

WALL STREET NEWS

Securities Touch High Mark in Irregular Trading.

STOCKS ARE LITTLE ADVANCED

Considerable profit-taking in afternoon, with little spells of weakness, being followed by renewed outbursts of buying tendencies, give market natural aspect.

New York, April 14.—Although net advances in stocks to-day were by no means as large as those of yesterday, and, indeed, in most of the prominent issues were no more than fractional, yet the security market was, nevertheless, broad and sustained, and in the fore part of the day touched higher levels than at any time in the course of the present upward movement.

In the afternoon a good deal of profit-taking was noticeable, and the market became highly irregular, little spells of weakness being followed by renewed outbursts of buying, and with these alternating tendencies continuing until the close.

The main impression left upon the majority of observers was that the line of least resistance in prices at the moment seemed to be along the path of an advance rather than a decline.

One matter at least has become plain, and that is that the long, and, in reality, altogether indefinite postponement of the decision of the Supreme Court in the American Tobacco and Standard Oil cases has been interpreted by the mass of people throughout the country as bringing a decided measure of relief to the general financial and business situation.

Decision Matter Put at Rest. The truth seems to be that people giving their daily attention to the course of security values have debated with themselves and with each other so long, and on the subject as to be absolutely tired, and they welcome with joy the certainty that at least six months and probably a year will elapse before the matter will again become acute.

In the meantime there is always the possibility that something will happen to divert the subject of much of the importance with which it has hitherto been clothed.

Doubtless the one market factor of greatest force just now is the possibility that looms up that the directors of the United States Steel Corporation, at their quarterly meeting a week from next Tuesday, may decide to increase the company's distribution on its common stock, or it may be, even if continuing the distribution at the old rate of 4 per cent, to make another extra distribution of one-fourth of 1 per cent, such as was ordered in January.

Wisdom of Such a Step. Whatever views may be entertained as to the wisdom of such a step, there is no question of the ability of the steel corporation to take it, and it also must be admitted that very many people who may popularly be described as those possessing a conservative habit and temper in financial matters, will approve of such an action.

Naturally enough, under these circumstances, speculators for the fall are not exceedingly anxious to have large outstanding commitments for the decline in the steel common shares, even if stoutly contending that the price of the stock has already discounted a regular 5 per cent dividend rate.

GOVERNMENT BONDS.

Table with 2 columns: Bid. Asked. Includes items like 2% registered, 1909, 1910, 1911, 1912, 1913, 1914, 1915, 1916, 1917, 1918, 1919, 1920, 1921, 1922, 1923, 1924, 1925, 1926, 1927, 1928, 1929, 1930, 1931, 1932, 1933, 1934, 1935, 1936, 1937, 1938, 1939, 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944, 1945, 1946, 1947, 1948, 1949, 1950, 1951, 1952, 1953, 1954, 1955, 1956, 1957, 1958, 1959, 1960, 1961, 1962, 1963, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1967, 1968, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 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