

# MARKET DISPLAYED MORE RESISTANCE

Leaders Rallied Well After Making New Bottoms at the Opening

New York, March 12.—There was a brief sinking spell at the opening in today's stock market and most of the leaders in the oil, steel, equipment and shipping groups registered new low quotations for the current movement. The selling movement, however, spent its force before the end of the first half hour and under free covering shorts most of the ground was regained, although after reaching last night's closing level a halting tendency developed. The familiar week-end evening-up operations of the professionals supplied the bulk of dealing after the belated liquidating orders received over night were cared for. The latter were on a small earlier scale, evidently the result of the marginal calls sent out last night. As most of these orders were "at market," it accounted for the weakness of the general list. New bottoms were made by the listed United States Steel, Baldwin and Western Mexican Petroleum. The rails were about the only to offer resistance to the further selling pressure except Reading, which established a new low for the year.

Finding the declines were not followed up by fresh selling the shorts covered freely all around, while the buying power was again negligible. The reason of the scanty quick rallies were in order and were especially sharp in those stocks which had been under the most pressure.

Wall street suffered an attack of neuter funk during the week. It is true there were many disagreeable things to happen to disturb the market, but the single worst had not been for the market's thoroughly liquidated condition. Yet, on the other hand, there were many watching the situation carefully and calmly who already raise the question whether the pronounced pessimism pervading all quarters of the financial community will be long lasting. There then was virtually no buying power, while on the other hand, there was almost an incessant outpouring of stocks in pretty nearly every quarter of the list. Still one very important fact was entirely overlooked and that is there must have been a majority for every sell order to be effective. There also among some one would holding the bag when most everyone else does not seem to want them. That some one this week must surely have enjoyed unlimited resources and that some will be quite willing to distribute the same stocks to eager buyers when the market community gets over its present woes.

With the market does turn this much uncertain, it will start from the bottom round of the ladder, for in the recent required liquidation and short selling all the improvement scored from the December stamp has been forfeited, with the possibility of the current selling bringing prices of the active stocks under the previously established low water marks.

Apart from the determined effort of the management of both industrial and railroad corporations to force a prompt adjustment of operating costs to meet the changed economic conditions, there is nothing to warrant the widespread movements manifested. Some of the things hoped for concerning the fundamental and basic conditions have not been realized. Chief of these has been the failure of business revival to set in. This was because many expected that the market's inability to recognize the serious condition of the patient. A drastic operation was required to correct the mistakes and overextensions. The convalescing period consequently must be tedious slow and it may yet be some months before any netty improvement can be discerned. It will be at least comforting and assuring to know that the real crisis has been passed and the worst is actually behind us. The unpleasant day to day and week to week disclosures now coming to light were foreseen by the specialists months ago. In brief, it is not the time to become pessimistic but the time to keep cool and avoid all unwarranted sacrifices.

## NARROW MOVEMENT IN LOCAL STOCKS

Pennsylvania Railroad Situation overshadowed All Developments of the Week

Price movement in the local market was rather mixed, but apparently the Pennsylvania Railroad, the leadings of the usual perfunctory type witnessed on the half holiday. The smart move in Pennsylvania to 30½ superseded the more encouraging development, and made the market more than satisfied, as the stock subsequent to fall back to 36½, there was a general belief the liquidating movement had spent its force.

The extreme narrowness of the market was indicated by the wide changes. American Ship was off 5½ cents, while the market was steady. The market was easily supplied by offerings from Japan, the south and New Orleans.

At the end of the first twenty minutes, the market was quiet and about 15 points lower.

The market later in the first hour sold off to a net decline of about 12½ to 20 points under New Orleans' lead and southwest offerings. Much of the early business represent switching between May and July, two spot firms being active in those operations.

Most traders, however, appeared to be waiting developments in the foreign political situation, or in the spot market and there was a considerable amount of evening up movements which came from locals or from the primary points.

The market later in the second hour sold off to a net decline of about 12½ to 20 points under New Orleans' lead and southwest offerings. Much of the early business represent switching between May and July, two spot firms being active in those operations.

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