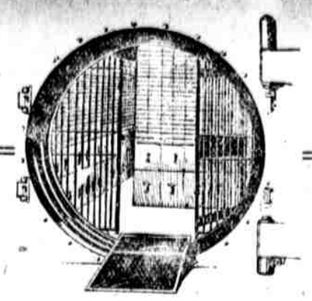

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Franklin Trust Co.

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Capital, $1,000,000.00 — *Surplus, $700,000.00*

Middle West Utilities Company

Twenty-Year 8% Secured Gold Notes, Series "B"

Dated December 1, 1920 — *Due December 1, 1940*

Interest payable semi-annually, June 1st and December 1st, in Chicago and New York. Coupon Notes in interchangeable denominations of $1000, $500 and $100, registerable as to principal only.

The Middle West Utilities Company, through its subsidiary companies, operates in the following fifteen states: Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maine, Michigan, Missouri Nebraska, New Hampshire, New York, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia and Wisconsin. The Company's subsidiaries serve 496 communities, having a combined estimated population of 1,317,260. On October 31, 1920, electric customers numbered 221,881; gas, 54,784; water, 24,778, a total of 301,443 customers for these services alone.

SECURITY

These notes will be secured by pledge of mortgage bonds on properties of subsidiary companies owned entirely or controlled by the Middle West Utilities Company, the bonds so to be pledged as security for the present issue of $2,734,000 Series "B" Notes aggregate $3,859,000 par value, or $180.83 par value of bonds pledged for each $100 par value of Notes outstanding.

A Sinking Fund is provided for the Series "B" Notes with semi-annual payments, June 1st and December 1st, amounting to $25,000 each.

EQUITY

The equity behind these Notes, represented by investment in junior securities of the Company and the reserves and surplus earnings retained in the business, aggregates over $25,000,000.

EARNINGS

The earnings of the Middle West Utilities Company as officially reported for the twelve months ended October 31, 1920, show a net balance of $2,281,670.20 available for the annual interest of $896,910 on $4,634,000 8% Notes, Series "A" and "B" $9,336,500 Ten-Year 6% Collateral Gold Bonds and $1,100,000 Three-Year 6% Gold Notes.

The stability of the public utility business, especially the electric light and power industry (which contributes over 73% of this Company's utility earnings) has been demonstrated over and over again, and the vital necessity thereof to the life and welfare of the nation has of recent years become very broadly recognized, not only by regulatory bodies, but by the public at large. As evidence of this fact, the subsidiaries of this Company have been granted rate increases aggregating to date over $1,245,000 per annum, of which $1,142,900 was secured in the past six months.

Price 95¼ and Interest, Yielding 8½%

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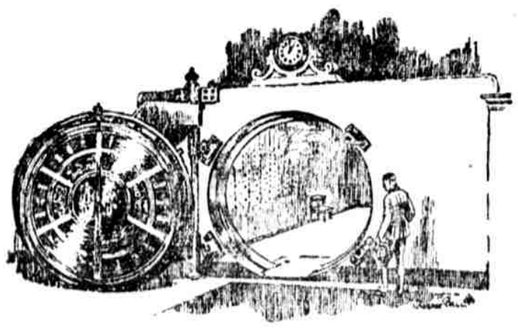

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P. R. R. CUTTING ITS WILMINGTON FORCE

Many Employes Will Be Laid Off, Asserts Division Superintendent

FORD MOTOR PLANT CLOSES

Wilmington, Del., Dec. 30. — A drastic cut in the working force of the Pennsylvania Railroad in this region is now under way, it was stated last night by Gamble Latrobe, superintendent of the southern grand division with headquarters here. Mr. Latrobe said his office is working out the details and was not prepared to give an estimate of the number of men to be dropped.

It is unofficially estimated from 1700 to 2000 men will lose their jobs. This amounts to approximately 10 per cent of the working force. The southern grand division comprises the Delaware, Maryland, Baltimore and Norfolk divisions, employing slightly less than 19,000 men. Maintenance of way, shop, office and transportation workers are affected.

Detroit, Dec. 30.—Official admission that the Ford Motor Co.'s Highland Park plant, which normally employs from 50,000 to 60,000 men, will remain closed until February 1, was made here. The original intention called for the suspension of operations during the regular midwinter inventory period of two weeks, when the plant closed December 24, but after a conference of Ford officials, it was decided to shut down until the 1st of February. Although the plant has been working at full capacity for the last three months, it is known that there has been a considerable falling off in the demand for Ford cars.

"The shut-down is the result of general financial and business conditions," was the explanation offered. "The Ford Co. has been operating while other concerns have been laying off men or working them part time."

COUNTY MAY BE WIPED OUT

Proposal Revived to Divide Forest Among Its Neighbors

Tionesta, Pa., Dec. 30.—The old proposal to dismember Forest county which has the smallest population of any in the state, by annexing portions of it to adjacent counties may be revived in the coming session of the Legislature. Serious financial problems which confront the county are responsible for the talk of legislation to wipe Forest county out of existence as a separate county unit.

In the ensuing two years the county commissioners will be required to pay out approximately $25,000, due for the repair and building of bridges, with no revenues in sight beyond those needed to meet the ordinary expenses of the county. Lumbering, once the chief industry of the county, is rapidly becoming a thing of the past, and the few manufacturing industries located within the boundaries of the county are said to be assessed to the limit.

N. Y. TRANSIT TIED UP

Transit Accident Delays Hundreds of Thousands at Rush Time

New York, Dec. 30.—Hundreds of thousands of hurrying Manhattan and Brooklyn homegoers were delayed almost an hour during the rush hour last evening by an accident in the main power house of the Interborough Rapid Transit Co., which virtually crippled all subway and elevated railroad service. The trouble was caused by a short circuit.

The general congestion was said to have been the worst in Manhattan in years. The crush at the subway and "L" stations in downtown Manhattan became so great, ticket selling and to be suspended.

In the theatrical district the subway stations were choked with outpouring matinee crowds.

133d C. H. S. Class Meets

The first reunion of the 133d class of the Central High School took place on Tuesday evening, followed by a banquet at the St. James Hotel. Harry Gartenlaub was elected president of the class for the coming year.

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GOSSIP OF THE STREET

The compromise suit in the New Haven restitution case was openly condemned by several prominent local interests yesterday who are directors of a number of large corporations. One of them in speaking of the incident stated that if the attempt made by the New Haven directors in adjusting the New England transportation situation had worked out successfully no criticism would have been heard, but, on the contrary, the board would have been patted on the back for their wise forethought. Neither would the effort of centralization of the transportation industry be called a monopoly as it is now.

"It seems like the irony of fate," he stated, "that was regarded a monopoly which was declared illegal if not unconstitutional, is practically suggested by the Interstate Commerce Commission to clear up the muddled New England railroad situation."

"One of the large corporations of which I have the privilege of being one of the directors some years ago completed a deal which not only saved the corporation from being at the mercy of another large concern, but which later on netted the corporation a clean profit of $15,000,000. No one even took the trouble to commend the board for its forethought in this case. In fact, the only commendation was a letter written by the president of the company in which he stated before we had disposed of the properties that the shareholders would some day give us a vote of thanks. They never did.

"It is mighty certain, however," he continued, "if our judgment had proven incorrect, and the venture had failed, and instead of a profit of $15,000,000 there should have been a loss to mark off, all of us would have been severely censured and probably made a subject of suit, as in the New Haven case, in which it was clearly demonstrated no bad faith was shown."

Outlook Not So Gloomy

If the current gossip to be heard in bank parlors and in the financial community in general can be accepted as criterion, the outlook for the general business world as regards its heavy maturities of the first of the year is very much improved. It is the consensus of opinion of the leading banking interests that all the more important commercial maturities had been arranged. The problems lately presented which have been solved have included some difficult ones. There is, therefore, hope that after the commodity markets reach a settled basis, which is believed to be close at hand, and retail prices have been reduced commensurate with wholesale prices, a revival of confidence may be looked for.

As a matter of fact, there are quite a few in the financial world who believe that the adverse side of the situation will be found not as bad as it has been pictured. In other words, they assert everybody has been fully prepared and educated to expect the worst. Experience has shown when the majority get to one way of thinking the expected never happens. It is already evident, it is pointed out, that the tremendous year-end settlements and disbursements are not going to create the rumpus many expected.

Otherwise, symptoms of the approaching squalls would already be discernible in the money market. The ample time and the conditions existing apparently have afforded the banking interests ample opportunity to make their preparations, and which have not been delayed to the eleventh hour as experienced in former years.

Might Develop Into a Melon

Oil potentialities evidently have not lost their imaginative influence as a market factor as was suggested yesterday in the sharp rise in Northern Pacific on the reports concerning the plans of that company for the development of oil possibilities in the company's properties in Montana. It is understood that the plans will receive close attention from the officials during the next few weeks.

It will be recalled that the president of the company announced recently that a development of the oil lands will be under way on a large scale this spring, either through the organization of an oil company, similar to that of Southern Pacific's arrangement, or through leases to one or more of the large producing companies on a royalty basis.

As none of the Northern Pacific officials is an oil man, it is felt that the company should confine its activities to the railroad business and leave the oil venture to experienced hands.

Flooding the Consumer

A review of the steel industry in the last week failed to disclose any immediate prospect of new buying. Release of cars hitherto restricted to coal carrying, according to the Iron Age, has resulted in a "flood of shipments from the mills of accumulated and current output," and has placed in consumers' yards "somewhat more material than they were able to dispose of, especially what curtailment in general demands." Want of confidence in the fairness and stability of present prices seems to preclude an early return to activity. There is a feeling among independents that they did their part by discounting reduced manufacturing costs when they dropped to schedule of the United States Steel Corporation. The close of the year marks the steel corporation at full blast operations, but there is total illeness reported at some independent mills and varying percentages for others. The first week of 1921 is expected to be better because accumulated orders will bring some mills into operation. Revision of steel contracts to the March, 1919, basis has not prevented suspensions.

THE TRADER.

DIVIDENDS DECLARED

Tidioute Brick Co., quarterly of 1¾ per cent, payable January 10 to stock of record January 3.

Triangle & Williams Steel Forging Co., quarterly of $1.25, payable January 20 to stock of record January 10.

Royal Dutch Petroleum Co., an interim dividend of 15 per cent, payable January 17.

Pittsburgh Coal Co. (Pa.), quarterly of 1¾ per cent on common and 1¾ per cent on preferred, both payable January 25 to stock of record January 5.

United Alloy Steel Co., quarterly of $1, payable January 20 to stock of record January 8.

New England Fuel Oil Co., of Massachusetts, 5 per cent, payable January 15 to stock of record January 3.

Manufacturers Builder Co., quarterly of 1¾ per cent on preferred, payable January 12 to stock of record January 5.

NEW YORK COFFEE MARKET

New York, Dec. 30.—The market for coffee futures opened irregular this morning with prices 3 points lower to 3 points higher. It was rather difficult to figure out the exact situation in the primary markets as the early official cables to the exchange quoted a new set of months which prevented comparisons being made. Local offerings on the call were being pretty well absorbed by trade interests.

	Yes. Close	Open
March	6.22@.25	6.19@.20
May	6.03@.05	6.02@.04
July	5.97@5.98	
September	7.22@.23	7.24@.26

Nominal

Liverpool Cotton

Liverpool, Dec. 30.—There was an improved demand for spot cotton today with prices steady on the basis of an advance of 32 points for middling at 9.02d. The sales were 2000 bales. The receipts were 1000 bales, including 100 bales American. Futures were steady in the early dealings. Spot prices were: American middling, fair, 13.77d; good middling, 11.57d; ordinary middling, 10.27d; middling, 9.02d; low middling, 7.02d; good ordinary, 8.52d, and ordinary, 4.77d.

New York Bonds

[SALES IN $1000]

Adams Exp 4s	3	77½	5	77			
1	56	C Tab & R 6s	1	77			
A Smit & R 5s	2	81	Pa R R 4s '48				
2	72¾	Cuban C 8 cv	25	80¾			
1	72	11	78½	Pa R gm 4½s			
4	72	1	78¾	4	77		
7	72	5	78½	10	77¼		
3	72½	1	78¾	10	77¼		
Am T & T 4s	10	78¾	10	77¼			
1	72	10	78¾	Pa RR 4½ '21			
Am Tel & T 5s	23	78¾	5	98¼			
1	70	Del & Hud 6½	Penna R R 5s				
16	70	5	75	15	85		
1	75¾	1	74¾	31	85		
5	75½	Den & R G 4s	5	85½			
1	76	5	62	5	85½		
Am Tel & T 6s	25	62	2	85			
1	92½	10	62¼	Penna R R 7s			
2	92½	3	62½	1	104¾		
1	92½	Des Moines A	1	103¾			
1	92¾	Ft D 4s	1	103¾			
Armour 4½s	5	40	Peoples Gas L & C Co 6s				
5	73	D Can 5s '21					
5	73¼	1	98¾	1	61¾		
A T & S Fe 4s	1	98½	Public Service Corp N J 5s				
2	74½	D Canada '29	1	56¾			
10	74½	14	87	1	56¾		
4	74¾	Erie Gen Lien	2	87			
10	74¾	10	39¾	Reading Ry 4s			
27	74¼	15	40	4	78		
42	74½	1	40	1	78		
5	74¾	Erie R R cv B	5	77¾			
2	74½	2	34	St L I'n Mt & S'n Rly 4s			
1	74¾	2	34	S'n Rly 4s			
9	74¾	Erie R R cv D	1	60¾			
10	74½	15	40½	St L I'n Mt & S'n Rly 5s			
15	74¾	2	40	S'n Rly 5s			
Atch T & S Fe 4s	11	40	4	82¾			
cv 4s '60	9	40	St L I Mt & S R & G dv 4s				
5	81¼	Erie Ry Co 4s	2	66			
A T & S Fe 4s	1	51	2	66			
25	61¾	1	51	St L & S F 4s			
A Coast L 4½s	General Elec 6s	2	61				
2	67	3	99	1	61½		
3	67	Gen't F R 5½s	7	61½			
Atl Coast L 4s	5	100	5	61½			
4	76¾	2	99¾	1	61½		
3	76¾	1	99¾	1	61¾		
3	76½	4	100	10	61¾		
Atl'c Fruit 7s	2	99¾	7	61			
6	60	C Swit'd 6½s	8	61½			
Balt & Ohio 4s	10	102	2	61¾			
1	63	2	102½	1	61¾		
10	64	1	102½	1	61¾		
9	65½	2	102½	1	61½		
14	65	Gr Trunk 5½s	St L & S F 6s				
6	65½	8	100	10	48¾		
2	66	G Nth'n R 4s	15	48¾			
Balt & O 5½s	1	77½	3	48¾			
2	79	Hud & Man 5s	25	48¾			
Balt & Ohio 4s	1	57	8	48¾			
10	64¾	1	57	5	48		
1	64	2	56¾	St L & S Gen			
5	64¾	1	57	Series A			
3	64¾	Hud & Man 7s	2	61¾			
Balt & Ohio 5s	1	21	2	61			
20	65	Ill Cent'l 5½s	10	61			
Balt & Ohio 6s	2	80¾	2	61¾			
5	89	10	87	10	61¾		
4	89	Ill's Steel 4½s	3	61			
1	89	16	75	7	61½		
B & O P L E & W Va 4s	Ind'a Steel 5s	St L & S Gen Series B					
4	85¾						
7	69¾	Inboro M 4½s	1	72¼			
8	61	5	14½	St L & S Gen Series C			
5	61	2	15	7	97½		
8	61	3	14¾	7	97½		
B & O Tol 4s	Int Met cv 4½	St L sw'n 5s					
2	51½	3	12	7	50½		
Beth Steel 7s	1	12½	2	59			
4	77	10	12	St L sw'n 5s			
Beth S 5s '36	10	12¾	1	61½			
20	75⅞	10	12¾	1	61⅝		
Copper M 6s	Inboro R 7s	1	61¾				
25	75¾	1	47	1	61¾		
Bdway & 7th Avenue cn	22	47	10	60½			
1	36	9	47	5	60½		
1	36½	9	47	San Antonia & A P Rly 4s			
Brkyn R T 7s	2	47¼	2	57¾			
14	40	10	47¾	Seab'd A L 4s			
Brk R T ctf 7s	10	47½	Pacific 5s				
2	40¾	10	47¼	1	84½		
15	40¾	15	47¼	S'n Pacific 4s			
Brkn Rapid T 7s ctf Sta	7	46¾	5	74			
15	36½	10	47¼	S'n Pacific 4s			
Brown Shoe 4s	10	47	3	69¾			
2	61	5	47¼	7	69¾		
Canadian N'th	I M Marine 6s	5	46¾	35	69¾		
Rwys rets	5	77	S'n Pac cv 4s				
5	99¾	Jan Gove't 1st	1	75			
20	99¾	7	75¾	10	99¾		
30	99¾	Jan Gove't 2nd	2	99¾			
1	99¾	2	75¼	1	100		
5	99¾	Kan C Ft S &	1	99¾			
Cat'l of Ga cn	Memp's 4s	1	99¾				
5	81	10	62¾	5	99¾		
Cit Leather 8s	Kan C & S 4s	5	99¾				
4	85½	6	53¾	10	99¾		
14	85¾	1	53¾	1	99¾		
Cit Pacific 1st	2	53¾	3	99¾			
2	71¾	Kan C & S 5s	S'n Railwys 4s				
10	71¾	1	73	3	58		
10	72¾	K Belg'n 7½s	3	58			
10	72¾	1	95¼	S'n Ry 5s			
C & O cv 4½s	L & Myers 5	5	81¾				
2	71¾	1	76¾	1	81¾		
5	72	Mid S & G 5s	1	81¾			
2	72	10	72½	Term'l R R A St L 4s			
C & O cv 5s	7	72½	of St L 4s				
26	82	2	72¼	1	70½		
25	81¾	3	72½	Tex & La 5s			
2	81¾	Mis & S L 4s	1	65¾			
8	81½	2	39½	Tex & Pac 1st			
5	81¾	Mo K & T 4s	1	75¾			
5	81¾	5	58½	Union Pac 4s			
5	82	5	56¾	15	75		
1	81¾	Mo Pacific 5s	5	75¾			
C & O Rich & A Div 4s	12	52	3	75¾			
1	80¾	39	51¾	Union Pac 4s			
1	69¾	19	51¾	U K of G Brit & Fd 1921			
Chi & Alton 3s	2	51¾					
3	43	15	52	2	97½		
Chi B & Q 4s	1	52	2	97½			
1	78	2	52	3	97¾		
5	77¾	4	52¼	7	97¾		
Chicago R'k & Qncy R 5½s	44	52	U K of G Brit & Fd 1922				
1	70¾	1	52½	3	94¾		
Chi B & Q 4s	10	51¾	U K of G Brit & Fd 1929				
50	66	10	52¼				
5	65¾	20	52½	50	87¾		
10	66	1	52¾	21	87¾		
Chi & G W 4s	New Orleans 4s	68	U K of G Brit & Fd 1937				
17	49¾	Nth C'n 4½s	1	82¾			
Chicago Mil & St Pl 4s	New Or Tex & Mexico 5s	2	82¾				
45	58¾	4	55	5	82¾		
Chicago Mil & St P cv 4½s	N Y C & H R R 3½s	2	82¾				
1	64¾	3	66¾	31	82¾		
3	64¾	N Y C & H R	10	82¾			
10	65¾	R R 4s	5	82¾			
12	65¾	8	72¾	5	83		
13	64¾	10	72¾	3	83		
8	65¾	5	73	30	83		
12	65¾	N Y C & H R	14	83			
Chicago Mil & St P 4½s	R R 6s	U S Mexico 5s					
20	88	1	50				
20	87½	Ura R R 5s					
1	88	Funct 4s					
10	87¾	4	25¾				
9	87¾	6	25¾				
Chicago Mil & St P 4½s	10	87½	18	25¾			
21	88	2	25¾				
5	74½	U S Rubber 5s					
C & N'w 4s	1	88	1	75			
10	86½	N Y C & H R	2	74¾			
Chi & N'w	R R 7s cv 5s	2	74¾				
2	74	1	100¾	10	74¾		
Chi Rail'w's	N Y Chi & St	1	74¾				
5	59¾	Louis 4s	1	75			
C R I & P 4s	1	78¾	U S Rub 6s				
2	65¾	N Y Light H	2	95			
3	65¾	Pary 4s	2	95			
1	65¾	1	75½	U S Steel			
6	66¾	N Y Light H	25	94			
Chicago St P M & O 5s	Pwr 5s	1	94				
20	78¾	1	94				
Chi U Sta 4½s	North'd 6s	5	94				
5	77¾	6	94¾				
Chic Con T 4s	1	62	2	94¾			
5	54¾	2	62	2	94¾		
Chic Con T 4s	2	62	15	95			
6	63½	2	62	15	95¾		
14	63¾	N Y Dock 4s	50	96¾			
3	63¾	50	35	47	96¾		
1	64	50	38	10	96¾		
5	64	N Y Susq & W 4s	1	96¾			
3	63¾	10	75	1	96¾		
2	64	15	74	Y C Chem 6s			
Chile Copp'r 7s	10	74½	5	80			
5	66¾	20	75	10	80¾		
1	66	10	74½	2	80¾		
1	66¾	7	74½	Va Ry & Pr 5s			
City Bond'g 5s	New Y W 1st &	6	62¾				
2	63¾	Boston 4½s	Wash Pac 1st				
1	64	1	44¾	2	81		
City Coal 5s	N Y & Hob 4½s	W & L Erie 1					
5	74¼	1	45¾	2	81		
5	74¾	N Y & Wn 4s	W & L Erie 1				
10	74¾	5	74¾	3	94¼		
City New York 4½s '65	N'n Pacific 4s	2	94¼				
15	84¾	5	94¼				
10	84¾	N'n Pacific 4s	5	94¼			
City Paris 6s	20	74¾	5	94¼			
6	84	9	74¾	15	94¾		
2	84	N'n Pac 4½s	10	94¼			
C'l'd Cin Chi & St L 4½s	11	75	15	94¾			
6	84	Oregon S L 4s	Wilson Co cv				
10	84¾	10	77¾	5	70½		
10	84¾	Ore-Wn R C	Wilson Co 1st				
C'l'd Cin Chi & St Louis 4s	Nav Co 4s	1	84¼				
1	87	Pac G & E 5s	Wis Cent'l 4s				
Colo & So'n 4s	5	76¾	4	70			
2	77¾	5	77	2	70		

	High	Low	
			11.15
Liberty 3½s	80.62	80.50	80.60
Liberty 2d 4s	84.80	84.74	84.80
Liberty 1st 4¼s	86.00	85.50	85.50
Liberty 2d 4¼s	84.80	84.50	84.72
Liberty 3d 4¼s	87.24	87.18	87.18
Liberty 4th 4¼s	85.30	85.20	85.25
Vic Notes 3½s	95.00	94.90	95.00
Vic Notes 4½s	95.00	94.92	95.00

WAR FINANCE BODY HIT BY CREDIT MEN

Association Declares Revival of Wartime Activities Is Serious Error

DISCRIMINATION CHARGED

The National Association of Credit Men asserts the move taken by Congress in directing the secretary of the treasury to revive the activities of the war finance corporation is a serious mistake.

The banking and currency committee of the association has, in consequence, made an announcement to its 32,000 members on the subject.

According to M. T. Fleisher, of Philadelphia, chairman of this committee, the step taken by Secretary Houston is an error because such a revival would interrupt the processes of liquidation which have been going on quite as systematically as could have been expected in view of the extent of the inflation under which the country has been laboring and which should continue until the public is satisfied that the liquidation has carried prices to a point that assures stability. Substantial buying will not begin until this has taken place, it is contended by the committee.

"The revival of the war finance corporation," Mr. Fleisher said, "will mean that the government will have to come into the market again for additional loans, either in the form of bonds which will compete with the existing war bonds, inevitably resulting in the depression of the latter still further, or in the form of additional treasury certificates, thus adding to a floating government debt of already two and one-half billion dollars, carried principally by the banks, and a main cause of the credit strain on our banking system. Indeed, this strain would have been thrown off long ago but for the demands of the government.

"The revival of the corporation will mean that one class of our people is to be favored at the expense of a great majority to give an artificial prop to prices.

"This is not a time for expedients and palliatives. Resort to them can work no permanent cure, and, indeed, will delay the preparation for a renewal of business, and will work injustice to the great mass of the American public."

Commodity Markets

COTTON MARKET

New York, Dec. 30.—Although upward of twenty notices were issued this morning, the local cotton market had a steady opening at 6 to 18 points advance. The stability was due mainly to favorable cables, local covering and some buying of near positions by Liverpool.

The South was a seller, however, and shortly after the call Liverpool also became a free seller, causing prices to react under last night's close by the end of the first twenty minutes.

	Previous Close	Open	10:30
January	14.52	14.60	14.60
March	13.87	13.90	13.90
May	13.50	13.55	13.52
July	14.08	14.10	14.07
October	14.14	14.20	

GRAIN MARKET

Chicago, Dec. 30.—Transactions in the wheat pit were mostly in small lots this morning and prices were irregular. Deliveries of 170,000 bushels on December contracts were reported. The market felt the absence of demand from exporters, although there were reports that mills were buying more cash wheat which were construed as meaning that the domestic inquiry for flour was improving.

By the end of the first half hour, wheat futures showed sharp gains from initial levels.

December was one cent higher at $1.59½, March started at $1.66 to $1.66⅛, and later sold at a net advance of 1½c, at $1.67. May opened at $1.61⅜ to $1.61¼, against $1.61¼ at the close yesterday.

Trade in corn was also light and changes in prices were mixed. Eastern shipping interests bought, while commission houses sold. Deliveries of 417,000 bushels were made on December contracts.

December opened at 72¾ to 72¼c, against 72⅝c at the close yesterday. May started at 75¼c to 74½c, against 75c at the end yesterday. July opened at 73¼c to 73⅝c, against 73½c at the end yesterday.

Oats was featureless, with the undertone generally easier. Deliveries of 165,000 bushels were made on December contracts.

Raw Sugar Market Unchanged

New York, Dec. 30.—Conditions in the raw sugar market are about unchanged. The only sales reported were those of a lot of 18,000 bags Cubas for immediate shipment to a Philadelphia refinery at 4.84c, cost and freight, equal to 5.84c duty paid. This were the most recent reported sales. The local refined sugar market was unchanged.

Prices Steady on Paris Bourse

Paris, Dec. 30.—Quotations were steady on the Bourse today. Three per cent rentes, exchange on London, 25.60 francs per £ sterling basis. Spot 25.70. The dollar was quoted at 5.61f 50c.

LONDON STOCK MARKET

Sentiment Cheerful—New Buoyancy Evident in Gilt-Edged Section

London, Dec. 30.—With liquidation absent and year-end spirit in evidence, the stock exchange markets displayed strength today. Sentiment throughout the House was cheerful, on local and Continental support, the oil group continued firm. Shell Transport was 6¼ and Mexican Eagle was 10 5-16.

New buoyancy was noted in the gilt-edged section, with wide gains in prices. While foreign loans were quiet, they showed more stability. Dollar descriptions scored fresh advances, following the improvement at New York.

South American rails were well supported. Changes in home rails were small, but they were mostly in the nature of upturns. Industrials were irregular. Hudson's Bay was 5¾. Rubbers were hard.

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