

EASTERN MARKETS.

CHICAGO

On Monday the wheat market was very dull and changes in prices slight, the close being slightly firmer than on Saturday. Corn was steady, but oats a fraction lower. Pork opened 10c higher and sold up to \$13.62½, declining later. Closing prices were:

	Feb.	May.
Wheat	77½	83½
Corn	35½	40½
Oats	25½	29½
Pork	13.32½	13.52½
Lard	6.62½	6.80
Short Ribs	6.77½	6.92½

The wheat market continued dull on Tuesday, but there was a steadier feeling, with an improved undertone. The firmness in flour was a bullish factor. The top for the day was 83½c for May. Prices were lower in the afternoon. Provisions were more quiet and easier. Closing prices were:

	Feb.	May.
Wheat	76½	83
Corn	35½	40½
Oats	24½	29½
Pork	13.20	13.40
Lard	6.57½	6.75
Short Ribs	6.75	6.87½

On Wednesday there was a general slump feeling. The dullness of the past few weeks seemed to tell on the market, and caused many to let go. A large quantity of long wheat came out and broke prices down steadily about 1c. It is thought that there is now very little wheat held which was bought below 83c for May; 82½c was the top price for May during the day, and the decline continued to the close, with some temporary reactions. Corn and oats were sympathetically affected. Provisions were an exception, values holding strong throughout, and advancing steadily from the opening. Closing prices were:

	Feb.	May.
Wheat	75½	81½
Corn	34½	40½
Oats	24½	29
Pork	13.60	13.75
Lard	6.65	6.87½
Short Ribs	6.90	7.05

Wheat opened limp on Thursday. May started at 80½c. Long wheat continued to pour in upon the market, one line of 3,500,000 bushels coming out. Other large lines were dumped. After this had gone on for some time, the pressure to liquidate seemed to have greatly spent itself, and prices became firm. Shorts were engaged in evening the profits. The deal of the last few days will greatly eliminate the short influence. Provisions were rather quiet, but one heavy bulge occurred in pork, advancing prices to \$14.30 for May. Closing prices were:

	Feb.	May.
Wheat	75½	81½
Corn	34½	40½
Oats	24½	29½
Pork	14.00	14.22½
Lard	6.75	6.95
Short Ribs	7.10	7.22½

On Friday wheat was fairly active on local account. Prices were unsettled and the close slightly lower. May sold up to 81½c, under free buying. Later selling became free, and with weak private cables prices receded. Pork reacted from yesterday's bulge, and sold away off, and ribs followed. Lard sold at an advance

of 12½c, and held quite firm, despite the general bearish feeling. Closing prices were:

	Feb.	May.
Wheat	75	81½
Corn	35	40½
Oats	24½	29½
Pork	13.70	13.85
Lard	6.77½	6.95
Short Ribs	6.95	7.05

On Saturday the wheat market was slumpier from the start, and prices sold down steadily and rapidly from the opening to the close. May started at 81½c, and went down to 97½c. Corn followed. There was a temporary firmness in oats, but the close was a fraction lower. Provisions held fairly steady. Closing prices were:

	Feb.	May.
Wheat	73½	79½
Corn	34½	39½
Oats	24½	29
Pork	13.00	13.85
Lard	6.72½	6.87½
Short Ribs	6.95	—

TORONTO.

WHEAT

The local market has been very dull during the week offerings have been light, and the demand even less, with prices easier. Sales so few and far between as to hardly establish reliable quotations. No. 1 fall sold at 80 to 81c, and No. 3 spring and red winter at 83c. A lot of No. 2 red winter sold at 87½c for May delivery.

FLOUR

This market has been very quiet, and the only sale reported was one lot of superior extra, at \$3.60.

OATMEAL

Cars held at \$3.65 to \$3.75 for standard, and \$4 for granulated. Small lots sell at 25c advance on these prices.

OATS

Were not offered very freely, and those coming on the market were held firmly. Prices ranged from 32 to 33c, according to quality.

BARLEY

Was dull and prices tended lower. Quotations at the close were: No. 1, 57½c; No. 2, 52½c.

APPLES

Car lots worth from \$2.50 to \$2.75, with few offered. Street prices, \$2.50 to \$3.00.

BUTTER

Receipts light and prices firm. Prices:—Selections from dairy lots, 20c; good dairy, 16 to 18c; common to good store, 12 to 14c; box lots, rolls, 17 to 18c for really good.

PORK

Quiet at \$15 to \$15.50.

CURED MEATS.

Long clear in car lots, 7½c; cases, 8c; Cumberland, 7½ to 7¾c; rolls, 8½ to 9c; bellies, 10 to 10½c; hams, 11 to 11½c for smoked and 10 to 10½c for green.

LARD

Large pails sold at 9½ to 9¾c, and small 9½ to 10c.

DRESSED HOGS

Have been more active and in good demand, with prices firm. Car lots sold at \$5.85, \$5.90 and \$5.95. Street prices, \$6 to \$6.50.

DRIED APPLES.

Firm and prices advancing. Large lots held at 5c, with dealers selling at 5½ to 6c. Evaporated held at 13c.

DULUTH WHEAT MARKET

The market was very dull on Monday and Tuesday. There was scarcely any trading, and there seemed to be no desire to either sell or buy. Only six cars were on track on Tuesday.

Selling was very large on Wednesday, and heavy blocks of long wheat were thrown on the market. The longs seem to have come to the conclusion that there is no use in holding wheat any longer, and rather than put up more margins they have decided to drop the load. By Thursday the long stuff seemed to have been pretty well got rid of, and this element of weakness was not present in such force. Friday was a very dull day. Receipts have been very small for the week. Not a single car was received on Wednesday, only one on Thursday and ten on Friday. Closing prices for No. 1 hard on each day of the week were as follows:

	Cash	May.	June
Monday	—	84½	—
Tuesday	80	84½	—
Wednesday	—	83½	—
Thursday	80½	83½	—
Friday	—	83	87½
Saturday	—	81½	—

Ground was broken last week for a great new hotel, to be erected on the north side of Congress street, extending from Michigan avenue to Wabash avenue. It is to be eleven stories high, and will cost \$1,500,000. The seating capacity of the auditorium will be 5,000, with a possibility of 8,000.

A traveling man, noticing a pretty girl alone in the car, went over in her direction and smilingly asked: "Is this seat engaged, miss?" "No, sir, but I am, and he is going to get on at the next station." "Oh—ah—indeed—thanks—beg pardon—" and he picked up his feet after stumbling over them, and went into the smoking car to be alone awhile.—*Merchant Traveler*.

Why do we always talk of putting on a coat and vest? Who puts on a coat before the vest? We also say shoes and stockings. What's the matter with us, anyhow?—(*Philadelphia Call*). We also put up signs telling people to wipe their feet, when we mean their boots or shoes. And a father tells his boy he will warm his jacket, when he means to warm the youngster's pantaloons. We are a little eccentric in some things.—*Boston Courier*.

The Chicago Board of Trade has made an important change in the requirements of prime steam lard, whereby that article shall hereafter be solely the product of the trimmings and other fat parts of hogs, rendered in tanks by the direct application of steam. It shall have proper color, flavor and soundness for keeping, and no material which has been salted shall be included. The name and location of the renderer and the grade of the lard shall be plainly branded on each package at the time of packing.

The following is related of an old-fashioned New York merchant, who visited Paris some years ago. While there he went to a fashionable tailor to have a coat made in a particular way: "Sir" said the tailor, "that shape has been out of fashion these six months—pray, do have it of the proper cut." "I do not care for the fashion," said the merchant, "I will wear my coat in the way that is most agreeable to me." The tailor remonstrated, but at last, unwilling to lose a good customer, he said: "Well sir, I have only to entreat, as a return for executing your order, that you will keep it a secret who is your tailor, or I shall lose all my business."