



ANOTHER DAY OF HEAVY TRADING

Oil Shares Break Sharply After the Opening Bulge—Market Very Feverish

New York, April 17.—There was another tremendous volume of trading in today's market, with the sales for the first two hours alone amounting approximately 1,000,000 shares and the turnover for the full session surpassed all records in point of activity for at least two years. Price movement, after the opening bulge, became very feverish and erratic, and at different intervals the list appeared to be on the brink of material one, indications of which were to be found in the sharp declines in a number of favorite speculative stocks, especially the oils. The prompt shifting of activity to different groups gave a powerful backlog, which on these occasions served to divert the reactionary current.

Over the week-end developments failed to supply anything in the way of novelty, but there evidently was an equally large accumulation of buying orders. Sunday saw a general rise in the Good Friday holiday. The execution of this mighty wave of buying orders, which came from every quarter, provoked a fresh outburst of speculative enthusiasm that has not been equaled since the exciting war bride markets. Further momentum was given to the upward whirl by free offerings of call money, which dropped from 4 to 3½ per cent.

The oils continued to overshadow the market in the early trading, with Sinclair again the feature of the day. The news of the Government contract for the development of the Teal Pot Dome field was an incentive for urgent accumulation through commission houses. The stock opened with sales of 10,000 shares at 34½ and 34, selling a point apart in different sections of the crowd of brokers at the same time and made a further advance to 34½, which represented a rise of 10 points from the low of last week. Other oils which bettered their previous high figures were Standard Oil of New Jersey, Texas Company, Middle States Oil, Cushing, Invincible and White.

The oil group in turn were superseded to a considerable extent by the coppers and the lower-priced rails. Gains of 1 to almost 2 points were made by Anaconda, Chino, Kennecott and Utah, while Canadian Pacific, St. Paul and Chesapeake and Ohio led the rails. The shippers also strengthened, but in the meantime there was evidence of a slight relaxation of some of the previous speculative favorites. The trading, however, was so widely balanced that realizing sales were for a long time without effect. Toward the end of the second, however, the profit-taking extended to the oils and a flood of Sinclair stock was suddenly thrown upon the market causing that speculative feverish break sharply from 34½ under 34. This was a signal for heavy selling in all the active speculative favorites and the market staggered under the increasing weight of the sales and at midday declines from 1 to 4 points were common all through the list, making the first real setback the prolonged advance movement has had.

Commodity Markets

GRAIN MARKET

Chicago, April 17.—There was a very nervous opening in the wheat market, and after a sharp decline the grain high prices moved very rapidly and feverishly within a range of 1 to 2¢. The May position ran up 2½¢ from the previous close on further covering, but met a good deal of opposition, while the new crop months followed. The volume of business was very large, and as price movements depended largely on pit conditions, little attention was given to the news, and sentiment was very much mixed.

The coarse grains were firmer, with wheat, corn gaining 1½ to 2¢, while oats were up 1½ to 2¢.

Provisions were neglected but firmer on an advance of 15¢ to 25¢ in the hog market.

Meat prices were firm, with lamb, veal, mutton, beef, bacon, ham, etc., up 10¢ to 20¢.

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