
THE STOCK EXCHANGE OFFICIAL YEARBOOK 1875-1945

UNIT THREE



The Information Solutions Company

The Stock Exchange
Official Yearbook
1875-1945

Unit Three: 1914-1923

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Every effort has been made to minimise these difficulties though there are some pages which have proved impossible to reproduce satisfactorily. Conscious of this, we have chosen to include these pages in order to make available the complete volumes.

PUBLISHER'S NOTE

This is the third unit of **The Stock Exchange Official Yearbook**, covering the years 1914-1923. The title used during this period is **The Stock Exchange Yearbook**; "Official" was not added until 1935.

In the preface to the 1875 edition Thomas Skinner defines the objective of **The Stock Exchange Yearbook** as being: "to provide a reliable and inexpensive digest of information relating to Public Securities and Joint-Stock companies. It is believed that no attempt has ever been made to give a descriptive account of all sections of this vast and rapidly increasing subject, and from the present magnitude of this form of investment and its certain continued development, such a work is considered likely to be of public usefulness."

The 1875 **The Stock Exchange Yearbook** contained a Calendar and Diary. These were omitted in 1876 in order to accommodate the rapidly growing number of entries and remain true to the promise of being "inexpensive". Over three hundred companies were added in 1876 without any immediate increase in price to subscribers.

Each yearbook is divided into separate sections, with a comprehensive index at the beginning of each volume for easy reference access. The sections listed in the 1875 edition are as follows:

- Joint Stock Companies and Public Securities ●
- Government Stocks - Home, Colonial and Foreign ●
- Railways - Home, Colonial and Foreign ● Banks ● Insurance ●
- Tramways ● Telegraphs ● Gas and Water ● Mines ● Steamships ●
- Trusts and Miscellaneous Bonds ● Miscellaneous Companies ● Diary ●

For each company **The Stock Exchange Yearbook** gives lists of directors, dates of establishment, details of trading, meetings, dates dividends are paid, capital value and the amount paid up or subscribed.

In general, the format and information supplied by **The Stock Exchange Yearbook** changed little during its early years, but some changes were inevitable as **The Stock Exchange Yearbook** grew in size and stature. With more companies participating and entries of greater detail, other sections were added. For example, in 1880 the Miscellaneous department was subdivided into: Iron, Coal and Steel, Land investment, Finance and Discount, Rolling Stock, Tea and Coffee, and Hotel and Brewery. In 1880 the gain in entries was three times the loss by liquidation. In 1881 a decision was taken to increase the size of the book by one-fifth, to: "allow for a large number of additional notices and the introduction of new features, such as: a list of interest payments due under each of the dates; a Calendarial Statement concerned in Stock Exchange Securities; and the addition to each notice of the latest market prices."

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Another noteworthy addition was the inclusion of telephone numbers in 1906. Also in that year, larger notices were divided up in order to render special points more accessible. **The Stock Exchange Yearbook** continued its expansion in size, warranting a price increase in 1906 to 28 shillings. Moreover, the rapid expansion of joint stock enterprised in 1911 necessitated an unprecedented growth in size. This resulted in an increase in pages from 2,408 to 2,580.

Within this microfilm collection, **The Stock Exchange Official Yearbook** is divided into five units, each approximately twenty reels in length. Unit four will continue the series with the years 1924-1933.

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Unit Three: 1914-1923

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