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Young man with considerable ability, progressive, education, seven years' experience in all kinds of bank business, on all general subjects, for immediate or permanent employment. Address now to us at 501, Public Ledger.

## BANK CLEARINGS

Bank clearings for two companies were received from the New York City branch of the First National Bank of Boston.

1921 1920 1919  
\$101,000,000 \$82,583,170 \$26,821

New York - \$6,057,897 \$6,776,013 \$1,850,000

## PRICES DROOP IN STAGNANT MARKET

### Favorable Influence of Reduced Discounts Offset by Discouraging Washington Advice

New York, July 21.—Overnight developments were of a distinctly constructive type, but instead of responding to these potential factors in the economic situation the market sunk deeper into the mire of inactivity. Trading was more or less suspended during the recent sessions and the market, as a whole, did not possess the same degree of stability. On the contrary, with the further contraction in the volume of dealing there was a distinct drooping of prices. In scattering parts of the list pronounced weakness prevailed. None of the changes, however, possessed any real significance other than to further emphasize the narrowing limitations of the trading area.

Motivated by the further reduction in discount rates, those in control of the financial arteries here and in Great Britain are apparently satisfied with the progress made in the liquidating and deflation of extended credits. The simultaneous discount rate reduction by the Federal Reserve Banks and the Bank of England may be accepted as conclusive testimony of things generally getting back to normal. The Bank of England minimum discount rate was reduced from 6 to 5½ per cent. The higher rate being maintained since June 23. The reduction, announced after the closing yesterday by the Boston, New York, Philadelphia and San Francisco Federal Reserve Banks, discounts on all classes of paper to 5½ per cent marked the third reduction during the current year and brings the rate back to a half-way point between the high and low of recent years.

An offsetting influence possibly was found in the news from Washington indicating that all bills before Congress will be accomplished either this or next session. Additional restricting bills were contributed in the unfavorable earnings reported for the second quarter by the Republican Iron and Steel Co. The big deficit, however, was generally expected, being clearly foreshadowed not only by the knowledge of the decline of the steel industry, but also in the record low statement made for the same period by the Laramie Steel Co. Another adverse influence, particularly affecting the Mexican oil group, was the reports of fire in the Amatlan oil fields in Mexico.

Following desultory covering of the shorts at the opening, the market lapsed into extreme dullness during the morning. An oil market station can be appreciated from the fact that the first hour's sales, usually the busy period of the day, fell considerably below 100,000 shares. The foreign oils, which were heavy at the outset, sustained further losses. Mexican Petroleum, Pan-American, General Asphalt and British Oil declined one to two points. The steel sheet and motor accessories, including the sulphur issue, continued to ease. Changes among the rails were irregularly divided between fractional gains and losses.

The drooping tendency of prices attracted more attention in view of the easier money market conditions. Call money rates fell to record low rates with the renewal rate fixed at 5½ per cent, against the recent 6 per cent rate. Foreign exchange continued unsettled.

### PRICES UNCHANGED IN LOCAL MARKET

**Hopes of Easier Money Conditions Strengthened by Discount Reduction**

Little change was made in prices in the local market. In the first place there was little doing. The behavior of the market was more pronounced than ever, which was to be expected in view of the virtual suspension of animation in the trading on the big board.

Considerable confusion existed concerning the local gas situation. Instead of provoking apprehension and nervousness on the part of the public, it apparently adopted the attitude of suspending judgment and went content to sit and see what would turn up. This at least was suggested in the relatively steadiness of the stock, which held at 34, unchanged from yesterday's final quotations, and also in the small amount of dealing in the stock.

In most all the other local stocks the trading was extremely poor. Excepting Pennsylvania, Holland and the Philadelphia Electric issues, the transaction comprised small odd lots. Pennsylvania continued firm on the practical assurance of the maintaining of the 4 per cent dividend. Philadelphia Electric preferred reflected some of the same organized support holding at 20½.

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