

DECLINE IN GENERAL AT NEW YORK TRADING

Steel and Sugar Shares Are Noticeably Weak—Piggly-Wiggly Interests.

By STUART P. WEST.

Special to The Advertiser.

New York, March 24.—The decline in stocks today was a general one. There were only a few exceptions to the downward movement, and these were not important, consisting of a few unrepresentative industrial specialties which happen to be under better control than the rest.

At the opening of the day the speculative leaders were down 3 and 5 and as much as 10 points from their high of the year.

The maximum loss occurred in stocks like the motor accessories and Com. Products, in which operations for the year had been conducted the most extravagantly.

Steel shares, particularly the stocks of the so-called independents, were noticeably weak. In the latter instance the selling had more to do with the efforts at Washington to discredit the recent rise in sugar prices.

Interest still was strong today in the Piggly-Wiggly affair. Today E. W. Bradford, for President Saunders, said that the offer to allow the stock at \$100 a share had expired Friday and that the offer was not renewed.

Large percentage of shares took advantage of the fact that the offer was still a substantial stock interest.

The selling was very persistent throughout the day, and the low prices for the most part being reached in the last half hour. Baldwin Locomotive was the only stock where it was selling a week ago, full market the same, and Lima Locomotive near as much as the General Asphalt was down nearly six points from its recent top.

Pools in the oil shares were rather unwilling or unable to hold their positions against the new price. Petroleum was strong for a time on talk of favorable dividend action at this meeting scheduled for next week, but it was down with the rest.

WALL STREET GOSSIP
Special to The Advertiser.

New York, March 24.—The Jones Bros. Tea report is due Wednesday, and it is expected that this will reflect the profitable operations of 1922 in full. However, the actual net profit will be less than has been anticipated, as the costs of raw sugar added to the chain of cost has been charged against profits, rather than against surplus. There has been nothing new about this, but it is understood that Jones Bros. Tea, but it is understood that larger companies mentioned are under option, and that the third company may soon come to terms.

Despite the elimination of the fear of an advance in the redoubtable rate of this time, the market is still meeting with heavy selling, obvious of professional origin. On the surface this pressure is an excellent one, but it is the actual reason for the apprehensions of tightest money conditions for some time to come, but it is the actual reason for the apprehensions of tightest money conditions for some time to come, but it is the actual reason for the apprehensions of tightest money conditions for some time to come.

Pan-American Petroleum is constructing a refinery near San Pedro, Cal., and the first 10,000-barrel unit should be completed and in operation by the end of the month. Some time Pan-American has been active in California, and at present is expanding its operations in the naval reserve area, but it is accumulating oil whenever offered by other producers. The company is its refinery at Destrehan, near New Orleans, La.

TICKER TALK
GRAIN.
Bartlett Frazier—Expect a decided revival in the export demand. Lamson Bros. expect prices to move gradually higher.

Harris Winthrop—Bromfield continues optimistic over the export demand, but he would only buy on set-backs. Clement Cullen—The market is likely to be prolonged, not at least, until drought in the West has been relieved. There is a much larger movement of old wheat to the Chicago market. We anticipate an irregular market within narrow limits.

STOCKS.
Post & Flagg—The market will be higher Saturday and Sunday. Clark & Co. expect prices to move gradually higher.

METALS.
New York, March 23.—Copper firm. Electrolytic—Spot and futures, 17 1/2c. Tin—Steady; spot and nearby, 49 1/2c. Lead—Steady; spot and nearby, 49 1/2c. Zinc—Steady; spot and nearby, 49 1/2c.

NEW YORK CURE
Reported for The Advertiser by Jones, Easton, McCullum Co.
New York, March 23.—Close.

INDUSTRIALS.
Chicago Nippon 104 1/2
Dumont 104 1/2
Hollister 104 1/2
Imperial Oil 104 1/2
Galea Signal 104 1/2
Prairie Oil and Gas 104 1/2
So. Pipe Line 104 1/2
Stan. Oil Co. 104 1/2
Stan. Oil Ind. 104 1/2
Stan. Oil Cal. 104 1/2
Stan. Oil N.Y. 104 1/2

INDEPENDENT OILS.
Chicago Nippon 104 1/2
Dumont 104 1/2
Hollister 104 1/2
Imperial Oil 104 1/2
Galea Signal 104 1/2
Prairie Oil and Gas 104 1/2
So. Pipe Line 104 1/2
Stan. Oil Co. 104 1/2
Stan. Oil Ind. 104 1/2
Stan. Oil Cal. 104 1/2
Stan. Oil N.Y. 104 1/2

MONEY.
New York, March 23.—Money on call strong, 5 1/2 to 6 per cent; ruling rate 6 per cent. Loans firm; 60 days, 6 1/2 per cent; 90 days, 6 3/4 per cent; 120 days, 6 1/2 per cent; 180 days, 6 1/2 per cent; 240 days, 6 1/2 per cent; 360 days, 6 1/2 per cent.

DETROIT DISCOUNT RATE
Special to The Advertiser.
Detroit, March 23.—Detroit clearing-house bank rate of discount for Canadian currency for Saturday will be at a discount of 2 1/2 per cent.

DIVIDENDS DECLARED
British Empire Steel Corporation has declared a dividend of 1 1/2 per cent on the first preferred, payable May 1 to shareholders of April 15.

EXCHANGE RATES
Montreal, March 23.—Sterling exchange rates were quoted here today as follows: Demand, 4 1/2; cables, 4 1/2.

WEEK'S FIRE LOSSES.
Fire losses in Canada for the week ending March 23 are estimated by the Monetary Times at \$2,011,400, compared with \$2,125,000 for the week last year.

How the Stocks Close today

New York

Reported for The Advertiser by Jones, Easton, McCullum Co.

New York, March 24.

Stocks

Am. Beet Sugar 44 1/2

Am. Cane Sugar 44 1/2

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Toronto

Reported for The Advertiser by Jones, Easton, McCullum Co.

Toronto, March 24.—Close.

Stocks

210 Barcelona 16 1/2

305 Brazilian 50 50

100 Canadian 63 1/2

25 Can. Cement 85 1/2

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Montreal

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Montreal, March 24.—Close.

Stocks

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