

THE FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL SITUATION AT HOME AND ABROAD—MARKET REPORTS

GENERAL RETURN OF CONFIDENCE SHOWN IN FINANCIAL MARKETS

Those Who Protested Existence of Stock Exchanges Now Loudest in Appeals for Their Early Reopening.

It is a decided tribute to the conservatism of American investors that there has been marked recently that talk of the existence of near-panic conditions in the financial markets which was apparent almost everywhere just after the news had been flashed that the stock exchanges were about to discontinue business.

Contrast the feeling today with that of three or six months ago in reference to the need at all of the New York or other stock exchanges. There are those who, for years, have made a consistent habit of trying to batter down every argument in favor of exchange trading and who were loud in their demands that the exchanges be abolished because of the necessity for their restoration of confidence by encouraging foreign investment in American securities of high grade.

It is to their credit that these same interests are now going out of their way to help in every way possible to speed the restoration of confidence—that particular attribute which, more than anything else, is so badly needed at this time to give strength to those who are endeavoring to shape the situation as to best conserve the interests of the entire country.

There is a brighter feeling everywhere. Investors, confident that the situation, for which they were so ready to parallel, is slowly but surely adjusting itself to normal proportions, are coming into the market again, and both the listed and unlisted stocks are displaying an active interest which is in every way gratifying to bankers generally.

There is a general willingness to do business, and the expectation is that it will be only a short while before the market will come a readjustment that will work out for the benefit of all concerned.

What extent conditions internationally have improved is reflected in the attitude now assumed by many leading bankers who do not see the necessity for the creation of the \$100,000,000 in gold which was previously provided, to relieve the foreign exchange situation. It was this changed position on the part of the bankers that prompted the Reserve Board to announce that, in view of the statement that New York City had completed arrangements for her maturing obligations and for providing for the necessary gold remittances to Europe, it felt that it was no longer necessary to create the gold fund at all.

It was announced in Washington that to date there has been issued \$25,000,000 emergency currency.

A mortgage in favor of the Bankers' Trust Company of New York has been filed in Hamilton, O., by the Ohio State Telephone Company.

The New York Subtreasury gained \$600,000 from banks yesterday and since Friday, \$700,000.

Judicial action of the Pennsylvania Public Service Commission is questioned by the Jersey Central in a statement filed with that body as to whether the commission can compel the railroad to permit other roads to unite with it in building a new union station at Scranton, Pa.

ERIC R. R. MAY CREATE NEW \$300,000,000 MORTGAGE

Call Issued for Meeting Next Month to Consider Plan

Creation of a refunding and improvement mortgage of approximately \$300,000,000 will be considered at a special meeting of stockholders of the Erie Railroad, to be held in New York City on October 15.

FOR INSURANCE PUBLICITY National Campaign of Education is Started in Cincinnati.

CINCINNATI, Sept. 16.—With a fund made possible by the National Association of Life Underwriters, a national campaign to educate the public in life insurance matters was started here today. Members of the association agreed upon a levy of 1 cent for each \$100 of business written by them, the amount collected to be placed in a general education and publicity fund.

TRUST COMPANY RETURNS

Made Good Showing Despite the Market Stringency. Considering the condition of the money market and business generally the Philadelphia trust and savings institutions made a good showing in their report to the Commission of Banking for the call of condition as of August 31, 1914.

UTILITY MANAGERS WILL GET CLOSER TO GENERAL PUBLIC

Street Railway Men of Country to Adopt a New Platform of Principles. Drastic Laws the Cause.

Recognizing the importance of establishing cordial relations with the public, the American Electric Railway Association, at its annual convention, to be held in Atlantic City, October 12 to 15, will formulate a declaration of principles embracing what it believes to be a statement of what these relations should be.

Public relations is the most important topic in the minds of public utility corporation managers and operators. Recently throughout the country there have been put into effect drastic measures governing the financing and operation of utilities, especially the street railways, and it should be properly presented to the general public information as to what the readjustments are and what will be their effect, especially upon that part of the public which has money invested in the securities of public service corporations.

The association represents virtually every important electric railway on the North American Continent and a very large number in South America. An attendance of between four and five thousand men is expected at Atlantic City, and in spite of the depressed business conditions the exhibit of electric railway appliances and apparatus will cover more than 70,000 square feet of floor space.

With a capital stock amounting to \$1,361,500, a corporation is being formed to provide most of the electrical service for York, Pa., and a considerable portion of York County. The new company, known as the Edison Light and Power Company, will include the Edison Light and Power Company, the Merchants' Electric Light, Heat and Power Company; the Lower Widener Traction Light and Heat and Power Company; the Spring Grove Light, Heat and Power Company; the Jackson Township Light, Heat and Power Company, and the Heidelberg Township Light, Heat and Power Company.

Atlantic City residents have proposed the construction of a high-speed electric railway along the western edge of the Island Thoroughfare from Longport through Margate and Ventnor Heights to lower Chelsea and thence on, in junction with the main line of the Pennsylvania Railroad on the meadows. In a proposition which they will submit to the Pennsylvania Railroad it will be pointed out that the motive power and rolling stock of the Jersey and Seaboard Railroad could be applied to the Longport extension.

Residents of Riverside, Riverview and Mulhensers Park, N. J., are interested in a plan to provide electric railway service between Riverside and Tuckerton.

The Ohio Public Utilities Commission has placed four men in Cleveland to make a physical valuation of the property of the Cleveland Telephone Company. This is the first physical valuation job undertaken by the commission since the public utility law was amended by the Legislature in 1913, giving authority to this work. About \$50,000 was appropriated.

DIVIDENDS DECLARED

New Standard Telephone and Telegraph Company, regular quarterly \$1.75, payable September 20 to stock of record September 15.

American Window Glass Company, a dividend of 7 per cent on the preferred stock, payable September 15 to stock of record September 22. This makes 27 per cent paid this far this year.

OIL PRICES CUT AGAIN

The Imperial Oil Company has reduced the price of crude oil 5c a barrel to \$1.4.

Market Street National Bank of PHILADELPHIA, PA. RESOURCES: Loans and Investments \$8,706,475.96; Clearing House Certificates 340,000.00; Cash and Reserve 665,701.61; Clearing House Loan Certificates on hand 850,000.00. LIABILITIES: Capital Stock \$1,000,000.00; Surplus and Net Profits 1,350,928.57; Circulation 1,280,297.50; U. S. Bonds Borrowed (U. S. Deposits) 50,000.00; Deposits 8,671,241.40; Clearing House Loan Certificates outstanding 350,000.00. \$12,712,467.47. W. P. SINNETT, Cashier.

WAR OPENS GREAT POSSIBILITIES FOR FIRE INSURANCE

American Companies Look for Big Business Because of Stringency Abroad—Government Places \$3,225,000 War Risk Policies.

The insurance business has been adversely affected by the European war, but probably not to such an extent as other lines. Insurance men say that although they notice some falling off, particularly in fire insurance, it has not been on any large scale. Then, too, they declare, the war has opened up greater possibilities for the American insurance man, because customers have evidenced a disposition to discriminate against foreign companies particularly those of France and Germany, on the ground that their policies with them would not be as safe as with an American company, for the reason that all of the money the foreign companies have is needed now at home.

Insurance men explain that this should not be the case, as, under the laws, foreign companies doing business in this country are compelled to keep a certain surplus in the United States to meet their obligations here, and that anyone wishing to patronize a foreign company should not hesitate in doing so for this reason. But then, all in all, there seems to be a disposition to favor American companies when any business is to be done.

The falling off in the fire insurance business, it is pointed out, is due primarily to the fact that the war has cut down exports and imports to a minimum, and consequently there is no need for large insurance of warehouses where goods are kept pending shipment. This falling off has been in part compensated by war risk insurance, which has thus far balanced the scales, but for how long insurance men will not offer a prediction.

The marine business on coastwise shipping and to ports in South America is running along about the same, as is the business to England, although a slight falling off in the latter has been noted. "The insurance business in Europe," said an insurance man today who returned recently, "is at a standstill because of the war."

From Washington came the announcement today that the Treasurer of War Risk Insurance has already issued war insurance on eleven vessels, eight of which ply between this country and South America and three engaged in European trade. The total insurance carried on these vessels is said to be about \$2,250,000.

The bureau also has pending war insurance applications amounting to \$3,600,000 to be carried by a fleet of eight vessels engaged in the European trade.

PORT OF PHILADELPHIA

STEAMSHIPS ARRIVING TODAY. From (New), Cape Breton via New York, Belfast, W. J. Grandfield. From (New), Baltimore, Conn., ballast, W. J. Grandfield.

Steamships to Arrive. Name, From, West Point, London, Maine, London, Carthaginian, Glasgow, Widener, Rotterdam, Zulueta, Rotterdam, M. Mariner, Manchester.

Steamships to Leave. Name, To, Date, Southwick, Rotterdam, Sept. 17, Havensford, Liverpool, Sept. 19, Anona, Naples, Sept. 19.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS

STEAMSHIPS. Eyemouth (Br.), Gulf to France, grain, 52,000 quarters, 2d, 3d, Sept. Herzegovina (Br.), Gulf to Marseille, grain, 30,000 quarters, 17d, prompt. From (New), London, Philadelphia and Brazil trade, one round trip, 4d, 7d, prompt. From (New), London, Philadelphia and Brazil trade, one round trip, private terms, Sept. 10. From (New), London, Philadelphia and Brazil trade, one round trip, private terms, Sept. 10. From (New), London, Philadelphia and Brazil trade, one round trip, private terms, Sept. 10.

RAILROAD EARNINGS

JERSEY CENTRAL. July operating revenue, \$1,014,100.00; operating expenses, 709,850.00; net operating revenue, 304,250.00. From July 1 to Sept. 15, 1914, operating revenue, \$4,251,840.00; operating expenses, 2,909,740.00; net operating revenue, 1,342,100.00.

STATEMENT Corn Exchange National Bank Philadelphia September 12, 1914. RESOURCES: Loans & Investments \$20,011,942.87; Clearing House Certificates 340,000.00; Cash and Reserve 665,701.61; Clearing House Loan Certificates on hand 850,000.00. LIABILITIES: Capital \$1,000,000.00; Surplus and Net Profits (Earned) 2,016,102.25; Clearing House Certificates 1,285,000.00; Circulation 783,800.00; Deposits 25,116,281.88. \$30,200,684.13. NEWTON W. CORSON, Cashier.

FOREIGN TRADE SMALLER

Both Imports and Exports Fell Off in August. WASHINGTON, Sept. 16.—Imports into the United States in August were lower than any month since November, 1911, according to a statement issued by the Department of Commerce today. Exports reached the lowest point since August 1, 1909. Imports of merchandise were \$129,299,495, compared with \$137,531,583 in August, 1913. For the eight months ended with August, 1914, imports amounted to \$1,093,092,509, against \$1,152,302,228 for a similar period in the preceding year.

LOCAL CONTRACTORS EXTEND OPERATIONS TO DISTANT STATES

In Last Ten Years Philadelphia Builders Have Become Strong Competitors in Open Market

Never before in the history of building has the Philadelphia contractor been such a strong competitor in the open market. Ten years ago it was almost like performing a miracle to obtain work of any size more than a few miles out of town, and Philadelphia contractors regarded it as a waste of time and money to submit bids on distant work. Today the Philadelphia firms will not only entertain work anywhere in the United States, but have succeeded in winning many out-of-town contracts. Not only occasionally but almost any day in the week on the estimating boards in the larger offices will be found many bids out-of-town jobs. This change of affairs is principally due to the following reasons:

First, the local contractor, like the Philadelphia lawyer, has gained a far-reaching reputation for skill and efficiency. Second, the completeness of the organization of most of our large contracting firms enables them to carry on the construction of a building 100 miles from Philadelphia with the same celerity and exactness as though it was a stone throw from their office door.

As an illustration of the magnitude of this out-of-town business, it was learned that more than \$10,000,000 was being contracted by Cramp & Co., Irwin & Leighton, and J. E. & A. L. Penneck, that their combined work for the year amounted to more than \$10,000,000, and was being constructed in such distant places as Oklahoma, Charleston, W. Va.; Dayton, O.; New Haven, Albany City; Harrisburg, Pa.; Atlanta, Ga.; Montreal, Canada; Cincinnati, O.; Indianapolis, Ind.; Ann Arbor, Mich.; Detroit, Mich.; New York City; Newark, N. J.; Buffalo, N. Y.; and the other large cities throughout the United States.

The above firms by no means have a monopoly of this distant work. Many other firms are doing it, and throughout the country are being done by our local contractors, and the satisfaction they are giving in the line of building construction cannot help but stamp the Philadelphia contractors as leaders in the building world.

NEW HAVEN R. R. WILL SPEND \$1,500,000 TO ELECTRIFY LINES

Directors Meet Tomorrow to Indorse Project—Have Already Spent Nearly \$16,000,000 On New Electrification.

A contract for supplying electric power to the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad and the New York, Westchester and Boston Railway, made with the New York Edison Company, is expected to be concluded at a meeting of the directors of the New York, New Haven and Hartford in New York tomorrow.

The plan is to have the Edison Company supply power to the New Haven between Woodlawn and New Rochelle on the main line and to the Harlem River and Port Chester Railroad between the city and the latter station. Current will be supplied to the entire system of the New York, Westchester and Boston Railway.

The electric zone of the New Haven went of New Haven for the year ending June 30, 1914, shows a total income of the company from subsidiary companies as \$1,500,000, compared with \$1,200,000 in the previous year, an increase of \$300,000. After deductions of \$142,322, against \$188,900 in the previous year for taxes and miscellaneous expenses, the net income was \$357,678, compared with \$249,678 in 1913. The net income is equivalent to 17 per cent earned on \$2,107,150 common stock after paying 7 per cent on \$2,000,000 cumulative preferred stock, compared with 27 per cent earned on the same amount of common stock in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1913.

The next annual meeting of the stockholders of the Southern Railway Company, on October 15, will mark a new era in the history of the company, as it will be the first meeting at which the 2,000 stockholders have had the opportunity to vote directly, the voting trial in existence since the organization of the company in 1891, now being in process of dissolution.

According to report, S. L. Schoonmaker, who has been elected a director of the American Locomotive Company, will, at a meeting of the directors in the near future, be made chairman of the board. The election of Mr. Schoonmaker to the directorate will mean the elimination of all factional differences.

PHILADELPHIA MARKETS

PROVISIONS. The market dull with ample offerings at the recent decline. City beef in sets, smoked and air dried, 31 1/2c; Western beef, in sets, smoked, 31 1/2c; city beef, knuckles and tenders, smoked and air dried, 32 1/2c; Western beef, knuckles and tenders, smoked, 32 1/2c; beef hams, 40 1/2c; pork, family, 25 1/2c; hams, S. P. cured, loose, 15 1/2c; do, skinned, loose, 15 1/2c; do, smoked, 15 1/2c; other hams smoked, city cured, as to brand and cured, 18 1/2c; do, bottled, hock, 25 1/2c; do, shoulder, S. P. cured, loose, 12 1/2c; do, smoked, 15 1/2c; do, in picnic, according to average, loose, 10 1/2c; breakfast bacon, as to brand and average, city cured, 22 1/2c; breakfast bacon, Western cured, 22 1/2c; lard, Western refined, 11 1/2c; lard, pure city, 11 1/2c; tallow, 11 1/2c; lard, pure city, kettle rendered, in tubs, 11 1/2c.

SUGAR. REFINER SUGAR—Quiet, but firmly held. Standard granulated, 7.90 1/2c; No. 10 granulated, 7.25 1/2c; No. 11 granulated, 7.00 1/2c; No. 12 granulated, 6.45 1/2c.

DAIRY PRODUCTS. CHEESE—Trade slow and prices favored buyers. New York full-cream cheddar, 30 1/2c; Swiss, 30 1/2c; fair to good, 15 1/2c; do, part skim, 20 1/2c.

POULTRY. LIVE—The market quiet with fairly liberal offerings at former rates. Spring chickens, No. 1, large, 17 1/2c; do, medium sized, 17 1/2c; do, small, 16 1/2c; do, spring, 14 1/2c; chickens, per pair, young, weighing 7 pounds and over, 10 1/2c; do, weighing 7 pounds and over, 10 1/2c; do, old, 5 1/2c; pigeons, 13 1/2c; young pigeons, 10 1/2c; do, weighing per pair, 10 1/2c.

WHEAT STRONGER AS MARKET HEARS LESS OF EUROPEAN PEACE. Heavy Demand From Millers at Liverpool Where Prices Are Better—General Buying in Chicago Pit.

CHICAGO, Sept. 16.—There was renewed confidence in the buying side in the wheat market today. Prices opened firm, with December up 1/4 cent, at 11 1/2c. May up 1/4 cent, at 11 1/2c. Weak longs were eliminated on the recent setbacks and the market was believed to be on a far better basis than it was seven days ago, when prices were 2 1/2 cents above yesterday's low point. There was a large export trade on the recent setbacks.

A heavy demand for wheat from millers was reported at Liverpool, serving to reduce British stocks and relieving the congestion in the United Kingdom. The receipts in the Northwest were again heavy and stocks are accumulating there. The scene in the pit this morning was wild, with commission houses in general buying and offerings scattered and inadequate. Less was heard of peace talk and the news from the other side was believed to indicate a prolongation of the struggle.

Prices at Liverpool were stronger. While supplies there are ample, the acknowledged large requirements of countries other than Great Britain had a tendency to cause pronounced firmness in the distant month at Liverpool. The visible supply in Europe amounts to 65,700,000 bushels, against 63,344,000 bushels in the previous week and 70,500,000 bushels a year ago. The weather in the United Kingdom is more favorable, and native wheat is moving freely. An official report places the condition of wheat there at \$1.04.

The French crop, which has all been gathered, has turned out better than had been expected, with the quality as a whole fair. The weather in France is now reasonable. Reports from German official circles show that the output of wheat in that country was below expectations. Reports from Russia are conflicting, but it is believed that the yield will be short and of inferior quality. Beneficial rains have fallen in India, but shippers there are maintaining firm prices and offerings are light. In Australia the weather is dry and the crop outlook unfavorable. From Argentina weather and crop accounts show improvement.

The receipts at Minneapolis and Duluth today were 141 cars, against 132 cars a year ago; at Winnipeg, 123 cars, against 96 cars; at Chicago, 329 cars, against 198 cars.

Corn was stronger on light receipts and a better inquiry from the East. December was reported at Liverpool, serving to reduce British stocks and relieving the congestion in the United Kingdom. The receipts in the Northwest were again heavy and stocks are accumulating there. The scene in the pit this morning was wild, with commission houses in general buying and offerings scattered and inadequate. Less was heard of peace talk and the news from the other side was believed to indicate a prolongation of the struggle.

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