

FINANCIAL NEWS
DECLINE IN COTTON AND ADVANCE
IN CALL MONEY WEAKENS STOCKS

Contraction in Banking Accommodation Aimed at Speculation—Some Loans Called—Inside Selling Sends Coppers Off

NEW YORK, Dec. 11.—The stock market was acutely disturbed today by two factors. The unsettling of the speculative situation in cotton resulting from the unexpected favorable spinning report on last Friday, followed by the favorable showing in the Government cotton report published this afternoon, caused urgent selling of the active speculative cotton options with substantial declines in that staple for both spot and future contracts.

Losses resulting from the two days' decline naturally impaired accounts in which large lines of stocks were also carried and a liquidation movement in these issues was intensified late in the day, when there was another contraction of banking accommodation aimed at the bullish speculation in grain and cotton and banking liquidation of accounts in which stocks, grain and cotton were jointly carried imperatively.

Most of the stock holdings in these accounts were of the copper group, and on the position of the copper stocks had been weakened by inside selling in the last two weeks these issues sustained the greatest amount of loss in the day's trading. Anaconda, which sold at 97 1/2 at the opening, dropped to below 94, and Utah Copper also declined more than 3 points during the day.

There were heavy offerings of United States Steel common, and that stock, after its gain of 1/2 in the initial trading to 125 1/2, dropped to 123 1/2. Many of the minor steel industries, including Republic Iron and Steel, dropped 2 points or more, and the war-order stocks, after showing a strong tone in the early trading, joined in the late downward movement.

The money situation was again brought into prominence by the calling of a number of loans shortly after noon. The rate for call money, which started at 3 1/2 per cent, quickly rose to 6 per cent, and at the same time the discrimination against accounts in which grain and cotton contracts were carried became more pronounced.

One of the important features of the bond market was the weakness in foreign issues, with Anglo-French 5s making a new low record, selling at 92 1/2. City of Paris 6s were also in supply at concessions, declining from 95 1/2 to 94. Colorado Midland 4s were strong in the early trading, when they sold at 92, but later reacted to 20 1/2. Chili Copper 7s were traded in on a large scale, selling off about 3 points.

The oil stock market was generally active and strong. Standard Oil issues made substantial gains and independent oil stocks were generally higher. Westinghouse rights were traded in for the first time with sales at 1 1/2 to 1 3/4.

The reorganized railroads were quieter and generally lower. Erie Marquette declined from 5 1/2 to 3 1/2, and Rock Island new stock sold at 4 1/2 to 4 3/4.

The steel and war order stocks also showed a weak tone and declined under small sales.

INDUSTRIALS: Astra Explosives, American Marconi, American Writing Paper, Canadian Car and Foundry, etc.

RAILROADS: Erie Marquette, Rock Island, Westinghouse, etc.

STANDARD OIL STOCKS: Standard Oil of California, Standard Oil of New Jersey, etc.

OTHER OIL STOCKS: American Oil, Gulf Oil, etc.

BONDS: U.S. 4 1/2s, U.S. 5s, etc.

Marine Stock for Certificates: NEW YORK, Dec. 11.—The New York Stock Exchange has removed from the list the International Mercantile Marine Company's 4 1/2 per cent mortgage and collateral trust bonds, due in 1922; the New York Trust Company's certificates of deposit for 4 1/2 per cent mortgage and collateral trust bonds, due in 1922; the United States Mortgage and Trust Company's certificates of deposit for preferred stock, and the International Navigation Company's first mortgage sinking fund 5 per cent bonds, due in 1922.

Homestate Mining Votes Extra: NEW YORK, Dec. 11.—The Homestate Mining Company has declared the regular quarterly dividend of 1 1/2 per cent and an extra of 1 1/2 per cent on the common, and the regular quarterly dividend of 1 1/2 per cent on the first preferred stock.

Extra for Julius Kayser & Co.: NEW YORK, Dec. 11.—Julius Kayser & Co. have declared regular quarterly dividend of 1 1/2 per cent and an extra of 1 1/2 per cent on the common, and the regular quarterly dividend of 1 1/2 per cent on the first preferred stock.

New York Stock Sales

Table with columns: Name, High, Low, Last, Bid, Ask. Includes Am. Tea, Am. Rubber, Alaska, etc.

New York Bond Sales

Table with columns: Name, High, Low, Bid, Ask. Includes 1916 U.S. 4 1/2s, 1917 U.S. 5s, etc.

BAD BREAK OCCURS IN COTTON PRICES

Government Report Sends Active Positions Off More than \$5 a Bale

COTTON BELT WEATHER CONDITIONS: NEW YORK, Dec. 11.—The following (temperature) was recorded in the cotton belt this morning: Abilene and Oklahoma, 20; Muskogee, 20; Little Rock, 20; Fort Smith and Asheville, 21; San Antonio and Houston, 20; Memphis, 20; Chattanooga and Atlanta, 45; Victoria and Seattle, 41; Corpus Christi, 40; Galveston, 40; New Orleans, 40; New York, 40; Philadelphia, 40; Washington, 40; St. Louis, 40; Chicago, 40; Cincinnati, 40; Cleveland, 40; Detroit, 40; Boston, 40; New England, 40.

NEW YORK, Dec. 11.—The Government report on cotton caused a sensational break in prices on the Cotton Exchange today, as prices on the cotton futures market fell a half to one dollar in a few minutes after it was issued.

The total production in the United States for the last season the report placed at 11,511,000 bales, against 11,121,250 last year, according to estimates by the United States Bureau of Crop Estimates today.

A renewal of liquidation had weakened the market toward the middle of the morning with Kansas contracts selling off to 15.30 and the general list to a net loss of about 2 1/2 to 3 points. This carried the market back to within 15 to 20 points of the lowest level reached on Saturday, and while rallies of 15 to 20 points followed on covering the tone was still very nervous and unsettled later in the morning.

Advancing marine war risks had an effect, but the market was steadied by covering and showed rallies of 15 to 20 points early in the afternoon, just before the Government report came out.

Opening declines of 8 to 10 points were recorded at the start this morning and the tone was easy. After the call the demand increased materially, but no supply came out except at advancing bids, and by the end of the first fifteen minutes rallies of 10 to 15 points were established.

Liverpool Cotton: LIVERPOOL, Dec. 11.—Spot cotton today was in moderate demand, at 42 points lower, on the basis of 11.63 for mid-upland. The sales aggregated 7900 bales, including 6000 bales American. The imports were 31,000 bales, all American. The market for futures closed steady at a net decline of 27.83 points.

Sales in Philadelphia

Table with columns: Name, High, Low, Close, Net Change. Includes 10 Am. Loan, 10 Am. Mill, etc.

TRADING IN LOCAL STOCKS QUIET; P. R. T. CERTIFICATES MOST ACTIVE

National Properties Subsidiaries Report Good November Earnings—American Gas and Electric Declares Extra Stock Dividend on Common

The market in this city followed the trend of the New York market throughout the whole day's trading. In no issue was there any real activity, and the nearest approach to any was in Philadelphia Rapid Transit trust certificates and Philadelphia Electric. While the former mounted a little greater in the total dealings, yet it did not outdistance Philadelphia Electric to any great extent. Taking the market as a whole, price movements were decidedly narrow. An exception to the rule was Cramp Shipbuilding. This stock was off 1/4 at one time during the morning, but in the afternoon it had recovered all of the loss and 1/4 more.

Throughout the whole day Philadelphia Rapid Transit certificates moved over a narrow course. In the morning a loss of nearly a point was shown. This was in the early transactions, but on succeeding sales the price recovered and before midday a fractional gain was marked up. Later, however, this was lost. Philadelphia Electric reached 30 for a fractional gain and after this 30 was asked for 2000 shares and in the final trading 30 1/2 was reached. The last price was within 1/4 of the year's high mark. The general feeling in the Street was that nothing much could be expected

of the market until after the first of the year. In the line of general news, the November gross earnings of the subsidiary companies of the National Properties Company were made known. The total was \$723,171, which is an increase of \$98,111, or 15.7 per cent over the corresponding month of last year. For the eleven months ending with November the gross amount was \$1,115,165, an increase of \$1,175,716, or 15.93 per cent.

An extra stock dividend of 1 per cent was declared on the common stock of the American Gas and Electric Company, in addition to the cash quarterly of 1 1/2 per cent. Both are payable January 15 to stockholders of record December 15. The regular quarterly of 1 1/2 per cent was declared on the preferred stock payable February 15 to stockholders of record January 15.

HECKER & CO. BANKERS AND BROKERS. 6th & CHESTNUT STS., N. E. Cor. Members of Phila. Stock Exchange. Direct Wires to New York.

Voluntary Trusts: Persons wishing to establish Trusts for the benefit of others or for their own benefit can do so by means of a Deed of Trust. Such Trusts can be started with a moderate amount and additions made thereto from time to time. The right can be reserved to change the Trustee or the Beneficiaries or to terminate the Trust.

A less formal method of accomplishing the same results is by the appointment of an Agent. This Company will act as such Trustee or Agent, and also take charge of the details of the finances of Charitable, Religious or Educational Institutions under the supervision of their officers.

Commercial Trust Company, City Hall Square. Correspondence or a personal interview cordially invited.

Foreign Loans in America. Thirty-eight issues of foreign securities now dealt in in American markets are briefly reviewed in our December Investment List. The List also presents our current recommendations as to home investments, with income ranging from 4.10% to over 7%. Copies on request. EDWARD B. SMITH & CO. BANKERS. ESTABLISHED 1892. Members New York and Philadelphia Stock Exchanges. 1411 CHESTNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA. 30 PINE STREET, NEW YORK.

December Bond List. Issues suitable for National Banks, Savings Banks, Trust Funds, Business Reserves and Individuals. A diversity of issues permitting selections adapted to specific requirements. Send for Circular PE-76.

The National City Company. 1421 Chestnut St., Philadelphia. New York, Chicago, San Francisco, Boston, Pittsburgh.

Frazier & Co. Investment Bankers Broad & Sanson Sts. Mr. Charles S. Townsend has become associated with them in their Bond Department.

Savannah Gas. REED & MORGAN & CO. WEST END TRUST BLDG., PHILA. Members of the Phila. Stock Exchange.

ANNUAL MEETINGS: UNION NATIONAL BANK, Philadelphia, December 8, 1916. THE CENTRAL NATIONAL BANK, Philadelphia, December 11, 1916.

GETTING AHEAD. The Twenty Payment Plan. Investment Opportunities. STATERY & Co. Investment Advisers (Established 1908). 40 Exchange Place, New York.

MERRITT OIL CORPORATION. CAPITAL STOCK. AUTHORIZED \$6,000,000. PAR VALUE \$10.00. From a letter signed by K. C. Schuyler, President of the Corporation, under date of December 5th, 1916, we summarize as follows: OUTSTANDING STOCK: There is outstanding \$2,750,000 Capital Stock, the balance being in the Company's treasury. PROPERTIES: The Company owns leases on acreage in the heart of the Big Muddy field of Wyoming, as follows: An undivided one-half interest with the Ohio Oil Company in a 600-acre tract, which is the equivalent of 250 acres owned by the Merritt Oil Corporation; All of 250 acres adjoining said 600 acres on the North; An undivided 25 per cent. in about 2,000 acres adjoining said tract on the West and continuing through the central part of the Dome, this interest being equivalent to 750 acres. In addition the Company has acreage on the edges of the field, and is endeavoring to secure additional acreage within the Dome. RELATIONS WITH OTHER INTERESTS: The Midwest Refining Company, which is the predominant interest in the Wyoming fields, owns a substantial interest in the Merritt Oil Corporation. The Ohio Oil Company is interested in the property through ownership of a one-half interest in a 500-acre tract. IMPORTANCE OF BIG MUDDY FIELD: The importance of the field in which the corporation's holdings are located is illustrated by the activity of practically all of the large producing companies of the country in seeking to acquire holdings in the Big Muddy field since the Merritt Oil & Gas Company recently struck a well in the Wall Creek sand at a depth of 3,155 feet, considered to be good for 1,000 barrels a day. The Big Muddy field lies 18 miles east of Casper, Wyoming, the site of the Midwest Refining Company plant. The principal oil-bearing structure of the field is a "dome" about a mile long and 1/2 to 2 miles wide, rivaling in extent the famous Salt Creek field of Wyoming. The principal source of supply in the Wall Creek sand, which for thickness and degree of saturation, according to experts, is rivaled only by the Bartlesville sand of Oklahoma. The Ohio Oil Company has paid \$500,000 for a half-interest in the 500-acre tract in which the deep well is situated, and has also acquired other interests in the Big Muddy field. The Midwest Refining Company owns considerable holdings in the field. The Texas Company has acquired leases on 500 or 600 acres, and it is understood that the Carter Oil Company, and Franks Oil & Gas Company (Standard Oil group); the Producers Oil Company (Texas Company subsidiary); and Gypsy Oil Company (Gulf Oil Corporation), are seeking to acquire leases in the field. The Merritt Oil Corporation, its officers believe, will occupy the most favorable position in the field. All statements herein are believed to be accurate, having been obtained from official sources, but they are not guaranteed. A block of the above stock available for sale was immediately disposed of at \$9 per share, and this advertisement appears only as a matter of record. CARL H. PFORZHEIMER & CO. 25 BROAD ST. Phone 480-12-14. NEW YORK.