

COMMERCE AND FINANCE

COTTON 20 TO 25 POINTS LOWER.

The Opening Was Weak at a Decline of 30 to 40 Points on Sensationally Weak Cables, and a Succession of Rallies and Relapses Prevailed Throughout—December Quoted as Low as 7.50.

New York, Dec. 5.—The cotton market ruled active and excited during the entire session, as a result of further readjustment, growing out of Saturday's government estimate of the crop, placing it about a million bales above any previous production, and as much above any year's takings on record.

The opening was weak at a decline of 30 to 40 points, in response to sensationally low cables. Liverpool reported a decline ranging from about 22 to 42 points, and spot cotton was 43 points lower. This seemed to come from recent heavy sellers, while people had been fighting the decline of the last two weeks on the ground that the trade was over-estimating the crop, were evidently dumping over their cotton. The general uncertainty was increased by reports of disorganized Southern spot markets, and before the wave of selling could be checked, the near month were selling about 41 to 60 points net lower, with December quoted at 7.50 and January 7.55. There was an irregular rally at about this time. The covering of large shorts by the bears was succeeded to some extent, and New Orleans sent some less bullish messages to the effect that some Southern bankers would stand by interior holders. On every budge of 10 to 15 points, however, the bears seemed to be putting out fresh short lists, and further declines would follow. The market worked up in an irregular way, notwithstanding the prices were about 18 to 29 points from the lowest, with December quoted at 7.68 and January 7.75. This recovery seemed to attract fresh pressure from parties who had been waiting a bulge to sell short on, and was followed by another decline, taking prices back to within a few points of the previous low record. Toward the close there was further covering, and the market was finally very steady at a net decline of 29 to 35 points.

SHARPER BREAK IN LIVERPOOL.

Owing to the Cotton Report the Market Was Slightly Excited Closing 40 Points Lower.

Liverpool, Dec. 5.—Owing to the Agricultural Department report on the agricultural crop and the consequent break in the New York Cotton market Saturday, the cotton market here opened very excited. The first transaction of the day was a sale of March and April at 4.45, a loss of 25 points. This was quickly followed by running sales down to 4.22, or 48 points lower than Saturday's closing. January and February opened 38 points lower, and March and April and May and June. The tone after the first hour was somewhat dead. The corresponding report last year sent prices up 40 points against about the same decline to-day.

After the opening the market was subject to fits of excitement. When the first New York prices were received, January and February dropped from 4.25 to 4.18, and other months were correspondingly lower. A slight rally followed, and at 3.30 prices were about 40 points under Saturday's closing quotations.

MILLER & CO.'S REPORT.

Condition of the Cotton, Coffee, Stock and Grain Markets.

COTTON. New York, Dec. 5.—Liverpool cotton is now the report extremely bad. It looks like a struggle to get below its actual worth just as it got above its actual worth. The next question is, will the South be inclined to hold on to its cotton? This is difficult to foretell. At all events, we are in need of a readjustment of values based on the evidence of a long-void. Receipts will be watched closely from day to day and will probably be the best guide for specie action.

COFFEE.

New York, Dec. 5.—The market has been inactive and slightly easier today, more or less liquidation taking place on account of receipts in Brazil continuing fairly large. It will require a small movement for several days to encourage confidence. In absence where further liquidation fails to bring the price to bring about temporarily lower prices. On any decline we feel that coffee in a purchase.

GRAIN.

Chicago, Dec. 5.—Wheat—Except a small supply and the winning belief that a large line of wheat was accumulated by a strong interest last week created a distinctly bullish sentiment resulting in a sharp advance. The Northwest led Chicago during the forenoon, reporting light arrivals delivered and a better cash demand.

Spring wheat receipts were less than last week and a year ago. The increase in the visible was smaller than the recent weekly average. The Argentine harvesting weather is bad and reports from Australia are favorable.

Corn—Big crop receipts, free country acceptance and the 125,000 increase in the visible brought a pressure on the future deliveries so potent to be resisted. That's the main reason was the weakness. Cash wheat followed the same line. The market was rather general from a varied source. Notwithstanding the light receipts visible increased a quarter of a million of bushels. The demand is off fair.

Provisional reports show that the week beginning last week results would have led one to expect. Commission house selling was met by good support from one of the packing interests, particularly in hard. Receipts were 35,000 bushels; and market is to-morrow 35,000 bushels.

STOCKS.

New York, Dec. 5.—Fresh demonstration was given to-day of the underlying strength of the stock market. The general list was benefited in the meeting by the activity and strength shown in the number of the stocks, including Reading, Erie, Southern Railway, Pennsylvania, St. Louis Western stocks and a number of industrials. Reading was the leader and advanced over 4 per cent. Baltimore & Ohio showed a good point. The industrial group there was a sensational rise in the lower stocks. Other features of strength in the early dealing were Amalgamated, International Paper, Virginia-Carolina Chemical. The iron and steel stocks and Sugar were somewhat retarded. The market was very quiet, but most was freely sold on the announcement of one million dollars of gold engaged for export. This development was totally unexpected in view of the condition of the foreign exchange market and it caused a reaction of about 10 per cent. from highest. In some instances prices were carried below the closing level of Saturday. In the late dealing the sentiment became less apprehensive and moderate recoveries took place. Reading and Union Pacific especially exhibited strong gains. Leather stocks were the most prominent features of the market. Persistent buying led to the belief that the back dividends on Leather, preferred, would be refunded. Total, 175,000.

COTTON PRICES.

Corn-No. 3 yellow—\$36.44/bbl.; No. 3 white—\$33.44/bbl.; No. 3 corn—\$35.44/bbl.; Wheat—No. 3 red winter wheat—\$1.11; MILLER & CO.

ESTIMATES.

Dec. 5—**Wheat**, 1904, 1905.
New Orleans—2,000,000 bbls., \$1.11.
Houston—4,500,000 bbls., \$1.11.
Galveston—2,000,000 bbls., \$1.11.

CORN, 1904, 1905.
New Orleans—2,000,000 bushels, \$1.11.
Houston—4,500,000 bushels, \$1.11.
Galveston—2,000,000 bushels, \$1.11.

OATS, 1904, 1905.
New Orleans—2,000,000 bushels, \$1.11.
Houston—4,500,000 bushels, \$1.11.
Galveston—2,000,000 bushels, \$1.11.

PORK, 1904, 1905.
New Orleans—2,000,000 bushels, \$1.11.
Houston—4,500,000 bushels, \$1.11.
Galveston—2,000,000 bushels, \$1.11.

LARD, 1904, 1905.
New Orleans—2,000,000 bushels, \$1.11.
Houston—4,500,000 bushels, \$1.11.
Galveston—2,000,000 bushels, \$1.11.

RIBS, 1904, 1905.
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