WHEAT TRADE LIGHT

Demand From Outside Is Good but Shipping Is Difficult.

WEEK TURN-OVER REDUCED

Farmers Withdraw From Market as Bids at Country Points Are Lowered — Freer Selling Is Expected Soon.

Yesterday closed a very unsatisfactory week for the wheat trade. The total volume of business was about the lightest for the season to date, and at the windup the market was weak all around.

The chief difficulty was the poor transportation service brought about by the car shortage in the Northwest and the embargoes against shipments to various ports in the East. There was a steady export demand throughout the week and a fair inquiry from the East for certain grades of wheat, but as there was little chance of getting the grain forward promptly buyers were more or less idle.

The lack of offerings by farmers would have restricted business, even were it possible to move shipments freely. There was plenty of selling when the market was at the dollar point in the country, but with bids now down to about 95 cents for club, sales have become a trifling matter. Dealers look for offerings on a larger scale toward the end of the month as tax time approaches, but it is a question in their minds whether any great quantity will be available then.

At the Merchant's Exchange session yesterday club wheat bids were unchanged from Friday, but offers for milling wheat were reduced 1 to 2 cents. Red wheat bids were 1 cent lower than the day before.

Barley and oats are more or less nominal in the local market. East of the Cascades unsold stocks of these cereals are much reduced and what is left in first hands is firmly held.

Broomhall's Argentine report says of wheat: "Movement is disappointing. Stocks are accumulating slowly and holders are not pressing for sale. Freights remain steadyy. Shipments of all grain are light as available tonnage is being used for beef and bottoms are scarce. Wheat shipments will remain light for some time, although the export demand is urgent and price offers attractive."

Terminal receipts, in cars, were reported by the Merchants' Exchange as follows:

	Wheat	Barley	Flour	Oats	Hay
Portland—					
Saturday	3	..	1	..	7
Year ago	89	11	4	18	7
Total this wk.	89	11	49	16	75
Year ago	415	164	23	100	41
Season to date	9116	1322	1190	818	1643
Year ago	14,064	1604	1634	1077	1521
Tacoma—					
Friday	20	..	..	1	8
Year ago	99	4	..	11	11
Season to date	5832	487	..	257	1135
Year ago	8017	452	..	523	2518
Seattle—					
Friday	29	13	7	4	19
Year ago	5	16	19	1	14
Season to date	6587	1082	1597	747	3089
Year ago	6279	895	1704	960	3453

OLD WOOL STOCK ABOUT CLEANED UP.

Contracting on Large Scale in Utah at High Prices.

Stocks of 1915 wool in Portland warehouses are being rapidly reduced, only about 100,000 pounds now remaining unsold. The market is strong, and the attractive prices being offered will soon clean up the remainder.

The contracting movement in this state continues backward, but elsewhere in the West forward buying is on an increasing scale. Another million pounds has been bought by an Eastern firm in Utah at a grease price equal to 75 cents for fine and fine medium secured laid down in the East, provided the stock does not shrink more than last year's wool.

Wool has been contracted for on the sheep's back as early as this and earlier in the past, but never, it is said, has so high a price been secured by the growers. Such purchases are highly speculative, but the operations that are being conducted prove quite conclusively that leading trade factors are convinced that wool values are going to remain high for a long time to come.

Reports from Montana stated that contracts had been entered into in that section also and that the prices agreed upon for fine and fine medium were practically the same as those procured by Utah growers.

A number of buyers are now on their way west representing Eastern dealers and mills, and the competition that will result when they get on the ground is expected to establish the primary markets on a very firm basis.

ASSOCIATION SELLS MORE HOPS

Strong Foreign Demand, But Transportation Is Obstacle.

According to reports from Salem, the Oregon Hopgrowers' Association has disposed of a considerable quantity of hops in the past week. Its unsold holdings are now estimated at about 12,000 bales.

There is a strong export demand for hops in this state and in California and it is probable the larger part of the remaining supply will go abroad. The principal difficulty now is to provide transportation.

California advices were that deals involving a big block of hops were under way with export buyers. The latest transaction in that state was the sale by Cassleman & Leeman of 150 bales of Sacramentos to Donovan at 10½ cents.

No contracting has been reported in this state yet, but a fair amount of future buying has been done in California and Washington. Dealers are offering 11 cents for one year and 12 cents for three years for Oregon contracts.

OREGON ONION STOCKS ARE REDUCED

Only 140 Cars Now Remain Unsold in This State.

The onion market holds steady at the former quotation of $2 f. o. b. During the past week 21 cars were shipped out by the association. Only about 140 cars now remain unsold in the state.

The potato market was quoted weak, with increased offerings by farmers and no improvement in the shipping demand.

Oranges have sold well during the past few days, and the heavy midweek arrivals were well cleaned up. The quality of the navels is now at their best and dealers believe prices are at bottom. Apples are also selling freely.

Pineapple shipments will start about March 1. The fruit that has been arriving for the last month has been immature and poor in quality.

A car of sweet potatoes was received yesterday and the stock was quoted firm. The lettuce coming up shows the effect of heavy rains and frost in the growing sections of Southern California.

SHIPPING ORDERS FOR EGGS FILLED

Good Outside Demand Prevents Market From Declining Fast.

Eggs were weak at the close, but stocks cleaned up well on the street. The general price was 27 cents, case count. The filling of shipping orders has checked the greater decline that would have otherwise occurred.

The dressed meat market continued very weak. Veal was quoted at 9 cents top, and pork at 9½ cents. Hens, large and small, sold at 15 cents. A few broilers were on hand and brought 18 and 20 cents.

No change was reported in dairy produce lines.

Montana Wool Brings 30 Cents.

DILLON, Mont., Feb. 19.—A quarter million pounds of wool were contracted for here today at 30 cents or better by Boston buyers. State Senator E. O. Selway was the first to sign a contract for the first wool sold in Montana this year. Thirty cents is the highest price ever paid for wool in Beaver Head County, the biggest woolgrowing region of the state.

Bank Clearings.

Bank clearings of the Northwestern cities yesterday were as follows:

	Clearings.	Balances.
Portland	$1,441,661	$135,638
Seattle	1,889,999	180,848
Tacoma	316,630	54,442
Spokane	664,380	112,460

Bank clearings of Portland, Seattle and Tacoma for the past week and corresponding weeks in former years were:

	Portland.	Seattle.	Tacoma.
1916	$11,538,166	$13,211,874	$2,264,356
1915	12,000,834	12,500,059	2,117,032
1914	12,298,950	11,799,970	2,129,431
1913	10,841,925	11,651,277	2,336,189
1912	9,172,594	9,028,883	3,658,193
1911	9,312,525	9,451,600	3,577,652
1910	7,288,558	9,464,307	4,762,316
1909	5,354,921	7,651,482	4,008,779
1908	5,545,594	7,232,857	3,821,852
1907	7,402,059	10,251,852	4,340,717
1906	5,102,893	10,709,459	3,501,270
1905	3,817,031	5,196,964	2,635,969

PORTLAND MARKET QUOTATIONS

Grain, Flour, Feed, Etc.

Merchants' Exchange, noon session, February delivery.

	Bid.	Ask.	Bid Yr. ago.
Wheat—			
Bluestem	$ 1.07	$ 1.13	$ 1.54½
Fortyfold	.97	1.07	1.53
Club	.96	1.05	1.52
Red fife	.96	.....	1.44
Red Russian	.96	.....	1.42½
Oats—			
No. 1 white feed	26.00	27.00	34.75
Barley—			
No. 1 feed	29.00	.....	28.00
Bran	21.50	24.00	26.00
Shorts	23.50	26.00	27.00
	Bid.		Ask.
March bluestem	$ 1.08		$ 1.13
April bluestem	1.08		1.14
March fortyfold	.98		1.08
April fortyfold	.98		1.08
March club	.97		1.05
April club	.97		1.06
March red fife	.96		.....
April red fife	.96		.....
March Russian	.96		.....
April Russian	.96		.....
March oats	26.25		27.50
April oats	26.50		28.00
March feed barley	29.00		.....
April feed barley	29.00		.....
March bran	22.00		24.00
April bran	22.00		24.00
March shorts	24.00		26.00
April shorts	24.00		26.00

FLOUR — Patents, $5.60 per barrel; straights, $4.90@5.40; exports, $4.70; valley, $5.10; whole wheat, $5.80; graham, $5.60.

HAY—Eastern Oregon timothy, $18.50@19.50; valley timothy, $16; alfalfa, $20.

MILLFEED—Spot prices: Bran, $23.50@24 per ton; shorts, $26@26.50; rolled barley, $31.50@32.50.

CORN—Whole, $37 per ton; cracked, $38 per ton.

Fruits and Vegetables.

TROPICAL FRUITS — Oranges, navels, $1.85@3.25 per box; lemons, $3@4.50 per box; bananas, 5c per lb.; pineapples, 4½@6c per pound; grapefruit, $2@5.25; tangerines, $1.50@1.75.

VEGETABLES — Artichokes, $1@1.15 per dozen; tomatoes, California, $2.75; cabbage, $1.50@1.65 per hundred; garlic, 10c per lb.; peppers, 20@25c per pound; eggplant, 25c per pound; sprouts, 8@9c per pound; horseradish, 8½c per pound; cauliflower, $1.25 per dozen; celery, $4.75 per crate; lettuce, $2.40@2.50 per crate; cucumbers, $1.50@2.50; hothouse lettuce, 75c@$1 per box.

GREEN FRUITS—Grapes, $4 per barrel; cranberries, $11 per barrel.

POTATOES—Oregon, $1.40@1.50; Yakimas, $1.65 per sack; sweets, $3.25@3.50 per hundred.

ONIONS—Oregon, buying prices, $2 f. o. b. shipping point.

APPLES—Spitzenbergs, extra fancy, $2.25; fancy, $2; choice, $1.25@1.50; Yellow Newtowns, extra fancy, $2; fancy, $1.75; choice, $1.35@1.50; Rome Beauty, fancy, $1.50@1.60; Winesaps, choice, $1.15@1.35; Stayman, choice, $1.25@1.35.

Dairy and Country Produce.

Local jobbing quotations:

EGGS—Jobbing prices: Oregon ranch, candled, 29c per dozen; uncandled, 27c per dozen.

POULTRY—Hens, 15c; small Springs, 15c; broilers, 18@20c; turkeys, live, 18@20c; turkeys, dressed, choice, 24@25c; ducks, 12@14c; geese, 10c.

BUTTER—Prices from wholesaler to retailer: Portland city creamery prints, 60-pound case lots, standard grades, 34c; lower grades, 28@32½c; Oregon country creamery prints, 60-pound case lots, standard makes, 32½c; lower grades 28@31c; butter packed in cubes, 2c less. Prices paid by jobbers to producers: Cubes, extras, 29½c; firsts, 27½c; seconds, 25c; dairy butter, country roll, 16@18c; butter fat, No. 1, 82c; No. 2, 29c.

CHEESE—Oregon triplets, jobbing buying prices, 20c per pound, f. o. b. dock Portland; Young Americas, 21c per pound.

VEAL—Fancy, 9c per pound.

PORK—Fancy, 9½c per pound.

Staple Groceries.

Local jobbing quotations:

SALMON—Columbia River, 1-pound talls, $2.30 per dozen; one-half flats, $1.50; 1-pound flats, $2.50; Alaska pink, 1-pound talls, 95c.

HONEY—Choice, $3.25 per case.

NUTS—Walnuts, sack lots, 16c; Brazil nuts, 13@13c; filberts, 16@18c; almonds, 16½c; peanuts, 5½c, cocoanuts, $1 per dozen; pecans, 10@25c; chestnuts, 10c.

BEANS—Small white, 7.20c, large white, 7.15c; lima 6c; bayou, 6½c; pink, 5¾c.

COFFEE—Roasted in drums, 14@33c.

SUGAR — Fruit and berry, $7.00; beet, $6.80; extra C, $6.50; powdered, in barrels, $7.25; cubes, barrels, $7.40.

SALT—Granulated, $16.50 per ton; half ground, 100s, $9.50 per ton; 50s, $10.50 per ton; dairy, $14 per ton.

RICE—Southern head, 5¾@6½c pound; broken, 4c. Japan style, 4½@5c.

DRIED FRUITS—Apples, 8c per pound; apricots, 13@15c; peaches, 8c; prunes, Italians, 8@9c; raisins, loose Muscatels, 8c; unbleached Sultanas, 9½@10c; seeded, 9c; dates, Persian, 10c pound; fard, $1.05 per box; currants, 8½@12c; figs, 50 6-ounce, $2; 10 4-ounce, $2.25; 36 10-ounce, $2.40; 12 10-ounce, 85c; bulk, white, 7@8c; black, 6c per pound.

Hops, Wool, Hides, Etc.

HOPS—1915 crop, 10@13c per pound; 1916 contracts, 11@12c per pound.

HIDES—Salted hides, 25 pounds and up, 15c; salted stags, 50 pounds and up, 11c; salted kip, 35 pounds to 25 pounds, 16c; salted calf up to 15 pounds, 19c, green hides, 25 pounds and up, 13½c; green stags, 50 pounds and up, 9½c; green kip, 15 pounds to 25 pounds, 16c; green calf, up to 15 pounds, 19c; dry flint hides, 26c; dry flint calf, up to 7 pounds, 28c; dry salt hides, 21c.

WOOL—Eastern Oregon, 18@25c; valley, 25@26c.

MOHAIR—Oregon, 28@29c per pound.

CASCARA BARK—Old and new, 4c per pound.

PELTS—Dry long-wooled pelts, 17c; dry short-wooled pelts, 15c; dry shearlings, 10@15c each; salted shearlings, 15@25c each; dry goat, long hair, 15c each; dry goat shearlings, 10@20c each; salted long-wooled pelts, February, $1.25@2 each.

Provisions.

HAMS—All sizes, choice, 19c; standard, 17½c; skinned, 14@17c; picnics, 9½c; cottage roll, 13½c.

BACON—Fancy, 27@28c; standard, 21@22c; choice, 15½@20c.

DRY SALT—Short, clear backs, 11½@13½c; exports, 11½@13c; plates, 9@10½c.

LARD—Tierce basis, kettle rendered, 11¾c; standard, 10¾c; compound, 10½c.

BARREL GOODS—Mess beef, $18; plate beef, $19; plate pork, $18; tripe, $10.50@11.50.

Oils.

KEROSENE—Water white, drums, barrels or tank wagons, 10c; cases, 17½@20½c.

GASOLINE—Bulk, 18½c; cases, 25½c; naptha, drums, 15½c; cases, 22½c.

LINSEED OIL—Raw, barrels, 89c; raw, cases, 94c; boiled, barrels, 91c; boiled, cases, 96c.

TURPENTINE—In tanks, 67c; in cases, 74c; 10-case lots, 1c less.

SAN FRANCISCO PRODUCE MARKET

Prices Current on Butter, Eggs, Fruit, Vegetables, Etc., at Bay City.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 19. — Butter—Fresh extras, 32c, prime firsts, 30½c; fresh firsts, 29c.

Eggs—Fresh firsts, 22c; pullets, 20c.

Cheese — New, 18c; Young Americas, 17½c.

Vegetables—Egg plant, 10@20c; turnips, 60@65c; Lima beans, 12½@15c; string beans, 12½@15c; bell peppers, 20@25c; cucumbers, $2@2.25.

Onions—California, $1.75@2.25.

Fruit — Lemons, $2.75@3.50; grapefruit $1.50@2.75; oranges, $2.15@2.70; bananas, Hawaiian, 50c@$1.50; pineapples, Hawaiian, $2@3; grapefruit, $1.50@2.75.

Potatoes—Delta, $1.25@1.50; Salinas, $1.75@2; sweets, $2.40@2.50.

Receipts—Flour, 3716 quarters; barley, 11,695 centals; beans, 829 sacks; hay, 518 tons; hides, 355 tons.

Naval Stores.

SAVANNAH, Ga., Feb. 19.—Turpentine steady, 50½c. Sales, 336 barrels; receipts, 69 barrels; shipments, 2 barrels; stock, 10,161 barrels.

Rosin—Dull. Sales, 276 barrels; receipts, 1194 barrels; shipments, 141 barrels; stock, 54,517 barrels. Quote: A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, $5.10; I $5.25; K, $5.85; M, $6.20; N, $6.75; W G, $6.80; W W, $7.

SALES ARE PRESSED

Bears Have All Advantage in Wheat Market.

CHICAGO HEAVY AND LOWER

Export Buying Is Lacking in Spite of Firmness at Liverpool. Larger Receipts in Northwest Add to Weakness.

CHICAGO, Feb. 19.—Bears had the advantage in the wheat market today, chiefly owing to apparent absence of any important European buying and as a result of liberal receipts Northwest. The close was heavy, 1¼c to 2¼@¾ cent lower, with May at $1.27½@¾ and July at $1.22⅝@¾. Corn lost 1⅛@¼c to ½c, oats ⅞c to 1½c, and provisions 2½ to 17½c.

Although at the outset wheat showed a little firmness in sympathy with higher quotations at Liverpool, the tendency afterward was almost uniformly downgrade.

Corn suffered in value, owing to the weakness of wheat and as a result of large arrivals.

Depression in the oats market came about because of the heaviness of prices on other cereals.

Provisions made temporary gains, influenced by speculative buying of lard. In the end, however, the advance was more than offset, mainly through the bearish sentiment prevailing as to grain and hogs.

The leading futures ranged as follows:

	Open.	High.	Low.	Close.
WHEAT.				
May	$1.29⅞	$1.30½	$1.27½	$1.27½
July	1.24	1.24⅛	1.22⅝	1.22⅝
CORN.				
May	.79¼	.79¼	.77⅞	.77⅞
July	.78⅝	.78⅝	.77⅞	.77⅞
OATS.				
May	.48⅝	.48⅝	.47	.47½
July	.46	.46	.45	.45⅛
MESS PORK.				
May	20.85	20.95	20.65	20.70
July	20.87	20.95	20.75	20.75
LARD.				
May	10.[illegible]	10.42	10.30	10.30
July	10.52	10.60	10.47	10.47
SHORT RIBS.				
May	11.55	11.62	11.52	11.52
July	11.65	11.70	11.62	11.62

Cash prices were as follows:

Wheat—No. 2, red, $1.28@1.30½; No. 3 red, $1.25@1.28½; No. 2, hard, $1.28@1.30½. No. 3 hard, $1.24@1.28.

Corn—No. 2, yellow, nominal; No. 4, yellow, 72@72½c; No. 4, white, 82@82¾c.

Oats—No. 3, white, 45½@46½c; standard, 47¾@48½c.

Rye—No. 2, 99c@$1.

Barley—68@76c.

Timothy—$5.50@8.00.

Clover—$10.00@20.00.

Primary receipts—Wheat, 1,497,000 vs. 799,000 bushels. Corn, 1,808,000 vs. 783,000 bushels. Oats, 872,000 vs. 863,000 bushels.

Shipments—Wheat, 1,797,000 vs. 783,000 bushels. Corn, 793,000 vs. 562,000 bushels. Oats, 675,000 vs. 828,000 bushels.

Clearances — Wheat, 1,008,000 bushels. Corn, 43,000 bushels. Oats, 15,000 bushels. Flour, 26,000 barrels.

Foreign Grain Markets.

LIVERPOOL, Feb. 19.—Cash wheat ½d higher. Corn unchanged.

Minneapolis Grain Market.

MINNEAPOLIS, Feb. 19.—Wheat—May, $1.25⅞@1.26; July, $1.24¾@1.24⅞. Cash No. 1 hard, $1.31; No. 1 northern, $1.27@1.30½; No. 2 northern, $1.23@1.28.

Barley, 65½@73c.

Flax, $2.34@2.38.

Eastern Grain Markets.

CHICAGO, Feb. 19.—Cash wheat, 1c to 1½c lower; corn, good grades, 1c to 2c lower; sample, 3c to 5c lower.

DULUTH, Feb. 19.—Wheat—Closed, May, $1.26⅝ asked; July $1.26 asked.

WINNIPEG, Feb. 19.—Wheat—Closed, May, $1.26⅝; July, $1.25½ asked.

KANSAS CITY, Feb. 19.—Wheat—Closed, May $1.18¾; July, $1.16.

Grain at San Francisco.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 19.—Spot quotations—Walla Walla, $1.77½@1.80; red Russian, $1.75@1.77½; Turkey red, $1.87½@1.90; bluestem, $1.90@1.95; feed barley, $1.22½@1.35; browing, $1.40@1.42½; white oats, $1.45@1.47½; bran, 24½@25½c; middlings, 39@31c; shorts, 25½@26c.

Call board—Barley—May, $1.28⅝.

Puget Sound Grain Markets.

SEATTLE, Wash., Feb. 19.—Wheat—bluestem, $1.10; turkey, $1.09; forty-fold, 99c; club, 98c; fife, 98c; red Russian, 97c. Barley, $29.25 per ton; yesterday's car receipts—Wheat, 20; oats, 4; barley, 3; hay, 15; flour, 7.

TACOMA, Feb. 19.—Wheat—Bluestem, $1; forty-fold, 99c@$1; club, 98c; red fife, 97c. Car receipts—Wheat, 20; oats, 1; hay, 8.

HOG SUPPLY IS SHORT

RECEIPTS UNDER LAST FEBRUARY'S RECORD.

Many Offerings of Inferior Quality. Strong Demand for All Mutton Classes.

The livestock market closed at the yards with better prices for hogs than any day since Monday. Two loads of prime grade were sold at $8.15, as against $8 and $8.05, the market for several days preceding. Business in other lines was unimportant.

Receipts were 40 cattle, one calf, 626 hogs and nine sheep. Shippers were:

With hogs—C. E. Lucke, Canby; Sol Dickerson, Weiser; Dickerson & Halley, Weiser, and J. B. Kurgbaum, Weiser, 1 car each.

With mixed loads—C. E. Lucke, Estacada, 1 car cattle and hogs; J. M. Mishler, Hubbard, 1 hogs and sheep. J. Davis, Richfield, sent in 24 cattle, 76 hogs and 2 sheep by boat.

The day's sales were as follows:

89	hogs	142	$8.15	7	hogs	104 $7.00
87	"	146	8.15	37	"	104 7.00
48	"	180	8.00	3	"	152 6.75
7	"	141	8.00	7	lambs	70 8.25
6	"	175	8.00	1	cow	950 6.10
13	"	169	8.00	"	"	950 6.10
11	"	164	8.00	1	"	580 5.00
8	"	169	8.00	1	bull	1240 4.00
13	"	157	8.00	1	"	700 3.50
4	"	122	8.00	1	"	700 3.00

Conditions in the local market are described by the Livestock Reporter as follows:

Cattle receipts for the mid-week market have been heavier than for some time past. Receipts are largely confined to the shortfed and plain variety. Extra well finished steers are very scarce. No choice steers have been offered since Monday when three loads of pulpfeds crossed the scales at $7.50. Trading is somewhat uneven, but good classes are selling on steady basis. Plain and rough steers ranging from 900 to 1100 pounds are being moved at prices ranging from $6.25 to $6.75. The supply of stockers and feeders is very small, only a few loads being moved on account of the several conditions existing against the feeder at present, especially the cost of feed. Three cars went to Washington feed lots the first of the week.

"Receipts of hogs have been fairly good for this time of the year, although they are still short of last year's February record. While there were some very good offerings, there were a noticeable number of light unfinished hogs that would go in the pig class. A good many of the carlots were of the 'succotash' variety—pigs, skips and hogs mixed. It looked very much as if farmers gathered anything in the swine line that could get in on an advancing market.

"There is a keen demand for all classes of sheep, especially yearlings and lambs. The severe weather of the last month seems to have given the sheepmen quite a setback. A good many sheep that were about ready to turn on the market lost a good deal of fat on account of not being able to get enough feed. A fair example was shown Monday when nothing of choice quality was offered. A good bunch of lambs brought 9 cents, but strictly choice fat lambs would have gone over the 9-cent figure. North Portland is the strongest sheep market on the Coast today. Choice lambs are quoted $8.50 to $9; yearlings $7.75 to $8, and ewes, $6.75 to $7. Strictly fat lambs would undoubtedly go above today's quotations."

The range of prices at the local yards for various classes of livestock follows:

Cattle—	
Choice steers	$7.25@7.75
Good steers	6.75@7.00
Medium steers	6.50@6.75
Choice cows	5.50@6.75
Medium cows	4.75@5.20
Heifers	4.00@6.40
Bulls	2.50@4.50
Stags	3.00@5.25
Hogs—	
Light	7.50@8.15
Heavy	6.50@7.15
Sheep—	
Yearlings	7.00@8.00
Ewes	5.75@7.00
Lambs	7.50@9.00

Omaha Livestock Market.

OMAHA, Neb., Feb. 19.—Cattle—Receipts, 100; steady. Native steers 6.25@8.75; cows and heifers 5.25@6.25; Western steers, 6.00@7.75; Texas steers, 5.70@6.70; stockers and feeders, 5.25@7.75.

Hogs—Receipts, 14,100; steady. Heavy, 7.35@8.10; light, 7.80@8.00; pigs, 6.75@7.75; bulk of sales, 7.85@8.05.

Sheep—Receipts, 4,400; market steady. Yearlings, 8.25@9.75; wethers, 7.25@8.00; lambs, 10.50@11.10.

Chicago Livestock Market.

CHICAGO, Feb. 19.—Hogs—Receipts, 22,000; firm at yesterday's average. Bulk 8.10@8.30; light, 7.75@8.30; mixed, 8.00@8.35; heavy, 7.95@8.35; rough, 7.95@8.10; pigs, 6.25@7.40.

Cattle—Receipts, 200; steady. Native steers, 6.60@9.65; Western steers, 6.70@8.75; stockers and feeders, 5.50@7.25; cows and heifers, 3.15@8.25; calves, 8.50@11.25.

Sheep—Receipts, 1000; steady. Wethers, 7.75@8.30; lambs, 9.00@11.35.

COMMODITY LIST SOARS

ADVANCES IN ALMOST ALL STAPLE ARTICLES.

Index Number of Wholesale Quotations Is at Highest Point in Many Years.

Commodity prices continue to advance. During the last five months the upturn in the leading articles of consumption has continued unchecked, and on February 1 Dun's index number of wholesale quotations touched $142,269—the highest level reached since the early '70s. These figures compare with $137,666 at the opening of the previous month, $125,662 on February 1, 1915, and $121,641 two years ago. The enhanced purchasing power of the masses is reflected in sustained buying of the staple necessities, and the proportion between supply and demand has had a strengthening effect on numerous commodities, while speculative influences have accelerated the rise in some quarters.

All but one of the seven divisions into which the index number is divided showed advances during January, the exception being the dairy and garden class, which declined slightly because of cheaper butter, eggs and certain vegetables. Once again the most striking change of the month occurred in breadstuffs, the total of this group rising from $27,318 to $28,781, owing mainly to the increased strength of wheat and oats. Since the former cereal enters largely into general consumption, the net gain in price of almost 15c a bushel materially affected the compilation. Breadstuffs, however, are still considerably below the high level attained on May 1, 1913. With most meats and provisions again tending upward—beef, sheep, hogs, pork, bacon and lard all costing more—this division showed a further substantial advance, while other foodstuffs were moderately higher, as a result of the rise in sugar, coffee and malt.

Among the classes embracing many articles used in manufacturing, as well as the finished products, previous strength in quotations was accentuated and the metals group reached the highest point in years. In several departments of iron and steel, demand continues to exceed supply and frequent complaint is heard of tardy deliveries, transportation problems aggravating the difficulties in making prompt shipments. Copper rose sharply in January and the upturn has been carried further this month, while tin, tinplate and lead again gained in value.

Mainly because of the falling off in exports, raw cotton declined considerably last month and rubber was also lower, but silk continued strong. In the dry goods markets rising prices were again the rule and the same was true of hides and leather, though of late hides have receded somewhat. No check has occurred to the advancing tendency in miscellaneous commodities, lumber, building materials, fertilizers and various drugs and chemicals touching still higher levels.

Owing to the widespread interest in the subject and the numerous requests for information regarding the process by which Dun's index number is obtained, brief explanation of the methods employed should prove timely. Contrary to the assumption in some quarters, this record does not purport to show the actual cost of living for various reasons, but it does present the trend of prices in a manner that brings out clearly the relation between demand and supply. On the nearest business day to the first of every month wholesale quotations of all the necessaries of life are taken and each one is multiplied by the figure agreed upon as the average per capita consumption. While it is obvious that the consumption of some commodities has increased during recent years, it would defeat the purpose of the index to change the multiplier in any instance, because there would no longer be a comparative record of the cost of the same quantities of the same articles back to 1860, as is now the case. The value of adopting the per capita consumption basis in working out the index must at once be apparent; in this way no single article has more than its proper weight in the aggregate, and wide fluctuations in an article little used do not materially affect the total, whereas changes in the great staples have an important bearing on the general result.

CLOVER BACTERIA IS FURNISHED

Agricultural College to Supply It at Small Cost to Farmer.

CORVALLIS, Or., Feb. 19.—(Special.)—Paul V. Maris, state leader in the co-operative extension work, has compiled the following from the weekly reports of county agriculturists:

Lake—During the week I have given daily talks to the eighth-grade class in agriculture, and on Tuesday demonstrated the Babcock test to the class in science at the local high school.—O. B. Hardy.

Klamath—Arrangements were made the first part of this week to hold a meeting of farmers at Bonanza for next Tuesday night for the purpose of organizing a Farmers' Club. R. A. Ward, of the Biological Survey, was with me the last three days of the week and assisted in outlining a plan to form farmers' clubs to combat rodents. A demonstration of preparing poison baits was given at my office. A meeting was arranged for next Monday night at the Henely School.—H. R. Glaisyer.

Jackson—On Tuesday a meeting was held at Phoenix with an attendance of 65. I discussed scab and pear blight, and Professor Reimer gave a good talk on resistant pear stock. The interest of the farmers or orchardists was evidenced by the number of questions asked. As soon as the material arrives experiments will be started to determine the importance of insects in the dissemination of blight.—C. C. Cate.

Yamhill—I find the Granges and the locals of the Farmers' Union active in federating for the purpose of co-operative work. They have a committee making a survey of the business done by members last year. This work was started by the department of organizations and markets of the college, and I have been able to give the committee some assistance. I find that an agent of a soil bacteria company of San Francisco has been through the county selling bacteria for clover inoculation at $2 per acre. Farmers who purchased it admitted to me that they have grown good clover, and that there are an abundance of nodules on the roots. I have in each case advised them of the fact that bacteria can be had from the college at a nominal cost, and have expressed my doubts as to the needs of inoculation here.—M. S. Shrock.

Coos—One of the most successful dairy meetings we have ever had was held on Thursday, February 3, at G. P. Laird's farm, near Riverton. The forenoon was taken up with the dedication of Mr. Laird's new dairy barn, and the occasion was made a sort of a farmers' frolic, with all kinds of sports, music, free cigars and a dinner. After dinner W. E. Meyer, cow-testing specialist for the United States dairy division, and W. A. Barr, with the dairy extension service of Oregon Agricultural College, gave an illustrated talk on dairying, after which they assisted us in reorganizing these two testing associations for another year's work. Quite a number of herds were signed up for the work at this time, and we expect to get more later. The programme was closed by a stock-judging contest conducted by Mr. Barr, in which all of the dairymen took an active part in the work of placing the class of five registered Holstein cows belonging to Mr. Laird.

Dried Fruit at New York.

NEW YORK, Feb. 19.—Evaporated apples, dull and easy; fancy, 8@9c; choice, 6¼@7c; prime, 5¼@5¾c. Prunes, firm. Peaches, quiet.

New York Sugar Market.

NEW YORK, Feb. 19.—Raw sugar, nominal; molasses, 4.28@4.31c; centrifugal, 5.05@5.08c. Refined, firm.

Duluth Linseed Market.

DULUTH, Minn., Feb. 19.—Linseed, cash, $2.33; May, $2.35; July, $2.34½.

Hops at New York.

NEW YORK, Feb. 19.—Hops—Steady.

COPPERS LEAD LIST

Metal Shares Dominate New York Stock Market.

HIGH RECORDS ARE SCORED

War Issues and Other Specialties Are Active at Advance; Rails and Motors Are Under Moderate Pressure.

NEW YORK, Feb. 19.—The market was irregular again today on a diminishing scale of operations. Trading was wholly professional, next week's holiday and the complex international situation causing a complete elimination of public interest.

Metal shares continued to dominate the list, American Smelting leading with an extreme gain of 3 points, while Utah and Chino scored the highest quotations in their history. There was further activity in American Zinc and Butte & Superior, while tobaccos, fertilizers, Mercantile Marine preferred and some of the war issues were higher by 1 to 3 points.

A few special shares, including American Coal Products and Pittsburg Coal common and preferred rose 1 to 3 points, and Bethlehem Steel responded to the company's policy of expansion by an advance of 10¾ to 479½.

Rails and motors were under moderate restraint, but other leaders, notably United States Steel, held around the previous day's final figure.

Some of the early gains underwent substantial reductions in the late dealings, when active selling of coppers and Crucible Steel caused recessions elsewhere. Total sales of stock amounted to 262,000 shares.

Sudden strength of sterling exchange was attributed to the recent purchase of $23,000,000 of United States Steel bonds, which probably called for the purchase of bills on London for that amount. Francs also hardened, but Italian exchange weakened.

Mercantile agencies reported "unparalleled conditions" in various lines of commerce here and at other centers of business distribution. Advances in fabricated steel continue and various articles of apparel are quoted at higher prices. Railway traffic is steadily increasing, with complaints of car shortages.

Bonds ruled steady in today's market. Total sales, par value, $1,645,000.

United States coupon 2s advanced ¾, the coupon 4s ½ and Panama 2s and 3s a point on call during the week. United States registered 3s declined ⅛ and coupon 4s ¼.

CLOSING STOCK QUOTATIONS.

	Sales.	High.	Low.	Closing bid.
Alaska Gold	400	22¾	22¾	22½
Allis-Chalmers	.....	.....	.....	30⅛
Am Beet Sugar	1,200	71¼	70¾	70½
American Can	1,800	62½	62	62
American Loco	700	66⅝	66	66
Am Sm & Refg	18,000	103¾	100⅝	102⅝
do pfd	.....	.....	.....	112½
Am Sug Refg	.....	.....	.....	112½
Am Tel & Tel	1,200	127⅝	127⅝	127¼
American Tob	300	196	194	192
Anaconda Cop	16,000	90⅝	89¾	90⅛
Atchison	100	.....	.....	102
Baldwin Loco	5,900	109⅝	108¼	109½
Balt & Ohio	.....	.....	.....	87
Beth Steel	300	479¼	470	478
Br Rap Trans	.....	.....	.....	86¼
Calif Petrol	400	31	30⅝	30½
Canadian Pacif	1,200	169½	168⅝	168⅝
Central Leath	2,900	55⅝	55	55
Ches & Ohio	900	62	61⅝	61⅞
Chi Gr Western	.....	.....	.....	12⅝
Chi Mil & St P	.....	.....	.....	94½
Chi & N W	300	128¾	128	128
C R I & P Ry	900	19⅝	19⅜	19½
Chino Copper	11,200	60	59¼	59⅝
Colo Fu & Iron	400	45½	45	44⅝
Crucible Steel	8,200	81½	80	80
D & R G pfd	.....	.....	.....	15
Dist Securities	6,000	47⅝	46⅝	46⅝
Erie	1,900	37⅝	37	37⅛
General Elect	300	171