

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL

MARKET WAS UNSTABLE
New York, Dec. 18.—Prices opened strong in today's stock market, but a decided reaction set in later upon announcements of the failure of a large southwestern stock exchange firm and a cut in the great Northern preferred dividend placing it on a 5 per cent annual basis instead of 7 per cent, a rate which had been paid without interruption since 1893.

An unusually large volume of low priced stocks were thrown onto the market after the failure, several thousand shares being for the account of the insolvent firm. These included blocks of Sinclair, Skelly, Marland, Phillips Petroleum, Invincible Oil and Texas company, nearly 100,000 shares of these companies exchanging hands during the day. Except for a drop of 1/8 in Marland and 1 in Skelly, the general trend, but the declines in Standard is ranged from 1 to 4 points.

Great Northern preferred fell to 78 1/2 on a new record on announcement of the dividend reduction, but rallied at the close to 77 1/4, where it represented a net loss of 2 3/8 on the day. Other calls, which were active at the close, were the same as yesterday, declined in sympathy, losses of 1 to 3 points being registered by Chesapeake and Ohio, Union Pacific, Canadian Pacific, Atlantic Coast Line, Texas common and preferred, Chicago and Northwestern, Rock Island, Lackawanna, New Haven, Norfolk and Western, Erie, Louisville and Nashville broke four points on a small turnover.

Plumber Body touched 315, another new top, in the early declines but dropped later to 308 for a net loss of 8 1/2 points. New high records for the day also were established during the session by Westinghouse Air Brake, Stewart Warner, Suedemeter, Kellogg Wheel, Deere De Pasco Corcor, Union Tank and Storage Car, the last named falling 1 1/2 points before Saturday's close in later declines. Copper stocks offered stubborn resistance to selling pressure fresh buying in this group being influenced by the higher prices quoted for the red metal and speculating anticipations that a few more houses would be put on a dividend basis within the next few months. General Electric was one of the outstanding leaders in the clearing at a net gain of more than 4 points.

United States Steel common was again the most active stock on the "board," more than 100,000 shares changing hands at prices ranging from 108 1/8 to 106 1/4, the closing price of 106 1/4 representing a net loss of 1 1/2 points. Gulf States and Bethlehem R. dropped a point each. Baldwin which touched 129 before noon fell later to 126 3/8, or 1/8 below yesterday's closing. Baker was off 5/8 on the day. Western preferred had another sinking spell on a revival of unconfirmed reports that the dividend was in danger, the net loss being 1 3/4 points.

Call money opened and renewed at 4 1/2 per cent and advanced to 5 before the close. The time money market was slightly active, a few 30-day bills were loaned being arranged at 4 7/8 per cent with most of the 30-day business being done on a 4 3/4 per cent basis and the longer maturities at 5 per cent. Commercial paper trading continued quiet with no change in rates.

Foreign exchange were weak on realization of European conditions. The dollar exchange was being placed there on the possibility of an international loan being raised for Germany at the time demanded. The dollar exchange was at 24.44 and French franc fell nearly 30 points to 133. The German mark dropped from 1.87 to 1.83 cents a hundred.

STOCKS
The following is a summary of the transactions on the New York Stock Exchange up to 3 P. M.

Table with columns: Stock Name, High, Low, Close. Includes All Chem & D, Alle Chalmers, Am Am, Am Sugar, Am Tobacco, etc.

LOANS
In sums up to \$300 to all classes of people who are unable to finance their needs and to whom repayment plan appeals. CONFIDENTIAL LOANS ON FURNITURE. PHONE 1064. BENEFICIAL LOAN SOCIETY. ROOM 302-3. NEW MARSH BUILDING. NEW LONDON, CONN.

1-1; closing bid 5; offered at 1-1; last loan 6; call loans against acceptance 6.

COTTON
New York, Dec. 18.—Spot cotton steady, middling 26.10.

100 PER CENT AND INTEREST
FOR MILLS & GIBB CREDITORS
New York, Dec. 18.—Creditors of the old Mills & Gibb company, which failed in 1916 for \$2,000,000 will receive 100 per cent, with interest at 4 per cent annum. This settlement closes the history of one of the most interesting failures in New York mercantile history.

position with the Lawton Mills corporation, he handed in his resignation as chairman of the society's committee of the F. R. Ecological Society, a position which he held faithfully about two years. During the past summer under his direction the Congregational parsonage was repaired and painted. The society's work has been largely done in the past year and the balance of sufficient funds and leadership of Mr. West and his colleagues at this time is felt to be a great loss.

STONINGTON
The ladies of the Calvary Episcopal church are justly engaged in the making of Christmas gifts for the church at the Christmas season.

MYSTIC
On Monday morning a salesman for a New London grocery firm in driving over Fort Hill near Mystic, in a Ford car, was killed by a truck.

CHICAGO GRAIN MARKET
Chicago, Dec. 18.—Reborel of crop damage fears as a result of the cold weather have led to soaring prices in the wheat market. Closing quotations were unsettled, 1 7/8 to 3 3/8c net higher.

PLAINFIELD
Robert R. West has assumed the new and responsible position of manager of the Hamilton Cafeteria Mills in South Carolina for the Lockwood-Graves Company.

WESTERLY

District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler of R. F. O. E. of R. L. Joseph L. Lennan made an official visit Monday evening to the Woonsocket lodge of Sikks.

Dr. Robert H. Farnham of Brown building received a communication from Captain R. Rickson who is captain of the four-masted schooner Virginia Pendleton

reports were received we find that sixteen sold their entire egg output, save what was used for home consumption during the winter. While city stores received the surplus, while city stores sold the eggs to two country buyers from three and commission men in the city from another three. The remaining twenty sold the eggs to two country buyers above mentioned parties. Over one-third of the total number of dozens sold during March, April and May and nearly one-half of the total number of dozens sold during the spring months and over one-fourth of the number sold during the fall months went to the city stores.

Benjamin Burick, clerk in the store of Arthur C. Tillinghast, has returned from a short vacation spent in New York city.

George T. White has taken up his duties as Community house director and director for men. Mr. White comes well equipped for his new task, being a graduate of the New Haven High school and of the Boston College.

Miss Carrie Farnham, of Norwich, will give a recital of Miss Dorothy Tillinghast.

During the past year an egg marketing survey was conducted in New London county under the direction of the New London County Bureau of Extension Service. An effort was made to have as many poultrymen as possible turn in a copy of the report on the way in which they market their eggs, the breed of hens kept and other detailed information.

Forty-nine producers had 1,124 birds of which approximately thirty-two per cent were Leghorns and about twenty-eight per cent Rhode Island Reds. Wyandottes, Barred Rocks and White Rocks there were about two or three per cent of each breed.

It is interesting to note that from 60 per cent of the sales made directly to the consumer the farmer received more than the average wholesale price, whereas only a very small percentage of the sales made to the city storekeepers, country storekeepers and country buyers are getting above the highest average wholesale price.

Approximately thirty per cent of the sales made directly to consumers were at prices less than one cent to five cents above the average wholesale price. The city stores about thirty-nine per cent were made at prices from one to five cents under the average wholesale price for Connecticut.

Only one of the producers from the whole group reported candling his eggs before they were packed for market during part of the time. The rest of the poultrymen sell the uncandled product.

The reason why so little attention is paid to candling and grading is probably because the production is so small in many instances. A wide discrepancy exists in the figures given by the individuals for the total costs of marketing. The figures given vary from twenty per cent to thirty-six per cent and show that many farmers do not know what it costs them to market their eggs.

Women's Sateen Petticoats
An excellent line of Sateen and Heatherloom Petticoats, in regular and extra sizes, in black and colors—Price range \$1.00 to \$2.50.

THE PORTEOUS & MITCHELL CO. STORE OPEN EVENINGS. This store is open this evening until Christmas. For comfortable shopping we recommend the morning hours.

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING HEADQUARTERS. THE STORE OF ABUNDANT STOCKS. COME HERE FOR ALL KINDS OF HOLIDAY MERCHANDISE — FOR GIFTS OF ALL KINDS. COME HERE FOR THE MOST COMPLETE LINE OF DOLLS, BOOKS, GAMES, IN NORWICH. FIVE MORE DAYS — THEN CHRISTMAS!

EXTRAORDINARY CHRISTMAS SPECIALS FROM OUR Domestic Department. TUESDAY—WEDNESDAY—THURSDAY. 10 dozen, size 24x48, Jacquard Turkish Towels, heavy, absorbent Terry, with attractive borders, in pink and blue effects, value \$1.00—Special price 69c. Size 18x50 Bureau Scarfs, lace trimmed and embroidered, value \$1.00—Special price 79c. Real Madeira Boudoir and Baby Pillows, rose scalloped edges (in Christmas boxes) — Very special value, at 79c. Real Madeira Boudoir and Baby Pillows, fine grade of pure linen, pretty embroidered effects and rose scalloped borders (in Christmas boxes), value \$2.98 — Special price \$2.00. 50 Turkish Sets — large size Bath Towel, Guest Towel and Wash Cloth, pink and blue effects (daintily boxed), value \$1.50—Special price a set \$1.00. 75 Turkish Sets, in attractive Jacquard border effects, pink, blue and yellow (in Christmas boxes), value \$2.00—Special price \$1.50. 50 size 72x80, extra large Plaid Woolnapp Blankets, in singles, value \$2.50—Special price \$1.69. 30 Silk Covered Comfortables, attractive designs on light grounds, self-colored borders — Very special value, at \$4.95. 25 size 72x78 Silk Covered Comfortables, in new and dainty designs, high colored grounds with self-colored borders, light weight, warm and sanitary — Special price \$6.95. 25 Hemmed Satin Marseilles Bed Spreads, full double-bed size, regular value \$6.75—Special price \$5.00.

CHRISTMAS CARDS. The largest assortment of Christmas Cards and booklets ever shown in Norwich. Christmas Post Cards, 1c each — 10c a dozen—Gold edge, at 2c each—30c a dozen. Christmas and New Year's Cards and Booklets, each in a separate envelope, 1c, 3c, 5c and up to 35c. SPECIAL—A box containing 15 different Cards and Envelopes for 20c. Christmas Seals and Tags, 5c and 10c a package.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR WOMEN. Silk Petticoats. Women's Silk Petticoats, in Taffeta, Jersey top with Taffeta or Satin flounce, also all Jersey and Radium Silk, in regular and extra sizes—Price range \$2.98 to \$5.98. Sateen Petticoats. An excellent line of Sateen and Heatherloom Petticoats, in regular and extra sizes, in black and colors—Price range \$1.00 to \$2.50. Silk Underwear. Women's Silk Underwear, including Camisoles, Gowns, Envelope Chemises, and Bloomers, in flesh, white, orchid and honey dew—of Radium Silk and Crepe de Chine—Price range from 95c for a Silk Camisole, all the way up to \$10.50 for a handsome Chemise.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR THE HOME. CEDAR CHESTS—The most practical of all gifts. Our Cedar Chests are made of Tennessee Cedar, are moth-proof and dust-proof and are shown in a number of pretty models—\$15.00 to \$40.00. ELECTRIC SWEEPERS—We are agents for the Hoover Electric Suction Sweeper, by far the best of all Electric Sweepers, as it cleans as it sweeps—\$25.00 and \$35.00. TAPESTRY and Velour Table Runners—Price range \$1.50 to \$7.50. COUCH COVERS, in a large selection of patterns — Price range \$2.00 to \$18.00. PORTIERES in all the wanted colors—Price range \$6.00 to \$12.00. PICTURES in a great variety of subjects—Price range \$1.25 to \$8.00. CURTAINS — Scrim, Marquisette and Quaker Craft. Curtains are an ideal gift—Price range \$1.25 to \$9.75 a pair. PILLOWS make an excellent gift. Our pillows are covered with high grade Velour and can be had in either round or oblong shape, and in all colors—Price range \$2.00 to \$4.00. SEWING BASKETS—a gift for the housekeeper—Price range \$4.50 to \$10.00. SMOKING STANDS for the man of the house—Price range \$1.50 to \$9.50. TABOURETTES, an acceptable gift for the home—Price range \$2.00 to \$17.50. CARPET SWEEPERS, all the best makes — Price range \$4.50 to \$25.00. VACUUM SWEEPERS, combination Carpet Sweeper and Vacuum Cleaner—at \$7.50 and \$10.00. MATTING BOXES, a practical gift for the home—Price range \$1.00 to \$12.00. RUGS, in all sizes and in all grades. Small size Rug from \$2.25 to \$15.00—Carpet area Rugs from \$21.00 to \$49.00.

GIFTS OF HANDKERCHIEFS. Children's Handkerchiefs, in boxes, a big variety—Prices are 15c, 19c, 25c and 35c. Boys' Handkerchiefs. Boys' Handkerchiefs, in white and colored borders—at 15c, 19c and 19c each. Men's Handkerchiefs. Men's Plain White Handkerchiefs, in cambric, at 5c, 10c, 12 1/2c, 15c, 19c and 25c. Men's Pure Linen Hemstitched Handkerchiefs, at 25c, 35c and up to 75c each. Boxed Handkerchiefs. Women's Handkerchiefs, in fancy boxes, three and six in a box, at 25c, 35c, 50c and up to \$1.00 a box. Women's Handkerchiefs. Women's Plain White Hemstitched Handkerchiefs, at 5c, 10c, 12 1/2c and up to 50c each for a fine Linen Handkerchief. Women's Initials. Women's Pure Linen Initial Handkerchiefs, at 25c each, or \$1.50 a box of six. French Handkerchiefs. Women's French Embroidered Handkerchiefs, white and colored, embroidered, at 25c, 35c and 50c. Embroidered Handfs, 50c. At this price we make the greatest showing of Women's Hand-embroidered Linen Handkerchiefs, heretofore.