

FINANCIAL NEWS

WEAKNESS AND STRENGTH FOLLOWED EACH OTHER IN DAY'S STOCK TRADING

Excessive Liquidation in First Part of Session—Indications of Renewed Accumulation by Strong Interests.

Copper Shares the Leaders on Late Recovery

High Points in Today's Financial News

Pennsylvania Railroad annual report good, as were the January earnings. Reading also reported good earnings for January, as did the New York Central. Railroads still buying rails. Wire products boosted \$2 a ton. Pig iron production in the United States in 1915 reached a total of 29,916,213 tons, an increase of 6,583,089 tons. Several companies declared extra dividends, among them being Lorillard Tobacco, Finance Company of Pennsylvania and Condon & Co.

NEW YORK, March 1.

The stock market passed through three different stages in the course of the day, with weakness and strength in close sequence. There was excessive liquidation in the first half of the day, when prices generally yielded to the lowest range reached so far this year, and at the same time bearish efforts became more pronounced, with offerings of short stock in large volume at continually lowering levels.

The liquidation apparently benefited the market to a considerable extent, and the technical position was further strengthened by increased sales for short account. While the selling for both accounts was in progress there were indications of renewed accumulation by strong interests.

One house took 15,000 shares of half a dozen stocks, and there was quite buying of many other issues, which was effective in causing pronounced strength in the late trading. The copper stocks were especially helped by the fact that Utah, Butte and Superior, Chino and Nevada Consolidated dividend meetings will be held tomorrow. Increased dividend payments have been predicted on these stocks for two weeks past, and the impression prevails that if these predictions are fulfilled the copper stocks should be placed in a much firmer position.

The copper producing stocks were in brisk demand in the last dealings and led the market in the recovery which then occurred.

Industrial Alcohol was in good demand all through the day, although at times it weakened under bear pressure, but made a substantial net gain at the close. There was a general disposition at the end of the day to regard all development in connection with the submarine situation and the position at Verdun as being discounted, and the opinion was general that the market had also been helped materially by the general liquidation of commission accounts.

Railroads Continue to Buy Rails

Railroads in this country are continuing active purchasers of rails. Recent orders received by the United States Steel Corporation's subsidiaries amount to 47,000 tons, 20,000 tons of which came from the Southern Road and 27,000 tons distributed in small lots among many other roads. Sales of rails have been made for delivery in 1917, and thus far orders from three railroad systems for next year's shipment total 70,000 tons.

Belief That Mercantile Marine Committees Will Agree

Certain developments of the last few days have led some to believe that the various committees representing the security holders of the International Marine Company will get together and agree on a plan of readjustment which will eliminate the necessity of threshing the matter out in the courts. There have been conferences recently between some of the interests representing the stockholders and bondholders, and this has given color to the rumors current that a settlement is imminent at an early date.

Wire Products Boosted \$2 a Ton

A further advance of \$2 per ton in all wire products, making wire nails \$2.40 per 100 pounds, and other products in proportion, makes wire prices higher than at any time since 1900. The present price of wire nails is \$16 per ton higher than at this time last year and shows an increase of \$6 per ton since January 1 this year.

NEW YORK STOCK SALES

Last close. High. Low. Close. Last close. High. Low. Close.

Adams Express..... 136 138 138 138 Mexican Petroleum pf. 98 95 95 95

Alaska Gold Mines. 9 9 9 9 Min. St. Louis..... 5 43 43 43

Alaska Gold Mines. 21 21 204 204 Miami Copper..... 355 355 354 354

Allis-Chalmers Mfg. 27 28 26 27 Missouri Pacific..... 43 43 43 43

Allis-Chalmers Mfg. pf. 77 77 75 75 Mt. Pacific Tr. Co..... 43 43 43 43

Am. Can. & Chemicals. 66 65 65 65 Mt. Pacific Tr. Co. pf. 43 43 43 43

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Am. Best Stock Co. 55 54 53 53 Mt. Pacific Tr. Co. pf. 43 43 43 43

Am. Can. & Leather. 583 583 583 583 Montana Power. 70 70 68/4 70

Am. Can. & Leather. 583 583 583 583 National Biscuit. 1215 121 121 121

Am. Can. & Leather. 110 110 110 110 Nat. Cloth & S. Co. 75/4 73 74 74

Am. Car & Fdry. 66 65 64 64 Nat. Enam. & S. Co. 233 233 23 23

Am. Coal Products. 159/4 159 159 159 National Lead. 66 65 65 65

Am. Coal Prod. pf. 110 110 110 110 National Lead. 65/4 65 65 65

Am. Cotton Oil. 52 52 52 52 National Lead. 157 157 157 157

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Am. Electric & Leather. 94 94 94 94 New Can. & Ind. 104 104 104 104

Am. Electric & Leather. 94 94 94 94 New York Air Brake. 141 140 137 140

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