

Dixie Dugan

WE'VE DECIDED TO GIVE YOU YOUR VACATION NOW!
AT THIS TIME OF YEAR IT'S PERFECT!
NOW YOU CAN DEAD-HEAD IT TO ANY PLACE IN THE WORLD AT HALF PRICE - HONOLULU - ITALY - GERMANY - FRANCE!
I'VE GOT THE GREATEST PLACE IN THE WHOLE UNIVERSE TO THINK GO TO - I KNOW - HAVE A HAPPY HOLIDAY!

The Jackson Twins

SO YOU AND YOUR SISTER WANT TO BE GIFT WRAPPERS? HAD ANY EXPERIENCE IN STORES?
YES, SIR - ONCE WE -
EXCLUDE ME A MOMENT.
MOVE IT OUT OF THE AISLE, WILKINS!
NOW, WHAT WERE WE TALKING ABOUT?
SEARCH ME?
WELL, I'M SURE IF YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT YOU WERE TALKING ABOUT YOU'D BE LOST IN A BUSY STORE LIKE THIS? NOW IF YOU'LL EXCLUDE ME, I'M VERY BUSY!

Blondie

SOMEBODY'S AT THE FRONT DOOR - AND MY BATHROBE IS AT THE CLEANERS!
IT COMES IN RED OR YELLOW.
NO - I DON'T WANT ANY.
OH, NO - NOT AGAIN!
I FORGOT TO TELL YOU - IT ALSO COMES IN GREEN!

Alley Oop

REST EASY, BOY - I'LL WHOP THAT BIG OL' COSSACK INTO LITTLE BITTY PIECES!
REMEMBER, ALLEY, THE HONOR OF TURKISH ARMS RESTS WITH YOU!
THE GREAT BATTLE OF HEROES WITH ALLEY OOP IN THERE FOR ABDOOL BOOL EMEER, IS ABOUT TO BEGIN...
ALL RIGHT, GENTLEMEN - YOU MAY BEGIN WHENEVER YOU'RE READY!
OKAY, I'M READY!
SOM I YEEOW!!

Bonnie

I'D FEEL A LOT SAFER IF I WERE STEERING!
DON'T BE SILLY, HOP ON!
GIRLS CAN DO THINGS JUST AS GOOD AS BOYS!
SEE, I EVEN SIGNAL FOR A TURN!
I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT, BUT YOU KNOW WHAT THEY SAY ABOUT--
WOMEN DRIVERS!

Joe Palooka

JOE IS BACK IN HIS CORNER IN A DAZED CONDITION FROM THAT PUNISHMENT ON THE ROPES...
PHEW! I-TM OKAY, REF.?
WHA' HOPPEN, JOE? YA AIN'T FOLLYIN' HOOBBY'S ORDERS 'STAY AWAY FROM BABA'!
WHEN HE COMES AT YA THIS TIME, BABA - GIVE HIM TH' FULL 'TWISTER.'
BONG!
GREENWHILE, SURGEONS OPERATE ON KNOBBY.
HIS PULSE IS GETTING WEAKER.

Martha Wayne

MRS. WAYNE WAIT!
SORRY MR. KING.
THE CENTURY THEATER, PLEASE!
AS THE CURTAIN RISES ON ACT ONE OF 'THE FOX AND THE GRAPES'...
KING WAS RIGHT! THAT IS THE MAN WHO CLAIMED TO BE SARAH'S HUSBAND!

Mutt & Jeff

MUTT, THE BOYS WANNA KNOW IF YOU'LL MAKE A LITTLE SPEECH FOR US AT THE DINNER DANCE TOMORROW NIGHT!
ER-SURE!
I COULD GIVE A BRIEF FIFTEEN MINUTE HISTORICAL ORATION ON--
COULD YOU STRETCH IT OUT A LITTLE?
CERTAINLY! I'LL PAD IT OUT TO TWENTY-FIVE-- WHAT'S THE SPEECH FOR?
FOR US TO HAVE TIME TO CLEAR AWAY THE CHAIRS FOR THE DANCING!

Bugs Bunny

BUGS' CHRISTMAS TREE BRANCHES
GIVE
GIVE

Priscilla's Pop

HELP HOMELESS WANKERS
I'M WORRIED ABOUT SANTA! HE DOESN'T LOOK WELL!

OUR BOARDING HOUSE

WELL, HOOPLE, AREN'T YOU A LITTLE SLOW GETTING HOLIDAY STEAM UP THIS YEAR? - BUT I SUPPOSE ANY NIGHT NOW WE CAN EXPECT THOSE OWLS CLUB NEVER-SWEATS TO HAUL YOU IN LIKE THE YULE LOG!
ANY WORD, BAXTER? I'VE BEEN UNDER THE IMPRESSION YOU REGARDED THE HOLIDAY SEASON AS HUM-BUGS! - I HAD ALMOST FORGOTTEN THAT ONE YEAR YOU DID BUY MRS. BAXTER AN EGG-BEATER!
WAS IT A TOOL CHEST?

OUT OUR WAY

WHEN SOMEBODY PUTS A BALL OF STRING IN THIS DRAWER WE KEEP IT MAKES STUFF EASY TO FIND! JUST PULL ON TH' STRING AN' ALL TH' STUFF PASSES IN REVIEW, AN' IT'S VERY EASY TO FIND WHUT YOU WANT!
WELL, I'LL GET ONE BREAK - YOU MIGHT PUT THEM ALL BACK!

The Berrys

HEH! HEH!
PETER, PLEASE!
SMACK
HONESTLY!
YOU'RE SO EXASPERATING AT TIMES!
I DON'T KNOW HOW I EVER MANAGE TO STAY HAPPILY MARRIED TO YOU!

Morty Meekle

I TOLD YOU TO TAKE IT EASY YOUR FIRST TIME ON OKATES, DOES YOUR ANKLE HURT TERRIBLY?
OH, NO, IT HARDLY HURTS AT ALL, NOW.
OH/OH! MY ANKLE! I TWISTED MY ANKLE!
TAKE IT EASY, YOU'LL BE HOME IN A MINUTE. DOES IT HURT TERRIBLY?
OH, SHUT UP!

Little Doc

C'MON OUT N PLAY, L'L DOC!
I'M BUSY, CINDY!
WHAT ARE YA DOIN' WRAPPING CHRISTMAS GIFTS?
?
GIFTS?
MAY I HELP YA?
OKAY, UNDER ONE CONDITION

Wash Tubbs

NOISIEST PRISONER WE EVER HAD! NOBODY GOT ANY SLEEP! I HOPE YOU CAN GET HIM OUT!
MORNING, CEDRIC! I GOT HERE AS FAST AS I COULD AFTER YOUR CALL!
YOU SAY YOUR WIFE DID THIS TO GET BACK AT YOU AFTER A SPAT YOU HAD?
YEAH, I NEED YOU TO IDENTIFY ME, EASY! BUT FIRST, GET THE BAGS OUTA MY CAR TRUNK. I JUST REMEMBERED MY PAPERS MAY BE IN IT!
AH... MY CAR TITLE, AND LICENSE RECEIPT! LUCKILY, I FORGOT TO PUT 'EM IN THE COAT I WORE YESTERDAY!
AND I CAN IDENTIFY HIM AS CEDRIC HOOTEN, SIR. I'VE KNOWN HIM FOR YEARS.

Boots

YOU COMIN'?
BUY, MADAM...
ANY I AIN'T GONNA BE TOOK IN BY NO MORE OF YOUR FANCIFYIN' TALK!
THEN LET US RETIRE TO YOU HAVEN OF HOSPITALITY AND GIVE YOUR PROBLEMS EARNEST CONSIDERATION.
TRUTH 4 PEEACH? HUMPH!
IN THE WORDS OF THE IMMORTAL DAN'L WEBSTER, THERE IS NOTHING SO POWERFUL AS TRUTH, AND OFTEN NOTHING SO STRANGE!

Mickey Finn

MR. GRABBIT THINKS THEY'RE JUST HOLDING OUT FOR MORE THAN \$100,000 - KNOWING HE WANTS THE PLACE SO BADLY?
YES - BUT HE'S WRONG MICHAEL! THEY SIMPLY LOVE THE FARM AND DON'T WANT TO LEAVE IT!
GRABBIT IS GOING TO STAY IN TOWN FOR AWHILE - AT THE BITZ-PLAZA HOTEL?
YEAH! HE FIGURES THEY'LL GET PANICKY WHEN THEY DON'T HEAR ANY MORE FROM HIM - AND THAT THEY'LL THEN CALL ME!
HE COULD BE RIGHT, PHIL! IT MAY HAVE ALL BEEN AN ACT!
JIM AND NELLIE AREN'T ACTORS, TOM! I WON'T BE HEARDY FROM THEM, YOU CAN BET ON TH -
IT'S MR. NEEDY, PHIL!

Freckles

I'VE BEEN DATING DAISY, LILA, DORIS, TOBY, JILL - GOSH! I CAN'T AFFORD A CHRISTMAS PRESENT FOR ALL THOSE DOLLS!
MY SHOPPING'S EASY...
JUNE'S THE ONLY GIRL I HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT!
ANYBODY FOR GOING STEADY?

Susie Q. Smith

MOTHER, I FINALLY FOUND IT!!!
FOUND WHAT, DEAR?
A CHRISTMAS PRESENT FOR FATHER!
I WANTED TO GET HIM SOMETHING SPECIAL!
SOMETHING HE WOULDN'T BUY FOR HIMSELF!

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Stock Market Weekly Report

By ELMER C. WALZER
United Press Financial Editor
NEW YORK (UP)—Stocks re-traced 30 per cent of their sharp rise of Nov. 29-Dec. 7 in the first three sessions this week and then met selective support.

The net result, however, was a moderate decline in all leading groups. Many selected stocks managed to register substantial gains with the specialty steels the best performers.

Steels and aircrafts dominated the list making new highs for the year. That list also included some cements, mercantiles, oils, shipping issue, and rail equipments as well as several specialties.

Industrial shares had risen 36.68

points from the low on Nov. 29 to the high on Dec. 7. By Wednesday this had been whittled down 11.03 points or 30 per cent. Rails rose 7.4 per cent in the same period—10.94 points. They fell hard—6.99 points or 64 per cent.

Railroad issues started in a late rise on Thursday when their average rose 3.06 points while industrials were up only 2.96 points in a much more heavily weighted index.

Business news generally was favorable with steel mills turning out a record amount of steel, autos holding high with Ford in the lead of Chevrolet, building up sharply, and soft coal production to date exceeding that of all of

1955. Crude oil output rose as Europe took more oil.

Electricity output and carloadings fell on the week but were higher than a year ago. Retail trade slipped back from a year ago largely because of unseasonably warm weather.

When... by Martin, federal reserve head, opposed credit relaxation. He saw no reason to raise stock market margins.

The feature merger of the year developed when Bethlehem and Youngstown Sheet and Tube went ahead with their plan despite ad-

verse criticism of the Department of Justice which moved swiftly to block the union. Stocks of these units fell after the merger announcement.

The government was able to borrow at a slightly better rate than recently. The federal reserve

bought bills to increase credit which is seasonally rising. There was no rise in the discount rate at any federal reserve center.

Dividends Rise
Several more companies raised dividends or declared extras. Some steel companies moved up

prices here and there, particularly those products in which nickel is used. Bethlehem received an order for three new tankers—one of 100,000 tons and two of 46,000 tons each.

At the close Friday, the industrial average stood at 492.08, off

2.71 points on the week; rails 155.24 off 3.14; utilities 67.69, off 0.36; and 65 stocks 172.64, off 1.51.

These averages were up 8.99, off 8.05, up 3.45, and off 0.09 respectively from the 1955 closing levels.



IN LIGHT MOOD—Larry Sinisi, of Winter Park, Fla., decided to "shout it from the rooftops" when he recently became the father of a seven-pound, 12-ounce son. He did his "shouting" via this neon sign on his house.

Weekly Commodities Report

By WILLIAM T. PLUNKETT
United Press Commodity Editor
NEW YORK (UP)—Cotton futures drifted irregularly lower this week in one of the quietest trading periods of the year.

At Friday's close the list ruled off 86 points to up 9 points, or off \$4.30 to up 45 cents a bale compared with the preceding week.

After a slower start, prices rallied briskly in mid-week, influenced by strength in the expired December delivery, and news of a sharp boost in soil bank payments to be made to producers next year.

Subsequently, the market gave ground again under technical realizing, based partly on the idea that the soil bank rally was too rapid, and reflecting uncertainties about farm legislation which may be introduced when Congress reconvenes in January.

Delivery Off Board
The December delivery went off the board Wednesday at 54.72 cents a pound, setting the season's high in the final dealings. Compared with the season's low of 28.30 cents, registered on Nov. 2, 1955, the spot month showed a cumulative rise of \$27.10 a bale.

The prolonged period of dullness in the domestic textile market, plus the quiet mill demand for spot cotton, and the third week of smaller producer entries under the loan program, helped to cool the buying enthusiasm generated by the soil bank announcement.

The Agriculture Department announced soil bank payments of \$54.15 per acre against \$24 in 1955. Estimates were that the higher payments may take as much as 4.5 million acres out of production next year as compared with 1.1 million acres retired in 1955.

Crops May Be Cut
Federal crop analysts have figured the 1957 crop might be cut as much as 2.5 million bales next year through operation of the plan.

The government's final crop estimate of the season, published on Monday, had little market influence. The indicated Dec. 1 yield of 13.3 million bales ran 150,000 bales ahead of the previous estimate and was in line with trade expectations.

Cotton exports continued at a rapid rate. Shipments through Dec. 11 were reported at 1.98 million bales compared with 575,885 bales reported to the same period last year.

Some of the large buying of U. S. export cotton was attributed to rebuilding of low stocks by foreign consumers, with the Suez blockade lending impetus to the demand.

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Phil Harris
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and in shooting rehearsal
TECHNICOLOR
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SCREAMING EAGLES
TOM TRYON - JAN MERLIN - ALVY MOORE

Plus Co-Hit—
In the rowdy camps... on the murderous trails... men took what they wanted, and a woman took a chance!

THE NAKED HILLS
AN ALLIANCE ARTISTS PICTURE
Plus Cartoon and News

Beavers Steal Tree

POTSDAM, N.Y. (UP)—Beavers confiscated a weeping willow tree on the Arthur McRobbie grounds to build a dam across a pond, also on the property. The artificial pond is fed from a small stream. McRobbie hadn't noticed the beavers at work until he discovered the 12-foot high tree was missing.

Observe Parade

MILWAUKEE, (UP)—Among the spectators at this city's Christmas parade were six traffic policemen from Sao Paulo, Brazil. They wanted to see how Milwaukee police handled a traffic problem. The group had attended classes at the police training school for a week.

More than 200 varieties of spring flowers bloom in the Blue Ridge and Great Smoky Mountains of North Carolina.

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