

LOCAL STOCK MARKET STARTS NEW YEAR WITH IMPROVEMENT IN PRICE

Feeling Is Much Better and There Is Larger Demand for Securities—Lake Superior Most Active—Cramp Shipbuilding Up Four Points

Local and commission house traders and others who are interested in the movement of prices on the Philadelphia stock exchange came downtown this morning in much better feeling after the triple holiday. While the market throughout the day was not active, as was the case a month or two ago, yet there was an improvement both in the prices and the demand for securities over that ruling in the last days of December. The triple holiday gave clearing up an opportunity of catching up on their work and today when business started it was with a clean slate.

There were no important developments in connection with any stock in the day's trading, but there were some noteworthy movements, especially in Cramp Shipbuilding, which gained 4 points, selling at 86. This advance was brought about by continued light trading. Among the local stocks, Lake Superior Corporation was the most active, and this time gained more than a point early in the day, maintaining the advance to the close.

Philadelphia Rapid Transit certificates continue to be held in favor in the street. Nothing new has developed with regard to the new transit plans, but the feeling among holders of the issue throughout the street is that even though the plan submitted by the company to the city are not adopted, yet the company is strengthened in its position with the public in that it has shown that it is willing to make concessions as set forth in the plan. Today the certificates started unchanged but as trading progressed they sold at the final of last Friday, maintaining the advance throughout the rest of the day.

The statement of operation of the Belmont Milling Company for the months ending November 30 came out today. The net earnings for the period were given as \$29,375. This compares with \$186,825 in the same period of 1915. Total net income for the period was \$1,400,000, against \$1,000,000 in the corresponding period of 1915. Tonopah Belmont sold off a small fraction.

Big Special Steel Dividend. PITTSBURGH, Jan. 2.—The Pittsburgh Steel Company, in addition to declaring a regular quarterly dividend of \$1 a share on the common stock, has declared a special dividend of \$2 a share, making \$3 a share and amounting to \$1,540,000. These dividends are payable January 2.

FINANCIAL NEWS

STOCKS MOVE UP IN WALL STREET; SPECIALTIES GAIN 5 TO 10 POINTS

Excessive Short Interest Takes Place of Extended Long Lines—Peace Outlook Dwindles—Berlin Exchange Sells Lower

Wall street came down today with its bull boots on after the triple holiday and from the beginning of business groups after group of leading stocks was bought with a good deal of vigor and nearly everything traded in was established at materially higher prices. Naturally, United States Steel common, which resumed its place as market leader, was regarded with most attention. That stock made a gain of more than 4 points, crossing 119, and was followed at the upturn by nearly all the minor steel industrials. Specialties made advances ranging from 5 to 10 points, with Gulf States Steel having the widest movement, advancing from 125 to 135.

The railroad stocks were favored with a short-lived bullish demonstration, when Union Pacific moved up to above 140, but it was not long before the railway stocks were neglected and speculative interest and banking accumulation concentrated wholly in the industrials which had been in favor since the beginning of the war.

From the steel stocks interest was diverted to the sugar group with Cuba Cane Sugar bought by interests connected with the Guaranty Trust Company and other financial institutions, and advancing more than 3 points, the buying being accompanied by assertions that a liberal dividend payment on the stock is close at hand.

Excesses occurred at intervals during the day, reflecting the desire of some frightened holders to take advantage of the best market they had found in the last few weeks, but it did not take long for the concentrated buying to absorb this supply. After this absorption was completed the market developed increased strength.

The incentives for the increased demand were found in the developments in connection with the peace propositions which have engaged the attention of belligerent and neutral Governments since the beginning of December, which have to a large extent influenced the market, and the market is now regarded as immune to either peace propositions or diplomatic news.

Liquidation has cleaned out all weak accounts and in place of overextended long lines there has been created an excessive short interest. The degree to which the peace outlook has dwindled away may be measured by the fact that rechartered checks on Berlin, under small offerings, this morning declined from 75 to 72.

The feature of the bond market was heavy trading in Anglo-French 5s, which ranged from 92 1/2 to 93 1/2. There were heavy transactions also in United Kingdom notes, with the five-year notes changing hands at 98 1/2, 98 3/4. Price movements in railway issues were narrow. International Mercantile Marine 6s moved up 1/2 to 95.

New York Stock Sales

Table listing New York Stock Sales with columns for stock name, bid, ask, and volume. Includes stocks like Alva Rubber, Alaska, Am. Gas, etc.

Sales in Philadelphia

Table listing Sales in Philadelphia with columns for stock name, bid, ask, and volume. Includes stocks like Am. Beet, Am. Gas, etc.

MONEY LENDING RATES

Table listing Money Lending Rates for various terms and currencies, including New York and Philadelphia rates.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

Table listing Foreign Exchange rates for various locations like London, Paris, and others.

CURB RECOVERS FROM BEARISH INFLUENCE AND STOCKS ADVANCE

The curb market had recovered from the bearish influence with the beginning of business this morning and instead of stocks being pressed for sale there was an urgent demand. Most interest was naturally attracted to the demand for Midvale Steel, which rose to 62 1/2 on the positive statements that the stock will be put on a 12 per cent dividend basis Thursday.

There was persistent accumulation of Lima Locomotive, which was bought on a large scale from 42 1/2 to 43 1/2. Zinc tonnage related accumulation for 800 tons was sold at 4 to 4 1/2, with the buying partly based on knowledge in regard to the strength of the company's patent position. The infringement of these patents will be taken up in litigation already arranged.

Some of the motor stocks were also in urgent demand, with Chevrolet making a gain of more than 10 points and selling above 134, while United Motor was actively traded in at 46 to 48. Railway stocks were neglected, Wabash Pittsburgh selling at 29 1/2 to 29, the new Rock Island common at 42, the 7 per cent preferred at 90 and the 6 per cent preferred at 75.

Standard Oil issues were strong, with Standard Oil of New Jersey advancing to 70 1/2. Sinclair oil stocks showed strength in the first hour, but later retreated. Sinclair moved up from 61 1/2 to 62 1/2, from which it declined to 61.

Mining stocks were irregular, Magna advancing from 40 to 42 1/2 and United Verde from 57 1/2 to 59 1/2, while Butte Copper and Zinc sold down from 11 1/2 to 11.

Table listing various stock categories: INDUSTRIALS, OTHER OIL STOCKS, MINING STOCKS, BONDS, and STANDARD OIL STOCKS. Includes sub-tables for LOCAL BANK LOANS FALL AGAIN and PARTNERSHIP CHANGES.

New York Bond Sales

Table listing New York Bond Sales with columns for bond name, bid, ask, and volume. Includes bonds like 12900 Alaska, 12900 Am. Beet, etc.

January Bond List. This list includes bonds legal for Savings Banks, bonds exempt from State Taxes and bonds eligible as security for Postal Savings Deposits.

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

OKLAHOMA Producing & Refining Co. One of the largest independent oil companies operating in the mid-continent. JONES & BAKER STOCK BROKERS.

ANNUAL MEETINGS. NORTHWESTERN NATIONAL BANK. CORN EXCHANGE NATIONAL BANK. LEGAL ADVERTISEMENTS.

FRANKLIN NATIONAL BANK. CENTRAL TRUST AND SAVINGS COMPANY. DIRECTOR OF ACCOUNTANTS.

COTTON ADVANCES ON STRONG CABLES. Business Is Limited, With Traders Inclined to Wait. Peace Talk Absent.

NEW YORK, Jan. 2.—Firmness was displayed at the opening of the cotton market today and price advances ranging from 5 to 25 points were recorded on the call.

STANDARD OIL STOCKS. LOCAL BANK LOANS FALL AGAIN. PARTNERSHIP CHANGES.

NEW YORK COFFEE MARKET. NEW YORK, Jan. 2.—There was a moderately active opening in the market for coffee futures today, with first prices 3 points higher to a decline of 2 points.

NEW YORK BUTTER AND EGGS. NEW YORK, Jan. 2.—The Federal quoted 6 to 6 1/2 for fine granulated sugar. All other grades quoted 5 to 5 1/2.

BAR SILVER. London prices. Today. Friday. Last week. New York (open). 72 1/2. 72 1/2. 72 1/2.

E. H. PLUMMER & SON. General Agents. Join with the Berkshire Life Insurance Company of PITTSFIELD, MASS. in extending to its many policyholders and friends the Compliments of the Season, wishing one and all a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Income Tax Department. To persons unfamiliar with the regulations governing the payment of the Federal Income Tax, the preparation of the annual return required by law presents many difficulties.

Philadelphia Trust Company. 415 Chestnut Street. Bartlesville Interurban Railway Company (OKLAHOMA) FIRST MORTGAGE SINKING FUND 6% Gold Bonds. Dated January 1, 1917. Interest January and July. AUTHORIZED, \$1,500,000.