EASTERN MARKETS.

CHICAGO.

The wheat market here during the past week has continued on in its downward course. Trading has been done on a lower range of values than during the previous week, and there has been an utter lack of sustaining influences. Many bulls who have been all along contending against superior forces, have now given up hope. In fact, the old bull element is now almost entirely out of the market, the steady decline from 90c having floored them. Those who proclaimed wheat dirt cheap at 80c are now at a loss to decide whether or not it is cheap at 72 to 73c. However, it is said that many bears have closed out their short wheat at the bottom and have either gone out of the market entirely or bought back quietly. Thus a new set of bulls has been developed, who rely on the intrinsic value of wheat, and who take no stock in statistical information to prove their position. It is now thought that the foreign trade has set in towards this country, and that heavy exportation will soon follow, if speculation does not check such a movement by a too rapid advance in prices. Corn and oats were not specially active during the week and values lower. Provisions have had a dull week and easy prices. The visible supply of wheat in the United States and Canada decreased 801,855 bushels for the week ending April 3.

On Monday the wheat market opened ½c lower than it closed on Saturday, and immediately declined. May fell to 79½c and June 81¼c a drop of about 1½c. A good deal of trading was done at a fraction above the lowest point. It was the belief that some large lines of short wheat has been covered. A short reaction then set in and prices advanced ⅜c, but news of the suspension of the Duluth branch of the Milwaukee house of Hooker, Crittenden & Co. had a depressing effect upon the market, and prices dropped ½c, reaching the lowest point of the day. When it became known that the Milwaukee house was not involved in the failure, confidence was somewhat restored, and prices advanced to 79⅜c for May, holding about the same until the close. There was heavy trading in corn, at steady prices, with the closing ⅜c lower in the forenoon and a further decline of ¼ in the forenoon. Oats were about 1½c lower. Provisions were firmer than for many days. There was a steady buying of all hog products during the day and prices gradually stiffened. Closing prices were:

	Mar.	April.
Wheat	$0.74⅞	79⅜
Corn	33½	37⅞
Oats	25½	29⅞
Pork	9.42½	9.52½
Lard	5.97½	5.97½

On Tuesday there was no meeting of the board of trade, on account of the city elections. Light trading was done on the curb at about yesterday's prices.

On Wednesday the wheat market opened with a very bearish feeling, and continued in the same condition most of the day. The first sales were about 7c lower than Monday and fell away to 78c for May and 79⅞c for June. Trading was principally in May, and a very large amount of long wheat came out. It was stated that there are still 13,000,000 bushels of long wheat in Chicago, and 35 or 40 millions more in the country. The collapse of the warlike feeling in Greece diverted the situation of the leading speculative prop. It was said that British and Continental importers were deterred from buying American wheat because the markets on this side were declining, thus threatening a loss on cargoes, in possible profits. After the first decline there was considerable buying by the shorts, who succeeded in absorbing all the long wheat offered. This caused a firmer feeling and prices advanced ⅜c, soon to be followed by another break and a loss of ⅜c, May touching 77⅜c. In the afternoon another break of 1c, May selling at 76⅜c. From this point prices advanced to 77⅛c where it stood at the close. Corn was easy and fairly active. Oats were moderately active and lower. Provisions were again weaker, caused by the selling of timid shorts on Monday's bulge. Pork was 15c lower than Saturday, and lard 2½c to 5c lower. Closing prices were:

	April.	May.
Wheat	$0.72⅜	77⅛
Corn	33¼	37½
Oats	25¼	29½
Pork	9.25	9.35
Lard	5.92½	5.92½

The break in the wheat market on Wednesday was followed by comparatively steady markets on Thursday. The opening was a shade lower, but prices soon advanced ½ to ⅝c considerable buying was done at the start and Minneapolis and Duluth sold freely on the bulge. After a slight reaction, prices again advanced on the report that 100,000 bushels had been taken for immediate shipment abroad. However the rally was only temporary, and prices receded to the starting point, recovering ⅜c just before the close. The afternoon market was strong and higher. Stimulated by reports of steady buying for export, the market advanced to 77⅝c for May and closed at the top. There was a nervous feeling apparent during the day, which was indicated clearly on several occasions, but the day was passed without any serious disturbance. The presence of the foreign element as a buyer, was a feature of the market, and would have had a better effect on it had it not been for the bearish influence of the whole Northwest. Trading in corn and oats was light. Provisions were quiet and prices inclined to sag, but firmer in the afternoon. Quotations were as follows:

	April.	May.
Wheat	$0.73¼	77⅝
Corn	33½	37⅝
Oats	25⅜	29¾
Pork	9.30	9.40
Lard	5.92½	5.92½

On Friday the market was again fairly steady, with greater strength apparent. The opening was ½ to ¼c lower, but light offerings and free buying had the effect of advancing prices ½c. A temporary decline of ½c then followed, but prices almost immediately advanced and remained at the top till the close of the morning session. The afternoon market was weak and prices ½c lower. Considerable trading was done in oven, at steady values. Oats were quiet and unchanged. Provisions were steady. A good export demand was reported by packers, together with an improvement in domestic markets. The fear of larger receipts than first estimates keeps the feeling easy. Closing prices were:

	April.	May.
Wheat	72¾	77½
Corn	33½	37½
Oats	25¾	29¾-⅞
Pork	9.27½	9.37½
Lard	5.92½	5.95

On Saturday the wheat market was again stronger, and although prices declined at one time to ⅜c below Friday's close, yet the average standing was at a higher range of values. Sales of May were made at from 72½c to 73¼c, and the close ¼c below the highest point. June closed at 79⅝c. Provisions were again easier and prices slightly lower. Closing prices were:

	April.	May.
Wheat	$0.73⅛	77¾
Corn	—	—
Oats	—	—
Pork	9.37½	9.32½
Lard	5.92½	5.95

TORONTO.

STOCKS.

Leading bank stocks during the week have not been particularly active, but values have held firm as usual. Only one bank shows a decline as compared with a week ago, and that is only one point. Five others are stationary and the balance have advanced slightly. Montreal was offered at 210, or 1 higher than bid. Merchants and Federal were also offered at 1 above bids, 74½c was asked for Northwest Land, and sold at 74½c. Closing bids for Wednesday, April 7th, as compared with the same day of the previous week, were as follows:

	Mar. 24.	April 7.
Montreal	208½	.. 209
Ontario	113	.. 114¾
Toronto	198	.. 198
Merchants'	121¼	.. 123
Commerce	121½	.. 121½
Imperial	134¼	.. 134¼
Federal	110	.. 110
Dominion	212¾	.. 213¼
Standard	123¼	.. 123
Hamilton	134	.. 135
Northwest Land	75¼	.. 74
C.P.R. Bonds	101½	.. 101½
do Stocks	67	.. 66¼

GRAIN AND PROVISIONS.

The grain market has been increasingly quiet during the past week. Offerings have been exceptionally unusual, but not any too light for the demand. Buyers did not seem to care about increasing their stocks while prices were on the decline at outside markets, and holders seemed determined not to make sufficient concessions to induce purchasers to take hold. There is still a large portion of the crop held in the country waiting for a higher range of prices, and unless this takes place soon, a dull month or two is anticipated. It is not ex-