

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL SITUATION AT HOME AND ABROAD—MARKET REPORTS

NEWS COMES TODAY OF THE FIRST STOCK EXCHANGE REOPENING

Brokers in Sydney, Australia, Will Resume Next Monday—London Discussing Resumption and New York Awaits Its Decision.

First news since the beginning of the European war of a resumption of stock trading at any of the important centers where the exchanges were closed came today from Sydney, Australia. It is announced that the Stock Exchange there will be officially opened next Monday.

This announcement naturally increases the feeling of confidence everywhere and it is apparent that there is no longer any doubt that the financial world is nearer a general resumption of business today than at any time since the end of July, when the exchanges closed.

In London today foreign exchange bankers met for their first session since the war began. While there was no business of any material importance transacted, the session indicated that it is being given the same attention as it used to expedite foreign exchange.

Another favorable sign is the announcement of repeated conferences being held in London by the Government and the London Stock Exchange Committee, concerning the reopening of the exchange.

New York will take no action on the resumption until after London has taken the initiative, and Philadelphia will, of course, do nothing along this line until after New York has officially acted.

Washington brokers see such a general improvement in the situation that they have already had several meetings to discuss the advisability of reopening the exchange.

It is finally decided, however, to take no action until the New York situation has been cleared.

Brokers in New York say it is extremely probable that the reopening, when it comes, will entirely confound all prophets. More than likely the obstacles which were in the way of a resumption of business will appear as formidable as ever until the efforts being made to overcome them shall have been successful, and the rolling away of the clouds will be brought about almost suddenly and unexpectedly as they arose.

Public offering was made today of the new \$10,000,000 6 per cent. note loan secured by the Government in 1915. It will be allotted to individual investors, is not known, since there is no indication of the amount taken by the syndicate of New York banks and trust companies.

When the notes are being offered, the interest will be 6 per cent. They bear interest at 6 per cent. a year, payable March 1st and September 1st.

Some inquiries were received here today by investment bankers from investors anxious to take part of the note and bond offering. It is not likely, however, that there will be much of the offering absorbed in this section. The notes and bonds, exempt from taxation in New York, are subject to the four mills tax levied in Pennsylvania and other States.

This brings the yield down to about 5.6 per cent. The offerings are, however, exempt from Federal income tax, it has been years since a high grade obligation, backed by the credit of New York city, was offered on such attractive terms, and one of the chief reasons why investors here may get into the market as extensively as they would like, is that distribution will probably begin in New York, where it is understood, there has been an overabundance of funds.

Locally, there continues a fairly good trading in stocks, although within the last few days a falling off in transactions has been noted. The market for bonds continues active under the circumstances. One large house here sold \$1,000,000 worth of public utility securities this afternoon by New York City Municipal investment in a single issue—a gas proposition in West Virginia. It put through \$1,000,000 worth of another utility security, covering public service corporations in the Middle West.

It was told this afternoon of one local investor in United States Steel who sold 20,000 shares of the stock on a basis of 100 a share. With the proceeds of the sale he bought dusts and within two days had cleaned up a profit approximating 200,000. The investor, it is said, needed a demand for them which can hardly be met.

LONDON BANKERS STILL DISCUSS THE LOAN PROBLEM

Cannot Agree to Extension Without Aid of Government.

LONDON, Sept. 17.—Thornorton street continued cheerful today, but trading in securities was not brisk. The Stock Exchange Committee and the bankers are experiencing difficulty in agreeing regarding the question of outstanding loans. The bankers are maintaining that it would be impossible to consent to an extension of all loans for a year without a guarantee by the Government.

The public showed a disposition to exercise more caution pending the receipt of fresh news regarding the fighting. Rates for bills were easy at 3 per cent. for three months, in spite of the fact that the Bank of England rate remained unchanged.

The state of the British Treasury bill issue has made a great impression. The French Government is preparing to place yearly 5 per cent. treasury bills here.

GRAIN PRICES UNDER YESTERDAY'S CLOSE AS MARKET OPENS

Traders Play for Reaction, Believing Upturn Was Too Sharp—European Soil in Shape for Planting.

CHICAGO, Sept. 17.—On the theory that yesterday's upturn in wheat was too sharp, traders played for a reaction today and the market started one-quarter lower at 1.11 1/2 for December and 1.10 to 1.18 1/2 for May. There was rather free selling by 1 1/2 brokers. The commission call at the reaction was fair.

The receipts of wheat at Minneapolis and Duluth today were 1,083 cars, against 500 cars a year ago; at Winnipeg 1,289 cars against 1,049 cars; at Chicago 314 cars against 35 cars. It is estimated that the area of winter wheat in the surplus States will exceed that of last year by ten per cent.

Recent rains have placed the soil in fine condition for preparations for the new crop throughout Europe. The sowing time of the belligerent countries is as follows: Germany, Hungary and Austria in September and October, France in November and January, South Russia in September and November, and Great Britain in October and December. The demand from millers abroad continues large. The weather in Argentina is fine. The market at Liverpool was firm on a better general inquiry.

Trade in corn was light. December opened at 54c, at 72 1/2c to 54c, and May unchanged at 72 1/2c to 74 1/2c. There was some realizing. The "price current" has received reports indicating a total crop for the United States this year of approximately 2,500,000 bushels, against 2,500,000 bushels forecast in the September report of the Government. The receipts of corn here today were 169 cars. Prices in Argentina are firm. It is expected that surplus of that country will be disposed of quickly.

Oats was easier on realizing. The demand was not so urgent. Most of the bulls are waiting a further reaction before increasing their lines. There were no sales by the country to arrive. Exports of oats to the continent are not expected. The demand has come chiefly from the continent, as the British markets apparently are well supplied for the present. The receipts of oats here today were 217 cars.

CHICAGO GRAIN PRICES Quotations for Cereals and Provisions and Fluctuations.

CHICAGO, Sept. 17.—The quotations for grain and provisions today were: Leading futures ranged as follows: Yesterday's Close. Wheat—Open. High. Low. Close.

September 1.11 1/2 1.11 1/2 1.11 1.11 1.09 December 1.10 1.10 1.10 1.10 1.08 May 1.18 1.18 1.18 1.18 1.18

September 78 77 76 77 74 December 75 75 75 75 73 May 78 78 78 78 76

September 47 47 47 47 47 October 48 48 48 48 46 November 49 49 49 49 47 December 50 50 50 50 48 May 53 53 53 53 51

September 9.40 October 9.40 9.40 9.40 9.40 January 10.17 10.17 10.17 10.17 10.19

THREE-CENT FARE DECISIONS VICTORY FOR UTILITIES MEN

U. S. Court Ruling Declaring It Confiscatory Ends One of Most Remarkable Traction Fights Country Ever Saw.

After a strenuous fight which lasted many months and which was watched with unusual interest in all parts of the country, the three-cent fare controversy in Toledo, Ohio, has at last been settled.

Judge Killits, in the United States District Court of this city, has decided that the city ordinance enforcing this rate is confiscatory and he has ordered a return to the old rates, five cents for each passenger, who boarded his cars, and eleven rush hours, when the rate shall remain at three cents.

Decision in the case was a victory for public utility interests. While the fight was on between the Toledo Railway & Light Company and the city authorities, they developed a situation in Toledo which has never had a parallel in any other country. The company, after March 17, when the ordinance became effective, declined to accept the three cents offered by passengers who boarded his cars, and those who did not produce the five cents which the company declared to be its regular rate, were permitted to ride free.

There was no acceptance of three cents for a ride except during the rush hours. For five months the company operated its cars under this regulation and its total amount spent for the loss incurred by this arrangement averaged \$1,009 a day. Yet they would not retire from their original position in the matter and they continued to fight it out to the end.

They declared the principal of the lower fare scheme to be all wrong and on the ground that the securities of the company were being seriously impaired by the low rates, they fought every move for enforcement of the ordinance.

Early in the fight Henry L. Doherty, head of the company, offered to permit the city authorities to take over the car system and operate it for a year to prove that the low rates of fare were unprofitable. The city declined the offer, but there was no provision for the creation of a bond issue with which to purchase the property.

Judge Killits laid upon the city authorities the burden of proof to show that the company's revenue, under the three-cent fare ordinance, would pay its operating expenses and leave a surplus of approximately \$100,000 a year. Such proof was not produced in his opinion.

Judge Killits said that the city should have had, when it passed the three-cent fare ordinance, knowledge that its terms were reasonable. Neither the city nor a court has the right, he said, to fix an arbitrary rate of fare without the knowledge that such rate will pay the operating expenses and leave a reasonable return on the investment. By this, he said, he had no reference to bonds.

It is possible that the city intends to occupy the position of dog in the manger forever, said Judge Killits. "If the ordinance is unreasonable the company cannot be held to its terms by the mere fact that it continues to operate. We must have transportation. Then for the city to say that if the company continues to furnish that transportation it accepts terms which may be unreasonable is unconscionable."

The Huntingdon Development and Gas Company, managed by E. W. Wolf and Co. of this city, increased its output of gas from 5,000,000 cubic feet in July to 14,000,000 cubic feet in August. The company has valuable concessions in West Virginia and its securities have recently been in active demand.

Stock of the Capital Traction Company, Washington, D. C., has gone up to 100 cent. basis. It has been on a 6 per cent. basis for several years. The cut in the dividend rate was authorized at the meeting of the board of directors and is to take effect with the quarterly dividend payment due October 1. It is due to decreases in earnings.

PORT OF PHILADELPHIA Sun and Tides Sun rises... 5:42 a.m. Sun sets... 6:08 p.m. High water... 11:29 a.m. High water... 6:40 p.m. Low water... 5:24 a.m. Low water... 6:40 p.m.

Vessels Arriving Schrs. Humarok, Emma S. Lord and Childs Harold, Nova Scotia laths.

Steamships to Leave PASSENGER. Name. For. Date. Rosendyk Rotterdam Sept. 17 Haverton Liverpool Sept. 18 Ancona Naples Sept. 19

PORT OF NEW YORK Steamships to Arrive DUE TODAY. Name. From. Date. Atlantic Glasgow Sept. 6 Baltic Liverpool Sept. 8 Albatross Panama via Sept. 1

Freights and Charters The steamship market is displaying much activity in the transatlantic trade. French Government has closed contracts for six vessels to carry coal.

MILLIONS SPENT BY READING TO REMOVE GRADE CROSSINGS

Ninth Street Elevations Completed—Holding Company Surplus Equals 12.17 Per Cent on Its \$70,000,000 Common Stock.

The Philadelphia and Reading Railway Company spent \$200,000 for the elimination of grade crossings in the fiscal year which ended June 30, according to the annual report of the company, just issued, covering operations for the year. A total of \$43,518 was expended on account of additional main tracks. The sum spent for grade crossing elimination was almost wholly in the elevation of the tracks in Ninth street and on the Richmond Branch.

Up to June 30, the company had spent \$4,662,668 on account of the Ninth street elevation and \$1,451,445 on account of similar construction on the Richmond Branch. These sums are exclusive of what was spent by the city under the agreement for the addition of grade crossings. The elevation of the Ninth street tracks is virtually completed. The total amount spent by the company in the year for additions and betterments to the property was \$2,024,783, a decrease from the previous fiscal year of \$399,779.

This year separate reports are issued by the three Reading companies, the Reading Company, the Philadelphia and Reading Railway Company and the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company. Income account of the Reading Company shows a surplus for the year of \$1,522,062, including the amount received by the company in the distribution of the assets of the Temple Iron Company, under a decree of dissolution by the United States District Court. This surplus, according to figures compiled by the New York Public Service Commission, as indicated by the number of tickets sold.

The banks lost to the Subtreasury yesterday \$250,000; since Friday \$2,640,000. A cable received in New York from London says that \$2,000,000 of French treasury notes have been placed there.

The result of yesterday's ballot by the New York Cotton Exchange Conference was as follows: McFadden and Company, 109 bales; A. Norden and Company, 109 bales; all sold at 9 1/2 cents.

The minimum rate of discount of the Bank of England remained at 5 per cent. today. The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Northern Pacific Railroad will be held in New York on October 15.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Toledo, St. Louis and Western will be held in Frankfort, Ind., on October 21. Paul Sheldon, of Sheldon, Morgan & Co., of Broadway, has been elected a member of the Chicago Board of Trade.

READING RAILWAY COMPANY. 1913-14. 1912-13. Receipts \$17,124,370 \$16,592,717 Expenses 13,710,208 13,547,340 Net income from rail operations 15,500,161 20,045,377

ferred dividends, compared with 17.57 per cent. on a net corporate income in 1913 of \$15,000,000 for three companies after deducting preferred dividends.

RECEIVERS FOR COPPER CO.

Reorganization of \$6,000,000 Concern May Follow Proceeding.

NEW YORK, Sept. 17.—On the application of three small creditors, the Ohio Copper Company has been placed in the hands of receivers. Under a joint bond of \$200,000, M. J. Hirsch and George C. Austin were named receivers in New York. For the purpose of reorganizing the company, a bondholders' committee has already been formed. Interest on the bonds was defaulted on September 1.

The receivership was a friendly one. The mines of the company are in Birmingham, Utah. It is stated that the liabilities are about \$100,000 outside of the mortgage bonds, which amount to \$1,500,000. The capital stock of the company is \$6,000,000.

FINANCIAL NOTES A call for the condition of state banks and trust companies in New York State, as of September 21, was issued today by State Superintendent of Banks Richards.

The passenger traffic of the Interboro Rapid Transit Company, of New York, in the subway during the year ending June 30 amounted to 38,115,100, an increase of 12,041,583, according to figures compiled by the New York Public Service Commission, as indicated by the number of tickets sold.

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PHILADELPHIA MARKETS

GRAIN AND FLOUR WHEAT—Receipts, 13,537 bushels; outside city less lower, but this market was usually unchanged, with little trading.

CORN—Receipts, 2018 bushels. Trade quiet with no important change in price. Corn in stock, still liquid steadily held, but trade quiet. Winter clear, \$1.50; do. straight, \$1.50; do. yellow, \$1.50; do. white, \$1.50; do. standard white, \$1.50.

PROVISIONS Little trading and the market without important change. City less lower, but this market was usually unchanged, with little trading.

SUGAR Refined market firm, but quiet. Standard granulated, 7.50; do. extra, 7.50; do. confectioners' A, 1.10; do. B, 1.10.

DAIRY PRODUCTS BUTTER—Trade quiet, but offerings only moderate and market steady. Western, fresh, 24c; do. packed, 24c; do. creamery, 24c.

POULTRY LIVE—Trade fair and the market firm. Fresh-killed turkeys, 17c; do. spring chickens, 17c; do. large, 17c; do. medium, 17c; do. small, 17c.

FRESH FRUITS Apples arriving quite freely, but choice stock is not so plentiful as steady. Other fruits about little change. Apples, per bushel, fancy varieties, \$2.50.

VEGETABLES Potatoes steady with demand absorbing the moderate offerings. Other vegetables in fair supply and steady. White potatoes, per bushel, 1.00; do. red, 1.00; do. yellow, 1.00.

CHICAGO LIVESTOCK CHICAGO, Sept. 17.—HOGS—Receipts, 14,000; market 100.00; good heavy, \$10.00; rough heavy, \$9.50; light, \$9.00.

NEW YORK BUTTER AND EGGS NEW YORK, Sept. 17.—Butter—Receipts, 2000 packages; extra, 20c; do. first, 20c; do. second, 20c.

BANK CLEARINGS Bank clearings today compare with corresponding day last two years.

RESOURCES Loans, Discounts and Investments \$3,318,908.15 Due from Banks 220,376.71 Exchanges for Clearing House 73,349.80 Clearing House Loan Certificates 285,000.00 Cash and Reserve 1,010,903.81

LIABILITIES Capital \$300,000.00 Surplus & Net Profits 606,191.65 Circulation 195,300.00 Deposits 3,807,046.82

EDWARD M. MALPASS, Cashier.

\$100,000 NEW YORK CITY 6% REVENUE BONDS AND CORPORATE STOCK NOTES Maturing as follows: \$57,000,000 6% Corporate Stock Notes due September 1, 1915 \$18,000,000 6% Revenue Bonds due September 1, 1916 \$25,000,000 6% Revenue Bonds due September 1, 1917 Price 100 and Accrued Interest These three issues are direct obligations of the City of New York Exempt from the Federal Income Tax Exempt from all taxation in New York State except for State purposes Interest at six per cent. per annum, payable semi-annually on March 1st and September 1st Principal and interest payable in gold coin of the United States of America of the present standard of weight and fineness at the office of the Comptroller of the City of New York Coupon form in denominations of \$500, \$1,000, \$5,000 and \$10,000 Registered form in denominations of \$500 and multiples thereof as desired Coupon and registered forms interchangeable. We are advised that these bonds and notes are available for the following purposes: 1. As part collateral for circulation, under the Aldrich-Freeland Act of May 30, 1908. 2. As security under the Workmen's Compensation Law of New York State. 3. As an investment for Savings Banks and Trustees in New York State and elsewhere. A syndicate of banks and trust companies of New York City has purchased these bonds from the City at par and accrued interest. A large part of the bonds having been withdrawn from sale by the subscribing banks and trust companies, we offer the remainder, on their behalf, for public subscription at the cost price. Subscription books will be closed at 12 o'clock noon, Tuesday, September 22nd, 1914, or earlier, in our discretion, without notice. The right is reserved to reject any and all applications and also, in any case, to award a smaller amount than applied for. Applications for bonds should be accompanied by a remittance in New York funds of \$50 for each \$1,000 bond applied for. The balance will be payable at the office of the undersigned, Monday, September 28th. If only a portion of the amount applied for be allotted, the balance of the deposit will be applied toward the amount remaining to be paid. J. P. MORGAN & CO., NEW YORK, September 17th, 1914. KUHN, LOEB & CO.