



The Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York

RICHARD A. McCURDY, President.

Abstract of Statement December 31, 1904.

Income for Year 1904	-	-	-	-	-	\$81,002,984 57
Paid to Policy-holders	-	-	-	-	-	34,726,548 34
Legal Reserves, etc.	-	-	-	-	-	366,620,552 73
Guarantee & Dividend Funds	-	-	-	-	-	74,357,818 43
Assets	-	-	-	-	-	440,978,371 16
*Insurance in Force	-	-	-	-	-	1,547,611,660 00
*Increase of Insurance	-	-	-	-	-	102,382,979 00
Annuities in Force	-	-	-	-	-	2,686,419 46
Increase of Annuities	-	-	-	-	-	236,787 65

* Insurance written, but not yet paid for, excluded.

During its existence of sixty-two years, this Company has paid back to its membership—from the funds accumulated for their benefit—more than
Six Hundred and Sixty-five Millions of Dollars,
 or nearly Two Hundred Millions more than
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GULF & SHIP ISLAND RAILROAD CO.—Page 307
LOUISIANA & ARKANSAS RAILWAY CO.—Page 325
BUFFALO & SUSQUEHANNA IRON CO.—Page 399

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THE FINANCIAL REVIEW.

Finance, Commerce,
Railroads.

February, 1905.



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VOLUME AND COURSE OF TRADE.

ANNUAL AND MONTHLY RESULTS.

RETROSPECT OF 1904.

The course of industrial and financial affairs during 1904 was the reverse of that of 1903. In the last-named year the country was on the down grade. In 1904 it was again on the up grade.

Great significance attaches to the wonderful transformation effected because of the fact that many of the influences and developments of the twelve months were such as would ordinarily have operated to intensify the depression which prevailed when the year started. During the whole of the first five months the weather was of such severity that memory is taxed to find a parallel to it in the past. Railroad expenses were heavily increased and traffic and revenues reduced. General trade also sustained important losses—indeed in certain lines the usual spring business was in great measure spoiled, the winter having been so prolonged.

Then there was the Russo-Japanese War. This was imminent in January and hostilities actually began in February. It continued throughout the whole year. Time and again it threatened world-wide complications, which fortunately were averted. The probability of a short wheat crop was also one of the early developments. The severity of the winter made it almost certain that the autumn-sown wheat had been materially damaged. As it happened, too, the war in the East furnished the occasion for a speculation and rise in wheat, even before the damage to the new crop became an established fact. The high prices for grain cut off in large part our export trade in wheat and flour. The speculation in cotton, with the previous season's short crop, had the same effect in curtailing our cotton exports. The Masters' & Pilots' strike interrupted lake transportation at a season of the year when the movement is usually exceptionally active. Furthermore, 1904 was the year of a Presidential election, which has never been known to promote activity in trade. To this must be added the great fire at Baltimore in February, involving an insurance loss of \$35,000,000 and a property loss of \$100,000,000, and various other similar catastrophes—the year having been marked by an unusual number of fires.

What, then, accounts for the improvement in the situation? Examination will show that the explanation is to be found in a removal or modification of the chief disturbing conditions which had brought about the relapse in 1903. This relapse followed inevitably as the result of excessive speculation, but was intensified and aggravated by four main causes: (1) the Northern Securities litigation, with the fear engendered thereby of similar proceedings against other combinations in the industrial and railroad world; (2) the agitation against the so-called trusts, with the legislation and the political dangers that this invited a Presidential year; (3) the hostile attitude and arbitrary and dictatorial demands of labor which had grown out of the award of the Anthracite Coal

Commission in favor of the miners in the anthracite regions, and (4) the idea so sedulously cultivated that failures were impending in the financial world owing to the shrinkage in Stock Exchange prices and the inability to dispose of unsold holdings of securities.

In all these particulars fears were relieved. The first thing that happened to clarify the situation was the decision of the U. S. Supreme Court in the Northern Securities case. This decision, instead of proving a blow to financial and industrial interests, as had been expected, developed into a cause for congratulation. To be sure, the contention of the Government was upheld, but only by a very narrow margin (the Court standing five to four), and the several opinions rendered in the case showed that the majority judgment was possible only under the peculiar circumstances existing in this particular case; in other words, that it could not at all be considered as of general application—as condemning other combinations where the attendant features were different. Moreover, as soon as the decision was announced, Attorney-General Knox took pains to state that the Government had no intention of "running amuck." The two events together furnished assurance that no wholesale attempt to disturb the community-of-interest arrangements, which had proved beneficial in so many ways, was likely. The stock market, quick to see the significance of all this, responded with a rise in prices (when the decision was handed down in March) where a decline had been looked for.

Nor did the trust question again come up to disturb industrial interests. Congress adjourned in April without making any additions to the so-called trust legislation of 1903. Most important of all, the two great political parties did not divide on the question (as seemed at one time possible might be the case), the conservative element having gained ascendancy in the Democratic Party. As it happened, the nomination of Judge Parker removed the financial question, too, from the realm of politics.

The labor situation also wholly changed. There were some serious labor troubles during the year. We have already referred to the Masters' & Pilots' strike on the Great Lakes. This eventuated in the complete discomfiture of the strikers. The strike at the beef-packing establishments throughout the country was an even more important labor conflict. That act eventuated in the same way—in the complete defeat of the men and the vindication of the principle of the open shop. There were many other labor struggles in which the cause of the open shop also triumphed. What was no less assuring, both the great political parties assumed a correct attitude on the question. Before the holding of the nominating conventions it was not at all certain that the Democratic Party, which had identified itself with so many follies and errors in the past, would not be led to espouse the cause of union labor

against the open shop, hoping to gain a political advantage from such a course. Nothing of the kind happened. Both parties seemed to be committed to the policy of the maintenance of the open shop and the protection of non-union labor—as we showed in an article in the issue of the CHRONICLE of July 30.

The movement towards further increases in wages was likewise arrested. The great rise in wages continued over so many years had been one of the most unfavorable features in the industrial world, since it added so largely to the cost of producing goods and of doing all classes of work. The lessening of business activity again gave the employer the upper hand. Though several large labor conflicts marked the course of the twelve months—one of these, the walk-out of the operatives at the cotton mills at Fall River, continuing to the end of the year—it is to the credit of the laboring classes that they so generally recognized the necessities of the situation and acquiesced in such reductions in wages as were imperative, particularly the iron and steel workers and the miners in the bituminous coal regions.

As to the suggestion of failures in the financial world, all predictions were completely falsified. Financial involvements of this kind had been singularly few in 1903, and during 1904 not a single failure of consequence in the financial world occurred.

Thus there were abundant reasons for the improvement which occurred aside from the fact that the decline in prices had placed security values on a much sounder basis. But this by no means exhausts the list of favorable features. Others were added as conditions developed and the year progressed. Among the most important was the abundance of the harvests. There were many misgivings as to a satisfactory outcome. On account of the prolonged cold weather and the lateness of the spring, the growing season did not start under auspicious circumstances, making it more than ordinarily important that the summer weather should be propitious and that damaging frosts should not come early. Speculation in grain prices, a prominent feature all through the year, hence received new life when a series of frosts, extending all through the corn belt, were reported in September. Subsequent developments showed, however, that only trifling harm had been done to the maturing corn crop. Consequently, with the exception of wheat, the country was blessed with bounteous crops. To the abundance of the harvest there was added the further advantage, as far as farming interests are concerned, of good prices, and in the case of wheat the level of values was extraordinarily high.

The cotton crop (which was much earlier than that of 1903) proved the very largest on record, the indications pointing to a yield of 12,750,000 bales. Unfortunately the price dropped very low, middling uplands in New York Dec. 31 1904 being only 6.95 cents, against 13.50 cents Dec. 31 1903. This led to a movement to burn a portion of the crop.

The fact should not be overlooked, either, that railroad earnings were remarkably well maintained. The depression in the iron and steel industry (the revival in that industry dating only from September, when prices were radically reduced, thereby stimulating demand), the inactivity of trade, the bad weather, and the various labor troubles, were reflected in diminished earnings during the first seven months of the year, but the falling off was relatively light, especially considering the extraordinary and

uninterrupted gains of the years preceding. The last five months the course was reversed and gains again were the feature—small at first but with increasing magnitude as the months progressed.

The railroads were at the same time relieved of their financial necessities through the ability to float new loans. There was no more conspicuous feature in the year's affairs than the capacity developed for absorbing new security issues. During 1903, it will be recalled, it was almost impossible to dispose of new stocks and bonds to any great extent. Even those of the highest grade and of gilt-edged character seemed tabooed. In 1904 all this was changed. Month after month new stock and bond issues of great magnitude were announced; and not the slightest difficulty was apparently experienced in finding takers for the same. Municipalities were also unusually prolific in their bond offerings. New York City alone put on the market \$75,000,000 of new bonds, not counting sinking fund takings.

Nor should it escape attention that the country's foreign trade remained on the whole satisfactory. Notwithstanding the enormous shrinkage in the exports of breadstuffs, the total of our merchandise exports was large. For 1904 these merchandise exports were \$1,451,355,645, against \$1,484,753,083 in 1903. The close correspondence between the two amounts is the more noteworthy, as commodity values ruled lower in 1904 than in 1903. In iron and steel a very striking growth in exports occurred, induced by the low prices at which goods were offered. Merchandise imports, too, were maintained, and even enlarged.

In the money market great ease was the distinctive feature. There was never the faintest suggestion of stringency. On the Stock Exchange money on call for the whole of the period from the middle of January to the beginning of November at no time ruled as high as 3 per cent. During the spring and summer money was practically unlendable for weeks, even at the absurdly low figure of one-half of one per cent per annum. The trust companies for a large portion of the year were altogether out of the call-loan branch of the market, as there would have been no profit in withdrawing deposits from the banks bearing 2 per cent interest and loaning the money for less in the market.

There were two periods when surplus reserves were low, namely in May with the amount on the 14th \$12,827,250, and again in December with the amount on the 3rd \$8,539,075. But even on these occasions money holdings remained large. The maximum of surplus was reached August 20 at \$58,613,075. Money holdings then were \$361,005,700, as against only \$231,086,600 January 2. December 31 the amount was \$289,695,700, surplus reserves then being \$13,683,425, comparing with \$9,541,875 on January 2.

The inactivity of trade which prevailed until the last few months no doubt played its part in this monetary congestion, but it would be a mistake to assume it was the sole cause. The United States Treasury by its operations made material additions to the supplies in the channels of trade. Notwithstanding the large Government withdrawals from the banks (Government deposits in the banks December 31 1904 being only \$111,550,855 against \$166,446,738 December 31 1903), cash in Sub-Treasuries was reduced by December 31 1904 to \$272,393,729, against \$297,628,597 January 1 1904. At the same time bank-note circulation was increased (taking as a basis the amount

GENERAL SUMMARY FOR TWO YEARS.

	1904.	1903.
Coin and currency in U. S. Dec. 31..\$	2,839,103,169	2,763,152,326
Bank clearings in United States.....\$	112,449,664,015	109,209,187,764
Business failures.....\$	144,202,311	155,444,185
Sales at N. Y. Stock Exchange, shares.	187,312,065	161,102,101
Grain and flour at Prod. Exch'g, bush.	627,379,500	553,646,350
Imports of merchandise (12 mos.)...\$	1,035,909,197	995,494,327
Exports of merchandise (12 mos.)...\$	1,451,355,645	1,484,753,033
Net exports of gold (12 mos.).....\$	36,335,641	20,920,862
Gross earnings 135 roads (12 mos.) \$	1,773,338,878	1,782,201,391
Railroad constructed.....miles.	(est.) 4,000	4,715
Wheat raised.....bushels.	552,399,517	637,821,335
Corn raised.....bushels.	2,467,480,933	2,244,176,925
Oats raised.....bushels.	894,595,552	784,094,199
Cotton raised.....bales.	*12,750,000	10,123,686
Pig iron produced, (tons of 2,240 lbs.)	16,497,033	18,009,252
L. Superior ore shipm'ts. (gross tons)	21,822,839	24,289,878
Copper production in U. S.....(lbs.)	†780,800,000	†698,000,000
Anthracite coal... (tons of 2,240 lbs.)	57,492,522	59,362,331
Petroleum (runs) production....bbls.	‡30,310,327	‡30,652,554
Immigration into United States...No.	808,999	939,330
Pub. land sales (yr. end g June 30) acres	12,476,840	14,265,610

* Estimated.

† These are the old Pipe Line runs; the Buckeye runs were 21,341,058 bbls. in 1904 and 20,489,024 bbls. in 1903. a Net imports.

‡ Estimate of Horace J. Stevens of Houghton, Mich.

JANUARY.—Current Events.—The year opened on the first business day (Jan. 2) with a fierce snow-storm raging in this city and over the whole of New York and New England, with a sharp break in the stock market and a rise of several points in the grain market (both as the result of rumors of war between Japan and Russia), and with a decline in consols, already at a low point, as a result of the same cause. These characteristics of the opening day, as it happened, furnished an indication of the leading influences that were to mark the course of the year. War between Japan and Russia broke out the next month. The rise in the price of grain was to continue with greater or smaller interruptions throughout the year, though from entirely different causes the last six months from those operative at the beginning, and adverse weather was to play an important part in affairs during the whole of the first five months. As evidencing the excitement in the grain markets on the opening day mentioned, spring wheat for May delivery in Chicago (the New York market not being open on that day) closed at 87½ Jan. 2 against 84½ cents two days previous, on Dec. 31. The range in Chicago for the whole of January was from 84¼ to 92½; the close Jan. 30 was 90¼. In New York the range for the May option was from 88½ to 93½, the close Jan. 30 being 92½. The snow storm on the 2d was succeeded by intense cold, and for several successive days the zero mark was reached in this city. This particular cold wave (which, however, was succeeded by others later in January and in following months) culminated on the morning of Jan. 5 with a record of 4 degrees below zero. At some of the near-by points much lower temperatures were reached—in New Jersey, for instance, from 15 to 25 degrees below. Up the State, and in New England, the record was anywhere from 15 to 50 degrees below. Under repeated heavy falls of snow, with intense cold, the lines in Northern New York the latter part of the month were at times completely tied up. West of Chicago interruptions from snow blockades do not appear to have been so serious. The effect of the weather was to make transportation and travel difficult, to increase the operating expenses of the railroads and to diminish the volume of their traffic. Jan. 6 Russia sent a reply to the last previous note from Japan, but it was considered unsatisfactory, and in diplomatic circles hope of averting a conflict was practically abandoned. The dividend on United States Steel Corporation common shares, which the preceding quarter had been reduced from 1 p. c. to ½ of 1 p. c., was, Jan. 5, passed altogether. The usual quarterly declaration of 1½ p. c. was made on the preferred shares. Net earnings for the December quarter of 1903 were only \$15,037,181, against \$32,422,955 in the September quarter of 1903 and \$31,985,759 for the December quarter of 1902. Wages of steel-workers were generally and largely reduced. The profit-sharing plan of the Steel Corporation was continued, but participants were allowed to take the preferred shares at 55 instead of at 82½—the price the previous year. In the Colorado miners' strike troubles Gov. Peabody, Jan. 3, issued a proclamation declaring San Miguel County in southwestern Colorado, in which the Telluride district is situated, in a state of insurrection and putting it under control of the military. The speculation in cotton which had distinguished previous months was carried to still greater extremes. After a decline to 13·20 cents January 4 (from 13·50 cents at the close of 1903), prices steadily advanced until, Jan. 30, the spot quotation here for middling uplands was 16·75 cents. Print cloths advanced from 3½ cents per yard to 4 cents, but reacted to 3½. There was also a wild speculation in coffee, the price for December delivery Jan. 27 getting up to 9·05 cents, the highest figure since 1900; the movement, however, soon collapsed and in March this same option sold down to 6 cents. Notwithstanding these various disturbing influences, the tone in financial circles distinctly improved, and some large loan negotiations by the railroads were a feature of the month. Government deposits in the banks remained substantially unchanged, but cash in sub-treasuries was reduced from \$297,628,597 to \$290,648,837. There was likewise a small increase in national bank circulation. Jan. 29 the issuing of gold certificates was for the time being suspended, the amount of gold coin in the 150-million reserve fund having fallen below the 100-million

mark. On Jan. 4 President Roosevelt sent a special message to Congress regarding the Panama Canal Treaty with the new Republic of Panama (then pending in the United States Senate), and urged that as the new Republic was an established fact the sole question presented by the Treaty was whether there was to be a canal or not. The price of British consols in London between the 2d and the 7th fell from 88½ to 86 13-16, but the close Jan. 30 was 87¼. In Pittsburgh the lockout in the building trades, after having lasted seventeen weeks was settled Jan. 27, and resulted in a victory for the employers; the striking plumbers returned to work under an agreement providing for arbitration and giving employers the privilege of hiring non-union men. China ratified commercial treaties with both the United States and Japan. A cut in steerage rates on east-bound Mediterranean traffic was made by the trans-Atlantic steamship lines, and this proved the forerunner of more serious troubles later in the year in the ocean transportation business. The Transvaal Legislative Council passed the bill providing for the introduction of Chinese labor in South Africa so as to solve the problem of obtaining sufficient labor for the Rand gold mines. But as the measure had to receive royal sanction and it was necessary to conclude a labor convention with China, it was not until the following June that the importation of coolies began. The War Department at Washington sold \$7,000,000 of 4 p. c. land-purchase bonds of the Philippine Islands; payment for the Friar lands, however, was not begun until the following September, owing to the difficulty of securing a clear title.

Railroad Events and Stock Exchange Matters.—While the stock market was weak at the beginning of the month, it later developed strength. In the height of the movement transactions on one day exceeded 1,000,000 shares. The distinctive feature, however, was the activity in the bond market, large purchases both of speculative issues and of the investment grades of bonds being made. Atchison Topeka & Santa Fe common, after selling down from 69½ Jan. 2 to 65½ Jan. 6, advanced to 70¼ Jan. 22, closing at 69¼ Jan. 30. Pennsylvania Railroad declined from 118¾ to 116½, then advanced to 123½ and closed at 120¼. Union Pacific common fell off from 80 to 76½, then rose to 82½ and closed at 80¾. These illustrations show that from the best prices of the month there was some reaction at the close. Even the Steel shares improved after the announcement of the suspension of dividends on the common stock. The common got as low as 9½ Jan. 6 (a decline of 3 points), but closed at 10½ Jan. 30. The preferred advanced from 54½ Jan. 6 to 60 Jan. 27, but reacted to 54½ at the close Jan. 30. The Erie RR. declared the second consecutive semi-annual dividend of 2 p. c. on its 1st pref. stock (payable Feb. 29), bringing about the contingency which was to terminate the voting trust. The Nashville Chattanooga & St. Louis also made a semi-annual dividend of 2 p. c., the first declaration by that company since 1893. The Pressed Steel Car Co. omitted the ¼ p. c. extra paid quarterly on its common stock, distributing only 1 p. c. The quarterly dividend on Amer. Car & Foundry com. was reduced from 1 p. c. to ½ p. c. J. P. Morgan & Co. offered \$23,000,000 of Louisville & Nashville 5-20 4 p. c. collateral trust bonds. The Southern Pacific Company disposed of \$8,000,000 of its 4½ per cent 2-5-year collateral trust bonds. The Wabash Railroad sold \$1,500,000 4 p. c. terminal bonds. Judge Grosscup, in the U. S. Circuit Court at Chicago, in the suit of a shareholder of the People's Gas Light & Coke Co., restrained the city from enforcing its 75-cent gas ordinance, holding that the city had no power to regulate the price of gas. A decision in favor of the city was rendered the following April by the U. S. Supreme Court, but it did not involve this particular point. The Governors of the New York Stock Exchange removed the com. and pref. stocks of the American Steel Foundries Co. from the "unlisted" department, owing to the discovery of certain discrepancies in the statement of the company's condition furnished to the Exchange; the following June they were restored to the list. The Seaboard Air Line Ry. offered its shareholders \$5,000,000 5 p. c. collateral trust bonds due March 1, 1907, on the basis of a bonus of \$900 in pref. stock and \$1,600 in common stock with each \$1,000 bond. A syndicate headed by Blair & Co. underwrote the bonds on that basis. Buffalo Rochester & Pittsburgh stockholders were given the right to take \$700,000 new common at par. The Chic. R. I. & Pac. Ry. announced a plan for a new mtg. of \$163,000,000 (instead of for \$250,000,000 as originally suggested); the proposition was approved by the shareholders in March and a block of the bonds sold in November. The Pittsburgh Coal Co. arranged for the sale from time to time of \$25,000,000 bonds. New interests took hold of United States Realty & Construction Co.

The Money Market.—Money became very easy in January. There was a large return flow of currency from the interior, besides which gold imports added to available supplies, while the United States Treasury, as shown above, also paid out considerably more cash than it received. Money holdings of the Clearing House banks increased over \$50,000,000 in the four weeks to Jan. 30, rising from \$318,086,600 Jan. 2, to \$281,115,000 Jan. 30. Surplus reserves advanced from \$9,541,875 Jan. 2 to \$26,072,675 Jan. 23, though falling off to \$25,129,050 Jan. 30. Both loans and deposits reached totals never previously attained up to that time, the deposits expanding over \$137,000,000 the aggregate being \$1,023,943,800 Jan. 30, against \$886,178,900 Jan. 2. Loans increased from \$908,570,500 Jan. 2 to \$994,552,100 Jan. 30.

Call money on the Stock Exchange touched 6 p. c. on Monday, Jan. 4, this being identical to the large January interest and dividend payments, but after the 6th the rate did not go above 3, and the close was at $1\frac{3}{4}$ @2. Time loans also sharply declined, the quotation Jan. 30 being $3\frac{1}{2}$ for 30 days, $3\frac{3}{4}$ for 60 days, 4 for 90 days to four months, $4\frac{1}{4}$ for five to six months and $4\frac{1}{2}$ for eight months. Commercial paper at the close was quoted at $4\frac{1}{2}$ @5 for 60 to 90 days endorsed bills receivable, $4\frac{3}{4}$ @ $5\frac{1}{4}$ for prime and $5\frac{1}{2}$ @6 for good four to six months single names.

Foreign Exchange, Silver, &c.—Foreign exchange advanced almost uninterruptedly until the last week of the month. The rise up to the 20th was two cents or over per pound sterling on all classes of bills. Money rates declined at the European centres, but they declined still more here. Not a little buying of exchange for investment was noted and rumor also suggested accumulation of credits in Europe in expectation of the early ratification of the Panama Canal Treaty. It was likewise stated that, owing to the high rate for money which had prevailed in New York the last week in December, remittances of some amounts of January dividends and interest had been deferred and were now being made. The rise in exchange rendered further engagements of gold in Europe for import out of the question, but there were continued arrivals of gold on previous engagements, and steamers from Japan also brought more or less of the metal up to the very close of the month, supposedly to pay for war supplies. A downward reaction in exchange occurred in the last week of the month. This was attributed in part to the placing of portions of American railroad loans abroad and also to the purchases for European account of railroad bonds in this market. Rates for 60 days' bankers' bills advanced from $4\ 81$ @ $4\ 8110$ Jan. 2 to $4\ 8350$ @ $4\ 8360$ Jan. 20, and closed at $4\ 83$ @ $4\ 8310$ Jan. 29. Sight bills moved up from $4\ 84$ @ $4\ 8410$ to $4\ 8615$ @ $4\ 8625$, and closed at $4\ 8555$ @ $4\ 8565$. Cable transfers were at their highest Jan. 18 at $4\ 8650$ @ $4\ 8660$ (against $4\ 8440$ @ $4\ 8455$ Jan. 2), and closed Jan. 29 at $4\ 8585$ @ $4\ 86$. The Bank of England in the four weeks to Jan. 28 increased its bullion holdings by £5,274,253, but the official rate of discount was kept at 4 p. c. In the open market discounts of 60 to 90-day bank bills were 3 p. c. at the close against $3\frac{3}{8}$ at the opening. At Paris there was a decline from $2\frac{7}{8}$ to $2\frac{3}{4}$ and at Berlin and Frankfurt from $3\frac{3}{8}$ to $2\frac{1}{2}$ @ $2\frac{3}{4}$. On large buying by the India Government for currency needs, silver in London advanced from 26d. per ounce Jan. 2 to 27 5-16d. Jan. 14, but with the withdrawal of the India Government from the market a sharp drop occurred, and the close Jan. 30 was at $25\frac{3}{4}$ d.

FEBRUARY.—*Current Events.*—Hostilities broke out between Japan and Russia. Japan tired of Russia's delay in replying to her last note and severed diplomatic relations. On the 7th the Japanese Minister gave notice of his withdrawal from St. Petersburg, and Russia thereupon recalled her Minister from Tokio. Japan immediately took the offensive, and on the night of the 8th her ships made a dashing attack on the Russian fleet at Port Arthur, seriously crippling the ships. This was followed by other similar moves later in the month, giving the Japanese a very decided advantage at the start. Secretary Hay sent a note to the leading Powers, the principles of which they all accepted, intended to localize as much as possible the area of conflict and insure the integrity of China. Japan negotiated a treaty with Korea giving it a protectorate over that country. A great conflagration occurred Feb. 7 at Baltimore, destroying property values to the amount of about \$100,000,000. The fire extended over the whole of the business and financial district. Fire engines from New York, Philadelphia and Washington aided in extinguishing the flames. Both the banks and the Stock Exchange at Baltimore suspended business for a number of days, the Legislature having given the Governor power to declare legal holidays for the purpose. Though the insurance loss reached about \$35,000,000, only a few local concerns were forced to the wall, besides two small companies elsewhere, though the Greenwich and Hamilton of this city went into retirement. On the 26th a very serious fire occurred at Rochester, the property loss reaching about \$3,000,000 and the insurance loss over \$1,750,000. The United States Senate on the 23d ratified the Panama Canal Treaty by a vote of 66 to 14. The Secretary of the Treasury on the 4th sent a letter to the national banks requesting them to be prepared to pay 20 p. c. of their Government deposits on demand whenever required. No call, however, was made upon the banks during the month. Government deposits in the banks Mar. 1 were \$162,505,517, against \$166,595,774 Feb. 1, while cash in sub-treasuries Mar. 1 was \$291,452,575, against \$290,648,837 Feb. 1. National bank circulation based on Government bonds increased during the month from \$387,657,731 to \$390,352,491. William H. Taft became Secretary of War Feb. 1 to succeed Elihu Root, resigned. United States Senator Marcus A. Hanna died. Owing to the circulation of startling reports suggesting possible world complications as a result of the Russo-Japanese War, a semi-panic was precipitated on the Paris Bourse Feb. 20, French rentes and other high-class securities breaking sharply, and the effects were felt at the other European centres. It was also feared that Turkey would take advantage of Russia's pre-occupation in the Far East and make war on Bulgaria, the Balkan situation being very much disturbed. The next day (Sunday) Paris financiers took measures intended to arrest the panicky feeling, and on Monday, the 23d, the Paris Bourse recovered, and thereafter there was no further trouble.

British consols, however, in London, Feb. 29 were only 85 15-16 against $87\frac{3}{4}$ Jan. 30; one factor was the selling by British fire insurance companies which had losses to meet on account of the Baltimore fire. The speculation in cotton suffered a serious relapse. The July option in New York had gotten up to 17'55 cts. on Feb. 1 (in the New Orleans market this option went even higher, touching 18'14 cts.); by the 10th the price was down to 12'80 cts. The latter part of the month the market again displayed strength and the July option here closed at 15'42 cts. Spot cotton was 13'50 cts. Feb. 16, against 17'25 cts. Feb. 1; the close Feb. 29 was at 15'35 cts. Print cloths were $4\frac{1}{2}$ at the beginning of the month, but dropped back to 4 cts. Grain prices, however, were carried still higher under the influence of the war in the East and reports of damage from severe weather to our winter-wheat crop. A rise of almost 20 cts. a bushel occurred in wheat. The May option in Chicago ranged from $89\frac{3}{8}$ cts. to \$1 09, closing Feb. 29 at 101; in New York the range was from $91\frac{3}{8}$ to \$1 08, the close being $103\frac{3}{8}$. Other grains also sharply advanced, May corn here moving up from $55\frac{3}{4}$ cts. to $63\frac{1}{2}$ and closing Feb. 29 at $61\frac{1}{8}$ cts. The weather continued intensely cold, particularly in the East and North; business and railroad operations were likewise impeded by snow blockades. According to all reports the winter was the coldest experienced in more than a generation. In the Colorado mining troubles, Governor Peabody on Feb. 2 proclaimed the end of military rule in the Cripple Creek district, in Teller County, in Central Colorado, but the situation in that part of the State again became serious the following June; San Miguel County remained under control of the militia. Northern grades of pig iron were reduced 25 to 50 cents a ton to meet a similar reduction in Southern pig iron. Messrs. Speyer & Co. of this city purchased the \$35,000,000 issue of 40-year 5 p. c. gold bonds of the Republic of Cuba. The loan was not publicly offered, however, until the following May, when subscriptions were received in both Europe and the United States, the proposals being largely in excess of the offering. In the case of the contention of Great Britain, Germany and Italy for preferential treatment of their claims against Venezuela over those of other countries, which had been referred to the Hague Arbitration Tribunal in February of the previous year, the Court decided unanimously that these powers were entitled to a preference of 30 p. c. of the Customs duties at La Guayra and Puerto Cabello. The U. S. Supreme Court decided in favor of the State of South Dakota in its suit on \$10,000 defaulted bonds issued by the State of North Carolina and which had been donated to it for the purpose of bringing suit. The bonds were originally secured by 100 shares of North Carolina R.R. stock, and the Court directed the sale of the State's interest in said stock if by Jan. 1, 1905, the amount found to be due on the bonds (\$27,400) was not paid. A consolidation of two important trust companies in New York City was arranged—the New York Security & Trust Co. and the Continental Trust.

Railroad Events and Stock Exchange Matters.—The stock market was feverish and lower the early part of February and on Monday, the 8th, it experienced a sharp break on the outbreak of war between Japan and Russia, the news regarding the fire at Baltimore, the demoralization of the cotton market, and the unfavorable interpretation put on the issue of the \$50,000,000 Pennsylvania Company notes. The decline, however, was not continued the next day, the market instead showing some recovery. The latter part of the month transactions were on an exceedingly small scale, but the tendency of prices continued generally downward. Baltimore & Ohio common declined from 84 to $73\frac{3}{8}$ x; Atchison common from $70\frac{1}{2}$ to 64; Milwaukee & St. Paul common from $144\frac{1}{2}$ to $137\frac{1}{8}$; Missouri Pacific from 94 to 87; N. Y. Central from $119\frac{3}{4}$ to 113; Pennsylvania from $121\frac{1}{2}$ to $112\frac{1}{2}$; Southern Pacific from $50\frac{1}{2}$ to $42\frac{1}{2}$; Union Pacific from $81\frac{3}{8}$ to $72\frac{1}{4}$; and Southern Ry. common from $22\frac{1}{2}$ to $18\frac{1}{4}$; the low points being made on the 24th. Del. Lack. & West. dropped from $271\frac{1}{2}$ to $250\frac{1}{2}$ and Del. & Hudson from 168 to 154x. Amalgamated Copper was favorably influenced the early part of the month by a court decision, but later declined with the general market. The Montana Supreme Court on Feb. 1 reversed a ruling of the lower court under which the payment of dividends on Boston & Montana Consolidated Copper & Silver Mining Co. stock owned by the Amalgamated Co. and also stock in the Parrott Co. had been enjoined since July, 1901. See CHRONICLE Feb. 6 (V. 78, p. 585). The Pennsylvania Company, through Kuhn, Loeb & Co., negotiated \$50,000,000 of its $4\frac{1}{2}$ p. c. notes to run 18 months from April 1, 1904. The same firm offered for sale in this country and Europe \$10,000,000 of Long Island R.R. bonds, due in 1949, and guaranteed by the Pennsylvania R.R. The Missouri Pacific sold \$6,000,000 of its 5 p. c. secured notes due Feb. 10, 1906. The N. Y. New Haven & Hartf. R.R. disposed of \$5,000,000 10-year 4 p. c. debentures and the Boston & Maine of \$1,000,000 of $3\frac{1}{2}$ p. c. debentures due in 1923. Fisk & Robinson sold a block of Buffalo & Susquehanna R.R. bonds in Paris through the French Finance Corporation. The General Chemical Co. decided to suspend dividends on its common stock during 1904. Control of the Central New England Ry. was transferred to the N. Y., New Haven & Hartf. R.R.; \$5,000,000 of New Haven 4 p. c. debentures were given for the securities acquired, which debentures were taken by the Deutsche Bank of Berlin. A modified plan for the reorganization of the United States Shipbuilding Co. was agreed upon and received the approval of Mr. Schwab, marking the end of the litigation regarding the

company. Old 1st mortgage bondholders got 60 p. c. in common and 40 p. c. in pref. stock of the successor company, the Bethlehem Steel Corporation; the collateral trust bonds held by Mr. Schwab got 60 p. c. in common and 90 p. c. in pref. Swift & Co. issued \$10,000,000 of new stock to shareholders at par.

The Money Market.—Money rates ruled very low. Both loans and deposits were maintained at high figures, while surplus reserves, after dropping from \$25,129,050 Jan. 30 to \$20,379,225 Feb. 13, increased to \$32,150,200 Feb. 27. Money holdings decreased from \$281,115,000 Jan. 30 to \$276,968,600 Feb. 13, and then increased to \$289,130,300 Feb. 27. Call loans Feb. 29 were $1\frac{1}{4}$ @2 p. c. Time loans were $2\frac{1}{2}$ & $2\frac{3}{4}$ for 30 days, 3 for sixty days, $3\frac{1}{4}$ for ninety days, $3\frac{1}{2}$ for four months and $3\frac{3}{4}$ @4 for five to six months. Commercial paper was $4\frac{3}{4}$ @5 for double names and $4\frac{3}{4}$ @ $5\frac{1}{4}$ for prime single names and $5\frac{1}{2}$ @6 for good single names. Eastern buyers of paper were temporarily out of the market because of loans made to fire insurance companies in their locality by reason of the Baltimore and Rochester fires.

Foreign Exchange, Silver, Etc.—The occurrence of the Russo-Japanese war caused very little derangement in exchange. The tendency had been upward, and this tendency continued, though with some interruptions, the rest of the month. Temporary weakness developed about the 10th, which was explained as due in part to offerings of sight bills by some of the foreign fire insurance companies, which were thus making provision for the settlement of losses incurred by the Baltimore fire. On the 20th there was, as already stated, a semi-panic on the Paris Bourse and attended by some failures at several of the Continental cities. The advance thereafter was quite rapid, caused by a demand to remit for securities sold for European account, by an inquiry for the transfer of money (through the cable) in consequence of the unsettled situation occasioned by the failures referred to, and by purchases of long sterling for investment and of short sterling on speculation, in the expectation of the prompt transfer of the Panama Canal payment, the Treaty having been ratified. Rates on the 29th were at the highest figures of the month, being 4 8390@4 84 for sixty-day bills, 4 8665@4 8675 for sight bills and 4 8710@4 8725 for cable transfers, an advance of $1@1\frac{1}{4}$ cts. for the month. The Bank of England further increased its bullion holdings, adding £1,297,896 during the four weeks. Op-n market discounts, however, in London were higher, being $3\frac{1}{8}$ @ $3\frac{1}{4}$ p. c. Feb. 29; at Berlin and Frankfurt there was an advance to $3\frac{1}{4}$ @ $3\frac{3}{8}$, but the Paris rate was $2\frac{1}{2}$ @2 9-16. The outbreak of war caused all the Far Eastern exchanges to rise rapidly, monetary conditions there being already stringent, and as a consequence a sharp rise occurred in silver at London. After dropping to $25\frac{5}{8}$ d. Feb. 3, there was an advance by the 16th to $27\frac{1}{2}$; the close Feb. 29 was $26\frac{3}{4}$ d.

MARCH.—*Current Events*—The long-looked-for decision of the U. S. Supreme Court in the Northern Securities case was rendered on the 14th. Though the Court upheld the contention of the Government and decided that the acquisition of the stocks of the Northern Pacific Ry. and the Great Northern Ry. in the circumstances under which the Northern Securities Co. was formed was illegal, the decision did not have the disturbing effect expected. Study of the different opinions handed down revealed some decidedly encouraging features. In the first place the judgment was that of only a bare majority of the Court, five Justices voting in the affirmative while four vigorously dissented. In the second place, the four dissenting Justices comprised two members (Justice Peckham and Justice Fuller) who had voted with the majority in the Trans-Missouri Freight Association and the Joint Traffic Association cases. In the third place, of the five members making up the majority, one, namely Justice Brewer, concurred in the judgment but not in the reasoning of his colleagues. Justice Brewer had been with the majority in the decision against the Trans-Missouri Freight Association, and in concurring in the majority opinion in the present case was constrained to say that while further examination had not disturbed his conviction that the earlier case had been correctly decided, yet he felt that in some respects the reasons given for that earlier judgment could not be sustained. Instead of holding that the Anti-Trust Act of 1890 included all contracts, reasonable or unreasonable, in restraint of inter-State trade, the ruling should have been that the contracts there presented were unreasonable restraints of inter-State trade and as such within the scope of the Act. He put his concurrence in the judgment against the Securities Company on the same grounds, namely that its acts could not be regarded as a reasonable or lawful restraint of trade. Altogether, it appeared that the views of several members of the Court had undergone important modifications since the earlier decisions, affording ground for the belief that the Court could be induced to recede from the position that the 1890 Act applied to combinations in reasonable restraint of trade as well as those in unreasonable restraint whenever a case in which this distinction is a necessary issue shall come before it. Hence, the more hopeful feeling which developed. Furthermore, in a published newspaper interview, Attorney General Knox made the now famous declaration that the Government did not intend to "run amuck"—apparently defining its intentions for the future. The long-continued speculation in cotton came to an inglorious end on Friday, the 18th, in the failure of Daniel J. Sully & Co., who had been the head and front of the movement. Between Mar. 1 and

Mar. 11th, the May option had advanced from 15 24 cts. to 16 65 cts. Then came a decline, and on the 18th the quotation got down to 12 65 (a decline in a single week of 4 cts.); from this there was considerable recovery; on Mar. 31 the price was 15 04 cts. Spot cotton got up to 16 65 cts. Mar. 9, dropped to 14 Mar. 22 and closed Mar. 31 at 15 35 cts. A threatened strike in the bituminous coal regions which had given some uneasiness was averted. On account of the depression in trade, bituminous operators had determined upon a 15 p. c. reduction in wages. An agreement with the men was finally reached on the basis of a reduction of 5 p. c. (or one-half the advance granted the previous year), the arrangement, however, to cover two years. In the building trades in this city an unfavorable feature was a strike of the bricklayers and the laborers working with them. In the iron and steel industry there were considerable evidences of improvement, and the U. S. Steel Corporation gave some large orders for the purchase of pig iron. While the fluctuations in wheat covered a range of about 10 points, prices were pretty well maintained, the May option at New York closing at 98 1/4 and in Chicago at 95 3/8 cts. May corn in this market ranged between 55 1/2 and 61 3/8 and closed at 60 1/4. Secretary Shaw Mar. 4 made a call upon the banks for the surrender of 20 per cent of their Government deposits by the 25th. The amount thus called was \$28,067,560. This was in preparation for the Panama Canal payments. As, however, the amounts surrendered were transferred to certain specially designated banks in this city, no material change occurred in the total of Government deposits in the banks, which were reported \$162,058,353 April 1, 1904, against \$162,505,517 March 1. Cash in Sub-Treasuries rose from \$291,452,575 to \$294,036,817. National bank circulation afloat on bonds further increased from \$390,352,490 to \$395,600,234. British consols in London touched 85 early in the month (the low figure of the year), but the close Mar. 31 was 86 7-16, indicating a much better feeling abroad, notwithstanding the Russo-Japanese war. The restrictions upon speculative dealings in certain securities imposed by the official Bourse at Paris following the crisis in February were after a few weeks trial removed—see V. 73, p. 1246. The National Citizens' Bank and the Central National Bank of this city were consolidated under the name of the Citizens' Central National; the Leather Manufacturers' National and the Mechanics' National were also merged, under the name of the latter.

Railroad Events and Stock Exchange Matters.—The stock market was extremely dull up to the time of the announcement of the Northern Securities decision, with the tendency of prices downward. For reasons referred to above, that event was followed by a complete change in the tone of the market. Great activity developed, attended by a marked and general rise in prices. From a total of only 74,403 shares dealt in on the 10th, there was an increase to 1,052,245 shares on the 22d and to 1,338,747 on the 23d. Differences developed later in the month between the Harriman-Union Pacific interests and the Hill people with reference to the basis of distribution of the holdings of Northern Pacific and Great Northern shares to be followed in the liquidation of the Northern Securities Company—the Union Pacific people contending that they ought to get back the precise stocks (in their case Northern Pacific shares) turned in by them when the Securities Company was formed and the Hill people contending that each holder of Northern Securities shares should take pro rata amounts of the stock holdings of both Union Pacific and Great Northern. As a consequence business fell off again somewhat and there was also some recession in prices. Nevertheless the tone remained firm and the feeling confident. Atchison common advanced from 64 to 73 1/8; Milwaukee & St. Paul common from 187 3/8 to 147 3/4; Louisville & Nashville from 101 3/4 to 108 3/4; N. Y. Central from 112 3/8 to 118 3/8; Pennsylvania from 111 1/2 to 120; Southern Pacific from 41 1/2 to 51 1/8 and Union Pacific from 71 to 87 1/8, this last being in very active demand on the possibility that through the liquidation of the Securities Company the Union Pacific would get control of the Northern Pacific; there were also rumors that Rockefeller or Milwaukee & St. Paul interests were increasing their holdings of Union Pacific. The low prices were reached either on the 12th or 14th and the high prices towards the close of the month. In the outside market Northern Securities stock (this stock not being listed on the Exchange), which prior to the decision against it sold down to 84 1/8, subsequently advanced to 100 3/8. Del. & Hudson shareholders were given the right to take \$7,000,000 new stock at 15¢, the proceeds going in part to retire \$5,000,000 maturing New York & Canada bonds. E. S. Hooley & Co. purchased a majority of the stock of the Des Moines & Fort Dodge for a syndicate at \$25 per share; the following July directors representing Minneapolis & St. Louis interests were elected. The New York New Haven & Hartford gained control of the New Haven street railway system through the purchase of the stock of the Fair Haven & Westville RR., paying \$50 per \$25 share in its 3 1/2 p. c. debentures. The N. Y. Central sold \$5,000,000 of 4 1/2 p. c. one-year notes on a basis to net purchasers 5 p. c. interest. The Laclede Gas Light Co. of St. Louis sold \$5,000,000 of its new 5 p. c. 30-year bonds. Commercial Cable stock was exchanged for Mackay Companies stock, the basis being \$200 pref. and \$200 common of the latter for \$100 of the Cable stock. The Railway Steel Spring Co. declared the first dividend (2 p. c.) on its common stock. Dividends on Corn Products Co. common stock were suspended.

The Money Market.—Continued ease prevailed. The concentration of Government deposits in certain specially designated banks in this city had the effect of increasing supplies at this centre towards the close of the month, notwithstanding the gold shipments to the Argentine Republic. Money holdings of the banks, after decreasing to \$28,564,000 March 19, rose to \$295,097,400 April 2. Surplus reserves, however, after declining from \$32,150,200 Feb. 27 to \$27,310,575 March 19, recovered only to \$27,755,050 April 2, owing to a large increase in deposits, which latter were \$1,069,369,400 April 2 against \$1,027,920,400 Feb. 27. Loans for the first time reached \$1,000,000,000, being \$1,022,707,100 April 2 against \$990,209,100 Feb. 27. Call loans during the month ranged at $1\frac{1}{2}$ @2 p. c. Time loans at the close were $2\frac{1}{2}$ @3 for sixty days, 3 for ninety days, $3\frac{1}{4}$ for four to five months, $3\frac{3}{4}$ @4 for six to seven months and $4\frac{1}{2}$ for eight to ten months. Paper was $4\frac{1}{2}$ @ $4\frac{3}{4}$ for double names and $4\frac{1}{2}$ @5 for prime and 5 @ $5\frac{1}{2}$ for good single names.

Foreign Exchange, Suver, Etc.—Exchange remained strong throughout the month and rates further advanced. While there were no gold exports to Europe, some shipments were made to the Argentine Republic, mostly on London account. The latter half of the month a supply of drafts came on the market against purchases of securities here on European account following the announcement of the Northern Securities decision, but this did not prevent a further rise in rates, these drafts being quickly absorbed. It was suggested that the strength was due to the prospective payments on account of the Panama Canal. But the extremely large gold shipments which occurred the next two months hardly supported the view that much exchange was arranged for beforehand. Rates Mar. 31 were only a trifle below the highest figures of the month, being 4 8475@4 8485 for sixty days, 4 8730 @ 4 8735 for sight and 4 8770@4 8780 for cable transfers. Though discounts in London were easier, being $2\frac{3}{4}$ @ $2\frac{7}{8}$ Mar. 31, the open market rates at the Continental centres were slightly higher, the figures Mar. 31 being $2\frac{3}{4}$ at Paris, and $3\frac{3}{8}$ @ $3\frac{1}{2}$ at Berlin and Frankfort. With very little buying for India, silver tended strongly downward, and the quotation Mar. 31 at London was only $25\frac{1}{2}$ d.

APRIL.—Current Events.—In the Russo-Japanese war the Russians suffered serious reverses. On the 13th the battleship Petropavlovsk was sunk by striking a mine placed in the outer roadstead of Port Arthur by the Japanese. Vice-Admiral Makaroff, the naval commander in chief in the Far East, went down with the vessel. On land, also, the Japanese met with successes; their forces undertook to cross the Yalu River at the close of the month and succeeded on the morning of May 1, the Russians being driven back and obliged to abandon a number of their guns. The Czar's troops in their retreat burnt Antung. Both sides suffered very heavy losses. Over \$19,000,000 gold was exported to France, with still larger shipments in May. Panama Canal Co. stockholders ratified the transfer of the property to the United States on April 23. The company asked that payment of the \$40,000,000 be made in Paris, and J. P. Morgan & Co. were appointed fiscal agents by our Government for the purpose. A very important event, particularly in view of the war in the Far East, was the conclusion of an Anglo-French colonial treaty settling all differences between France and Great Britain. The treaty, which was ratified by the French Chamber of Deputies the following November, deals with affairs in Egypt, Morocco, Newfoundland, West Africa, Siam, New Hebrides and Madagascar. British consols advanced from 86 7-16 March 31 to 89 3/8 April 30. In No. Securities affairs the Harriman-Union Pacific interests began proceedings in the U. S. Circuit Court at St. Paul on April 2 to compel the Securities Company to return to them the \$78,108,000 Northern Pacific stock originally held by them. The United States Attorney-General objected to the application for leave to intervene by the Harriman people, and April 19 the Circuit Court, by a unanimous decision, denied the application. Vice-Chancellor Bergen in Jersey City also dismissed the application of Charles H. Venner of Boston for an order restraining No. Securities shareholders from holding the special meeting in Hoboken called to confirm the plan of distribution arranged by the directors. The meeting was accordingly held and the plan approved; but the U. P. interests filed a protest and gave notice that a suit had been instituted in the Circuit Court of the U. S. for the District of New Jersey to compel the return to them of the Northern Pacific stock claimed. In that suit a motion was made for a preliminary injunction to restrain the company from parting with the particular Northern Pacific stock claimed, which motion was granted the following July. This injunction remained in effect until the end of the year, and prevented the carrying out of the plan of distribution. A decided revival of activity in the iron and steel trade was noted the early part of the month, and manufacturers of steel had meetings at which it was determined to keep steel billets unchanged at \$33 a ton. The price of ore was reduced \$1 a ton to \$3 50. The Bessemer Ore Association, however, was disbanded. On April 5 the strike of the bricklayers and laborers in this city was settled by agreement to refer the matters in dispute to arbitration. After the very severe winter the spring was also very backward. The dry goods market was in a rather unsatisfactory shape, retail trade having been adversely affected by the continued low temperature and by the downward course of cotton. Print cloths at Fall River dropped from 4 to $3\frac{1}{2}$ cts.

and a decided curtailment of production of cotton goods throughout New England occurred. Middling upland cotton in this market was 13.85 cts. Apr. 30, against 15.35 Apr. 1. Grain prices also tended downward and the May option for wheat at New York Apr. 25 declined to 88 1/2 and in Chicago to 85 1/4; there was some recovery, however, and the close Apr. 30 was 92 3/8 in New York and 89 5/8 at Chicago. May corn in this market was only 52 3/8 Apr. 26 with the close Apr. 30 55 3/8. Congress adjourned on the 28th. The Eight-hour Bill and the Anti-Injunction Bill went over to December. Among the measures which became laws were the Philippine Shipping Bill, providing that from July 1, 1906, the Coastwise Navigation Laws shall apply to shipping engaged in commerce between the United States and the Philippines; the Government Supply Bill, requiring shipments of Government supplies in American vessels, and the Canal Zone Bill, vesting the President with absolute control over the strip of land adjacent to the Panama Canal. A joint committee of the Two Houses was also appointed (and held meetings during the summer and fall) to report on the legislation needful to develop the American merchant marine. A rider was attached to the General Deficiency Appropriation Bill providing for the continuance of Chinese exclusion after the expiration the following December of the Treaty with China, which the latter had denounced. Through the concentration of Government deposits in this city, preparatory to the Panama Canal payments, U. S. deposits in the New York City Clearing House banks Apr. 30 were \$56,212,700, against \$36,893,300 Feb. 6. The aggregate of Government deposits, however, in the banks throughout the country was not greatly changed, being \$162,729,007 May 1, against \$162,058,353 Apr. 1. Cash in Sub Treasuries was reduced from \$294,036,317 to \$284,261,313. National bank circulation afloat upon bonds rose from \$395,600,234 to \$397,802,781. New railroad and other loans were again a feature of the month, as noted below. The War Department at Washington sold \$3,000,000 4 p. c. one-year Philippine Islands certificates of indebtedness under the Act of Congress providing for the purchase of silver bullion for Philippine coinage. A new schedule of import duties went into effect Apr. 1, 1904, in Mexico, increasing more particularly the duties on iron and steel products. The British budget was submitted and its main features were an increase in the income tax and in the duty on tea and tobacco (including cigars and cigarettes); the coal duty was retained. A great fire swept through a section of the wholesale and retail business district of Toronto, Canada, Apr. 19-20, involving a property loss of \$12,000,000 and an insurance loss of \$9,000,000. The newspapers reported that New York Savings banks would hereafter attempt to get one-half p. c. more on real estate mortgage loans, raising the rate from 4 to $4\frac{1}{2}$ p. c. The New York Legislature passed a bill permitting bidders proposing to purchase "all or any part" of bonds offered for sale by New York City to also submit a different bid for "all or none" of the bonds.

Railroad Events and Stock Exchange Matters.—Prices advanced until about the 12th, but the last half of the month the tendency was downward, and leading stocks generally stood 2 or 3 points lower at the close than at the opening. Business dropped to small proportions. The litigation concerning No. Securities affairs, the backwardness of the spring, the outflow of gold, and some unfavorable returns of earnings, exercised a repressing effect on speculation. Some stocks advanced sharply for special reasons. Del. & Hud. sold up from 151 1/4 Apr. 4 to 160 1/2 Apr. 21, closing at 157 1/2. Reading 2d pref. was higher on the declaration of a semi-annual div. of 2 p. c., comparing with 1 1/2 paid the previous Nov. Ches. & Ohio disposed of \$4,000,000 2-yr. 5 p. c. collat. gold notes; Balt. & Ohio sold \$10,000,000 2-yr. $4\frac{1}{2}$ p. c. notes; Chic. R. I. & Pac. Ry. sold \$5,000,000 1-yr. $4\frac{1}{2}$ p. c. notes; the Central Crosstown R.R., controlled by the Metropolitan Street Ry. of this city, disposed of \$2,250,000 of 2-yr. 5 p. c. notes and the Third Avenue R.R. sold \$2,000,000 of its 1st consol. 4s; Wabash R.R. sold \$6,160,000 5 p. c. gold notes, due June, 1907, and redeemable after one year at 1 p. c. premium; Southern Ry. Co. disposed of \$15,000,000 5-yr. 5 p. c. collat. trust gold bonds; the N. Y. New Haven & Hart. placed one issue of \$7,500,000 of 50-yr. 4 p. c. bonds and another of \$2,500,000; the Chic. Burl. & Quin. R.R. sold \$15,492,000 Ill. Div. bonds of 1994 (\$5,992,000 bearing 4 p. c. int., the rest $3\frac{1}{2}$), in part to take up \$5,000,000 of 5 p. c. notes which had fallen due; the Amer. Telephone & Telegraph Co. placed \$20,000,000 3-yr. 5 p. c. notes; the Richmond-Washington Co. sold \$2,500,000 of its collateral trust 4 p. c. bonds and the New Orleans Terminal Co. \$3,000,000 4 p. c. 50-yr. bonds, guar. by the Southern Ry. and St. L. & San Fran. South Jersey Gas, Elect. & Tract. 5 p. c. bonds for \$2,500,000 due in 1953 were offered for sale, this being a leased property of the Public Service Corporation. Besides this, Speyer & Co. and Blair & Co. offered \$10,000,000 of Underground Electric Railways Co. of London 5 p. c. profit-sharing secured notes due June 1, 1908. Norfolk & West. announced a plan for making a new mortgage of \$35,000,000 to provide for future requirements and also sold \$2,000,000 of its 4 p. c. equipment notes. The U. S. Supreme Court, April 4, reversed the decision of Judge Lacombe of the U. S. Circuit Court for the Southern District of N. Y., and decided that the anthracite coal-carrying roads must produce their contracts with the coal companies controlled by them in the investigation which was being conducted by the Inter-State Commerce Commission at the instance of William R. Hearst. It was announced the voting trust in Erie Railroad shares would

be dissolved at the appointed time, May 2, less than a majority of the holders of voting trust certificates having signified their desire that the trust be extended. An agreement was reached for the restoration of grain rates to the seaboard over the trunk lines, which had been badly cut, and for the abolition of differentials on ex-Lake grain from Buffalo in favor of Philadelphia and Baltimore pending the determination of the question of differentials by the Interstate Commerce Commission; see V. 78, p. 1465. The quarterly dividend on the pref. stock of the Allis-Chalmers Co. was suspended. U. S. Rubber Co. declared $1\frac{1}{2}$ p. c. on its pref. stock after suspension since Jan., 1901. The Steel Corporation arranged for the purchase of the Clairton Steel Co.

The Money Market.—Money continued extremely easy, notwithstanding the large gold outflow. The concentration of Government deposits in this city put the New York banks in a very plethoric condition, and week by week new records were established for loans, for deposits, and for some of the other items. Money holdings were \$311,736,200 Apr. 30, against \$289,636,000 Mar. 26, and surplus reserves \$33,144,250 (after having been \$34,203,700 Apr. 23), against \$27,468,875 Mar. 26. Deposits for the first time got up to 1,100 millions and were \$1,114,367,800 Apr. 30, against \$1,048,668,500 Mar. 26, and loans \$1,049,636,800, against \$1,007,863,700. Call money dropped to $1@1\frac{1}{4}$, and even time loans were only $2\frac{1}{4}$ for sixty and $2\frac{1}{2}$ for ninety days at the close, with the rate $2\frac{3}{4}$ for four months, 3 for five months, $3\frac{1}{4}@3\frac{1}{2}$ for six to seven months and $3\frac{3}{4}@4$ for eight to nine months. Commercial paper was in urgent demand by both local banks and interior institutions, and rates got down to $3\frac{3}{4}$ for double names and $3\frac{3}{4}@4\frac{1}{4}$ for prime and $4\frac{1}{2}@5$ for good single names.

Foreign Exchange, Silver, Etc.—Gold exports from this port the last week reached almost \$13,000,000 and for the month were over \$19,000,000, though as against this there were imports of about \$2,000,000 at San Francisco. Selling of bills against these large gold shipments seemed to satisfy the demand for exchange for the time being the latter part of the month, and caused some decline in rates. With this exception, exchange held pretty firm throughout. The Bank of England reduced its discount rate on the 14th from 4 to $3\frac{1}{2}$ p. c., and made a further reduction on the 21st to 3 p. c. Discounts in the open market London were also lower and this made sixty-day bills relatively much stronger than sight bills or cable transfers; sixty-day sterling Apr. 30 was 4 8490 @ 4 85, against 4 8475 @ 4 8485 Apr. 1; sight bills were 4 87 @ 4 8705, against 4 8735 @ 4 8740, and cable transfers 4 8720 @ 4 8780, against 4 8770 @ 4 8780. Discounts at London Apr. 30 were $2\frac{1}{4}@2\frac{3}{8}$; at Paris, $2\frac{5}{8}$, and at Berlin and Frankfurt 3 p. c. Silver in London got down to $24\frac{1}{2}$ d. on the 16th, but closed at $25\frac{1}{2}$ d.

MAY.—Current Events.—The United States made payment for the Panama Canal. The operation was conducted through J. P. Morgan & Co. The Government delivered its warrant for \$40,000,000 to that firm on Monday, May 9th. The warrant was presented and paid the same day—\$25,000,000 by Sub-Treasury orders aggregating that amount, which orders were deposited by J. P. Morgan & Co. to their credit in the specially designated depository banks; \$13,000,000 was paid in cash directly from the Treasury, and the remaining \$2,000,000 presumably came out of the other depository banks. On Thursday, May 19, another money warrant for \$9,000,000, drawn to the order of J. P. Morgan & Co. as fiscal agents of the Panama Republic, was delivered. Under a call made by Secretary Shaw on April 30 the depository banks were obliged to turn over \$11,967,981 of public deposits by May 10, and under a call issued May 14 they were required to surrender \$9,336,925 more by May 25. Gold exports reached extraordinary proportions. In one week \$14,000,000, roughly, was sent out and in another over \$15,000,000. For the month the exports from this port exceeded \$41,000,000 and would have been still heavier except that the stock of gold bars at the New York Assay Office became exhausted and thereafter shipments were limited by the capacity of the Assay Office to convert bullion into bars. Over \$8,000,000 gold, however, came in at San Francisco. Government bank deposits were reduced from \$162,729,007 to \$114,533,127, and cash in Sub-Treasuries fell from \$284,261,313 to \$277,855,621. National bank circulation, based on bonds, increased from \$397,802,781 to \$407,279,034. In these ways the loss from gold exports was in part offset and the Treasury report made the money in circulation June 1 \$2,509,279,917, against \$2,532,645,135 May 1. Both Russia and Japan negotiated new loans, and as a good part at least of the Japanese loan was placed in this country, this no doubt tended to accelerate the gold outflow. The Japanese loan was for £10,000,000 at 6 p. c. and was brought out May 12, one-half being offered in London and the remainder in this country. The issue price was $93\frac{1}{2}$ and int. Japan also placed some loans at home. The Russian loan was for £32,000,000 at 5 p. c. A syndicate of French banks took £16,000,000 firm, with an option on the rest. The bonds were sold with such rapidity that the option for the second half was availed of and the whole £32,000,000 disposed of. It is understood the syndicate paid $95\frac{1}{2}$ and int. and received about 99. It was reported that about 80 p. c. of the whole amount was taken in France. About \$5,000,000, it is believed, was placed in this country—mainly through the National City Bank. The unsold remainder of the \$35,000,000 Republic of Cuba 40-year 5 p. c. bonds taken the previous February by Speyer & Co. was offered in New York, London, Frankfurt and Amsterdam at 97, and over-

subscribed. New railroad and industrial loans were also again a feature, besides which New York City disposed of \$37,000,000 $3\frac{1}{2}$ p. c. bonds. A further recovery in British consols occurred and the price May 31 was 90 11-16. A strike of the masters and pilots on vessels plying on the Great Lakes almost completely checked water transportation on these inland seas at a season when shipments between the various lake ports are usually of large dimensions. A strike of freight-handlers and others on the Sound steamship lines of the New Haven Road also proved somewhat disturbing, but only temporarily. The condition of winter wheat May 1 was reported as only 76.5, compared with 92.6 on May 1 in 1903, and it was stated that 4,932,700 acres planted to wheat the previous fall had been abandoned. The weather, however, during May improved somewhat, and the condition June 1 was slightly higher at 77.7. The fluctuations in grain prices were compassed within much narrower limits than in preceding months. A further decline in cotton occurred, middling uplands here being quoted 12.75 cents May 31, against 13.85 cents April 30. The Louisiana Purchase Exposition at St. Louis was opened May 1. The Japanese navy lost some ships in connection with the landing of troops in the vicinity of Port Arthur. The battleship Hatsuse was blown up by a mine and the Yoshino sank in a collision. The Japanese army, however, achieved further decided victories, sweeping the Russians from Kin-Chow and in an extraordinarily daring attack taking possession of Nan Shan Hill, which had been deemed impregnable, and capturing 78 guns. The Japanese subsequently occupied Dalny, which the Russians had hastily evacuated. Two N. Y. City Rap. Tran. bills became laws—one of which removed the \$50,000,000 limit on the amount to be expended. An Internat. Cotton Congress was held at Zurich—see V. 78, pages 2408 and 2413. Fire devastated the greater part of Yazoo City, Miss., and destroyed property valued at about \$2,000,000; the insurance loss was about \$1,200,000.

Railroad Events and Stock Exchange Matters.—The stock market during May was extremely dull, the dealings aggregating only 5,290,110 shares. The uncertainty regarding the wheat crop and the large gold shipments acted as a check. Values tended downward, though the declines were moderate as a rule. United States Steel common dropped to $8\frac{3}{8}$ May 13 (the low point of the year), but recovered to $9\frac{1}{8}$ May 31; the preferred touched $51\frac{1}{4}$ May 13 (also the low point) and closed at $53\frac{1}{2}$ May 31. Detroit Southern Railroad com. and pref. fell off sharply on the announcement of the company's inability to meet the interest due June 1. The demand for the better class of bonds remained good. Further large new capital offerings occurred. A syndicate headed by J. P. Morgan & Co. took \$30,000,000 4 p. c. 30-year gold debenture bonds of the N. Y. Central. In Pittsburgh \$7,000,000 of the new 5 p. c. bonds of the Pittsburgh Coal Co. were offered. The Northern Central Ry. (one of the controlled properties of the Pennsylvania RR.) offered \$5,700,000 of new stock to shareholders at \$62 50 per \$50 share. Consolidated Gas Co. of New York offered \$20,000,000 6 per cent coupon debentures at par to shareholders. Virginia-Carolina Chemical Co. offered \$6,000,000 new preferred stock at par to its stockholders. The Chic. Ind. & St. Louis Short Line sold \$3,000,000 4 p. c. bonds guar. by the Clev. Cin. Chic. & St. Louis. Gen. Electric shareholders were given the right to take \$4,317,300 new stock at par. The Michigan State Telephone Co. placed \$4,141,000 1st mtg. 5s. Cleve. & Pitts. RR. authorized \$10,738,135 special guar. betterment stock to be issued from time to time for improvements. The reorganization plan of the U. S. Realty & Construction Co. was submitted, materially reducing capitalization, common stock getting only \$15 of new stock for \$100 of old. The plan of the Consolidated Lake Superior Co. also involved a large reduction of capitalization. The Lehigh Coal & Navigation semi-annual dividend was increased from 3 to $3\frac{1}{2}$ p. c. The grain rate war among Western roads was settled and a new schedule of rates agreed upon to go into effect June 1. J. P. Morgan & Co. announced the winding up of the preferred stock conversion syndicate in United States Steel Corporation. The results were profitable—see V. 78, p. 1786. In the crusade against pool-rooms, the Western Union Tel. discontinued the collection and distribution of racing reports, cutting off an important item of revenue. An amended reorganization plan for Denver & Southwestern Ry. was promulgated.

The Money Market.—Call loans were made as low as $\frac{1}{2}$ of 1 p. c. May 3, the lowest figure since Nov., 1894. The market subsequently hardened, but rates continued low notwithstanding the large gold exports and the Government's \$49,000,000 Panama Canal payment—which latter, however, as already shown, was conducted so as to avoid friction in the money market. The transfer to this centre of Government deposits held by the banks in the interior and a heavy return flow of currency from the same section served in large degree to make good the loss caused by the gold exports. Money holdings of the banks decreased from \$311,736,200 Apr. 30 to \$288,145,800 May 21, but recovered to \$304,430,700 May 28. Surplus reserves fell from \$33,144,250 Apr. 30 to \$12,827,250 May 14, but got back to \$29,692,325 May 28. Deposits first increased and then decreased, and were \$1,093,953,500 May 23, against \$1,114,367,800 Apr. 30. Loans also were reduced at the close, and were \$1,040,483,400 May 28, against \$1,078,923,600 May 14 and \$1,049,636,800 Apr. 30. Call money May 31 was $1@1\frac{1}{2}$. Time loans then were 2 for sixty days, $2\frac{1}{4}$ for ninety days, 3 for four months, $3@3\frac{1}{2}$ for six

months and 4 for loans extending into January. Commercial paper was in light supply, with the rates $3\frac{3}{4}$ @ $4\frac{1}{4}$ for double names and 4 @ $4\frac{1}{2}$ for prime and $4\frac{1}{2}$ @ 5 for good single names.

Foreign Exchange, Silver, Etc. Except from the 18th to the 20th, exchange was strong throughout May. Gold exports from New York, as already stated, exceeded \$41,000,000; but there was little evidence of any offering of bills against the same, the gold having gone out chiefly in lieu of exchange. It was said that J. P. Morgan & Co. sent abroad only \$18,000,000 gold on Panama account. About the middle of the month the negotiation of finance bills drawn in expectation of a profit to result from covering the sales later in the year was noted. Sterling then sharply declined, but next week, with time loans lower again at this centre (they had temporarily advanced with the shrinkage in bank reserves), the making of further finance bills was checked and rates quickly recovered, advancing to the highest figures on the closing day. Sixty-day bills were $4\ 8495$ @ $4\ 85$ May 2d, $4\ 8465$ @ $4\ 8475$ May 20, and $4\ 8540$ @ $4\ 8550$ May 31. Sight bills on the same dates were $4\ 8695$ @ $4\ 87$, $4\ 8665$ @ $4\ 8670$ and $4\ 8725$ @ $4\ 8730$, respectively, and cable transfers $4\ 8720$ @ $4\ 8725$, $4\ 8690$ @ $4\ 87$ and $4\ 8745$ @ $4\ 8750$. Though the Bank of England lost quite heavily in bullion, discounts at London got down to $1\frac{1}{2}$ @ 2 May 31, and at Paris to $2\frac{1}{2}$ @ $2\frac{1}{4}$. At Berlin and Frankfort, after a rise to $3\frac{1}{2}$, there was a decline again by the close to 3 p. c. Fluctuations in silver at London were small, notwithstanding continued purchases for the India Government; the price May 31 was $25\frac{3}{4}$ d.

JUNE.—Current Events.—After the cold and backward spring, weather conditions during June improved—a circumstance of the utmost importance because of its bearing upon the prospective agricultural out-turn, which previously had looked unpromising. The average of winter wheat in the Government report early the next month was further slightly raised, being given as 78.7 July 1 as against 77.7 June 1. The course of grain prices was downward and July wheat in this market closed at 89 $\frac{3}{8}$ cts. In cotton a further sharp fall occurred. The CHRONICLE acreage report had shown 11.62 p. c. increase in the area devoted to cotton and growing conditions were at the same time quite favorable. From 12.75 cts. May 31 and 12.85 June 11, middling uplands in this market dropped to 10.85 cts. June 30. There was continued curtailment of production by the cotton mills and prices for many classes of cotton goods were heavily reduced. Print cloths at Fall River were marked down from $3\frac{1}{2}$ to $3\frac{1}{8}$ cts. At a meeting, however, of mill officials at Fall River on June 3, it was decided to abandon for the time being efforts to bring about a 10 p. c. reduction in wages. The next month, though, it was found incumbent to make the reduction. In iron and steel, output was again reduced owing to the lack of a sufficient demand. The Pennsylvania R.R. made another reduction in its working force. Through dynamite outrages in the Cripple Creek District, resulting in the loss of a number of lives, the Colorado coal miners' strike came into renewed prominence. Teller County was again declared in a state of insurrection, and many of the offending strikers were deported from the District. San Miguel County in the southwestern part of the State still remained under military rule. The most important labor trouble, however, namely the Masters' & Pilots' strike on the Great Lakes, came to an end. Directly, this involved only about a couple of thousand men, but indirectly the results were very serious, as the strike brought freight transportation on these inland waters at the most active season of the year almost to a standstill. The men had demanded increased compensation. After having lasted six weeks the Masters' & Pilots' Association on the night of the 14th advised the men to return to work without conditions. Following the extraordinary gold shipments of May, the outflow of the metal ceased in June. Cash in Sub-Treasuries again increased and was \$283,101,603 July 1, against \$277,855,621 June 1. Government bank deposits were further slightly reduced—from \$114,533,127 to \$113,688,618. National bank circulation, based on bonds, increased from \$47,279,034 to \$412,759,449. At the Republican National Convention Mr. Roosevelt received the nomination for President, but this had no influence on affairs, it having been accepted as a foregone conclusion. Senator Charles W. Fairbanks of Indiana was nominated for Vice-President. Under the Clearing House regulation of the previous year, the cash reserve required against the deposits of trust companies enjoying Clearing House privileges was on June 1 increased to 10 per cent from $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent Feb. 1, 1904, and 5 per cent June 1, 1903. Five more companies in Manhattan and three in Brooklyn severed their connection with the Association, namely the Real Estate Trust, the City Trust, the Title Guarantee & Trust, the Washington Trust and the Colonial Trust of New York and the Franklin Trust, the Brooklyn and the Long Island Loan & Trust of Brooklyn. This left only the Knickerbocker and the Manhattan trust companies in this city under the dominion of the Association. Several changes in President Roosevelt's Cabinet were announced. Attorney-General Knox, having been appointed U. S. Senator from Pennsylvania, resigned, and William H. Moody, Secretary of the Navy, was given the post Secretary Cortelyou, of the Department of Commerce and Labor, was obliged to resign, since he had been selected to manage the national campaign for the Republican Party; he was succeeded by Congressman Victor H. Metcalf of California. Paul Morton of Illinois became the new Secretary of the Navy—all the changes

taking effect July 1. A parcels post agreement between the United States and Japan was concluded, to become effective Aug. 1. Gen. Brikoff, the Russian Governor-General of Finland, was assassinated. Through the burning of the excursion steamer Gen. Slocum in the East River, over 900 persons lost their lives. On the 15th 248,743 acres of land of the former Chippewa Indian reservations in Minnesota were opened to settlement.

Railroad Events and Stock Exchange Matters.—Business on the Stock Exchange during June was even smaller than in May, the sales reaching only 4,972,004 shares. The tone, however, was good, and the latter part of the month, under the influence of the improved crop prospects, the settlement of the strike on the Great Lakes and the cessation of gold exports, an advance of 2@4 points occurred in the case of most of the leading active stocks. New York Ont. & West. rose from $21\frac{3}{4}$ to $26\frac{3}{8}$ on a movement to terminate the voting trust. The passing of the dividend on Wabash debenture Class A bonds caused a sharp break in the Class B bonds, and temporarily had an adverse effect on all the Gould stocks. J. P. Morgan & Co. offered \$10,000,000 (part of the \$30,000,000 purchased by them in May) N. Y. Central 30-year 4 p. c. debentures at $97\frac{1}{2}$, and the loan was liberally oversubscribed. A syndicate took an additional block (\$7,500,000) $4\frac{1}{2}$ p. c. notes of the Chic. R. I. & Pac. Ry. and sold them to investors at a price slightly less than par. The most important event of the month was the announcement of the plan for financing the needs of the Southern Pacific Company, through the issuance of \$100,000,000 7 p. c. pref. stock, of which \$40,000,000 was offered to shareholders at par. At first the arrangement was not favorably regarded, a decline in Southern Pacific stock taking place; but subsequently opinions changed. The rights to take the new stock sold above 3. Lehigh Valley announced the first dividend on its stock since July, 1893. Interborough Rapid Transit made its first declaration—2 p. c. Chic. & East. Ill. increased the semi-annual distribution on its common stock (all of which is owned by the St. Louis & San Fran.) from 3 to 5 p. c. Dividend reductions or suspensions, however, were more numerous than increases. Minn. & St. Louis suspended on its common shares and the Ind. Ill. & Iowa also passed its dividend. The semi-annual payment on the Lake Erie & Western pref. was reduced from 2 to 1 p. c. American Car & Foundry, after having previously reduced the dividend on its common stock, now passed it altogether. Dominion Coal also passed its common stock dividend. The Wisconsin Central voting trust, it was announced, would terminate July 1. Control of the Cin. Ham. & Day. passed to interests identified with the Pere Marquette R.R. The Wabash completed its line into Pittsburgh. The plan for the reorganization of the United States Realty & Construction Co., under the name of the United States Realty & Improvement Co., was declared operative.

The Money Market.—Call-loan rates again touched $\frac{1}{2}$ of 1 p. c., the range for the month being $\frac{1}{2}$ @ $1\frac{1}{2}$. Even time loans were difficult to place at $1\frac{3}{4}$ @ 2 for sixty to ninety days. Rates at the close were a trifle firmer at 2 for sixty days, $2\frac{1}{2}$ @ $2\frac{1}{2}$ for ninety days, $2\frac{1}{2}$ @ $2\frac{3}{4}$ for four, 3 for five and $3\frac{1}{4}$ @ $3\frac{1}{2}$ for six to eight months. Commercial paper was in good demand with the supply insufficient to meet the requirements, quotations at the close being $3\frac{1}{2}$ for double names and $3\frac{3}{4}$ @ 4 for prime and $4\frac{1}{2}$ @ 5 for good single names. Money holdings of the Clearing House banks increased from \$304,430,700 May 28 to \$324,852,500 July 2. Surplus reserves rose from \$29,692,325 May 28 to \$38,869,875 June 18 and were \$36,005,300 July 2. Deposits increased from \$1,098,953,500 May 28 to \$1,152,988,800 July 2 and loans rose from \$1,040,484,400 to \$1,075,031,500.

Foreign Exchange, Silver, Etc.—The gold outflow was checked with a shipment of \$631,685 on June 2. Some further engagements were then announced for shipment the following week, but these were subsequently canceled in consequence of an advance in the rate of exchange at Paris on London, and no further gold went out. The rise in French exchange was ascribed to the monetary congestion at Paris (the gold holdings of the Bank of France attaining a new high point) and to the fact that this led to the transfer of large amounts of capital to London for employment there. The course of exchange rates was more or less irregular throughout the month, but the trend was, on the whole, downward, and the close was at the lowest figures of the month— $4\ 8520$ @ $4\ 530$ for sixty-day bills, $4\ 8710$ @ $4\ 8715$ for sight bills and $4\ 8740$ @ $4\ 8745$ for cable transfers. The Bank of England considerably increased its stock of gold, and open-market discounts at London for bank bills June 30 were down to $1\frac{1}{2}$ p. c. At Paris there was a decline to $1\frac{1}{2}$. At Berlin and Frankfort the rate was as high as $3\frac{3}{8}$ at one time, but the close was at $2\frac{1}{2}$ @ 3 . Silver in London hardened and the quotation June 30 was $26\frac{1}{4}$ d.

JULY.—Current Events.—In the Democratic National Convention at St. Louis, the conservative wing triumphed and Alton B. Parker of New York was nominated for President and Henry G. Davis of West Virginia for Vice-President. The platform was silent on the money question but after his nomination, and before the adjournment of the convention, Judge Parker electrified the country by sending a telegram saying that he regarded the gold standard as firmly and irrevocably established, and declining to accept the nomination if his view in that regard was not approved by the convention. After a lengthy debate on the night of the 9th the

convention sent answer declaring there was nothing in the views expressed to preclude him from accepting the nomination, thus closing the incident. This stand of the Democratic candidate was reassuring in business and financial circles, since with both candidates sound on the subject of monetary standards the effect was to remove the financial question from campaign issues. It was owing to that fact, no doubt, that the Presidential election of 1904 exercised so little disturbance in the business world. For up to within a week or two of election time the apparent apathy and indifference to the outcome were a subject of common remark. Barring wheat, the crop situation took on a favorable aspect. The Department of Agriculture made the condition of corn July 1 at 86 1/4, with 2 1/4 per cent more acreage; spring wheat, 93.7, and oats, 89.8. Spring wheat, however, suffered considerable deterioration during the month because of rains and floods, and by August 1st the average had been reduced to 87.5. The price of wheat again tended upward, and the December option in New York closed July 30 at 94 3/8, against 85 1/4 June 30. Corn fluctuated within narrow limits. The promise concerning cotton continued very favorable, condition July 25 being 91.6, comparing with 79.7 July 25, 1903, and 81.09 for 1902. Middling uplands in New York ranged from 10.60 July 5 to 11.25 cts. July 14, with the close July 30 at 10.70 cts. Print cloths at Fall River were reduced from 3 1/8 to 3 cts. Notices were posted at the mills July 14 announcing that on July 25 wages would be reduced 12 1/2 p. c., but the operatives refused to work on these terms and the trouble lasted until the end of the year. Another important labor difficulty was the strike at the beef-packing establishments throughout the country. This was the result, chiefly, of a disagreement over the wages of unskilled labor. It began July 12, and Chicago, Kansas City, Omaha and St. Joseph were the points chiefly involved, though about 3,500 men were also ordered out in this city. The strike did not extend to the independent meat firms but was directed against the concerns embraced in the so-called Beef Trust. After a few days it was agreed to refer the questions at issue to arbitrators, and the men were to return to work on July 22d; but the strike leaders were dissatisfied with the slow way the men were being reinstated, and the strike was immediately renewed. It was subsequently extended to the allied trades, thus involving all the union employees directly or indirectly connected with the packing establishments. In this city the strike was not renewed until the 10th of the following month. A strike of the United Garment Workers in the metropolitan district (comprising New York City and vicinity), inaugurated June 22 and involving some 50,000 hands in the tailoring trade, proved a complete failure. It was ordered because the manufacturers had proclaimed the open shop. Early in August the strike was officially declared "off." Labor disturbances also again cropped out in the building trades. In the Birmingham (Ala.) district about 6,000 union coal miners quit work July 1; owing to the lack of fuel many of the iron furnaces had to be blown out. In the Colorado mining conflict however, Governor Peabody withdrew the military from the Cripple Creek District on July 26 and announced that not a member of the National Guard now remained in active service in the State a condition, he stated, which had not existed since Sept. 4, 1903. A reduction of \$3 a ton was made in the price of tin plate by the constituent companies of the U. S. Steel Corporation. Very disturbing incidents, threatening international complications, arose out of the Russo-Japanese war. The Russian Government had sent vessels belonging to its volunteer fleet through the Dardanelles as merchant ships and had then commissioned them as men-of-war for the purpose of searching neutral ships for contraband. One of the ships seized in these searches was the "Malacca," carrying a cargo of war materials destined for British storehouses at Hong Kong. This seizure in the Red Sea gave rise to a violent feeling of resentment in Great Britain. The price of consols declined sharply, our foreign exchange market advanced, and all the financial centres gave evidences of deep alarm. Russia was forced to comply with the demand of the British Government for the release of the captured vessel, which served to allay excitement; but later the action of the Vladivostock squadron in sinking the Knight Commander threatened to produce new complications, though as to this, also, the Russian Government gave satisfactory assurances. On the field of battle the Russians suffered many reverses. On the 28th the Russian Minister of the Interior, De Plehve, was assassinated. British consols were down to 88 at the close of the month, against 90 1/2 June 30. Cash in U. S. Sub-Treasuries was reduced from \$283,101,602 to \$274,344,925. Government deposits in national banks further decreased from \$113,688,618 to \$112,642,766. Bank circulation increased from \$4,275,419 to \$415,025,156. In Canada the bill for building the Grand Trunk Pac. Ry. became a law. In Great Britain the Chamberlain Tariff Commission made its report concerning tariff duties—see V. 79, p. 475. The U. S. of Colombia gave notice of intention to resume full diplomatic relations with the United States. An arbitration agreement between Great Britain and Germany was signed. Paul Kruger, ex-President of the former Transvaal Republic, died. The Rosebud Indian Reservation, in South Dakota, was opened to settlement.

Railroad Events and Stock Exchange Matters.—There was considerable revival of activity on the Stock Exchange, and July 6th the sales reached 810 191 shares, being the largest

day's business since the previous March, when the Northern Securities decision caused an unexpected burst of activity. On several other days, also, the sales ran above 800,000 shares. Judge Parker's gold telegram and the convention's action thereon were favorably regarded and were considered highly significant as indicating the trend of political events. The encouraging outlook for the corn and cotton crops also played an important part in advancing prices. Later, owing to the strikes referred to above, and the apprehension caused by the Russian seizures, dealings fell off and prices receded somewhat. As indices of the course of prices, Atchison com. moved up from 72 3/4 July 1 to 79 3/8 July 19 and closed July 30 at 76 3/8; Mil. & St. Paul com. rose from 143 1/4 July 1 to 149 3/4 July 20 and closed at 146 1/4; and Pennsylvania advanced from 115 1/4 to 121 3/4, and closed at 119 1/8. In the U. S. District Court for the District of New Jersey, Judge Bradford continued the temporary injunction to restrain the Nor. Securities Co from carrying out its proposed plan for the distribution of its assets. Un. Pac. com. was particularly strong by reason of that fact and sold up from 88 1/4 to 99, closing at 94 3/8. Detroit Southern was placed in receiver's hands. Through the new interests in Cin. Ham. & Day. Ry., control to the latter of the Pere Marquette Ry. was secured. N. Y. Central acquired a large interest in several trolley roads in Central New York, namely the Utica & Mohawk Valley, the Syracuse Rapid Transit, the Rome City Street Ry. and the Oneida Railway Co. It was definitely announced that the voting trust in the shares of the Reading Co. would terminate with the payment of the next dividend on the 1st pref. stock. The New England R.R. offered for sale \$10,000,000 4 p. c. bonds for delivery Dec. 31 to take up a corresponding amount of maturing bonds, and J. P. Morgan & Co. took the entire issue. Huntingdon & Broad Top Mountain passed its semi annual dividend on the com. stock and reduced that on the pref. from 3 1/2 to 2 1/2 p. c. The People's Gas Light & Coke Co. sold \$1,800,000 refunding 5 per cents to take up maturing bonds. The Brooklyn Rapid Transit Co. sold \$1,000,000 of its 4 p. c. refunding bonds. The Mex. Central Ry. sold \$10,000,000 2 1/2-year 6 p. c. notes. The Westinghouse Elec. & Mfg. Co. sold \$4,000,000 3-year 5 p. c. notes.

The Money Market.—There was no abatement of the ease in money, the range for call loans for the whole month being 1/2@1 1/2. Time loans at the close were a shade firmer, especially for the longer dates, rates being 2 for sixty days, 2 1/2 for ninety days, 3 for four to five months, 3 1/2@3 3/4 for six to seven and 4 p. c. for eight months. Commercial paper continued in good demand, with the supply moderate; closing rates were 3 1/2@3 3/4 for double names and 3 3/4@4 1/4 for prime and 4 1/2@5 for good single names. Surplus reserves of the Clearing-House banks got up to the remarkable figure of \$55,989,600 July 30 and rose still higher the next month. Money holdings expanded from \$324,281,200 June 25 to \$357,231,000 July 30. Loans increased from \$1,066,813,200 to \$1,097,338,100 (having been still higher July 23 at \$1,093,849,200), and deposits for the first time on record passed the 200 million mark, being on July 30, \$1,204,965,600.

Foreign Exchange, Silver, Etc.—Exchange, while more or less irregular, was inclined to be weak the first half of the month. The chief feature was the large and continued offering of finance bills in anticipation of expected heavy exports of cotton and other commodities later in the year. The low point was reached on the 18th. After that sterling rose rapidly, the "Malacca" incident having changed the whole trend of things. The sharp rise in open market discounts in London had a direct influence upon our exchange market, and there was also a demand for remittance to pay for securities sold for London account. The drawing of finance bills was almost entirely suspended the rest of the month, and as the previous offerings of such bills had created quite a short interest in exchange, the effect was to cause an exceedingly rapid rise in sterling. On the 27th the indications seemed to point to gold exports, but no shipments occurred. With the relaxation in the political tension in London a downward reaction took place the last few days. Rates July 13 were 4 8440@4 8465 for sixty-day bills, 4 8690@4 8705 for sight and 4 8725@4 8735 for cable transfers. On the 27th quotations stood, respectively, at 4 8520@4 8530, at 4 8795@4 8810 and at 4 8350@4 8860, and the close July 30 was at 4 8505@4 8515, at 4 8770@4 8775 and at 4 8310@4 8820. Open market discounts in London at the close were 2 3/8@3, at Paris 1 3/8 and at Berlin and at Frankfort 2 3/4. Silver in London continued to advance, getting up to 27d. July 29; the close was at 26 3/8d.

AUGUST.—Current Events.—Unfavorable developments occurred in the iron and steel trades. The demand had fallen away quite generally, but what provoked chief trouble was the action of the Republic Iron & Steel Co. in taking a large order for the conversion of pig iron for the Pittsburgh Steel Co. at a price which made the billets stand at only \$9.25 a ton as against the schedule rate for billets of \$23. This was followed on the 16th by a reduction of from \$4 to \$7 per ton in nails and wire products by the Amer. Steel & Wire Co., a constituent property of the U. S. Steel Corporation, and pretty general demoralization in iron and steel prices ensued. In the beef-packing strike the men employed by the packers in this city again quit work August 10, but it quickly became apparent that their struggle was a hopeless one. At Chicago and other points the indications also pointed to early collapse. The troubles in the building trades (which

had their origin in the demand made the 13th of the previous month on the contractor building the Rapid Transit Subway and which demand was not complied with) assumed increasing dimensions. In violation of the arbitration agreement existing with the Building Trades Employers' Association strikes were called on numerous buildings throughout the city by various of the unions composing the Building Trades Alliance. In return the Board of Governors of the Employers' Association on Aug. 4 declared a lock-out against all the unions in the Alliance and on Aug. 13 notice was given that if the strikers did not return to work by the 22d the members of the Employers' Association would proceed to hire others to take the place of the strikers under a general arbitration agreement. Philip Weinsheimer, the President of the Building Trades Alliance, was indicted for extortion and resigned his position; the following October he was convicted of the charge by a jury. Speculation again broke out in the price of wheat. Reports were received of serious damage to spring wheat from rust and other causes, some estimates making the country's total wheat crop (winter and spring combined) only 500,000,000 bushels. Though the Agricultural Bureau the next month placed the condition of spring wheat Sept. 1 only 66.2, against 87.5 Aug. 1, these reports proved greatly exaggerated. December wheat in this market advanced from 94 $\frac{3}{4}$ July 30 to \$1 16 $\frac{3}{4}$ Aug. 20, the close Aug. 31 being \$1 11 $\frac{5}{8}$. Aug. 11 the export of maize, oats, potatoes, etc., etc., from Austro-Hungary was prohibited. Roumania also put a ban on exports of maize and forage articles generally. An upward spurt likewise again occurred in cotton. The spot price here was 10.70 cts. Aug. 1, 10.45 cts. Aug. 3, 11.65 cts. Aug. 30, with the close Aug. 31 at 11.50 cts. The rapid rise led to the suspension of H. F. Page & Co. at New Orleans on the 24th. Print cloths at Fall River advanced from 3 to 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ cts. and dropped back to 3 cents. The strike of the cotton mill operatives continued. The Russian fleet at Port Arthur made an unsuccessful attempt to escape; the fleet was scattered, part of the ships being forced to return to Port Arthur and part being crippled and obliged to seek refuge in neutral ports. At the same time the Vladivostock squadron, in seeking to effect a juncture with the Port Arthur squadron, was seriously damaged, one of the ships being sunk. At the close of the month a great land battle between the Russian and Japanese forces was in progress before Liao Yang, it being estimated that some 400,000 to 500,000 men, counting both sides, were engaged. The battle continued for over a week, and early the next month news was received of the signal defeat of the Russians. It was supposed this meant the early termination of the war, but it later appeared that Gen. Kuropatkin had managed to effect a retreat to Mukden with his whole army. The U. S. Steel Corporation purchased the wire plant of the Trenton Iron Co. The Galveston sea wall, built to protect the city against future inundations, was completed. On Aug. 27 a proclamation was issued by the Canadian Government under the Act of 1903, imposing a duty of \$7 per ton on steel rails. The Devil's Lake Indian Reservation, in North Dakota, comprising about 88,000 acres, was opened to settlement. A terrific tornado swept over the Twin Cities (St. Paul and Minneapolis), causing a number of deaths and damaging property to the extent of about \$2,000,000.

Railroad Events and Stock Exchange Matters.—The stock market showed increased animation and a very substantial advance in prices took place. Early in the month, Metropolitan Street Ry. stock and Metropolitan Securities shares rose sharply on rumors of a combination (which however proved unfounded) with the Interborough Rapid Transit Co., and later the whole market developed buoyancy. U. S. Steel stocks continued very strong in face of the situation in the iron and steel trade. Un. Pac. com. rose from 94 $\frac{3}{4}$ to 101 $\frac{1}{8}$, So. Pac. from 48 $\frac{3}{8}$ to 57 $\frac{3}{8}$, Reading from 51 $\frac{3}{8}$ to 63, Pennsylvania from 118 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 126 $\frac{1}{2}$, N. Y. Cent. from 118 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 124 $\frac{3}{8}$, Mil & St. Paul com. from 146 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 155 $\frac{3}{4}$. The close was at some decline from the best figures. Some of the low priced stocks were whirled up even more than the active list; Hocking Valley com. being advanced from 63 to 84 $\frac{1}{2}$ and St. Louis Southw. pref. from 33 to 47 $\frac{3}{8}$. A sale of the Seaboard Air Line stocks owned by J. L. Williams & Sons of Richmond and J. Wm. Middendorf & Co. of Baltimore to the Ryan-Blair interests was effected. J. P. Morgan & Co. offered the unsold portion of the \$35,000,000 collateral 4 p. c. 50-year bonds of the Atlantic Coast Line RR. secured by a controlling amount of the stock of the Louisv. & Nashv. Ill. Cent. sold to Speyer & Co. \$2,663,000 Omaha Div. 1st mtge. 3s due 1951. An offer was made to purchase the outstanding pref. stock of the Cincinnati Hamilton & Dayton; a \$7,700,000 one-year loan was negotiated for the purpose. The Toledo Ry. & Terminal Co. sold \$3,500,000 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ p. c. bonds due 1954. Westinghouse Elec. & Mfg. Co. offered shareholders \$2,500,000 new stock at \$80 per share of \$50. Chic. Gt. Western omitted the div. on its pref. "A" stock. The annual div. on Des. & Fort Dodge pref. was made 5 p. c. against the previous 7 p. c. Cent. of Georgia declared the full 5 p. c. on its 1st pref. income bonds and 2 p. c. on the 2d pref. incomes, the latter the first dividend ever made. The quar. div. on U. S. Cast Iron Pipe & Foundry was increased from 1 to 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ p. c. Col. Fuel & Iron Co. funding plan and agreement was declared effective.

The Money Market.—The flow of currency to the interior began and there were also exports of gold from this country, but monetary conditions remained unchanged. Surplus reserves of the Clearing House banks rose still higher, reach-

ing \$58,613,075 Aug. 20 the maximum of the year and were \$57,375,400 Aug. 27. Money holdings Aug. 20 got up to \$161,005,700, also the year's maximum, with the amount Aug. 27 \$359,201,100. Neither loans nor deposits showed any very great changes. The range for call loans at the Stock Exchange for the month was $\frac{1}{2}$ @ $1\frac{1}{4}$; time loans Aug. 31 were 2 for sixty days, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ for ninety days, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ for four to six months. Commercial paper was 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ @ $3\frac{3}{4}$ for double names, 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ @4 for prime and 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ @5 for good single names.

Foreign Exchange, Silver, Etc.—Exchange was strong and higher the early part of the month and some engagements of gold for Europe were announced, but these were subsequently canceled. After about the 10th, however (when 60-day bills were 4 8555@4 8565, sight bills 4 8840@4 8845 and cable transfers 4 89@4 8910), the market evinced a downward tendency. Purchases of stock for European account were then noted and there also appeared to be evidences of a disposition to renew the drawing of bills (previously suspended) against future exports of cotton. The market the rest of the month was rather irregular but gravitated towards a lower basis, prices Aug. 29 being 4 8475@4 8485 for sixty-day bills, 4 8735@4 8750 for sight and 4 8790@4 88 for cable transfers. An upward reaction occurred at the close, making quotations Aug. 31 for the three classes of bills 4 8485@4 8490, 4 8750@4 8755 and 4 88@4 8805. While there were no exports of gold to Europe, shipments to Cuba in connection with the Cuban loan continued throughout the month, the aggregate exceeding \$7,000,000 (besides nearly \$3,000,000 in U. S. currency), and there was also a shipment of \$500,000 to Argentina Aug. 25 and another of the same amount Aug. 31. Discounts Aug. 31 were 2 13-16@2 $\frac{3}{8}$ at London, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ at Paris and 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ @2 $\frac{1}{2}$ at Berlin and Frankfurt. Silver in London fluctuated between 27d. and 26 3-16d. and was 26 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. Aug. 31. The India Government was a steady purchaser.

SEPTEMBER—Current Events.—Further cuts occurred in the prices of steel and steel products, and on the 19th the Steel Billet Association formally marked down billets from \$23 a ton to \$19.50, while at the same time the schedule price on sheet steel and tin bars was reduced \$2 a ton—reductions in some other steel products having come earlier in the month. These lower figures stimulated consumption and a greatly improved tone developed in the trade. The beef-packing strike was definitely terminated. On the 31 the local union voted to end the fight in this city, and on the 8th the Amalgamated Meat Cutters & Butcher Workmen's Union, through its President, declared the national strike at an end. In both cases the men gained absolutely nothing, the companies retaining their competent non-union help. The strikes in the building trades continued, but the outlook here also improved, inasmuch as some of the unions connected with the Building Trades Alliance severed their connection with the latter body and made independent agreements with the Building Trades Employers' Association. A threatened strike of the elevated employees in this city was averted. In view of the early opening of the new subway in this city, the brotherhoods of Locomotive Firemen and Locomotive Engineers, backed by the Amalgamated Association of Street & Electric Railway Employees, had demanded the same pay for motormen in the Subway as had been granted the old locomotive engineers on the elevated roads (when the motive power on these was changed to electricity), namely, \$3.50 for a nine-hour day, while the Rapid Transit Co. was willing to pay only the ordinary rate for electric motormen, \$3 for a ten-hour day. A compromise was reached by the Rapid Transit Co. agreeing to pay \$3.50, but for a ten-hour day. The coal miners' strike in Colorado was officially called "off;" the national organization had withdrawn support from the local body the previous July. There was much uneasiness regarding the effects on the leading crops of unfavorable weather conditions. Frosts occurred over a good part of the corn belt on the nights of the 11th, 12th and 13th and again on the 20th, 21st and 22d, and a very excited speculation was carried on in both wheat and corn. It later appeared that relatively little damage was done. December wheat in this market, after getting down to \$1.09 per bushel, advanced to \$1.20 $\frac{3}{8}$ Sept. 13. The close Sept. 30 was \$1.15 $\frac{3}{4}$. Owing to the scarcity of good grade wheat, shipments of Pacific Coast wheat were made to millers as far East as New York. The Agricultural Bureau report, issued Oct. 3, made the condition of cotton 75.8 Sept. 25, against 84.1 Aug. 25; but in Sept., 1903, the average had been only 65.1 on a smaller acreage. Spot cotton in New York declined from 11.50 cts. Sept. 1 to 10.60 cts. Sept. 30. A significant event indicative of a change for the better in the industrial outlook was the announcement early in the month that notices had been posted in the shops of the Pennsylvania R.R. at Altoona, Pa., and elsewhere, placing some thousands of men on full working time, ten hours a day with half-holiday Saturdays. It was stated that at the Altoona shops only 32 hours a week had been the rule since the previous May. At a Peace Congress at St. Louis of the Inter-Parliamentary Union resolutions were adopted requesting President Roosevelt to call a second Peace Conference at The Hague—a request with which he complied the following month. Prince Sviatopolk-Mirsky was appointed Russian Minister of the Interior, to succeed the late M. de Plehve; he announced adherence to a liberal program. Col. Young-husband, head of the British Mission, negotiated a treaty between Thibet and Great Britain, giving the latter a large measure of control over that country.

Railroad Events and Stock Exchange Matters.—A further large rise in prices occurred and unmistakable buoyancy and activity developed. On several days the sales on the Exchange exceeded a million shares, though this record was not maintained the latter half of the month. Steel Corporation shares were the dominant feature, the transactions in the same being on a very large scale. The pref. rose from 61½ to 74½ and the common from 12½ to 18½. The strength of this property gave tone to the whole market, and the close was at nearly the best figures in the case of many of the more active stocks. Mil. & St. Paul com. rose (taking the low point, which, generally, was at the beginning of the month) from 154 to 160½; Pennsylvania from 124¾ to 132¾; Canadian Pacific from 124½ to 131; N. Y. Cent. from 122 to 129¼; Un. Pac. from 96¾ to 103¼; Cent. New Jersey from 170 to 182½, and Balt. & Ohio from 86½ to 90¼. Some exceptional advances were Atlantic Coast Line 121 to 138½; Buf. Roch. & Pittsb. com. 130 to 152; Del. Lack. & West, 272½ to 300, and Consolidated Gas 195½ to 211. Union Pacific interests purchased a large minority interest (\$25,000,000) in the Atchison Topeka & Santa Fe. Stockholders of the Chic. & Alton Railroad authorized \$5,350,000 of 3 p. c. bonds under the mortgage of Oct. 1, 1899. Shareholders of the Mo. Kan. & Tex. authorized a 1st and ref. mtg. for \$40,000,000; bankers in this city and Boston offered for sale \$2,347,000 Texas & Oklahoma 1st mtg. 5s, being an issue assumed by the M. K. & T. The New York & Canada (part of the Del. & Hud. system) authorized \$5,000,000 pref. stock, which was given to the Del. & Hud. in payment for the bonds which the latter took up May 1, 1904. Pittsb. Cin. Chic. & St. L. sold \$9,000,000 consol. mtg. 4 p. c. bonds to a syndicate, in part for refunding and in part for general purposes. The Southern Ry. made an issue of \$3,955,000 4½ p. c. equipment trust certs. At the annual meeting of the N. Y. Ont. & West. the old management was continued, but a plan was announced for depriving the voting trust of its control over the property by the payment of a dividend of 3 p. c. and the creation of a new \$12,000,000 mortgage. Kuhn, Loeb & Co. announced that the pref. stock of the Chic. & Al. Ry. deposited with them under the agreement of December, 1903, had been sold for cash, the proceeds giving shareholders \$84 per share. On account of the labor disturbances in the Colorado mining district the Col. & Southern decided to omit the semi-annual div on the 1st pref. stock. The quarterly dividend on Int. Steam Pump com. was reduced from 1 p. c. to ½. A plan for the merger of the American Tobacco Co., the Consolidated Tobacco Co. and the Continental Tobacco Co. was announced; V 79 p. 1025

The Money Market.—Money rates stiffened somewhat, leaving them still low, however. At the Stock Exchange the range for call loans during the month was ⅞ (a 2½ p. c., though the high point was not reached until the last day and was due to preparations for the October interest and dividend payments. Trust companies made no loans on call, as they could not get above 2 p. c. Time contracts at the close were at 3 for sixty days, 3¼ for ninety days and 3½@3¾ for four to six months; commercial paper was 4½ for double names and 4½@5 for prime and 5½@6 for good single names. Surplus reserves of the banks fell away in the most striking manner, dropping from \$57,375,400 Aug. 27 to \$19,913,425 Oct. 1. Money holdings between the same dates were reduced from \$359,201,100 to \$323,112,700, the loss having been caused in the main by shipments to the interior. Loans increased instead of diminishing, and for the first time passed the 1,100 million mark, being \$1,143,033,900 Oct. 1, against \$1,099,057,200 Aug. 27. Deposits Oct. 1 were \$1,212,797,100, against \$1,207,302,800 Aug. 27.

Foreign Exchange, Silver, etc.—Foreign exchange was weak almost the entire month and declined sharply. There was a good demand for bills to remit for stocks sold here on European account, which, however, had little effect in interrupting the decline. Commercial drafts against grain were in only limited supply, the speculation in grain having checked the demand for these staples, but there were liberal offerings of drafts against cotton shipments, with expectation of a still larger supply of such bills in the immediate future as a result of the free export movement of that staple. At the same time, the advance in money rates here encouraged the resumption of operations in finance bills. \$500,000 gold was sent to Argentina Sept. 3, and a similar amount Sept. 15, but with the great decline in exchange there was talk at the close of early imports of the metal from Europe. Sixty day sterling bills Sept. 30 were 4 8340@4 8350 against 4 8465@4 8475 Sept. 1; sight bills, 4 8550@4 8555 against 4 873@4 8745 and cable transfers 4 8595@4 8605 against 4 8785@4 8795. Discounts in London eased off to 2¼@2¾; at the Continental centres, they were higher, however, being 1½ Sept. 30 at Paris and 3¼ at Berlin and Frankfurt; at these German centres the rate at one time was 3½. Silver in London got down to 26d. Sept. 12 but subsequently improved to 26¾d.; the close was at 26 11-16d.

OCTOBER—Current Events.—The improvement in the iron and steel trades continued to gain force, and evidences of a genuine and very pronounced revival of activity were visible on every side. Southern iron producers withdrew altogether from the Chicago market, and at the close of the month No. 2 foundry pig at Birmingham was \$12 a ton, making an advance of \$2.50 in six weeks. Prices for some finished forms of iron and steel also moved upward. The monthly report of the Agricultural Department showed that

the September frosts had done little damage, thus confirming the expectation of large crops all except wheat, and even in the latter case, instead of only 500,000,000 bushels, the figures pointed to a yield of 552,000,000 bushels. Owing, however, to the poor grade of the wheat and the prevailing high prices, numerous large flour mills applied to the Treasury Department to have their plants bonded so that they might use Canadian wheat and export the flour without having to pay the duty of 25 cents per bushel imposed on foreign wheat. A liberal interpretation of the drawback provision of the tariff law was asked for the same reason. After some decline, the Dec. option for wheat in this market rose from 111½ Oct. 7 to 120 Oct. 24, with a reaction to 115¾ at the close Oct. 31. Dec. corn ranged between 54½ and 58¼ and closed at 56½. Middling upland cotton in New York declined from 10.60 cts. Sept. 30 to 9.90 cts. Oct. 27, and was 10 cts. Oct. 31. Some exceedingly disturbing incidents arose in connection with the Russo-Japanese war. Monday morning, Oct. 24, news was received that the Russian Baltic fleet, while on its way to the Far East under command of Admiral Rojestvensky, had on the previous Saturday morning encountered an English fishing fleet in the North Sea and for some unexplained reason had fired on the same, killing some of the fishermen and sinking one of the trawlers. Intense indignation was aroused throughout Great Britain by the act. The English Ministry immediately made representations to the Russian Government. The Czar personally expressed his deep regret, but the English were not in a mood to be appeased by mere words. Fortunately on the 28th, through the good offices of the French Foreign Minister and the French Ambassador to England, it was agreed to constitute a court of inquiry under the Hague Tribunal to investigate and determine the facts. Earlier in the month a battle of vast dimensions was fought by the Japanese and Russian armies before Mukden. General Kuropokin had issued a pronouncement to the Russian troops announcing that he at length had sufficient forces to take the offensive. The battle began on the 9th and lasted until the 18th, the two armies fighting each other to a stand-still. The Russian losses alone in killed and wounded were officially stated at 33,250. The North Sea affair caused a fall again in British consols, which Oct. 27 were 87¾, the close Oct. 31 being at 88. Among the deaths of the month were those of Senator George F. Hoar of Massachusetts and Sir William Harcourt in Great Britain. Treasury cash was materially reduced, being \$267,367,293 Nov. 1 against \$275,367,824 Oct. 1. National bank circulation was \$124,530,531 Oct. 31 against \$122,014,715 Sept. 30. An American and European syndicate headed by Speyer & Co. took the new \$40,000,000 United States of Mexico 4 p. c. gold bonds. The Alaskan telegraph and cable system was completed, bringing the Nome and Behring Straits regions in direct communication with the United States over an all-American route. President Roosevelt issued a call formally proposing a second Peace Congress at The Hague; the subsequent responses were very satisfactory, though Russia expressed unwillingness to take part until after the close of the war with Japan.

Railroad Events and Stock Exchange Matters.—The activity and buoyancy on the Stock Exchange attained extraordinary dimensions. The latter half of the month transactions on several days reached close to 2,000,000 shares, aggregate sales for the month being 32,574,449 shares. So violent was the upward movement at times that Mil. & St. Paul com. (an active stock) on one day advanced 7 points. The strength of the Steel shares continued, the common rising to 22¾ and the pref. to 83¾. Taking the high and low points of the month Mil. & St. Paul com. advanced from 158½ to 175¼; Del. & Hud. from 169½ to 186¾; Pennsylvania from 131½ to 138½; N. Y. Cent. from 126 to 136½; Union Pacific common from 102 to 113¼; Ontario & Western from 34 to 47½; L. & N. from 127 to 137½; Minn. St. Paul & Sault Ste. Marie com. from 74¾ to 95; Lackawanna from 290 to 329, and Amal. Copper from 58¼ to 7¼. In some cases the highest prices were reached the last day; still, in the closing week, the North Sea incident and the resumption of gold exports caused a setback, so that the close in most instances was at a recession from the best figures. Control of the Ontario & Western was acquired by the N. Y. New Haven & Hartford; the latter also bought some more trolley roads. A call was made for redemption on Feb. 1, 1905, of the entire issue of Oregon Short Line 4 p. c. and participating bonds of 1902, of which \$82,491,000 were outstanding; this issue is secured by a corresponding amount of North. Securities stock, which latter touched 119¼ in the outside market. A local event was the opening to traffic of the subway or underground railroad in this city. Can. Pacific stockholders authorized \$25,500,000 new stock, of which \$16,900,000 was offered to shareholders at par. Central Pacific Ry. sold \$3,300,000 4 p. c. bonds guaranteed by the Pac. Company. Lehigh Valley disposed of \$15,000,000 4 p. c. gen. consol. mort. bonds in part to refund \$9,900,000 of maturing obligations. Norfolk & Western placed 5,000,000 of its new 4 p. c. 40 year div. 1st lien and gen. mort. bonds. Des Moines & Fort Dodge sold \$3,072,000 bonds of 1935 to take up a like amount of bonds maturing Jan. 1, 1905. The Public Service Corporation of New Jersey placed \$7,200,000 5 year 5 p. c. col. trust notes. Republic Iron & Steel secured a loan of \$7,000,000 on two and three year notes through the First Nat. Bank of Chicago on a 6 p. c. basis. West Jersey & Seashore stockholders

were given the right to subscribe to \$1,264,000 new stock at par; the company also sold \$1,000,000 1st consols The Westinghouse Elec. & Mfg. Co created an issue of \$15,000,000 5 p.c. 20-yr. debentures to be disposed of from time to time as needed The stockholders of the Crucible Steel Co authorized a new bond issue for \$7,000,000. Pressed Steel Car Co decided to suspend dividends on its common stock

The Money Market. Money on call at the Stock Exchange in October ranged from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{1}{2}$, with the close Oct. 31st $2@2\frac{1}{2}$, the gold exports having made lenders firmer in their views. On time the quotation Oct. 31 was 3 for sixty days, $3\frac{1}{2}$ for ninety days to four months and $3\frac{3}{4}@4$ for five to six months. Paper was 4 for double names and $4@4\frac{1}{2}$ for prime and $5@6$ for good single names. Surplus reserves were further sharply reduced the first week, dropping from \$19,213,425 Oct. 1 to \$12,639,900 Oct. 8, and were \$16,793,650 Oct. 29. Money holdings decreased from \$323,112,700 Oct. 1 to \$313,955,900 Oct. 8, and then increased to \$317,902,200 Oct. 29. Deposits were reduced from \$1,212,797,100 Oct. 1 to \$1,193,237,700 Oct. 15 and then recovered to \$1,204,434,200 Oct. 29. Loans first increased to \$1,145,989,200 Oct. 8, dropped the next week to \$1,134,013,400 and then recovered to \$1,142,286,600 Oct. 29.

Foreign Exchange, Silver, Etc.—The course of exchange was completely reversed. While at the end of September imports of gold appeared probable, the close of October saw an outflow of the metal under way, \$3,283,557 being exported the last week to France. On the 11th the Imperial Bank of Germany raised its rate from 4 to 5, and considerable monetary tension developed at the German financial centres, said to be due to the negotiation of a joint issue of 150,000,000 marks Treasury bonds by the Imperial and Russian Governments. There was a continued demand on London for gold for Paris and Berlin, and the price of gold bars was repeatedly advanced so as to prevent withdrawals from the Bank of England. To encourage gold exports from New York the German and French banks allowed interest for ten days on shipments of the metal. Up to about the 10th rates for sterling were irregular, but thereafter the movement was upward. Commercial drafts were mainly against cotton exports, there being few grain bills. There was a demand for exchange for remittance to London for imports of Australian gold at San Francisco. Likewise a demand to pay for stocks sold for European account, the rise on our Stock Exchange having induced considerable selling. The last week the inquiry for bills was also increased as the result of the Anglo-Russian incident. Oct. 10, quotations were $48320@4330$ for sixty-day bills, $4855@48535$ for sight and $48570@48575$ for cable transfers. Oct. 31, after some fractional recessions, they were $48410@48415$, $48670@48675$ and $48705@48710$. Bullion in the Bank of England was reduced £2,301,137 in the four weeks ending Oct. 27, and open market rates were higher all around, being Oct 31st $2\frac{3}{8}@3$ at London, $211-16$ at Paris and 4 at Berlin and Frankfurt. Silver at London remained very steady, with the price Oct 31st $2615-16d$.

NOVEMBER.—Current Events.—At the Presidential election, Nov 8, President Roosevelt received popular endorsement by an overwhelming majority. All the indications had foreshadowed his triumph, the odds in his favor in the betting having increased until they were 10 to 2. The immediate effect of the event was to stimulate further the rising tide of speculation on the Stock Exchange. Other favorable developments contributed to the same end. The revival in the iron and steel trades became still more marked. Nov 15, the Steel Billet Association advanced billets from \$19 50 to \$21; less than two months before, namely, Sept. 19, they had been marked down from \$23 to \$19 50. At meetings of the different associations of manufacturers prices for various finished articles were also marked up, though a conservative policy was here followed. Great activity likewise continued in copper, under the large exports of the metal, Lake copper getting up to $15\frac{1}{2}$ cents a pound. The speculation in the copper shares became still more pronounced. The metalliferous ore strike in Colorado, begun in September of the previous year, was officially terminated Nov. 30 by the Western Federation of Miners; the mine owners had long previously filled the places of most of the strikers. Middling upland cotton in New York, after moving up to 10 25 cts., Nov. 11, Nov. 30 was only 9 30 cts. The cotton goods trade remained an exception to the general rule of prosperity, and an attempt by the mill owners at Fall River to resume work Nov. 14 failed. On rumors of damage from drought to the fall sown grain in this country and damage to the wheat crop in Argentina from excessive rains, Dec. wheat in New York on Nov. 14 got up to $121\frac{1}{4}$. Closing Nov. 30 at $115\frac{3}{8}$. On the 18th, Secretary Shaw made a call on the banks for 25 p. c. of the U. S. deposits still held by them, 10 p. c. to be paid over by Jan. 15 and 15 p. c. by March 15. U. S. deposits in the banks Dec 1 were \$112,041,489 against \$114,553,482 Nov. 1. Cash in sub-Treasuries increased from \$267,397,293 Nov. 1 to \$269,112,970 Dec. 1. National bank circulation rose still higher, the amount afloat on bonds Nov 30 being \$427,947,505, against \$424,530,581 Oct 31 and \$387,273,623 Jan 1. Sec. Shaw notified the banks that all State and municipal bonds still deposited as security for public moneys must be withdrawn by Jan. 1. British consols declined to $87\frac{1}{2}$ Nov 4 on reports of a hitch in the Anglo-Russian negotiations over the convention for settling the attack the previous month on the English fishing fleet, but the matter was subsequently arranged and

the price Nov. 30 was 88 5-16. A Japanese 6 p. c. loan for £12,000,000 was brought out, half in this country, half in London. The issue price was 83 and int., and the loan was largely oversubscribed both here and abroad, the applications for the £6,000,000 offered in London being £80,000,000. New York City sold \$25,000,000 more 3 1/2s, making \$75,000,000 publicly placed by the city during the year. In the Russo-Japanese war, the Japanese finally succeeded after repeated repulses in capturing 203 Metre Hill at Port Arthur Nov 30, this hill commanding the harbor at Port Arthur, and enabling the victors the next month to destroy the Russian ships still remaining there. The ocean steamship war was in great part settled and rates pretty generally restored. A severe storm on the night of Sunday, Nov 13, accompanied by rain, sleet and snow, interrupted telegraph and telephone service so seriously that on Monday, the 14th, this city was almost completely cut off from the West and South. The damage to the wires on this occasion is said to have had its only parallel in the great sleet storm of Feb 1902 and the blizzard of March 1888. The New York Produce Exchange began dealings in pig iron storage warrants. Secretary Hay arranged a series of limited arbitration treaties (subject to the approval of the U. S. Senate) with France, Germany, Italy, Great Britain and other countries. As a result of the more liberal policy inaugurated by Prince Sviatopolk-Mirsky, a conference of the Presidents and other representatives of the Zemstvos or district and provincial assemblies, was held at St Petersburg Nov 19-22, and advocated a radical policy of reform, including a recommendation for a national representative body. A bill for maintaining the Mexican silver dollar on a basis of 50 cents in gold was submitted to the Mexican Congress by the Mexican Government.

Railroad Events and Stock Exchange Matters.—The buoyancy on the Stock Exchange assumed still greater dimensions. There was some weakness the first few days, but this passed away and the day before election the market displayed noteworthy strength. On the day following the election the sales aggregated 2,328,308 shares, and thereafter it seemed as if there were to be no end to the rise. For the month the sales were 31,931,066 shares. U. S. Steel common rose from $19\frac{5}{8}$ to $32\frac{3}{8}$, the pref. from $79\frac{1}{2}$ to $95\frac{1}{4}$; Gen. Elect. from $172\frac{1}{2}$ to $194\frac{1}{2}$; Col. Fuel & Iron from $40\frac{1}{4}$ to $53\frac{3}{8}$; Amer. Smelt. & Ref. com. from $69\frac{3}{4}$ to $82\frac{3}{8}$; Ill. Cent. from $141\frac{3}{4}$ to $158\frac{1}{4}$; L. & N. from 131 to $142\frac{1}{2}$; Union Pacific from $107\frac{7}{8}$ to 117; Penn from $134\frac{1}{4}$ to $139\frac{3}{8}$; N. Y. Cent. from $132\frac{3}{4}$ to 142; Mil. & St. Paul com. from $167\frac{3}{8}$ to $176\frac{1}{2}$; North West common from $193\frac{1}{2}$ to $211\frac{3}{4}$, the highest figures in many cases being reached on the last day of the month. Great Northern bounded up from 196 to 230. Atlantic Coast Line RR. stock rose from 139 to $155\frac{1}{2}$ on a 25 p. c. div. in stock, &c.; an increase in the com stock from \$36,650,000 to \$50,000,000 was authorized. Thomas W. Lawson of Boston, by advertisement, offered to pay \$70 per share for the minority stock of Pacific Mail SS., provided he could get substantially the whole of it on or before Nov 21. The stock was then selling at 42 (and Nov. 1 had sold at 37); it thereupon advanced to 55, but it was soon seen that an impossible condition was attached to the offer and the close Nov. 30 was at $48\frac{3}{4}$. Lehigh Coal & Nav. stockholders were offered \$1,577,200 new stock at par. Pennsylvania RR. sold \$4,000,000 4 p. c. special guaranteed stock of Cleve. & Pittsb. RR. at 105 7/7. It was announced that the \$10,000,000 Erie convertible 4s sold to a syndicate headed by J. P. Morgan & Co., in 1903, had been marketed and the syndicate wound up; only \$3,500,000 of the bonds was issued prior to June 30 1904. Speyer & Co. took \$25,558,000 1st and ref. 4 p. c. bonds of the Chic. R. I. & Pac. Ry. and Mr James Speyer entered the Board of Directors of the Rock Island Company and became a member of the Finance Committee. Authority was given to increase the common stock of the Buffalo Rochester & Pittsburgh Ry. from \$9,000,000 to \$12,000,000. Chicago Burlington & Quincy RR. sold \$19,699,000 Illinois Division bonds to J. P. Morgan & Co. under an agreement by which the firm is to refund at or before maturity the consols of 1873 due July 1, 1905. Detroit Un. Ry. sold \$8,200,000 1st consol. $4\frac{1}{2}$ s to refund \$6,585,000 prior bonds due July, 1905, and to liquidate the floating debt. The Pennsylvania Railroad sold \$15,000,000 Pennsylvania Company 40-year $3\frac{1}{2}$ p. c. trust certs. and also sold \$10,800,000 of its own $3\frac{1}{2}$ p. c. equipment trusts. Pere Marquette RR. sold \$6,000,000 of its refunding 4s, guaranteed by the Cin. Ham. & Dayton. Speyer Bros., London, contracted to purchase \$6,600,000 1st mtg. Lake Superior Div. and \$8,000,000 Prairie Div. 50-year 4s of the Grand Trunk Pacific Ry., guar. by the Grand Trunk Ry. of Canada. The Illinois Cent. sold \$12,000,000 of its "purchased lines" $3\frac{1}{2}$ s. A controlling interest in Chic. & Alton Ry. stock was placed in a voting trust by the Rock Island and the Harriman interests. Interborough Rap. Trans. made its second div. (payable Jan. 3, 1905), 3 p. c., against 2 p. c. in July; the company also anticipated by a year the date when the absolute guarantee of 7 p. c. on Man. (El.) Ry. stock would become effective irrespective of earnings. Consol. Gas of this city increased its quar. div from 2 to $2\frac{1}{2}$ p. c. Amer. Cot. Oil reduced the div. on its com., but quite a number of other industrial corporations announced new or increased dividends.

The Money Market.—Owing to the continued decrease in the surplus reserves of the Clearing House banks, occasioned mainly by the large gold exports, money rates stiffened, particularly in the call loan branch, where the quotation got up to 4 p. c., the range Nov. 30 being $3\frac{1}{4}@4$. Time loans at the close were 4 for sixty to ninety days and $3\frac{3}{4}@4$ for four to six months. Commercial paper at the close was

4@4½ for double names, 4¼@4¾ for prime single names and 5@5½ for good single names. Money holdings of the Clearing House banks fell off from \$17,902,200 Oct. 29 to \$290,508,600 Dec. 3, and though deposits were also reduced from \$1,204,434,200 to \$1,127,878,100, surplus reserves declined from \$16,793,650 to \$8,539,075. Loans were reduced from \$1,142,286,600 to \$1,090,602,900.

Foreign Exchange, Silver, Etc.—The outflow of gold continued, almost 20½ million dollars going out from this port in part to Europe (of which \$1,000,000 was in coin, the supply of gold bars at the New York Assay Office having been exhausted) and in part to Cuba, the latter all in coin. The Bank of England sustained further heavy losses in bullion, holding Dec. 1 only £32,550,219 bullion against £38,921,363 Sept. 29. Great activity and strength developed in exchange on the 6th in connection with the announcement of the Japanese loan. This appears to have been largely speculative, as Kuhn, Loeb & Co. distinctly announced that the proceeds of that portion of the loan to be placed in this country, namely \$30,000,000, would remain on deposit here. A demand to remit for American securities bought in London for New York account was at times noted and there was likewise a demand to pay for New York City revenue bonds placed abroad the previous spring and now being returned. The high point was reached on the 22d, when prices were 484½@484¾ for sixty day bills, 48720@48730 for sight bills and 48760@48765 for cable transfers. The latter part of the month dearer money at this centre weakened exchange, and the close Nov. 30 was 48360@48370, 48650@48660 and 48690@487 for the three classes of bills. Discounts Nov. 30 at London were 3@3½, at Paris 2¼ and at Berlin and Frankfurt 3¾@4, the latter at one time having been 4¼@4¾. Silver in London was higher, and the quotation Nov. 30 was 27 5-16d.

DECEMBER.—Current Events.—Some of the recommendations in the President's Message, particularly as regards the authority to be given the Inter-State Commerce Commission in the matter of fixing railroad rates, were unfavorably received, and as a Boston operator was at the time making an attack on the stock market, a severe break in prices ensued. Later in the month Commissioner James R. Garfield of the Bureau of Corporations recommended as a remedy against trusts or large combinations the requirement of Federal franchises for all corporations doing an inter-State business. The Agricultural Department Dec. 3 estimated the cotton crop at 12,162,000 bales, and the ginning returns of the U. S. Census subsequently issued pointed to a crop of about 12,750,000 bales; cotton prices became utterly demoralized and middling uplands in New York dropped from 9 30c. Nov. 30 to 6 85c. Dec. 29, the close Dec. 30 being 6 95c. In the month meetings of planters were held favoring the burning of a portion of the crop to enhance the value of the rest. Print cloths at Fall River were marked down from 3cts. to 2½ cts.; at meetings of the cotton operatives Dec. 30 it was voted to continue the strike at Fall River which had been in progress since the previous July. In the iron and steel industry further advances in some finished articles occurred. Steel rails were left unchanged at \$28. No. 2 foundry pig iron at Birmingham got up to \$14. Some new breaks in the ranks of the strikers in the building trades were announced. Wheat prices again advanced the latter part of the month, and the December option went out at about the highest figure of the season, namely \$1 22½. The Japanese at Port Arthur gained new advantages, leading to the surrender of the Russians at the beginning of the new year (1905). There was more or less talk concerning the coming Russian loan, but the reports continued very indefinite. The banking houses who bought the \$40,000,000 4 per cent loan of the United States of Mexico, having privately sold \$25,000,000 of the bonds, made a public offering of the remainder in this country and Europe. A prolonged drought in the Middle and Middle Western States and in New England, which had seriously hampered business affairs in those sections (the Ohio River not having been navigable for coal fleets for eight months, threatening Pittsburgh and other points with a coal famine,) was broken Dec. 23. The German Bank of Buffalo closed its doors, having become embarrassed by reason of imprudent loans. The German-American Bank, however, which had been managed by some of the same officials, was found solvent and was protected by the Clearing house. Banking officials in Cleveland issued a statement showing that Cleveland banks (with one trifling exception) were not carrying any of the paper of Mrs. Cassie L. Chadwick, which the previous month had wrecked the Citizens' National Bank of Oberlin, Ohio. National bank circulation was \$431,841,785 Dec. 31, against \$427,947,505 Nov. 30. Government deposits in the banks were \$111,550,855 Dec. 31, against \$112,041,429 Dec. 1, and cash in Sub-Treasuries \$272,393,729, against \$269,112,970 Dec. 1. The U. S. Government on Dec. 27 began a suit under the Sherman Anti-Trust Act against what is known as the Western Paper Trust, namely the General Paper Co., and the pulp and paper companies whose product it handles. August Belmont was made President of the National Civic Federation to succeed the late Marcus A. Hanna. The Louisiana Purchase Exposition at St. Louis was closed Dec. 1. Robert J. Wynne of Pennsylvania was nominated Postmaster-General to succeed the late Henry C. Payne. A number of the city savings banks, anticipating the repeal of the franchise tax law, raised the rate of interest on deposits from 3½ to 4 p. c.

Czar Nicholas Dec. 26 issued a ukase dealing with the memorial of the Zemstvos Presidents and outlining an extensive scheme of reforms for Russia. A fire at Sioux City, Ia., caused a property loss of about \$2,000,000.

Railroad Events and Stock Exchange Matters.—After the long-continued advance a great break in prices occurred in the market, through reckless speculation, had become decidedly vulnerable, and of his Thomas W. Lawson of Boston took advantage. He had for many months been making an attack on Amalgamated Copper and on the Standard Oil people under the title "Frenzied Finance" in "Everybody's Magazine." He now turned his attention to the stock market, publishing sensational advertisements in all the leading papers in this country and Europe, advising everybody to sell Amalgamated Copper, and share properties generally. His announcements appeared on Tuesday morning, the 6th, and at first had little effect; but at noon of the same day the President's Message was made public, containing certain suggestions and recommendations which Lawson interpreted so as to further his ends. The next two days he sent out bulletins about every hour. The market in its then top-heavy condition yielded readily. Amalgamated Copper, against 82½ Dec. 5, dropped to 58½ Dec. 8, and the general list suffered only less in degree. On the 9th the market recovered, and this recovery was continued on Saturday, Dec. 10. On Monday, Dec. 12, a renewed break was effected by the appearance in the papers of another attack from the same source. On Tuesday, Dec. 13, a quick upward reaction occurred, and thereafter normal conditions prevailed, though business fell away to small proportions. The latter part of the month, when it was seen with what ease prices advanced, there was a renewal of activity, the market nevertheless remaining extremely sensitive and fluctuating quite widely. Amalgamated Copper closed Dec. 31 at 71. The latter part of the month a rise in New York Central and the Vanderbilt stocks gave tone to the whole market, and in a number of instances the best prices were made on the last day. Pennsylvania sold at 140 Dec. 5, 132 Dec. 13 and closed at 138¼ Dec. 31. U. P. declined from 116½ Dec. 1 to 104½ Dec. 13, closing Dec. 31 at 113¾. N. Y. Central touched 133 Dec. 13, got up to 145½ Dec. 28 and closed at 142 Dec. 31. Mil. & St. P. common was 177½ Dec. 1, 164 Dec. 8 and closed at 171¾ Dec. 31. Steel common dropped from 33½ Dec. 5 to 23½ Dec. 8 and closed at 30. In the outside market Nor. Securities got up to 135 Dec. 31. Kuhn, Loeb & Co. purchased \$25,000,000 of a new 4 p. c. 40-year bond issue to be made by the Mo. Pac. Fisk & Robinson sold \$5,000,000 4½ p. c. bonds of the Buff. & Susq. Ry. The A. T. & S. F. called a meeting of shareholders to vote on a proposed issue of \$50,000,000 convertible bonds. Harvey Fisk & Sons offered \$3,000,000 of Consolidated Coal Co. of Maryland 4½ p. c. ref. bonds. J. P. Morgan & Co. took \$4,866,666 1st mtg. consol. debent. 4s of the Canadian Northern Ry. A readjustment plan for the U. S. Leather Co. was issued. H. B. Hollins & Co. purchased control of the Cin. Ham. & Dayton. Del. Lack. & West. declared an extra div. of 10 p. c. Reading Co. declared the first div. on its com. stock—1½ p. c. Pennsylvania Company declared 5 p. c., comparing with 4 p. c. the previous year; L. & N. increased its semi-annual payments from 2½ to 3 p. c.; L. E. & Western declared 2 p. c., against 1 p. c. six months before. Ind. Ill. & Iowa, which had omitted payment in August, declared 2 p. c. for Feb., 1905.

The Money Market.—Call loans on the Stock Exchange advanced to 5 p. c. Dec. 8, owing to the break in stock values (which caused calling of loans and discrimination against collateral), but this brought increased offerings from interior cities, and after the 12th 3 was the maximum until Dec. 30, when 5 was again temporarily reached incident to the 1st of Jan. payments. Time contracts were quite freely offered at the close at 3@3¼ for sixty to ninety days and 3¼@3½ for four to six months. Commercial paper then was 4@4½ for double names and prime single names, and 4½@5 for good single names. Surplus reserves rose from \$8,539,075 Dec. 3 to \$15,247,225 Dec. 24 and were \$13,633,425 Dec. 31. Money holdings however, fell off and were \$299,695,700 Dec. 31, against \$290,508,600 Dec. 3. Loans were reduced from \$1,090,602,900 Dec. 3 to \$1,057,430,200 Dec. 24, and then increased to \$1,066,701,200 Dec. 31. Deposits were \$1,127,878,100 Dec. 3, \$1,091,115,500 Dec. 24 and \$1,104,049,100 Dec. 31.

Foreign Exchange, Silver, Etc.—Higher money rates here had some effect in weakening exchange the early part of December, particularly on the 8th; after that the tendency was strongly upward, due to a demand to remit for mercantile and bankers' settlements and to pay for January interest and dividends. Sixty-day bills Dec. 31 closed at the highest figures of the month, namely 48180@48400, but cable transfers (urgent needs having been satisfied) then were 48765@48775, against 48790@48795 Dec. 29. Sight bills were at their highest Dec. 19 at 48745@48750 and were 48710@48720 Dec. 31. Bank of England suffered a further heavy loss in bullion, bringing its holding Dec. 22 down to £29,696,499, against £38,921,363 Sept. 29; there was a recovery to £29,927,272 Dec. 29. Gold exports from New York to Argentina, Europe, etc., reached some 6 million dollars. Open market discounts at London Dec. 31 were 2½, at Paris 2½ and at Berlin and Frankfurt 3½; at the German monetary centres quotations at one time were 4½. Silver in London got up to 28 9-16d. Dec. 30, the highest point of the year, and closed Dec. 31 at 28¾d. The India Government continued making purchases.

CLEARINGS AND SPECULATION IN 1904.

The course of bank clearings during 1904 finds its explanation both in the state of feeling at the financial centres and the volume and condition of mercantile trade. In 1904 financial and industrial conditions alike very considerably improved, whereas in 1903 the tendency was just the other way. Naturally, therefore, an enlargement of the volume of bank exchanges has followed as one of the attendant phenomena. Moreover, as Stock Exchange transactions nearly always play a commanding if not an overshadowing part in the results, the distinguishing feature of the clearings record of 1904 is the large gains displayed at New York.

Stated briefly, the aggregate of clearings at this centre for the twelve months of 1904 was 68,649 million dollars, against 65,970 million dollars in 1903. While in amount the gain seems large, in ratio it is really quite moderate, being only a little over four per cent. This appears all the more true when it is recalled that in 1903 there had been a loss of fully 10,358 million dollars, or over 13½ per cent. However, it is important to bear in mind that during the first half of 1904, and in fact during the whole of the first eight months of the year, Stock Exchange speculation was on a greatly diminished scale. It is true that most of the dealings in stocks on the Exchange are cleared through the Stock Exchange Clearing House, and hence that such dealings do not directly enter into the volume of bank exchanges, yet indirectly Stock Exchange business does affect, and affect very powerfully, the course and volume of bank exchanges, as we have so many times pointed out in these columns. The fact therefore that stock sales during the first eight months of 1904 were relatively small must be given due consideration. We furnish herewith a record of the share sales for each month of the last two years.

SALES OF STOCKS AT NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE.

Month	1904.			1903.		
	Number of Shares	Values.		Number of Shares	Values.	
		Par.	Actual.		Par.	Actual.
Jan	12,262,624	1,159,551,975	666,945,926	16,001,322	1,515,264,956	1,204,568,214
Feb	8,757,254	793,179,950	10,923,017	10,923,017	1,045,547,222	885,098,769
March	11,440,956	1,053,978,950	651,003,461	11,095,307	1,424,484,400	1,182,487,694
1st qr	29,460,834	3,006,740,875	1,920,959,804	48,019,646	3,985,596,578	3,172,154,677
April	8,205,529	772,657,350	489,390,451	12,293,056	1,150,635,100	900,041,217
May	5,290,110	500,722,000	287,544,816	12,487,587	1,166,807,900	901,487,624
June	4,972,804	465,555,700	210,690,900	15,396,741	1,400,639,122	1,169,533,508
2d qr	13,468,444	1,738,734,950	977,255,296	40,187,384	3,717,562,122	2,971,062,459
6 mos	50,959,278	4,745,475,825	2,798,315,106	98,235,930	7,703,173,700	6,143,217,116
July	12,462,394	1,137,679,700	698,535,339	14,908,756	1,379,437,900	1,018,941,179
August	12,474,789	1,070,701,950	658,916,866	14,370,945	1,351,652,500	1,005,411,469
Sept	13,767,363	1,712,943,600	1,102,487,947	10,795,453	1,006,669,225	709,564,218
3d qr	43,704,447	3,921,325,250	2,454,970,144	40,070,154	3,739,749,625	2,724,216,806
9 mos	94,663,726	8,666,801,075	5,253,285,250	12,246,084	11,442,928,325	8,877,433,922
Oct	32,574,449	3,045,453,375	2,100,497,681	12,593,398	1,208,379,656	721,047,692
Nov	31,931,066	3,048,035,200	2,717,691,498	10,730,979	949,132,375	565,599,978
Dec	28,092,821	2,633,348,000	1,989,977,965	15,223,143	1,427,737,650	840,001,409
4th qr	92,044,336	8,726,836,475	6,808,167,146	38,856,015	3,585,239,675	2,126,649,079
Year	1,873,120,651	17,399,637,550	12,061,452,396	1,611,021,101	15,023,116,500	11,004,038,300

Thus notwithstanding a decided increase in September, the sales for the nine months to September 30, 1904 were only 94½ million shares against 122¼ million shares in the nine months of 1903. The market value of the transactions was 5253 millions against 8877 million dollars. On the other hand in the last three months almost as much business was done as in the whole of the first nine months, 92,648,336 shares having been dealt in against only 38,856,015 shares in October, November and December of 1903. The market value of the share sales for the

three months was actually very much larger than for the nine months, it being 6808 millions compared with 2126 million dollars in the three months of 1903.

The monthly record of bank clearings differs from the record of stock transactions only in showing recovery one month sooner, that is, in August instead of in September. In the whole of the first seven months there were losses in clearings though for varying amounts; in the last four months and more especially in the last three months, there were striking gains. The bulk of the early losses came from the falling off at New York, but it is worth noting that even outside of New York there were losses in clearings in all but two of the first seven months. In the preceding year the outside clearings had continued to show moderate increases in face of the adverse developments in the financial world. This was because these outside cities reflect the condition of things in mercantile and industrial affairs, speculative transactions and large financial undertakings being much less of a feature there. In the financial world, it will be recalled, confidence was very deeply disturbed during 1903. Stock Exchange values almost uninterruptedly declined, the shrinkage reaching enormous proportions. Railroad and other corporations found it next to impossible to float loans, and even municipalities for a time could not dispose of new bond offerings on advantageous terms. But all this time trade and industry continued under such a momentum—that is, there was such an accumulation of unfilled orders given when all the indications seemed to point to a continuance of prosperity—that the volume of business remained large almost to the close of 1903.

In the early months of 1904, however, the setback to general trade having become more pronounced, diminishing clearings were the inevitable outcome. The falling off continued even while confidence was being restored in financial circles. There were also many special circumstances to accentuate the depression in trade during this portion of the year. The weather during the whole of the first five months of the year was of exceptional severity. The Masters' & Pilots' strike came at a time when its effects on Lake transportation were particularly severe. The depression in the iron and steel industry may be said to have extended through practically the whole of the first eight months of the year—that is, recovery came only with the cut in prices made in September. There were other disturbing influences—the troubles in the building trades, the strike at the meat packing establishments and the walk-out of the cotton operatives at Fall River. Gradually these various unsettling factors one by one disappeared—all but the Fall River trouble which was still in progress at the end of the year.

In the meantime confidence in the financial world was reviving in a most notable way. The railroads no longer found it difficult to float new obligations; month by month enormous amounts of new issues were put out. In the latter half of 1904 a great speculation for the rise was in progress on the Stock Exchange. Then, with the assurance of large crops, business affairs everywhere felt the quickening influence and the volume of trade again increased. Thus it happened that such records as 17 per cent increase in November and 13 per cent increase in December in the clearings outside of New York, and 53 per cent and 37 per cent increases respectively in the same two months with New York included, were established.

Company and class of stock—	Amount.	Purpose of issue.
St. L. & S. F. { C. & E. Ill., com... } { stock trust certs. }	177,500	Exchange for Chicago & Eastern Illinois stock.
do do { C. & E. Ill., pref. } { stock trust certs. }	34,000	
Southern Pacific, pref.....	40,000,000	Pay loans of system, additions and impts. Exchange for stocks of subsidiary companies.
do do common.....	17,106	
Union Pacific, common.....	10,768,000	Exch. for conv. bonds. Acq Pitts. Term. Ry. stk
Wabash RR., common.....	10,000,000	
Total.....	\$120,915,550	

LISTINGS OF MISCELLANEOUS STOCKS.

Company and class of stock—	Amount.	Purpose of issue.
Amer. Telep. & Telec. stock.....	\$1,847,400	Improvements, etc.
Citizens Cent. Nat. Bank stock.....	\$1,000,000	Acquire Cent. Nat. Bk.
Detroit City Gas stock.....	174,500	Improvements.
Federal Mining & Smelting, pref. 10,000,000	10,000,000	Acquisition of properties.
do com.....	5,000,000	
General Electric stock.....	4,317,300	Subscribed by stockholders at par. Ex. tensions and impts.
Kings Co. Elec. L. & P. stock.....	1,250,000	
Mercantile Nat. Bank stock.....	2,000,000	Increase of stock.
United Fruit stock.....	2,058,500	Extensions and impts.
U. S. Realty & Impt. stock.....	16,034,000	Exch. for U. S. Realty & Construction stock. Pay obligations and corporate purposes.
Virginia-Carolina Chem., pref.....	6,000,000	
Westingh. Elec & Mfg., assenting. 2,469,550	2,469,550	Acquisitions & impts.
Total.....	\$54,951,250	

Far and away the most important of the issues here included is the 40 millions of preferred stock sold by the Southern Pacific Company to its stockholders, to provide, with the proceeds of bonds above mentioned, for additions and improvements which will make the system compare favorably with the parent system—the Union Pacific Railroad. Speaking of the last-named company it is interesting to note that the improvement in the stock market during the last few weeks has occasioned the conversion of 11 millions of its convertible bonds into stock, reducing the amount of these bonds to \$76,489,000, and increasing correspondingly the amount of the company's common stock on the list. The New York New Haven & Hartford has sold and listed 9½ millions of new share capital, chiefly for the improvement of its system. The Delaware & Hudson sold 7 millions of stock to its stockholders at \$135 per share, using the proceeds to pay off bonds and for improvements. The Pennsylvania Railroad Company has listed only 4¾ millions of its own stock, but has added the following amounts of stock of its subsidiary lines, namely, Pittsburgh Cincinnati Chicago & St. Louis, 5 millions; Pittsburgh Fort Wayne & Chicago, 5 millions; Northern Central, 5¾ millions; Cleveland & Pittsburgh, 4 millions; the proceeds being principally for improvements, new equipment, etc. Other large increases are Chicago Great Western, 6½ millions; Missouri Kansas & Texas, 7 millions; Wabash, 10 millions.

The only additions to the unlisted department worth mentioning are the 35 millions Republic of Cuba gold 5s and \$40,000,000 United States of Mexico 4s, which were placed by Speyer & Co. and Harvey Fisk & Sons; 17 millions new stock of the Canadian Pacific, 20 p. c. paid; temporary certificates for 40 millions of new Oregon Short Line refunding mortgage 4 p. c. bonds; certificates for 56 millions of 6 per cent and 78 millions each of 4 per cent bonds and preferred stock of the new American Tobacco Company and £12,000,000 Imperial Japanese Government 6 per cent sterling loan, second series.

Four voting trusts have been dissolved and the share certificates, carrying full voting power, have been distributed to the owners and listed on the Exchange, namely, the Erie, the Reading, the Wisconsin Central and the Metropolitan West Side Elevated Railroad of Chicago. The voting trust of the Colorado Southern, it is expected, will be terminated early in 1905. The shares of the American Steel Foundries also have been re-admitted to the regular list.

AFFAIRS WHICH HAVE LED TO THE 1904 FAILURES.

The record of failures in 1904 is only one link in the chain of events that forms the cycle which, if followed to its sources, will carry the investigator far back into the previous century for its full explanation. Indeed one can only get at the bottom of the industrial and financial phenomena those years embrace by taking them as one and making a study of them as a whole. A vital mistake was made at the start. It cost the country much to get out of the entanglement that ensued; how much, may be in part traced in the record of failures. The course pursued in those earliest years illustrated the evident truth that whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap. We sowed silver (tares) with our gold in 1879 when we first sought to establish gold payments. In every way we could devise we tried to make the two metals one in kind and in purpose; but they showed most clearly that they were antagonistic, silver interfering with and tending to defeat the purpose had in view. So situated, and the public becoming at length convinced that silver was taking full possession of the field, radical measures were adopted for its extermination. The success of the sound-money party at the Presidential election in 1896 was the herald of victory for gold.

The truth, however, is that though previous to 1896 we were suffering severely in an industrial way on account of our silver experiment, yet through that suffering our industries were getting in shape for a long term of material progress. The building up came about through the forced economy, liquidation and rest which our struggle with silver made necessary. Growth and new development in industrial affairs, the natural tendency in normal times, was checked. New investments of capital remained at a low ebb; surplus incomes of individuals were largely confined to gold securities or converted into gold and placed in safe deposit boxes; enterprise found no encouragement; and in the absence of fresh supplies of capital from abroad and much of the time of decreasing supplies, the country's industries necessarily languished. At length, however, the danger to our currency standard, under the fear of which all enterprise had been stagnating, having been removed, home and foreign capital were made free to come to this market, and came again seeking employment. Thereafter it seemed as if commercial activity, relieved from the fear of a change of our currency to a silver basis, was being driven along the road to progress at a constantly accelerating pace. Concurrently with this increasing revival of activity speculation also widened.

It would not be correct to leave an impression that there were no cycles of quickened activity before 1896. They were short, as a rule, occurring at times when favored with large crops, large railroad earnings and large exports. After, however, the 1890 silver-purchase law was passed, with the exception of the first half of the year, business enterprise was uninterruptedly restricted or entered upon with extreme caution and moderation. But not even the election of 1896, which ensured a gold basis for our currency, could free the country from speculative excesses. Our people being naturally venturesome in disposition, and confidence in the stability of values having been in good part re-established, a speculative fever of marked energy was not an unexpected event. Hence it happened that, while

MONEY MARKET AT NEW YORK—RATES IN 1902.

Table with columns for 1902 WEEK Ending, CALL LOANS (At Stock Exch'ge, At Banks & Tr'st Cos), TIME LOANS (30 days, 60 days, 90 days, Four Months, Five Months, Six Months, Seven Months), COMMERCIAL PAPER (Double-name, Single-names), and 1902 WEEK Ending. Includes data for months January through December.

MONEY MARKET AT NEW YORK—RATES IN 1901.

Table with columns for 1901 WEEK Ending, CALL LOANS (At Stock Exch'ge, At Banks & Tr'st Cos), TIME LOANS (30 days, 60 days, 90 days, Four Months, Five Months, Six Months, Seven Months), COMMERCIAL PAPER (Double-name, Single-names), and 1901 WEEK Ending. Includes data for months January through December.

* These are nominal rates, commercial paper was practically unsalable.

NEW YORK CITY BANKS IN 1904.

To indicate the bank movements at this centre we furnish below a summary of the returns of the New York Clearing House institutions for each week of the past year. We omit in all the columns the last two figures. The Clearing House returns, as is known, always give the averages for the week, not the results at the end of the week.

NEW YORK CLEARING HOUSE BANKS STATEMENT—(00s OMITTED.)

Table showing weekly bank movements for 1904. Columns include: 1904. Week Ended, Loans, Deposits, Specie, Legal tenders, Res'v'to deposits, Surplus. Rows list weeks from Jan. 1 to Oct. 31.

† This is the surplus in excess of 25 per cent against the deposits. Government deposits being included in the totals the same as in the past.

In the following tables we show the maximum and minimum deposits and the maximum and minimum of surplus reserve for each of the last twelve years.

MAXIMUM AND MINIMUM DEPOSITS OF NEW YORK CITY BANKS.

Table with 3 columns: Year, Maximum, Minimum. Rows list years from 1893 to 1904.

MAXIMUM AND MINIMUM SURPLUS RESERVE FOR TWELVE YEARS.

Table with 3 columns: Year, Maximum, Minimum. Rows list years from 1893 to 1904.

We add the following two tables, the one showing the condition of each bank at the beginning of the year and the other the condition at the end of the year.

CONDITION OF NEW YORK CITY BANKS BEGINNING OF 1904.

Table showing bank conditions at the beginning of 1904. Columns: January 2, 1904, Capital, Surplus, Loans, Specie, Legals, Deposits, Res'v'to. Rows list various banks like Bk. of N.Y., Merchants, etc.

† Total United States deposits included \$36,767,400.

CONDITION OF NEW YORK CITY BANKS END OF YEAR.

Table showing bank conditions at the end of the year. Columns: Dec. 31, 1904, Capital, Surplus, Loans, Specie, Legals, Deposits, Res'v'to. Rows list various banks like Bk. of N.Y., Merchants, etc.

† Total United States deposits included, \$23,008,200.

Allowing for the changes in stocks, the consumption of home pig iron in 1904 was 16,649,080 tons against 17,460,714 in 1903, showing in this way a decrease of only 811,634 tons. On the other hand account should also be taken of the diminution in the imports of pig iron, which in 1903 and 1902 had been very large but in 1904 dropped back to small proportions. The final result, with all these items and factors taken into consideration, is shown in the following table.

PIG IRON PRODUCTION, STOCKS, IMPORTS, & C.

Tons of 2,240 P'nds.	1904.	1903.	1902.	1901.	1900.	1899.
Stock of pig Jan. 1.	598,439	49,951	73,647	446,020	68,309	415,333
Production dur'g yr.	16,497,033	18,009,252	17,321,307	15,878,354	13,789,242	13,620,703
Total supply.....	17,095,522	18,059,203	17,394,954	16,324,374	13,857,551	14,038,036
Stock end of year.	446,442	598,439	49,951	73,647	446,020	68,309
Consumption of home pig	16,649,080	17,460,714	17,345,008	16,350,727	13,411,531	13,967,727
Imports of pig.....	79,500	599,574	619,354	63,930	52,566	40,393
Total.....	16,728,580	18,060,288	18,464,337	16,413,657	13,464,096	14,008,120
Exports of pig.....	49,025	20,379	27,487	61,211	286,087	228,278
Domestic consumption	16,679,555	18,039,909	18,436,870	16,332,446	13,177,409	13,779,442

The above makes it evident that the domestic consumption of pig iron in 1904 was only 16,679,555 tons, against 18,039,909 tons in 1903 and 18,436,870 tons in 1902. But even this does not indicate the whole of the reduction which occurred in domestic consumption. In treating of the imports and exports of iron in the statement given, we have taken account only of the movement in iron alone. But pig iron by itself forms only a small part of the country's imports and exports of iron and steel. In 1902, and also in 1903 until the closing months, the situation was such that we imported iron and steel in very large amounts to supply the deficiency then existing in the home product to meet home requirement. In 1904, on the other hand, an exactly opposite state of things prevailed, the home product, notwithstanding the decrease in the same, being greatly in excess of the home demand, making it necessary to find a market abroad for the surplus. The contrast in these particulars is graphically revealed in the following table, in which we show the imports and exports of all kinds of iron and steel, including the pig metal.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF ALL KINDS OF IRON AND STEEL.

	1904.	1903.	1902.	1901.	1900.	1899.
Imports.....	268,898	1,178,797	1,906,513	221,292	200,955	173,220
Exports.....	1,187,673	826,590	375,078	700,357	1,154,284	942,659
Excess of exports	901,275	.....	.....	479,065	944,329	769,439
Excess of imports	.....	852,207	831,735	.....	.....	.....

Thus in 1904 we exported 901,275 tons of iron and steel more than we imported, whereas in 1903 our imports exceeded our exports in the amount of 852,207 tons and in 1902 they exceeded the exports by 831,735 tons. Deducting, therefore, the 901,275 tons of net exports from the 16,649,080 tons consumption of home pig iron in 1904, and adding the 852,207 tons excess of imports to the consumption in 1903 and the 831,735 tons excess of imports to the home consumption in 1902, the comparison would stand—15,747,805 tons for 1904, against 18,312,921 tons for 1903 and 18,676,737 tons for 1902. The contraction is accordingly found to have been over 2½ million tons as compared with 1903 and nearly 3 million tons as compared with 1902.

It was this great curtailment of consumption that furnished the basis for the improvement in demand which developed when prices were reduced to the proper level. We need hardly say that the average of prices on all leading articles of iron and steel (excepting only steel rails, which were maintained at unchanged figures,) was much lower for 1904 than for 1903. In fact it was the lowest of all recent years. It is always useful to have these yearly averages, and accordingly we annex the following table, showing the yearly figures back to 1897.

AVERAGE YEARLY PRICES OF IRON AND STEEL, 1897 TO 1904.

Articles—	1904. 1903. 1902. 1901. 1900. 1899. 1898. 1897.							
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	
Old iron T rails at Phila. ton.	16 22	21 17	23 83	19 32	19 51	20 36	12 39	12 49
No. 1 anth.fdy. pig at Phil. "	15 57	19 93	22 19	15 87	19 98	19 36	11 06	12 10
Gray forge pig iron at Phil. "	13 67	17 13	19 20	14 08	16 49	16 60	10 23	10 43
Gray forge pig iron, Lake ore, at Pittsburgh..... "	12 89	17 52	19 49	14 20	16 90	16 72	9 18	9 03
Bessemer pig iron at Pitts. "	13 76	18 93	20 67	15 93	19 49	19 03	10 33	10 13
Steel rails at mills in Pa. "	28 00	28 00	28 00	27 33	32 29	23 13	17 62	18 75
St'billet at mills at Pitts. "	22 13	27 91	30 57	24 13	25 06	31 12	15 31	15 05
Best refined bar iron from store at Phila. 100 lbs.	1 72	2 00	2 13	1 84	1 96	2 07	1 93	1 81
Best re'd bar iron at Pitts. "	1 43	1 77	1 94	1 80	2 15	1 95	1 07	1 10

In connection with these low averages for 1904, it should be recalled that while in 1903 closing prices were far below the yearly averages, in 1904, on the other hand, they were much above the yearly averages. One illustration must suffice: In 1903 the average of Bessemer pig iron at Pittsburgh was \$18 98, but the December 1903 figure was only \$14 40, to which there had been a decline from \$22 85 in January 1903. In 1904 the average of Bessemer pig iron at Pittsburgh was only \$13 76, but the December price was \$16 72, to which figure there had been an advance from \$12 46 in July 1904.

Before closing, it will be interesting to show the changes in the pig-iron production in the different States. Accordingly we present the following table covering the last seven years.

PRODUCTION OF PIG IRON BY STATES.

Tons of 2,240 Pounds.	1904.	1903.	1902.	1901.	1900.	1899.	1898.
So. States—	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Alabama.....	1,453,513	1,561,398	1,472,211	1,225,212	1,184,337	1,083,908	1,033,676
Virginia.....	310,526	544,034	537,316	448,662	490,617	365,491	283,274
Tennessee...	302,096	418,368	392,778	337,130	362,190	346,166	263,439
W. Virginia..	270,945	199,013	183,005	169,597	163,758	187,858	192,699
Kentucky....	37,106	102,441	110,725	68,462	71,562	119,019	100,724
Georgia.....	70,156	75,602	32,315	27,333	28,384	17,835	18,703
N. Carolina..							
Maryland....	293,441	324,570	303,229	303,186	290,073	234,477	190,974
Texas.....	5,530	11,653	3,095	2,273	10,150	5,803	5,178
Total.....	2,743,313	3,237,079	3,034,574	2,578,864	2,604,871	2,360,554	2,083,726
Pennsylvania	7,644,321	8,211,500	8,117,800	7,343,257	6,365,935	6,558,878	5,537,832
Ohio.....	3,977,939	3,287,434	3,631,338	3,326,425	2,470,611	2,378,212	1,986,358
New York....	605,709	552,917	401,369	283,662	292,827	264,246	228,011
New Jersey..	262,294	211,667	191,850	155,746	170,262	127,598	100,631
Illinois.....	1,655,991	1,692,375	1,730,220	1,596,850	1,363,383	1,442,012	1,365,898
Michigan....	233,225	244,799	155,213	170,762	163,712	134,443	147,640
Wisconsin...	210,494	233,516	273,957	207,551	218,794	203,175	172,731
Missouri....	151,776	270,289	229,930	203,409	219,204	213,880	214,010
All others...	12,071	17,766	15,446	11,823	13,543	12,605	9,997
Grand total	16,497,033	18,009,252	17,321,307	15,878,354	13,789,242	13,620,703	11,773,834

* Including Colorado and State of Washington. † Including Minnesota.

A noteworthy circumstance disclosed by the foregoing is that while the make of iron in 1904 for the whole country fell off over 1½ million tons, as compared with 1903, the product of some of the States actually increased. The remark applies particularly to New York State, in which 605,709 tons were made in 1904, against 552,917 tons in 1903, 401,369 tons in 1902 and only 283,662 tons in 1901. This no doubt reflects the work of the new furnace plants of the Lackawanna Steel Co. and of some other independent concerns which have been increasing their furnace capacity in recent years. New Jersey also has more iron to its credit than in preceding years, while the product of Illinois was maintained at nearly the same figures as in 1903. The loss was borne mainly by the Southern States and by Pennsylvania and Ohio.

LAST YEAR'S ANTHRACITE COAL PRODUCTION.

The official statistics now furnished show that during the calendar year 1904 the anthracite shipments to market from the Pennsylvania mines aggregated 57,492,522 tons. This is a decrease of 1,870,309 tons as compared with the calendar year 1903, when the shipments reached 59,362,831 tons. We need hardly say that a falling off has been in accord with expectations. For no one imagined that the movement during 1904 would be as

heavy as it had been in 1903. In this last-mentioned period the shipments had been enlarged by reason of the anthracite coal miners' strike in 1902 lasting almost six months and which had reduced available supplies to the famine point. Some decrease in 1904 was hence natural and inevitable. On the other hand, we do not share the prevailing view that the 1904 total must be looked upon as being of unusual dimensions simply because it ranks second only to that of 1903.

If the shipments prior to 1903 had shown normal growth—that is normal as compared with the development in an industrial way in everything else in the United States—the conclusion referred to would have much to sustain it. As a matter of fact, however, the 1902 total had been reduced some 22 million tons by the strike, and the 1903 total, large though it was, did not at all attain the dimensions that might reasonably have been looked for after such a great shrinkage. We adverted to this feature a year ago. Combining the output for 1903 at 59,362,831 tons with the 31,200,890 tons for 1902, we get a total for the two years of 90,563,721 tons, or an average of only a little over 45 million tons per year, as against the 53,568,601 tons sent to market in 1901. No doubt a considerable amount of the loss in consumption in 1902 was such as could not in any event be recovered in 1903. This would apply particularly to coal for domestic and family uses. The time when the coal might have been used was past and consumers had either done without it or had substituted other fuel.

Perhaps the best test of the actual growth established is to compare the 1904 aggregate directly with that of 1901. For 1904, we have already seen, the shipments were 57,492,522 tons; for 1901 they were 53,568,601 tons. This is an addition for the three years of 3,923,921 tons, representing growth at the rate of less than 1½ million tons per annum, which can certainly not be regarded as an abnormal rate of increase, and it is open to question whether it can be looked upon as a full normal rate. In the following we show the anthracite shipments for each year back to 1873.

Year.	Tons.	Year.	Tons.
1904.....	57,492,522	1888.....	38,145,718
1903.....	59,362,831	1887.....	34,641,017
1902.....	31,200,890	1886.....	32,136,362
1901.....	53,568,601	1885.....	31,623,529
1900.....	45,107,486	1884.....	30,718,293
1899.....	47,665,203	1883.....	31,793,027
1898.....	41,899,751	1882.....	29,120,096
1897.....	41,637,866	1881.....	28,500,017
1896.....	43,177,483	1880.....	23,437,242
1895.....	46,511,477	1879.....	26,142,689
1894.....	41,391,200	1878.....	17,805,262
1893.....	43,089,536	1877.....	20,828,179
1892.....	41,893,320	1876.....	18,501,011
1891.....	40,448,336	1875.....	19,712,472
1890.....	35,855,174	1874.....	20,145,121
1889.....	35,407,710	1873.....	21,227,952

As is well known, prices of anthracite are much higher now than they were a few years ago, and it is of course possible that, because of that fact, some outlets for that grade of coal have been cut off. The higher prices have followed in the main as the result of increases of wages. There were no further advances during 1904, but the advances established after the strike in 1902 were maintained, all the different interests working harmoniously together towards that end. The practice now is, it may be recalled, to have a fixed schedule (on a basis of \$5 a ton for egg, stove and chestnut and \$4 75 for broken), but to allow a rebate from these figures during the spring and summer months beginning with the first of April. The rebate is 50 cents a ton the first month, then drops to 40 cents, 30 cents, 20 cents and 10 cents with each successive month thereafter, until in September the rebate disappears and the

full winter schedule goes into effect. This practice was rigidly adhered to in 1904.

As anthracite goes so largely into consumption for domestic and family uses, the character of the weather is an element which to some extent affects consumption. Practically all the coal sent to market during 1904 seems to have been taken up, even if it did not actually go into consumption. For it appears that tidewater stocks at the end of the year were substantially the same as at the beginning, being reported 715,715 tons Dec. 31 1904, as against 714,276 tons Dec. 31 1903. The winter of 1903-04 was unusually severe, a circumstance which was of course favorable to a large consumption of coal during the early months of 1904. Nevertheless, the output during January, February and March fell much below the corresponding figures of the previous year, mainly, however, because in these months of 1903 shipments had been of extraordinary proportions, following as they did the strike period of 1902 and the coal famine resulting therefrom. In April, May and June the movement was very large—much above that of the same months of previous years; the market then, however, became over-supplied, and in consequence the output during July, August and September was greatly reduced. The low price which bituminous coal was commanding about this time at the seaboard may also have had some effect in diminishing the demand for the steam sizes of anthracite, which come closely into competition with bituminous coal. The last three months of the year, with the revival in general trade, the monthly output of anthracite was again increased. The cold weather experienced in December aided in making a market for these large shipments. The table which follows shows the output for each month of the last four years:

Months.	1904.	1903.	1902.	1901.
January.....	4,134,245	5,964,950	4,538,138	5,192,290
February.....	4,326,269	5,070,608	3,741,253	4,123,594
March.....	4,375,033	5,211,450	3,818,767	5,002,315
April.....	5,407,786	5,044,998	4,924,829	3,715,295
May.....	5,285,079	5,156,449	1,708,892	4,683,562
June.....	5,728,795	5,436,497	92,203	4,792,443
July.....	4,623,227	5,377,495	239,079	3,699,628
August.....	4,325,734	5,169,402	321,774	4,711,517
September.....	3,967,600	4,654,444	455,883	4,379,143
October.....	5,131,542	3,925,642	1,276,257	4,938,033
November.....	5,124,038	4,091,147	4,984,384	4,697,329
December.....	5,063,144	4,259,749	5,099,431	3,623,453
Total tons.....	57,492,522	59,362,831	31,200,890	53,568,601

As regards the proportion of the shipments passing over the different roads, some fluctuations necessarily occur from year to year. It does not appear, however, that these fluctuations have been of sufficient importance to possess any special significance. Below we furnish comparisons for the last four years.

	1904.		1903.		1902.		1901.	
	Tons.	P. C.	Tons.	P. C.	Tons.	P. C.	Tons.	P. C.
Reading.....	11,399,622	19'88	11,490,963	19'36	5,909,401	18'94	10,971,007	20'48
Lehigh Valley...	9,611,426	16'72	9,787,160	16'40	4,631,535	14'84	8,310,343	15'51
Central N. J....	7,201,276	12'52	7,404,612	12'47	3,829,998	11'93	6,160,087	11'50
Del. Lack. & W.	9,333,069	16'23	9,575,551	16'13	5,152,498	16'51	7,531,735	14'08
Del. & Hudson.	5,376,797	9'18	5,927,288	9'99	3,090,604	9'91	5,007,622	9'35
Pennsylv. RR..	4,765,953	8'29	4,555,459	7'67	2,610,234	8'37	5,647,125	10'54
Pennsylv. Coal.)								
Erie.....	5,711,173	9'98	6,343,852	10'68	3,814,150	12'22	5,841,593	10'91
N. Y. Sus. & W.)								
N. Y. Ont. & W.	2,846,730	4'61	2,693,463	4'54	1,627,478	5'23	2,508,277	4'68
Del. Susq. & Sch.	1,546,476	2'69	1,634,459	2'76	735,004	2'36	1,590,502	2'97
Total.....	57,492,522	100'0	59,362,831	100'0	31,200,890	100'0	53,568,601	100'0

It deserves to be noted that during 1904 the Lehigh Valley Railroad was able to resume the payment of dividends after a lapse since 1893, and that the Reading Company, besides the 4 per cent on its first preferred stock, paid the full 4 per cent on its second preferred stock and finally, in December 1904, declared a dividend even on the common stock. Another development of the year was the acquisition of the New York Ontario & Western by the New York New Haven & Hartford Railroad.

PRODUCTION OF GOLD AND SILVER.

UNITED STATES AND THE WORLD.

PRODUCTION OF GOLD AND SILVER— UNITED STATES AND WORLD.

Fortunately the world's gold production continues to increase, keeping abreast of the world's developing demand. For one reason or another there will most likely always be growing needs for the metal. Gold having become now substantially everywhere the basis of value, as the world's exchanges develop and wealth accumulates, there must be development in the number and size of the world's trade centres, each needing the common support for their financial operations, while the larger centres carrying larger risks call for wider gold bases for keeping up confidence in quick and facile conversion.

During the year just closed (1904) the world's production of gold reached the record aggregate of 16,926,106 ounces, valued in sterling at £71,898,713 and in dollars at \$358,893,654. To show in very brief form how rapidly the annual yield has progressed, we get an interesting and graphic picture by dividing our aggregates into four stages of growth of 4 million ounces each.

1904 production in ounces	16,926,106	Sterling, £71,898,713	Dollars, \$358,893,654
1901 production in ounces	12,894,856	Sterling, £54,774,769	Dollars, 266,559,884
1894 production in ounces	8,655,222	Sterling, £36,765,632	Dollars, 178,919,018
1882 production in ounces	4,825,794	Sterling, £20,499,008	Dollars, 99,757,848

Interpreted, the foregoing shows that from 1882 it took to 1894 (12 years) for the yield of the world's mines to gain in annual yield 4 million ounces.

From 1894 it took to 1901 (7 years) for the annual yield to add another 4 million ounces.

From 1901 it took to 1904 (3 years) for the annual yield to add another 4 million ounces. These few facts show clearly enough that the world's gold production is not only on the up grade, but under a speedy method of progression, with good promise of continued and material growth in the immediate future.

Another interesting recent fact bearing upon the world's gold production is the remarkable uniformity in yield to which the three largest producing countries have attained in 1904. Each of those sources of annual supply has now passed the four-million-ounce point, and altogether in 1904 their aggregate output reached 12,438,731 ounces. In other words, those three producers in 1904 contributed three-quarters of the world's yield to the total product. Australia continued to be the leader, although its total output was less than it was in the previous year, the product in 1903 having been 4,317,923 ounces, while in 1904 it was 4,185,021 ounces. Africa and the United States, the other two largest producers, both show growth, the former (Africa) reporting 4,163,541 ounces in 1904 against 3,317,662 in 1903, and the United States 4,090,169 ounces in 1904 against 3,560,000 in 1903. The current year will no doubt change the order of these countries as they appear in our columns, bringing Africa first. Of course something may occur which might interfere with this result, just as the Boer War did, on a previous occasion. But to-day every industrial condition seems to favor growth in the yield of the Rand, and indeed in other parts of South Africa. There is also likely to be further growth in the United States; but the chances

decidedly favor Africa getting and keeping the foremost position as a gold producer. The recent important obstacle to the development of gold-mining in Africa was the labor supply; it was in good measure overcome when the agreement was reached with reference to importation of Chinese labor. That movement began in July, and in December there were 23,025 Chinese at work in the Rand mines. The number of Kafirs also increased materially, there having been 68,767 at work on the 1st of January 1904 and 76,611 at the close of December.

Conditions also favor an increased output in the United States. The preliminary report for 1904 which Mr. George E. Roberts, Director of the Mint, has published shows an increased yield in almost every State. It would seem that the development ought to be pretty nearly along the same lines the current year, the addition to the aggregate being more than in the late year rather than less. A very considerable advance should be shown in Colorado if there is no return the current year of the labor difficulty which worked such a serious set-back to mining in that State the first half for three-quarters of 1904. It is thought, too, that the introduction of the cyanide mills for treating low-grade ore will add further to the 1905 output. California also promises to make an added advance. Indeed, the fact that the advance in 1904 was, as already stated, so general in the mining States, while enterprise is still general in its development, leaves an inference that nearly all the gold-bearing sections will share in the growth of the coming season.

There is another reason why progress in gold-mining promises continued activity, and that is, because the demand for the metal is getting to be more and more active. Gold is like all other products—when there is a developing want for it the world gets it; when the want ceases, the new supply falls off. Also, wherever an effort is made to push in some other medium of exchange as a substitute, that locality loses gold. For illustration, in the twenty years from 1871 to 1890, when a large portion of the world, and especially the United States, was striving to enlarge the use of silver, the world's product averaged only 5,277,374 ounces, against an average the previous twenty years (from 1851 to 1870, inclusive) of 6,342,764 ounces. Thereupon followed the declining era introduced by the action of Germany (in 1874) demonetizing silver—a movement which was antagonized all through the period covered by the battle of the standards, the United States holding the leadership in that fight. Congress virtually by statute in 1878 put a premium on silver, and thereafter continued in divers ways the struggle to reinstate that metal and give it a value equal to gold, the last effort in the endeavor being the 1900 silver-purchase bill. Since 1891 there has been a complete change in the conditions surrounding the two metals. That year the struggle was lost to silver; a fresh momentum was given to the decline in its price, and a fresh momentum put into the demand for its rival, gold.

In the Almighty's world right always will prevail; it is, too, a cumulative force when held in restraint; statutes may hinder its free action for a time, but it will not obey statutes. We are certain to have a further illus-

tration of this same truth if the effort making to-day to pass laws taking away from capital all control over itself, by manacled it to a commission—giving, for instance, to a commission the right to make railroad rates—is pushed to success. That effort differs in no particular from granting such commission authority to go into a man's store and mark down the price of everything he has got for sale. It is in kind the same fight that the silver advocates put up and waged in 1878 and subsequent years, and will, we repeat, have a similar end. One cannot fail to see how clearly its true character is already distinguished by the tendency of the silver moths to congregate around and fly into a similar light now, though set up by the opposite party. When Congress took the handcuffs off gold and removed the statutory dam it had raised to retain silver, and gave the two metals an equal chance in the struggle for existence, a movement favoring gold got under way immediately and has not spent its force yet. That is to-day one source of the continuing demand for gold which is still in action, and has been working with increasing energy ever since its shackles were removed.

It is interesting in connection with the foregoing to note also how this demand for gold is every now and then further stimulated by current events. It is thus acted upon now. The war in progress between Japan and Russia is causing it in more ways than one. Those nations have needed to place loans as a consequence of their struggle. It costs something to fight, not alone in lost lives and limbs but also in money; and it is going to cost much more in money, whether the war comes to an end in a month or years hence. These loans call for spot gold to an unusual extent because the nations they go to have not an A1 credit. Cash down is prominently a feature of a syndicate subscription in such cases. But that is not all. The crisis in Russia is at the moment another and a very strong influence affecting the demand for gold, for it is disturbing materially that country's credit in the outside world. As we all know, Russia has very extensive loans outstanding, held chiefly in France and Germany; the possibility of a revolution in that country or of any severe disturbance of its credit would naturally lead, and is leading from week to week, the banks of Europe to accumulate gold in their reserves. They must prepare themselves to meet not only what they know is coming but what is possible. That in the main is the reason for the increasing character of the present drain of that metal to Europe. Why do they take it all from the United States? Simply because we are stuffing the channels of commerce so full of bank notes as to make gold cheaper here than it is anywhere else in the world.

Of course these movements are special. But some such movements, though in a smaller way, unless stimulated by an exceptional crisis, are liable to mark the trend of events in future years. We mean that the world's commerce, internal and external, is all the time on the increase, and consequently each country—if in a thoroughly safe condition—needs a holder of a stock of gold at its central market ready for any crisis and enlarging slowly year by year; this demand likewise will always fall on the country which offers its gold at the lowest price. That situation represents a country that is driving gold out.

Our thought suggests, as a point for final investigation, another highly interesting inquiry. It is this.

What becomes of the new gold supply? Here is a very large annual inflow added every twelve months to the world's stock, aggregating, as we have seen, in one year (1904) \$358,893,654 and for the last three years nearly one thousand million dollars—say \$983,506,251. Such a flood as that added to the old supply ought to make an impression upon affairs. Of course while it was in the ground and in the mine it did not need to be cared for. But when it has once gotten above ground it has hardness which prevents destruction and value that preserves it from loss and ensures its safe-keeping. Hence these figures, if correct, represent something that exists and can be weighed, handled and counted, or that exists in some other form.

To show approximately the character of this distribution, we take for illustration last year's new supply. Comparison is first made of the holdings in the United States Sub-Treasury and the amount afloat in the United States according to the Mint estimate on January 1 1905 and January 1 1904; the difference between which shows the loss or gain during the last twelve months by this country. Also in the same way we compare the holdings of the principal European banks*, the difference between which gives the gain or loss of those depositories. To the net gain which the United States and the named European banks show we add the amount used by the world for manufacture in the same year. The unaccounted-for balance will indicate the gain during the 12 months in gold circulation in all the countries except the United States and in banks other than the European banks named in foot note*. Subjoined are these figures and the results reached.

DISTRIBUTION OF WORLD'S GOLD PRODUCTION IN 1904.

Gold and Bullion—	January 1,	January 1,	Increase.
	1904.	1905.	
In United States Treasury.....	\$265,571,972	\$229,864,318	↑\$35,907,654
In United States in circulation ...	1,049,050,552	1,116,288,217	67,237,665
Net increase			\$31,330,011
Holdings of principal European banks*	1,645,000,000	1,850,000,000	205,000,000
World's consumption in the arts, etc.			78,000,000
Other additions to bank holdings and circulation			44,563,643
Distribution of 1904 new supply of gold.....			\$358,893,654

↑Decrease. *The banks included in this aggregate are: (1) Bank of England, (2) Bank of France, (3) Bank of Germany, (4) Russia, (5) Austria-Hungary, (6) Spain, (7) Italy, (8) Netherlands, (9) Belgium.

The item of "world's consumption" we take from the United States Mint report. That is to say, Mr. George E. Roberts, the Director, makes up those figures every year. His report for 1903 is not out yet, so the latest figures we have on that point from him are for 1902. We have simply added for 1904 two million dollars to his 1902 estimate. It will be noted that according to the foregoing \$44,563,643 is left for increase during 1904 in the stocks of other banks than those named and for additions during 1904 to circulation elsewhere than in the United States. Additions to circulation are in no way procurable except approximately by the method we have used. For Great Britain the trade figures are somewhat of a guide. For instance, Great Britain's exports of gold in 1904 were £33,039,138, whereas the imports were £33,876,588. According to these figures, as the gold exports were more than the gold imports (by £837,450) and as the Bank of England increased its holdings out of imports during the same period to a moderate extent, these data indicate a small loss in actual circulation. That result, though, for well-known reasons, is only an approximation.

The following detailed compilation of the gold product will enable the reader to trace the growth in the contribution from the various sources of supply since 1881.

Corresponding information from 1871 to 1881 will be found in Vol. 70 of the CHRONICLE, page 256, and from 1881 to 1851 in Vol. 54, page 144.

GOLD.—PRODUCTION IN THE WORLD—OUNCES AND VALUES.

	Total Ounces.	Total Value, Dollars.
United States	8,221,894	\$284,285,988
Australia	1,851,351	\$62,919,347
Canada	59,453	\$2,149,611
France	1,672,127	\$56,114,382
Germany	1,451,250	\$48,452,963
India	1,858,325	\$61,849,349
Italy	7,790,324	\$257,000,000
Japan	1,098,126	\$35,701,168
Netherlands	1,696,375	\$54,580,890
Peru	1,604,341	\$52,117,980
Spain	1,900,303	\$61,405,551
Sweden	1,844,028	\$59,494,652
Switzerland	1,540,077	\$49,650,447
Totals	57,862,108	\$1,898,396,663

*For figures from 1881 to 1871 see Vol. 70, pages 256 to 260.
 " 1871 to 1851 see Vol. 54, pages 141 to 144.
 *The ounces in the foregoing table for any of the countries given may be turned into dollars by multiplying by 20.6718. The value in pounds sterling may also be ascertained by multiplying the ounces by 4.2478. Thus, according to the above, the product in Australia in 1903 stated in dollars is \$36,511,917 and in sterling £17,777,132.

The above is comprehensive and interesting. It often happens, however, that one loses the force of figures presented in so formidable a shape. They are needful for any student of the subject. But many readers want only the milk in the cocoanut and want to get it without the expenditure of too much time. For all such we have compiled the following, which expresses at a glance the whole history of the world's gold mines, clearly illustrating many of the points we have remarked upon above. The table is in two parts—the first gives the average annual product in ounces and values in 5-year periods for the 45 years beginning with 1851 to 1895, inclusive, and the second part gives the annual actual production each subsequent year from 1896 to and including 1904, during which the phenomenal increase was in progress.

GOLD PRODUCT AVERAGED EVERY FIVE YEARS FROM 1851 TO 1895.			
Year.	Average Ounces.	Average Value, Sterling.	Average Value, Dollars.
1851-1855	6,873,064	\$29,195,400	\$142,078,604
1856-1860	6,548,755	27,817,800	135,374,554
1861-1865	5,816,941	24,709,200	120,246,641
1866-1870	6,132,295	26,048,764	126,765,576
1871-1875	5,605,303	23,810,205	115,871,703
1876-1880	5,269,311	22,385,102	108,936,479
1881-1885	4,912,550	20,871,777	101,571,919
1886-1890	5,320,334	22,601,764	109,991,225
1891-1895	7,962,108	33,396,663	162,523,833

ANNUAL GOLD OUTPUT FROM 1896 TO 1903.			
Year.	Total Ounces.	Val., Sterling.	Values, Dollars.
1896	9,820,075	\$41,713,715	\$202,998,626
1897	11,483,712	48,780,511	237,988,998
1898	14,016,374	59,538,652	289,743,680
1899	15,220,263	64,652,663	314,630,233
1900	12,634,958	53,883,164	262,220,915
1901	12,594,856	54,774,769	266,559,884
1902	14,457,669	61,328,330	298,452,606
1903	15,778,016	67,021,856	326,159,991
1904*	16,926,108	71,898,713	358,393,654

* Estimated in part.

OFFICIAL DETAILS FROM GOLD-PRODUCING COUNTRIES.

From the reports we have secured from the mines, Mint Bureaus and other official sources respecting gold-mining in 1904, we make some useful extracts.

UNITED STATES—As already stated the gold secured from the mines of the United States exhibits a very satisfactory increase over the 1903 total; furthermore the aggregate is 220,169 fine ounces greater than in 1903. We are safe in saying that but for the labor troubles in Colorado the total for that State would have been appreciably larger than it is, even though, as the figures stand, a gain over the previous year of 167,521 fine ounces is indicated, bringing the aggregate for the United States extremely close to the Australasian output. Colorado, moreover, is not the only State showing augmentation in production in 1904. In fact, according to the compilation now before us, almost every district in which gold in important quantity is being mined seems to have done better than in the preceding year. California adds nearly 150,000 ounces, Utah almost 50,000 ounces and Nevada approximately 85,000 ounces. In Alaska the Nome field has increased its 1903 production by ten per cent, but other sections of that territory have not done so well. We are under obligation to Mr. George E. Roberts, Director of the Mint, for his preliminary estimate of the product of the United States in 1904, from which our figures are taken. He places the production for the whole country at approximately 4,090,169 fine ounces, valued at \$34,551,000, against 3,560,000 fine ounces, valued at \$33,591,700, in 1903. The ounce-values given for each State by Mr. Roberts are as follows, comparison being made with 1903 and 1902:

Gold-Production.	1902.		1903.		1904.	
	Fine oss.	Value.	Fine oss.	Value.	Fine oss.	Value.
Colorado	1,377,175	\$23,468,700	1,090,229	\$22,540,100	1,257,750	\$26,000,000
California	812,319	16,792,100	779,056	16,104,500	920,125	19,000,000
Alaska	403,730	8,345,800	416,787	8,614,700	435,375	9,000,000
So. Dakota	396,952	6,965,400	380,249	6,828,700	350,693	7,270,000
Montana	211,571	4,373,600	213,571	4,411,900	359,910	4,960,000
Arizona	196,933	4,112,300	210,793	4,357,600	205,594	4,250,000
Utah	173,886	3,594,500	173,886	3,697,400	237,363	4,760,000
Nevada	140,059	2,895,300	163,895	3,388,000	243,648	5,140,000
Idaho	71,352	1,475,000	75,928	1,475,400	94,315	1,980,000
Oregon	37,881	1,516,700	62,414	1,290,200	62,587	1,300,000
New Mexico	25,693	531,100	11,833	244,000	11,997	243,000
Washington	13,166	272,200	13,540	279,900	14,996	310,000
South States	15,233	\$16,000	12,138	251,900	17,429	360,300
Other States	2,900	41,300	609	13,800	2,564	53,000
Totals	3,570,000	\$80,000,000	3,560,000	\$73,591,700	4,090,169	\$34,551,000

AFRICA—Returns from all sections of Africa in which gold-mining is prosecuted give evidence of the vigor with which the work is being carried on. In the Witwatersrand district the 1904 aggregate exceeds that for any other year in the history of the field, and development elsewhere furnishes results that tell the same story. In fact, it is due entirely to the insufficiency of labor during the greater part of the year that Africa did not before the close of 1904 stand at the head of all gold-producing countries of the world. But apparently that difficulty has been solved now through the utilization of the Chinese. In January 1904 there were at work in the mines of the Rand 68,767 men, all Kaffirs, and while in April the number had increased to 72,577, there was a steady decrease each month thereafter down to August, when only 65,848 were working. Since that time, however, there has been an appreciable augmentation in numbers, returns for December giving the number of Kaffir employees as 76,611. In the meantime, beginning with July, Chinese laborers began to arrive, and at the close of the year the number employed reached 23,025, bringing the aggregate of all classes, Kaffirs and Chinese, up to 99,636, a total slightly greater than the number at work just before the Boer war. Moreover, advices indicate that five steamers were on the way with upwards of 7,000 Chinese at the close of the year.

As remarked above, the yield of gold (reckoned in fine ounces) in 1904 exceeded that for any previous year but the large monthly totals recorded during the period from March to August inclusive in 1899, it will be noticed, have yet to be reached. Prior to the war production was officially stated in gross ounces of the value of about £3 10s per ounce; since the war fine ounces have been the basis of the reports. Consequently the record total of 459,710 gross ounces for August 1899 becomes 373,290 fine ounces, in comparison with which the 349,889 fine ounces obtained from the mines in December 1904 looks very satis-

GREAT BRITAIN—BANKS & TRADE.

COMMERCIAL MOVEMENTS IN 1904.

BUSINESS IN ENGLAND IN 1904.

[Communicated by Our London Correspondent.]

JANUARY 14 1905.

After the long and painful liquidation of 1903 a better feeling grew up, for the liquidation showed that trade was sound and credit not overstrained. Therefore the year 1904 opened cheerfully. Unfortunately the outbreak of war between Russia and Japan early in February checked the improvement that was setting in. England being the ally of Japan, and France the ally of Russia, it was naturally feared that something might occur to drag both into the struggle, and if both should become involved it was feared that the war might gradually extend to almost every nation in the world. Happily the relations between France and England had greatly improved since the accession of King Edward, and both nations therefore were able to take measures to localize the struggle. The two countries quickly declared themselves neutral and so did all the other great Powers. Then confidence began to revive once more in the expectation that the war being localized, the peoples of the neutral nations might give their whole attention to their own business.

Unhappily the Russian Government began to harass and annoy neutral shipping. Ships of the Russian volunteer fleet which had been passed through the Dardanelles on the Russian declaration that they were merchant vessels shortly afterwards were armed and employed to stop and search neutral ships. Especially these cruisers were active in stopping and searching British ships, and much indignation was aroused in England, as it almost looked as if the Russian naval officers had been proceeding with deliberate intent to offend British shipping. Feeling ran so strong that the British Government was compelled to intervene and to raise the question of treaty rights. The Dardanelles, by treaty, being closed to vessels of war, it was argued by the British Government that merchant vessels, passed as such through the Dardanelles, could not legally be employed as cruisers. After some discussion and negotiation, the Russian Government gave way and admitted the justice of the British contention. Unfortunately the cruisers had got out of communication with the Russian Government, and they continued to stop and search British vessels for some time after this yielding of the Russian Government. Ultimately the matter was settled by the Russian Government requesting the British Government to send a British man-of-war to notify the Russian cruisers of the decision of the Russian Government. The British vessel was sent, fell in with the cruisers, gave them the message of their own Government, and the molestation of British shipping ceased.

Once more hope sprang up. It seemed clear that the Czar was honestly desirous of avoiding complications with other countries, and that he was strong enough when roused to make his decision obeyed. But again the recovery that was beginning was stopped by the North Sea outrage in October. The Russian Government quickly expressed its regrets and promised full compensation to all who had suffered. But it was a considerable time before the incident was closed by the signature of a convention which instituted an international court of inquiry into the affair. Since this has been done, recovery in business has once more set in, and the year closed much more hopefully than at one time anybody had ventured to anticipate.

The check to business of every kind caused by the Far Eastern war and the vagaries of the Russian naval authorities was much aggravated by other causes. Following the South African war there had been unusually heavy borrowing by the Colonies and by the home and colonial municipalities. There sprang up, in consequence, a feeling in London that the Imperial Government, the Colonial govern-

ments and the municipalities were drawing entirely too heavily upon the resources of the money market. With the end of the war the borrowing of the Imperial Government had come nearly to a close. But there were no symptoms of any decrease in the borrowings of the Colonies and the municipalities. Therefore, strong measures were taken to make it clear that a pause was incumbent. Banking houses made difficulties about short advances and underwriters were found not so complaisant as previously. Where underwriters did come forward, they found that the investing public did not relieve them of the liabilities they had undertaken. In many instances, therefore, the underwriters were left with nearly all the stock they had underwritten. As a result of this, the borrowings of the Colonies and of the Home and Colonial municipalities fell off greatly. Naturally, therefore, the Colonies were unable to place the orders for machinery and materials which they had intended; and the municipalities, likewise, were compelled to postpone many public works which they had contemplated. In this way, production was considerably reduced, and at the same time many men were thrown out of employment.

The unwillingness to go on lending on the old scale had been making itself felt throughout 1903, but it was not until 1904 that it received full expression, and that the decrease both of production and employment became very manifest. So manifest, indeed, did it become that towards the end of the year the fear that there would be much distress during the winter on account of the unusual number of unemployed led the President of the Local Government Board to summon conferences for the purpose of considering what steps should be taken to afford relief. Unfortunately there occurred in 1903 a general breakdown in speculative house building which had been going on on a colossal scale for some years previously. Towns, both in England and Scotland, had been growing at an extraordinary rate, and the difficulties in the building trade not only led to many insolvencies but threw considerable numbers of people out of employment. There are signs that the difficulties are nearly over, but improvement has not yet set in on such a scale as to put an end to the lack of employment.

Furthermore, the short cotton crop of 1903 in the United States plunged the cotton trade of Lancashire into distress and compelled the various factories to run short-time. Over and above this, there had been for several years during and before the South African war extraordinary activity in shipbuilding. It was plain to all careful observers that shipbuilding was being carried too far. But as long as the South African war lasted so many ships were chartered by the Government that the consequences of the over-building were not felt. As soon as peace was restored, however, and the ships chartered by the Government returned to their old employment, it became clear that there was a considerable surplus of tonnage, and consequently shipbuilding received a great check. During 1904 shipbuilding was exceptionally stagnant, and large numbers of people in consequence were out of employment.

Lastly, it is to be noted that since 1899 the credit of British railway companies has not been so good as previously. Up to 1899 the traffics of the companies had almost uniformly increased. Unfortunately the companies had divided their profits up to the hilt, laying by nothing for betterments. But the good trade of the two or three years immediately preceding the South African war compelled the railway companies to materially increase wages. The outbreak of the South African war, leading to the chartering by the Government of immense numbers of ships, caused a very sharp rise in coal, and this rise, following so quickly upon the rise in wages and in materials, led to a sudden stoppage of railway prosperity. The railway companies, in short, had during the long period of success done nothing to lower the cost of working. Therefore, when the high prices of coal and materials, together with the rise in wages, greatly increased these costs, the railway authorities were not in a position to apply a remedy. Profits greatly decreased in consequence and so did dividends, with the natural result

that the borrowing powers of the companies were greatly lessened. The companies, it is true, have been endeavoring ever since to reduce the cost of working and in some cases with very marked success. But as yet they have not quite solved the problem before them, and therefore their credit is not what it once was. Thus the railway companies have not been in a position during the past year to spend very freely, and that is another cause of the general depression in business that has marked the year.

The depression in trade was heightened by still another cause, namely, the labor difficulty in South Africa. Even before the Boer War the mining companies in the Transvaal found it very difficult to obtain native labor enough. White labor was too costly. Besides, white men on any considerable scale refused to work side by side with blacks. And the blacks hired themselves only for six months. At the end of that time they usually returned home for a longer or shorter period. Therefore the supply of labor was not only scanty but uncertain. Still, just before the war the total number of colored people employed in the mines was between 90,000 and 100,000. When the war broke out and mining was suspended the laborers were dispersed. Most of them were hired either by the British or the Boer Government, from whom they earned large sums. When the war came to an end the mining companies found it more difficult than ever to get the necessary supply of labor. Even to-day the total number of natives in South Africa employed in the mines is only a little over 76,000. Roughly, it is only about three-quarters of what it was just before the war broke out. One explanation is that the natives became so accustomed to high wages during the war that they turned away with disdain at the wages since offered. To some extent, no doubt, that does account for the fact. But a much better explanation is that there is an exceedingly strong demand for native labor for farming, for domestic service and for the public works constructed by the Government.

The British Government is much more active and much more enterprising than was the Boer Government, and is intent upon opening up the two new colonies by means of railways, besides constructing other works, all of which require a great deal of labor. The consequence is that the mining companies could not get the labor required, and that, therefore, South Africa has not been in a position to buy from England upon the scale on which it was buying before the war. At length, early last year, an ordinance was passed by the Transvaal Legislature authorizing the importation of Chinese coolies, and nearly 25,000 of these have already been got together and brought to the Transvaal, so that, roughly speaking, the number of natives and Chinese coolies is now about equal to the number of natives alone at the outbreak of the war. In consequence of the import of these coolies, the production of gold in the Transvaal is steadily increasing, and it is hoped, therefore, that this increase will not only relieve the London money market, but will also greatly stimulate the trade between South Africa and the home country.

The total value of British imports for 1904 amounted to £551,362,124, an increase over the preceding year of £8,761,835, or 1.6 per cent. The total value of the exports of British and Irish produce and manufactures was £300,817,897, an increase over the preceding year of £10,017,789, or 3.4 per cent. At first sight, these figures seem to contradict the estimate just given of the course of trade throughout the year. But before accepting this view, it is to be borne in mind that 1904 was leap-year and therefore contained one day more than the preceding year. Moreover, the price of cotton for the first eight months of the year was very high, owing to the short crop in the United States, while the large crop of 1904 and the fall in price stimulated trade exceedingly. In addition to this, sugar, copper, and some other articles, rose sharply in price. The increase in the value both of the imports and the exports was largely due to this rise in prices. It is calculated, indeed, that if the prices of 1902 had ruled during 1904, there would have been a marked falling off in the value of articles of food and drink and in tobacco, while there would have been only a very small increase in raw materials, and a somewhat larger increase in manufactured goods. Even allowing for the rise in prices, there was a falling off in value in four out of the twelve months in the case both of imports and of exports. The total value of raw cotton imported was £54,698,288 against £44,836,116 in the preceding

year, an increase in value of as much as £9,862,172. On the other hand, the quantity of raw cotton imported last year was 17,454,807 cwts., against 16,000,813 cwts. in the preceding year. It will be seen from these figures how largely the rise in price affected the total value. Amongst the countries which increased their purchases of British goods are Australia, India, China and Argentina. The large crop of American cotton and the fall in its price gave a great stimulus to the cotton trade, and as both India and China were very prosperous at the same time, they placed very large orders in Lancashire.

The total traffic returns of the seventeen principal railway companies of the United Kingdom for the whole year 1904 amounted to £92,831,000, being an increase of £2,053,000 over the preceding year, or about 2.2 per cent.

The total clearings of the London Clearing House for the year amounted to £10,564,197,000, being an increase of £444,372,000 over the preceding year. This is the largest ever recorded. The amounts passed through the Clearing House on Consols settling days during the past year exceed those of any previous year. They were £597,160,000. The amounts cleared on the fourth day of the several months of the year show an increase of £62,996,000 as compared with 1903. Speaking generally, the clearings on the 4ths of the month represent trade clearings. But the 4th of August and the 4th of November were also Consols settling days, and it would seem that it was the Consols settlements rather than the improvement in trade which were accountable for the increase in the clearings. The Stock Exchange settling days show an increase of £79,811,000, but they are much less than the Stock Exchange settlements for 1901. Business both on the Stock Exchange and in trade was very depressed during the first eight months of the year. There was undoubted improvement in the last four months. But it would appear that it was mainly the large investment in Consols which caused the increase in the clearings.

Agriculture fared badly in 1904. The winter of 1903-04 was exceptionally wet, and it continued so well into March; the consequence being that many crops which ought to have been sown in October and November could not be got into the ground until March. From March on the weather was exceptionally favorable except in July, when there was a very hot period, which lasted for about four weeks and did some damage. August and September were delightful and favorable, and upon the whole the crops were gotten in in good condition. Yet the injury done by the extremely wet winter never could be made up. In corn crops there was a decrease of the area under cultivation of over 107,000 acres; in green crops of over 28,000 acres; in clover and rotation grasses of over 136,000 acres; in short, the total arable land was less than the year before by more than 189,000 acres. The total permanent grass land increased by over 163,000 acres but the cultivated area decreased nearly 26,000 acres.

The Government estimates of the yields of corn were to the effect that all crops except oats were below the average for the preceding 10 years, and the results of the autumn threshings have been so generally disappointing that it is now believed that the Government estimates were more favorable than they ought to have been. It is curious to find that the dry harvest of 1904 actually yielded less than the wet harvest of the year before. On the other hand, it is to the benefit of the farmer that the crops were secured rapidly, early and at small cost. The total quantity of wheat estimated to have been grown was a little under 37 million bushels, which is almost 19 million bushels below the average for the preceding 10 years, and is absolutely the lowest on record. The total production of barley is 9 million bushels below the average of the preceding 10 years; is lower, indeed, than in any one of the previous 10 years. From all of which it seems to follow that the United Kingdom will need to import an exceptionally large quantity of both wheat and barley in the present agricultural year.

Both shipowners and shipbuilders have been loud in their complaints during the past year. Although war has been going on in the Far East ever since the 10th of February, engaging a considerable amount of tonnage locally and for conveyance of coal from this country, thereby withdrawing vessels from ordinary trades, the supply of tonnage has in every direction been in excess of the demand. Fortunately, the large crops in India have provided return employment for a large portion of the steamers sent out to the

Far East. The large crops in Argentina have also afforded much employment. On the other hand, the United States, having little grain to export, has given little employment to shipping. When the year began the shipbuilding yards were very bare of work and shipowners in general refrained from increasing their fleets. But the low prices builders were prepared to accept to secure work early in the new year induced many foreign and British shipowners to place orders, apparently from a fear of not getting in at the lowest prices. After a while shipowners began to doubt whether they were wise in placing orders so freely, and during the summer they held back. In October, however, the price of steel ship-plates advanced to £5 12s. 6., when the fear that a great rise in iron and steel was about to take place induced shipowners again to place orders on a very considerable scale, with the result that the shipbuilding yards are fairly well supplied with orders at present.

As the official returns are not yet published, it is not possible to give the exact output of shipbuilding for the year. But as nearly as can be estimated it has been about 1,225,000 tons—practically all steamers. Of the past year's tonnage about 1,075,000 tons have been added to the British register, which is the smallest addition since 1897. The removals last year from the British register were about 460,000 tons of steamers and 105,000 tons of sailing ships, which includes vessels sold to foreigners. Very important contracts have been placed for additions to the fleets of the large steamship lines. The Cunard Company has placed orders for two steamers for their Atlantic service of close on to 30,000 tons gross register, with very large passenger accommodation and fitted with turbine engines of a speed of 25 knots per hour. The Peninsular & Oriental Co. have seven steamers building of 53,000 tons gross register. Shipbuilders' prices are approximately the same as at the beginning of the year except for large cargo vessels, which can be had at low prices. Steel ship-plates were at the commencement of the year £5 2s. 6d. per ton. At the close of the year they were £5 15s. 0d. A considerable number of second-hand steamers were bought by the Japanese for local transports and for blocking Port Arthur, for which last purpose on one occasion alone eight steamers of over 20,000 tons register were sunk.

The year began with great depression in the iron and steel trades. The United States was underselling our makers in partly manufactured iron and steel, and the fear was very generally entertained that soon America would begin to export pig iron on a large scale. Therefore the prices of all kinds of iron and steel were exceedingly low. The outbreak of the Russo-Japanese war led to a strong demand for ships in this country on the part of Japan and in Germany on the part of Russia. Moreover, there was good employment for ships to carry out all sorts of supplies to the Far East. The improvement thus brought about encouraged shipowners to place considerable orders for new ships with shipbuilders, and this in its turn gave a fillip to the iron and steel trades. At all events it prevented a further fall in prices. In October the sudden and remarkable recovery in the United States had a considerable influence upon trade here. At first the improvement in the United States was so unexpected that people in Europe hardly believed in it. Gradually, however, as the improvement continued the European markets were influenced, and at the close of the year a much more hopeful feeling sprang up than had been entertained for two or three years. At the present time all engaged in the iron and steel trades are looking forward to the future with great confidence. They see how exceedingly prosperous the United States is and how little danger there exists, therefore, of undue competition from America. Moreover, they anticipate the placing of very large orders by the two belligerents as soon as the war is over. And the great prosperity in India and China as well as in the South American republics leads to the hope that full employment will be found for all the shipping of the world.

The feature in the wool trade of 1904 has been the extraordinary demand for cross-bred wool, which has nearly doubled in price. This is due mainly to the American demand and to the Japanese demand for military clothing. In other kinds of wool there has been little change. The supply of merinos continues scant. It is true that the drought has been broken for more than a year and that the increase of lambs in New South Wales has been most satisfactory during the year. But as yet the addition to the

supply of merino is quite insufficient. Besides, the drought had continued so far into 1903 that the earlier supplies of 1904 were very inferior in quality. The New Year will probably see a very considerable increase. In 1906 there is certain to be a large increase. But for the present the feeling of the market is that the price of merino will be well maintained. As regards cross-bred, of course it is evident that as soon as the war in the Far East comes to an end the exceptional demand for Japanese army clothing will necessarily cease and a better American clip will likewise bring to an end the American demand. Taking all kinds of wool—home, colonial and South American—the deliveries in London have decreased by about 300,000 bales, about half of which is in cross-breds. On balance, good merinos are about $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent higher than at the corresponding period of last year, whereas cross-breds, as already said, are nearly double what they were. During the greater part of the year spinners complained that they could scarcely make a profit. But during the past couple of months the Continental demand has decidedly increased, and consequently prices are now more remunerative. In regard to woolen goods, the home trade has been decidedly depressed. Mainly this is due to the causes explained above, which reduce the purchasing power of the mass of the population. The great depression in the cotton trade, for example, naturally reacted upon Yorkshire, which is the great seat of the woolen trade, and the scarcity of employment and the fall in wages have, as a matter of course, told in every direction. Towards the end of the year, however, a more hopeful spirit grew up, and the trade is looking forward to the new year to make up for the bad times through which it has just passed.

In the cotton goods trade the year 1904 opened with the price of cotton fluctuating widely, making it extremely difficult for spinners and weavers to decide how to act. In February an extraordinary advance occurred to 8'92d., being the highest point of the year. There shortly followed a fall, and by the 29th of June prices had got to 6'04d. The publication of the Washington Agricultural Bureau estimate of over 13 million bales in December caused an immediate drop of 43 points, which was followed by a further decline later on, bringing the official quotation down to 3'63d. on December 29, which was the lowest of the year. The high price that ruled for so long a time, and the wide fluctuations that occurred so frequently led spinners to work short-time. But later on full time was resumed, and towards the end of the year there was a rapid recovery, mainly owing to the large demands of India and China. Since the period of famines has come to an end, India has shown, as usual, extraordinary recuperative power. The people are now prosperous, and the demand for cotton goods is exceedingly strong. In China, likewise, there has been a remarkable recovery following upon the termination of the Boxer movement. Not only is the Government now able to pay the indemnity imposed upon it, but trade is reviving in every direction and the Chinese demand for cotton is remarkably good. The result is that Lancashire is now doing an exceedingly good business and is looking forward to the future with high hopes.

On the 8th of January 1904 the general committee of the British Spinners' Federation addressed a circular to those engaged in the Lancashire cotton-spinning trade, recommending the adoption of a forty-hour week. The recommendation was generally acted upon, and with the exception of a few weeks in June and July, the restriction lasted from the beginning of 1904 till the middle of September. In the weaving branch of the trade there was no organized short-time, but practically the restriction was almost equal to that in the spinning trade. The president of the Spinners' Federation, moreover, communicated with the foreign countries to bring about a reduction in consumption, and he got a cordial response from France, Belgium and other Continental countries, except Germany. In spite of reduced consumption, however, cotton prices advanced, and middling American, which opened the year at 6'80d., reached 8'92d. on Feb. 2. This, as already stated, proved to be the highest quotation of the year. But from February until Sept. the movements in prices were extraordinarily numerous and exceedingly rapid, though they were not quite as bad after March 18, the date of the failure of Mr. Sully. In June the Spinners' Federation somewhat reluctantly agreed to increase the working week to 47½ hours. But in July the working week was again restricted to 40 hours. In September the Federation announced that it would leave to the discretion of individual members the decision as to how many hours were to be worked. During part of July and August, middling American was maintained at about 6d. But on Sept. 15 it rose to 6'88d. Thereafter the influence of the new crop began to prevail. From the end of September quotations gradually declined. Large orders for goods were placed by the Far East, particularly China and India. And during September there was a general resumption of full time in all sections of the industry. Orders came in large numbers also from Australia, Argentina, Egypt and Turkey. Consequently, in October there was an extraordinary recovery. In

place of the depression which had ruled for nearly 12 months, there grew up a spirit of optimism, everybody hoping that the new year would bring extraordinary prosperity. And so far the expectations have been fairly well fulfilled.

There have been fewer changes in the rates of interest and discount in London during the past year than for many years previously. The Bank of England official minimum at the opening of the year was 4 per cent. It remained at the same figure until the middle of April, when it was lowered to 3½ per cent. A week later it was reduced to 3 per cent, and so continued until the end of the year. Mainly, of course, the comparative steadiness was due to the depression in business caused by the Far Eastern war. But some of the credit is due to the directors of the Bank of England, who have shown calmness and judgment very creditable to them. Several times during the last three or four months of the year the outside market loudly called for a rise in the Bank rate, because they feared that gold would be withdrawn from the Bank in too large amounts, and that therefore business would be seriously deranged. The directors of the Bank of England, however, shut their ears to the cry. They kept their rate at 3 per cent, and events have shown that they acted wisely. Business, as has been said frequently in the course of this review, has been dull all the year, both in trade and upon the Stock Exchange. Indeed, it was exceptionally dull until October. During the last three months, however, there was a decided recovery. Still, the recovery was not decided enough to affect the value of money.

What caused the outside market at frequent intervals to cry out for a rise in the Bank rate was the demand for gold which came upon this country from every quarter. During the first half of the year there was a strong continuous demand for the metal from France. The French banks were careful not to disturb the London money market by withdrawing the metal from the Bank of England. But they bought in the open market almost all the gold offered there. When the London supplies proved inadequate, or the French demand for repayment from London became urgent, gold was obtained in New York and shipped direct from there to Paris. After June the French demand ceased; but in August a strong inquiry sprang up for Germany. The general impression in the best informed quarters in London was that only a small part of the demand was for Germany itself; that the larger part was for Russia. The Russian Government, since the outbreak of the war with Japan, has been re-issuing notes on a very large scale. And to maintain the confidence of the public it made earnest efforts to increase the stock of gold. For example, on the 8th of December 1903 the Russian note circulation amounted to £58,363,000. On the corresponding date of last year it had risen to £82,787,000. In the same interval the stock of gold rose from £92,413,000 to £108,802,000. Therefore, it seems reasonable to conclude that a good deal of the gold shipped to Berlin was passed on into Russia. At the same time it is true that not a little of the gold has been retained in Germany and that the Imperial Bank of Germany has now a very strong reserve of the metal. A considerable amount of gold, likewise, during the second half of the year was taken by Egypt. Egypt always draws upon the London money market for the means of moving its crops; and of recent years it has been increasing materially its drafts. Moreover, less of the money taken has returned from Egypt during the past two years than previously, and it looks as if this year the return would be smaller still, because gold is going from Egypt to India. The shipments of gold from London to Argentina have been unexpectedly small, the Argentine demand being met by remittances from New York, from Australia and from South Africa. On the other hand, the Indian Government has sent a very considerable amount of gold to London, which nearly all went into the Bank of England, for the object of the Indian Government was chiefly to buy silver. India is doing exceedingly well at present and it needs, therefore, an enlarged circulation, which the Government alone can provide.

The new capital issues of the past year, though numerous in amount have been much smaller than in ordinary times, for the City has set its face against new borrowing. Nevertheless, in number the loans have been large, and even in amount they exceed what at first sight would have been expected by those who know the temper of the city. It is to be understood, however, that many of the new loans are really only conversions. For example, in the past year 5 millions of Irish land stock was issued. This stock is intended to pay for the lands sold by the landlords to their tenants, and it is of course a mortgage upon the land sold, besides having other guaranties and being guaranteed by the British Government itself. Obviously the landlords when receiving the price for their lands will have to invest the money in some other security, and therefore it is not a mere addition to the liabilities of either Ireland or the Imperial Government.

The most important loans of the year, however, were the two Japanese issues; the first in May for 5 millions sterling and the second in November for 6 millions sterling, making together 11 millions sterling. At the same time equal amounts were issued in New York, and it is believed in London that the larger part of the first issue in New York was quickly sold to London, so that at the present time the larger part of the 16 millions sterling is held here. The total amount of the new issues of all kinds was £123,019,000, which compares with £108,463,000 in the previous year.

On the Stock Exchange the year opened cheerfully. It was felt that the savings of the country had accumulated in a marked degree, and that the effects of the South African war had passed away. Therefore everybody looked forward to a busy and prosperous year, and a general advance in prices took place. For example, consols rose to 91½—the highest quotation of the year. The outbreak of the Far Eastern war caused consols to fall to 85½, and although they quickly recovered they have not again touched 90, for whenever they began to move upwards something happened to send them back—either the seizure of British ships by the cruisers of the Russian Volunteer fleet, or the Dogger Bank incident, or the issue of Government loans, such as Irish land stock, local loans stock, water board stock and the like. Consequently they were quoted at the end of the year practically the same as at the end of 1903.

And what is true of consols is true of all of what are here called gilt-edged securities—that is the highest class of securities. The borrowings of the Government during the South African war and the immense sums raised by the colonial governments and by the municipalities of the United Kingdom and the colonies during the past eight or ten years have added immensely to the amount of first-class securities. Consequently, although the savings of the country have grown at a very rapid rate, the quotations of all these securities lagged behind. Speaking generally, they yield but a low interest on the money invested in them, and therefore the number of persons who can afford to buy them on a large scale is small. And the market being thus restricted, there is not the elasticity in them that there is in stocks that appeal to a larger public.

British railway stocks advanced like consols at the beginning of the year. They received a setback by the outbreak of the war. Subsequently they recovered, but they were again forced down by exceedingly bad traffic returns. These returns were more unsatisfactory than had been anticipated, showing clearly that trade was experiencing greater depression than had been supposed. The most pronounced activity during the year has been in international securities. During the earlier part of the year the market for international securities was almost entirely dependent upon French investment, and French buying was on a large scale in several of the securities, such as Russian, Portuguese, Spanish, Italian, Argentine, Brazilian and Chilean. It was not until the last quarter of the year that the British public took part to any considerable extent in the market. It feared to risk its money while the war was going on, as it was under the impression that a powerful party in Russia was determined to force Great Britain into the struggle. When, however, the Dogger Bank incident was settled amicably, the public took courage, and there was a period of greater activity.

In the American department, as in others, the British public in general took little part at the beginning, fearing that it might be surprised by some act of Russia that could not be condoned. But large capitalists were active in the American market from the beginning of the recovery, and as the year drew to a close the general public also participated.

Speaking broadly, for the Stock Exchange the first nine months of the year were exceedingly disappointing. Business was exceptionally slack. There was a pessimistic feeling in every direction. In October there was some slight recovery. The recovery became more marked in November and gained momentum in December.

The market for South African securities has been disappointing. Early in the year the scarcity of labor prevented much headway. Ultimately, though between 25,000 and 30,000 Chinese laborers were brought to the Transvaal and the out-turn of gold increased materially. There was not, however, the recovery in the market that had been looked for. Probably the explanation is that almost all the shares during the long depression caused by the Boer War and the scarcity of labor had passed into British hands, the Continent having sold on an immense scale. The Continent has not yet bought back to a corresponding extent. Germany has been buying freely for the last three or four months. France has bought on a smaller scale. But altogether the Continent still holds decidedly less than it did before the war.

The situation of the Bank of France as to its stock of gold and silver, according to the last returns of each month of 1902, 1903 and 1904, was as follows, in pounds sterling.

GOLD AND SILVER IN BANK OF FRANCE.—[00,000s omitted.]

1904.				1903.				1902.			
	Gold.	Silver	Total		Gold.	Silver	Total		Gold.	Silver	Total
	£	£	£		£	£	£		£	£	£
Jan. 28	93.8	44.1	137.9	Jan. 29	100.5	43.8	144.3	Jan. 30	98.3	44.0	142.3
Feb. 25	93.3	44.3	138.1	Feb. 26	101.4	43.8	145.2	Feb. 27	100.1	44.2	144.3
Mar. 31	94.5	44.6	139.1	Mar. 28	101.1	44.0	145.1	Mar. 27	102.2	44.3	146.5
April 28	97.2	44.7	141.9	April 30	99.8	44.3	144.1	April 24	103.0	44.3	147.3
May 26	109.4	45.0	154.4	May 28	100.1	44.7	144.8	May 29	103.0	44.7	147.7
June 30	111.0	45.3	156.3	June 25	100.5	45.1	145.6	June 26	102.8	45.0	147.8
July 28	108.7	45.1	153.8	July 30	102.5	45.0	147.5	July 31	103.6	44.9	148.5
Aug. 25	107.6	44.9	152.5	Aug. 27	102.2	44.9	147.1	Aug. 28	105.0	44.9	149.9
Sept. 29	105.7	44.4	150.1	Sept. 24	100.4	44.8	145.2	Sept. 25	103.8	44.6	148.4
Oct. 27	104.3	44.0	148.3	Oct. 29	96.7	44.2	140.9	Oct. 30	101.4	44.4	145.8
Nov. 24	106.1	44.2	150.3	Nov. 26	95.9	44.4	140.3	Nov. 27	101.7	44.3	146.0
Dec. 29	106.3	44.1	150.4	Dec. 31	94.5	44.0	138.5	Dec. 28	100.8	43.9	144.7

The following are the bank and open market rates of interest at a number of the principal Continental cities on the first day of each month during 1904 and on the closing day of the year.

Table of 1904 Interest Rates at various locations including Paris, Berlin, Hamburg, Frankfurt, Amsterdam, Brussels, Vienna, St. Petersburg, Madrid, and Copenhagen.

The appended table, made up from the official statements of the Bank of England, shows the position of the Bank as regards bullion, reserve, etc., each week of 1904.

Table: BANK OF ENGLAND IN 1904.—[00,000s omitted.] showing Note Circulation, Bullion in both departments, Deposits, Securities, Reserve of Notes and Coin, Bank Rate, and Market Rate for Bank Bills.

(a) Date when this rate was made was Sept. 3, '03. (b) April 14, '04. (c) April 21, '04.

In the table below we show the price of silver in London by months for 1902, 1903 and 1904.

Table: PRICE OF SILVER FOR THREE YEARS. Columns for 1904, 1903, 1902 with sub-columns for High, Low, and Average prices.

In the subjoined statement we show all the changes in the Bank of England rate in each year from 1897 to 1904.

Table: BANK OF ENGLAND RATE OF INTEREST. Columns for Year, Rate per cent., Number of days, and corresponding data for various years from 1897 to 1904.

The quantities and values of textile exports from Great Britain for the last three years are given in the following table.

Table: EXPORTS OF TEXTILE FABRICS. Columns for Year's Exports, 1904, 1903, 1902, listing various textile categories and their values.

The complete trade figures of imports and exports into and from Great Britain for three years are as follows.

Table: EXPORTS AND IMPORTS. Columns for 1904, 1903, 1902, showing Home products, Re-shipments of imports, Total exports, Total merchandise, and Excess of imp. over exp.

The exports of iron and steel from Great Britain have been as below each year since 1876, inclusive.

Table: EXPORTS OF IRON AND STEEL FROM GREAT BRITAIN. Columns for Pig Iron, Rails, Other Descriptions, and Total, with sub-columns for Tons and values.

TRADE AND COMMERCE—RETURNS OF.

FOREIGN IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

THE COUNTRY'S FOREIGN TRADE IN 1904.

The striking feature in the foreign trade figures for the calendar year 1904 is the testimony they afford of the way in which the total of our merchandise exports was maintained in face of a number of adverse conditions. Export values for 1903 had been the largest of any calendar year on record, reaching \$1,484,753,083. From this there was a decline in 1904 only to \$1,451,355,645. Of course under normal conditions growth is the rule, and had such conditions prevailed a further increase would have been looked for rather than a decrease.

What gives significance to the close approach of the 1904 aggregate to that of 1903 is that it was attained in face of a large shrinkage in the shipments of some of the most important export staples. There was a great contraction, for instance, in the breadstuffs exports, and particularly the outward movement of wheat and flour. This falling off in the wheat exports may be said to have had a twofold cause in a diminished crop yield and diminished supplies, and in the extraordinarily high level of values maintained here—so high that the export trade in wheat was paralyzed all through the year, but especially in the closing months. Of wheat and flour combined we sent out only 64,957,058 bushels in the twelve months of 1904, against 161,367,104 bushels in 1903, 212,445,731 bushels in 1902 and 266,286,902 bushels in 1901. It is a noteworthy circumstance that though home prices of wheat advanced 30 to 40 cents a bushel, the average price on the export shipments of 1904 was but little higher than on those of 1903, the comparison standing 83½ cents against 80½ cents, showing that foreign consumers would not follow the advance in the United States.

There was likewise a large falling off in the outward movement of corn. These corn shipments had been by no means large in 1903 at 91½ million bushels, but for 1904 the exports of that cereal reached less than 46½ million bushels. The exports of oats, which in good years have been fairly large, in 1904 were hardly more than nominal, amounting to only about 1½ million bushels, of a value of \$512,855. Then also the export movement of cotton fell considerably below that of the previous year. The situation in these various particulars is accurately portrayed in the following table.

	1904.	1903.	1902.	1901.	1900.
Wheat and flour—bushels.....	64,957,058	161,367,104	212,445,731	266,286,902	182,925,448
values.....	\$61,231,117	\$184,517,491	\$165,346,005	\$201,458,506	\$138,994,088
Wheat, av. price.	83½c.	80½c.	75c.	72½c.	71½c.
Flour, av. price..	\$4 37	\$3 85	\$3 72	\$3 69	\$3 65
Corn—bushels.....	46,498,607	91,732,780	18,722,969	102,359,089	190,386,489
values.....	\$25,267,143	\$49,135,007	\$11,567,976	\$60,361,388	\$84,284,733
Average price...	54 5-16c.	53 9-16c.	61¾c.	49¾c.	44¾c.
Oats—bushels.....	1,220,134	1,494,857	5,976,703	25,929,043	32,160,642
values.....	\$512,855	\$517,745	\$2,552,932	\$9,106,199	\$9,323,496
Average price....	41 15-16c.	41 5-16c.	42 11-16c.	35¾c.	30¾c.
Cotton—bales....	6,561,643	7,063,433	6,687,441	6,963,092	6,071,561
Average price....	10 15-16c.	10 7-16c.	8¾c.	8 15-32c.	9¼c.

From the foregoing it is possible to get an idea of how large and general was the falling off in these leading agricultural staples. Going a step further, however, we find that taking the breadstuffs exports as a whole, values for 1904 were only \$98,307,218, against \$200,012,362 for 1903, \$276,404,299 for 1901, \$250,786,080 for 1900 and \$269,955,771 for 1899. At the same time the provisions exports also dropped off, they having a value

of only 166½ million dollars in 1904 against 181½ million dollars in 1903 and 207 million dollars in 1901. The cotton movement fell half a million bales short of that for 1903 and also fell short of the average of other recent years. In the early months shipments were small because of the deficient crop of the previous season, while market prices continued to rule high. The latter part of the year the price dropped to very low figures (owing to the magnitude of the new crop) and exports were of really liberal volume; but nevertheless the aggregate for the twelve months did not attain the extraordinary dimensions of the preceding year. The average export price for the twelve months, as it happens, was higher than for 1903, being 10 15-16 cents per pound against 10 7-16 cents, and this served to offset in part the loss resulting from the diminution in the quantity shipped, still leaving, however, a loss in aggregate values of about 10 million dollars.

Combining breadstuffs, provisions and cotton, it is found that the exports under these three heads for 1904 had a value of but 633½ million dollars, as against 760 million dollars for 1903—a loss of 126½ million dollars. Total merchandise exports for the twelve months, we have already shown, record a decrease of less than 33½ million dollars. How was the loss of the other 93 million dollars made good? From the following table it will be seen that there was an increase of 8 million dollars in the petroleum exports and an increase of nearly 5 million dollars in the shipments of cattle, sheep and hogs; but that the bulk of the whole increase occurred under the head of "all other exports."

EXPORTS OF LEADING PRODUCTS FOR SIX CALENDAR YEARS.

Exports.	1904.	1903.	1902.	1901.	1900.	1899.
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Cotton.....	368,839,189	378,573,628	290,491,225	300,965,383	314,252,586	161,167,342
Breadstuffs.	98,307,218	200,012,362	195,711,922	276,404,299	250,786,080	269,955,771
Prov'ns, &c.	166,164,404	181,476,991	182,223,700	206,931,309	186,568,785	182,446,184
Cattle, sheep and hogs..	43,646,211	38,982,408	25,841,639	39,290,067	35,033,784	31,910,407
Petr'lm, &c.	80,624,207	72,623,589	68,597,143	72,784,912	74,493,707	66,062,325
Total.....	757,581,225	871,068,925	763,276,585	896,895,970	861,134,842	741,481,979
All oth. exp.	693,774,417	813,149,158	597,409,408	568,979,890	616,811,371	533,985,902
Total.....	1451355645	1484758083	1360685993	1465875860	1477961613	1275467971

Thus the "other exports" in 1904 had a value of \$693,774,417, as against only \$613,149,158 in 1903—an addition of over 80 million dollars. The greater part of the gain here was contributed by two main items, namely copper and iron and steel. For 1904 the iron and steel exports were \$123,553,613, against \$99,135,865 for 1903. The copper exports were on an enormous scale, and reached \$74,816,934, against only \$43,509,788 in 1903. In quantity the copper exports were 554,549,880 pounds, against only 310,729,524 pounds in 1903. The foreign takings were evidently large mainly because producers were willing to accept low figures (notwithstanding that in this country the price of copper was sharply advanced, owing mainly to the diminution of supplies as the result of these large exports), the average export price for 1904 having actually been somewhat smaller than that for 1903—that is 12·9 cents, against 13·2 cents. We annex the following to show the more important changes in the miscellaneous exports.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS BY FISCAL YEARS.

The table below shows the exports and imports in each fiscal year (ending June 30) since 1874.

Table with columns for Years ending June 30, Imports (Merchandise, Gold Coin and Bullion, Silver Coin and Bullion, Foreign re-exports, Merchandise, Gold Coin and Bullion, Silver Coin and Bullion), Exports (Merchandise, Gold Coin and Bullion, Silver Coin and Bullion, Domestic, Merchandise, Gold Coin and Bullion, Silver Coin and Bullion), and Balances (Merchandise Excess, Gold Coin and Bullion Excess, Silver Coin and Bullion Excess).

NOTE.—Totals of gold coin and bullion and silver coin and bullion in 1895 to 1904, inclusive, include gold and silver in ores. In preceding years gold and silver in ores were included in merchandise.

EXPORTS OF LEADING ARTICLES FOR YEARS ENDING JUNE 30.

Table with columns for Articles, 1903-1904, 1902-1903, and 1901-1902. Lists various agricultural and industrial products with their respective values.

* Including machinery, but not including iron ore. * Also included under animals, other.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RECORD.

PRICES FOR 1904.

The methods of quoting sterling exchange have varied widely in the past, but by the law of Congress of March 3, 1873, the Custom House valuation of the pound sterling was placed at its true value of \$4.8665, and from January 1, 1874, sterling exchange has been quoted accordingly, the quotation when at par being \$4.8665. The London Stock Exchange early in the year 1874 also made a change in its method of quoting, but valued the dollar at 4s, or about 97½ cents. This valuation, being 2½ cents below par, is equal to a quotable premium of about 2½ per cent, and accordingly the present London quotations of American securities are about 2½ per cent above their actual value—a bond worth 100 here being quoted there at 102½.

In the tables which follow we furnish a record of the fluctuations in the rates of exchange at New York on London for each day of the past year. The tables have been compiled so as to show the actual rates at which bankers' bills were quoted. Business in exchange is now done at such a small margin of profit, the fluctuations being often measured by small decimals, that posted rates no longer afford a close guide to the course of the market. A record of these posted rates, however, for 1904 can be found in the CHRONICLE of Jan. 7, 1905, page 96.

ACTUAL RATES OF STERLING EXCHANGE DURING 1904.

January.				February.				March.				April.			
Day.	Sixty-Day Bills.	Sight Bills.	Cable Transfers.	Day.	Sixty-Day Bills.	Sight Bills.	Cable Transfers.	Day.	Sixty-Day Bills.	Sight Bills.	Cable Transfers.	Day.	Sixty-Day Bills.	Sight Bills.	Cable Transfers.
1.	.....	HOLIDAY.	.....	1.	4.8275-8285	4.8540-8550	4.8565-8575	1.	4.8370-8380	4.8655-8665	4.87-8710	1.	4.8475-8485	4.8735-8740	4.8770-8780
2.	4.81-8110	4.84-8410	4.8440-8455	2.	4.8290-83	4.8540-8550	4.8570-8580	2.	4.8365-8375	4.8650-8660	4.8690-87	2.	4.8475-8480	4.8735-8740	4.8775-8785
3.	.....	SUNDAY.	.....	3.	4.83-8310	4.8550-8560	4.8575-8585	3.	4.8375-8385	4.8660-8670	4.87-8710	3.	.....	SUNDAY.	.....
4.	4.8140-8150	4.8450-8460	4.8485-8490	4.	4.83-8310	4.8555-8565	4.8585-8595	4.	4.8380-8390	4.8660-8670	4.87-8710	4.	4.8475-8485	4.8735-8740	4.8775-8785
5.	4.8150-8175	4.8450-8475	4.85-8525	5.	4.83-8310	4.8555-8565	4.8585-8595	5.	4.8380-8390	4.8660-8670	4.87-8710	5.	4.8480-8490	4.8735-8740	4.8775-8785
6.	4.82-8210	4.85-8510	4.8535-8545	6.	4.83-8310	4.8555-8565	4.8585-8595	6.	.....	SUNDAY.	.....	6.	4.8490-8490	4.8735-8740	4.8775-8785
7.	4.8215-8225	4.8520-8530	4.85-8570	7.	.....	SUNDAY.	.....	7.	4.8380-8390	4.8655-8665	4.8695-8705	7.	4.8480-8490	4.8735-8740	4.8775-8785
8.	4.82-8210	4.85-8510	4.8530-8540	8.	4.83-8310	4.8550-8560	4.8580-8590	8.	4.8380-8390	4.8655-8665	4.8695-8705	8.	4.8490-8490	4.8735-8740	4.8775-8785
9.	4.82-8210	4.85-8510	4.8530-8540	9.	4.8290-83	4.8570-8575	4.8605-8615	9.	4.8380-8390	4.8660-8670	4.87-8710	9.	4.8490-8490	4.8735-8740	4.8775-8785
10.	.....	SUNDAY.	.....	10.	4.8290-83	4.8575-8585	4.8605-8615	10.	4.8385-8390	4.8660-8670	4.87-8710	10.	.....	SUNDAY.	.....
11.	4.82-8210	4.8515-8525	4.8555-8565	11.	4.83-8310	4.8555-8565	4.8585-8595	11.	4.84-8410	4.870-8710	4.87-8710	11.	4.8485-8495	4.8735-8740	4.8770-8775
12.	4.8240-8250	4.8540-8550	4.8585-8595	12.	4.83-8310	4.8555-8565	4.8585-8595	12.	4.84-8410	4.870-8710	4.87-8710	12.	4.8485-8495	4.8735-8740	4.8775-8785
13.	4.8-8210	4.8550-8560	4.859-86	13.	4.83-8310	4.8555-8565	4.8585-8595	13.	4.8440-8450	4.870-8710	4.87-8710	13.	4.8490-85	4.8735-8740	4.8775-8785
14.	4.8240-8250	4.8535-8545	4.8575-8585	14.	.....	SUNDAY.	.....	14.	4.8405-8415	4.8675-8685	4.8710-8720	14.	4.85-8510	4.8740-8745	4.878-879
15.	4.8240-8270	4.8550-8560	4.8585-8595	15.	4.82-8210	4.8560-8570	4.8590-86	15.	4.8405-8415	4.8675-8685	4.8710-8720	15.	4.85-8510	4.8740-8745	4.8775-8785
16.	4.82-8210	4.8550-8560	4.8585-8595	16.	4.8290-83	4.8575-8585	4.8605-8615	16.	4.8410-8420	4.8680-8690	4.8710-8725	16.	4.85-8510	4.8740-8745	4.8775-8785
17.	.....	SUNDAY.	.....	17.	4.83-8310	4.8575-8585	4.8605-8615	17.	4.8420-8430	4.8680-8690	4.8715-8725	17.	.....	SUNDAY.	.....
18.	4.83-8310	4.8575-8585	4.8605-8615	18.	4.8290-83	4.8575-8585	4.8605-8615	18.	4.8430-8440	4.8690-87	4.8730-8735	18.	4.8510-8520	4.8740-8745	4.8770-8775
19.	4.8315-8325	4.8580-8590	4.8615-8625	19.	4.83-8310	4.8555-8565	4.8585-8595	19.	4.8430-8440	4.8690-87	4.8730-8735	19.	4.8510-8520	4.8740-8745	4.8770-8775
20.	4.8350-8360	4.8615-8625	4.8645-8655	20.	4.83-8310	4.8555-8565	4.8585-8595	20.	4.8440-8450	4.870-8710	4.8740-8750	20.	4.8530-8540	4.8745-8750	4.8775-8785
21.	4.8350-8365	4.8615-8625	4.8645-8655	21.	4.83-8310	4.8555-8565	4.8585-8595	21.	.....	SUNDAY.	.....	21.	4.8530-8540	4.8745-8750	4.8775-8785
22.	4.8350-8365	4.8615-8625	4.8645-8655	22.	.....	SUNDAY.	.....	22.	4.8440-8450	4.870-8710	4.8740-8750	22.	4.8530-8540	4.8745-8750	4.8775-8785
23.	4.8320-8330	4.8590-8600	4.8625-8635	23.	4.83-8310	4.8555-8565	4.8585-8595	23.	4.8450-8460	4.8710-8715	4.8750-8760	23.	4.8530-8540	4.8745-8750	4.8775-8785
24.	4.8320-8330	4.8590-8600	4.8625-8635	24.	4.8350-8365	4.8600-8610	4.8630-8640	24.	4.8460-8470	4.8715-8720	4.8750-8760	24.	4.8530-8540	4.8745-8750	4.8775-8785
25.	4.83-8310	4.8595-8605	4.8630-8640	25.	4.8350-8365	4.8600-8610	4.8630-8640	25.	4.8470-8480	4.8720-8725	4.8755-8765	25.	4.8530-8540	4.8745-8750	4.8775-8785
26.	4.83-8310	4.8595-8605	4.8630-8640	26.	4.8350-8365	4.8600-8610	4.8630-8640	26.	4.8480-8490	4.8725-8730	4.8760-8770	26.	4.8530-8540	4.8745-8750	4.8775-8785
27.	4.83-8310	4.8595-8605	4.8630-8640	27.	4.8350-8365	4.8600-8610	4.8630-8640	27.	4.8490-8500	4.8730-8735	4.8765-8775	27.	4.8530-8540	4.8745-8750	4.8775-8785
28.	4.83-8310	4.8595-8605	4.8630-8640	28.	4.8350-8365	4.8600-8610	4.8630-8640	28.	4.8500-8510	4.8735-8740	4.8770-8780	28.	4.8530-8540	4.8745-8750	4.8775-8785
29.	4.83-8310	4.8595-8605	4.8630-8640	29.	4.8350-8365	4.8600-8610	4.8630-8640	29.	4.8510-8520	4.8740-8745	4.8775-8785	29.	4.8530-8540	4.8745-8750	4.8775-8785
30.	4.83-8310	4.8595-8605	4.8630-8640	30.	4.8350-8365	4.8600-8610	4.8630-8640	30.	4.8520-8530	4.8745-8750	4.8780-8790	30.	4.8530-8540	4.8745-8750	4.8775-8785
31.	.....	SUNDAY.	.....	31.	4.8350-8365	4.8600-8610	4.8630-8640	31.	4.8530-8540	4.8750-8755	4.8785-8795	31.	4.8530-8540	4.8745-8750	4.8775-8785
Range—				Range—				Range—				Range—			
High 4.835-8365	4.8615-8625	4.8650-8660		High 4.830-84	4.8685-8675	4.8710-8715		High 4.8475-8485	4.8735-8740	4.8775-8785		High 4.8530-8540	4.8745-8755	4.8775-8785	
Low 4.81-8110	4.84-8410	4.8440-8455		Low 4.82-8210	4.8540-8550	4.8575-8585		Low 4.8365-8375	4.8650-8660	4.8690-87		Low 4.8530-8540	4.8745-8750	4.8775-8785	

1872.

Table for 1872 showing interest rates for various bond types (5s, 6s, 10-40s) across months (Jan to Dec). Columns include bond type, coupon rates, and current rates.

1873.

Table for 1873 showing interest rates for various bond types (5s, 6s, 10-40s) across months (Jan to Dec). Columns include bond type, coupon rates, and current rates.

1874.

Table for 1874 showing interest rates for various bond types (5s, 6s, 10-40s) across months (Jan to Dec). Columns include bond type, coupon rates, and current rates.

1875.

Table for 1875 showing bond prices for various months (Jan to Dec) and coupon periods (6s, 10-40s, 6s Cur-ney).

1876.

Table for 1876 showing bond prices for various months (Jan to Dec) and coupon periods (6s, 10-40s, 6s Cur-ney).

1877.

Table for 1877 showing bond prices for various months (Jan to Dec) and coupon periods (6s, 10-40s, 6s Cur-ney).

1881.

	Coupon Bonds.				6s. cur- rency, 1898, reg.	Coupon Bonds.				6s. cur- rency, 1898, reg.
	6s. 1881.	5s. 1881.	4½s. 1891.	4s. 1907.		6s. 1881.	5s. 1881.	4½s. 1891.	4s. 1907.	
January.										
Opening	x 101¼	101¼	112	x 112¾	183	102¾	* 102¾	114¾	x 117¼	....
Highest	101¼	101¼	112¾	113¾	183	103	102¾	114¾	117¼	....
Lowest	101¼	101¼	112	112¾	183	102¾	101½	114¾	115¾	....
Closing	101¼	101¼	112¾	112¾	183	102¾	102	114¾	116¾	....
February.										
Opening	101¼	x 100¾	112¼	112¾	....	102¾	102¾	114¾	116¾	....
Highest	101¼	101	112¾	114	....	102¾	102¾	114¾	116¾	....
Lowest	101¼	100¾	111¾	112¾	....	101½	101	113¾	114¾	....
Closing	101¼	100¾	112¾	112¾	....	101½	101½	113¾	115¾	....
March.										
Opening	102	101	x 111¾	112¾	181	101½	101½	x 113	116	....
Highest	102¼	102	112¾	114¾	181	101½	101½	113¾	117¾	....
Lowest	102	100¾	111¾	112¾	181	100¾	101	112¾	116	....
Closing	102¼	102	112¾	114¾	181	101	101½	113¾	117¾	....
April.										
Opening	102¾	102¾	112¾	x 114	183	100¾	x 100¾	113	x 116¾	....
Highest	103¾	102¾	114¾	116¾	183	101½	102¾	113	116¾	....
Lowest	102¾	102	112¾	113¾	183	100¾	99¾	113	115¾	....
Closing	103¾	102¾	114¾	116¾	183	101	102¾	113	116	....
May.										
Opening	103¾	x 101½	114¾	116¾	185	101¼	102	113¾	116¾	....
Highest	106¾	105	116¾	118¾	185	101¼	102¾	114¾	117¾	....
Lowest	103¾	101½	114¾	116¾	185	101¼	101½	113¾	116	....
Closing	106¾	104¾	116¾	118¾	185	101¼	102¾	114¾	117¾	....
June.										
Opening	* 104	104¼	x 115¾	118¾	x 184	x 100¾	102¾	x 113¾	117¾	x 180
Highest	104	104¼	115¾	118¾	184	101½	103¾	114¾	118¾	180
Lowest	102¾	103	114¾	117¾	184	100¾	102¾	113¾	117¾	180
Closing	103	103¾	115	118	184	101½	103¾	114¾	118¾	180

1882.

	Coupon Bonds.				Registered 6s. cur. 1898.	Coupon Bonds.				Registered 6s. cur. 1898.	Coupon Bonds.				Registered 6s. cur. 1898.	Coupon Bonds.				Registered 6s. cur. 1898.																									
	6s. con. at 3%.	5s. con. at 3%.	4½s. 1891.	4s. 1907.		6s. con. at 3%.	5s. con. at 3%.	4½s. 1891.	4s. 1907.		6s. con. at 3%.	5s. con. at 3%.	4½s. 1891.	4s. 1907.		6s. con. at 3%.	5s. con. at 3%.	4½s. 1891.	4s. 1907.		6s. con. at 3%.	5s. con. at 3%.	4½s. 1891.	4s. 1907.																					
Jan.																																													
Opening	100¾	x 102¾	114¾	117¾	181	101¾	x 102¾	115¼	x 118¾	181	102	x 101	114	x 119	181	100¾	x 100¾	113¼	x 118¾	181	101¾	x 102¾	114¾	117¾	181	101¾	x 102¾	114¾	117¾	181	100¾	x 100¾	113¼	x 118¾	181	101¾	x 102¾	114¾	117¾	181	100¾	x 100¾	113¼	x 118¾	181

1883.

	Coupon Bonds.				Registered 6s. cur. 1898.	Coupon Bonds.				Registered 6s. cur. 1898.	Coupon Bonds.				Registered 6s. cur. 1898.	Coupon Bonds.				Registered 6s. cur. 1898.																				
	5s. ext. at 3%.	4½s. 1891.	4s. 1907.	3s. opt. U. S.		4½s. 1891.	4s. 1907.	3s. opt. U. S.	6s. cur. 1898.		4½s. 1891.	4s. 1907.	3s. opt. U. S.	6s. cur. 1898.		4½s. 1891.	4s. 1907.	3s. opt. U. S.	6s. cur. 1898.		4½s. 1891.	4s. 1907.	3s. opt. U. S.	6s. cur. 1898.																
Jan.																																								
Opening	x 102	113¼	x 119¾	x 103¾	181¾	101¾	x 102¾	115¼	x 118¾	181	102	x 101	114	x 119	181	100¾	x 100¾	113¼	x 118¾	181	101¾	x 102¾	114¾	117¾	181	101¾	x 102¾	114¾	117¾	181	100¾	x 100¾	113¼	x 118¾	181	101¾	x 102¾	114¾	117¾	181

1884.

	Coupon.				Registered. 6s. cur. 1898.	Coupon.				Registered. 6s. cur. 1898.	Coupon.				Registered. 6s. cur. 1898.	Coupon.				Registered. 6s. cur. 1898.																				
	4½s. 1891.	4s. 1907.	3s. opt. U. S.	6s. cur. 1898.		4½s. 1891.	4s. 1907.	3s. opt. U. S.	6s. cur. 1898.		4½s. 1891.	4s. 1907.	3s. opt. U. S.	6s. cur. 1898.		4½s. 1891.	4s. 1907.	3s. opt. U. S.	6s. cur. 1898.		4½s. 1891.	4s. 1907.	3s. opt. U. S.	6s. cur. 1898.																
Jan.																																								
Opening	114¾	x 123¾	100¾	134¾	181	113¾	x 123¾	101¼	181	112	x 118¼	100	181	112¾	x 120¾	100¾	181	112¾	x 120¾	100¾	181	112¾	x 120¾	100¾	181	112¾	x 120¾	100¾	181	112¾	x 120¾	100¾	181

1885.

	Coupon.				Registered. 6s. cur. 1898.	Coupon.				Registered. 6s. cur. 1898.	Coupon.				Registered. 6s. cur. 1898.	Coupon.				Registered. 6s. cur. 1898.																				
	4½s. 1891.	4s. 1907.	3s. opt. U. S.	6s. cur. 1898.		4½s. 1891.	4s. 1907.	3s. opt. U. S.	6s. cur. 1898.		4½s. 1891.	4s. 1907.	3s. opt. U. S.	6s. cur. 1898.		4½s. 1891.	4s. 1907.	3s. opt. U. S.	6s. cur. 1898.		4½s. 1891.	4s. 1907.	3s. opt. U. S.	6s. cur. 1898.																
Jan.																																								
Opening	112¾	x 121¼	101¼	181	112¾	x 121¼	101	181	112¾	x 121¼	101	181	112¾	x 121¼	101	181	112¾	x 121¼	101	181	112¾	x 121¼	101	181	112¾	x 121¼	101	181	112¾	x 121¼	101	181

1886.

Table for 1886 showing financial data for Jan, Apr, July, Oct, Feb, May, Aug, Nov, Mar, June, and Dec. Columns include Coupon (4 1/2s, 4s, 3s, 6s) and Registered (U.S., 1890, 1891, 1892).

1887.

Table for 1887 showing financial data for Jan, Apr, July, Oct, Feb, May, Aug, Nov, Mar, June, and Dec. Columns include Coupon (4 1/2s, 4s, 3s, 6s) and Registered (U.S., 1890, 1891, 1892).

1888.

Table for 1888 showing financial data for Jan, Apr, July, Oct, Feb, May, Aug, Nov, Mar, June, and Dec. Columns include Coupon (4 1/2s, 4s, 3s, 6s) and Registered (U.S., 1890, 1891, 1892).

1889.

Table for 1889 showing financial data for Jan, Apr, July, Oct, Feb, May, Aug, Nov, Mar, June, and Dec. Columns include Coupon (4 1/2s, 4s, 3s, 6s) and Registered (U.S., 1890, 1891, 1892).

1890.

Table for 1890 showing financial data for Jan, Apr, July, Oct, Feb, May, Aug, Nov, Mar, June, and Dec. Columns include Coupon (4 1/2s, 4s, 3s, 6s) and Registered (U.S., 1890, 1891, 1892).

1891.

Table for 1891 showing financial data for Jan, Apr, July, Oct, Feb, May, Aug, Nov, Mar, June, and Dec. Columns include Coupon (4 1/2s, 4s, 3s, 6s) and Registered (U.S., 1890, 1891, 1892).

1892.

Table for 1892 showing financial data for Jan, Apr, July, Oct, Feb, May, Aug, Nov, Mar, June, and Dec. Columns include Coupon (4s, 3s, 6s) and Registered (U.S., 1890, 1891, 1892).

1893.

Table for 1893 showing bond prices for Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May, June, July, Aug, Sept, Oct, Nov, Dec. Columns include Coup., Registered (4s, 6s, cur.), and various interest rates.

* These are the 4 1/2% extended at 2 per cent.

1894.

Table for 1894 showing bond prices for Jan through Dec. Columns include Coupon Bonds (4s, 5s, 1904) and Registered Bonds (4s, 6s, Cur., 6s, Cur., 6s, Cur., 1895, 1896, 1898).

1895.

Table for 1895 showing bond prices for Jan through Dec. Columns include Coupon Bonds (4s, 4s, 5s, 1904) and Registered Bonds (4s, 4s, 5s, 1904, 2s, Op, 6s Cur., 6s Cur., 6s Cur., 1896, 1898, 1899).

† These are dealings in the "Unlisted Department" of the Stock Exchange in "bonds when issued."

1896.

Table for 1896 showing bond prices for Jan through Dec. Columns include Coupon Bonds (4s, 4s, 5s, 1904) and Registered Bonds (4s, 4s, 5s, 1904, 2s, Op, 6s Cur., 6s Cur., 6s Cur., 1897, 1898, 1899).

1897.

Table for 1897 showing bond prices for Coupon Bonds and Registered Bonds from January to December. Columns include bond types (4s, 5s, 6s Cur, 6s) and months.

1898.

Table for 1898 showing bond prices for Coupon Bonds and Registered Bonds from January to December. Columns include bond types (3s, 4s, 5s, 6s) and months.

1899.

Table for 1899 showing bond prices for Coupon Bonds and Registered Bonds from January to December. Columns include bond types (3s, 4s, 5s, 6s) and months.

1900.

Table for 1900 showing bond prices for Coupon Bonds and Registered Bonds from January to December. Columns include bond types (2s, 3s, 4s, 5s) and months.

1901.

Table for 1901 showing Coupon Bonds and Registered Bonds with columns for 2s, 3s, 4s, 5s, 6s, 7s, 8s, 9s, 10s, 11s, 12s, 13s, 14s, 15s, 16s, 17s, 18s, 19s, 20s, 21s, 22s, 23s, 24s, 25s, 26s, 27s, 28s, 29s, 30s, 31s, 32s, 33s, 34s, 35s, 36s, 37s, 38s, 39s, 40s, 41s, 42s, 43s, 44s, 45s, 46s, 47s, 48s, 49s, 50s, 51s, 52s, 53s, 54s, 55s, 56s, 57s, 58s, 59s, 60s, 61s, 62s, 63s, 64s, 65s, 66s, 67s, 68s, 69s, 70s, 71s, 72s, 73s, 74s, 75s, 76s, 77s, 78s, 79s, 80s, 81s, 82s, 83s, 84s, 85s, 86s, 87s, 88s, 89s, 90s, 91s, 92s, 93s, 94s, 95s, 96s, 97s, 98s, 99s, 100s.

1902.

Table for 1902 showing Coupon Bonds and Registered Bonds with columns for 2s, 3s, 4s, 5s, 6s, 7s, 8s, 9s, 10s, 11s, 12s, 13s, 14s, 15s, 16s, 17s, 18s, 19s, 20s, 21s, 22s, 23s, 24s, 25s, 26s, 27s, 28s, 29s, 30s, 31s, 32s, 33s, 34s, 35s, 36s, 37s, 38s, 39s, 40s, 41s, 42s, 43s, 44s, 45s, 46s, 47s, 48s, 49s, 50s, 51s, 52s, 53s, 54s, 55s, 56s, 57s, 58s, 59s, 60s, 61s, 62s, 63s, 64s, 65s, 66s, 67s, 68s, 69s, 70s, 71s, 72s, 73s, 74s, 75s, 76s, 77s, 78s, 79s, 80s, 81s, 82s, 83s, 84s, 85s, 86s, 87s, 88s, 89s, 90s, 91s, 92s, 93s, 94s, 95s, 96s, 97s, 98s, 99s, 100s.

1903.

Table for 1903 showing Coupon Bonds and Registered Bonds with columns for 2s, 3s, 4s, 5s, 6s, 7s, 8s, 9s, 10s, 11s, 12s, 13s, 14s, 15s, 16s, 17s, 18s, 19s, 20s, 21s, 22s, 23s, 24s, 25s, 26s, 27s, 28s, 29s, 30s, 31s, 32s, 33s, 34s, 35s, 36s, 37s, 38s, 39s, 40s, 41s, 42s, 43s, 44s, 45s, 46s, 47s, 48s, 49s, 50s, 51s, 52s, 53s, 54s, 55s, 56s, 57s, 58s, 59s, 60s, 61s, 62s, 63s, 64s, 65s, 66s, 67s, 68s, 69s, 70s, 71s, 72s, 73s, 74s, 75s, 76s, 77s, 78s, 79s, 80s, 81s, 82s, 83s, 84s, 85s, 86s, 87s, 88s, 89s, 90s, 91s, 92s, 93s, 94s, 95s, 96s, 97s, 98s, 99s, 100s.

1904.

Table for 1904 showing Coupon Bonds and Registered Bonds with columns for 2s, 3s, 4s, 5s, 6s, 7s, 8s, 9s, 10s, 11s, 12s, 13s, 14s, 15s, 16s, 17s, 18s, 19s, 20s, 21s, 22s, 23s, 24s, 25s, 26s, 27s, 28s, 29s, 30s, 31s, 32s, 33s, 34s, 35s, 36s, 37s, 38s, 39s, 40s, 41s, 42s, 43s, 44s, 45s, 46s, 47s, 48s, 49s, 50s, 51s, 52s, 53s, 54s, 55s, 56s, 57s, 58s, 59s, 60s, 61s, 62s, 63s, 64s, 65s, 66s, 67s, 68s, 69s, 70s, 71s, 72s, 73s, 74s, 75s, 76s, 77s, 78s, 79s, 80s, 81s, 82s, 83s, 84s, 85s, 86s, 87s, 88s, 89s, 90s, 91s, 92s, 93s, 94s, 95s, 96s, 97s, 98s, 99s, 100s.

Philippine Island purchase money 4s, 1914-31.

1884 to 1889, inclusive.

Table with columns for years 1884-1889 and rows for various securities like Alabama Class A, Georgia bonds, Louisiana bonds, etc. Each cell contains a date and a numerical value.

1890.

Table with columns for months JANUARY to DEC'BER and rows for various securities like Alabama Class A, Tennessee bonds, Virginia bonds, etc. Each cell contains a range of numerical values.

1891 to 1896, inclusive.

[For these and succeeding years, range is based on actual sales at the New York Stock Exchange.]

Table with columns for years 1891-1896 and rows for various securities descriptions like Alabama-Class A, Louisiana-Consol, etc.

1896 to 1901, inclusive.

[For these and succeeding years, range is based on actual sales at the New York Stock Exchange.]

Table with columns for years 1896-1901 and rows for various securities descriptions like Alabama-Class A, Virginia-Fund, etc.

1902.

Table with columns for months JANUARY-DEC'BER and rows for securities like Alabama-Class A, Virginia-Fund, etc.

1903.

Table with columns for months JANUARY-DEC'BER and rows for securities like Dist. of Col. 3 65s, Louisiana-New consol, etc.

1904.

Table with columns for months JANUARY-DEC'BER and rows for securities like Alabama-Class A, Louisiana-New consol, etc.

largest of any calendar year on record. The increase on the 172,788 miles of road which then contributed returns reached no less than \$182,099,849, and for the railroad system as a whole we estimated that the gain must have been no less than \$200,000,000. Moreover, this extraordinary amount of gain was itself additional to a whole series of gains extending all the way back to 1895.

The detailed table which we present at the end of this article, and which embraces all roads in the country from which we have been able to procure or to make up figures for the calendar year (including a few companies which have not yet sent in their December statement, and whose figures, therefore, cover only the eleven months to November 30 of the two years), reveals an increase for 1904 over 1903 in the sum of \$11,137,487. The results cover an aggregate of 179,668 miles of road. The totals are of really imposing magnitude, aggregating \$1,773,338,878 for 1904, against \$1,762,201,391 for 1903, and they serve to give an idea of the size and extent of the railroad transportation system of the United States. As we are dealing with totals of such great dimensions, the increase of \$11,137,487 obviously does not represent a very large ratio of gain, it being only a fraction of one per cent (actually 0.63 per cent), but, as already pointed out, the fact of importance is that there should have been any improvement at all. Below we append a summary showing the yearly results back to 1894. This embraces the roads in each year from which we were able to secure returns, and it shows that the \$11,137,487 increase for 1904 succeeded \$182,099,849 increase in 1903, \$92,884,827 increase in 1902, \$143,017,801 increase in 1901, \$100,915,767 increase in 1900, \$101,316,886 increase in 1899, \$77,647,719 increase in 1898 and \$54,490,563 increase in 1897.

	Mileage.		Gross Earnings.		Increase or Decrease.
	Year Given.	Year Preceding.	Year Given.	Year Preceding.	
	Miles.	Miles.	\$	\$	
Jan. 1 to Dec. 31.					
1894 (186 roads).	145,897	144,914	696,599,690	687,841,629	De. 111,261,390
1895 (195 roads).	143,052	142,659	842,460,897	796,544,783	Inc. 45,915,614
1896 (196 roads).	143,916	147,710	879,622,029	877,308,635	Inc. 2,313,394
1897 (198 roads).	154,980	153,133	974,466,753	919,976,100	Inc. 54,490,583
1898 (190 roads).	157,801	156,295	1,050,896,033	978,247,319	Inc. 77,647,719
1899 (188 roads).	153,958	153,535	1,123,923,916	1,027,612,050	Inc. 101,316,886
1900 (171 roads).	157,401	152,122	1,216,924,951	1,116,009,184	Inc. 100,915,767
1901 (157 roads).	172,879	170,549	1,495,915,408	1,392,897,603	Inc. 103,017,801
1902 (147 roads).	170,895	167,641	1,542,725,832	1,449,841,005	Inc. 92,884,827
1903 (142 roads).	172,788	169,203	1,755,878,836	1,573,578,937	Inc. 182,099,849
1904 (135 roads).	179,668	176,492	1,773,338,878	1,762,201,391	Inc. 11,137,487

NOTE.—Neither the Mexican roads nor the coal-mining operations of the anthracite coal roads are included in any of these totals.

The figures for 1904 cover, as already stated, 179,668 miles. There are altogether somewhat over 210,000 miles of railroad in the country, and we presume that if we could get returns for the lines unrepresented in our tables the gain would be increased to 15 million dollars or over. For the twelve months of 1903 we estimated the improvement in gross receipts upon the whole railroad system as \$210,000,000. Similarly on previous occasions we have estimated the improvement in 1902 over 1901 at \$105,000,000; in 1901 over 1900 at \$155,000,000; in 1900 over 1899 at \$120,000,000; in 1899 over 1898 at \$140,000,000; in 1898 over 1897 at \$90,000,000 and in 1897 over 1896 at \$75,000,000—making altogether an improvement for the eight years in the extraordinary sum of \$910,000,000.

The increase of \$15,000,000 for the twelve months of 1904 follows entirely as the result of the great change for the better which occurred during the latter half of the year. For the first six months there was a loss as compared with the corresponding six months of 1903 of 18 to 20 million dollars. In other words, in the last six

months of 1904 there was a gain in the gross revenues of United States railroads in amount of about 35 million dollars. In the net earnings the results the first six months were worse even than in the gross. The bad weather experienced from January to May, inclusive, added so largely to the cost of operating that not only was it impossible to reduce expenses but there was actually an augmentation in the expense accounts concurrently with the loss in gross. In a compilation presented in the CHRONICLE of August 27 1904 covering 156,986 miles of road, it was shown that with \$13,085,604 decrease in gross there had been an increase of \$12,264,269 in expenses, producing a loss in net of \$25,349,873. The latter part of the year all this was changed. With the special causes that had operated to swell the expense accounts removed, the savings in expenses which every one had been looking for began to be realized. Gradually, too, gross earnings increased, at first slowly but subsequently at a steadily accelerating pace. As a consequence, from August to December the returns were very favorable, both as to gross and net. Hence, large though the loss in net was during the first half of the year, it seems likely that when the results as to net for the full twelve months become available it will be found that the total of the net for 1904 did not differ greatly from that for 1903. Below we furnish a comparison of the gross for each month of the year. This shows quite clearly the great change which occurred the last five months. The December totals are as yet only partial, as the returns for that month will not all be in until early in March.

Period—	MONTHLY GROSS EARNINGS.		Inc. or Dec.	Per cent.
	1904.	1903.		
January (137 roads).....	\$121,307,050	\$127,083,598	-\$5,776,548	4.56
February (150 roads).....	118,435,389	115,448,815	+2,987,074	2.59
March (125 roads).....	133,215,911	132,394,034	+821,877	0.62
April (127 roads).....	132,433,230	136,733,199	-4,299,969	3.18
May (128 roads).....	130,985,613	134,680,336	-3,694,723	2.77
June (106 roads).....	113,351,491	114,330,175	-978,684	0.81
July (125 roads).....	132,342,621	139,712,599	-7,369,978	5.36
August (132 roads).....	145,292,433	134,558,473	+10,733,960	8.01
September (134 roads).....	151,475,034	147,558,536	+3,916,498	2.65
October (124 roads).....	159,729,959	154,758,622	+4,971,337	3.21
November (124 roads).....	154,304,117	149,909,476	+4,394,641	2.91
December (67 roads).....	59,429,656	55,063,547	+4,366,109	7.92

There was one favoring influence during 1904 of considerable importance, namely the World's Fair at St. Louis. This added greatly to the passenger revenues of many different roads—not merely the lines directly entering St. Louis, but those in remoter sections, and particularly the roads forming parts of through routes to that point. The Exposition remained open from May 1 to December 1. During the early months of this period the travel to and from the Fair was not very large, but in the later months it became an item of decided importance.

As against the advantage from that source, however, there was great contraction in many other items of traffic. Owing to the depression in the iron and steel industry during the first nine months of the year, the Lake Superior iron ore shipments, for instance, were considerably reduced, and reached for the season only 21,822,839 tons, against 24,289,878 tons in 1903 and 27,571,121 tons in 1902. The shipments of coke from the Connellsville region in 1904 were 12,427,468 tons, against 13,345,230 tons in 1903 and 14,138,740 tons in 1902. Another tell-tale of the conditions which prevailed in these particulars is found in the case of the shipments of bituminous coal over the Pennsylvania Railroad lines east of Pittsburgh and Erie. These were 27,046,243 tons for 1904, against 27,780,425 tons for 1903. The anthracite shipments to market from special causes were also on a reduced scale, the aggregate for all the carriers having been 57,492,522 tons in 1904, against 59,362,831 tons in 1903.

The cotton movement in the South was heavier than in 1903, but not as much so as might have been supposed considering the magnitude of the new crop. The great decline in the price of the staple induced planters towards the close of the year to withhold the crop from market. The shipments overland for the twelve months were 1,246,763 bales, against 1,234,718 bales in 1903, but as against 1,574,026 bales in 1902, 1,589,104 bales in 1901, 1,737,903 bales in 1900 and 2,060,671 bales in 1899. This shows that, at least as far as the overland shipments are concerned, the 1904 figures were the smallest of all recent years except 1903. In the case of the port receipts, however, comparison is much more favorable to the latest year. In brief, the 1904 receipts were 7,762,621 bales, against 7,569,343 bales in 1903, 7,383,966 bales in 1902 and 7,311,240 bales in 1901. The increase is entirely the result of the larger movement the latter part of the year. For the six months to June 30 the receipts had been 569,269 bales less than for the corresponding six months of 1903.

RECEIPTS OF COTTON AT SOUTHERN PORTS FROM JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, IN 1904, 1903, 1902, 1901, 1900 AND 1899.

Table showing cotton receipts at southern ports from 1904 to 1899, categorized by ports and full year totals.

GROSS EARNINGS FROM JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31.

Table showing gross earnings from January 1 to December 31, categorized by road names and years.

Main table showing railroad earnings by road name, categorized by 1904, 1903, Increase, and Decrease.

These figures are for 11 months only; figures for December not having as yet been reported. Includes proprietary roads in both years. Includes an estimate for June, figures for that month not having been reported. These figures are for ten months only; figures for November and December not yet reported. The fourth week of December not yet reported; taken same as previous year. December not yet reported; taken same as previous year. Mileage was reduced on July 1, 1904, from 929 to 818. Earnings of the last five months of both years cover only the rail lines.

To complete our analysis, we annex the following six-year comparison of earnings of the leading roads or systems, arranged in groups. This will enable the reader to form a better idea of the effects in the several parts of the country of the different influences and conditions which marked the course of the year.

Table showing earnings of the southwestern group, categorized by year and road names.

EARNINGS OF TRUNK LINES.

Table with columns: Year, 1904, 1903, 1902, 1901, 1900, 1899. Rows include Baltimore & O., P. & West., C.C. & St. L., etc.

† Boston & Albany included in 1904, 1903, 1902 and 1900; the Beech Creek RR. and the Walkhill Valley RR. and the Fall Brook system for all the years.

‡ Buffalo & Allegheny Valley Division included in 1904, 1903, 1902 and 1901.

EARNINGS OF SOUTHERN GROUP.

Table with columns: Year, 1904, 1903, 1902, 1901, 1900, 1899. Rows include Alabama Gt. So., Cent. of Georgia, Chesap. & Ohio, etc.

EARNINGS OF ANTHRACITE COAL GROUP.

Table with columns: Year, 1904, 1903, 1902, 1901, 1900, 1899. Rows include Cent. N. J., L. Val. RR., N.Y. & W., etc.

* Includes income from investments for all the years, and also the operations of N. Y. & Long Branch RR. for all the years.

† The totals for the years 1899 and 1900 are for the twelve months to November 30, and do not include earnings of the water lines or income from investments; for the year 1901 results are for the calendar year ending December 31, and are inclusive of results for the water lines during the first six months and inclusive also of income from investments for the whole twelve months.

EARNINGS OF MIDDLE AND MIDDLE WESTERN GROUP.

Table with columns: Year, 1904, 1903, 1902, 1901, 1900, 1899. Rows include Ann Arbor, Buff. Roch. & Pitts., Chic. Ind. & Louisv., etc.

† Fourth week of December, 1904, not yet reported; taken same as last year.

EARNINGS OF NORTHWESTERN AND NORTH PACIFIC GROUP.

Table with columns: Year, 1904, 1903, 1902, 1901, 1900, 1899. Rows include Canadian Pacific, Chic. Gt. West., Chic. M. & St. P., etc.

a Mileage reduced in July, 1904, from 929 to 818. b Includes proprietary lines in all the years. c December, 1904, not yet reported; taken same as last year. d Includes trans-Missouri lines for the whole twelve months of 1904 and from Feb. 18 to Dec. 31 in 1903 and 1902, but in no portion of preceding years.

COURSE OF PRICES OF BONDS ON NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE, 1900 TO 1904. 1900.

Large table with columns: BONDS, JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH, APRIL, MAY, JUNE, JULY, AUGUST, SEPT'BER, OCTOBER, NOV'BER, DEC'BER. Rows list various bond types like Ala. Mid., Ann Arbor, etc.

1900-Continued.

Table with columns for months (JANUARY to DEC'BER) and rows for various bond issuers like Choc. Ok. & G., C.I.S.L. & C., etc. Each cell contains price ranges (Low-High).

1900—Continued.

Table with columns for months (JANUARY to DEC.) and rows for various bonds including Illinois Cent'l, Ind. Dec. & West'n, Iowa Cent., Kan. & M., K. City Pittsb. & G., Ken. Cent., L. Erie & West., L. Shore, Loh. Valley, N. Y., Louisville & Nash., Mex. Cent'l, Mex. Nat'l, Mexican North'n, Mo. Kan. & Texas, Mo. Kan. & Eastern, Missouri Pacific.

1900-Continued.

Table with columns for months (JANUARY to DECEMBER) and rows for various bond issues (e.g., Pennsylv. Co., P.C.C. & St. L., etc.). Each cell contains numerical values representing bond prices or yields.

1900-Continued.

Table with columns for months (JANUARY to DEC'BER) and rows for various bond types (Southern, Street Railway, Gas and Electric). Each cell contains a range of values (e.g., Low, High) for that month.

1900—Concluded.

Table with columns: BONDS, JANUARY, FEBR'RY, MARCH, APRIL, MAY, JUNE, JULY, AUGUST, SEPT'BER, OCTOBER, NOV'BER, DEC'BER. Rows include various bond types like Peop's G.-L.&C., MISCELLANEOUS, TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE, MANUFACTURING AND INDUSTRIAL, and COAL AND IRON.

1901.

Table with columns: BONDS, JANUARY, FEBR'RY, MARCH, APRIL, MAY, JUNE, JULY, AUGUST, SEPT'BER, OCTOBER, NOV'BER, DEC'BER. Rows include various bond types like Ala. Mid.-See S.F. & W., Ann Arbor, Aitch. Top. & S. Fe., etc.

1901-Continued.

Table with columns for months (January to December) and rows for various railroad bonds, including Chesapeake & Ohio, Chicago & Alton, and others. Each entry shows low and high values for each month.

1901—Continued.

Table with columns for months (JANUARY to DEC'BER) and rows for various bond types (e.g., Cl. Cin. Chic. & St. L., Cairo Div., etc.) showing price ranges (Low, High) for each month.

1901-Continued.

Table with columns for months (JANUARY to DEC'BER) and rows for various bonds. Each month column contains two sub-columns: 'Low' and 'High'. Rows list bond names like 'Rio Gr. West'n-1st.4', 'Utah Cent., 1st, '17.4', etc., with their corresponding price ranges.

1901-Continued.

Table with columns for months (JANUARY to DECEMBER) and rows for various bond categories including Tex. & N. O., Union Pacific, Wabash, Street Railway, Gas and Electric, and others. Each cell contains numerical values representing bond prices or yields.

1901—Concluded.

Table with columns for months (JANUARY to DEC'BER) and rows for various bond categories including MISCELLANEOUS, TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE, MANUFACTURING AND INDUSTRIAL, and COAL AND IRON.

1902.

Table with columns for months (JANUARY to DEC'BER) and rows for various bond categories including Ala. Mid., Ann Arbor, A. T. & S. Fe., Buf. Roch. & Pittab., C. B. U. Pac., and others.

1902-Continued.

Table with columns for months (JANUARY to DEC'BER) and rows for various bond issues (e.g., Cl. Cin. Chic. & St. L., Gen'l., Cairo Div., 1st, '39.4). Each cell contains numerical values representing bond prices and yields.

1902—Continued.

Table with columns for months (JANUARY to DEC'BER) and rows for various bond issues (e.g., Pittsb. Y. & Ash., Reading-Gen., Jersey Cent., etc.). Each cell contains numerical values representing bond prices and yields.

1902-Continued.

Table with columns for Bonds, January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November, and December. Each month column contains 'Low' and 'High' values. Rows include various bond types such as Term'l Ass'n of St. L., Texas & Pacific, Toledo & Ohio Cent'l, Union Pacific, and Street Railway.

1902—Concluded.

Table with columns for months (JANUARY to DECEMBER) and rows for various bond categories including MISCELLANEOUS, TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE, MANUFACTURING AND INDUSTRIAL, and COAL AND IRON. Each cell contains low and high price values.

1903.

Table with columns for months (JANUARY to DECEMBER) and rows for various bond categories including Ala. Mid., Ann Arbor, Atch. Top. & S. Fe., Buffalo & Pittsb., Cent. RR. & B., Chesapeake & Ohio, etc. Each cell contains low and high price values.

1903-Continued.

Table with columns for months (JANUARY to DEC'BER) and rows for various bond types (e.g., Leh. Val. Term, Long Island, Louisville & Nashv., Mo. Kan. & Texas, Missouri Pacific, N.Y. Cent'l & Hud. R.). Each cell contains numerical values representing bond prices for that month.

1903-Continued.

Table with columns for months (JANUARY to DECEMBER) and rows for various bond types (e.g., Sav. Fla. & West., Ala. Mid., Sil. Sp. O. & G., etc.). Each cell contains numerical values representing bond prices or yields.

1903-Continued.

Table with columns: BONDS, JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH, APRIL, MAY, JUNE, JULY, AUGUST, SEPT'BER, OCTOBER, NOV'BER, DEC'BER. Each month has a sub-column for Low and High values. Rows include West. N. Y. & Pa., B.R.C. & S., Kings Co. Elev., Brooklyn Rap. Trans., Gas and Electric, and Miscellaneous bonds.

1903—Concluded.

Table with columns for months (JANUARY to DEC'BER.) and rows for various bonds including U.S. Leather, U.S. Shipb., U.S. St. Corp., COAL AND IRON, Col. Fuel, Col. F. & I., Jeff. & Cl. C., Tenn. Coal Iron & Ry., and Va. Iron C. & C.

1904.

Table with columns for months (JANUARY to DEC'BER.) and rows for various bonds including Ala. Cent., Ann Arbor, Atl. Coast Line, Baltimore & Ohio, Can. South'n, Chesapeake & Ohio, Chicago & Alton, and others.

1904-Continued.

Table with columns for months (JANUARY to DEC'BER) and rows for various bond issues (e.g., C. C. C. & St. L., C. C. C. & I., Peo. & E., etc.). Each cell contains price ranges (Low, High) for that month.



1904-Continued.

Table with columns for months (JANUARY to DEC'BER) and rows for various bonds (e.g., Nash. Chatt. & St. L., National of Mexico, West Shore, etc.). Each cell contains numerical values representing bond prices and yields.

1904—Concluded.

Table with columns for months (JANUARY to DEC'BER) and rows for various bonds (MILW. GAS-L., N.Y. EL. LT. H. & P., etc.) and miscellaneous items (ADAMS EXPRESS, B'KLYN FER., etc.). Each cell contains price ranges for low and high values.

PRICES OF STOCKS ON THE NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE.

1900.

Table with columns for months (JANUARY to DEC'BER) and rows for various stocks (RAILROADS, ALBANY & SUSQUEH., ANN ARBOR, etc.). Each cell contains price ranges for low and high values.

1900 - Continued.

Table with columns for months (JANUARY to DEC'BER) and rows for various railroad stocks (e.g., Chic. Ind. & Louisv., Chic. Milw. & St. Paul., etc.). Each cell contains price ranges (Low-High) for that month.

* 1st instalment paid.

* All assessments paid.

* 25c. paid.

1900-Continued.

Table with columns for months (JANUARY to DECEMBER) and rows for various stock categories including STOCKS, EXPRESS, COAL & MINING, and VARIOUS. Each cell contains price ranges (Low-High) for that month.

a Ex-rights.

1900—Concluded.

Table with columns for months (JANUARY to DECEMBER) and rows for various stocks including Federal Steel, Gas & Elec. of Berg Co., General Electric, etc.

1901.

Table with columns for months (JANUARY to DECEMBER) and rows for RAILROADS including Ann Arbor, Atchison Top. & S. Fe., Balt. & O. vot. tr. off., etc.

b Ex dividend and rights; rights sold in February at 3/4 to 4/4. c Trust receipts.

1901-Continued.

Table with columns for STOCKS, JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH, APRIL, MAY, JUNE, JULY, AUGUST, SEPT'BER, OCTOBER, NOV'BER, DEC'BER. Rows include various stock categories like Reading vot. tr. certs., Rensselaer & Saratoga, St. Louis Southwest'n., etc.

EXPRESS.

Table listing express companies: Adams, American, United States, Wells, Fargo & Co. with price ranges for each month.

COAL & MINING.

Table listing coal and mining stocks: Amalgamated Copper, Anaconda Copper, Colorado Fuel & Iron, etc.

VARIOUS.

Table listing various stocks: Amer. Agric. Chemical, American Beet Sugar, Amer. Bicycle, Amer. Car & Foundry, etc.

1 Par \$25 per share; prices are dollars per share—not per cent. a Trust receipts. b Ex-rights.

1902.

Table with columns for months (JANUARY to DECBER.) and rows for various railroad stocks (e.g., Ann Arbor, Atchison Top. & S. Fe., Baltimore & Ohio, etc.). Each cell contains price ranges for Low and High values.

a 200/4 Ex-rights.

b Ex-rights.

* 20% paid.

+ 80% paid.

00% paid.

b Ex-rights

| 50% paid.

| 80% paid.

1902-Continued

Table with columns for STOCKS, JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH, APRIL, MAY, JUNE, JULY, AUGUST, SEPT'BER, OCTOBER, NOV'BER, DEC'BER. Rows include various stock names like Morris & Essex, Nashv. Chatt. & St. L., Nat. of Mex., etc., and sections for EXPRESS, COAL & MINING, and VARIOUS.

* Illinois Central stock trust certificates † Ex-rights.

1902-Continued.

Table with columns for months (JANUARY to DEC'BER) and rows for various stocks (e.g., Amer. Hide & Leather, American Ice Co., etc.). Each cell contains price ranges (Low/High).

b Ex-stock dividend. + Ex rights.

1902—Concluded.

Table with columns for STOCKS, JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH, APRIL, MAY, JUNE, JULY, AUGUST, SEPT. BER., OCTOBER, NOV. BER., DEC. BER. and sub-columns for Low and High prices.

1903.

Table with columns for STOCKS, JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH, APRIL, MAY, JUNE, JULY, AUGUST, SEPT. BER., OCTOBER, NOV. BER., DEC. BER. and sub-columns for Low and High prices. Includes a sub-section for RAILROADS.

† Ex-rights.

1903—Continued.

Table with columns for months (JANUARY to DEC'BER) and rows for various stocks (e.g., Iowa Central, Lake Erie & Western, etc.) and express companies (Adams, American, etc.). Each cell contains price ranges (Low/High).

* Illinois Central stock trust certificates.

† Ex-rights.

‡ Ex-dividend and rights.

1903—Concluded.

Table of stock prices for 1903, including columns for months (JANUARY to DEC'BER) and stock names (e.g., N. Y. Dock, N. Y. & N. J. Teleph., etc.).

+ Ex-rights.

1904.

Table of stock prices for 1904, including columns for months (JANUARY to DEC'BER) and stock names (e.g., RAILROADS, Albany & Susquehan, Allegh. & West., etc.).

a Ex-rights.

b 1st

1st paid.

1904-Continued.

Table with columns for months (JANUARY to DECEMBER) and rows for various stock categories (STOCKS, EXPRESS, COAL & MINING, VARIOUS) listing company names and their price ranges.

c Ex-right ts.

1904—Concluded.

Table with columns for months (JANUARY to DEC'BER) and rows for various stocks (General Chemical, General Electric, etc.) and bonds (Am. Bell Telep., Am. Steel Corporation, etc.). Each cell contains low and high price ranges.

PRICES OF STOCKS AND BONDS IN BOSTON, PHILADELPHIA AND BALTIMORE.

Below we give the highest and lowest prices of bonds and stocks at the Stock Exchanges in Boston, Philadelphia and Baltimore for each month of 1904, taking, in all cases, actual sales as the basis of compilation.

BOSTON BONDS IN 1904.

Table with columns for months (JANUARY to DEC'BER) and rows for various bonds (Am. Bell Telep., Am. Steel Corporation, etc.). Each cell contains low and high price ranges.

BOSTON STOCKS IN 1904--CONTINUED.

Table listing various stocks (e.g., Boston & Maine, Chic. Mil. & St. P., etc.) with columns for months (JANUARY to DECEMBER) and price ranges (Low/High).

a Ex dividend and rights.

BOSTON STOCKS IN 1904—CONCLUDED.

Table with columns for STOCKS, JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH, APRIL, MAY, JUNE, JULY, AUGUST, SEPT. BER., OCTOBER, NOV. BER., DEC. BER. Each column contains price ranges (Low-High) for various stocks.

a Assessment paid.

+ EX rights.

PHILADELPHIA STOCKS IN 1904—CONTINUED.

Table with columns for months (JANUARY to DEC'BER) and rows for various stocks (e.g., Consol. L. Superior, Reorg. Cts., East Pennsylv., Electric Co. of Amer., etc.). Each cell contains price ranges for that month.

* Ex dividend. † Ex-rights. c \$15 paid. ‡ Receipts. § \$50 paid. ¶ Warrants sold in October at 5 to 9¢.

PHILADELPHIA STOCKS IN 1904—CONCLUDED.

Table with columns: STOCKS, JANUARY, FEBR'RY, MARCH, APRIL, MAY, JUNE, JULY, AUGUST, SEPT'BER, OCTOBER, NOV'BER, DEC'BER. Rows include West Phila. Pass, Westmoreland Coal, Lehigh Navigation, etc.

* Ex dividend.

BALTIMORE BONDS IN 1904.

Table with columns: BONDS, JANUARY, FEBR'RY, MARCH, APRIL, MAY, JUNE, JULY, AUGUST, SEPT'BER, OCTOBER, NOV'BER, DEC'BER. Rows include Ala. Coal & Iron, Albany & No., Anacostia & Poto., etc.

BALTIMORE BONDS IN 1904—CONCLUDED.

Table of Baltimore Bonds in 1904, listing bond types (e.g., Petersburg-Class A, Philadelphia Co., etc.) and their performance across months from January to December, including low and high values.

BALTIMORE STOCKS IN 1904.

Table of Baltimore Stocks in 1904, listing various stock companies (e.g., Ala. Con. Coal, Atl. Coast L., Balt. & Annap. Sh. L., etc.) and their performance across months from January to December, including prices per share.