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STOCK MARKET EASIER

Fluctuation on New York Exchange Not So Violent, Though Far From Steady.

Brooklyn Transit Suffers Most and Causes Sharp Declines, Which Were Recovered Later.

President McKinley Cables Expression of His Sorrow at Death of Lawton.

New York, Dec. 20.—The stock market ran along until late this afternoon in almost a normal condition. Nothing sensational occurred until the evident pressure to liquidate in Brooklyn Transit gave birth to rumors of financial embarrassment in influential quarters, which unsettled the whole market, causing marked declines in some instances. As soon as Brooklyn Transit was supported the market rallied.

At 2 p. m. money on call was 4 per cent.

The market was active and strong, with mixed net changes.

New York, Dec. 20.—Money on call today opened at 6 per cent; at 11:30 it was 8 and 9 per cent.

BANKS ACCEPT GAGES OFFER.

Make Application for Deposits of Public Funds—Bill in the House. Washington, D. C., Dec. 20.—The secretary of the treasury has received a considerable number of applications from national banks for deposits of public funds under the secretary's announcement of last night. The larger number of these applications come from New York and other eastern cities, although some have been received from the larger cities of the middle west. Under the secretary's offer cash will be transferred to national banks on deposit of United States bonds to their par value, except on \$5, on which 55 per cent will be allowed, and on which 99 per cent will be allowed.

This is an old rule, and is intended to secure the government from possible loss by reason of temporary excess of cash on hand over bonds on deposit. As the receipts from internal revenue do not average quite \$100,000 a day, it is not expected that the effect of the new order will be felt for some days to come. It is stated that in making allotments of funds the department will discourage the purchase of bonds on the part of banks seeking deposits, for the reason that if the banks should go into the market for the purpose of probably would put up the price, which would be against the interests of the government, which is itself now in the market for the purchase of about \$5,000,000 now remaining unoffered under the secretary's recent proposition to purchase \$25,000,000 a day.

Representative Levy, of New York, introduced in the house a bill to amend the revised statutes so as to permit the secretary of the treasury to deposit in his discretion with the national banks of the United States the customs receipts of the United States, and providing that the secretary of the treasury shall establish a ratio of interest to be paid by the national banks on all moneys deposited with them.

London Exchange Easier. London, Dec. 20.—On the stock exchange today the general tone was decidedly firmer. There is a more confident feeling.

MCKINLEY EXPRESSES SORROW.

Cables a Touching Tribute to the Memory of the Fallen Hero. Washington, Dec. 20.—The president today sent the following cable to Orléans: I learned with inexpressible sorrow of the death of Maj. Gen. Lawton and ask to share with the officers and men of the Eighth Corps in their grief. One of the most gallant officers of the army has fallen. At the same sad news came to us his nomination as brigadier general of the regular army, and already been made for transmission to the senate, but no rank can enhance his fame. He rose from the ranks of the Ninth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, filling every grade in the service to that of major general of volunteers, and in three wars was conspicuous for bravery and devotion to duty. The country mourns the death of this intrepid leader. Convey to Mrs. Lawton my heartfelt sympathy in her overshadowing affliction. (Signed) "WILLIAM MCKINLEY."

Secretary Root also cabled conveying sympathy to the widow and saying the ceremonies of respect for his memory would be directed in general orders.

AMERICAN PARTY DEFEATED.

Met an Overwhelming Force and Native Allies Deserted—Two Killed. Manila, Nov. 21.—Via San Francisco, Dec. 20.—Belated mail reports have reached Manila of an expedition on the island of Cebu last month by a small force of American soldiers of the Sixth Infantry, which was repulsed by insurgents mainly through the desertion of native allies upon whom the Americans depended. Two of the Americans were killed and two wounded and in the force of native police accompanying them one was killed and four wounded. No official report of the affair has reached Gen. Otis—consequently the censor refused to permit the incident to be cabled, but the correspondent of the Associated Press has obtained an account from a thoroughly reliable source.

The Sixth Infantry men killed were: Daniel E. Adams, Company A. Charles N. Coley, Company A. Wounded: William Stowell, Company A, through the chest.

THINGS BEGIN TO HUM

A Battle Royal on at Des Moines—Senatorial Warriors Gathering in Hosts.

Gear Managers Hurriedly Called—Prominent Men Talk in Favor of Gear.

Eaton's Claims of Support for Speakership and Counter Claims of Bowen.

Special to Times-Republican. Des Moines, Dec. 20.—The biggest political crowd since the last republican state convention came to town last night. The Gear people thronged the Savery house and the Cummins men were mostly to be found at the Kirkwood house. Among the Gear men were J. W. Blythe, of Burlington; Senators H. H. Brighton, of Fairfield; S. S. Hazleton, of Council Bluffs; C. A. Mullan, of Waterloo; ex-Senator Waterman and Cal Manning, of Ottumwa; Representatives Barringer, of Palo Alto; Letts, of Louisa; Kendall, of Monroe; Townsend, of Calhoun; B. Home, Winnechik; Temple, of Clarke; Baker, of Cass, and others, besides many prominent politicians not members, but interested in the promotion of Dr. Bowen's interests, and as an incidental to the success of Senator Gear. Dr. Bowen came in with Dr. Roome yesterday morning.

Senator Hobart, of Cherokee, and Senator Classen, of Marshall, who are not yet ready to hang out a banner on the senatorship, were also here. Representative Kimball, of Marshall, and Representative Scott, of Ida-Monica, and Colburn, of Des Moines, were on hand. Mr. Kimball is generally quoted as a Cummins man. Dr. Prentiss also came in and said that he thought the prospects of Mr. Cummins and Mr. Eaton were most excellent, and in fact, he was very well pleased with the pronounced position he has taken in their favor. He feels certain he is on the winning side.

Down at the Cummins headquarters in the Kirkwood house, C. G. McCarthy was marshaling a strong array of the followers of the brilliant Des Moines man, some of the most prominent and active of these is Representative T. A. Way, of Hancock, who is putting in his best looks for Mr. Cummins. He stood by and approved while Mr. McCarthy made the following statement representing the Cummins men: "I have watched it for more than a year, since the time it was a very small plant, and now it is a big, strong plant, able to stand alone. Its growth has been steady and sure. Every day has seen us stronger, and this is the best kind of progress, the kind that is permanent. I am very well pleased with the situation tonight. The preliminary skirmish is on the speakership, and Mr. Eaton, on account of his superior fitness, has now assured more votes than are needed to elect him. He will have no more to say at the caucus, 55 votes in the house caucus. He has sure votes to win and good chances of getting 50 to 60 per cent of a list of sixteen others. That is the situation tonight, and it will continue to be unless something breaks loose of which nothing is now known, and the chances are, things closely and I do not think there is any chance of any such break."

Representative Bennett, Representative Sokol, Rush Benedict and other men, were to be seen around the Kirkwood headquarters. With the two Blythes in town, things are lively.

J. W. Blythe, of Burlington, the premier political organizer of Iowa and head of the Gear organization, unexpectedly came to town yesterday to assist in the caucus of the anti-Gear party. The Gear men began by giving out the assurance that the speakership was not essential, and did not necessarily need to influence the senatorial result. But the Cummins people have made such a terrific onslaught on the republican side, each in the gear war, that they are gaining strength so fast in the last two weeks, that the Gear people have been compelled to take up the gauntlet and accept the speakership contest as the first round in the senatorial battle.

Senator Gear, it is now stated, will come here on Jan. 2, and will remain till the end of the fight if he is physically able to stand the strain. Whether he will be a question, for many a younger and more vigorous man might be excused for breaking down under such a pressure of the campaign. His source on hand to look after every detail of his own affairs, and he is assisted by a corps of good workers. But the array of Gear talent which stormed the hotel lobbies last evening, and is still on hand today, and even growing in strength with each in the gear war, is something tremendous. On Sunday it was given out that the Gear men in Des Moines had found enough evidence of trouble to convince them that they were in imminent danger of losing the speakership. A call was sent out for reinforcements, and the reply was prompt. Mr. Blythe, of Burlington, came in person, installed himself in a room at the Savery, and with the assistance of James E. Blythe, Chairman Weaver of the state central committee, several members of the committee a number of the well-known Gear members of the legislature, federal office holders and Blythe's faction of politicians, has been personally conducting the fight for Bowen. Mr. Eaton has been away, trying a lawsuit at Osage; but he is expected to return today. Dr. H. H. Bowen, the Gear speakership candidate, is here.

The Cummins people, and among them a good many of the members who have not been always conceded to either one side or the other, say that the more frank and satisfactory statements of strength come from the Cummins side. Mr. Eaton is a good worker in his own cause, and frankly tells men what he has assured in the way of support; he tells them on just what pledges he is relying. The members who have examined the prospectus which Mr. Eaton puts forth say that it seems to promise more dividends than can be figured in sight after an examination of gear claims, and that the people are indefinite in their claims of strength, but try to make up for this weakness by an added magnificence of generalization. They say they will surely have fifty-four votes, while only forty-one are necessary to elect. But the Gear managers do not make their fifty-four men; they do not even name forty-one of them; and the Eaton people say they can not name more than twenty-five without having their claims repudiated. On the other hand Mr. Eaton numbers enough pledged votes to assure his election, because the light comes from him whose vote is not yet pledged to either side. Mr. Eaton opens up and shows his goods. It is a telling display, and it has been the occasion for the note of alarm which, sounded by the Gear managers on Sunday, has brought in the avalanche of political light. The light will not slacken till the end. There may be a lull during holiday week, but as matters have been developing the last three days even this is doubted by the best observers.

Representative E. P. Barringer, of the Clay county district, was one of the visitors yesterday who attracted considerable attention, owing to the hard fight he had for his election. He has been classed as a Gear man, partly because of the expressed preference of his constituents and partly because of the strong effort made by the Cummins people to have another man represent the district. "My people are certainly for Senator Gear," said Mr. Barringer, "and we figure that a vote for Bowen is equivalent to a vote for Gear in the organization of the house. The senator from our district, Dr. Batcher, is a man to be feared. He is 37 years of age, and of equal physique to the ordinary soldier. Officers and men are to provide their own horses and to wear neutral tint cloth shooting jackets, not necessarily uniform, felt hats, breeches and gaiters. All must be good riders and marksmen. The order invites every volunteer regiment that is linked with a regular battalion serving at the front to supply a full company, which will take the place of the mounted infantry of the regiment. These arrangements are expected to raise four South African mounted infantry regiments to be called Imperial Yeomanry and to be recruited from yeomanry, volunteers and civilians possessing the requisite qualifications. Enlistment will be for one year, or the duration of the war. The men must be between 21 and 27 years of age, and of equal physique to the ordinary soldier. Officers and men are to provide their own horses and to wear neutral tint cloth shooting jackets, not necessarily uniform, felt hats, breeches and gaiters. All must be good riders and marksmen. The order invites every volunteer regiment that is linked with a regular battalion serving at the front to supply a full company, which will take the place of the mounted infantry of the regiment. 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