REED WELL DOUBTFUL

Many Widely Different Accounts Given of It by the Owners.

DOING FROM 25 TO 200 BARRELS.

Gladden Well Dry in the Gordon Sand, Others in the Fifth.

PRODUCTION IS DROPPING RAPIDLY

The Reed farm well of Mercer and the Pittsburg Oil Company, three miles southwest of McDonald, is still the topic of conversation among the southwestern operators. The different stories being told by the owners are puzzling outsiders. Since the well reached a depth of 2,000 feet there has been an evident attempt to shroud it in mystery. Reports were circulated by interested parties when it reached the Gordon sand that a vein of salt water had been struck which would have to be cased off. After a reasonable delay the same parties stated, in answer to inquiries, that the water had now been cased off because a head of casing had disappeared. No one seemed to know whether the casing had been side tracked on the railroad, or dumped into a convenient mud hole by an irresponsible teamster. It was only a short time after this statement until it was reported to be within a few feet of the fifth sand.

When the well was said to be filled up with fresh sand oil last Thursday the statement was generally discredited, as many believed it was only in the Gordon and Saturday one of the owners stated that the well was flowing every 15 or 20 minutes from the top of the fifth, and that it was good for from 250 to 50 barrels a day as it then stood. The latest report from it, however, rather takes the diamond off this last statement. Yesterday another man who is interested in the well made the assertion that it was 4 feet in the fifth sand, and would not make more than a 25 or 30-barrel well. There is only one 250-barrel tank at the well, and as only one more small tank has been ordered, the 25 or 30-barrel estimate appears the more credible.

From Disinterested Parties.

Disinterested persons who were at the well yesterday say that it will not do more than 40 barrels a day. Notwithstanding this another owner asserted positively last evening that it was at least a 200-barrel well, and that it was only three or four feet in the sand.

Greenlee & Forst's No. 1 on the Gladden farm, near the Moorhead, is through the Gordon and almost dry. It will be drilled to the fifth this week. The Oakdale Oil Company's Nos. 3 and 5 on the Sturgeon heirs' farm are both dry in the fifth sand. The People's Gas Company's No. 6 on the Miller farm is on top of the Gordon sand. Their Miller No. 3 has been shot, but was not improved. The same company is fishing for the tools at 2,000 feet on the John McMurray farm. The Woodland Oil Company well on the McMurray, one mile north of Oakdale, is due this week. They have a fishing job in No. 3 at 2,000. The Forest Oil Company's No. 2 Jane McGill was also reported as being dry in the fifth. Brown & Co., on the McMurray farm, east of Noblestown, was through the fifth sand last night. The Little Oil Company's well on the Little property in Noblestown is 24 feet in the Gordon sand, and good for only 40 barrels a day.

Production Going Down.

The estimated production was lower yesterday than it has been since October 14. On that date it was 45,500, and yesterday it was down to 42,000. The hourly gauges for the larger wells yesterday were as follows:

Mathews No. 1, Guffey, Jennings & Co., 45; Mathews No. 3, Guffey, Jennings & Co., 70; Herron No. 1, Guffey, Jennings & Co., 20; Herron Nos. 2 and 3, Guffey, Jennings & Co., 15; Baldwin No. 1 and 2, Oakdale Oil Co., 55; Mathews heirs' No. 1, Guffey, Jennings & Co., 30; Bell No. 2, Guffey, Jennings & Co., 25; Wallace Nos. 1 and 2, Oakdale Oil Co., 95; Wallace No. 3, Oakdale Oil Co., 20; Morgan heirs' No. 2, Oakdale Oil Co., 90; Morgan heirs' No. 3, Oakdale Oil Co., 25; Morgan heirs' No. 4, Oakdale Oil Co., 60; Sturgeon No. 2, Guffey, Murphy & Galley, 35; Titta Glenn No. 1, Forest Oil Co., 25; J. M. No. 1, Forest Oil Co., 25; Murray No. 1, Greenlee & Forst, 35; Mewhe No. 4, Greenlee & Forst, 35; Kelso No. 2, Patterson & Jones, 40; Herron No. 4, Forest Oil Co., 50; Gamble No. 1, Greenlee & Forst, 30; Boyce Nos. 1 and 2, Devonian Oil Co., 75; Devonian Oil Co., No. 3, Elliott, 25. Stock for sale, 100,000 barrels. The runs of the Southwest Pennsylvania Pipe Line Company from McDonald Saturday were 44,641.78 barrels, and on Sunday, 37,669.89.

Yesterday's Market Features.

The market scarcely moved out of its tracks, the only change in quotations being an advance of ⅛c shortly after the opening. The opening, lowest and closing for the January option was 89⅞c. The highest was 90⅛c. Refined was quoted: New York, 6.45c; London, 5½d; Antwerp, 15¾f. Trading was light all along the line.

New York, Dec. 28.—Petroleum opened steady, advanced ⅛c, then declined ⅝c and closed steady: February option sales, none; January options opened at 89⅝c; highest, 89⅞c; lowest, 89⅜c; closing at 89⅝c. Lima oil—No sales. Total sales, 14,000 barrels.

Oil City, Dec. 28.—National Transit certificates opened at 90c; highest, 90c; lowest, 89⅜c; closed, 89⅝c; sales, 1,000 barrels; clearances, 138,000 barrels; shipments, 284,988 barrels; runs, 368,157 barrels.

Bradford, Dec. 28.—National Transit certificates opened at 90c; highest, 90c; lowest, 89⅜c; closed at 89⅝c; clearances, 90,000 barrels.

NO STARCH IN THE MARKET.

All Grains and Provisions Weak and Declining—May Wheat Below Low Water Mark—The Early Strength of Hog Products Is Soon Knocked Out.

CHICAGO—Wheat opened dull with hardly any disposition to trade on either side. The feeling was weak from the start. Cables were particularly unfavorable, Liverpool being a shade higher for futures, but the absence of local support and meagerness of outside business had a depressing influence. A weak market ruled, the price touching the lowest point for a long time. Heretofore he has been the rallying point for May, but when it got started to day it went off easily below that line and showed but little rallying power. Domestic markets are all dull and easy, and private cables were also discouraging.

The weakness continued throughout the session, and the close was at about bottom prices and weak. May started at 96¾c, with some sales at 96⅞c, sold slowly off to 95⅞c, and closed at 95⅝c.

Corn was decidedly weak for December and January, both futures selling off sharply, while May was also heavy, but did not decline to the same extent. The receipts of corn were large and contained a much larger proportion than usual of the contract grade, while there was very little demand with a general pressure to sell, which quickly sent the prices of December and January tumbling. December rallied a little from the bottom near the close, but January and May closed at near the lowest point, with a loss of 1⅝c for December, 2¼c for January and 2c for May, compared with Thursday's last figures.

Oats were dull, and show decline since Thursday of ¼@⅜c.

Hog products opened rather strong on moderate receipts of hogs and the strong prices at the yards, but soon sympathized with the weakness in the grain pits and sold off sharply, closing at about inside figures. Compared with Thursday's last figures pork shows a loss of 7½@10c, except for December, which is unchanged. Lard is 2½c lower, except May, which is unchanged. Ribs are 2½@5c off, except December, which is unchanged.

The leading futures ranged as follows, as corrected by John M. Oakley & Co., 45 Sixth street, members of the Chicago Board of Trade:

ARTICLES.	Opening.	Highest.	Lowest.	Closing.
WHEAT, No. 2.				
December	$ 90¾	$ 90¾	$ 89⅝	89⅝
January	91	91	89⅞	89⅞
May	96⅞	96⅞	95⅜	95⅝
CORN, No. 2.				
December	41¾	41¾	39⅝	39¾
January	41½	41½	39⅝	39⅞
May	44⅝	42	41⅜	41⅜
OATS, No. 2.				
December	32⅛	32⅛	32⅛	32⅛
January	31⅜	31⅜	31	31
May	32⅜	32⅜	32⅛	32⅛
MESS PORK.				
December	7 62½	7 62½	7 62½	7 62½
January	10 42½	10 47½	10 27½	10 27½
May	11 60	11 67½	10 85	10 87½
LARD.				
December	5 97½	5 97½	5 87½	5 87½
January	6 05	6 07½	6 02½	6 02½
May	6 42½	6 45	6 40	6 40
SHORT RIBS.				
December	5 15	5 20	5 10	5 10
January	5 20	5 25	5 15	5 15
May	5 60	5 65	5 55	5 57½

Cash quotations were as follows: Flour dull and unchanged. No. 2 spring wheat, 88@90c; No. 3 spring wheat, 83@84c; No. 2 red, 90c; No. 2 corn, 39½c; No. 2 oats, 32¾c; No. 2 white, 32½@32¾c; No. 3 white, 29½@31½c; No. 2 rye, 87½@88c; No. 2 barley, 59c; No. 3, f. o. b., 53@60c; No. 1 flaxseed, 93½c; prime timothy seed, $1 23. Mess pork, per barrel, $7 62½@7 75. Lard, per 100 lbs, $6 02½. Short rib sides (loose), $5 10@5 20; dry salted shoulders (boxed), $4 87½@4 50; short clear sides (boxed), $5 45@5 50. Whisky, distillers' finished goods, per gallon, $1 18. Sugars unchanged.

On the Produce Exchange to-day the butter market—Fancy creamery, 27@28c; fine Western, 23@28c; ordinary, 19@21c; selected dairies, 14@20c; ordinary, 18@22c. Eggs, 23@24c.

NEW YORK—Flour—Dull and heavy. Cornmeal—Steady and quiet, yellow Western, $3 1c@3 30. Wheat—Spot market lower, free offerings, moderate business; No. 2 red, $1 05@1 05¾ in store and elevator; $1 06⅝@1 07⅝ afloat; $1 05½@1 08⅞ f. o. b.; No. 3 red, $1 0 4@1 01⅛; ungraded red, 97⅛c@$1 1; No. 1 Northern, $1 07⅝@1 09⅝; No. 1 hard, $1 11; No. 2 Northern, $1 03⅜; No. 3 spring, 88⅛c. Options—No. 2 red, December, $1 05¼@1 06⅛, closing $1 05⅝; January, $1 05⅜@1 07⅛, closing $1 05¾; February, $1 06⅛@1 07⅞, closing $1 06⅝; March, $1 07⅞@1 08¾, closing $1 07⅝; April, $1 07⅝@1 08¾, closing, $1 07⅝; May, $1 09⅛@1 09⅞, closing, $1 09⅜; June, $1 05¾@1 06¼, closing at $1 05. Rye dull, irregular; western, $1 00@1 03. Barley dull; No. 2 Milwaukee, 71@72c. Corn—Spot, weak; fairly active, free sellers weak; No. 2 52@53c; elevator, 53⅜@55c afloat; ungraded mixed 46@55c; No. 3, 47@49c; steamer mixed options, January 51⅞@52⅝c, closing at 52¼c; February, 51⅜@52⅝c, closing at 51⅝c; March, 52@52½c, closing at 52c; May, 50⅝@51¼c, closing at 50⅝c. Oats—Spot, fairly active; closing easy; options quiet and weaker: December, 40@40¼c, closing at 40c; January, 39¼@39⅝c, closing at 39⅜c; February, 38¾@39⅛c, closing at 39¼c; May, 38⅝c; spot, No. 2 white, 40¼@41c; mixed Western, 39@41½c; February, 38¾@39⅛c, closing at 39¼c; May, 38¼c; spot, No. 2 white, 40¼@41c; mixed Western, 39@41½c; white do, 40@43½c; No. 2 Chicago, 41¾@41¾c. Hay firm and quiet; shipping, 60@70c; good to choice, 75@90c. Hops firm and in fair demand: State, common to choice and Pacific coast, 15@22c. Tallow strong and quiet. Eggs—fancy firm; Western 26½@28c. Pork steady and in moderate demand; old mess, $9 25; new mess, $9 75@10 25; extra prime, $9 50. Cut meats quiet and easy; pickled bellies, 5¼@5¾c. Middles steady and quiet; short clear, $5 90. Lard opened firmer and closed weak; Western steam, 36 37½c@6 40. Options—January, nominal; February, 28@6 42, closing at $6 39 asked; February, $6 40 asked; March, $6 58 asked; May, $6 71 asked. Butter quiet: fancy creamery firm; Western dairy, 15@22c; creamery 19@30c; do, factory, 14@20c; Elgin, 29½@30c. Cheese in moderate demand and firm; part skims, 5½@10c.

PHILADELPHIA—Flour weak. Wheat weak; No. 2 red, December, $1 01¾@1 01⅞; January, $1 01¾@1 02½; February, $1 02¼@1 03⅛; March, $1 04⅝@1 05¼. Corn weaker; No. 4, 38c; No. 3, in export elevator, 48½c; No. 3, 51c; steamer in export elevator, 51@51¼c; No. 2 yellow, in grain depot, 51c; No. 2 spot, in export elevator, 52½@53c; No. 2 mixed, December, 51@52c; January, 51@52c; February, 51¼@51½c; March, 51½@51¾c. Oats—Carlots ruled firm; under light offerings and a fair demand; No. 3 white, 41¾@42c; No. 2 white, 42@42½c; No. 2 white, December, 41@42c; January, 40@41c; February, 40@41c; March, 40@41c. Provisions—Jobbing trade fairly steady. Butter—Firm and steady; Pennsylvania creamery, extra, 28c; do print, extra, 33@35c. Eggs dull; Pennsylvania firsts, 26@27c. Cheese dull; part skims, 8@9c.

ST. LOUIS—Flour dull and neglected. Wheat—No. 2 red, cash, 91¾@92¼c; December, 91¾@91¾c, closing 91¾c; May, 95¾@96⅝c, closing 95⅞c; July closed 91c, bid. Corn—No. 2 cash, 38¾@37c; year, 36¾@37¼c, closing at 36⅞c; January, 36¼@37c, closing at 36½c, asked; February, 36¼@37¼c, closing at 36⅝c; May, 38¾@39c, closing at 38¾c bid. Oats—Lower cash, strong; No. 2, 31c; options, dull: December, 31c; May, 32¼@32¾c; closing at 32¼. Rye, dull and lower: No. 2, 81c, bid: Eastside, 82½c, bid. Barley steady; Minnesota, 55@61c; Wisconsin, 60c: Iowa, 58½c. Butter neglected; creamery, 24@27c; dairy, 22@24c. Eggs lower at 20c. Provisions very dull. Pork, old, $8 75; new, $10 75. Lard, $5 75.

BALTIMORE—Wheat weak; No. 2 red, spot and December, $1 03; January, $1 03¼@1 04; February, $1 05@1 05¼; May, $1 07¼; steamer No. 2 red, 93¾@96c. Corn weak; mixed spot and year, 53¾@53½c; January, 51¾@52c; February, 51½@51¾c; March, 51¾@52c; steamer mixed, 48¾@48¾c. Oats quiet and steady; No. 2 white Western, 40½c; No. 2 mixed, do, 39c. Rye firm; No. 2, 39c. Hay quiet; good to choice timothy, $12 50@14 00. Provisions dull and quiet. Butter firm; creamery, fancy, 29@30c; do, fair to choice, 26@28c; do, imitation, 23@25c; ladle, fancy, 22c; good to choice, 19@20c; rolls, fine, 21c; do, fair to good, 18@20c; store packed, 15@18c. Eggs steady at 21@25c.

NEW ORLEANS—Sugar open kettle, firm; strictly prime, 3 11-16c; fully fair to prime, 2½@2¾c; good common to good fair, 2¼@2 13-16c; centrifugals, very strong; off white, 3 7-16@3 9-16c; gray do, 3 5-16@3⅜c; choice yellow clarified, 3½c; prime do, 3 7-16@3 5-16c; off do, 3 1-16@3 3-16c; seconds, 2¼@3c. Molasses—Open kettle quiet; strictly prime, 30c; good prime, 26@28c; prime, 20@27c; good common to good fair, 22@25c; centrifugals, 3@5o lower than sound goods; centrifugals steady; strictly prime, 18@19c; good prime, 15@17c; fair to prime 10@14c; common to good common, 6@9c. Syrup, 24@29c.

CINCINNATI—Flour easy; family, $3 75@3 90; fancy, $4 15@4 40. Wheat quiet; No. 2 red, 92c. Corn in fair demand; No. 2 mixed, 42½@43c. Oats easier; No. 2 mixed, 34½@34¾c. Rye in light demand. Pork nominal at $8 50@8 75. Lard in fair demand at $5 90. Bulk meats quiet at $5 12½@5 25. Bacon steady at $8 75. Butter quiet; fancy Elgin creamery, 30c; Ohio, 27c; choice dairy, 15@17c. Eggs dull. Cheese in light demand; prime to choice Ohio flat 11@11½c.

KANSAS CITY—Wheat dull; No. 2, 87½c; Corn weak and lower; No. 2 cash, 34c bid, 35c asked; December, 33½c bid, 34½c asked; January, 33c bid; February, 31½c asked. Oats lower; No. 2 cash, 29c bid, 30½ asked; December, 29c bid, 30½c asked; January, 28c bid, 30½c asked; May, 31c bid, 32 asked. Eggs weak and declining at 20c.

MILWAUKEE—Flour quiet. Wheat easy; No. 2 spring, 87c; No. 1 Northern, 91c; May, 91c. Corn quiet; No. 3, 38c. Oats quiet; No. 2 white, 33½@33c; No. 3 do, 31@31½c. Barley quiet; No. 2, 58¾c; sample on track, 54@61c. Rye quiet; No. 1, 88c. Provisions quiet; pork, nominal, $10 27½. Lard—January, $6 05.

MINNEAPOLIS—Wheat nominal; Northern, December, closing to-day, 85c, Thursday, 89½c; January, closing to-day, 85c, Thursday, 89¼c; May, opening 95c, highest 97½c, lowest 94, closing 95c, Thursday, 92½c; on track, No. 1 hard, 88c; No. 1 Northern, 87c; No. 2 Northern, 81@84c.

TOLEDO—Wheat dull, weak; No. 2 cash, 95c; December, 96; January, 90¾; May, $1 00¾; Corn dull, steady; No. 2 cash, 41¾c. Oats quiet; cash, 34c. Rye dull; cash, 56c. Clover seed active, steady prime cash $5 40; December, $5 42½; February, $5 43.

DULUTH—Wheat—No. 1 hard, cash, 88½c; May, 94¼c; No. 1 Northern, cash, 86½c; seller same month, 87½c; No. 2 Northern, cash, 80c; sellers; No. 3, 74c.

The Coffee Markets.

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 28.—Coffee steady; Rio, ordinary to fair, 14¼@16¾c.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 28.—Coffee steady; Rio cargoes, fair, 17c; No. 7, 13¼c.

SANTOS, Dec. 26.—Coffee—Good average unquoted; receipts during the week, 96,000 bags; purchases for the United States, 3,000 bags; shipments to the United States, none; stock, 471,000 bags.

RIO DE JANEIRO, Dec. 26.—Coffee—Regular firsts, 9,850 reis per ten kilos; good second, 9,100 reis; receipts during the week, 49,000 bags; purchases for the United States, 42,000 bags; shipments to the United States, 29,000 bags; stock, 42,000 bags.

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—Coffee options opened steady and unchanged, 5@15 points down; closed steady, unchanged to 15 points down; sales, 7,000 bags, including December, 12.30@12.35c; January, 12.00@12.05c; February, 11.80c; March, 11.70c; spot Rio dull; No. 7 offered at 13c.

The Drygoods Market.

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—The drygoods market opened quietly with accumulated mail orders and light spot trade. Agents were busy with details of delivery, the movement being active, including shipments direct from the mills. There was no new developments beyond the opening of a few new woolens adapted to the wants of clothiers. Prints received relatively good attention. Not only was the demand for prints good but the strong position of print cloths has a good effect upon the tone of the market. As this week, like the last, is to be a short one and largely under the holiday feeling, no important business is expected. The decided improvement in the weather tends to strengthen the outlook for January.

Turpentine and Rosin.

SAVANNAH—Turpentine firm at 31¾c. Rosin firm at $1 20@1 25.

NEW YORK—Rosin steady and quiet. Turpentine higher, quiet; 34½@35¼c.

CHARLESTON—Turpentine steady at 32c. Rosin firm; good strained, $1 27½.

WILMINGTON—Spirits of turpentine nothing doing. Rosin firm; strained, $1 20; good strained, $1 25. Tar steady at $1 25. Crude turpentine firm; hard, $1 00; yellow dip, $1 90; virgin, $1 90.

The Metal Markets.

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—Pig iron steady. Copper dull, firmer; lake, January, $10 50. Lead nominal; domestic, $4 25. Tin dull, steady; Straits, $19 90.

Elgin Butter Market.

ELGIN, Ill., Dec. 28.—Butter firm; sales, 16, 740 lbs at 28c.

BUILDINGS ON PAPER.

An Active Demand for East End Acreage for Improvement.

THE NIMICK DEAL IN GOOD SHAPE.

Shadyside Development the Coming Year Promises Good Results.

STATUS OF CHRIST CHURCH PROPERTY

An interesting feature of the real estate market at present is an active inquiry for acreage in the East End. Several syndicates, to say nothing of individuals, are looking for this kind of property, but without much success so far on account of the firmness of owners. The most promising negotiation known to be in progress involves a large tract in the Eighteenth ward. The price has been agreed upon, but there is a hitch in regard to terms. In the Twenty-third ward several deals which have been under way for two or three months, are likely to be closed soon after New Years. Nearly all of these dickers involve building schemes of more or less importance. It was thought last week that the sale of the Nimick property, 30 acres, at Wilkinsburg, would fall through, but it was learned yesterday that the difficulty had been overcome and the transaction ratified.

Some Figures Named.

There is considerable doubt connected with the disposition of the Christ Church property, principally as to whether it will be sold as a whole or in parcels, and at private or public sale. A leading member of the congregation said yesterday that the trustees were committed to neither of these methods. All they wanted was the best price they could possibly get for the property. He added: "I do not think it will realize as much as was calculated upon just after the fire. Prices paid for the Government and other properties on that avenue show that our original figures were too high. Still, it should bring $200,000 at the very least. I do not mention these figures as a guide to bidders, for I do not know that they would be accepted. The scarcity of well located sites of the size of this one ought to be an important factor in influencing the judgment and governing the action of buyers."

Improvements at Shadyside.

Shadyside is full of building schemes, all substantially backed, and, therefore, reasonably certain of being carried out. While a few of the promoters are talking of blocks and rows, the most of the improvements will be single houses, generally of a high class, for well-to-do people, who have acquired a taste for rural comforts. According to indications the center of activity will be between Fifth and Ellsworth avenues, although other quarters will receive attention. Plans for a number of fine houses are under way, and work on them will begin early in the spring. The progress of this district in the last three or four years has been remarkable, and the spirit of improvement seems to be even more aggressive than at any former period.

A Big Undertaking.

The work of filling up the McGinness property on Fifth avenue, nearly opposite the Ursuline Convent, is one of the heaviest jobs of the kind ever undertaken hereabouts, but it is beginning to show substantial progress. It is the biggest "dump" on the avenue, and a great deal of material will be required to bring it up to the level of surrounding property, which it is proposed to do, and which will no doubt be done in the course of time. It will be valuable property when improved according to the plans under which work is being prosecuted.

An Enterprising Woman.

Where there's a will there's a way. Success in business depends upon the individual more than upon fortuitous circumstances or surroundings. Few, if any, of Pittsburg's rich men were "born with silver spoons in their mouths." A woman, well-known on Fourth avenue, where she finds employment as an office cleaner, which brings her about $50 a month, has contrived to save enough money in the last few years to purchase ground on Fifth avenue, in the Soho district, and build a row of four substantial brick houses. They are not quite completed, but soon will be. She expects the rent from these buildings will keep her in her old age. With such an example as this to stimulate his efforts, no one should despair of acquiring a home.

Business News and Gossip.

The tone of the street yesterday was rather bearish. Holiday sentiment is seldom buoyant.

It is said fire insurance rates all over the country are to be increased. Boston has started the movement.

Plans have been prepared for an extensive addition to the lower Allegheny shops of the Pittsburg Locomotive Works.

Pittsburg is full of building schemes for next year. Should there be no labor trouble great progress will be made in providing houses for the people, so says the *Southern Lumberman*.

Arrangements have been completed for enlarging the pipe works at Emaus, Pa.

Five permits were issued yesterday for new buildings and improvements, aggregating $8,350.

The statement of foreign commerce for November shows the value of exports of merchandise to have been $110,140,220, the largest in the history of the country.

T. P. Hershberger has sold to John Weaver a house and lot on Main street, Thirty-sixth ward, for $6,000.

At the last call yesterday Electric preferred was offered at 40 and Electric scrip at 90. Birmingham Traction was offered at 18¾, and 35¾ was bid for Manchester.

The Keystone Bridge Company of Pittsburg has been awarded the contract for the iron and steel work of a new union depot to be erected at St. Louis at a cost of $300,000.

January disbursements at New York, Boston and Philadelphia will aggregate $100,000. Pittsburg's disbursements will be about $1,500,000.

Northern Pacific earnings third week in December, $482,454. Decrease, $63,326.

It is officially announced that the voting trust of the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company has been terminated and that certificates issued thereunder may be exchanged at the office of the Treasurer of the company, 120 Broadway, New York City, for stock certificates of the company for the same amount and kind of stock as the certificates surrendered.

The Freehold Bank will next Monday choose directors for the coming year.

Duquesne Traction weakened a little more yesterday. It was bid down to 15 and offered at 17¾.

Movements in Realty.

It is understood the Leonard property will be formally transferred to Joseph Horne & Co. some time this week. The consideration will approximate $200,000.

G. B. Hart sold for Captain J. W. McIntyre, in Cornopolis, a lot 79x378, fronting on State avenue; also four lots, 40x200 feet, to M. A. Ross for $4,000.

Black & Baird sold to S. G. Winterburn lot No. 15 in the J. H. Willock plan, Hazelwood, fronting 24 feet on Smith street by 100 in depth, for $750.

S. A. Dickie & Co. sold for F. H. Speer to Mrs. S. P. Harper a two-story frame house, with lot 33½x129 feet, on Gerritt street, Twenty-first ward, for $2,400.

W. A. Herron & Sons sold for a price approximating $2,300 lot 22 feet front on the corner of Penn avenue and Eveline street, Nineteenth ward. The purchaser intends to improve same soon with a business house and dwelling.

HARD CASH.

The Financial Situation Favorable to the Promotion of New Enterprises.

Money was moderately active yesterday at 6 per cent as the rule, with a liberal supply. Bankers reported a good routine business. Depositing fell off a little, as expected after the holiday rush, but the volume of general trade was larger than at the same time last year.

A cashier remarked: "Indications are that money will be so abundant after the annual settlements as to cause a shade of softness. But this may be prevented by a larger call for loans than now seems probable. Seldom has the monetary situation been so favorable to the establishment of new enterprises." Bank clearings were $2,373,376 72 and balances $466,234 62.

At New York yesterday money on call was easy, ranging from 2¼ to 3 per cent; last loan, 3; closed offered at 3 per cent. Prime mercantile paper, 4@6. Sterling exchange quiet and firm at $4 81¾ for 60-day bills and $4 84¾ for demand.

MEMPHIS—New York exchange selling at par. Clearings, $514,098; balances, $133,558.

NEW ORLEANS—Clearings, $2,346,447. New York exchange commercial $1 25 per $1,000 discount. Bank par to 50c discount.

Closing Bond Quotations.

U. S. 4s reg	116½	Mutual Union 6s	105
do 4s coup	117¾	N. J. Cent. 1st. Certs.	111
do 4½s reg	100	Northern Pac. 1sts	118½
do 4½s. coup	—	do do 2ds	112
Pacific 6s of '95	109	Northwest. Consols	140
Louisiana stamped 4s	87½	do debentures 5s	109
Missouri 6s	—	Oregon Trans. 6s	—
Tenn. new set. 6s	105	St. L. & Iron M.	86
do do 5s	101	Gen. 5s	
do do 3s	71¾	St. L. & San. Fran.	
Canada Sou. 2d	106¼	Gen. M	109½
Cen. Pacific 1sts	108½	St. Paul Consols	129½
Den. & R. G. 1sts	116	St. P. C. & Pac. 1sts	115
do do 4s	82½	Tex. Pac. L. G. Tr. Rcts	—
Den. & R. G. West 1sts	—	Tex. Pac. R. G. Tr. Rcts	32¾
Erie 2ds	107	Union Pac. 1sts	109
M. K. & T. Gen. 6s	79¾	West Shore	104
do do 5s	47		

Bank Clearings.

NEW YORK—Bank clearings, $69,711,869; balances, $4,054,693.

BOSTON—Bank clearings, $12,141,716; balances, $1,972,353. Rate for money 3@4 per cent. Exchange on New York 17 to 25 discount.

PHILADELPHIA—Bank clearings, $9,147,903; balances, $1,485,904. Money 4 per cent.

BALTIMORE—Bank clearings, $2,039,645; balances, $264,832. Rate 6 per cent.

CHICAGO—Money 6 per cent. Bank clearings, $15,315,886. New York Exchange par.

ST. LOUIS—Clearings, $3,890,809; balances, $485,457. Money 7@8 per cent. Exchange on New York, 50c premium.

HOME SECURITIES.

THE HOLIDAY DID NOT WHET THE APPETITE OF INVESTORS.

Luster Bobs Up in Time to Save the Day From Disaster—No Price Changes Worth Considering—Expectation of Busy Times After New Year's.

Speculation was very tame yesterday. The long holiday instead of whetting the appetite for stocks, had the effect of dulling it. There was no accumulation of orders, and the tone was bearish.

The first two calls passed without a sale and the third had a narrow escape. Luster was the only active interest. It sold to the extent of 111 shares at 8¾, 8¼ and 8—the inside figure for one share. Philadelphia Gas broke a small fraction. There was little or no change in other parts of the list.

The following bids were made on bonds: Pittsburg Traction first mortgage 6's, 117; Pittsburg and Western general mortgage 4's, 83; Citizens' Traction 5's, 100¾; Pittsburg Incline Plane first mortgage 6's, 105; same, second mortgage 6's, 100.

The situation, so far as stocks are concerned, is the best of the year, and great confidence is felt in a generally rally soon after the turn of the year. Easy money is the basis of this expectation. Bids and offers were:

EXCHANGE STOCKS.	FIRST CALL. B	FIRST CALL. A	SECOND CALL. B	SECOND CALL. A	THIRD CALL. B	THIRD CALL. A
P. P. S. & M. Ex.	....	415	....	....	385	4:0
German Nat. Bk.	....	325	....	325	....	325
Third Nat. Bank	128	....	....	....	....	....
Tautonia Ins.	....	....	....	....	60	....
P. N. G. & P. Co.	7½	8¼	....	....	7½	8¾
Philadelphia Co.	14¾	15¾	13¾	13¼	13	13¾
Wheeling G. Co.	....	....	....	23	....	....
P. Incline P. Co.	....	....	....	....	110	....
Pt. Pitt L. P. Co.	....	20	....	20	....	20
Central Traction	20½	20¾	20½	20¾	20½	....
Citizens' Tract'n.	59¾	60	....	60	59¾	60
Pitts. Traction	....	48½	....	48½	....	48
Pleasant Valley	....	23	....	23	....	23
Second Avenue	....	....	....	....	48	....
Allegheny Valley	....	....	10 c	....	....	....
Chartiers Ry.	....	....	57	....	....	....
P., C. & St. L.	....	....	66½	....	....	....
P., V. & C. R. R.	....	....	....	....	40	....
P. & W. R. R., pfd	....	....	19	....	....	....
Hand St. Bridge	....	....	....	....	43¾	....
Hidalgo M. Co.	....	....	....	....	....	....
La Noria M. Co.	28	30	....	30	28	30
Luster M. Co.	8	8¼	8¼	8¾	8¼	8¾
East End Elec.	....	....	9	....	....	....
W'st'house E.	....	13	12¾	12¾	....	....
Monon. N. Co.	....	....	70	75	....	....
Monon. W. Co.	27½	27¾	....	28	....	28
Union A. & S. Co.	10¾	11	10¾	11	....	11
W'house A. B. Co.	99¾	101	99¾	101	99¾	100
W. B. Co. Lim.	....	70	....	70	....	70
Standard U. C. Co.	....	....	....	....	60	....

Philadelphia Stocks.

Closing quotations of Philadelphia stocks, furnished by Whitney & Stephenson, brokers, No. 57 Fourth avenue, members of the New York Stock Exchange:

	Bid.	Asked.
Pennsylvania Railroad	57⅛	57½
Reading Railroad	19 1-16	19⅜
Buffalo, N. Y. and Phila.	9½	9¾
Lehigh Valley	49½	49¾
Northern Pacific	23⅜	26¾
Northern Pacific, preferred	72¾	73¾
Lehigh Navigation	49¾	49¾

Boston Stocks—Closing Prices.

Atchi. & Top.	45⅜	Boston & Mont.	40
Boston & Albany	198	Calumet & Hecla	260
Boston & Maine	165	Franklin	15½
Chi., Bur. & Quincy	109¾	Kearsarge	11½
Fitchburg R. R. pfd.	80	Osceola	20
Fitchburg R. R.	—	Santa Fe Copper	25
Flint & Pere M.	—	Tamarack	155
Flint & Pere M. pfd.	87	Anniston Land Co.	30
Mex. Cen. com.	23¼	Boston Land Co.	8
Mex. Cen. 1st pfd.	80	San Diego Land Co.	17½
N. Y. & N. E.	120½	West End Land Co.	17½
Old Colony	166	Bell Telephone	205
Rutland pref.	—	Centen'al Min. Co.	10½
Wis. Central com.	—	E. Telep. & Teleg.	5½
Wis. Central pref.	43	A. B. Copper	16½
Allouez Min., new	2	Thomson-Houston	51
Atlantic	11		

Electric Stocks.

BOSTON, Dec. 28.—*[Special.]*—The latest electric stock quotations to-day were:

	Bid.	Asked.
Eastern Electric Cable Co. pref	$	$33 25
Thomson-Houston Electric Co	51 00	51 25
Thomson-Houston E. Co. pref	25 75	26 00
Ft. Wayne Electric Co	12 25	12 37½
Westinghouse Electric Co	12 50	13 00
European Welding Co	15 00	25 00
Detroit Electrical Works		9 12½

Mining Stock Quotations.

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—[Special.]—Bar silver in London, 43¾d per ounce; New York dealers' price for silver, 93c per ounce.

CEREALS ARE WEAKER.

CORN, OATS AND HAY DULL AT A DECLINE IN PRICES.

Wheat and Flour Are Quiet at Quotations—Country Produce in Light Supply, but Enough for Demand—Grocery Trade Is Featureless.

OFFICE OF PITTSBURG DISPATCH, MONDAY, Dec. 28.

Country Produce—Jobbing prices—Trade in this line gives very few signs of life. Receipts of all kinds have been very light since Christmas, but there is still more than enough to meet all demands. The poultry glut is over, and prices are back to about the old standard. Dairy products of high grade are fairly steady, and some dealers predict an advance before the week is out. The soft, rainy weather of last week upset many a nice-laid plan of bulls who worked for higher markets. Said a leading Liberty street commission merchant: "Trade is about as dead as it can be, and has been so for the past week. While we receive very little stuff there is more than enough received to meet all the needs of our customers. We now expect little improvement until after the New Year is fairly open. Much, however, depends on weather."

APPLES—$1 50@2 00 per barrel.

BUTTER—Creamery Elgin, 31@32c; Ohio brands, 2 @3c; common country butter, 16@17c; choice country roll, 19@20c.

BEANS—New York and Michigan pea, $1 90@2 00; marrowfat, $2 15@2 25; Lima beans, 4@4½c ₱ lb; hand picked medium, $1 90@2 00.

BEESWAX—Choice, 32@35c ₱ lb; low grades, 23@25c.

BUCKWHEAT FLOUR—New, 2¼@2½c ₱ lb.

CHEESE—Ohio cheese, 10@11c; New York cheese, 11½@11¾c; Limburger, 12½@13½c; Wisconsin, Sweitzer, full cream, 13½@14c; imported Sweitzer, 26@28½c.

CIDER—Country cider, $3 50@5 00 ₱ barrel; sand refined, $6 50@7 00.

CRANBERRIES—Per box, $2 00@2 50;