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## TREND OF MARKET STILL UNCERTAIN

No Let-Up in Demand for American Telephone and Telegraph

New York, Nov. 21.—While today's stock market apparently experienced quite some difficulty in finding itself, an undertone of decided strength was retained. Price movement was uncertain, but all changes with comparatively few exceptions were confined within narrow limits. American Telephone and Telegraph featured the constructive side, registering a new high for the year in rising above 119. Although some of the more important stocks showed hesitation there were no real weak spots.

The over-the-weekend development was generally gathering, while the temporary order of the Interstate Commerce Commission for the reduced rates on farm products was virtually ignored. More interest was manifested in the reported higher prices for refined copper and the improvement in the copper trade. All advices from the Armament Conference were watched with interest. The financial community expected there will be a full adoption of the American proposals, although this was not transplanted into market sentiment.

As the day progressed, the market gave symptoms of a mild attack of indigestion, which was to be reasonably expected in view of the very heavy during the greater part of last week's session, realized sales encountered operations, the profit-taking was still apparent in many directions. The absorption capacity continued good, however, yet the weight of these sales caused more or less wavering.

It was noticeable in all events, while the coppers and some of the recognized post issues were taken up, the recent notifications indicated a hesitated hand. This was particularly true of the rail group, which appeared to be working under a hard handicap. In the specialty group, National Biscuit, California Packing and Wilson Company developed firmness. On the other hand American Sugar, South Porto Rico Sugar, Corn Products and Davidson Chemical and Soda, while not so noticeably heavy, Utah Copper, Seneca and Anaconda were the strongest spots of the copper group. There was no let-up in demand for American Telephone, which at the morning's top was nearly 21 points from the year's low.

### TRADING WAS FLAT IN LOCAL MARKET

Suspension of Odd-Lot Dealings in the New York Stocks

The temporary discontinuance of the odd lot dealing, which last month contributed to swell the operations on the local stock exchange was reflected in a market contraction in the transactions in today's market. Apart from Pennsylvania Railroad, which was sold rather freely, including one block of 100 shares, the rest of the market was flat and colorless. Price variations were confined within narrow fractional limits and were altogether meaningless.

The suspension of odd-lot dealing in the New York stocks was unavoidable because of the overwhelming volume of business encountered by the young members of the Exchange who handled these transactions. Their organization proved to be inadequate to handle the volume, which grew to proportions far exceeding their most sanguine expectations. They expect to perfect a new system by which this business can be handled more expeditiously in the matter of deliveries and transfers. They are perfectly solvent and in position to settle for all contracts.

The experience has shown the great possibilities of odd-lot dealing operations in the local exchange, and it is strange it could not have been foreseen a long time ago by some of the older members.

The majority, however, do not want to be bothered with the small transactions, yet in aggregate it is certain to be profitable, inasmuch as on several days the total transactions reached the \$100,000 mark.

Apart from Pennsylvania Railroad, the trading lacked individual feature. I. G. I. was firmer and fractionally higher. The Philadelphia Electric shares showed slightly. Only nominal dealing was made in Electric Storage Battery.

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