THE LATEST NEWS FROM THE WORLD OF FINANCE

WALL STREET OPTIMISTS CAN STILL SEE PEACE

Conference of Belligerents at No Distant Date is Possibility in Belief of Some Financiers—Market Opens Higher and Continued to Advance Throughout Day—Railroad Equipment Stocks Prominent—Mexicans in Demand.

(McDOUGALL & COWANS).

New York, Feb. 15—The market opened higher with Mexican securities a feature on the announcement of Secretary Lansing that a new trade agreement had been arranged with the Mexican government. This is the first favorable development in our relations with Mexico for a long time and the street made much of it, believing that it was likely to remove any danger of Mexico's position being used to the advantage of the Central Powers. Overnight news on the Russian situation represented it as at least less favorable to Germany.

A new outburst of peace talk occurred in the street today, the theory that statements and re-statements of peace terms with replies back and forth from one side to the other were gradually approaching the point at which it would be possible to call some sort of a peace conference. This theory may have had something to do with the further strength in the rails this morning, which are regarded as peace stocks, but the Union Pacific dividend action of yesterday was probably the stronger influence. There were temporary reactions but the tendency again appeared to be upward.

Advance in Afternoon.

In general the market continued to advance during the afternoon, with one or two reactionary periods. Railroad equipment stocks became prominent under the leadership of Baldwin Loco. Wall street regards this class of issue as good peace investment in view of the thorough rehabilitation of the railroads which undoubtedly must come some time after the close of the war. The war itself, however, has filled the locomotive companies up with business. Shipping and Mexican issues continued to hold most of the attention of the traders, although the tobacco stocks and a few other specialties joined the advance movement in the afternoon. Peace talkers pointed to an advance in Austrian and Turkish securities on the Vienna exchange as supporting their peace expectations. The volume of trading tended to fall off as the day advanced and there were some declines from the day's high prices in the last hour.

E. & C. RANDOLPH.

OATS TOUCH THE HIGHEST PRICES

Later Market Sags — Corn Scores Gains All Around in Chicago.

Chicago, Feb. 15—Signs that demand was more than keeping pace with receipts gave a fresh upward turn today to the corn market. It was pointed out that arrivals, although liberal, were diminishing rather than increasing. Sellers were scarce. Opening prices, which ranged from the same as yesterday's figures to ⅛ cent higher, with March 1.27⅝ and May 1.27⅞ to 1.26, were followed by slight gains all around

influenced by purchasing for big commission houses, oats touched the highest prices yet this season. Profit-taking however, caused a sharp reaction. After opening ⅛ to ½ cent up the market dropped to below yesterday's close.

NEW FOOD BOARD WILL COST $165,000 A YEAR

Food Controller Thompson Likely to Draw Salary of $7,000

Ottawa, Feb. 15.—The Citizen today publishes the following:

"Estimates for the new food board have not been prepared but those for the food controller department recently submitted provide for an outlay of $165,000 a year. The staff is taken over and probably will be increased.

"Food Controller Thompson was scheduled for a salary of $7,000. It is not ascertainable what remuneration Messrs Dunning and McGregor will get.

The salary schedule for a staff of 92 s as follows:

One at $5,000, one at $4,500, three at $4,200, one at $4,000, eleven at $3,500, two at $2,800, one at $2,600, two at $2,500, thirteen at $2,000, one at $1,600, one at $800 30 stenographers at $1,200, one at $1,500, one at $1,200, four at $1,000, fifteen clerks at $900, four messengers at $700.

GOMPERS AGAINST A LABOR CONSCRIPTION

Workers, He Declares, Will Stand Faithful Until Victory Comes Without Pressure.

Washington, Feb. 15.—President Gompers, of the American Federation of Labor, in a prepared statement, today, made an appeal against any conscription of labor. He reviewed the loyal war times services of the American working man and expressed the hope that nothing be done "to hamper the constructive work of the organized effort of free workers, who have been rendering indispensable service and who will stand faithful until victory comes.

RETURNS TO CITY.

Harold W. Rising of the firm of Waterbury & Rising returned to the city yesterday after a buying trip to Upper Canada. He has been away for about ten days

BRITISH IMPORTS SHOW INCREASE

Exports for Year, However, Were 5,194,000 Pounds Less Than Those of Year Previous.

London, Feb. 15—The board of trade figures for January show an increase in imports as compared with the corresponding period last year of £8,465,000 and a decrease in exports of £5,194,000. Imports of raw materials, metal manufactured articles and miscellaneous commodities increased by £13,000,000 but food imports decreased by £6,000,000. The decrease in exports was mainly in manufactured goods.

BREAD RATIONS MAY BE ORDERED IN BRITAIN

Cereal Situation Beginning to Cause Some Anxiety—Supplies of Meats Larger this Week.

London, Feb. 15—The cereal situation is beginning to cause some anxiety and it may ultimately becoming necessary to institute bread rations, although Chancellor Bonar Law said in the House of Commons on Wednesday that at the end of last year the total stocks of wheat in this country were greater by 2,000,000 quarters than they were at the end of 1916, it must be remembered that Great Britain is taking a generous share in helping to stave off starvation in France and Italy.

The supplies of meats are somewhat better at this week-end. Most of the butchers and retailers obtained fairly good amounts at the Smithfield market this morning.

TORONTO PRODUCE

Toronto, Feb. 15—Quotations are as follows:

Ontario wheat, No. 2 winter, 2.22, basis in store Montreal.

Manitoba wheat—No. 1 northern, 2 23½ including 2½c. tax in store Fort William; No. 2 northern, 2.20½ ditto; No. 3 northern, 2.17½ ditto.

Oats—Canada western, No. 2, 87⅝ in store Fort William; No. 3 Canada western, 84⅝ ditto; Ontario, No. 2 white, 93 to 94 according to freights outside; No. 3 white, 92 to 93 ditto.

Corn—American No. 3 yellow, kiln dried, 1.95 on track Toronto.

Peas—No. 2, 3.70 to 3.80, according to freights outside.

Rye—2.00 to 2.02.

Barley—1.60 to 1.62 outside for malting.

Buckwheat—1.45 to 1.69, shipping points.

Manitoba flour, war quality, 11.10.

Ontario flour, war quality, 10.60 in bags, Toronto.

Millfeed—Manitoba bran, 35.00 per ton; Shorts, 40.00 per ton on track Toronto.

MONTREAL PRODUCE

Montreal, Feb. 15—OATS, Canadian Western, No. 3 1.04; extra No. 1 feed 1.03.

FLOUR, new standard grade 10.70

MILLFEEDS, Bran 35; Shorts 40; Middlings 48 to 50; Moullie 58 to 60.

HAY, No. 2 per ton, car lots 14.50 to 15.50.

POTATOES, per bag, car lots 2.15 to 2.25.

U. S. GOLD TO BE SENT TO MEXICO

No Loan is Contemplated — Shipment is Part of Recent Commercial Agreement.

Washington, Feb. 15—The United States has proposed to permit enough gold to be exported to Mexico to satisfy President Carranza's immediate needs as part of the commercial agreement now being negotiated. Mexico now has the gold to her credit in American banks. No loan of any kind by the United States is contemplated.

N. Y. QUOTATIONS.

(McDOUGALL & COWANS.)

	Open	High	Low	Close
Am Bt Sugar	79	79½	79	79¼
Am Car Fdry	74	74½	74	74½
Am Loco	62¼	63⅜	62¼	63⅜
Am Sugar	106⅛	106½	106⅛	106½
Am Smelting	83	84⅛	83	83⅝
Am St Fdry	62⅜	64⅞	63¾	64⅞
Am Woollen	53	53⅜	53	53¼
Am Zinc	16	16	15	15
Am Tele	105¾	106⅜	105¾	106⅜
Anaconda	62⅝	63⅛	62⅝	63⅛
Am Can	39⅞	40⅞	39⅞	40¾
Atchison	85½	85½	85	85
Balt and O	51¾	52⅛	51¾	52
Bald Loco	69¼	72	69¼	72
Beth Steel	77⅝	78⅝	77⅝	78¼
B Rap Tran	43	..	..	..
Butte and Sup	19⅝	19¾	19⅝	19⅝
C F I	37¾	38⅝	37¾	38⅝
Ches and O	54¼	54½	54	54½
Chino	43½	43⅝	43¼	43¼
Cent Leather	68⅞	70⅝	68⅞	70⅝
Can Pacific	147½	147¾	147	147⅞
Distillers	40⅞	41	40½	40½
Con Gas	91	94¼	90¾	94¼
Cruc Steel	60¾	61	60	60½
Erie Com	15⅛	15½	15⅛	15⅛
Erie 1st Pfd	25	26	25	26
Gt Nor Pfd	91⅞	92¼	91¾	92¼
Gen Elec	139½	..	..	..
Gt Nor Ore	27¼	27¾	27¼	27½
Gen Motors	135	135	130½	131
Ind Alcohol	125¾	125¾	125	125½
In Copper	45½	46⅜	45⅛	46⅜
Kenn Cop	32⅞	33	32⅞	33
Lehigh Val	58⅝	59	58⅝	59
Lo and Nash	113	113½	113	113¼
Mer Mar Pfd	97¼	99	97¼	98½
Mex Pete	91	93½	91	92¾
Miami Cop	31¼	31½	31¼	31½
Mid Steel	44¾	45½	44¾	45¼
NY NH and H	29⅞	..	..	..
N Y Cent	71¼	71½	71	71⅛
Nor and W	105	106¼	105	106¼
Nor Pacific	84¾	85	84¾	85
Pennsylvania	45	..	..	..
Press St Car	63¼	63⅞	63¼	63⅞
Read Com	76	77½	76	77
Rep Steel	76¼	77⅞	76¼	77⅞
St. Paul	43¾	43¾	43¼	43¼
So Pacific	85¼	85⅞	85¼	85¾
So Railway	24⅛	24⅜	24	24⅜
Studebaker	51	51½	50⅝	50⅞
Union Pac	119	119¾	119	119⅛
U S St Com	95¼	96½	95⅛	96
U S Rubber	58	58⅛	58	58⅛
Uta Cop	81¾	82⅞	81¾	82⅞
Westinghouse	41	41¾	41	41¾
West Union	89	..	..	..
U S St Pfd	110½	111	110½	111

MONTREAL SALES.

(McDOUGALL & COWANS).

Morning.

Steamships Com—5 at 43
Brazilian—65 at 36.
Can Cem Pfd—3 at 90.
Steel Can Pfd—3 at 90.
Steel Canada Com—5 at 53½.
Dom Iron Com—25 at 61¼; 100 at 61⅜; 150 at 61; 10 at 61½; 25 at 60⅞.
Shawinigan—1 at 110½.
Laurentide Pulp—25 at 155.
Riordon—10 at 117¼.
Smart Woods—5 at 58.
Scotia—30 at 67.
Penman's Ltd—75 at 73; 85 at 73¼.

Afternoon.

Steamships Com—125 at 42½.
Brazilian—25 at 25¾
Can Cem Pfd—5 at 90.
Steel Can Com—25 at 53¼.
Dom Iron Com—50 at 61¼; 5 at 61⅜.
Shawinigan—10 at 111.
Civic Power—3 at 74.
1937 War Loan—600 at 93.
Lake Woods—35 at 130.
Smart Woods—5 at 58.

MONTREAL SALES

(McDOUGALL & COWANS).

	Bid.	Ask.
Civic Power	74	..
Dom Iron Com	61¾	61⅜
Steel Co Can Com	53	53½

N. Y. COTTON MARKET

(McDOUGALL & COWANS)

	High	Low	Close
Mar	30.14	29.89	30.09
May	29.70	29.45	29.62
July	29.17	29.00	29.07
Oct	28.08	27.85	27.91
Dec	27.85	27.72	27.64

A BROAD DEMAND IN WALL STREET FOR INVESTMENT SECURITIES

Gossip Dealing with International Affairs so Circumstantial as to Fix an Approximate Date for the Opening of Peace Negotiations — Well Informed Bankers Did Not Share This Optimism, However.

New York, Feb. 15—Peace rumors were rife in the financial district today, finding direct expressions in a broad demand for investment stocks and Liberty bonds. The latter rallied sharply on very large transactions, but British and French bonds improved more moderately.

Gossip dealing with international affairs was so circumstantial as to fix an approximate date for the opening of peace negotiations. Well informed bankers did not share in this optimism, however, attributing the market's advance mainly to technical conditions.

Mexican Agreement.

Sentiment was also favorably influenced by the agreement between this country and Mexico. The several issues with Mexican connections were active and strong, especially petroleums.

Rails owed much of their added strength to the restoration of the Union Pacific ten per cent. dividend, as well as better earnings, even minor roads making better December returns. Gross gains in transportations extended from one to 2½ points, Pacifics and coalers being foremost.

United States Steel.

United States Steel led the list throughout, its extreme rise of two points to 96½ being accompanied by a very large turnover. Other industrials and war equipments participated to the extent of one to four points.

Shippings were featured by Atlantic Gulf and Marine preferred at gains of 3 and 2¼, respectively, but American International Corporation reflected developments at Washington. Sales amounted to 675,000 shares.

Railroad bonds were better with the international list, but dealings in Liberty issues eclipsed all other offerings. The 3½'s rose from 97.50 to 98.14, first fours from 96.22 to 96.60, and second fours from 95.12 to 96.08. Total sales, par value $5,825,000.

Old United States bonds were unchanged on call.

MONTREAL MARKET DULL ONCE MORE

Penmans Most Active Stock and Makes New High Record at 73 1-4.

(McDOUGALL & COWANS).

Montreal, Feb. 16—There was little interest in today's market, trading being particularly light. Penmans was the most active and made a new high in this movement at 73¼. Lake of the Woods was firm at 130. Shawinigan was better, selling at 111 and the rights advanced to twenty cents. The New York market was very strong. The action of the Union Pacific in placing the stock on a regular ten per cent. dividend basis helped to create confidence, and the strength in the Liberty Bonds was looked upon favorably.

CANADA STILL HAS 17,204 CARS IN U. S.

In All 4,455 Cars Have Been Returned at Request of the Canadian Railway War Board.

Montreal, Feb. 15.—Although 4,455 Canadian freight cars have been returned from the United States railways at the request of the Canadian railway war board, General Secretary Neal, of the war board, states that there are still 17,204 Canadian cars overdue from the United States, over and above the reciprocal exchange between the two countries. The return of the 4,455 cars is the largest single gain yet made in the campaign to recover Canada's cars from the foreign tangle.

FIRE AT CHATHAM

Special to The Standard.

Chatham, Feb. 15—The fine residence of Robt. Loggie, Sr., was badly damaged by fire and water this evening. The fire is supposed to have caught from the furnace and had gained considerable headway in the walls before the firemen arrived. The loss is covered by insurance.

WANT GOVERNMENT TO TAKE M. & B.

Kent County People Agitate to Have Railroad Made Part of C. G. R. System.

Moncton, Feb. 15—Kent county people are appealing to Moncton to cooperate with them in an effort to have the Moncton and Buctouche Railway taken over and operated by the Dominion government. At a meeting of the citizens of Buctouche and other places touched by Moncton and Buctouche Railway on Wednesday evening it was decided to send delegates to Ottawa to ascertain what could be accomplished regarding government operation. It kas also decided that the Moncton Board of Trade be requested to appoint a delegate to accompany the delegation from Buctouche.

The Moncton Board of Trade will hold a meeting on Monday evening to consider the matter.

CHICAGO PRODUCE

(McDOUGALL & COWANS.)

Chicago, Feb. 15—Corn, No. 2 and 3 and 4 yellow, 1.63 to 1.64.

Oats—No. 3, 87¾ to 89¼; standard, 88¾ to 89¾.

Rye—No. 2, 2.20.

Barley—1.65 to 1.92.

Timothy—5.00 to 8.25.

Clover—22.00 to 33.00.

Pork—Nominal.

Lard—25.87.

Ribs—24.12 to 24.32.

Corn.

	High	Low	Close
May	126⅛	125⅞	126
Mar	127⅝	127½	127½

Oats.

May	83⅜	81⅞	82⅛
Mar	85⅝	84	84½

Pork.

May	47.80	47.30	47.67

LONDON MARKET GENERALLY DULL

Reduction in Money Rates Follow Lowering of Rate of Interest on Treasury Bills.

London, Feb. 15—A general reduction in money rates today following the lowering of the rate of interest on treasury bills held gilt-edged securities firm, but beyond an improvement in rubber shares, in sympathy with the commodity and strength in the French loan and shipping stocks, the stock market was generally dull and uninteresting.

Money was easy early but tighter later. Discount rates were quiet.

BOY STRIKERS ARE GIVEN SENTENCES

Germans Busy Punishing Agitators Who Participated in Recent Strike Disturbances.

Amsterdam, Feb. 15—A number of persons who took part in the recent strikes in Berlin have been sentenced to prison by extraordinary courtmartials. The heaviest sentence, 42 months of penal servitute, was imposed on a metal worker named Ratjozik for attempting to hold up a street car. Another metal worker named Meyer was condemned to serve 18 months for a similar offence.

One boy of seventeen, a metal worker, was sentenced to a term of two years and another to six months for distributing leaflets and urging women workers to strike.

SIGHT TWO ZEPPS

Washington, Feb. 15—Two new Zeppelins of large dimensions and provided with apparatus for producing artificial fog were reported sighted over Lake Constance in an official despatch today from France. It is reported that the craft were sent to a German seaport.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS.

Transfers in real estate have been recorded as follows:

St. John County.

Jennie G. Colwell and C. E. to Mary M. Colwell, property in Johnston street.

H. G. Garson and Bailly to Myer Whitzman, property in Main street and Rockland road.

C. E. Harding to Annie E. O'Grady, property in Horsfield street.

D. M. Marshall to W. G. Watters, property in Simonds.

R. McLaughlin et al to McLaughlin Real Estate Company, property Charlotte, Union and Nelson street, also corner Germain and Princess streets.

Iva B. Splane et al to Mary L. Splane, property in Pitt street.

Kings County.

Samuel Brown to James Adair, property in Cardwell.

Richard Bickford to R. C. Bickford, property in Norton.

H. V. Copp to G. W. Weldon, property in Cardwell.

E. V. Copp to G. W. Weldon, property in Cardwell.

A. B. Smith extrs. of to C. N. Fowler, property in Hampton.

Thompson Manufacturing Co., Ltd., per assignee, to W. H. Thorne, property in Westfield.

London, Feb. 14—The Bund, of Berne reports the successful conclusion of negotiations at Ekaterinoslav to form a union of all southwestern republics against the Bolsheviki. It was also agreed to form a joint army to clear south Russia of Bolshevik troops.

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CHANGE OF TIME
Fall and Winter Time Table of the
Grand Manan Steamship Co.
GRAND MANAN ROUTE
1917—Season—1918

After October 1st, 1917, and until further notice, a Steamer of this line will run as follows:

Leave Grand Manan Mondays at 7.30 a. m. for St. John, via Eastport, Campobello and Wilson's Beach.

Returning, leave Turnbull's Wharf, St. John, Wednesdays at 7.30 a.m. for Grand Manan, via Wilson's Beach, Campobello and Eastport.

Leave Grand Manan Thursdays at 7.30 a. m. for St. Stephen via Campobello, Eastport, Cummings Cove, and St. Andrews.

Returning, leave St. Stephen Fridays at 7.30 a. m. for Grand Manan, via St. Andrews, Cummings Cove, Eastport and Campobello (tides and ice conditions permitting.)

Leave Grand Manan Saturdays at 7.30 a. m. for St. Andrews.

Returning same day, leaving St. Andrews at 1 p. m., calling at Campobello Cummings Cove and Eastport both ways.

Atlantic Standard Time.
SCOTT D. GUPTILL, Manager,
GRAND MANAN.

The Maritime Steamship Co.
Limited.

S. S. Connors Bros. is off for inspection and the Schr. Page will take freight for the following places: Dipper Harbor, Beaver Harbor, N. B., L'Etete and Back Bay. The Alma Connors will take freight for Black's Harbor, Deer Island and St. Andrews, on Friday of each week. This will be until further notice.

MARITIME S. S. CO., LTD.,
Lewis Connors, Manager.

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Passage Tickets by All Ocean Steamship Lines
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Send us a specification of your needs and have us quote.

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PEERLESS VULCO DENTURE
FULL SET
$8.00

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