

MARKET IS HOPEFUL

Increase in General Business Encouraging Sign

STOCKS STILL HEAVY

Amalgamated, Smelting, and National Lead Fall to Show Strength with Railway and Other Industrial-Copper Mines to Be Re-opened as Demand is Increasing.

New York, Feb. 28.—Transactions in stocks to-day were considerably larger than they were yesterday, and there was also a perceptible increase of general interest in the market, even if the volume of dealings was still away below the normal and the dullness of the market was relatively extreme.

The general characteristic of the day's business was the continuance of that suggestiveness of an advancing movement in prices of the leading stocks that has for several days past been noticeable. The movement was less disguised to-day than it was earlier in the week, although there were many critics who maintained that whatever upward movement there was was due to nothing else than a mere temporary retirement of contracts for the fall by small speculators who were more or less discomfited by the failure of prices to recede under unfavorable developments and by indications that the market was technically in an oversold condition.

The better feeling was manifested more vigorously in the early part of the day than at the close, and resulted in gains turned to a point in many instances in the active stocks in the first hour of business. A little later the stock exchange room traders took profits and sold stocks for the decline with some freedom, but afterward seemed to again reverse their policy with the net consequence that a more general and final record of advances was shown in the leading stocks of any day thus far during the week.

Strong as the market was on the whole, however, it was subjected to the retarding influence of heaviness in one or two particular stocks, and strength was more freely manifested in the industrial shares than in the railway list.

The Amalgamated Copper, Smelting, National Lead, and, as a rule, the so-called metal stocks exhibited plain evidences of accumulation. The theory most commonly advanced for the buying of Amalgamated Copper was that if there are substantial evidences that the turn for the better in the trade has arrived preparations to open the company's mines which will necessarily consume a considerable time it could do so.

The current price of copper is still but little above the level at which the Amalgamated decided some months ago that it would not do business profitably. It is conceded, however, that if there are substantial evidences that the turn for the better in the trade has arrived preparations to open the company's mines which will necessarily consume a considerable time it could do so.

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NEW YORK STOCK MARKET.

Table with columns: Stock Name, High, Low, Close, Change. Includes Amal. Copper, Am. Lead, Am. Smelt, etc.

CURB MARKET.

Table with columns: Stock Name, High, Low, Close, Change. Includes American Tobacco, Boston Old Cop., etc.

BOSTON STOCKS.

Table with columns: Stock Name, High, Low, Close, Change. Includes Algonquin, Am. Pulp, etc.

NEW YORK MONEY.

Table with columns: Instrument, Rate. Includes New York, Feb. 28—Money on call, etc.

TREASURY STATEMENT.

Table with columns: Category, Amount. Includes Reserve fund, Gold coin and bullion, etc.

WEEKLY BANK CLEARINGS.

Table with columns: City, Amount. Includes New York, Feb. 28—New York's bank clearings, etc.

MINING STOCKS.

Table with columns: Stock Name, Bid, Asked. Includes Goldfield Consolidated, etc.

WEEKLY TRADE REVIEW

Dun and Bradstreet Reports Show Slight Changes Only.

New York, Feb. 28.—Bradstreet's review of the state of trade to-morrow will say: "Distribution of staple goods by jobbers tends to increase as the spring buying advances, and the large numbers of buyers' excursions draw merchants to the market, but there is a consensus of opinion that buying is in a high degree conservative and that staple goods will probably be classed as necessities comprise the heavier part of the business done."

"Retail trade is very quiet, except where price reductions on winter weight goods tempt buyers and final distributive demand unquestionably feels the reduced purchasing power of the public at large, due to the same or reduction of earnings in industry."

"Wholesale trade is quiet as a whole, and cotton fabric, notably print cloths and flannelettes have been sharply cut. Stocks of the former are reported to be piling up despite reduced time worked. Three-fourths of the normal production is reported working. Reports from other industries are irregular."

"The improvement in finished lines of steel noted last week has gone further and a slightly larger capacity is at work, but crude output seems to be no larger; some merchant furnaces are reported shut down because of accumulations of stocks, and prices of some pig iron are easier. A favorable development in finished steel is the placing of orders by some roads for rails in addition to those not again much at the East, but Western reports are of fuller capacity working. Woolen goods trade reports are not very cheerful, though the clothing trade is reported better, but a large number of

New York, Feb. 28.—R. G. Dun's review to-morrow will say: "Business holds the ground recovered from the point of greatest depression, but reports of further progress are sporadic. Geographically, the best news is received from the West and South, and more idle machinery has resumed at the steel mills than in any other leading industry."

"Contracts for finished steel products continue small in size, but are more numerous and the aggregate tonnage of new business is larger for the month of February than in the previous month, which in turn was slightly better than December. "Dry goods jobbing houses are attended by many outside buyers, producing the appearance of normal seasonal activity, but purchases are only for pressing needs and the conservatism is still felt in the manufacturing departments of the textile industries. With raw cotton higher than it was a year ago and cotton goods cheaper the producer is more inclined to curtail output than to cut prices still further."

"Commercial failures this week in the United States are 238 against 234 last week, 336 the preceding week and 294 the corresponding week last year. Failures in Canada number 22, against 25 last week, 38 the preceding week, and 17 last year. Of failures this week in the United States 123 were in the East, 55 South, 7 West, and 23 on the Pacific Coast, and 123 report liabilities of \$1,000,000 against 146 last week. Liabilities of commercial failures thus reported for February are \$2,381,959, against \$3,481,591 for the same period the previous year."

G. Bowie Chipman, of E. F. Hutton & Co.—"Today's stock market was a repetition of yesterday, with copper as the active leader. Business continued on a restricted scale and largely professional. It would appear that big interests were content with their security holdings at present, and see how political developments work out in the future, and it is said that if these developments prove unfavorable in the future, they may look for a complete change in the situation for the better. In the meantime such matters as the finishing of the Harriman answers to the Interstate Commerce Commission and the suits by the government against corporations may be expected to give a highly irregular market."

Benjamin Woodruff, of Post & Flagg— "Though trading continues dull, the market showed some improvement to-day, with Union Pacific and Reading lagging behind. The declaration of an extra dividend of \$5 per share on the preferred stock of the Oregon Railway and Navigation Company has had no effect, although it transfers a considerable amount into the treasury of the Union Pacific. But this is looked upon as largely a matter of bookkeeping in the Union Pacific's treasury. Copper was distinctly better of late, due chiefly to some heavy sales of the metal for foreign export recently. Otherwise the market had little feature, and the news of the day was unimportant. For a week past the trading has been slow, but it seems to show a disposition toward improvement in prices."

New York Produce.—"SUGAR—The local raw sugar market was quiet to-day, with prices quoted as follows: Centrifugal, 96 test, 3.85; molasses sugar, 95 test, 3.15; white sugar, 96 test, 3.85; molasses sugar, 95 test, 3.15. "COFFEE—Higher; restricting trade. No. 2 elevator, 7 1/2; No. 3, 7; No. 4, 6 1/2; No. 5, 6; No. 6, 5 1/2. "RYE—Quiet; steady; small supply. No. 2, f. o. b., 80. "WHEAT—Futures follow: May, 107 1/2; July, 107 1/2; September, 107 1/2. "CORN—Higher; restricting trade. No. 2 elevator, 7 1/2; No. 3, 7; No. 4, 6 1/2; No. 5, 6; No. 6, 5 1/2. "OATS—Steady; small supply. No. 2, f. o. b., 37 1/2. "PORK—Higher; restricting trade. No. 2, f. o. b., 11.50; No. 3, 11.00; No. 4, 10.50. "LARD—Higher; restricting trade. No. 2, f. o. b., 7.00; No. 3, 6.50; No. 4, 6.00. "RIBS—Higher; restricting trade. No. 2, f. o. b., 6.00; No. 3, 5.50; No. 4, 5.00. "NEW YORK, FEB. 28.—WHEAT—Restricting trade. No. 2, f. o. b., 1.10; No. 3, 1.05; No. 4, 1.00; No. 5, 0.95; No. 6, 0.90. 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