

Finance, Real Estate and Insurance

World of Finance

EXTRAORDINARILY CONFLICTING OUTLOOK IN FINANCIAL WORLD AT OPENING OF THE NEW YEAR

Henry Clews Says, However, That There Is No Need for
Pessimism by Any Healthful American Over the
Situation—Expresses Confidence in Allied Victory.

(By Henry Clews)

The year opens with an extraordinarily conflicting outlook. For those who really enjoy living on the sharp side of the street, there is plenty of company. The pessimist can readily dwell upon anarchy in Russia; upon Germany's momentary military successes; upon the terrible cost of the war; upon the economic and political upheaval, and upon numerous other depressing factors. And yet every healthy minded, thoughtful American refuses to be downhearted. On the contrary, he is more confident than ever in an Allied victory. He believes that the enemy is nearing the end of his power; that he is unable to hold his winnings, and is marching to inevitable collapse when our armies sweep France. Germany is gradually breaking down financially, economically and politically. She is threatened with revolution, and only the cohesion of her military machine, which is fighting for its very life, holds the fabric together. How long the autocrats may hold out cannot be foretold; but it is certain that dissensions within, coupled with opposition of the whole civilized world without, will have but one end and that is ignominious defeat. Blinded by empty victories and false leadership, Germany seems utterly unable to read the handwriting on the wall. Civilization outside of Germany, however, recognizes that it cannot live, if Germany's ideas and purposes prevail. The war may continue for weeks, or months. Nevertheless, the real foundation for hope on the Allied side has never been so clear and strong as today. At present the brunt of the struggle falls on Britain and France. Both are enduring the same infinitely better than ever anticipated; and both show an unconquerable spirit and a steady rising of morale, while that of the enemy is declining. Both of these countries are bearing the strain with surprising ability; and there is no doubt that they will be able to hold on until American soldiers reach France in sufficient force to overwhelm the foe. Perhaps this will happen in the coming spring and, if fate should postpone the grand decision, prostration of the enemy will be far greater than if wise counsels induced an earlier yielding to the inevitable. Lack of these considerations, which are sound reasons for hope, is the belief growing daily that the world is surely facing a new and a better era than the one now so rapidly passing away.

The more confident tone in the security markets which began with the announcement of government control of the railroads made further progress. The advance in railroad shares was well sustained, extending with more or less positiveness into the industrial area, some of which scored very considerable advances. The railroad crisis is probably near its most acute stage, the severe cold spell having seriously added to the difficulties of operation. The latter are now being met, as they should be, by a centralized power; and before long considerable relief will undoubtedly be forthcoming. Stringency in operation, however, will not be sufficient. The great problem of how the roads are to meet expenses and pay a reasonable profit, without which they can secure no additional capital, still demands solution. Whether the roads will be allowed to increase their charges, as they ought to be, or whether the government will be obliged to give some form of financial aid, remains to be seen. Congress is about to take up the railroad question seriously; and it is pleasing to note that a less prejudiced feeling prevails in the national legislature, and that the question of dealing fairly with the railroads is a necessary patriotic service, if they are to do their imperative duty toward winning the war. So while the situation of the railroads is at its worst, the prospects of relief were never better than today.

President Wilson's message to Congress on the railroad problem was eminently sound and just. He stands for the centralization of control which is essential to winning the war; for equitable treatment of all interests—labor, users and owners—and for preservation of the railroad system in both its physical and financial aspects. He pointed out the necessity for proper compensation of the roads; also recommended that the government guarantee a net operating revenue equal to the average of the three years ending June 30, 1917. The message is an enlightened document; and it is difficult to see how Congress can do otherwise than adopt his suggestions. If the required legislation is forthcoming, it will instantly arrest the deep current of distrust which was undermining the financial fabric, and caused such a startling shrinkage in railroad securities. President Wilson has instituted a radical change in the popular attitude towards the railroads, which will have the effect of restoring confidence and strengthening railroad credit generally.

The advance in industrial shares was partly due to improvement in the railroad outlook, which will hasten much needed outlays for cars, locomotives and other deferred improvements. The steel industry also benefits from the pressure of war contracts which impose ever growing demands upon that industry. The immense new ship tonnage in course of construction will be an additionally important factor for months to come. Should the war come to a close earlier than expected, the demand for steel would break out in other quarters, notably in domestic building enterprises held up by the war, and in our foreign trade which will take on new life when peace arrives.

General trade continues very active, and prosperity is running at high tide in the West and South. In the East there is more or less slackening in spots, due to economy and diversion necessitated by war, the effects of which are still felt much more acutely in the East than elsewhere. The high prices for wheat, cotton and all agricultural products are bringing an unusual degree of prosperity to the farmers; and efforts to increase the national output in 1918 are everywhere evident. With prospects of sufficient crops in other parts of the world our farmers seem sure of big prices for all they can produce during the next harvest.

Easier money both in New York and London are among the latest favorable developments. Preparations will soon be in order for the Third Liberty Loan which is expected in February. Private financing is consequently discouraged in all directions, and success of the loan need not be questioned. Postponement of the government's anti-trust suits in several important industrial organizations had a stimulating effect. Another favorable factor was the increasing firmness of government issues, domestic and foreign, this doubtless being the result of increasingly numerous peace rumors.

At times the market showed some uneasiness owing to profit taking after the recent advance; but the general undertone exhibits much improvement.

TODAY'S WANTS

TO RENT—4 room flat all improvements except furnace. 196 E. 1st St., near No. Main St. A8 s*p

MALE HELP WANTED

MEN WANTED AS FOLLOWS

TO WORK ON AIRPLANES.

All around machinists
Bench hands
Aircraft welders
Aluminum Workers
Draftsmen

Permanent work.
Good working conditions.

STANDARD AIRCRAFT CORP.,
ELIZABETH, N. J.

NOTICE to HOUSEKEEPERS!

Wanted women to operate sewing machines on corsets, accessories, and war materials. This is important work. If you can spare 5 or 6 hours a day a special pass will be issued to suit your convenience.

GOOD PAY WHILE LEARNING

Call at our Employment Office
for further information.

The Warner Brothers Company

STOCK MARKET

New York, Jan. 8.—Opening—Industrial, motor, oil and related specialties were the prominent features of the early trading in today's stock market, advancing from one to six points. Railroads, copers and shipwrecks also were moderately higher, the entire list indicating a revival of speculative interest for the long account. Trading was broad, with many large individual transactions, especially in United States Steel and other leaders.

Noon.—After a brief pause occasioned by profit-taking the market gathered fresh strength. The further rise accompanied the announcement that the president would again address Congress on international matters. Railroads, industrials and equipment almost without exception extended early gains. Strike advances were made by a few specialties. American Tobacco gained 14 points and Texas Co. 1-1/2. Liberty 4s sold at 97.75, the converted 1-2s or second 4s made the new low of 96.25, and the 3 1-2s were quoted at 96.85 to 96.90.

New York Stock Exchange Quotations

Reported over the private wires of T. L. Watson & Co., Bankers and Brokers, corner Main and John streets, Bridgeport, Conn. Members of New York Stock Exchange.

Jan. 8, 1:30 p. m.	
Allis Chalmers	20
Am. Car & Fdy.	70 3/4
Am. Can.	39
Am. Cotton Oil Co.	27 3/4
Am. Locomotive	57
Am. Tobacco	157
Am. Smelt. & Re. Co.	30 3/4
Am. Sug. Refg. Co.	101 3/4
Am. Tel. & Tele.	109 3/4
Am. Woolen	46 3/4
Am. Zinc	15
Alaska Gold	1 3/4
Atl. Gulf & W. Indes	100
Atch. T. & S. Fe	86 1/4
Anacosta Copper	63
Baldwin Loco.	60
Baltimore & Ohio	54 3/4
Bethlehem Steel "B"	81
Beth. Steel 8 3/4 pr.	99 3/4
Brooklyn Rapid Transit	42 3/4
Butte & Superior	30 3/4
Canadian Pacific	139
Calif. Petroleum	12 3/4
Can. Leather Co.	66 3/4
Chi. M. & St. Paul	46 3/4
Chi. R. I. & Pac.	20 3/4
Chi. R. I. & Pac. Pfd. A	61
Chi. R. I. & Pac. Pfd. B	52
Chile Copper	16 3/4
China	42 3/4
Chempack & Ohio	23 3/4
Corn Products	32 3/4
Crucible Steel	56 3/4
Cuban Cane Sugar	31
Distillers Securities	35 3/4
Erie	16
Erie 1st Pfd.	27
General Electric	112 3/4
General Motors	119
Goodrich Co.	39 3/4
Gt. Northern Pfd.	89 3/4
Gt. Northern Ore	27
Inspiration Copper	47 3/4
International Nickel	29 3/4
Interborough Cons. Pfd.	44 3/4
Inter. Mer. Marine	23
Inter. Mer. Marine Pfd.	85 3/4
International Paper	28
Kennecott Cop.	33 3/4
Lackawanna Steel	78 3/4
Lehigh Valley	57 3/4
Maxwell Motors	26
Mex. Petroleum	84
Midvale Steel	47 3/4
Missouri Pacific	22 3/4
Miami Copper	20 3/4
Montana Power	70
Nevada Cons.	18 3/4
Nat. Enameling	38 3/4
Norfolk & Western	105
Northern Pacific	86 3/4
N. Y. Central	72
N. Y. N. H. & H.	30 3/4
Pennsylvania	46 3/4
Pressed Steel Car	60
Ray Cons.	22 3/4
Reading	74 3/4
Repub. Iron & Steel	73
Ry. Steel Spring	46 3/4
Southern Pacific	84 3/4
Southern Railway	24
Studebaker Corp.	57 3/4
Texas Oil	144
Tobacco Products	61 3/4
Union Pacific	116
United Cigar Stores	92
United Fruit	119
U. S. Ind. Alcohol	118
U. S. Rubber	53 3/4
U. S. Steel	94 3/4
Utah Copper	81 3/4
Cr. M. & St. P.	43
Wabash Pfd. A.	41 3/4
Westinghouse Electric	41 3/4
Wills Overland	17 3/4

U. S. Government Bonds.

Liberty 3 1/2s 98.75

Liberty 4s 96.50

BOSTON STOCKS

Boston 1:30 P. M. Prices Reported
Over Private Wire to T. L.
Watson & Co.

Arizona Cons.	12
Am. Zinc	15
Allouez	51
Butte & Superior	20 3/4
Cal. & Arizona	64
Copper Range	46 3/4
East Butte	16
Granby	65 3/4
Michaw	14 3/4
North Butte	43
Old Dominion	3
Superior & Boston	3
Ventura	5 3/4

STATE OF CONNECTICUT,
DISTRICT OF BRIDGEPORT, ss.,
PROBATE COURT.

January 8, 1918.

Estate of William Watson late of the town of Bridgeport, in said district deceased.

The Court of Probate for the District of Bridgeport hath limited and allowed six months from the date hereof for Creditors of said Estate to exhibit their claims for settlement. Those who neglect to present their accounts properly attested, within said time, will be deemed a recovery. All persons indebted to said estate are requested to make immediate payment to

MARTHA C. DAVISON,
Administratrix.

42 Commercial street. A8 s*p

Service You Will Appreciate

Practical business men appreciate the importance of good banking service. That is why our service appeals to them—it's helpfulness, promptness and accuracy are well known facts.

We appreciate our depositors' business by giving them the most complete service it is possible to give.

Your account, subject to check, is invited.

FIRST-BRIDGEPORT NATIONAL BANK
MAIN AND STATE STS.



BRIDGEPORT'S newest bank—ours has been founded by men who have been experienced in banking. In the selection of our efficient employees we have been successful in obtaining services of banking experts whom you will recognize on your visit here. We are rounding out our first week of commercial life. Watch us grow.

"Small leaks sink great ships"
And so it is with your pay envelope.
If you spend all your money, you have none when you need it the most. Save a little a week. It's the odd pennies and nickles and dimes that count.

CHRISTMAS CLUB

Now Open for Membership
Open Evenings for Enrollment of Club Members
From January 2nd to January 10th.
You may join as many classes as you wish.
Join yourself and tell your friends to join.
OUR XMAS CLUB PAYS INTEREST.

THE WEST SIDE BANK

CAPITAL \$200,000 SURPLUS \$25,000
State St.—Corner Butler Ave.

Bridgeport Line TO New York

Fare, 75 Cents
STEAMER NAUGATUCK
Change in Schedule Jan. 9
Lv. Bridgeport, week days, 8:00 a.m.
Due N. Y., Pier 70, R. R. 11:45 a.m.
Due N. Y., Pier 27, E. R. 12:15 noon
H. M. HEDDERLY, Agent
The New England Steamship Co.

NOTICE
Bridgeport Hydraulic
Company
NO. 820 MAIN STREET
Water rates for the quarter ending January 1st, 1918, are NOW DUE and payable at the office of the Company, No. 820 Main street. All bills must be paid on or before January 15, 1918.
Business hours on Saturdays from 8 A. M. to 12 M.
For the accommodation of the public the office will be kept open from 8 A. M. to 3 P. M. Mondays, January 7th and 14th, 1918.
ALBERT E. LAVERY,
A. L. T. Secretary.

DISTRICT OF MILFORD, ss.,
PROBATE COURT.

Dec. 28, 1917.

Estate of Alice M. Burke, late of Milford, in said district, deceased.

The Court of Probate for the District of Milford, hath limited and allowed six months from the date hereof for the Creditors of said Estate to exhibit their claims for settlement. Those who neglect to present their accounts properly attested, within said time, will be deemed a recovery. All persons indebted to said estate are requested to make immediate payment to

ALFRED B. BEERS,
Administrator.

Room 6, No. 925 Main St., Bridgeport, Conn. A 8 s *

STATE OF CONNECTICUT,
DISTRICT OF BRIDGEPORT, ss.,
PROBATE COURT.

January 3, 1918.

Estate of Antonio E. Gerte, late of the town of Bridgeport, in said district, deceased.

The Court of Probate for the District of Bridgeport hath limited and allowed six months from the date hereof for Creditors of said Estate to exhibit their claims for settlement. Those who neglect to present their accounts properly attested, within said time, will be deemed a recovery. All persons indebted to said estate are requested to make immediate payment to

HERMAN J. C. GERTIE,
Administrator.

544 Brooks St. A 8 s *

Corset School Opens Jan. 2nd

Learn a trade that will always guarantee you steady work at good wages.

We are opening a Corset School where we will take on a limited number of people and give them a thorough course of training in power sewing machine work, threading, oiling, operating, etc.

Pupils are paid 15c an hour. Time of tuition from one to two weeks.

Will guarantee good factory positions to graduates.

Apply Employment
Office

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INQUIRE FOR
MISS QUINLAN,
INSTRUCTOR.

A bomb in the desk of a teacher in the Rochester Continuation School, attended by 40 pupils, partially wrecked their building.

Submarine Commander Kohmpel on his return from a cruise of 5,000 miles was awarded the Order of Merit for sinking an American destroyer and 14 merchantmen.

FINANCIAL

OVER FIFTY YEARS 3 PER CENT. INTEREST ON YOUR CHECKING ACCOUNT

We think this will appeal to you particularly in view of our experience of over fifty years in banking. We can assure you of safety, satisfactory conduct of your business, and courteous treatment. Interest credited to accounts monthly. We would like to tell you about our methods. Call us on the phone or come in and see us.

T. L. WATSON & CO.
PRIVATE BANKERS
CORNER MAIN AND JOHN STREETS
Established 1866

150th Consecutive Semi-Annual Dividend

BRIDGEPORT SAVINGS BANK COR. STATE AND BROAD STS.

The Board of Trustees of this Bank has declared the 150th Semi-Annual Dividend at the rate of 4 per cent. on all deposits for the six months ending Dec. 31, 1917. Payable on and after Jan. 2, 1918.

OPEN MONDAY EVENINGS, 6:30 to 8:00.

You Have Only A Few Days in Which to Join Our Christmas Savings Club

HURRY—be one of the hundreds who have heeded the joyous call to join the Christmas Savings Club.

Get the habit of putting aside a small sum each week out of your salary—you will never miss it.

Then you'll have money next Christmas—just when it will be so welcome. Ask right away for circulars that tell all about it. Time is getting short—don't wait.

JOIN NOW AND GET YOUR FRIENDS TO JOIN
JOIN NOW AND GET YOUR FRIENDS TO JOIN

The American Bank and Trust Co.

The East Side Bank

East Main Street. Near Barnum Avenue.
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The City National Bank
Savings Department Pays
4 Per Cent. Interest
Start Saving Now
107 WALL STREET

**THE CONNECTICUT
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OF
BRIDGEPORT
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the importance of paying by check—they recognize its Safety, Economy and Convenience. You select a strong depository for your working capital by having a checking account with us.

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