

NAME

penny-selloff - calculate capital gains and losses from commodity sales

SYNOPSIS

penny-selloff *PROCEEDS-ACCOUNT FILE...*

DESCRIPTION

This is a description of how **penny-selloff** works. You will be lost if you have not read **penny-commodities(7)** and looked at the *stocks.pny* file in the *examples* directory of the *penny-bin* tarball.

penny-selloff examines the names of the sub-accounts of the *PROCEEDS-ACCOUNT*. The first sub-account name is ignored (typically it will be *Proceeds.*) The second sub-account is the *group* (typically it will be the name of the commodity you are selling, though it does not have to be.) The third sub-account is the date (and, optionally, the time) when you sold the commodity.

penny-selloff then parses all the ledger files given on the command line. (If no files are given, or if a file is -, it reads standard input.) Then **penny-selloff** examines the balance of the proceeds account. It must have exactly one debit amount and one credit amount in the balance. The debit balance is the commodity you are selling. The credit balance is the commodity you received in return for the sale (typically your home currency.)

Next, **penny-selloff** examines the balances of all accounts in the parsed ledger files. It finds accounts that have *Basis* as the first sub-account and whose second sub-account matches the *group* found in the proceeds account (again, typically this will be the name of the commodity you are selling, though it does not have to be.) The third sub-account must be a date and optional time, which was when the commodity was purchased. Each of these accounts must have one debit amount, which is the cost of the purchase, and a credit balance, which is the amount of the commodity that was purchased.

Finally, **penny-selloff** computes postings that will eliminate the balances of the *Basis* accounts. It also computes the capital gain or loss from each sale. The oldest commodities are sold first.

penny-selloff creates a single transaction with postings that eliminate the balances *Basis* accounts corresponding to the commodities that were sold. The transaction also contains postings with the capital gain or loss from each sale. This transaction is printed to standard output.

EXIT STATUS

0 if everything went fine; non-zero if there was a problem.

BUGS

Please report bugs in the program or documentation to Omari Norman. <omari@smileystation.com>

SEE ALSO

penny-suite(7), **penny-commodities(7)**