

FRIEDBERG & CO. LTD.

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COMMODITY COMMENTS

April 24, 1972

N. Y. SILVER

Spot	154.80
July '72	156.40

Silver prices were confined last week to a 400-point range, twice testing important chart support levels and finding good interest.

Very little of any consequence transpired in the fundamental news background. Representative James McClure has petitioned the Cost of Living Council to lift the ceiling from the physical silver price. He suggested that holding prices to an unrealistic level assures future shortages since exploration - production lead time is 4 - 6 years and since exploration is based on the economic climate of the silver industry. A price ceiling, he said, will cause the closing of silver mines, increased unemployment, and increased balance of payment problems.

Comex Warehouse Stocks showed little change in the week, while the Chicago Board of Trade reported 14,535 M ounces of silver registered in Chicago Warehouses, down 250 M from the previous week. The LME reported 7,630 M ounces of silver in LME Warehouses as of Friday, an increase of 570 M from the previous week.

Consumer interest remains slack and speculative buying has diminished considerably as the dollar continued to gain strength against continental currencies.

From a technical point of view, the bull move begun in late October of 1971 is at present in jeopardy. Much will depend on prices holding their 6 - months uptrend, today at 154.00 and Friday of this week at slightly over 155.00 basis July '72. Even closer to their uptrends are deferred contracts such as December '72; it must be watched for holding 158.30 or 159.50 by Friday of this week.

Remain on the sidelines.

COPPER

Spot	51.05
July '72	51.65

The market continued its downtrend reaching a low at 50.70 basis July '72 before some bargain hunting lifted prices to 51.80. At today's close, a weakening tendency set in again and prices closed unchanged from Friday.

The market's behavior remains a puzzle to fundamentalists who refuse to believe that prices can come down in the face of apparently good consumer interest. Typical expression of this view was the statement by George B. Munroe, president of Phelps Dodge Corporation, that the U.S. producer price is firm and there is a good level of demand for this copper.

We continue to believe that the cause of the present decline was the premature bullishness showed by the large investing public and, perhaps also, premature inventory buying on the part of users, hedging on booming conditions and resulting in overstocking. Once this overbought condition is returned to normal by liquidation, a better and firmer market will evolve.

Stay on the sidelines.

PLATINUM

July '72	101.40
January '72	104.60

The earlier widening of spreads has opened the way for trade switching and thus has inflated volume figures artificially.

Maintain long positions with stops at 101.90 basis January '73.

TECHNICAL TRENDS

COCOA

July '72	25.62
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A highly irregular pattern has emerged. Remain on the sidelines.

COTTON

July '72	42.25
December '72	32.12

The end of this bull market is not in sight yet. New contract high were made today in May and July.

Continue to hold long positions in nearby positions and continue to accumulate deferred options.

CATTLE

June '72	34.75
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The breakout over 34.50 basis June '72 has taken place and the market is ready to resume its bull path.

Our special report "CATTLE futures: an investor's dream" discussing the exciting profit possibilities in this market is available free of charge upon request.

SOYBEAN OIL

July '72	11.66
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Stopped out at 12.07 for a loss of 30 - 40 points. Remain on the sidelines.

WORLD SUGAR #11

July '72	7.62
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A beautiful trading market. Long term traders should hold long positions established below 7.00 basis July '72--- traders should buy on 20 - 40 points dips and sell on strength.

Keep in close contact.

All statements made herein, while not guaranteed, are based on information considered reliable and are believed by us to be accurate.