# **PROSPECTS**

The Richard Cluver Investment Newsletter in continuous publication since 1987



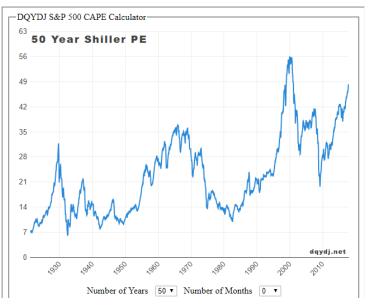
## November 2017

Wall Street continues its upward stampede undeterred by prophets of doom who continue to warn that in terms of the inflation-adjusted average price earnings ratio it will soon challenge its highest ever level.

Lately, looking for a reason to explain why the market is ignoring the inherent dangers of such high levels, a number of commentators, including Nobel Laureate Prof Robert Schiller the Yale professor of Economics who first developed the index, have been warning that because of the low growth rates recorded in the initial years following the 2007 financial crash, the normally-constructed 10-year Cape Ratio could be misleading. It has, they say, the capacity to rise considerably further before the real danger zone is entered.

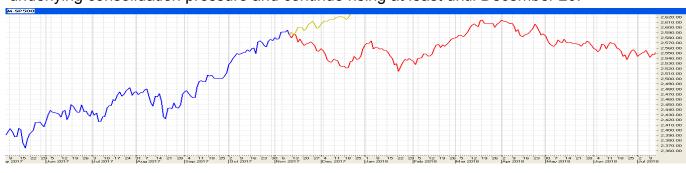
Accordingly I have used a 50-year calculation but, if anything this makes the ratio look even more dangerous. By this measure the only pre-crash peak of the past century that has not been surpassed is the 44.021 level attained in December 1999 immediately ahead of the bursting of the "Dot Com" bubble which between then and February 2003 saw Wall Street lose 49.14 percent of its value.

Today the index, calculated on a 50-year basis to moderate the current criticism, stands at 47.675. (Note, the ten-year calculation which I have previous depicted in this column provides a ratio of 32.79 compared with a comparable figure of 31.12 this time last month. So which ever



way you care to look at it, Wall Street is now exceedingly expensive and a downward correction is inevitable. The only question is when it will happen and what will trigger it. Given its recent ability to withstand Caribbean hurricanes, a Mexican earthquake of previously unequalled proportions and President Trump's flirtation with a nuclear holocaust one must conclude that it is still very robust

Using its artificial intelligence algorithm. ShareFinder calculates below that Wall Street has now begun a retreat but, as it has repeatedly warned in recent months, this is unlikely to be the final plunge. As the red medium-term data projection suggests, the decline is likely to continue until January 23 before its "last gasp" recovery takes it to a final peak in mid-March before a long slow retreat begins. However, it is important to note that the latest market exuberance has altered the short-term outlook which senses (the yellow trace) that the market will ignore the underlying consolidation pressure and continue rising at least until December 20.



Here at home and notwithstanding an air of hopelessness gripping South Africans generally in the face of horror stories of State plunder and no evidence of the authorities making any evidence to either investigate or prosecute the perpetrators, the JSE All Share Index continues to soar in response to Wall Street's optimism. Here again we see the short-term (yellow) projection rising at least until November 23 notwithstanding the building pressure of medium-term market cycles for a pull-back. Interestingly, both the medium-term and long-term projections suggest at worst a slow decline until the end of May followed by a recovery until the end of the year. But be assured, if Wall Street collapses the JSE cannot continue rising.



Here it might be worth noting that a search of the world's share market performance of the past decade shows that none beat South African blue chips which rose in value at 25.9 percent compound during that time compared with Wall Street's top500 index which averaged 16.4 percent compound. So there could be a case to argue that in the event of a global economic melt-down following a Wall Street collapse, JSE Blue Chips might just offer a haven of strength. But I find that a difficult argument to support in the face of an extremely high probability of our sovereign debt being downgraded to "Junk" by the ratings agencies later this month.



For what it is worth, ShareFinder suggests that in the short-term local Blue Chips will peak on November 24 though the medium-term cyclic probability is for a January 12 peak followed by weakness for the first half of 2018.



### The Prospects Portfolio

Shortly after the last issue, the price of Capitec shares touched R949.80 and we sold 200 which, with interest of R5 285 took our cash holding to R916 369.11 and our portfolio performance since inception on January 1 2011 to a compound annual average capital growth rate of 22.5 percent. The performance graph below together with ShareFinder's projection in red on the right suggests that the portfolio will peak in value at R3 271 050 on December 21.



I have also been eyeing Mr Price as a possible sale but in the light of its surprisingly good performance reported last week, I am now content to hold onto it and with nearly a third of our holdings in cash I consider that we are well placed to take advantage should a severe market downturn occur within the next few months. Our portfolio accordingly now looks like this:

Name	Price	% Change	Quantity	Cost	Per Share	Value	% Gain	% Portfol	Risk	DY	DivGro	DivGroL	Return
2011 Prospects Folio		-0.0%				3,259,155.53	309.1		11.43%	1.3	24.44	24.01	24.95%
*Cash						916,369.11		28.1%	1.00%				
ADVTECH	17.03	-0.6%	7,700	117,040.00	15.20	131,131.00	+12.0%	4.0%	-4.75%	1.6	7.51	16.37	25.08%
<b>∕</b> A-V-I	99.84	+2.2%	1,200	100,800.00	84.00	119,808.00	+18.9%	3.7%	-30.58%	3.2	30.54	42.54	14.50%
CAPITEC	924.86	+0.3%	362	64,436.00	178.00	334,799.32	+419.6%	10.3%	25.83%	1.1	27.98	36.00	37.13%
🔏 CLICKS	155.50	+0.5%	900	99,900.00	111.00	139,950.00	+40.1%	4.3%	-1.86%	1.7	17.06	22.44	21.93%
	149.62	+0.7%	900	98,604.00	109.56	134,658.00	+36.6%	4.1%	10.10%	1.0	17.19	20.99	22.74%
₹ EOH	97.67	+0.5%	1,500	160,500.00	107.00	146,505.00	-8.7%	4.5%	47.71%	1.8	31.57	29.00	23.51%
A FAMBRANDS	97.62	-0.9%	2,674	100,000.00	37.40	261,035.88	+161.0%	8.0%	2.89%		23.74	33.79	7.07%
√ ITLTILE	12.51	-0.3%	18,523.33	226,355.09	12.22	231,726.86	+2.4%	7.1%	-14.67%	1.9	62.26		16.50%
MRPRICE	192.59	+0.2%	1,804	100,000.00	55.43	347,432.36	+247.4%	10.7%	19.32%	2.8	17.97	21.61	9.11%
🔏 NASPERS-N	3,541.00	-0.7%	140	50,000.00	357.14	495,740.00	+891.5%	15.2%	40.00%	0.1	14.25	20.99	45.54%

#### **Top Performer Lists**

In the pages that follow we publish lists of the world's top-performing shares which, we submit, should form the bulk of your investment portfolios in their respective countries or as suggested replacements for any in your portfolios that are achieving lesser growth rates than the ShareFinder Blue Chip average growth rates which head the lists. The shares listed in the first block of each list have been selected because of their investment grade quality, their very high dividend growth rates and superior investment safety. The second block of ten offers significantly higher dividend growth rates but at the price of a greater degree of investment risk. The shares listed in the third block have been selected because of their investment grade quality and their very high price growth rates. These offer superior investment safety. Those in the fourth block generally offer significantly higher price growth rates but at the price of a greater degree of investment risk:

#### JSE Blue Chips to consider:



#### **Top London Stock Exchange Performers:**



#### **Top New York Performers:**



#### **Top Australian Performers**

