¼	La Clede Gas	71½
New Jersey Cent.	119	National Biscuit	32½
New York Cent.	135⅝	do pref	86½
Norfolk & West.	38⅞	National Lead	22
do pref	80⅞	do pref	104½
Northern Pacific	58⅜	National Steel	33⅝
do pref	75⅝	do pref	89
Ontario & West.	23	N. Y. Air Brake	125
O. R. & N.	42	North American	14⅝
do pref	76	Pacific Coast	51½
Pennsylvania	137⅞	do 1st pref	83
Reading	18⅞	do 2d pref	60
do 1st pref	58⅝	Pacific Mail	32⅝
do 2d pref	31⅝	People's Gas	104⅞
Rio Gr. Western	50	Pressed Steel Car	40
do pref	82	do pref	80
St. Louis & S. Fr.	10½	Pullman Pal. Car	185
do 1st pref	70	Stand. Rope & T.	6⅜
do 2d pref	35½	Sugar	116⅜
St. Louis & S. W.	12½	do pref	111
do pref	30⅞	Tenn. Coal & Iron	81½
St. Paul	119⅜	U. S. Leather	12⅝
do pref	173	do pref	70⅝
St. Paul & O.	119	U. S. Rubber	31⅛
Southern Pacific	35⅞	do pref	97
Southern Ry	13⅞	Western Union	82⅝
do pref	57⅝	Republic Iron & S.	17½
Texas & Pacific	19⅝	do pref	59⅝

Stocks in London.

LONDON, April 28.—Canadian Pacific, 98¾; Union Pacific preferred, 77; Northern Pacific preferred, 78; Atchison, 27⅞; Grand Trunk, 8; Anaconda, 9⅞; Rands, 36⅜.

THE GRAIN MARKETS.

Prices for Cereals in European and American Ports.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 28.—Wheat steady on call and quiet in the spot market. Barley quiet. Oats dull. Spot quotations were: Wheat—Shipping, No. 1, 95c; choice, 96¼c; milling, 98¾c@$1 01¼. Barley—Feed, 72½@75c; brewing, 80@82½c. Oats—Gray Oregon, $1 07½@1 12½; milling, $1 15@1 17½; red, 95c@$1 15. Call board sales—Wheat steady; May, 94¼c; December, $1 03⅜; cash, 96¼c. Barley quiet; December, 78¼c; corn, large yellow, $1 15@1 20.

Chicago Grain and Produce.

CHICAGO, April 28.—While wheat did not show any great strength at the opening, prices started a trifle higher than yesterday's close, and the feeling was steady. Liverpool cables were a trifle improved, but were not considered as responsive to the strength here yesterday. There was a fair disposition to buy, but this disposition took shape in orders which were scattered, and generally unimportant. The anticipated decrease in the visible Monday, and the fact that more attention is being paid to bull news nowadays, occasioned a spasmodic advance early, but somebody began selling, presumably a long line, and the puny bulge withered up and was blown away.

Liquidation was small, a fact especially prominent by reason of the nearness of delivery day. A little export nibbling was reported and ignored. There was little difficulty experienced in changing options at a spread of 1⅜c. May ranged from 65@66⅛c to 65⅝c, and closed ⅛@¼c under, at 65⅝c; July, from 67⅞c to 67⅜c, closing ⅛@¼c down, at 67⅜c. Feeling at the close was heavy, while the whole session was remarkable for its lack of action.

The corn market was dull and firm part of the time, but closed easy. The only feature of the trade was the early demand for May. May closed ⅛c under yesterday, at 39⅞@39⅝c; July, ⅛c, at 40⅞c.

Oats were weak, even when corn and wheat showed firmness. The good weather and the increased country offers were factors. May closed ¼c lower, at 22⅝c; July, ⅛c lower, at 23⅛c.

The provisions market was quiet, opening steady in sympathy with the firm hog market, but easier later on lack of support. Pork closed 12½c down, at $12 77½; July lard, 12½c lower, at $7 25, and July ribs, 12½c depressed, at $6 97½@97.

There will be no session of the Board of Trade May 1, Dewey Day.

The leading futures ranged as follows:

	Opened.	Highest.	Lowest.	Closing.
WHEAT.				
April				$0 65½
May	$0 65¾	$0 66¼	$0 65⅝	65¾
July	67⅜	67⅝	67¼	67⅜
September	68½	68⅝	68⅛	68⅜
CORN.				
April				39½
May	39⅞	40	39⅞	39⅞
July	41⅛	41¼	40⅞	40⅞
September	41⅜	41⅜	41⅛	41¼
OATS.				
April				22½
May	23	23	22⅝	22⅝
July	23¼	23¼	23⅛	23⅛
September	22⅝	22⅝	22½	22½
MESS PORK.				
May	12 70	12 70	12 57½	12 57½
July	12 85	12 87½	12 75	12 77½
LARD.				
May	7 32½	7 35	7 20	7 20
July	7 37½	7 37½	7 25	7 25
September	7 35	7 37½	7 22½	7 25
SHORT RIBS.				
May	7 02½	7 05	6 95	6 95
July	7 10	7 10	6 97½	7 00
September	7 07½	7 07½	6 95	6 97½

Cash quotations were as follows:

Flour quiet; Winter patents, $3 60@3 70; straights, $2 95@3 40; clears, $2 70@3 70; Spring samples, $3 80@3 50; patents, $3 10@3 45; straights, $2 60@3; bakers', $2@2 45. Wheat—No. 2 Spring, 64⅝@65c; No. 2 red, 70c. Corn—No. 2, 39⅛@39⅝c. Oats—No. 2, 24@24½c; No. 2 white, 27⅝c; No. 3 white, 26@27½c. No. 2 rye, 53½@54½c. No. 2 barley, 41@44c. No. 1 flaxseed, $1 73. Prime timothy seed, $2 40. Mess pork, per barrel, $11 60@12 65. Lard, per 100 pounds, $7 15@7 22½. Short ribs sides (loose), $6 90@7 15. Dry-salted shoulders (boxed), $6 75@7. Short clear sides (boxed), $7 50@7 60.

	Receipts.	Shipments.
Flour, barrels	11,000	1,000
Wheat, bushels	32,000	20,000
Corn, bushels	239,000	302,000
Oats, bushels	233,000	250,000
Rye, bushels	8,000	2,000
Barley, bushels	31,000	14,000

On the Produce Exchange today, the butter market was firm; creamery, 13½@18c; dairy, 12½@15½c. Cheese, firm, 10@12c. Eggs—Firm, 10½c.

New York Grain and Produce.

NEW YORK, April 28.—Flour—Receipts, 6560; exports, 24,652. Slow and barely steady.

Wheat—Receipts, 78,450 bushels; exports, 15,898 bushels. Spot, easy; No. 2 red, 78⅝c, f. o. b. afloat; No. 2 red, 76½c elevator; No. 1 Northern Duluth, 76⅝c, f. o. b. afloat to arrive. Options opened firm on light offerings and foreign buying, in face of bearish cables and fine home crop news. Subsequently, the market yielded, however, losing its advance under local realizing. Closed easy at ⅛@¼c net decline. May, 73 1-16@73 3-16c, closed 73⅛c; July closed 73⅝c; September, 74⅛c.

Hops—Quiet; Pacific Coast 1896 crop, 3@5c; 1899 crop, 10@13c.

Hides—Steady.

Wool—Dull.

European Grain Markets.

LONDON, April 28.—Wheat—Cargoes on passage, quiet and steady; English country markets, dull.

LIVERPOOL, April 28.—Wheat—Firm; wheat and flour in Paris, weak.

Wheat—Spot, firm; No. 1 California, 6s 4d@6s 4½d; No. 1 Northern Spring, 5s 11½d; futures, quiet; April, nominal; May, 5s 5½d; July, 5s 9d.

Corn—Spot, firm; American mixed, new, 3s 4¾d; futures, May, 4s 3¼d; July, 4s 1¾d; September, 4s 1¾d.

Wheat at Tacoma.

TACOMA, Wash., April 28.—Wheat—Unchanged and market dull. Bluestem, 56c; club, 53c.

SAN FRANCISCO MARKETS.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 28.—Wool—Spring Nevada, 14@16c; Eastern Oregon, 12@16c; Valley Oregon, 20@22c; Fall Northern mutton, 10@12c; mountain, 8@10c; plains, 8@10c; Humboldt and Mendocino, 14@15c.

Hops—1899 crop, 11@13c.

Millstuffs—Middlings, $17@20; bran, $12@13 per ton.

Hay—Wheat, $6 50@10; wheat and oat, $6@9; best barley, $5@7; alfalfa, $5@6 50; stock, $5@5 50; compressed wheat, $7@9 50 per ton; straw, 25@40c per bale.

Potatoes—Early Rose, 60@65c; River Burbanks, 40@75c; Oregon Burbanks, 75c@$1 per cental; sweet potatoes, $2 25@2 40 per cental.

Vegetables—Silverskin onions, $6@8 per cental; garlic, 2½@3½c; green peas, 75c@$1 25 per sack; string beans, 7@10c; dried okra, 31½c per pound; asparagus, $1@2 per box; egg plant, 8@10c per pound.

Apples—Choice, $1 25; common, 50c.

Citrus fruits—Oranges, navels, $1 25@3 50; Mexican limes, $4@5; common California lemons, $1 25@1 50; do choice, $1 25@1 50 per box.

Bananas—$1 25@3 25 per bunch.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 17@17½c; do seconds, 16@16½c; fancy dairy, 15½c; do seconds, 13@15c per pound.

Cheese—California, new, 7@8c per pound; Young America, 8@9c; Eastern, 16½@17c.

Eggs—Store, 14@15c; fancy ranch, 17c per dozen.

Poultry—Turkeys, gobblers, 11@12c; do hens, 13@14c per pound; old roosters, $4 25@4 50 per dozen; young roosters, $6@7; small broilers, $2 50@3 50; larger broilers, $4@4 50; fryers, $5@6; hens, $5@5 50 per dozen; geese, $2@2 25 per pair.

Receipts—Flour, quarter sacks, 12,869; wheat, centals, 2265; Oregon, 2556; barley, centals, 60,542; oats, centals, 390; beans, sacks, 378; potatoes, sacks, 2733; middlings, sacks, 205; hay, tons, 428; wool, bales, 161; hides, 976.

Eastern Livestock.

CHICAGO, April 28.—Cattle—Receipts, 500; nominally steady; natives, good to prime steers, $4 90@5 85; poor to medium, $4 25@4 80; selected feeders, $4 25@5 05; mixed stockers, $3 40@4; cows, $3@4 50; heifers, $3 25@4 85; canners, $2 20@2 90; bulls, $2 90@4 30; calves, $4 50@6 50; Texans, fed steers, $4@5 25; bulls, $3 25@3 75.

Hogs—Receipts today, 16,000; Monday, 35,000, estimated; left over, 1000. Active, 5 cents higher; top, $5 62½; mixed and butchers', $5 35@5 60; good to choice heavy, $5 45@5 62½; rough heavy, $5 30@5 60; light, $5 25@5 52½; bulk of sales, $5 45@5 55.

Sheep—Receipts, 1000. Sheep slow; lambs steady; good to choice wethers, $5 25@5 60; fair to choice mixed, $4 75@5 25; Western sheep, $5 40@5 60; yearlings, $5 50@6 25; native lambs, $5 50@7 30; Western lambs, $6@7 30.

OMAHA, April 28.—Cattle—Receipts, 300 head; market, steady; native beef steers, $4@5 30; cows and heifers, $3 60@4 80; canners, $2 25@3 50; stockers and feeders, $3 75@5 10; calves, $3@7; bulls and stags, $2 80@4 25.

Hogs—Receipts, 7100 head; market, shade higher; heavy, $5 37½@5 42½; mixed, $5 35@5 37½; pigs, $4 25@5 25; light, $5 30@5 37½; bulk of sales, $4 75@5 27½.

Sheep—Receipts, 500; market, dull; yearlings, $5 50@5 90; stockers, $4 50@5 40; fair to choice Westerns, $5 25@5 70; lambs, $6@7.

KANSAS CITY, April 28.—Cattle—Receipts, 100; market, unchanged; Texas steers, $3 60@4 50; native steers, $4 50@5 05; canners, $2 50@3 25; native cows and heifers, $3 30@4 60; stockers and feeders, $4@5 50.

Hogs—Receipts, 2000; market, strong to 5c higher; bulk of sales, $5 25@5 40; heavy, $5 30@5 45; packers, $5 27½@5 40; mixed, $5 20@5 45; lights, $4 75@5 10; yorkers, $5 25@5 30; pigs, $3@5 10.

Sheep—Receipts, 500; market, strong; lambs, $5 10@7; muttons, $4 70@6.

Money, Exchange, Etc.

NEW YORK, April 28.—Close: Money on call, steady at 2 per cent; prime mercantile paper, 4@5½ per cent; sterling exchange, firm, with actual business in bankers' bills at $4 88¼@4 88½ for demand, and $4 84½@4 84¾ for 60 days; posted rates, $4 85½@4 89¾; commercial bills, $4 83¾@4 84¼; silver certificates, 59½@60½c; bar silver, 59⅝c; Mexican dollars, 47⅝.

State bonds, inactive; railroad bonds, steady; Government bonds, steady; refunding 2s, when issued, 102½; 2s registered, 99½; 3s registered, 109½; coupon, 109½; new 4s, registered, 133½; coupon, 134½; old 4s, registered, 114¼; coupon, 114; 5s, registered, 112; coupon, 113¼.

Coffee and Sugar.

NEW YORK, April 28.—Coffee—Spot Rio steady; mild market quiet; futures closed steady at net 5@15 points higher; total sales, 17,790 bags. Sugar—Raw steady; fair refining, 3 15-16@4 1-16c; centrifugal, 96 test, 4 1-16c; refined quiet; standard A, 4.95c; confectioners' A, 4.95c; mold A, 5.40c; cut loaf, 5.55c; crushed, 5.55c; powdered, 5.25c; granulated, 5.15c; cubes, 5.30c.

The Metal Markets.

NEW YORK, April 28.—The brokers' price for lead was $4 45 and for copper $17 25.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 28.—Bar silver, 59⅝c.

LONDON, April 28.—Bar silver, 27 7-16d.

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MAINE'S PACKS OF WILD DOGS

Slaying, Wolf-Like Descendants of Some Collie Mother.

Every man whose opinion is worth quoting says that there have been no wolves in Maine for 10 years. For a score of years the Maine Legislatures appropriated $500 a year for bounties on wolves, paying $5 for the nose and forepaws of every wolf captured, and last Winter when the bounty act was repealed more than $9000 remained in the treasury because nobody could bring dead wolves enough to get the money. Nine hundred and ninety-nine out of every thousand men admitted that the Maine wolf was as dead as Pharaoh's army. The thousandth man—about a dozen of him—said there was a pack of wolves around the abandoned extract works near Duck Lake, and was willing to prove it, if anybody would pay him.

A whole lot of men wanted a chance to kill wolves, or anything else for day's pay and keep, but when the offer was made recently to pay $10 a head for dead wolves, and no wolf no pay, there were only three men who were willing to take the risk. The story of this hunt, which occupied three weeks, and as told by the New York Sun, is full of interest.

Baiting the Ground.

The first week the hunters put up in the abandoned camps of the men who had boiled hemlock bark for extract, putting out bits of fresh meat among the clearings to take the animals to the neighborhood. The meat was untouched for two nights. The third night the invaders came, eating up all the meat and killing and devouring the horse which was in a hovel close by the camp where the men stayed. The next night 20 steel traps were put out and carefully baited.

The catch consisted of one skunk, one half-starved fox and four lean and shaggy dogs. The dogs were larger than a wolf, of a grayish-brown color, and might be mistaken for wolves by those who did not know the distinction between the two animals. Three of the bodies were skinned and the pelts were stretched and treated to salt and alum for preservation. The fourth was frozen to show what kind of animals ran loose in Eastern Maine. Then the party moved on to Great Pond, carrying their goods on their backs, because the horse was dead.

The hunters tied an old wether to a stump in a clearing and waited for the wolves to come to eat it. The wether stamped in the snow and bleated protests until nearly 10 o'clock. Then something howled from the north end of the pond. Five minutes later it howled again, and was answered by a long cry from the pines on the east shore. The wether pricked up his ears and pleaded eloquently for aid.

"The wolves are coming," said Ed Kennedy. "Chuck your magazines full of 45-90s and get ready to shoot."

Woods Full of 'Em.

In a few minutes the woods were full of wails and barks and angry growls. The beasts were converging upon their prey from south, east and west. A half-grown moon was dipping to the west, affording light enough to show the dusky forms as they raced across the white pond. The wether tugged at his line and dashed to and fro in terror. Two galloping animals reached the bank and rushed upon their prey. Before they were done drinking the warm blood 20 more had arrived, and more were coming.

"Take the middle, Bill," said Kennedy, in a whisper. "You, Jim, plug away at the left, while I'll see what I can do for the right. Ready! Let 'em have it!"

They emptied their magazines among the fighting pack, and had fired a few shots from the second loading before the surviving beasts fled to the woods. The body of the wether was scattered over many rods of snow, which was mapped with pools and splashes of frozen blood. Lying around singly or in heaps, as they had fallen, were 18 dead or dying animals, with sharp ears and long, bushy tails. Kennedy walked among them, kicking the bodies and swearing with emphasis.

"Dogs," said he in disgust. "Eighteen dead and not a wolf in the lot."

It Was a Costly Nap.

To begin with, he's "a good fellow." That's a phrase easier understood by men than by women. It generally means—well, it means he's an all-round good sort in the male line.

Saturday afternoon he was feeling pretty good. He had been quite thirsty, if what he had taken was to be judged as a criterion. And the libations left him in a thoroughly good humor, and he felt at peace with the world.

In this delightful mental and physical state he bethought him of a friends of his in Providence, R. I. And he further thought that he would call up that particular friend on the telephone.

So he went to a Broad street hotel, told the young woman there who had charge of the 'phone that he wanted to speak to Mr. So-and-So, in Providence, and wouldn't she kindly call up the party.

The girl did as she was bade.

"Party's on the 'phone," she said, and the man went into the telephone box, sat down and put the receiver to his ear.

And then he calmly and sweetly dropped off to sleep.

When he woke up he owed the telephone company $32 90.

He said he wouldn't pay it—but he did.—Philadelphia Press.

SOURCE OF OPPOSITION

DATA QUOTED AGAINST ALLOWING HAWAIIAN SHIPS A YEAR.

Copy of Letter Sent to Congressman in That Interest—Origin Was San Francisco.

WASHINGTON, April 24.—When the Hawaiian bill was about to go to the conference committee, the interests at San Francisco which were opposed to allowing foreign bottoms now participating in the Hawaiian trade between the islands and American ports a year in which to arrange their transportation or carrying trade sent out some interesting data. The following letter, which was sent to Congressman James T. McCleary, is a fair sample of the manner in which the opposition was manifested.

Some paragraphs in this letter will prove of particular interest to North Pacific Coast shipping interests. Puget Sound is singled out for unfavorable mention, as compared with San Francisco, and Congressman Cushman, of Washington, is called down on the charge of presuming to speak for the Atlantic as well as the Pacific.

It appears that the Atlantic Coast shipping interests were aroused to oppose the granting of 12 months' time to the foreign bottoms, because some of the sailing craft carrying sugar sail around Cape Horn entered at Atlantic Coast ports.

The application of the 12 months' time limit to foreign bottoms without preventing the extension of the navigation laws would have brought more satisfactory results and, on behalf of the foreign bottoms in the island trade, the amendment should have merely provided that such bottoms now actually engaged in the shipping business between the Pacific Coast and the islands should be allowed to continue for one year. Thus the navigation laws would have been extended without interference with the foreign bottoms for a period of 12 months.

The San Francisco interests, as well as the Atlantic Coast shipping interests, that became active, opposed allowing foreign ships to participate in American coasting trade any longer. The bill, however, provided for the Star of France, the Star of Russia, the Euterpe, Falls of Clyde and the Wilscott. These vessels are largely owned by San Francisco parties, although doing business largely with Puget Sound.

The weakest part of the arguments advanced in opposition to extending the time limit seems to be that it is claimed the foreign bottoms are old and of little consequence, and yet that if they were allowed to continue a year longer in the island trade great damage would result to the San Francisco and Atlantic Coast shipping business.

The particular vessel most interested in the desired extension of time is the steamer Bloomfontein, plying between Puget Sound and Honolulu. The sister steamer, Garonne, having received the flag and an American register, is not prevented from entering the coasting trade.

The letter sent Congressman McCleary is as follows:

The Significant Letter.

"We are aware that not infrequently legislation is enacted by Congress or measures are permitted to pass either house without a complete and perfect knowledge of results which might possibly follow. In this connection we are prompted to address you concerning an amendment to the Hawaiian bill (Senate 222) recently passed by the House of Representatives, and which is about to go to conference. This amendment defers, for one year, the application of the navigation laws of the United States to the islands, while the original bill makes immediately operative those laws upon its approval by the President. We are strongly opposed to this amendment, for the reason that it will, if it is enacted into law, operate as great a hardship to the American merchant marine.

"As stated above, the effect of the amendment will be to postpone for one year the application of the navigation laws to Hawaii. In the meantime, foreign vessels will be at liberty to ply between that territory and all ports of the United States.

"This legislation, as proposed, is designed to benefit a small number of old, foreign steamers flying a foreign flag, which run between Honolulu and North Pacific ports, together with such additional foreign tonnage as may choose to take advantage of the opportunity. Should the amendment meet with the final approval of Congress, the damage to shipping interests in San Francisco and on the Atlantic Coast would be very great.

"For two years it has been a matter of public knowledge that the laws of the United States would without doubt be extended to Hawaii, and there has never been a suggestion or a suspicion that there would be an exception made as to the navigation laws. If such an intent existed, it was kept a profound secret by those interested.

"During these two years the shipping interests of the country, both on the Atlantic and Pacific Coasts, have been interesting capital and providing for the expected change.

"Pacific Coast merchants in 1899 and 1900 purchased not less than 35 American vessels, of a total cargo capacity of upward of 118,000 tons, and at an advance of fully 50 per cent in valuation over and above that pertaining prior to the annexation of Hawaii. This tonnage has been purchased with the express view of providing for the increased Hawaiian trade and the extension of the navigation laws to those islands. At the present time American tonnage is so plentiful on the Pacific Coast that ships are actually leaving San Francisco in ballast for Honolulu, for the purpose of loading sugar for Atlantic ports, there being insufficient outward cargo to provide for more than the regular island vessels engaged in trade between the islands and Pacific Coast ports.

Mentions North Pacific Ports.

"The trade with Hawaii by North Pacific ports is small as compared with San Francisco, owing to the fact that all the Hawaiian sugar destined for the Pacific Coast is shipped via San Francisco, thus making it difficult for North Pacific ports to engage tonnage at equal rates. It is simply and purely a question of benefiting two or three ports in the North Pacific at the expense of all other ports in the United States. It is not a question as to a sufficient supply of tonnage to do the business. It is, on the contrary, the result of the neglect of the northwest section of the Pacific Coast to take advantage of the two years' notice, virtually given, which the shipping interests at large have already made ample provision for, while they have relied upon using foreign tonnage, which they control, to build up their business with Hawaii.

"For example, the American-Hawaiian Steamship Company is now constructing and will shortly launch from American shipyards four steel steamers of 8500 tons capacity each, and are contracting for additional tonnage with American builders for this prospective increased trade. These four steamers now under construction will be in operation within the next two to four months. They represent a value of over $2,000,000, and were built expressly for the Hawaiian trade.

"The Oceanic Steamship Company, of San Francisco, has also been increasing its service for the same trade, and is about launching three steamers of practically 9000 tons each to supplement its present service. These steamers, with the large addition of sailing vessels purchased on the Pacific Coast, will more than supply the requirements of the Hawaiian trade for the next year, and the postponement of the immediate application of the navigation laws will work much hardship, as can readily be seen, on this invested capital, by bringing into competition at the very commencement of these new shipping enterprises cheap, old and obsolete foreign vessels.

"Selfish Interests Govern."

"All these facts are borne out by the statistics of shipping in San Francisco, and we reiterate that it is not a question of tonnage which has prompted the amendment in question, but the selfish interests of a very few transportation companies in the North Pacific, which are employing and wish to employ foreign tonnage.

"Mr. Cushman, in his remarks to the House, perhaps unintentionally, assumed to speak for the shipping interests of this country, the Atlantic and Pacific Coasts alike. He had no authority to do so. He does not represent those interests on the Atlantic, nor yet those of California and Oregon on the Pacific. They do not want this amendment adopted. It is highly injurious to their interests, and they protest most earnestly and most vigorously against it. Had notice of this amendment been given to the country, it would never have passed the House, for the shipowners, shipbuilders and merchants of both coasts, with the exception of the State of Washington, would have united in a protest against such unjust and damaging legislation.

"It does not seem reasonable that enterprising American shipowners located throughout the country should suffer for the benefit of a few interests on Puget Sound.

"In view of this statement of facts, demonstrating, as we believe, the injustice which the enactment of this amendment would perpetrate, we respectfully but earnestly request that you will use every honorable means in your power to prevent it from becoming a law.

"It is proper we should disavow any intention of reflecting upon Mr. Cushman in this matter. His integrity and high standing are well known to us. He has simply been misinformed."

The Hawaiian bill does not take effect until two months after its approval, which is one month longer than as originally drawn.

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DRUNKENNESS A CRIME.

Continuation of the Argument Over Legal Definitions.

SEATTLE, April 25.—(To the Editor.)—I beg the indulgence of The Oregonian to reply once more to Mr. Thornton.

Since he ignores the authority and testimony of all the standard dictionaries of the English language and calls me an idolator for quoting them in proof of the statement that intemperance is a crime, I will refer the gentleman to the legal authorities on the question.

Blackstone, vol. ii, pages 25, 111: "Thirdly, as to voluntary, contracted madness by drunkenness or intoxication, which, depriving men of their reason, puts them in a temporary frenzy, our law looks upon this as an aggravation of the offense, rather than an excuse for any criminal misdemeanor. 'A drunkard,' says Edward Coke, 'who is voluntarius daemon, hath no privilege thereby, but what hurt or ill soever he doth his drunkenness doth aggravate it.' In Greece a law of Atticus enacted that he who committed a crime when drunk should receive a double punishment, one for the crime itself and the other for the inebriety which prompted him to commit it. The law of England, considering how easy it is to counterfeit this excuse and how weak an excuse it is, will not suffer any man thus to privilege one crime upon another."

Again, vol. ii, p. 63, x: "Drunkenness is also punished by statute, 4 Jac. 1 C. 5, with the forfeiture of 5s, or the sitting six hours in the stocks, by which time the statute presumes the offender will have regained his senses and not be liable to do mischief to his neighbors."

Bishop on Criminal Law, vol. II, chap. 22, says: "A person drunk in public may be deemed a sort of a public nuisance; and so the legal doctrine seems to be that one going about as a common drunkard, commits thereby an indictable offense." This law applies in all cases of "an habitual drunkard."

A Massachusetts statute provides against "being a common drunkard."

Again "Bishop on Statutory Crimes," Book V, ch. xlii, says: "On Drunkenness—A grand juror is indictable at the common law for getting drunk while on duty, thereby disqualifying himself for the discharge of the office of a juror. In New Hampshire it was held under a statute, providing a punishment for any person found drunk in any street, alley or other public place. In Tennessee, notwithstanding we held that a single act of public and notorious drunkenness to be indictable, we think it always safest to charge the offense as in The State v. Tipton; that is, making the charge on the ground of a common drunkard. In most of the states, there are statutes covering this general ground, and the indictment will generally be drawn upon them. A statute in Massachusetts made it an offense to be a common drunkard. In Rhode Island, where a statute makes the being intoxicated under such circumstances as to amount to a violation of decency, a punishable offense, a complaint is sufficient which charges the defendant with having been indecently drunk contrary to the provisions of the statute. In Massachusetts, an allegation of a former conviction of drunkenness, introduced as a part of complaint, under the statute making a second drunkenness more highly punishable than the first, when it was set forth that the defendant at a time and before a court named was duly and legally convicted of the crime of drunkenness, committed at a special time and place, was held to be sufficient."

According to the laws of Washington, drunkenness is held to be a crime. The Deputy City Attorney of Seattle said to me today: "There can be no doubt that drunkenness is regarded as a crime in Washington." The Captain of the Police Department said: "We punish men every day in Seattle for the crime of drunkenness."

Daniel McLauchlan, of Portland, said to me: "Drunkenness is a crime, and is so put down on the calendar, and we arrest men and punish them almost every day in Portland for the crime of drunkenness."

The question is not whether Mr. Palmer, by a slip of the pen, called the Standard Dictionary—for which Mr. Thornton has no respect—"he, she, it or they," but will my legal friend admit that a layman has beaten him in the evidence and argument?

RAY PALMER.

Napoleon's Privacy.

From Dr. O'Meara's Unpublished Diary in the Century.

Took a drive with N. in his carriage. Told him what Sir Thomas Reade told me, viz., that the Russian Commissioner did not take any part in the letter written officially to the Governor to see him. That it was only the French and Austrian Commissioners who had applied; that the Russian would be very proud of being introduced to him, not in an official capacity—in fact, in any manner which would not constrain him. He appeared surprised at this, and said that he had been told that the Austrian and Russian had applied, and not the Frenchman. He made me repeat it to him again. He said that they—the two who had applied—had taken their measures very badly if they wanted to be presented to him. That all the powers of Europe could not force him to receive them. "It is true," said he, "they can break open the door or level the house down, and then find me, where—where? . . . If they are not satisfied with the Governor's report that I am here, cannot he cause them to come up when I am walking in the garden? They can see me from the other side of the ditch walking, if they do not credit this jailer of a Governor, this chief of spies." He then remarked what coglioneria (nonsense) it was to send such a set out without any official authority, unrecognized even by the Governor, and again said that no powers should force him to see them against his will: that 2,000,000 men in arms should not make him do it. I told him that the Russian was a man of talent, and very much esteemed by those who knew him.

Insulting Creature!

The ancient lady clerk, whose term of departmental service began not with the era of Hykos Kings of Egypt, but with the beginning of the regime of the lamented General Spinner, had just stooped behind her desk screen the other afternoon to dab her nose with a chamois-skin powder rag—preparatory to a one-minute-to-four departure—when the new male stenographer, who was audibly checking off an account for one of the auditors, sang out:

"Flour—two hundred weight!"

"Insulting creature!" muttered the ancient lady clerk, hastily restoring the powder rag to its receptacle, and then all of the subdued ancient male clerks in the room sniggered in a way that was real rude, to say the least.—Washington Post.

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