PRICES HELD UP UNDER A STRAIN

NEARLY TWO POINTS DECLINE IN PENNSYLVANIA.

The Break in That Standard Stock Tested the Strength of the Market, Which Gave Way But Little, Although Weakness Developed in a Few Spots—Cessation of Movement in American Can.

New York, February 1.—Movements of the leading stocks today were narrow and irregular. Speculation slowed down and displayed lack of initiative. A break of nearly 2 points in Pennsylvania was the most conspicuous change, these shares being sold on reports of a proposed larger stock issue which were subsequently denied. Some disappointment also was expressed at the small gain in net earnings shown in the December statement. The break in this standard stock tested the strength of the market, which held up quite well, although weakness developed in a few spots.

How largely the stock market operations of the week were built about the bull campaign in the American Can stocks was indicated by the lessening of speculative interest today, which was coincident with the cessation of the upward movement in Can. That stock dropped two points, although it subsequently recovered much of its loss. Selling of these shares was attributed to disappointment of traders who had expected a definite announcement by the directors yesterday of a plan to pay off the back dividends on the preferred.

The market seemed to feel the lack of the stimulus to speculation derived from the bidding of the Can stocks and trading was quieter. Another influence which tended to restrict speculation was the belief that the Supreme Court's decision in the Minnesota rate case might be handed down on Monday.

Independent steel stocks developed considerable strength. Colorado Fuel preferred rose four points to 155, its record price. Increased interest was shown in Union Pacific, which for a time sold at an advance of a point on expectations that announcement of the Harriman dissolution plan would soon be made. Declaration of an initial dividend of 1½ per cent. on M. Rumely resulted in a two-point advance in that stock.

The bank statement did not come up to expectations; instead of the predicted cash gain, the actual table revealed a loss of $3,600,000.

Rates for Money.

New York, February 1.—Money on call nominal; no loans. Time loans stronger; 60 days 3¼a3½ per cent. and 90 days 3¾a4; six months, 4a4¼. Prime mercantile paper, 4½a5 per cent.

Foreign Exchange.

New York, February 1.—Sterling exchange steady, with actual business in bankers' bills at 483.10 for 60-day bills and at 487.25 for demand. Commercial bills, 483.

Bar Silver.

New York, February 1.—Bar silver was quoted at 61⅞c per ounce. Mexican dollars, 48½.

Closing Quotations at New York.

New York, February 1.—Closing quotations at the New York exchange were:

	Highest.	Lowest.	Closing.	Sales.
Amal Copper	73½	72⅞	73⅜	5,100
Am Agricultural	--	--	53½	----
Am Beet Sugar	37½	37¼	37½	300
American Can	43⅞	41⅞	43⅛	27,300
do pfd	127½	125¾	127½	2,000
Am Car & Fdy	--	--	53	----
Am Cotton Oil	52	52	52	200
Am Ice Securities	23¾	23¾	23¾	100
American Linseed	--	--	10¾	----
Am Locomotive	41¼	41⅛	40¾	300
Am Smlt & Rfg	73¾	73½	73½	1,000
do pfd	--	--	106¼	----
Am Sugar Rfg	117⅞	117¾	117½	200
Am Tel & Tel	132⅛	131⅝	132	2,800
Am Tobacco	--	--	284¼	----
Anaconda Mining	38	37⅝	38	600
Atchison	103⅞	103¾	103¾	400
do pfd	101¾	101¾	101½	200
Atlantic Coast L	--	--	130	----
Balt & Ohio	102⅜	102¼	102¼	700
Bethlehem Steel	39	39	39	200
Brook Rap Tran	91¾	91	91	1,300
Canadian Pacific	241	240½	240½	500
Central Leather	29	29	28½	100
Ches & Ohio	78½	78½	78½	100
Chicago Gt West	--	--	16½	----
C, Mil & St P	114	113¾	113½	900
Chicago & N W	--	--	136½	----
Col Fuel & Iron	40¾	37¼	40⅝	7,400
Consolidated Gas	--	--	137¾	----
Corn Products	16½	15	15⅛	5,500
Del & Hudson	--	--	164	----
Denver & Rio G	--	--	21	----
do pfd	--	--	38	----
Distillers' Secur	18⅝	18⅝	18½	100
Erie	31⅝	31⅜	31½	400
do 1st pfd	48½	48⅜	48⅜	800
do 2d pfd	--	--	39½	----
General Electric	--	--	142⅝	----
Goodrich Rubber	63	63	62¾	100
Goldfield Cons	2	2	2	100
Gt North pfd	128⅞	128¾	128¾	200
Gt North Ore ctfs	--	--	39¾	----
Illinois Central	--	--	127½	----
Interbor Metrop	19⅜	18½	19⅛	4,400
do pfd	65	63⅝	64½	2,900
Inter Harvester	114¼	114	113	200
Inter Marine pfd	--	--	79	----
Inter Paper	--	--	12	----
Inter Pump	--	--	15½	----
Kan City Southn	--	--	26¼	----
Laclede Gas	--	--	103	----
Lehigh Valley	162¼	161½	161¾	1,600
Louis & Nash	--	--	139¼	----
M, St P & S S M	140	139¾	139½	200
Mo, Kan & Texas	--	--	27¼	----
Missouri Pacific	41⅞	41¾	41¾	300
National Biscuit	--	--	119½	----
Nat Enameling	18½	18½	18⅜	100
do pfd	--	--	89	----
National Lead	--	--	52½	----
Nevada Cons	18⅛	18⅛	18⅛	700
N Ry of M 2d pfd	--	--	24½	----
N Y Central	108½	108½	108½	100
N Y, Ont & West	--	--	31¾	----
Norfolk & West	140¾	110⅜	110½	600
North American	81	81	100	----
Northern Pacific	119½	119¼	119½	400
Pacific Mail	--	--	30	----
Pennsylvania	122⅞	121⅛	121¾	13,800
People's Gas	--	--	115½	----
Pr C, C & St L	--	--	127½	----
Pittsburgh Coal	23¾	23¼	23⅝	500
Pressed Steel Car	--	--	33½	----
Pullman Pal Car	161½	161½	161½	100
Reading	165⅞	164¾	165⅜	13,000
Rep Iron & Steel	27¾	26¾	27⅝	1,500
do pfd	89¼	89	89	400
Rock Island Co	23¾	23⅜	23½	400
do pfd	42¼	42¼	42	300
St L & S F 2d pfd	--	--	27¼	----
Seaboard Air Line	--	--	19⅝	----
do pfd	--	--	47¼	----
Sears-Roebuck	207½	207⅜	207½	200
S-S Steel & Iron	--	--	44	----
Southern Pacific	108½	107½	107½	9,600
Southern Railway	--	--	27⅜	----
do pfd	80½	80¼	80½	200
Tennessee Copper	33⅞	33½	33½	200
Texas & Pacific	--	--	20½	----
Union Pacific	161½	160¼	161	9,200
do pfd	90¼	90¼	90	100
U S Realty	--	--	23½	----
U S Rubber	65¾	65½	65½	500
U S Steel	65½	64⅝	65	19,400
do pfd	110⅜	110¼	110¼	300
Utah Copper	54⅝	54¼	54⅝	500
Va-Car Chemical	37	37	37	100
Wabash	--	--	3⅞	----
do pfd	--	--	13	----
Western Maryland	--	--	43	----
Western Union	--	--	71½	----
Westing Electric	73¼	73	72¾	800
Wheel & L Erie	--	--	7⅜	----
Total sales			162,300	shares.

New York Curb Stocks.

[Furnished by Whelan, Duer & Lanahan, bankers and brokers, Calvert Building.]

Closing prices February 1 of the most active curb securities were as follows:

	Bid.	Asked.
Adams Express 4s	80	84
British Columbia Copper	4¼	4½
British-American Tobacco	24¾	24⅞
Chicago Subway	4½	7
Giroux Consolidated	3	3⅛
Greene-Cananea	8½	9
Hollinger	15	15¾
Kerr Lake	3⅛	3¼
La Rose Consolidated	3	3¼
Lehigh Valley Coal Sales Co	215	230
Nipissing Mines	8⅞	9
Yukon Gold	3	3⅛

New York Bonds.

New York, February 1.—Bonds continued to move in an uncertain way. Total sales, par value, $1,463,000. Panama 3s, advanced ¼ on call on the week. Closing prices were:

U S ref 2s reg	101	Lake Shore db 4s	92⅜
U S ref 2s cou	101	D & N unif 4s	98⅞
U S 3s reg	102½	M, K & T 4s	94
U S 3s cou	102⅝	M, K & T 4½s	86½
U S 4s reg	113½	‡Missouri Pac 4s	70⅛
U S 4s cou	113½	Missouri Pac 5s	87
Panama 3s cou	102¼	N Ry of M 4½s	85¾
All-Chal ctfs	62	N Y C gen 3½s	86¾
Am Agricul 5s	101½	N Y C deb 4s	90½
Am T & T cv 4s	106	N Y, N H & H	
‡Am Tobacco 6s	121	conv 3½s	85¾
Armour 4½s	91¾	N & W 1st 4s	99
Atchison gen 4s	97⅞	‡N & W cv 4s	109
Atchison cv 4s	102⅝	Nor Pacific 4s	98¼
Atchison cv 5s	104⅛	Nor Pacific 3s	68
A C L 1st 4s	95	Ore S L ref 4s	91¼
B & O 4s	97⅞	Pa cv 3½s	101¾
B & O 3½s	91⅛	Pa con 4s	102¼
B R T cv 4s	97¼	Reading gen 4s	97¼
‡Cent of Ga 5s	107¾	‡St L & S F fg 4s	76⅛
Cent Leather 5s	97	St I & S F gen 5s	81
C & O 4½s	100¾	St L & W con 4s	80½
‡C & O cv 4½s	92	Seaboard Adj 5s	74¾
C & O 3½s	60	Seaboard 4s	95½
C, B & Q joint 4s	95⅝	So Pac cv 4s	93⅝
C, B & Q gen 4s	95¾	So Pac ref 4s	94
C, M & St P cv 4½s	104⅝	Southern Ry 5s	106½
C, R I & P col 4s	64⅛	Southern Ry 4s	78
C, R I & P ref 4s	87⅞	Union Pac 4s	99¼
C & S ref 4½s	94¼	Union P cv 4s	96½
D & H cv 4s	97⅝	Union P ref 4s	95
D & R G ref 5s	83½	U S Rubber 6s	103¼
Distillers' 5s	67	U S Steel 2d 5s	102
Erie pr lien 4s	86⅛	Va-Car Chem 5s	97⅞
Erie gen 4s	75⅝	Wabash 1st 4s	61½
Erie cv 4s ser B	76	W-P Terminal 4s	26½
‡Ill Cent 1st 4s	95½	Western Md 4s	83¾
Int Met 4½s	81	Wisconsin Cen 5s	93⅞
‡Int M M 4½s	65½	Wis Cent 4s	91¼
‡Japan 4½s	90¼	‡Bid.	
K C S ref 5s	98⅛		

Philadelphia Closing Prices.

Philadelphia, Pa., February 1.—The closing prices on the exchange were as follows:

	Bid.	Asked.
American Railways	40	40¼
Cambria Steel Company	51⅛	51¼
Cons Traction (New Jersey)	74½	75
Electric & Power 4s	85¼	85½
Electric Storage Battery	53¾	54
General Asphalt	41½	41¾
General Asphalt pfd	76	76¼
Lake Superior Corporation	30	30¼
Lehigh Navigation	91¼	92
Lehigh Valley	80¾	81
Pennsylvania	106¼	106½
Pennsylvania Steel pfd	93	94
Philadelphia Company	49	49⅛
Philadelphia Company pfd	43½	43¾
Philadelphia Electric	24¼	24⅜
Philadelphia Rapid Transit	27½	27¾
Philadelphia Traction	83½	83⅝
Tonopah	5⅞	6
Tonopah Belmont	8	8 1-16
Union Traction	51	51¼
United Gas Improvement	90⅜	90½
Warwick	10¾	10⅞
Welsbach 5s	93	93½

Mining Stocks.

NEW YORK, February 1.

Com Tun stock	.06	Ontario	2.50
*Com Tun bonds	.12	Ophir	.25
Con Cal & Va	.13	Small Hopes	.15
Iron Silver	1.50	*Standard	1.00
*Leadville Con	.08	Yellow Jacket	.18
Little Chief	.03	*Offered.	
Mexican	.70		

BOSTON, February 1.

Allouez	38	Mohawk	53½
Amal Copper	73¼	Nevada Cons	18
American Zinc	31⅝	Nipissing Mines	8⅞
Ariz Commercial	3⅜	North Butte	30¾
B & C C & S M	6⅛	North Lake	2
Cal & Arizona	65½	Old Dominion	49
Cal & Hecla	495	Osceola	96
Centennial	21½	Quincy	73
Copper Range	47½	Shannon	12¼
East Butte Cop	14¼	Superior	32
Franklin	7½	Sup & Boston	3⅜
Giroux Cons	3	Tamarack	132
Granby Cons	68½	U S S R & M	41
Greene-Cananea	8⅝	U S S R & M pf	49¾
Isle Royale	28¾	Utah Cons	10¼
Kerr Lake	3⅛	Utah Copper	54½
Lake Copper	19⅞	Winona	3
La Salle Copper	4¾	Wolverine	67½
Miami Copper	23½		

Chicago Futures.

Chicago, February 1.—The range of prices for futures at Chicago was:

	Opening.	High.	Lowest.	Closing.
WHEAT.				
May	93⅞	94	93½	93⅝
July	91½	91⅝	91¼	91⅜
September	90	90¼	89⅝	90
CORN.				
May	52⅜	52½	52¼	52¼
July	53¼	53⅜	53	53
September	54⅛	54¼	53⅞	54
OATS.				
May	34⅛	34⅛	34	34
July	34¼	34¼	34⅛	34⅛
September	34⅛	34⅛	34	34
PORK.				
May	19.05	19.10	19.02½	19.07½
July	19.05	19.05	19.02½	19.05
LARD.				
May	10.15	10.17½	10.15	10.17½
July	10.17½	10.20	10.15	10.20
September	10.20	10.25	10.20	10.25
SHORT RIBS.				
May	10.17½	10.20	10.17½	10.17½
July	10.15	10.15	10.12½	10.15

LOCAL STOCK EXCHANGE

BALTIMORE, February 1.

United Railways issues have been quiet and somewhat heavy of late and today the stock sold at 23½ and the three-year notes, for a small amount, brought 100½. The other United Railways issues also have been neglected. United shares sold up to 26⅝ a few months ago and the notes, which are convertible into stock, were up to 106. United incomes have fallen from a maximum last year of 67⅝, around 62½.

The droopiness in attributed in part to timidity because of the proposed investigation into the affairs of the company by the Public Service Commission. Speaking on this subject, the weekly circular of Nelson, Cook & Co., says:

"The bringing of the United Railways and Electric Company before the Public Service Commission is another unjustifiable attack upon this company. There is absolutely nothing in the affairs of the United Railways Company to be investigated. Its statements are clear and definite and every dollar of revenue is accounted for in the plainest manner; the company has been placed in a most excellent condition both financially and physically, and its accommodation to the public is as good as could be desired. There are absolutely no complaints and it is only the holders of suburban properties which would appear to desire to make their properties more valuable by reducing stdeet carfares in suburban territories, who have at last succeeded in dragging the company before the Public Service Commission. While these suburban developments should be encouraged, it is well for the city to remember that their success is at the expense of the residents of Baltimore city. There are now some 6,000 dwelling houses vacant in Baltimore, which condition is largely attributable to the removal of city residents to suburban districts. Of course, it is natural because it is human that everyone may desire to obtain lower rates of fare, or even to ride for nothing, if possible, but there is another side to the question and that is the injustice done to the United Railways Company and to the holders of its securities by these efforts to reduce suburban fares to a point at which it would be impossible for the company to make operating expenses. There is absolutely no complaint about the five-cent fare charged in the city; one can ride anywhere from five to 15 miles for a nickel-transfers are universal."

The Carolina Power and Light Company reports earnings, as follows:

Month of December	1912	1911
Gross earnings	$43,669	38,627
Operating expenses and taxes	27,642	22,912
Net earnings	$16,017	$15,885
*Other income	1,952	----
Interest on bonds	6,054	4,979
Other interest	2,668	3,228
Net income after charges	$17,295	$7,678
12 Months Ending Dec. 31.	1912	1911
Gross earnings	$446,019	$373,898
Operating expenses and taxes	302,488	237,515
Net earnings	$143,531	$136,182
*Other income	30,000	----
Interest on bonds	67,206	55,614
Other interest	31,555	30,522
Net income after charges	$74,770	$50,246

*Dividend on Asheville Power & Light Co. common stock.

Baltimore Stock Exchange Sales.

[Furnished by Whelan, Duer & Lanahan, Bankers and Brokers, Calvert Building.]

Sales on the Baltimore Stock Exchange were as follows:

MORNING SESSION.

2 shares A C L Rights 3
191 shares A C L Rights 2 15-16
70 shares Cons Coal Co 102¾
145 shares Cons Gas E L & P com 119
5 shares Fid & Deposit Co 176¼
150 shares German Fire Co 19
150 shares Houston Oil com tr ctfs 19½
25 shares Kentucky Sec pfd 72½
36 shares Merch-Mech Bank 32
20 shares Nat Bank of Baltimore 164
12 shares Northern Central Ry 122
100 shares Nat Bank of Commerce 32
100 shares Seaboard A L com 20
45 shares United Railways com 23½
5 shares Western Nat Bank 39½
$1,000 A C L Conv Deb 4s 82
2,000 Anacostia & Potomac 5s 98½
300 Baltimore City 3½s 1920 85¼
4,000 Balto Elec 5s (stamped) 99⅜
4,000 Cons Gas E L & P 4½s 89¾
1,000 Danville Traction 5s 94½
5,000 Fairmont & Clarks Trac 5s 101
2,000 Georgia Pacific 1st 6s 110
6,000 G B S Brewing inc 4s 10
10,000 Jacksonville Gas 5s 1942 96
5,000 Maryland Electric 5s 97½
400 United Rys 3-Year 5s notes 100½
1,000 Wilmington & Weldon 5s 109¼

Closing Quotations.

[Furnished by Whelan, Duer & Lanahan, Bankers and Brokers, Calvert Building.]

The closing quotations on the Baltimore Stock Exchange were as follows:

	Bid.	Asked.
Baltimore City 5s 1916	102½	----
Cons Gas E L & P pfd	120½	121
Citizens' National Bank	42⅛	42½
Farm & Merch Nat Bank	--	49½
First National Bank	145	--
Maryland National Bank	22	--
Mercantile Bank	33	--
Merchants-Mechanics' Bank	31¾	--
Nat Bank of Commerce	32	32½
National Marine Bank	43	--
National Union Bank	137½	--
Second National Bank	202	--
Alabama Mid 5s	106½	107½
A C L of Ct ctfs 5-20s	91	--
Char & West Car Ss	105½	--
Florida Southern 4s	90½	--
Ga & Ala Cons 5s	105	--
Ga, Car & North 1st 5s	--	105⅜
Ga & Fla 5s	62	--
Macon, Dublin & Sav 5s	99	--
New Orleans Gt North 5s	64½	--
New Orl, Mobile & Chicago 5s	86	86¼
Norfolk & Atl Term 5s	94	95
Seaboard 4s (stamped)	85½	86
Northern Central Ry	122	--
Seaboard A L com	--	21
United Railways com	--	23½
Balto, Sp Pt & Ches 4½s	--	96½
Chas City Ry 1st 5s	--	*103¾
Chas Cons Ry G & E 5s	97¼	98
Fairmont & Clarks Trac 5s	--	101¼
Lexington Ry Co 1st 5s	--	95
Newpt News & Old Pt 1st 5s	99	101
N News & Old Pt Com G M 5s	77	78½
Norfolk & Ports Trac 5s	--	91⅝
Norfolk St R R 1st 5s	--	107
Norfolk Ry & Light 5s	99¾	--
United Rys & Elec 1st 4s	84¾	85
United Rys & Elec inc 4s	62½	63
United Rys Fdg 5s	87	--
United Ry 3-Year 5s notes	100½	--
Danville Traction 5s	94	94¼
Wash, Balto & Annap 5s	87¼	88
Baltimore Trust Co	--	160
Colonial Trust Co	28¾	29½
Continental Trust Co	216½	220
Equit Mortg Trust Co	123½	126
Maryland Trust Co	--	121
Baltimore Electric pfd	46	46½
Baltimore Electric 5s	99¼	99½
Cotton Duck 5s	77	77⅜
German Fire Ins Co	19	19⅝
G B S Brewing 1st 4s	48	49½
G B S Brewing 1st 4s	19¼	19⅝
Houston Oil com tr ctfs	--	64½
Houston Oil pfd tr ctfs	--	83
Kentucky Sec pfd	72½	93
Monongahela Val Tr pfd	--	83
Penna Water & Power com	69	70
Penna Water & Power 5s	92½	--
United Elec 1st Cons 4½s	93	93½
Cons Coal Co	102¾	--
Cons Coal Ref 5s	93	93¼
Fairmont Coal Co 1st 5s	96	96¼

Short Term Notes.

Closing quotations for short term notes at New York, February 1, by private wire of Whelan, Duer & Lanahan, bankers and brokers, Calvert Building.

	Bid.	Asked.
B & O 4½s June 1, 1913	100	100¼
Brook Transit 5s July 1, 1918	96¾	97
C & O 4½s June 1, 1914	99¼	99¾
Chicago Elev 5s June 1, 1914	98⅜	98⅝
Erie Railroad 5s Oct. 1, 1914	99⅝	100
Erie Railroad 6s April 8, 1914	100¾	101
Gen Motor 6s Oct. 1, 1915	99¾	100
Gen Rubber 4½s July 1, 1915	97¾	98
Ill Cent 4½s July 1, 1914	99¾	99⅞
Int Gt North 6s Aug. 1, 1914	98⅞	99
Int Harvester 5s Feb. 15, 1915	100⅜	100¾
Lak Steel 5s Mar. 1, 1915	95⅜	96
M, K & T 5s May 1, 1913	100	100¼
Missouri Pac 5s June 1, 1914	97½	97¾
N Y, N H & H 5s Dec. 1, 1915	100⅛	100⅜
N Y Cent 4½s Mar. 1, 1914	99¾	100
N Y Cent 4½s Mar. 1, 1915	99¾	99⅞
St L & S F 6s Sept. 1, 1914	99⅝	100
Westing Elec 6s Aug. 1, 1913	100⅝	101

Bank Statement.

New York, February 1.—The statement of the actual condition of Clearing-house banks and trust companies for the week shows that they hold $16,125,200 reserve in excess of legal requirements. This is a decrease of $5,340,200 from last week. The statement follows:

Actual condition:

		Increase.
Loans	$1,995,955,000	$25,838,000
Specie	353,173,000	*1,822,000
Legal tenders	83,138,000	*2,387,000
Net deposits	1,855,820,000	8,992,000
Circulation	46,329,000	*113,000
Banks' cash reserve in vault	369,970,000	
Trust companies cash reserve in vault	66,341,000	
Aggregate cash reserve	436,311,000	
Excess lawful reserve	16,125,200	*5,340,200

*Decrease.

Trust companies' reserve in Clearing-house members carrying 25 per cent. cash reserve, $61,726,000.

Summary of state banks and trust companies in Greater New York, not included in Clearing-house statement:

		Increase.
Loans	$561,133,300	$3,985,900
Specie	61,557,100	701,500
Legal tenders	7,707,400	*6,400
Total deposits	630,213,900	3,155,300

*Decrease.

Citizens' Bank Circular.

The Citizens' National Bank of Baltimore has inaugurated the issue of a monthly circular letter, giving a digest of trade conditions. In its February number, just published, the bank says:

"Statistical reports show that mercantile, manufacturing and banking conditions have reached a stage which denotes complete prosperity for the country as a whole. Only once in the past 10 years has general business reached its present high level and that was during the month of December, 1909. Only twice during that period has business approached its present high level, once on February 1, 1907, just preceding the financial panic and again on December 1, 1910, when we were reacting from the business slump which occurred during the summer months of that year.

"The present high level of business conditions follows a fluctuating period which began on May 1, 1911, and during the two-year interim a man has had need to be unusually well informed to keep even in reasonably close touch with the ups and downs of business. Since the middle of 1912 a period of prosperity has been pretty well assured us and the improvement since that time has been most remarkable.

"Investment conditions are not enjoying prosperity along with other general lines, stocks and bonds both remaining in something of a funk and there is still room for much improvement. Mercantile lines have demanded the available supply of money and bond prices have declined as a result. As soon as the bulk of the 1912 crops have been moved and cashed and manufacturers have whipped their businesses into good workable shape, money should be easier and the natural tendency would be an advance in bond prices."

In a comprehensive manner the circular covers the business and financial situations in the country at large.

Pritchard's Grain Review.

BY JOSEPH F. PRITCHARD.

Special Dispatch to The American.

Chicago, Ill., February 1.—According to messages received here by a half dozen of the leading commission houses from farmers and grain merchants at Wichita and other points in Kansas, the wheat plant is not likely to suffer damage because of zero weather. These messages say that the plant was never as deeply and as strongly rooted as it is at the present time.

Those who favor the bull side of wheat believe that the movement from country points is likely to fall off because of the crop uncertainty, as the continuation of the present cold weather, with the wheat plant unprotected and with the likelihood of a crop scare later on, may mean higher prices for both cash and futures.

Corn showed a lack of buying power so noticeable on Friday, when there was a rush of shorts to cover. Cold weather throughout the belt has placed the roads in good condition for hauling, and the shelling of corn is now being pushed in many sections of the belt.

Business in oats was small and uninteresting.

The Metal Markets.

NEW YORK, February 1.—The metal markets were quiet and practically nominal. Lake copper, $16.50a16.75; electrolytic, $16.50; casting, $16a16.25. Iron unchanged.

Linseed.

DULUTH, MINN., February 1.—Closing: Linseed—On track and to arrive, $1.33; July, $1.37⅞ asked; May, $1.35½.

COMMERCIAL

BALTIMORE, February 1.

The flour market is steady. Wheat closed ¼c lower. Corn closed unchanged to ⅛c lower. Oats steady. Hay firm. Straw firm.

Quotations are for wholesale lots unless otherwise specified.

Eggs about steady. Poultry firm. Butter steady on better grades.

BREADSTUFFS—FLOUR.—Receipts, 8,781 brls, including 6,991 brls for through shipment. The demand is moderate, with only a few car lot sales. Prices steadily held on well established brands of straights, clears and patents. We quote, per 196 lbs, in wood:

Comparative prices.	Today.	Year ago.
Winter extra	$3.90a4.15	$3.75a3.95
Winter clear	4.20a4.45	3.85a4.10
Winter straight	4.60a4.75	4.40a4.50
Winter patent	5.15a5.30	4.75a4.90
Spring clear	4.00a4.30	4.25a4.60
Spring straight	4.30a4.45	5.20a5.40
Spring patent	4.45a4.75	5.45a5.70
City Mills best winter patent	—a5.75	—a6.25
City Mills blended patent	—a5.60	—a5.25
City Mills high-grade straight	—a5.45	—a4.95
City Mills choice family	—a5.15	—a4.55

WHEAT—Receipts, 17,542 bu, including 580 bu Southern; shipments from elevators, 21,583 bu; stock in elevators, 1,026,420 bu. The demand for prime Southern is fair, but the small offerings prevent trading. Prices steady. Sales of a small lot of Southern wheat on the wharf at $1.00 per bu. Several hundred bushels of Southern wheat sold at 107¼ per bu for No. 2 red. The market for Western opened quiet and lower; February, No. 2 red, 107¼; spot, No. 2 red, 107⅛; No. 2 red Western, 108¼; March, No. 2 red, 109. The market ruled dull throughout the day. Settling prices were: No. 2 red Western, 108⅛; No. 2 red, 107¼; No. 3 red, 104¾; steamer, No. 2 red, 109¼. The 1 P. M. closing was dull and lower; No. 2 red spot and February, 107¼; March, 109.

CORN—Receipts, 225,711 bu, including 1,946 Southern; shipments from elevators, 554,369 bu; stock in elevators, 1,440,190 bu. Good inquiry for desirable qualities of Southern, the receipts of which are light. Market firm. Sales were made of white and yellow on wharf at 57c per bu. One small cargo of mixed corn on the wharf sold at 55c per bu. We quote track yellow corn for domestic delivery, at 56½a57c per bu for carlots on spot.

Cob corn is quotable at $2.80a2.85 per brl for carloads prime nearby yellow on spot, with offerings ample for the moderate carlot demand.

Western opened easier; February, 54½c; spot mixed, 54½; March, 54½. Near deliveries are in some demand, but the market was dull. Settling prices were: Contract, 54½c; steamer mixed, 52; no established grade, 50½.

The 1 P. M. closing was dull and lower; spot and February, 54½c; March, 54⅝.

OATS.—Receipts, 26,516 bu, including 50,891 for shipment; shipments from elevators, 349,057 bu; stock in elevators, 250,409 bu, including 112,067 for export. The market is steady with a fair inquiry at inside quotations for the better grades, but No. 4 white in full supply and dull. We quote, per bu: White—No. 2, 38a38¼c; standard, 38a38¼; No. 3, 37a37¾; No. 4, 35⅝. The lighter and mediumweight oats are bringing a premium over the heavier weights.

RYE—Receipts, 2,247 bu; shipments, 9,336 bu; stock in elevators, 150,275 bu. Some inquiry for choice grades of Western, offerings of which are light. We quote, per bu: Western, Domestic—No. 2, 70a72c; No. 3, 62a64; No. 4, 60a61. Bag lots, nearby, as to quality, 55a65c.

HAY.—Receipts, 213 tons, including 20 for export. The market is steady. We quote: No. 1 timothy, $18.50a19; standard timothy, $17.50a18; No. 2 timothy, $17a17.50; No. 3 do, $14a16; light clover mixed, $16a16.50; No. 1 do, $15a15.50; No. 2 do, $12.50a13.50; heavy do, $13.50a14.50; light clover, $13a13.50; No. 2 do, $11a12.50; no established grade, $8.50a12; sample grade, as to kind, quality and condition, $10a18.

STRAW.—Receipts, 3 tons. Market firm. Demand fair for good wheat and oat straw. We quote as follows, per ton: No. 1 straight rye, $17.50a18; No. 2 do, $16.50a17; No. 1 tangled, $12.50a13; No. 2 do, $11a12; No. 1 wheat, $8.50a9; No. 2 do, $8a8.50; No. 1 oat, $9a10; No. 2 do, $8a8.50.

MILLFEED.—Receipts, 20 tons, including 20 for export. The market is quiet; moderate jobbing movement. We quote, per ton, in 100-lb sacks: Spring bran, $25.50a26; fine or white middlings, $25a28; Western middlings, $24; City Mills middlings, $24a24.50; City Mills bran, $24.50a25; City Mills white middlings, $30a31.

BUTTER.—Steady inquiry for choice to fancy table grades. Medium and low grades quiet. We quote, per lb:

Creamery fancy	35	a35½
Creamery choice	33	a34
Creamery good	31	a32
Creamery prints	35	a37
Creamery blocks	34	a36
Ladles	22	a24
Maryland and Pennsylvania rolls	20	a22
Ohio rolls	19	a21
West Virginia rolls	19	a21
Storepacked	18	a19
Md., Va. and Pa. dairy prints	19	a21
Process butter	25	a27

CHEESE.—The market is steady. Quotations for jobbing lots, per lb, 18a18½c.

EGGS.—Market easy under ample supplies for the demand, which, however, is fair. We quote, per dozen, loss off: Maryland, Pennsylvania and nearby firsts, 23c; Western firsts, 23c; Western Virginia firsts, 22a23; Southern firsts, 21a22. Recrated and rehandled eggs ½a1c higher.

LIVE POULTRY.—Good inquiry for smooth, fat young chickens and also for fat heavy old hens. Large, fat white geese meet with ready sale, and attractive turkeys wanted. Ducks scarce. We quote: Chickens—Old hens, heavy, per lb, 17c; old hen, small to medium, 16; old roosters, 10; young choice smooth, 18a19; rough and staggy, 16 17c