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FINANCIAL NEWS AND COMMENT. General List Reacts in the Last Hour and Prices Sag to Irregular Close.

SPECIALTIES SHOW GAINS. Public Still Buying More Costly Stocks—Market Trend Is Upward as a Rule.

In its broad features the stock market yesterday was a replica of that of the previous day and also the session immediately preceding it. There was the same heavy trading from the speculators, who have made large profits in the recent rise, and also a considerable amount of fresh professional selling among standard shares. This was partly offset by a continuing public demand for a number of the higher priced specialties of the type of the marine shares, the tobaccos, some of the oils and the food stocks. But the selling was heavier than the buying and in the last hour the general list turned somewhat heavy and the closing result of the trading was again a highly irregular range of prices at the closing, with numerous specialties showing pronounced gains and the majority of the standard shares averaging generally a fraction lower on the day as a whole.

There were no real long stocks of any account covered in the market for sale, but the fact that prices did not turn upward after the extensive shake out which the market has experienced was apparently made up in mind not to go ahead with any further speculative movement which may have to be undone in case the decision on Thursday is not as favorable as it is expected to be.

The surprising thing about yesterday's session was that, in spite of the reading of the trading and the general slowing down of the dealings, the market was not so much as to be expected to be a day of heavy selling pressure.

Table with columns: Bid, Ask, High, Low, Close, Change. Lists various stocks like 500 Penn Copper & Chem., 1000 Advance Rumely, etc.

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES. Tuesday, March 18, 1919.

Table with columns: Day's sales, Year to date, Bid, Ask, High, Low, Close, Change. Lists various stocks like 500 Penn Copper & Chem., 1000 Advance Rumely, etc.

GOSSIP OF WALL STREET. The Railroad Situation.

Walker D. Hines, Director-General of Railways, yesterday postponed the conference which was to have been held at the committee of the directors of the railroads, headed by Howard Elliott. The reason for the delay in the conference, which is expected to solve the question of limitation of rates, is said to be the desire of the Director-General to put into effect a radical policy for cutting out overheads, drawing out the lines, and a program for additions and betterments, and an equipment retrenchment.

No decision has been reached on the question of a holiday of the New York Stock Exchange on March 25, the day of the Government's Good Friday. It has been discussed in the financial district, but it was declared last night that the matter had not come before the board of government officials. While there are many in favor of closing the exchange on that day, it was pointed out by a member of the board of government officials that it would be a large extent those outside of the city who transact business or in the West, middle West or in the South, who would be inconvenienced by the day being observed as a holiday and by closing the exchange business throughout the country will be discontinued.

Shipping Shares Popular. Continued optimism as to the future of shipping stocks, particularly in view of the rate readjustment announced so suddenly on Monday, is believed to be the chief factor in the continued advance of these shares. American International Corporation and kindred issues, particularly of the Marine preference, are declared to be of a much better character than in ordinary cases when that stock begins to move.

American Lined. The protheoretical display of strength yesterday by American Lined Oil shares, and the heavy buying from quarters which usually are characterized as "good." That buying is said to be based on knowledge of the fact that the company has a dividend of 5 or 6 per cent. annually on the common stock.

New Clear Stocks. The shorts in United Clear Stocks had another bad day yesterday. It has become a very regular pastime of late to short the United Clear Stocks, and a week regularly the traders on the bear side of that stock are compelled to take a bad beating.

Industrial Alcohol. There is another stock also in which the shorts are given periodical battles with the bulls. This is Industrial Alcohol, one of the so-called vest pocket stocks, which can be moved about at will. That stock has surprised the market by its recent advance by Sumatra Tobacco. Another evidence of the sagacity with which it responds to its master's voice was given again yesterday when the company had been shorted by the market.

French Exchange Weak. While there was nothing spectacular yesterday in the market for French exchange, the rate on Paris showed a declining tendency, actual business being done at 147 1/2 francs for the dollar, but foreign exchange experts expressed the opinion that the peg in French exchange had been entirely removed and that the market would be left to its own devices. It was said that France merely had taken the lead in removing artificial restrictions on exchange rates and that the market would be left to its own devices.

BONDS IN NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE. Tuesday, March 18, 1919.

Table with columns: Day's sales, Year to date, Bid, Ask, High, Low, Close, Change. Lists various bonds like 1000 U.S. 4 1/2% 1917, etc.

Table with columns: Bid, Ask, High, Low, Close, Change. Lists various Liberty Bonds like 1000 Liberty 4 1/2% 1st conv., etc.

Table with columns: Bid, Ask, High, Low, Close, Change. Lists various United States Government Bonds like 1000 U.S. 4 1/2% 1917, etc.

BID AND ASKED QUOTATIONS.

Table with columns: Bid, Ask, High, Low, Close, Change. Lists various bonds like 1000 U.S. 4 1/2% 1917, etc.

What is the Market Going to do Now? Which Stocks Should Be Bought at This Time? Ask for our opinion, given free of charge, with latest copy of our semi-monthly publication, "Securities Suggestions". R.C. MEGARGEL & CO., 27 Pine Street—New York.

We execute Orders in Philip Morris United Profit Sharing General Asphalt Sinclair Gulf. EDWARD E. EPPS & CO., CURB STOCKS, ESTABLISHED 1903, NEW YORK. Telephone Broad 7171.

Lackawanna County Coal Stock. Traded in on New York Curb. Gwynne Bros., 25 Broad St., N.Y. Phone 3232 Broad.

Odd Lots. Wm. Dept. 17. GIBSON & HARRISON. 71 Broadway, New York City. Investment Securities. SLATTERY & CO., 40 Exchange Place, Phone Broad 4874-W.

Guaranty Trust Company of New York. Capital and Surplus - \$50,000,000. Resources more than - \$700,000,000. JAPANESE WELCOME BANKER. Premier Deities Reports Designed to Injure Country.

FINANCIAL NOTES. Asked Banking Corporation yesterday announced that the office of the new National Bank of New York, which is to be located at 100 Wall Street, is now open for business. The company has been paying a regular dividend of 100 cents per share.

EQUIPMENT TRUSTS. The following are quoted on a percentage basis: American Oil, 100%; American Petroleum, 100%; American Gas, 100%; etc.