

CHINA LOAN AND RAIL MERGER NET MARKET BOOSTS

CHICAGO, Jan. 3.—(AP)—Influenced by suggestions of a loan to China to permit large imports of wheat, the grain markets scored new upturns today. As a plausible basis for the proposed loan, it was reported that wheat can now be furnished to the Orient cheaper

than traders there can supply rice. On the other hand, skeptics here pointed to civil war in China as likely to prevent loan negotiations making much progress. Wheat closed unsettled, one-eighth to three-fourths cent higher; corn unchanged to one cent up; oats one-fourth to five-eighths cent advanced. NEW YORK, Jan. 3.—(AP)—The rail stocks nudged the entire market higher today, although the gains in all groups were considerably less than yesterday. Submission of the four-system merger plan to the interstate commerce commission so soon after the preliminary announcement of the agreement brought another display of strength in the carrier shares.

Industrial followed less enthusiastically, despite advances in U. S. Steel, Westinghouse and others through their highs of the December 17 rally, while some utilities were buoyant. The motor issues were content to hold yesterday's gains. Oils closed higher. Few pivotal stocks, with the exception of the rails, were up more than one or two points. Sales totaled 1,547,799 shares. When the market closed, the composite of 99 issues was 16.5 points above last Saturday's final level. SHANGHAI, Jan. 3.—(AP)—The British battleship Mantis, on patrol duty in the Yangtze River, was attacked today by 800 insurgent troops who opened a heavy fire on her.

The Noted Dead

PITTSBURGH, Jan. 3.—(AP)—Colonel Isaac Colburn Jenks, 63, who served many years in the United States army and during the World war commanded the 317th train, 92nd division of the Army of Occupation, died while visiting a daughter here last night. FORT WAYNE, Ind., Jan. 3.—(AP)—Funeral services were held today for Lieut. Paul Frank Baer, America's first official ace of the World War. Lieut. Baer was killed Dec. 9 at Shanghai, China, while flying an Amphibian plane on a mail and passenger line. He was 27 years old. He was given a military funeral.

RAIL MERGE PLAN OFFICIALLY FILED

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—(AP)—The Interstate Commerce Commission was notified formally today of the desire of eastern railroad executives to consolidate all eastern lines except those in New England into four major systems, but it gave no indication of its attitude. The commission acknowledged receipt of a communication informing it an agreement had been reached among the roads. The commission said it assumed the plan was forward by the executives for its information only, pending further steps. MIDVALE, Ohio, Jan. 3.—(AP)—Bodies of five men killed in an explosion in the No. 4 mine of the Midvale Coal company this morning were recovered by rescue workers tonight about nine hours after the blast. SPOKANE, Jan. 3.—(AP)—An automobile slipped off blocks upon which it had been raised and crushed Ralph Jones, 22, a mechanic, to death tonight. His widow, whom he married a month ago, survives him. A plant to freeze orange juice so it may be delivered in the mornings like milk is planned at Orlando, Fla.

AGENT OF SOVIET IS NABBED IN PORTLAND

PORTLAND, Jan. 3.—(AP)—Arrested for the immigration department, Luka Skatko, 44, believed by federal officers to be a member of the soviet secret police, was being held here today for investigation. He had more than \$8000 in currency in his pockets when arrested, officials believe he came to Portland for the purpose of talking out several alleged communists in jail here. Skatko was arrested a few hours after he arrived here.

CHESTERSTOWN, Maryland, Jan. 3.—(AP)—Frozen in the ice covering the Bohemia river, a wallet containing \$2,200 in cash and \$20,000 in bonds, part of the loot of yeg-men who last week blew a vault in the West End Dover bank at Hartley, Del., was recovered here. BOSTON, Mass., Jan. 3.—(AP)—Rowland W. Boyden, Boston attorney who was associated with the reparations settlement and Charles A. Dana of Barnardville, N. J., were appointed as equity receivers for the Fish Rubber Co., Chicopee, today. Julio Wada, Alaska's only Nipponese prospector, has searched for mineral wealth for more than 40 years, winning and losing two fortunes.

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