

FINANCIAL NEWS—NEW YORK AND PHILADELPHIA STOCK QUOTATIONS

SELLERS PREDOMINATE MOST OF DAY IN NEW YORK TRADING

Sharp Declines Occur in Many Stocks, With Losses Ranging From 1 to 6 Points—War Revenue Is Widely Discussed

High Points in Today's Financial News

Weakness ruled market in New York and many stocks recorded severe losses. War taxation cost to industries was a bearish influence. Curb showed an irregular tendency. Corn and cotton lower. Strength of Scandinavian exchange was feature in foreign exchange market. Bar silver lower in New York and London.

NEW YORK, Oct. 4.

Sellers predominated to such an extent in today's stock market as to make the trading one-sided, buying orders being noticeably absent and few among the trading element were disposed to take even moderate amounts of stocks at the substantial concessions. This made price movements throughout the day all the shape of sharp declines, with many stocks showing losses ranging from 1 to 6 points when the day ended.

New records were made in a number of issues, and on the declines a myriad of stop orders was reached which helped to further unsettle speculative conditions. The selling was nearly all found in the estimated burdens that will be placed on industrial corporations as the result of the war revenue law.

Calculations were made that U. S. Copper for the current year will have to pay a tax of \$9 a share, and the calculations were followed by assertions that the tax on Steel would be equal to \$40.

There was nothing in the way of news in the burden of taxation that will be imposed, but the market had not yet been called to hear the harrowing details. Probably United States Steel can pay \$40 a share taxes and be able to double the present distribution on the common stock, but that probably or possibly did not enter into traders' discussions when declines were in progress.

The time money situation has worked around easy. United States Steel common, after selling at 105 1/2 early in the day, dropped to 105 1/2. Bethlehem Steel "B" sold down 38 down to the new low record of 84 1/2. Texas Company dropped 6 points to 154. There were some recoveries in the late trading from these low levels, due in most cases to covering of board room shorts.

There were heavy transactions in the Liberty Loan at prices ranging from 99.92 to 99.84. Railway bonds continued weak, with St. Paul refunding 4 1/2 selling at 73 1/2.

Railroads May Ask Increased Rates

The very poor earnings of properties like the Pennsylvania, the New York Central and the Baltimore and Ohio emphasize the difficulties of the eastern carriers, which, unless improvement comes soon, is likely to crystallize in a movement for an advance in freight rates. While the western lines have increased their net 11 per cent and those of the South 3 per cent, the trunk line properties show a loss of nearly 20 per cent. It is an obvious fact that unless a rapid change for the better occurs, dividends will be endangered.

This explains the weakness of stocks like New York Central and others of its class. Holders are letting go in despair, thus adding to the advantages of those plungers who have been operating on the short side in the rails. The steady stream of liquidation has served the purpose of preventing the market from turning on pure technical grounds.

Lehigh Valley is now mentioned as one of the properties most likely to figure in a dividend reduction. The yield of 8.5 per cent is not conducive to confidence in the present rate. What is more, the figures of earnings for eight months, with a loss of \$1,300,000 in net, in spite of the large revenue from the sale of anthracite, indicate quite clearly that the dividend of 10 per cent may not be earned this year.

Some Favor Lower Rate

There has long been contention that the Lehigh Valley rate is too high, and some interests in the company are understood to be strongly in favor of a lower rate, on the strength of the argument that the margin now being earned is too small to make the 10 per cent dividend conservative.

Holders of Lehigh Valley might find it to their advantage to exchange for the shares of some of the other rails selling to yield as much as Lehigh and earning their dividends by a considerably more comfortable margin. In the case of St. Paul there is a growing conviction that the 4 per cent dividend will not hold under the administration of Mr. Byram, who comes from a school of railroad operators whose basic principle is that of physical condition first and dividends afterward. The St. Paul physically is in very poor shape.

It would be tragic, if one could forget the fact, to see a stock selling only a few dollars higher than its annual earnings of \$29.63 a share. Such is the case with Maxwell Motors common. The figures, however, are for the year to July 31, and do not necessarily portray the company's present-day condition. Inventories are unusually high at \$10,813,000, but the official statement is that the figure constitutes a conservative valuation. Willys-Overland and Chevrolet report a current business considerably above that of a year ago, but the stocks of the motors nevertheless continue to decline. Their chief difficulty at present is that of an adjustment from the insane speculation of a year ago, when values were distorted all out of proportion, much the same as some of the motors have been depressed to prices well below their intrinsic worth.

United States to Buy \$500,000,000 of Steel

It is estimated by steel experts that the Government will expend about \$500,000,000 in the steel industry in the first allotment of orders. The United States calling upon steel mills for about 5,400,000 tons of various products for war purposes, but this total will undoubtedly be swelled later. The industry in the last nine months has operated at an average rate of approximately 5,600,000 tons of steel ingots per month, giving an annual production of about 32,400,000 tons of rolled products.

Of this tonnage, therefore, the Government is taking 18.6 per cent. Assuming that the United States will pay an average price of three cents a pound for this material, the expenditure will be \$416,380,000 for the 5,400,000 gross tons, or \$500,256,000 for the 6,480,000 tons to be purchased.

NEW YORK COFFEE MARKET

NEW YORK, Oct. 4.—The market for coffee futures opened today at an advance of 2 points. Trading on the call was quiet and confined to the July position. Sales amounted to 500 bags.

DIVIDENDS DECLARED

Oklahoma Natural Gas Company quarterly of 2 per cent, payable October 25, to holders of record October 15.

United Coal Corporation regular quarterly of 1 1/2 per cent, payable October 25, to holders of record October 15.

United Cities Stores Company of America regular quarterly of 2 per cent on common, payable November 15, to stock of record October 25.

Northern Trust Company, regular quarterly of 3 per cent, payable October 25, to holders of record October 15.

Patent Traction, Light and Power Company, usual quarterly of 2 1/2 cents a share on preferred, payable October 15, to stock of record October 15.

General Motors Corporation, usual quarterly of 3 per cent on common and 1/2 per cent on preferred, payable October 15, to stock of record October 15.

Merchants Union Trust Company, regular quarterly of 1 per cent, payable October 22, to holders of record the same day.

Cluett, Fabry & Co., regular quarterly of \$1.50 a share on common, payable November 15, to holders of record October 25.

Bar Silver Prices Decline

The steady decline in the price of commercial bar silver, which began about a week ago, still continues. The metal was quoted in New York today at 92 1/2 per ounce, a drop of 1/2 cent from yesterday's figure, and compares with \$1.01 one week ago today. In London, today's price is 48 1/2 d, compared with 47 1/2 d yesterday and 51 1/2 d last Thursday. Quotations and comparison follow:

LOCAL MINING STOCKS

Table listing local mining stocks including TONOPAH STOCKS, MISC. MINING STOCKS, and MISCELLANEOUS.

Minutemen Bank Pays Again

PITTSBURGH, Oct. 4.—The First National Bank of Pittsburgh will pay depositors a dividend of 70 per cent, October 15, on the basis of the year ended June 30, 1917.

New York Stock Sales

Table of New York Stock Sales with columns for stock name, high, low, close, and net change.

Sales in Philadelphia

Table of Sales in Philadelphia with columns for stock name, high, low, close, and net change.

Local Bid and Asked

Table of Local Bid and Asked prices for various stocks.

INACTIVE PHILA. STOCKS

Table of Inactive Philadelphia Stocks with columns for stock name, bid, and asked prices.

INACTIVE NEW YORK STOCKS

Table of Inactive New York Stocks with columns for stock name, bid, and asked prices.

PHILADELPHIA ELECTRIC ATTRACTS MOST ATTENTION ON LOCAL 'CHANGE

Denial of Reports of Additional Stock Results in Advance Following Weakness—Liberty Bonds Continue Active

Weakness of Philadelphia Electric shares was the most interesting feature in the local share trading today. Discussion of a report of the possibility of new financing in the way of additional stock was responsible for the decline, which at one time reached 1 1/2 points the shares changing hands at 26. Later, however, when an official of the company denied this report, there was an improvement, the price advancing to 25 1/2.

It was stated that the company does not contemplate in the near future either to increase the amount of stock outstanding, or to issue more bonds, and it is suggested in official circles that the rumor was attributable to the application made recently at Harbinger in connection with the plan for exchange of stock.

In order to carry out the plan for the exchange of the New Jersey company for the stock of the new Pennsylvania company, it is necessary to increase by about \$8,000,000 the capital stock of the Pennsylvania company. This must be done in order to have the necessary amount of new stock to exchange for an equal amount of the old stock outstanding, amounting to nearly \$25,000,000.

The development along the Delaware River in the neighborhood of Chester has advanced to a considerable enterprise. The present capacity is almost entirely engaged and it will be necessary before long to increase the plant in this direction. It is stated that the company has plenty of cash.

CORN PRICES DOWN ON BULLISH NEWS

Peace Talk, Unsettled Security Market and Bad Weather Have Depressing Effect

Unsettling in securities, talk about peace and better weather on the belt weakened the corn market today. A great deal of long stuff was put on sale through commission houses. Local traders also took profits and the buying lacked force.

There was a good deal of spreading between December and May, with purchasing of the nearer position, on the theory that the demand for the cash article will be sufficiently large to take care of the movement.

The market at Liverpool was firm on security of offers of spot. Shipments from Argentina for the week were estimated at 200,000 bushels, against 2,539,000 bushels last year.

The best of December was \$1.20 1/2; the bottom \$1.15 1/2, and the close \$1.18 1/2, 6 @ \$1.18 1/2, against \$1.20 at the end yesterday; the high on May was \$1.16; the low \$1.14 1/2, and the final \$1.15 1/2 @ \$1.15 1/2, compared with \$1.15 1/2, yesterday's last price.

Options also reacted on profit taking. Trade was largely local, outside interests having been withdrawn. Sales by the country were small. Farmers offered only about 1 1/2 above the best basis here.

The market at Liverpool was firmer. Shipments from Argentina for the week were estimated at 150,000 bushels, against 1,448,000 bushels last year.

The high on December was 60 1/2; the low 59c, and the close 59 1/2c, against 59c at the end yesterday. The top on May was 62c, the bottom 60 1/2c, and the final 60 1/2c @ 60c, compared with 62c, the final quotation of yesterday.

Leading futures ranged as follows: Corn (new delivery) Open High Low Close. January 1.15 1.16 1.14 1.15 1.15. December 1.18 1.19 1.14 1.15 1.16.

SALES MANAGER AND EXECUTIVE

A Penna. corporation, discontinuing certain line of work, desires to place the manager of this Department, a young married man of 32, in a position requiring creative and executive ability. This man is aggressive, possesses a forceful personality and enjoys an enviable reputation for developing a sales force and getting results. To any one requiring such talent we recommend this hustler. B 318, Ledger Office.

Credit

plays the dominant part in financing every war. Since the beginning of this war the people of our country have bought \$2,000,000,000 United States 3 1/2% Bonds; they have loaned \$2,000,000,000 to our allies and have repurchased from Europe \$2,000,000,000 of our own securities. During the same period bank deposits have doubled.

TO OUR CUSTOMERS

we say use your credit freely in purchasing Liberty Bonds our credit is back of your credit. We can finance you.

The rate on loans secured by Government bonds will be 4% for the next ninety days.

CORN EXCHANGE NATIONAL BANK PHILADELPHIA advertisement with logo and contact information.

THE NEW LIBERTY LOAN BONDS ARE ABSOLUTELY EXEMPT FROM THE INCOME TAX UP TO AN INVESTMENT OF \$5000 PRINCIPAL AMOUNT REILLY, BROCK & COMPANY

E. W. Clark & Co. BANKERS (Established 1837) 321 Chestnut Street Philadelphia

To Holders of Liberty Loan Bonds First Issue Analysis & Comparison of Conversion and other features of First & Second Liberty Loans

Bonbright & Company MORRIS WISTAR STROUD, Jr. 437 Chestnut St., Philadelphia

MOODY'S INVESTORS SERVICE John Moody, Pres. 86 Nassau St., New York. Tel. 3174-4 Calt.

IF STOCKS WERE COMMONLY OFFERED FOR SALE WITH NO BUYERS, OR BIDS WERE MADE WITH NO SELLERS, THE INVESTOR WOULD BE IN A FIX MOST OF THE TIME, WOULDN'T HE?

How Stocks are Listed on the New York Curb IS DESCRIBED IN AN INTERESTING BOOKLET JUST PUBLISHED TELLING HOW AND WHY A MARKET PLACE FOR TRADING IN STOCKS IS MADE, AND IT ALSO EXPLAINS THE PRECAUTIONS THAT ARE TAKEN BY THE CURB MARKET ASSOCIATION TO SAFEGUARD THE INTERESTS OF INVESTORS ALL OVER THE COUNTRY. YOU SHOULD HAVE IT—AND READ IT.

JONES & BAKER STOCK BROKERS Widener Bldg., Philadelphia