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## CLEARINGS—FOR MARCH FOR FOUR YEARS, AND FOR WEEK ENDING APRIL 3.

Clearings at—	March.			Three Months.			Week ending April 3.				
	1915.	1914.	Inc. or Dec.	1915.	1914.	Inc. or Dec.	1915.	1914.	Inc. or Dec.	1913.	1912.
	\$	\$	%	\$	\$	%	\$	\$	%	\$	\$
New York	7,565,113,702	7,849,590,045	-3.6	21,334,632,782	24,458,965,920	-12.8	1,869,506,436	2,218,172,053	-16.7	2,038,159,476	2,079,306,086
Philadelphia	659,003,179	670,750,265	-1.6	1,897,628,091	2,078,217,733	-8.7	159,383,113	191,211,973	-16.6	183,963,515	152,101,719
Baltimore	202,582,577	225,931,373	-9.5	536,778,916	645,701,529	-16.6	41,818,182	56,020,403	-25.3	66,370,805	52,161,088
Buffalo	155,343,131	154,870,629	+0.6	482,042,704	457,552,145	+5.5	30,468,463	39,563,364	-22.9	41,383,633	34,955,721
Washington	43,327,586	48,158,805	-10.0	137,253,991	145,673,934	-5.8	9,630,070	11,444,791	-15.8	12,145,976	11,398,565
Albany	34,105,093	33,129,387	+3.2	95,189,327	96,724,864	-1.6	7,992,450	8,476,523	-6.8	8,471,265	6,032,244
Rochester	21,828,761	26,294,071	-17.0	68,272,028	82,728,765	-16.3	5,476,547	7,091,315	-22.8	6,434,475	6,903,983
Syracuse	20,306,117	19,375,162	+5.7	56,815,683	63,323,208	-10.2	5,680,492	7,424,881	-23.5	6,713,540	6,071,885
Reading	13,741,503	13,479,231	+2.0	36,103,275	37,919,788	-4.7	3,219,502	4,011,576	-19.7	3,315,043	3,100,261
Wilmington	7,517,776	8,328,161	-9.8	20,300,539	22,376,821	-7.1	2,014,293	3,230,793	-37.6	2,797,124	2,945,580
Wilkes-Barre	6,669,360	6,114,468	+9.1	20,377,670	19,400,508	+5.1	1,644,448	2,208,350	-25.5	1,895,132	1,682,253
Wheeling	8,344,140	8,232,022	+1.3	22,807,300	27,375,781	-16.4	1,990,000	2,675,196	-24.8	2,671,995	2,106,676
Lancaster	7,228,002	7,555,026	+0.9	18,641,663	19,484,440	-4.3	5,785,158	6,702,207	-13.7	7,248,229	6,995,950
Trenton	7,881,706	7,624,623	+3.4	22,184,664	23,283,371	-4.7	1,446,724	1,900,843	-23.9	1,914,995	1,664,298
Harrisburg	7,060,598	6,310,088	+11.3	19,910,152	19,066,827	+4.4	1,250,089	1,016,232	-22.3	1,708,463	1,878,006
York	3,908,316	3,800,966	+2.8	10,712,848	11,041,176	-3.0	882,976	1,026,198	-14.0	1,110,821	938,680
Elizabethtown	4,213,202	4,565,054	-7.7	11,833,668	13,524,483	-14.6	589,700	755,500	-22.4	789,700	712,100
Binghamton	2,295,635	3,194,964	-12.5	8,407,318	8,781,918	-4.2	599,466	874,197	-32.0	588,001	547,104
Chester	2,523,911	2,885,594	-6.1	7,562,859	8,370,627	-9.6	454,104	455,709	-0.4	858,481	581,864
Altoona	2,312,374	2,414,719	-4.2	6,473,415	7,078,789	-8.5	625,051	625,051	-15.2	565,045	388,536
Franklin	978,353	1,380,964	-29.1	2,747,140	4,351,944	-36.0	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Frederick	1,559,000	1,351,878	+13.2	4,277,979	3,805,314	+13.5	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Beaver County, Pa.	1,067,879	1,233,157	-7.2	6,424,883	7,061,883	-9.0	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Norristown	2,074,971	2,097,066	-1.1	5,698,715	5,928,037	-3.4	354,881	425,176	-16.7	386,517	-----
Montclair	1,669,150	1,747,752	-4.5	5,505,831	5,638,211	-2.4	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Orange	3,510,110	Not included	-----	10,423,102	Not included	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Middle	8,807,088,848	9,133,821,965	-3.6	24,928,329,362	28,351,218,104	-12.1	2,155,379,853	2,571,153,510	-16.2	2,393,810,909	2,381,113,490
Boston	652,705,173	678,904,744	-3.8	1,854,817,677	2,063,720,574	-10.1	170,502,263	191,773,344	-11.1	186,687,944	217,714,345
Providence	31,378,600	33,195,360	-5.3	93,167,000	104,875,900	-11.2	8,505,400	8,945,000	-4.9	8,545,700	9,450,100
Hartford	28,659,610	22,197,310	+29.1	81,046,111	68,893,613	+17.6	5,898,215	6,659,363	-11.9	5,144,314	6,090,656
New Haven	15,926,586	12,976,738	+23.1	45,117,133	41,350,163	+9.1	3,656,181	3,580,710	+2.1	3,851,801	2,172,311
Springfield	12,931,331	12,406,891	+4.3	38,794,063	36,075,033	+7.5	3,561,332	3,734,045	-4.8	3,232,066	3,115,588
Portland	8,011,519	8,613,526	-6.9	23,209,621	25,327,769	-8.4	1,890,401	2,141,660	-11.7	2,671,661	2,696,428
Worcester	11,466,312	12,272,962	-6.0	31,300,624	34,273,783	-8.7	3,016,212	2,958,607	+19.0	2,999,241	4,305,402
Fall River	7,529,246	5,965,114	+25.3	15,532,437	16,354,950	-5.0	1,291,825	1,355,675	-4.7	1,323,686	1,642,249
New Bedford	4,508,447	5,114,140	-11.8	12,788,995	14,776,324	-13.5	1,121,997	1,144,083	-2.0	1,063,513	1,041,950
Holyoke	1,967,077	3,143,196	-38.0	9,213,277	9,165,171	+0.5	890,887	877,945	+1.5	801,511	763,826
Lowell	3,337,022	3,097,424	+7.4	9,493,204	9,535,527	-0.4	760,000	768,131	-2.4	631,907	571,788
Bangor	1,677,033	1,824,958	-8.1	4,943,212	5,232,202	-6.9	416,546	509,541	-18.2	622,665	682,670
Waterbury	4,529,400	4,048,500	+11.9	13,659,500	12,479,800	+8.8	201,800,309	224,348,094	-10.2	217,274,109	250,437,321
Total New England	783,254,132	803,784,905	-2.6	2,228,098,985	2,442,640,259	-7.7	207,200,301	232,383,182	-13.0	208,162,405	297,828,794
Chicago	1,380,313,210	1,493,330,412	-7.2	3,858,820,999	4,180,642,883	-8.2	297,042,000	26,978,500	+7.7	23,388,150	30,319,850
Cincinnati	113,045,150	119,215,700	-5.2	319,236,600	357,571,900	-10.8	31,321,316	36,594,206	-4.1	27,277,081	20,521,067
Cleveland	120,622,812	101,870,812	+17.9	320,938,462	317,073,972	+1.2	33,145,363	25,407,297	-8.9	24,749,208	10,537,760
Detroit	196,937,905	171,404,338	+14.3	519,597,003	490,776,132	+5.5	14,000,000	15,445,352	-9.4	14,352,314	11,234,884
Milwaukee	69,234,605	71,230,878	-2.8	219,597,003	220,476,132	-0.4	6,974,438	7,655,985	-9.1	6,622,922	7,429,300
Indianapolis	33,971,915	32,426,193	+4.8	101,791,222	99,143,614	+2.9	6,974,438	7,655,985	-9.1	6,622,922	7,429,300
Columbus	28,933,300	30,627,800	-5.5	78,193,300	92,435,800	-15.4	5,095,284	5,512,471	-7.6	4,067,827	4,303,660
Toledo	26,002,721	26,760,633	-2.8	74,160,106	76,537,447	-3.1	3,078,519	3,594,839	-14.4	4,048,708	3,148,928
Peoria	14,248,632	14,182,760	+0.4	40,368,273	43,730,208	-7.7	3,143,596	3,228,144	-2.7	3,246,674	3,147,080
Grand Rapids	14,248,632	14,182,760	+0.4	40,368,273	43,730,208	-7.7	3,143,596	3,228,144	-2.7	3,246,674	3,147,080
Dayton	9,035,978	11,292,883	-20.0	26,620,654	34,691,661	-23.1	2,099,749	2,461,445	-18.4	1,015,665	2,402,727
Evansville	5,255,608	5,034,625	+4.4	14,731,482	16,441,549	-10.4	1,088,115	1,172,205	-7.2	1,015,666	1,124,640
Kalamazoo	2,583,285	2,709,577	-4.7	7,319,039	7,988,758	-8.1	549,608	624,456	-11.8	932,620	719,888
Springfield, Ill.	5,887,901	5,812,835	+1.3	17,134,098	15,985,918	+7.0	1,185,146	1,412,276	-16.2	1,200,110	1,206,775
Fort Wayne	5,989,332	5,914,237	+1.3	16,648,389	15,842,452	+4.8	1,255,623	1,363,862	-9.9	1,121,075	1,188,530
Lexington	4,171,465	3,455,139	+20.7	12,514,474	12,387,427	+1.0	752,553	634,906	+18.6	911,141	1,381,775
Youngstown	6,227,140	6,670,279	-5.1	16,563,482	19,358,852	-14.4	1,225,445	1,446,808	-15.3	1,549,199	1,071,438
Rockford	5,093,432	4,901,295	+3.9	12,157,595	12,672,767	-7.7	882,528	983,498	-10.5	840,226	827,169
Bloomington	4,339,743	4,319,935	+0.5	10,565,531	9,875,298	+6.7	837,974	956,003	-12.4	873,184	736,860
Quincy	4,694,833	4,713,000	-0.4	11,904,459	12,744,543	-12.3	837,974	956,003	-12.4	873,184	736,860
Akron	7,490,000	7,213,000	+3.7	20,625,000	21,558,000	-4.3	1,441,000	1,830,000	-21.3	1,796,000	1,720,000
Canton	8,538,980	7,229,733	+18.1	22,878,214	19,809,922	+15.5	1,709,000	1,969,916	-13.7	1,707,262	1,663,136
Decatur	2,072,998	2,267,141	-10.5	5,861,565	6,490,631	-9.7	466,990	551,125	-16.4	603,952	591,977
Springfield, Ohio	3,456,104	3,379,490	+2.3	10,701,322	10,635,630	+0.6	821,725	660,807	+23.6	711,706	596,127
South Bend	1,429,740	1,429,740	-----	4,146,660	4,146,660	-----	598,172	660,807	+5.7	740,654	596,127
Manassas	2,778,274	2,408,154	+15.4	7,731,773	6,294,299	+23.3	503,222	584,761	-13.9	370,187	428,523
Danville	2,914,431	2,640,000	+10.4	6,497,773	6,737,942	-3.6	796,754	796,443	+0.04	646,806	716,687
Jackson	2,447,409	2,118,700	+15.5	6,557,988	6,384,870	+2.7	350,000	292,749	+19.5	620,000	480,000
Jacksonville, Ill.	1,849,437	1,647,481	+12.3	3,994,941	4,373,729	-9.2	238,243	270,751	-11.8	323,710	279,696
Lansing	2,346,775	2,182,765	+7.3	6,471,288	6,208,304	+4.3	350,000	350,000	-----	300,000	300,000
Lima	1,499,958	1,992,369	-3.0	5,405,409	6,097,460	-11.3	447,788	544,910	-17.8	470,844	488,276
Owensboro	1,103,145	1,470,558	-24.9								

*THE FINANCIAL SITUATION.*

The performances now being witnessed on the Stock Exchange cannot be viewed with unconcern. The element of artificiality in them is altogether too patent to be ignored. That there is warrant for a considerable improvement from the low level of values reached following the outbreak of war in Europe, no competent student of events would deny. This statement is not intended to carry the inference that domestic trade is in satisfactory shape, but at least affairs in this country have become adjusted to a state of war, and moreover the war has, for the time being, conferred important benefits upon the United States. Then, also, hostility on the part of the politicians towards railroads and towards business undertakings is apparently abating. All this makes for stability and security, and tends to promote confidence in the integrity and merit of the country's activities. The Stock Exchange, when not subject to pernicious outside influences, is a barometer that can be trusted to reflect changes of this kind in sentiment and in conditions. In that sense and under such circumstances a rising market for security values at the present juncture may be regarded as resting on perfectly valid considerations.

What is going on at the Stock Exchange, however, is of a different order. The improvement in the situation is being used as the lever for boosting prices with a dazzling recklessness. If one may judge from Stock Exchange records, manipulation is the governing factor in the speculation. We notice that some Stock Exchange people are quoted as saying that manipulation is out of the question; that it is forbidden by law; that, moreover, there is a tax of \$4 on each 100 shares of stock sold, and that this is so large that it has shut out the room traders from actively participating in stock speculation. It may be admitted that this is no room traders' market, and we are not asserting that the Governors of the Stock Exchange are a party to the movement. It is perfectly obvious that the present gigantic operations are being conducted from outside the Exchange, but this is not to say that it is beyond the power of the Exchange to keep the movement within proper bounds. If there is no manipulation, how is the sudden avalanche of buying orders in stocks previously dormant to be accounted for, or how can the concentration of efforts on particular stocks be explained?

For the time being the Stock Exchange atmosphere is redolent of the days of Hocking Coal & Iron and of International Power. Many of the stocks which have been taken hold of and whirled up so furiously must be assumed to have considerable intrinsic merit, but their worth remains to be tested, and in the meantime future prospects are being discounted with a freedom that staggers the beholder. This would have to be the comment if the upward swing of prices could be regarded as the result of legitimate investment or even speculative buying. As it is, the spectacular movements now being conducted on the Exchange cannot be dignified by any such appellation. Furthermore, if stocks like Bethlehem Steel and General Motors, which have been most conspicuous in the skyrocketing, may be classed as belonging to the better type of such properties, there are many others which have also become tools in the hands of the manipulators that belong in a wholly different category.

It is significant that until yesterday the so-called standard stocks, having long records behind them, received little attention at the hands of those who are engineering the movement. It is the specialties that are the subjects of their efforts, and particularly the industrial specialties. It is furthermore significant that nearly all of the specialties which have been thus taken in hand are non-dividend payers, but as to which it is possible to excite the imagination with alluring promises of large returns in the future, albeit the managements of these properties are far more careful in their prognostications of the future than are those who are manipulating market values of the same. Some of these properties, it may be granted, have a reasonably sure chance of dividends sooner or later, but still others seem more likely to get an Irish dividend in the shape of an assessment.

The most unfortunate feature is that such tactics as are now being pursued are sure to drive the outside public away, thus destroying chances of a lasting, sustained improvement in security values which would be of inestimable service, not only in financial circles, but to the whole business world, in stimulating enterprise. When stocks are made to jump 30 points in a single day, as was Bethlehem Steel common on Thursday, when the price was raised from 88 in the morning to 117 in the afternoon, and when prices fluctuate 3 or 5 or even 10 points between sales, the outsider can come to but one conclusion, namely that his safest course is to remain on the outside and leave the game to the habitués.

The movement has now been continued for several successive weeks; and with each succeeding day the manipulators have been getting more bold, until the present week it seemed as if, frenzied by success, they had now completely lost their heads, and become possessed with the idea that there was no limit or bound to which their daring and recklessness might not go without risk of ill-consequences. As the best way of indicating the extent to which quotations have been advanced, we have prepared the following table. It shows the prices on April 1 of last year (before the great break), the lowest price the current year, the high on the present movement and the closing quotations yesterday afternoon. We have arranged the stocks in two groups, putting the railroads in one group and the industrial and miscellaneous in another.

	Price April 1 1914.	Low This Year.	High on Present Movement.	Close April 9.
<i>Railroads.</i>				
Ach Top & Santa Fe, com.	96 3/4	92 1/2	Feb. 24 101 1/2	April 9 101 3/4
Baltimore & Ohio, common	61 1/2	63 3/4	Feb. 25 74 1/2	April 9 74 3/4
Bklyn. Rapid Trans., com.	92 3/4	84 1/2	Jan. 6 91 1/2	April 9 91
Canadian Pacific, common	207 3/4	215 3/4	Mar. 1 167 1/2	April 9 167 1/2
Chesapeake & Ohio, com.	53 3/4	40	Feb. 23 46 3/4	April 9 46 1/2
Chic. Milw. & St. P., com.	100 3/4	83 1/4	Feb. 23 92	April 9 91 1/4
Chicago & N. W., common	133 3/4	121	Mar. 3 129	April 9 129
Chic. Rock Isl. & Pac., com.	157 1/2	18 1/2	Mar. 1 36 3/4	Mar. 31 35 1/4
Great Northern, preferred	127 1/4	112 3/4	Jan. 2 120 1/2	April 6 118 3/4
Lehigh Valley, common	144 3/4	129 3/4	Feb. 24 141 1/2	April 9 140
Louisv. & Nashv., common	137	110	Mar. 1 120 1/2	April 9 120
N. Y. Cent. & H. R., com.	91	81 1/2	Mar. 1 87 3/4	April 9 87 3/4
N. Y. N. H. & Hart., com.	69 3/4	43	Feb. 25 62 1/2	Mar. 31 61 1/2
Norfolk & Western, common	103 3/4	98 3/4	Jan. 4 105	April 9 104 3/4
Northern Pacific, common	114 3/4	98 3/4	Feb. 24 107 3/4	April 9 109 3/4
Pennsylvania, common	111 3/4	103 3/4	Feb. 24 108 3/4	April 9 108 3/4
Reading, common	166 3/4	140 3/4	Feb. 24 151 1/2	April 9 151 1/2
Southern Pacific Co., com.	95 1/4	81 1/4	Feb. 5 90 3/4	April 9 90 3/4
Southern v. t. c., stamped	26	12 3/4	Feb. 24 19 3/4	April 9 19 3/4
Union Pacific, common	159 3/4	115 3/4	Jan. 2 120 3/4	April 9 129 3/4
<i>Indus. &amp; Miscellaneous.</i>				
Allis-Chalmers Mfg., v. t. c.	12 bid	7 3/4	Jan. 12 13 3/4	April 9 13
Preferred, v. t. c.	45 1/2	33	Feb. 10 56	April 9 51
Amer. Beet Sugar, common	23 bid	33 1/4	Jan. 6 46 3/4	April 9 46 1/4
Amer. Cotton Oil, common	43 1/2 bd	39	Jan. 4 50	April 9 49
Bethlehem Steel, common	42	46 3/4	Jan. 2 117	April 8 112
General Motors, v. t. c.	76 3/4	82	Jan. 2 147 1/2	April 9 147
Goodrich Co. (B. F.) com.	23 3/4	24 1/4	Jan. 7 53	April 9 52
Maxwell Motors, Inc., tr. ctf.	-----	15 1/2	Jan. 6 47 3/4	April 9 47 3/4
1st pref. stock trust ctf.	-----	43 1/4	Jan. 2 87	April 6 85 1/2
2d pref. stock trust ctf.	-----	18	Jan. 6 41 1/2	April 6 39 3/4
National Lead, common	45 bid	44	Jan. 4 65	Mar. 31 63 1/4
Rumely Co. (M.), common	10 3/4	7 1/2	Jan. 22 5 1/4	April 9 4 1/2
Preferred	28 3/4	25 1/2	Jan. 20 14	April 9 12
Studebaker Corp. (The), com.	36 3/4	35 3/4	Jan. 2 69 1/4	April 9 67 3/4
United States Rubber, com.	62 1/4	51 1/2	Jan. 2 74	April 9 73
U. S. Steel Corp., common	64	38	Feb. 1 57	April 9 57
Willvs-Overland (The), com.	-----	87	Feb. 23 135	April 8 132

The record here presented certainly suggests caution. The railroad stocks, barring a few exceptions, still sell considerably below their prices of twelve months ago. In the case of the industrial group, however, the rise has been simply phenomenal. The situation is one that appears to be fraught with great peril. Broader considerations also suggest the exercise of special care. The war in Europe continues actively in progress and it behooves us to be prepared for possible unpleasant eventualities. All the leading countries of Europe are becoming each day more deeply burdened with debt and the Bank of England's reserve to liabilities is down to only a little over 18%. Our own financial house is in good order, but an upheaval on the Stock Exchange might easily be attended with serious consequences.

The winter-wheat condition report of the Department of Agriculture for April 1, made public on Wednesday, while not indicating as high a status of the crop now as at the same time last year, nevertheless reveals a situation a little above the average at even date, and officially and privately is interpreted as promising a yield well in excess of any former season except 1914. The report issued in December 1914 showed a planting 11.1% greater than in the fall of 1913, with the condition 8.9 points below that season and 2 points under the ten-year average. Now condition is stated as 0.5 point better than in December, 6.8 points lower than last year and 1.2 points above the 10-year average. Speaking briefly, the lack of snow covering in March in Atlantic Coast sections was responsible for more than average deterioration this year, but in the western part of the grain belt improvement is to be noted. In the central section condition declined somewhat, although no more than usual, but the prevalence of the Hessian fly in some districts causes a little anxiety. As regards the extent of area abandoned on account of winter-killing, nothing official will be promulgated until May, but it is not believed to have been more than normal.

The general average of condition this year is put at 88.8, against 88.3 Dec. 1 1914 and 95.6 on April 1 a year ago, with the ten-year average 87.6. Assuming the par, or 100% normal condition, on April 1, to be approximately 16.9 bushels per acre, a condition of 88.8 as now announced would point to an outturn of 15 bushels, says the Crop-Reporting Board of the Department of Agriculture, presaging from the 41,263,000 acres estimated as seeded last fall a total production of 618,945,000 bushels. Considering the fact, however, that 15 bushels per acre is below the average production of recent years, this estimate is certain to prove too low unless future weather conditions should be decidedly adverse. Last year's yield from a very much smaller area was 685 million bushels, or an average of 19 bushels per acre, and in 1913 the average product was 16.5 bushels, condition then being only 2.8 points better than now.

Bank clearings for March make a better comparison with the like period of the previous year than was observable in either January or February, the aggregate for the United States as a whole showing only a very moderate decrease and the total outside of this city falling less than 2% below the high record

of the third month a year ago. A more optimistic feeling has been in evidence in trade circles for some time past, and has made increased headway since the adjournment of Congress.

This year's aggregate of clearings for March reaches \$13,842,660,705, this contrasting with \$14,253,004,652 in 1914 and exhibiting, therefore, a loss of 2.9%; compared with 1913 the falling off is not quite so great—2.2%. For the first quarter of 1915, the total, at \$39,228,278,940, is 9.4% less than a year ago and a little more than 10% behind 1913. At New York the decreases from 1914 are 3.6% and 12.8% respectively, for the month and three months. Outside of this city the 1915 result for the month is, as intimated above, very close to last year's record, declining but 1.9%, and exceeds all earlier years. The quarter's aggregate, however, is 5.1% under 1914. Analyzed by groups, the aggregates for the period since January 1 are found to be smaller than in 1914 in all sections except the "Other West", where a gain of 15.8% is disclosed. The Middle group, exclusive of New York, shows a decline of 7.7%, New England 8.8% (but outside of Boston, only 1.5%), the Middle West 7.4%, the Pacific Slope 5.7% and the South 7.6%. But, while the general result for the first quarter of 1915 is less favorable than a year ago, 110 out of 160 cities recording losses, notable percentages of increases are not entirely lacking. They are in evidence at Kansas City, Minneapolis, Duluth, Wichita and Fargo in the West, Galveston, Oklahoma and El Paso at the South and Hartford in the East.

Transactions on the New York Stock Exchange during March 1915, at 7,862,308 shares, were of greater magnitude than in any month since trading was resumed, quite a little in excess of the period in 1914 and 1913 and very close to the total of July last year. The course of values was upward on the whole, with substantial advances in many issues in the closing days. The sales for the three months at 17,321,967 shares, however, are the smallest for the first quarter since 1897 and less than one-third of the total in 1910. Greater activity in bonds is to be noted than in March of 1914, the sales of all classes totaling 63¼ million dollars par value, against 60½ millions, but for the three months the dealings were only 164 millions, against 219½ millions. Boston sales for the month of 1,031,066 shares compare with 501,989 shares in March 1914.

While the European war, coupled with depression at home, continued to be prime factors in restricting the volume of clearings in Canada, in March the exhibit made was much less unfavorable than in either January or February. Altogether, we have returns from 22 cities for March (Winnipeg, Ottawa, and St. Johns recording gains), and in the aggregate there is a loss from 1914 of 10.6%. For the three months the diminution from last year reaches 16.3%, with the most noteworthy percentages of loss at Vancouver, Victoria, Edmonton, Regina, Saskatoon, Fort William, New Westminster and Medicine Hat.

A total of insolvencies far in excess of the corresponding period of earlier years is a feature of the statement of failures for March 1915 as it was of preceding months of the current calendar year, but a considerable drop from January and February is to be noted in the volume of liabilities. For the quarter ended with March 31, however, the mercantile mortality and the aggregate indebtedness

ported were both much in excess of the similar period of any former year, and in only one three-months' period (the second quarter of the panic year 1893) were the liabilities of greater magnitude than in this opening quarter of 1915.

For some time past a relatively small number of failures have contributed a very considerable part of the indebtedness reported and this was clearly true of March, 17 in manufacturing lines, 13 in the trading division and 4 among brokers, &c., or 34 in all, out of 2,090, giving a total of liabilities about one-third of the grand aggregate. Locally, or in Greater New York, to be more exact, a dozen failures covered debts of over 2½ million dollars, or about one-ninth of the aggregate for the whole country. For the three months to the close of March but 113 disasters, or 1.6% of the whole, accounted for no less than 40% of the liabilities.

A comparatively few large failures having made up a great portion of the aggregate liabilities, it is obvious that the average debts of the remaining insolvents, 2,056 and 7,103 respectively, in number, were quite small. For the latest month they were, in fact, only \$7,809, and for the first quarter of 1915 but \$8,038, this being \$635 less than for 1914 and the lowest since 1909. Messrs. R. G. Dun & Co.'s statement shows that for the month of March 1915 the number of failures was 2,090, covering debts of \$23,658,130, against 1,464 for \$21,493,286 in 1914 and 1,190 for \$25,718,250 in 1913, with the exhibit least favorable in the trading group. For the first quarter the total of failed indebtedness is \$105,703,335, distributed among 7,216 insolvents, against \$83,221,826 and 4,826 in 1914 and \$76,832,277 and 4,458 in 1913. In manufacturing lines the liabilities at \$46,211,855 were some 11½ millions greater than a year ago, and even in excess of 1908, the Rumely failure in January alone furnishing a total of some 16 million dollars. Traders' indebtedness was 12¼ millions ahead of 1914, approximating 48¾ million dollars. Brokers' and agents' debts for the quarter of 1915, reaching \$10,179,341, were about 2 millions less than in the preceding year, although the number was very noticeably greater. Geographical analysis of the first quarter's returns indicates that in all the various sections into which the failures are segregated, insolvencies were more numerous than a year ago, with the exhibit especially adverse in that respect in the South Central, Middle Atlantic, South Atlantic and Central East groups. Liabilities, however, were less than last year in the Middle Atlantic, New England and Central Western divisions. Banking and kindred failures were only a little greater in number this year than last—55, comparing with 50—but liabilities were of considerably larger volume—\$17,128,836, against \$10,020,579.

The Canadian failures statement for the month and the quarter clearly reflect the effect of the European war upon the commercial and industrial affairs of the Dominion, although depression within the country itself, and disassociated with outside causes, has been more or less operative. For the first quarter of 1915, both in number and magnitude of debts, new high records have been set, 798 suspensions, involving \$15,636,915, against 620 and \$6,230,052 in 1914 and 408 and \$4,939,061 in 1913. Increases in all the various divisions are to be noted, with the trading branches most seriously affected. As regards the various provinces, stress was most severely felt in Quebec and British Columbia, where expansion

in liabilities of over 4 million dollars is shown in each instance.

While nothing of a definite character has been reported as to the work of the British expeditionary army operating in France, evidence has accumulated that the spring offensive is in active progress by the French and Russian troops. Fighting of the most severe kind is reported daily in both the Western and Eastern fields of military activities. Russian advices state that their troops are pressing forward into Hungary with the Austro-Germans in retreat at nearly every point, while the fierce drives of the French around St. Mihiel have caused the Germans to hurry re-enforcements, with which it had been planned to stem the Russian onslaughts in the Carpathians. Reports that seem to have substantial foundation are current suggesting that Hungary is in a state of terror as a result of the successful Russian invasion and is insisting that the Dual Monarchy seek a separate peace. A dispatch from Bucharest yesterday estimated that Austro-Hungarian losses in killed, wounded and prisoners in the defense of Hungary from invasion had reached a total exceeding 300,000. Of this, 100,000 represented prisoners. Berlin advices reflect the military belief there that the sudden offensive of the French troops around St. Mihiel was directly linked with the Russian advance upon the Carpathian passes. General Joffre's plan, it is said, is to keep the Kaiser's troops too busy to send additional forces to the retreating Austrians. This kind of strategy, according to the French, saved Warsaw from Von Hindenberg after the Russian defeat in the Mazurian Lakes. While the Slavs were falling back out of East Prussia in a disorganized retreat, their French Allies began swift attacks against the German trenches in Champagne. Von Hindenberg's call for re-enforcements could not be answered. Obviously, the plan of campaign of the near future will be joint attacks by the Allies on all sides of the Austro-German lines.

The contest in the Carpathians is being carried on with great fierceness. Although Austria claims that her troops, with the assistance of Germans, have gained successes on both sides of the Lavoroza Valley, the Russians seem much farther advanced than they were a week ago. They have definitely forced the Dukla, Lupkow and Rostock passes, and are pouring troops in the region of Uzsok Pass, where the heaviest battle is now in progress. In Bukowina the Austrians are thrusting at the Russian positions, with the hope of compelling the Russians to send re-enforcements from the Carpathians. In West Galicia and Poland the overflowing rivers and marshes are preventing movements on a large scale. These same conditions are reported by press dispatches to be hindering the French operations between the Meuse and Moselle rivers, a French official report stating that heavy rains have rendered the ground difficult for the movements of troops and the employment of artillery. Nevertheless, an important battle is in progress in this region, the French claiming to be making advances, though this is denied from German sources. The news from the Dardanelles is very meagre. Preparations on a large scale are being made by both France and England to land troops for the purpose of aiding the warships in opening up the Strait. Norwegian aviators are reported to have discovered that several

German submarines have been using a sheltered spot near Bergen Bay as a base. The submarines were ordered to leave at once or be interned for the war.

As to the active participation of at present neutral countries in the war, the week has been without results. Italy, Greece and Bulgaria have all been making spectacular preparations. Thus far, however the number of actual participants has not been increased. According to advices from Rome, the questions whether an understanding between Italy and Austria is still possible and whether a separate Austro-Russian peace treaty is in prospect are being discussed from different points of view by the press of that city. Italian papers agree that the two questions are closely related, since, if Russia, with the permission of her Allies, obtains what she desires, and comes to terms with Vienna, it is not logical to imagine that Austria will be willing to make territorial concessions to Italy. King Constantine of Greece is quoted by the "Tribuna" newspaper of Rome as saying in an interview that it is his belief that the Allies will find it impossible to force the Dardanelles without a combined attack by land and sea. He is said to have declared that Greece is in the same position as Italy and other nations which have made military preparations, but have not abandoned their neutrality. Advices from Paris state that the Allies are considering the advisability of opening fresh pourparlers with the Bulgarian Government to learn definitely what position that country intends to take in the European crisis.

After spectacular preparations to "dash to sea," Captain Thierichsen of the German sea raider Prinz Eitel Friedrich decided to intern for the remainder of the war. This decision was reached on Wednesday within a few hours of the limit set by the United States Government. The captain explained that he had expected aid in the shape of a German battleship or cruiser to draw off the British warships awaiting at the three-mile limit. The Eitel arrived at Norfolk on March 10 after a cruise of 5,000 miles from Tsing-Tao. She had 300 men, women and children on board taken from eleven merchant vessels she had sent to the bottom of the Ocean.

Great Britain has announced its intention of stopping all messages over cables under British control relating to trade in contraband or non-contraband, "to which any resident in an enemy country is one of the parties." This intention has been communicated to the United States Government through Ambassador Page at London. The interpretation of the communication accepted at Washington is that messages cannot now be sent from the United States to Italy or any other neutral country if they refer in any way to a transaction in which a resident of Germany, Austria or Turkey is interested. The memorandum declares that the "necessity for control of cables in its relation to matters which may be described generally as being of a purely naval or military nature is obvious, and needs no demonstration. In addition to this it is clear that in view of the great importance of restricting the enemies' supplies and withholding facilities from them for carrying on their trade, His Majesty's Government cannot be expected to afford the use of British cables to enable neutral and enemy countries to make arrangements with each

other for the conduct of that trade, and the principle upon which the censorship of commercial telegrams is conducted is to withhold so far as British cables are concerned all facilities for carrying on trade directly or indirectly with an enemy country."

Our State Department on Monday made public its note to Great Britain protesting against the embargo on all commercial intercourse between Germany and neutral countries. We print the note in full on a subsequent page and also make some editorial comment upon it in a separate article on another page. A note sent by the State Department to Germany, which was made public on Monday, asked Germany to pay \$228,059 for the sinking of the American sailing ship Wililam P. Frye by the German auxiliary Prinz Eitel Friedrich. Germany promptly replied and assumed full liability under the treaty of 1828, not only for the destruction of the vessel but of the cargo. Germany requires, however, that the case shall be taken before a prize court for the establishment of facts concerning ownership of ship and cargo. To this our State Department will assent.

Official reports received in Washington aver that Gen. Obregon has defeated Gen. Villa after an all-day battle at Selaya, near Queretaro, in the most important engagement of the latest Mexican revolt. State Department reports show that the fighting at Ebano, the first point of conflict for the possession of Tampico, is continuing with increasing severity. Villa denies serious defeat. Gen. Huerta, the deposed Mexican President, will arrive in New York probably to-day (Saturday) on the steamer Antonio Lopez. Huerta may be deported to the port from which he sailed, on the ground of being an undesirable alien, as was the action taken in the case of Gen. Castro of Venezuela when the latter came to the United States.

The London Stock Exchange, having closed on Thursday of last week for the Easter holidays, reopened on Tuesday. It has since displayed a fair degree of activity, representing in good part the accumulation of business. There has, too, been a disposition to place a favorable interpretation on the progress reported by the Russians in their campaign for the Carpathian passes. American securities followed the lead of New York, both in activity and strength, the number of separate transactions on this department of the English market being on Tuesday 270, with the Erie issues leading. On Wednesday there were 229 transactions in the American department, on Thursday 223 and on Friday 132. Some check on business was evident on Wednesday as a result of a new interpretation of the Exchange Committee's regulation forbidding transactions unless jobbers held the stock they sold for immediate delivery. This has encouraged increased caution on the part of the jobbers; and buyers, it is reported, frequently missed the market because the shares were not available. Another offering of six months' Treasury bills in the usual amount of £15,000,000 was announced on Tuesday and was largely over-subscribed. It was reported that the proceeds are to be utilized to pay off similar notes that are about to mature. Interest was at the rate of about  $3\frac{1}{4}\%$ . Applicants at £98 7s. 6d. received only 1% of the amount of their bids, all

bids above that amount obtaining full allotment. London correspondents report that the Government will attempt to check the gold-export tendency by making regular weekly applications for funds by the sale of Treasury bills. Already this feature has exerted a strengthening influence on both money rates and private bank discounts, the latter, as we show elsewhere, indicating substantial gains for the week. The index number of the London "Economist," as cabled to "The Journal of Commerce", and to be published to-day, shows the remarkable increase of 5% in commodity prices for the month of March, the index number being 3,305 as compared with 3,131 the previous month and 3,003 in January. This indicates, the "Economist" will suggest, the prodigious rate at which the supply of commodities is dwindling, while the world's gold stock remains about the same. The largest advance is shown by minerals, which rose 82½ points to 644. Textiles advanced 44½ points to 597 and heavy goods 36 points to 797. Cereals and meat registered a decline of 5 points to 840, while other food products advanced 16 points to 427. London advices state that Sir George Paish has severed his official connection with the Treasury and will resume his work as one of the editors of the "Statist." The new Treasury policy in advancing money and discounts to check gold exports is understood to have been recommended by Hartley Withers, formerly City (financial) Editor of the London "Times," who has become the personal adviser of Chancellor Lloyd George. An offering of £1,000,000 of Liverpool six months' bills brought out subscriptions of £2,047,000 and the average discount rate was 3½%, which is a much higher figure than was expected, and is symptomatic of the firmer tone that obtains in money circles in London.

The monthly statement of commerce, as reported by the British Board of Trade yesterday, showed further improvement, after a satisfactory return for February. The March increase in imports for the month was £8,654,772, while the exports decreased £14,342,661, comparing with the corresponding month last year. The excess of imports was £45,414,000, comparing with £22,416,567 a year ago. From January 1 to March 31 the imports this year have been £208,259,000, against £196,985,259; exports, \$84,600,000, against £133,586,623; and excess of imports £123,659,000, against £68,398,636.

Cables from Paris have contained very little financial intelligence this week. A steady tone has been maintained on the Bourse and the American Department of the market is declared to have received considerable attention.

According to advices cabled from Berlin, the amount of 3,600,000,000 marks has already been paid in cash on the second German war loan, notwithstanding that the first installment is not due until April 14. Mail advices from Amsterdam declare that bonds are being shipped in considerable quantities from that centre on German account direct to New York, to be sold on arrival. The Amsterdam correspondent of the "Evening Post" states that if "an estimate may be given of the aggregate amount sold back by Germany to New York since the commencement of the war, I think the figure would lie somewhere between \$100,000,000 and \$200,000,000. Lately, some check has been imposed upon this business by the difficulties of shipping. German holders, however, are

scarcely affected, being compensated for the lower prices by the larger number of marks which the smaller number of guilders represents. The main fear of dealers here (in Amsterdam) is that the bonds sold by them in America might be held up with the steamer which carries them thither, and that this might cause the bonds to be bought in against them in New York, while they would be compelled to resell here at heavy loss. This is a contingency against which it is not possible to insure except at exorbitant rates."

Official Bank rates at the leading European centres still remain without change from 5% in London, Paris, Berlin and Amsterdam, and 5½% in Vienna. In London both long and short bills are quoted at 2⅞@3⅞%, comparing with 2⅜% a week ago. Money in London is 1¼@1½% for day-to-day funds, while the joint-stock banks when they re-opened after the Easter holidays, on Tuesday raised their rates for time loans to 2%. No private bank rates of discount have been received this week so far as we have been able to learn from the Continental centres.

A further decrease of £117,223 was reported by the Bank of England in its gold coin and bullion holdings in this week's return. Loans (other securities) were reduced £1,240,000, public deposits showed a contraction of £8,420,000, and other deposits an increase of £7,936,000. Note circulation decreased £233,000, and the total reserve increased £115,000, its proportion to liabilities being 18.36%, against 18.26% last week and 40.34% a year ago. The Bank now holds in gold £53,751,028, against £36,028,143 in 1914 and £37,094,439 the preceding year. The reserve stands at £37,029,000, against £25,006,000 in 1914 and £26,805,839 in 1913. The Bank's loans aggregate £138,763,000. One year ago the total was £43,499,000 and two years ago £37,473,362. The Bank's report of the amount of currency notes outstanding as of April 5 was £39,801,877, against £38,087,608 in the previous week. The amount of gold held for the redemption of such notes remains at £27,500,000. Our special correspondent furnishes the following details by cable of the gold movement into and out of the Bank for the Bank week: Inflow, £784,000 (of which £684,000 bought in the open market and £100,000 released); outflow, £901,000 (of which £159,000 earmarked Argentina, £5,000 to Egypt and £737,000 net sent to the interior of Great Britain). We add a tabular statement comparing for the last five-years the different items in the Bank of England return:

	1915. April 7.	1914. April 8.	1913. April 9.	1912. April 10.	1911. April 12.
	£	£	£	£	£
Circulation .....	34,940,000	29,471,000	28,738,600	28,941,680	28,651,620
Public deposits .....	105,270,000	19,630,000	16,076,470	20,036,430	17,851,363
Other deposits .....	97,649,000	42,333,000	43,438,280	40,384,596	41,621,851
Govt. securities .....	44,605,000	11,150,000	13,032,727	14,281,566	15,095,344
Other securities .....	138,763,000	43,500,000	37,473,362	38,009,353	36,167,459
Reserve notes & coin .....	37,260,000	25,006,000	26,805,839	25,901,411	25,873,212
Coin and bullion .....	53,751,028	36,028,143	37,094,439	36,393,091	36,014,832
Proportion of reserve to liabilities .....	18.36%	40.34%	45.00%	43.00%	43.60%
Bank rate .....	5%	3%	5%	3½%	3%

The weekly statement of the Bank of France showed an increase of 2,234,000 francs in gold and of 633,000 francs in silver. Note circulation indicated an expansion of 96,266,000 francs. Treasury deposits decreased 27,049,000 francs, general deposits decreased 34,493,000 francs, discounts increased 1,989,000 francs and the Bank's advances decreased

8,915,000 francs. The Bank's gold is once more at a high level, amounting to 4,628,341,000 francs, against 3,627,294,000 francs one year ago and 3,251,025,000 francs in 1913. The note circulation (also a new high level) amounted to 11,277,766,000 francs, against 5,528,819,000 francs in 1914 and 5,757,257,625 francs in 1913.

The statement of the Imperial Bank of Germany as of April 3 compares with the preceding one of March 23, and shows an increase of 7,640,000 marks in gold and of 397,391,000 marks in "cash," the latter item including Imperial and loan-bank notes and notes of other banks in addition to coin and bullion. An increase of 1,984,468,000 marks was shown in discounts, reflecting the quarterly settlements; of 680,959,000 marks in note circulation and of 1,656,658,000 marks in deposits, while loans decreased 19,038,000 marks and Treasury bills were reduced 9,721,000 marks. The Bank's holdings of gold amounted to 2,334,594,000 marks, against 1,259,980,000 marks in 1914 and 923,076,000 marks in 1913. The outstanding note circulation aggregates 5,625,016,000 marks, as against 2,427,681,000 marks one year ago and 2,224,740,000 marks in the year preceding.

Funds have begun to return to the banks after the April dividend and interest disbursements. The local situation may, perhaps, be regarded as a shade firmer, due to the increased inquiry for demand loans in response to the greater activity in Stock Exchange business. Time money closed fractionally higher for the week. No important demands on the capital market have been made during the week. Nevertheless, there is a disposition on the part of bankers to expect that remunerative and attractive rates must be decided on if capital applications are to be successful. In this respect the statement by Mr. Thomas W. Lamont, of J. P. Morgan & Co., before the Public Service Commission at Albany on Wednesday, is illuminative. In order to show the necessity of a 6% rate on the \$100,000,000 debentures that the New York Central desires to issue, Mr. Lamont declared that the high figure was desirable on account of rates now being paid by foreign countries for money and of rates that domestic securities of a similar character are paying. Mr. Lamont said that "France, whose promise to pay is universally considered good, pays 6%, Germany pays 7% and Russia 7 to 8%." Last Saturday's statement of the Clearing House indicated an increase of the bank and trust company members of \$2,561,000 in the aggregate reserve, but the surplus reserve (which aggregates \$148,258,040, comparing with \$10,453,500, the surplus under the old form of statement one year ago) decreased \$1,617,720. The reserve requirements were \$4,178,720 higher because of increased deposits, the net demand deposits having expanded \$25,252,000 and net time deposits \$2,381,000. Reserves in "own vaults" decreased \$3,408,000, to \$392,133,000, including \$321,259,000 in specie, while reserve in Federal Reserve banks increased \$3,621,000, to \$118,676,000 and reserves in other depositaries increased \$2,348,000, to \$35,042,000. Commercial paper is in fair demand but not abundant supply, which is not unnatural in view of the continued backwardness of general trade and industrial activities.

Referring to money rates in detail, demand loans have this week covered a range of  $1\frac{3}{4}$ @ $2\frac{1}{2}$ %; the

ruling rate was pegged at 2% by the banks until Thursday, when the quotation was advanced to  $2\frac{1}{4}$ %, at which it remained on Friday. Monday and Tuesday's range was  $1\frac{3}{4}$ @ $2\frac{1}{2}$ % and on Wednesday  $2$ @ $2\frac{1}{2}$ %, on Thursday  $2$ @ $2\frac{1}{4}$ %, and Friday  $2$ @ $2\frac{1}{2}$ %. Time money closed at  $2\frac{1}{2}$ @ $2\frac{3}{4}$ % for sixty days (against  $2\frac{1}{2}$ % a week ago),  $2\frac{3}{4}$ @ $3$ % for ninety days (against  $2\frac{3}{4}$ %),  $3\frac{1}{4}$ % for four months (against  $3$ @ $3\frac{1}{4}$ %),  $3\frac{1}{4}$ @ $3\frac{1}{2}$ % for five months (against  $3\frac{1}{4}$ %) and  $3\frac{1}{4}$ @ $3\frac{1}{2}$ % for six months (against  $3\frac{1}{4}$ %). Commercial paper discounts are  $3\frac{1}{4}$ @ $3\frac{3}{4}$ %, against  $3\frac{1}{4}$ @ $3\frac{1}{2}$ % last week, for sixty and ninety days' endorsed bills receivable and for four to six months' single names of choice character. Names not so well known require 4@ $4\frac{1}{4}$ %. The discount rates at the Federal Reserve Bank in New York are without change from 4% for thirty to ninety days and 5% (for agricultural bills) above ninety days.

The feature of interest in sterling exchange circles this week has been the varying accounts of the progress made in the arrangement of a credit supposed to be for \$100,000,000 for Great Britain in this city. Definite details—in fact, no details at all of a responsible character—have not become available, though no doubt exists that credits of important proportions as private transactions between English and American bankers, have been in operation for some time. The persistent reports of negotiations on behalf of Austria for a separate peace have produced considerable caution in foreign exchange operations, as they contain intimation of a possible sudden curtailment of exports, which in turn will mean a reduced offering of bills. Our general foreign trade, as distinguished from the exportations in connection with war orders, is undoubtedly light. Hence any severe curtailment of war supplies could readily turn the tide of gold against this country. While exports are keeping up to their recent volume, imports have been showing improvement in the last fortnight, so that the excess of the former is not quite as heavy as during the month of February. In the weekly statement of the Department of Commerce, which includes data from selected customs districts through which something like 85% of the country's foreign commerce passes, the exports of merchandise exceeded the imports by \$21,500,000 for the week [ending April 3, which compares with \$15,000,000 for the week preceding, \$29,000,000 for the week ending March 20 and \$47,000,000 for the week preceding that. For the month of March the excess of exports for the entire United States is officially estimated by the Department of Commerce at \$145,000,000, against \$173,000,000 in February. For the four months ending with March, the excess of exports amounts to \$595,000,000. Significance is attached to a remark made by Thomas W. Lamont of J. P. Morgan & Co., in his testimony before the Public Service Commission at Albany on Wednesday. He declared that "Great Britain has as yet made no public loan in this country"; subsequently Mr. Lamont asked that this remark be stricken from the record, which was regarded as suggestive that arrangements for a large credit had already been completed. The announcement of gold imports this week comprised a shipment of 1,500,000 yen (\$750,000) gold by Thursday's steamer from Yokohama, consigned to the International Banking Corporation in this city.

The Continental exchanges have in no instance shown sensational movements. Paris checks closed without change at 5 32, while cable transfers finished at 5 31<sup>3</sup>/<sub>8</sub>, against 5 31<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>. Bankers' sight drafts on Berlin are 82<sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub>, against 82<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> a week ago, and cable transfers are 82 5-16, against 82<sup>7</sup>/<sub>8</sub>. Swiss exchange closed at 5 37<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> for bankers' sight and 5 36<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> for cables, against 5 38<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> and 5 37<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>, respectively, a week ago. The check rate on Amsterdam is 39<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>, against 39 7-16, and cables 39 7-16, against 39<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>. Italian liras closed without change at 5 79 for bankers' sight and 5 78 for cables. In Paris the London check rate closed at 25.55, against 25.52 a week ago.

Compared with Friday of last week, sterling exchange on Saturday was practically without change; early firmness caused fractional advances, but later a reaction set in, bringing quotations to Friday's low point, with the range 4 79<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>@4 79<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> for demand and 4 79<sup>7</sup>/<sub>8</sub>@4 80 for cable transfers; sixty days ruled weak at 4 76<sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub>@4 77. On Monday extreme dulness was the outstanding feature, operations being restricted by the holiday in London; changes in rates were insignificant, with demand at 4 79 7-16@4 79 9-16, cable transfers at 4 79 13-16@4 79<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> and sixty days at 4 76<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>@4 76<sup>7</sup>/<sub>8</sub>. Dulness again characterized exchange trading on Tuesday and a weaker tone became evident; demand was quoted at 4 79 5-16@4 79<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> and cable transfers at 4 79<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>@4 79<sup>7</sup>/<sub>8</sub>, although sixty days were firmer at 4 76<sup>7</sup>/<sub>8</sub>@4 77; the fact that there are no mail accommodations until Saturday served to limit inquiries. On Wednesday sterling quotations were firm and higher, chiefly on a stiffening in the London discount rate; there was a partial reaction before the close on offerings of commercial bills, and the range was 4 79<sup>3</sup>/<sub>8</sub>@4 79<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> for demand and 4 79 11-16@4 80 for cable transfers; sixty days, however, declined to 4 76<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>@4 76<sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub>. The undertone was steadier on Thursday, though trading was dull and almost nominal; cable transfers were somewhat firmer at 4 80@4 80 1-16, demand at 4 79 11-16@4 79<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> and sixty days at 4 76<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>@4 76<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>. On Friday the market ruled steady, closing quotations being 4 76<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>@4 77 for sixty days, 4 79<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>@4 80 for demand and 4 80@4 80 5-16 for cable transfers. Commercial on banks nominal, documents for payment nominal. Seven-day grain bills at 4 78<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>@4 79. Cotton for payment nominal; grain for payment nominal.

The New York Clearing-House banks, in their operations with interior banking institutions, have gained \$2,382,000 net in cash as a result of the currency movements for the week ending April 9. Their receipts from the interior have aggregated \$7,480,000, while the shipments have reached \$5,098,000. Adding the Sub-Treasury operations and the gold imports, which together occasioned a gain of \$303,000, the combined result of the flow of money into and out of the New York banks for the week appears to have been a gain of \$2,685,000, as follows:

Week ending Apr 19 1915.	Into Banks.	Out of Banks.	Net Change to Bank Holdings.
Banks' interior movement.....	\$7,480,000	\$5,098,000	Gain \$2,382,000
Sub-Treas. oper'ns and gold imports..	19,074,000	18,771,000	Gain 303,000
Total .....	\$26,554,000	\$23,869,000	Gain \$2,685,000

The following table indicates the amount of bullion in the principal European banks:

Banks of	April 8 1915.			April 9 1915.		
	Gold.	Silver.	Total.	Gold.	Silver.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
England...	53,751,028	---	53,751,028	36,028,143	---	36,028,143
France...	170,038,640	15,120,240	185,158,880	145,091,800	24,907,480	169,999,280
Germany...	116,876,400	2,000,000	118,876,400	62,633,950	15,463,500	79,097,450
Russia...	170,791,000	5,417,000	176,208,000	178,339,000	7,244,000	185,583,000
Aus.-Hunc.	51,578,000	12,140,000	63,718,000	52,108,000	12,304,000	64,412,000
Spain...	23,856,000	29,345,000	53,201,000	20,283,000	28,006,000	48,289,000
Italy...	51,000,000	2,847,000	53,847,000	45,710,000	3,100,000	48,810,000
Netherl'ds	24,099,000	168,900	24,267,900	13,331,000	793,000	14,124,000
Nat. Belg.	15,380,000	600,000	15,980,000	8,834,667	4,417,333	13,252,000
Sweden...	6,293,000	---	6,293,000	5,790,000	---	5,790,000
Switz land	9,636,400	---	9,636,400	0,573,000	---	6,793,000
Norway...	3,081,000	---	3,081,000	2,448,000	---	2,448,000
Tot. week	696,380,468	67,638,140	764,018,608	578,390,560	96,835,313	675,225,873
Prev. week	695,298,631	67,541,570	762,840,201	580,028,988	97,733,530	677,762,518

c July 30. d Sept. 21.

NEW QUESTIONS OF NEUTRALITY.

Several developments of much interest, affecting alike the general problems of international law and our own present relations to the European belligerents, have occurred this week. Our Government has answered England's blockade proclamation, and it has also, without comment, presented to Germany the bill of damages in behalf of the owners of the ship William P. Frye, sunk in mid-ocean by the German "raider" Prinz Eitel Friedrich, which bill the German Government has promptly agreed to pay, though on the ground of an old treaty, and not on the ground that the sinking of the ship was an improper act. The Eitel Friedrich itself, after refusing the opportunity to run out to sea in the snowstorm of last Saturday, with hostile cruisers lying in wait outside the three-mile limit, has been formally interned at Newport News, where she will have to be dismantled and remain until war is over.

The modified Order in Council of the British Government was issued March 15 and made public March 18; our State Department's answer was sent to England a week ago, but its publication was deferred until the present week by request of the British Government. Our Government's answer is devoted mainly to stating the restrictions which the United States places on the belligerent rights alleged in the British Order of March. Certain rights therein claimed are conceded:—the right of search for contraband; the right of condemnation where contraband is found on board a neutral ship; the right to establish a blockade and condemn any vessel taken while trying to break it, and the right to take into port for examination neutral vessels suspected of such purpose. It is even admitted that our Government is "not oblivious to the great changes which have occurred in the conditions and means of naval warfare since the rules hitherto governing legal blockade were formulated," and the note, therefore, intimates its readiness to admit that the old form of "close" blockade, with the blockading ships in the immediate offing of the blockaded ports, is no longer practicable in the face of an enemy using submarines, mines and air craft.

On the other hand, the note takes issue with the cautious assertion of the British Government regarding possible blockade of non-contraband shipments from the United States to neutral countries, whence they might be sent to enemy markets. The unqualified assertion of this right would destroy the long-recognized principle of "free goods in free ships." In fact, the actual blockade of neutral ports to all merchandise of other neutrals—even under the general allegation that the goods might be destined for an enemy country—would, in the language of our State Department's note, be "a distinct invasion of the sovereign rights of the nation whose ships, trade, or commerce is interfered with." As to the argument



that extreme measures may have been necessitated as reprisal for unlawful acts by the enemy, our Government declines to admit the application of this argument to retaliation involving unlawful interference with neutral cargoes. But the note very tactfully interprets the British Government's reference to reprisals as "merely a reason for certain extraordinary activities on the part of his Majesty's naval forces, and not as an excuse for or prelude to any unlawful action."

Conceived in this form, and with certain other suggestions or reservations, the note has on the whole been well received in England. Newspaper comment in that country has in general recognized the intrinsic soundness of our position, though a few writers have shown some trace of the feeling lately prevalent—that the United States ought somehow to recognize the moral issues which England believes to be involved in the war, by showing more open sympathy with England. This feeling is natural on the part of any people convinced of the rightfulness of their cause; but it confuses the possible attitude of a neutral public with the possible attitude of a neutral Government, and it has, therefore, led those who entertained it into a singularly illogical position.

For instance, when the Belgian report regarding "German atrocities" was submitted formally to the President, there were many complaints, not only in England and Canada, but in this country also, that our Government should not have made a formal protest to Germany, if for no other reason than that the United States was a signatory of The Hague Convention, which was alleged to have been violated by the German army. But this contention overlooked several facts. One is, that no Governmental protest would have in any case been proper or possible until every accusation had been thoroughly investigated; yet that no machinery existed for such investigation, and that in any case such an inquiry would have covered a hundred different specifications and have consumed months of time. Furthermore, even if the Government were to have uttered a formal protest, what then? Unless backed up with a threat of war—which every one conceded to be inadmissible—such declaration, from a Governmental point of view, must have been wholly futile. It would have exposed our Government to the humiliating possibility of being diplomatically told to mind its own business. As regards our duties as signatory to the Hague Convention, the United States specifically disclaimed the duty of intervention in such matters; and the Hague Conference itself established no machinery of inquiry or protest in case of violations of agreements then entered into.

The comment of the German press on our note to England shows a different feeling. Even newspapers recognized as Government organs have complained this week very bitterly of our favoring England and not Germany. But of this allegation they produce no specification, showing our position as to the policy of neutrals to be in any wise incorrect, in the light of international law and precedent. They give no reason (other than sentimental) why our Government should have been less antagonistic than it was regarding Germany's submarine threats, or more antagonistic regarding the British blockade order. The facts of the matter are that the German war zone order plainly intimated such sweeping violation of neutral rights as the sinking of neutral ships with their passengers, whereas the English blockade order

is at least in line with regular precedent, and is subject, as our Government's reply clearly indicates, to modifications in its actual application.

On one point German comment—even in last month's official war zone communication from the Berlin Foreign Office—insists. We refer to the complaint against the sale of war munitions by American manufacturers to the Allied Powers. In our judgment, there is absolutely no ground for criticism of our attitude. It is admitted, even in Germany, that under international law and precedent there is no impropriety in our merchants selling arms to belligerent Powers. In fact, the German Government and the German press could not for a moment have maintained such a position; since the Krupps, notoriously and with a perfect right to do so, sold munitions of war on an extensive scale to Russia in 1904 and to Turkey in 1913. The German complaint is based, evidently enough, on the fact that Germany has no access to our markets for obtaining similar supplies. But it is not alleged that our merchants and manufacturers would refuse to sell such goods to Germany if Germans were to place orders in our country. This being so, the complaint about our attitude overlooks the fact that our Government's prohibition, on account of Germany's failure to control the seas, of the selling of arms by private persons to England, France and Russia, would amount to an unusual and distinctly unfriendly action towards those Powers.

But an even larger question stands behind that consideration. Ex-President Taft has lately pointed out that if we were to adopt the principle that neutral communities cannot rightly sell war munitions to belligerents, and if other countries were to follow suit, the question would arise, In what position would the United States be left, supposing us hereafter suddenly to be involved in a war with a well-prepared foreign State? For ourselves, we should say that this view of the matter is capable of being carried much farther. If the principle were to obtain worldwide recognition, that neutral communities cannot provide munitions of war to belligerents, then every small and weak independent State, unprovided with extensive armament factories in its own towns and cities, would inevitably be at the mercy of any strong, well-prepared and industrially well-equipped power which should declare sudden war upon it. Supposing, for example, Austria's declaration of war on Servia last July to have been followed by limitation of the area of war to that one quarrel; what chance for even a strictly defensive campaign would have been left, under such conditions, to the little Balkan State?

#### HOW WEALTH IS CREATED.\*

This is not a treatise on political economy as that term is ordinarily understood. The sub-title somewhat relieves the apparent unattractiveness of all economic discussions, yet necessarily fails to convey an adequate impression of the contents.

What constitutes wealth? "We have seen," says the author, "that the Mercantilists held money to be the only wealth, that the Physiocrats added raw materials, and that Adam Smith and his followers enlarged the definition to mean any material utility which requires labor for its production and which can be appropriated or exchanged." The old and

\*The Creation of Wealth: Modern Efficiency Methods Analyzed and Applied. By J. H. Lockwood. Pp. 225; price \$1. Cincinnati, 1915: The Standard Publishing Company.

persistent fallacy that money is exclusively or especially wealth is carefully refuted once more. Money is a yardstick for measuring, a counter across which things desired are passed for exchange, a value-condensation which all will accept because all agree to accept it—this is all. Mr. Lockwood so earnestly disposes of the money fallacy that he closes his book with a graphic diagram: one pyramid, having as its base-layers "character, training, opportunity, expression, efficiency, pertinacity," with "money" as the apex; the companion diagram shows this same pyramid inverted and set on its apex of money, in which position "it will maintain its equilibrium just so long as it continues to whirl as a spinning-top."

"Stating it as concisely as possible, wealth may be defined as anything which satisfies the needs, desires or aspirations of man, and it may be either material or immaterial." That man himself is wealth per se (because potentially) that he creates wealth, and therefore that man himself is his best material and asset—the book is essentially a development of this theme. Through successive chapters on "wealth," "capital," "divisions of wealth," "expression" and "who and how," this development is clearly, forcibly and interestingly carried. For instance, the ordinary whitewasher, standing at the bottom rung of the ladder, has almost no room for "expression"; he works mechanically, and has to compete with machines which spray washes. The house painter, the sign painter, the portrait painter, the great genius painter, represent successively higher stages; but as respects wealth-creating the inventor and the seer are highest, for "the mind of man is a veritable mine of magic wealth." If this strikes any reader as somewhat fanciful, it is readily put to test; of two young men, one penniless but with large character, an inventor or constructor to be, and the other with an inherited fortune and an empty head, which will achieve the more and which has the greater wealth?

The chapters on "winsome wealth," "inventions and discoveries" and "distribution or opportunity," are excellent, but the most striking one is the chapter of 50 pages on "the entrepreneur," who is not a promoter but a discoverer, a constructor, a conqueror of continents, a man of creative vision and individual energy. As one illustration in this chapter, the author supposes two identically similar farms side by side, but one, through intelligent cultivation, yielding several times the revenue of its fellow. Then he asks, "what caused the increase but the application of brains to the soil? Now the Socialists, Syndicalists, Industrial Workers of the World, and their like, say that labor produces all the wealth, therefore the farmer who was efficient must divide with his neighbor who was too slothful to think and to act."

Naturally, Mr. Lockwood does not fear monopolists or trusts. Inasmuch as success is the universal desire and merit is the only real personal test, the monopolists, in a free country, are the most efficient ones; monopoly is a reward of merit or service, and if the men of ability are numerous, why are doers (Colonel Goethals, for example) in such demand? As for the trusts, he holds that all attempts to regulate or destroy them will fail, because the regulators need to be omniscient and no laws can prevent large operations from conforming to natural lines. But here we quote the conclusion of that chapter:

"When all has been said, perhaps it will be discovered that the Supreme Court struck the keynote in the solution of the trust problem when it wrote

the word 'reasonable' into the Sherman Act. Reason must be exercised on both sides—by the public as well as the corporations—if free industrialism is to endure. If the trusts are not reasonable, they will bring down on their heads the vindictive wrath of an outraged public; and if the public is not reasonable, they will, by their activities, paralyze the industrial animal which feeds us, sometimes with golden eggs.

"The answer to the trust problem, therefore, would seem to lie in the two words, publicity and reason. If all the essential facts are known, and if the rule of reason is permitted to prevail, the great economic and social laws of supply and demand, of action and reaction, of reward and punishment, will adjust themselves to the eye and ear of justice, for, with Cicero, we must believe that *Natura juris fons*."

The author ventures the hint that "there are ways in which a government can aid the people in their economic struggles," but we deem this dangerous ground, to be entered very cautiously. Attempted encouragement is less bad than repressive regulation, and Mr. Lockwood avers that "anything which stagnates productive thought (idealistic wealth) or destroys the initiative, whether by restrictive regulation, undue interference with individualism, or by agitation looking to that end, is destructive of true progress." Most emphatically; and the whole trend of the book is that government should keep its benumbing hands off and that the creative mind be left unhampered. There can be no progress without freedom; general betterment lies in enlarging the quantity and variety of desirable things, not in hating those who now have more and quarreling to bring about a forcible re-dividing of what wealth now exists. Suppose Edison and Marconi had been government-regulated and government-actuated?

The hardened reviewer does not read every page of a book, nor need he; do you eat a tub of butter before accepting or leaving it? Yet this book was read (although not absolutely every sentence) and at one sitting. Occasionally we find an observation which seems a little overbroad, but the work as a whole is sound in doctrine. It is pervaded with earnestness and sincerity, thoroughly wholesome in trend, and is also encouraging in renewing the belief that the natural laws of progress will break through and throw down all the artificial hindrances which may be set in their way, in the name of the general welfare. The book is so timely and so sound that we wish every present and elected legislator in the whole land could be made to read it and pass a good examination upon it.

#### THE PARCELS POST AND THE MAILS.

To the plaint of the railways in respect to their compensation for carrying the mails Postmaster-General Burleson reiterates that, on the contrary, the roads are over-paid, and as proof asserts that they get for mail-carrying much more than they have for years accepted without objection for carrying express matter. But if this were exactly true, as he states, it would not be material. In an action for a breach of contract no court would admit testimony to show that some other contracts than the one in dispute were faithfully carried out and profitable, or that the entire business of the complainant was good and profitable. Similarly, the Federal Supreme Court very recently held that one line of service at confiscatory rates could not be condoned and enforced because some other line, or all lines taken to-

gether as one whole, were remunerative. Mr. Burleson's argument, even if he is correct in his statement, is not germane.

But Mr. Peters replies that it is not correct. From New York to Chicago, according to Mr. Burleson, mail matter brings \$2 58 per cwt., against \$1 20 for the railway proportion of the first-class express rate on the same route. This, replies Mr. Peters, would be understood by anybody as meaning that the \$1 20 is an average rate, whereas it is only the railway's share (about one-half the charge to the public) on a single 100-lb. package, on which the very lowest pound rate is given, and the great bulk of express matter is in small packages, at rates far higher. For instance, for 100 one-pound packages the rate would be 23 cents each, and of the total \$23 the railroad would get one-half—almost  $4\frac{1}{2}$  times the rate for 100 pounds of mail. This would be an extreme at the other end of the range, although as fair as Mr. Burleson's citation; the truth of course lies between these.

In what we have said on this subject we preferred to keep to one material and distinct issue: that a largely increasing load of mail is required (because of refusal to have annual weighings) to be carried on a basis of average weight which has long been exceeded. Upon this issue all citations and all facts as to express service or any other service are plainly irrelevant. As something which everybody can understand, we cited the known increase in the parcels post and the constant efforts to popularize and increase that post. As an extreme example, even such heavy and bulky "articles" as children have been sent by mail, and within the past fortnight the newspapers have related another case of that: a little girl, just within the 50-pound limit, transported across several States, with ordinary postage stamps attached. A simple and convenient method, doubtless, and inexpensive to the sender; but how of the carrier? Some interesting questions might possibly arise in such cases: for example, if the child were injured or killed in a collision, would she cease to be mere mail matter and be converted, in a demand for compensation, into a passenger, transported under the liability for passengers?

But as to increase in parcels-post matter, Mr. Burleson is proud of that increase and of the public service, and it has been continually commended and re-commended to the country, especially in respect to food products, which are comparatively bulky. Now comes from Washington a little digest of reports received by Mr. Burleson from postmasters upon this "farm-to-table" service. In ten cities that service is a year old, and twenty-five more cities have since been added to the list. Postmasters have compiled and circulated lists of farm producers among consumers, and of consumers among farmers, and a co-operative system is collecting and distributing farm products. In Chicago the average daily delivery from farms was 558 packages in the last three months of 1914, with a recent average daily increase "of five names." Through the St. Louis office pass weekly more than 2,500 parcels of butter, 2,000 cartons of eggs, 1,000 packages of fresh meat, and so on. In Brooklyn, the campaign was started through the public schools. In Philadelphia it began by sending "a consumer's application blank" to 62,000 householders. Indianapolis reports a similar development and suggests that it would be more rapid if the weight limit were raised to 70 pounds and the meas-

urement limit were made to take in the standard crate of peaches. Washington reports a steady increase in the last six months, and gives a tabular statement in proof. The Detroit office is overwhelmed with applications from farmers and is delivering 300 packages of farm produce daily. Cleveland, for some reason, does the larger business outward, having dispatched 72,200 pounds of fresh fish in February, but is delivering in town a daily average of 173 packages of butter, poultry and eggs. Cincinnati is not doing so well, reporting only 200 packages per week. Baltimore is receiving 300 daily. New Orleans receives 125 parcels of eggs daily. Boston, Nashville, Denver, Providence and other cities report a brisk trade, or excellent expectations, or both.

The foregoing are samples from a trade which has been earnestly fostered and is growing. The "farm-to-table" scheme has its admirable features. It is a factor in reducing the present cost and friction in distribution, whereby food which cities need goes to waste on or in the ground. The parcels post as an instrumentality in reducing the cost of living may be excellent for the consumer and very helpful for the producer, but we are not now discussing it. The present question is, What about the carrier, and at whose expense are these results produced and to be produced? Is it difficult to account for the swelling loads of "mail" matter which the railroads are carrying, on the basis of old weighings?

#### RAILROAD GROSS EARNINGS FOR MARCH.

Railroad gross earnings continue to show considerable losses. This is true, even though comparison is now with reduced earnings last year. The result affords new testimony to the fact that the country still suffers from business depression, notwithstanding our tremendous merchandise exports, last season's bounteous harvests, the high prices prevailing for wheat and other agricultural produce and the great prosperity of the farming classes by reason of these high prices and the prodigious foreign demand for the country's foodstuffs.

These generalizations are induced by a contemplation of our preliminary tabulation of the gross earnings of United States railroads for the month of March. This statement comprises merely the roads which make it a practice to furnish early estimates of their gross revenues soon after the close of the month, and embraces mainly Southern cotton-carrying and Western grain-carrying roads, together with the three important Canadian systems. Altogether, a total of 88,283 miles of line is represented and on this mileage there is a loss in gross for the month of \$7,081,270, or 10.25%. The Canadian systems have contributed materially to this loss, the Canadian Pacific having fallen behind \$1,598,000, the Grand Trunk Railway \$409,467, with \$63,639 more on the Grand Trunk Pacific, and the Canadian Northern \$154,300. But United States railways are distinguished in the same way, though there is no single decrease of the amount of that of the Canadian Pacific. On the other hand, no American system represented in our tables has so large an extent of mileage as the Canadian Pacific. The losses reported by United States roads are, nevertheless, large, and come from all parts of the country. The Illinois Central stands at the top with a decrease of \$900,906; then comes the Southern Railway with \$892,151 loss, and the Louisville & Nashville with

\$772,936; then the Great Northern in a totally different part of the country with \$772,853 shortage, then the Missouri Pacific with \$306,000 loss and the St. Louis Southwestern with \$211,000.

Even the smaller roads or systems have quite heavy losses, the Buffalo Rochester & Pittsburgh reporting \$194,649 decrease, the Soo road \$184,311, the Mobile & Ohio \$173,801, the Chicago Great Western \$142,694, the Denver & Rio Grande \$134,500, the Wabash \$130,111, &c., &c. There are a few roads, a very few, which form exceptions to the rule, and are able to record increases. Among these the Missouri Kansas & Texas stands foremost, with a gain of \$285,796, which is no doubt to be ascribed to last season's excellent grain harvests in the Southwest as contrasted with the previous season's very poor harvest. The gain is in part, but only in part, a recovery of the previous year's loss. A few other roads are also able to report improved results usually because of some special circumstance affecting them alone. Thus, the Colorado & Southern is comparing with the period of the coal strike in Southern Colorado and reports \$54,914 increase. This, however, follows \$170,946 decrease in 1914, as compared with 1913. It is also to be said, on the other hand, that in not a few instances the roads which now report losses in earnings suffered losses likewise in the previous year. This is notably true of the Canadian Pacific, which for March 1915 had gross of only \$7,700,000, against \$9,298,000 in March 1914 and \$11,111,893 in March 1913. In the following we show all changes for the separate roads for amounts in excess of \$30,000, whether increases or decreases.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN GROSS EARNINGS IN MARCH.

Increases.		Decreases.	
Missouri Kansas & Texas.....	\$285,796	Buffalo Roch & Pittsb.....	\$194,649
Western Maryland.....	81,422	Minneapolis St Paul & S S M.....	184,311
Colorado & Southern.....	54,914	Mobile & Ohio.....	173,801
Chicago & Alton.....	30,416	Canadian Northern.....	154,300
Minneapolis & St Louis.....	37,644	Cinc New Orl & Texas Pac.....	148,330
		Chicago Great Western.....	142,694
Representing 5 roads in our compilation.....	\$510,192	Denver & Rio Grande.....	134,500
		Wabash.....	130,111
		Texas & Pacific.....	112,010
Canadian Pacific.....	\$1,598,000	Yazoo & Miss Valley.....	94,522
Illinois Central.....	900,906	Grand Trunk Pacific.....	663,633
Southern Railway.....	892,151	Chesapeake & Ohio.....	60,469
Louisville & Nashville.....	772,936	Duluth Sou Shore & Atlan.....	48,124
Great Northern.....	772,853	Alabama Great Southern.....	43,488
Grand Trunk.....	409,467	Georgia Southern & Fla.....	36,821
Missouri Pacific.....	306,000		
St Louis Southwestern.....	211,000	Representing 23 roads in our compilation.....	\$7,582,890

a These figures are for three weeks only.

The fact that the loss for the month should be so large (speaking of the roads collectively) is the more significant, not alone because it follows a loss in the same month last year (our early statement then having shown \$2,191,364 decrease, or 3.01%), but also because it has occurred in face of a distinct advantage enjoyed the present year by all the roads. We have reference to the fact that there were only four Sundays in the month the present year against five Sundays in March 1914, giving, therefore, an additional working day. The Western grain movement was not as large as that of the same month last year, notwithstanding the stimulus afforded by the prevailing high prices, but, on the other hand, the Southern cotton movement ran very much heavier than that of the previous year. The loss in the Western grain movement followed almost entirely because of smaller receipts of corn, these for the four weeks ending March 27 in 1915 having reached only 11,514,000 bushels, against 21,406,000 bushels in the corresponding four weeks of 1914. There was also, however, some loss in the wheat receipts and the barley and rye receipts. The oats movement was larger than that of 1914. Combining wheat, corn, oats, barley and rye,

aggregate receipts of the five cereals for the four weeks the present year are found to have been only 50,151,000 bushels, as against 60,622,000 bushels in the corresponding four weeks of 1914. The details of the Western grain movement in our usual form are set out in the following :

Four Weeks Ended Mar. 27.	WESTERN GRAIN RECEIPTS.					
	Flour. (bbls.)	Wheat. (bush.)	Corn. (bush.)	Oats. (bush.)	Barley. (bush.)	Rye. (bush.)
<b>Chicago—</b>						
1915.....	622,000	3,209,000	4,468,000	9,972,000	1,723,000	116,000
1914.....	943,000	1,858,000	7,280,000	7,774,000	1,881,000	282,000
<b>Minneapolis—</b>						
1915.....	114,000	282,000	1,042,000	2,757,000	1,165,000	207,000
1914.....	195,000	401,000	1,383,000	1,909,000	1,482,000	213,000
<b>St. Louis—</b>						
1915.....	245,000	1,429,000	1,125,000	1,347,000	73,000	20,000
1914.....	256,000	1,310,000	1,611,000	2,199,000	140,000	2,000
<b>Toledo—</b>						
1915.....	-----	338,000	313,000	226,000	1,000	9,000
1914.....	-----	237,000	633,000	163,000	-----	4,000
<b>Detroit—</b>						
1915.....	33,000	212,000	187,000	249,000	-----	-----
1914.....	29,000	91,000	380,000	223,000	-----	-----
<b>Cleveland—</b>						
1915.....	58,000	65,000	401,000	368,000	4,000	2,000
1914.....	56,000	35,000	458,000	359,000	6,000	2,000
<b>Peoria—</b>						
1915.....	210,000	810,000	680,000	842,000	173,000	6,000
1914.....	161,000	81,000	1,318,000	898,000	276,000	14,000
<b>Duluth—</b>						
1915.....	-----	2,761,000	7,000	204,000	92,000	8,000
1914.....	-----	936,000	53,000	350,000	1,6,000	5,000
<b>Minneapolis—</b>						
1915.....	-----	4,004,000	2,139,000	1,708,000	1,471,000	105,000
1914.....	-----	8,284,000	1,141,000	1,114,000	1,671,000	255,000
<b>Kansas City—</b>						
1915.....	-----	1,175,000	461,000	409,000	-----	-----
1914.....	-----	1,157,000	3,621,000	1,420,000	-----	-----
<b>Omaha—</b>						
1915.....	-----	408,000	691,000	599,000	-----	-----
1914.....	-----	695,000	3,528,000	1,373,000	-----	-----
<b>Total of All—</b>						
1915.....	1,282,000	14,693,000	11,514,000	18,670,000	4,702,000	563,000
1914.....	1,640,000	15,085,000	21,406,000	17,782,000	5,572,000	777,000

As regards the cotton movement in the South the shipments overland for the even month in 1915 were 211,684 bales, as against 147,185 in March 1914 and 98,743 bales in March 1913. The receipts at the Southern ports were 1,101,251 bales the present year, against 571,079 bales in 1914 and 444,200 bales in March 1913, as will be seen from the following.

RECEIPTS OF COTTON AT SOUTHERN PORTS IN MARCH, AND FROM JANUARY 1 TO MARCH 31 1915, 1914 AND 1913.

Ports.	March.			Since January 1.		
	1915.	1914.	1913.	1915.	1914.	1913.
Galveston..... bales.	342,024	195,842	170,204	1,580,881	957,757	699,212
Texas City, &c.....	74,337	25,926	46,206	355,374	207,260	218,467
New Orleans.....	239,051	140,452	85,827	837,721	580,594	278,374
Mobile.....	15,414	21,698	8,003	59,157	71,710	27,436
Pensacola, &c.....	39,302	22,309	7,690	60,748	39,231	29,040
Savannah.....	150,382	77,075	40,666	750,086	275,257	158,031
Crumwellek.....	27,090	9,150	2,625	107,590	65,550	28,075
Charleston.....	54,619	8,626	19,593	151,052	27,930	30,180
Georgetown.....	339	-----	5	1,473	-----	110
Wilmington.....	60,446	10,389	10,241	132,339	57,345	28,692
Norfolk.....	83,910	46,620	44,187	264,432	139,280	98,080
Newport News, &c.....	14,427	12,991	9,053	47,309	50,357	43,879
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>1,101,251</b>	<b>571,079</b>	<b>444,200</b>	<b>4,347,802</b>	<b>2,471,941</b>	<b>1,638,570</b>

We have already referred to the fact that last year our early statement of earnings registered a decrease of \$2,191,364, or 3.01%. In 1913 and 1912, on the other hand, there were moderate increases. For March 1913 our statement, comprising substantially the same roads as now represented, recorded \$4,310,860 gain, or 6.50%, and for March 1912 the result was \$3,702,918 gain, or 5.73%. In March 1911, however, our compilation registered a loss of \$1,053,860, or 1.59%, notwithstanding large gains by the three Canadian systems. In March 1910 our preliminary statement revealed an increase of no less than \$8,795,473, or 15.61%. In March 1909, too, there was improvement, the increase then having been \$5,082,356, or 10.99%. In March 1908, on the other hand, at the time of the intense depression in trade, our early returns recorded a loss in the large sum of \$9,150,668, or 14.36%. We furnish herewith a summary of the comparative totals for March and the first quarter of each year back to 1897.

March.	Roads	Mileage.			Gross Earnings.		Increase (+)		Decrease (-).
		Miles.	Yr. pre- ceding.	In- cr.-%	Year Gross.	Year Preceding.	%		
								%	
1897	121	92,737	92,048	0.75	36,730,150	36,574,594	+155,556	0.42	
1898	133	97,253	96,089	1.21	44,918,276	38,767,463	+6,150,813	15.87	
1899	119	94,333	93,235	1.18	45,851,636	43,192,673	+2,658,963	6.15	
1900	112	99,388	97,438	1.97	54,226,229	48,306,240	+5,919,989	12.25	
1901	103	100,739	97,542	3.28	58,451,929	54,154,932	+4,296,997	7.93	
1902	89	92,041	90,481	1.72	53,947,913	50,750,057	+3,197,856	6.30	
1903	69	95,620	93,441	2.33	63,656,496	53,634,679	+10,021,817	14.42	
1904	69	85,636	83,386	2.68	54,218,287	54,355,422	-137,135	0.25	
1905	62	80,134	78,881	1.59	56,099,462	50,899,522	+5,199,940	10.21	
1906	58	83,228	81,448	2.18	60,824,758	55,489,877	+5,334,881	9.61	
1907	68	92,828	91,100	1.90	77,540,591	71,896,303	+5,644,288	7.85	
1908	55	83,468	82,332	1.38	54,549,532	63,700,200	-9,150,668	14.36	
1909	48	77,656	76,193	1.92	51,321,597	46,239,241	+5,082,356	10.99	
1910	53	85,936	84,398	1.82	65,155,888	59,360,415	+5,795,473	9.76	
1911	50	88,447	86,208	2.60	66,239,119	66,292,979	-5,753,860	8.62	
1912	47	88,168	86,495	1.95	68,404,326	64,791,402	+3,702,924	5.73	
1913	47	88,311	85,063	2.73	71,710,950	67,400,000	+4,310,950	6.50	
1914	45	92,045	90,774	1.38	70,785,610	72,976,974	-2,191,364	3.01	
1915	43	88,283	87,420	0.99	61,939,361	69,020,631	-7,081,270	10.25	
Jan. 1 to Mar. 31—									
1897	120	92,598	91,907	0.75	104,287,357	107,550,519	-3,263,162	3.03	
1898	131	96,998	95,832	1.21	126,755,310	109,339,374	+17,415,936	15.93	
1899	118	93,875	92,777	1.18	126,102,007	121,187,638	+4,914,369	4.05	
1900	111	99,115	97,195	1.97	154,477,543	132,538,843	+21,938,700	16.55	
1901	103	100,739	97,542	3.28	167,574,617	154,125,356	+13,449,261	8.72	
1902	89	92,041	90,481	1.72	155,556,499	146,020,090	+9,536,409	6.52	
1903	69	95,620	93,441	2.33	181,463,231	160,439,138	+21,024,093	13.09	
1904	69	85,636	83,386	2.68	152,071,336	152,791,610	-720,274	0.47	
1905	62	80,134	78,881	1.59	149,372,126	142,415,455	+6,956,671	4.88	
1906	58	83,228	81,448	2.18	183,644,690	164,918,113	+18,726,577	11.35	
1907	68	92,828	91,100	1.90	214,200,964	204,957,203	+9,243,761	4.51	
1908	55	83,468	82,332	1.38	149,515,930	168,209,991	-18,694,061	11.11	
1909	48	77,656	76,193	1.92	142,902,711	131,609,385	+11,293,326	8.66	
1910	53	85,936	84,398	1.82	170,172,331	155,045,813	+15,126,518	9.76	
1911	50	88,447	86,208	2.60	182,039,008	180,487,121	+1,551,887	0.86	
1912	47	88,168	86,495	1.95	190,997,306	180,042,806	+10,954,500	6.10	
1913	47	88,311	85,063	2.73	207,756,220	187,761,626	+19,994,594	10.75	
1914	45	92,045	90,774	1.38	199,138,010	210,023,711	-11,885,701	5.45	
1915	43	88,283	87,420	0.99	176,602,339	192,662,201	-17,059,862	8.91	

Not.—We do not include Mexican roads in any of the years.

To complete our analysis we add the following six-year comparisons of the earnings of leading roads arranged in groups.

EARNINGS OF SOUTHERN GROUP.

March.	1915.	1914.	1913.	1912.	1911.	1910.
Ala Great South.	\$ 393,194	\$ 436,682	\$ 431,043	\$ 401,436	\$ 335,256	\$ 370,769
Ala N O & T D						
New Or & N E	431,912	419,912	348,316	341,084	304,027	322,977
Ala & Vicks.	414,946	414,940	165,264	133,973	146,138	141,970
Vicks Shreve & P	415,713	155,713	158,420	123,368	121,030	118,968
Ches & Ohio. c	3,156,907	3,217,376	2,890,666	3,071,886	2,574,547	2,886,898
Cin N O & Tex P	780,313	928,643	839,206	806,721	673,933	793,924
Louis & Nash. b	4,280,200	5,055,136	4,925,451	4,939,330	4,874,674	4,790,530
Mobile & Ohio.	900,402	1,074,203	1,081,109	978,164	1,019,140	932,387
Southern Ry.	5,172,447	6,064,598	6,034,567	5,556,583	5,391,435	5,153,645
Yazoo & Miss V.	963,399	1,047,921	1,039,608	835,610	910,177	891,746
Total	16,267,427	18,445,124	17,913,650	17,206,055	16,219,447	16,403,004

b Includes the Louisville & Atlantic and the Frankfort & Cincinnati.  
c Includes Chesapeake & Ohio of Indiana beginning July 1 1910.  
d Month in 1915 not yet reported; taken same as last year.

EARNINGS OF SOUTHWESTERN GROUP.

March.	1915.	1914.	1913.	1912.	1911.	1910.
Colorado & South.	\$ 1,049,940	\$ 995,026	\$ 1,165,972	\$ 1,035,318	\$ 1,115,314	\$ 1,417,327
Deny & Rio Gran	1,563,100	1,597,090	1,786,145	1,717,731	1,687,224	1,955,968
Mo Kan & Tex. a	2,691,796	2,400,000	2,469,433	2,016,273	2,241,099	2,261,802
Missouri Pacific.	4,601,000	4,907,000	4,913,424	4,289,160	4,346,652	4,840,870
St Louis So West	844,000	1,055,000	1,079,350	972,731	982,949	939,982
Texas & Pacific.	1,390,313	1,592,332	1,455,894	1,332,785	1,205,475	1,313,701
Total	12,140,149	12,562,958	12,870,218	11,368,908	11,578,258	12,729,640

a Includes Texas Central in all the years and Wichita Falls line from Nov. 1 1912

EARNINGS OF NORTHWESTERN AND NORTH PACIFIC GROUP.

March.	1915.	1914.	1913.	1912.	1911.	1910.
Canadian Pacific.	\$ 7,700,000	\$ 9,295,000	\$ 11,111,893	\$ 10,519,319	\$ 8,800,040	\$ 7,796,337
Chic Grt West.	1,095,553	1,233,247	1,157,572	1,051,712	1,070,565	1,149,262
Dul So Sh & Atl.	246,424	292,548	258,777	243,032	227,535	276,893
Great Northern.	4,642,189	5,416,042	5,475,696	4,847,167	4,429,938	4,667,644
Minn & St Louis.	833,632	845,988	789,405	651,805	736,503	743,333
M S P & S S M.	2,137,186	2,321,497	2,320,595	1,613,137	1,645,007	1,880,365
Total	16,704,984	19,411,322	21,113,938	18,826,172	16,920,508	16,513,854

\* Includes Mason City & Fort Dodge and the Wisconsin Minnesota & Pacific.  
a Includes Iowa Central.

EARNINGS OF MIDDLE AND MIDDLE WESTERN GROUP.

March.	1915.	1914.	1913.	1912.	1911.	1910.
Buff Roch & Pitts	\$ 770,013	\$ 973,662	\$ 832,657	\$ 819,541	\$ 691,343	\$ 757,936
Chicago & Alton.	1,158,668	1,103,242	1,134,910	1,281,365	1,098,932	1,172,492
Chic Ind & Louis	563,520	592,293	477,951	534,335	512,880	542,857
Grand Trunk.						
Grd Trk West	4,014,204	4,423,671	4,078,681	4,080,230	3,909,773	3,793,257
Det G H & M						
Canada Atlanti						
Illinois Central.	5,627,502	5,928,408	5,259,850	5,189,200	5,194,023	5,538,953
Toledo Peoria & West	93,550	104,052	101,790	105,273	97,970	101,426
Toledo St L & West.	394,501	375,479	339,347	318,107	311,059	316,479
Wabash.	2,347,477	2,477,686	2,439,766	2,301,081	2,372,442	2,524,441
Total	14,378,421	15,983,993	15,264,964	14,539,882	14,188,467	14,747,841

c Includes earnings of Indianapolis Southern beginning with July 1910.

We now insert our detailed statement comprising all the roads that have thus far furnished returns for March. In a further statement we give the comparative earnings for the same roads for the period since the first of January.

GROSS EARNINGS AND MILEAGE IN MARCH.

Name of Road.	Gross Earnings.			Mileage.	
	1915.	1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-).	1915.	1914.
Ala Great Southern	\$ 393,194	\$ 436,682	-43,488	309	309
Ann Arbor	176,376	188,124	-11,748	300	300
Bellefonte Central	779,013	7,666	+1,360	27	27
Buffalo Roch & Pittsb	1,379,000	1,533,300	-154,300	4,670	4,670
Canadian Pacific	7,700,000	9,298,000	-1,598,000	12,319	11,920
Chesapeake & Ohio	3,156,907	3,217,376	-60,469	2,372	2,347
Chicago & Alton	1,158,668	1,108,242	+50,416	1,026	1,026
Chic Great Western	1,095,553	1,238,247	-142,694	1,429	1,496
Cin Ind & Louis	563,520	592,293	-28,773	617	616
Ohio New Or & Tex P	780,313	928,643	-148,330	336	336
Colorado & Southern	1,049,940	995,026	+54,914	1,867	1,867
Denver & Rio Grande	1,563,100	1,597,090	-34,990	2,585	2,585
Denver & Salt Lake	105,000	80,530	+24,470	255	255
Detroit & Mackinac	92,121	110,910	-18,789	400	411
Duluth So Sh & Atl.	246,424	292,548	-46,124	627	627
Georgia South & Fla.	182,046	218,667	-36,621	395	395
Grand Trunk of Can					
Grand Trunk West	4,014,204	4,423,671	-409,467	4,533	4,533
Det Gr Hav & Mil					
Canada Atlantic					
Grand Trunk Pacific	\$ 245,346	\$ 308,985	-63,639	1,104	1,104
Great Northern	4,642,189	5,415,042	-772,853	8,077	7,805
Illinois Central	5,627,502	5,928,408	-300,906	4,767	4,769
Louisville & Nashville	4,282,300	5,055,136	-772,836	5,034	4,923
Minneapolis & St Louis	78,674	55,835	+22,839	119	121
Iowa Central	883,632	845,988	+37,644	1,646	1,646
Minn St Paul & S S M	2,137,186	2,321,497	-184,311	4,127	4,096
Missouri Kan & Tex. a	2,691,796	2,406,000	+285,796	3,865	3,817
Missouri Pacific	4,601,000	4,907,000	-306,000	7,284	7,284
Mobile & Ohio	900,402	1,074,203	-173,801	1,122	1,122
Nevada-California-Oregon	25,532	26,584	-1,052	274	238
Rio Grande Southern	49,430	40,973	+		

find warrant only as an expedient tool which only the largely preponderating number of the governed, and not the majority, can fashion effectively.

If Mr. Wilson, the type, has not attained to the definite first principle of individualism, why has he not attained to it? Why does he live as if he had attained to it—even while he philosophizes as if he had not?

Very truly,

S. D. MERTON.

### AMERICAN ABROAD THINKS WE WILL SUFFER FOR LACK OF CONSIDERATION FOR GERMANY.

Bonn, March 18 1915.

To the Editor Commercial and Financial Chronicle, New York, U. S. A.:

Dear Sir—In your issue of Feb. 27, page 702, is reprinted from the "Board of Trade Journal" (as per "Economist," London) a German proclamation dated Sept. 30, prohibiting all payments, &c., to the United Kingdom and its foreign possessions. This article continues as follows (printed in italics): "The proclamation also establishes a moratorium in respect of bills of exchange and checks, which is to remain in force until further notice."

While it is but logical that for bills and checks payable to British subjects, the payment of which is prohibited (following the example set by Great Britain), a moratorium should necessarily be established, I feel that the passage referred to above is likely to create the false apprehension, as if a general moratorium for bills and checks had been declared in Germany.

This is certainly not true. There has never been a moratorium in Germany since the outbreak of the war, except for bills of exchange—not checks—drawn from foreign countries before July 31 and payable in Germany—in order to avoid indirect payments to countries at war with Germany.

It will perhaps interest you to learn that the American firm which I have been representing for many years in this country, under the misapprehension of an existing moratorium in Germany, hesitated to draw as usual. Having received my cable advice to the contrary, they began to draw as usual, and all their checks (more than \$300,000) were paid on presentation. This is quite notable in consideration of the fact that credits in England and France have proved unavailable for many months.

In your article of Jan. 23, page 256, you say that we Americans have always been such loyal devotees to English finance that we accept as the superlative of wisdom all schemes emanating from London. But I think that this will not hide from us the fact how far Germany in this war has surpassed all expectations as to its financial and economic strength. The first German war loan, issued in September last, secured subscriptions to the amount of RM. 4,600,000,000, and I warrant to say that, although it had been widely advertised as a patriotic duty to every German to subscribe, there has certainly been no compulsion of any kind, and I feel convinced that the subscriptions for the second war loan, which will close in these days, will probably surpass those of the first loan, although the price has been raised from 97.50 to 98.50.

During the last eight months of a gigantic war I have been a neutral observer and have been afforded ample opportunity to watch the wonderful spirit and activity shown by all classes of a people which, surrounded by enemies and cut off from the world, are fighting for their existence as a great and striving nation and firmly resolved to see things through.

Like all Americans born on American soil, I have always had a thorough dislike for German militarism and Junkerism, but I feel it to be my duty towards my American fellow-citizens to state that this war has certainly nothing whatever to do with militarism. It is not in our interest to let our views regarding the present conflict and its possible outcome be influenced by our predilection for England and English ways.

Germany has never shown anything but sympathy towards America, and has been our best customer, whom we must try to regain after this war. Unfortunately, there seems to be growing up against us a marked feeling of bitterness in Germany, where the people have begun to realize that America is applying different standards to English and German methods, and that if it was not for the extensive aid afforded to the Allies by America, in the nature of money and huge shipments of material of war, the war would have been terminated by now. American money and American guns, explosives, submarines and weapons of all kind, have been assisting England and her allies in their efforts to destroy Germany and its commerce. The American people cannot prevent individuals from shipping material of war to the enemies of Germany. This is quite right. But the fact remains that public opinion in this country will hold America responsible to a considerable extent for the bloodshed caused without the U. S. taking an active part in the war.

I do not know whether you will be able to appreciate these feelings, but I should not be at all surprised if we would experience considerable difficulties after the war in trying to take up our former business relations, which are vital to some of our industries.

For many years I have been a constant reader of the "Chronicle," and I feel that I could not do better than to place this before you as a matter which deserves serious consideration.

I am, dear sir,

Yours respectfully,

C. GEORGE BOKER.

### RUSSIA'S FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC POSITION.

The "Nieuwe Rotterdamsche Courant" (Holland) of March 13 contained a very interesting article on the financial and economic position of Russia, of which the following translation has been prepared for the "Chronicle" by Mr. R. Diamant of A. B. Leach & Co., who has also brought some of the information down to a later date or has amplified it. His remarks are enclosed within parentheses.

The condition of Russia from a financial and economic point of view is entirely different than that of her allies (France and England). One does not receive many particulars on this subject, however. That information of a financial and economic character which is allowed to go abroad is disappointingly meagre. It is known that at the outbreak of the war, the Russian State Bank was exempted from its obligation to redeem its notes, a moratorium for bills was established, while the shutting off of Russia from foreign trade caused difficulties, not only in the exchange transactions with foreign countries, but also on the domestic markets. Nothing became known of the measures that have been taken to deal with the crisis, with the exception of the news that a credit organization had been formed to advance funds on the two principal export articles—grain and lumber.

The weekly statements of the Russian State Bank furnish an incomplete picture of the condition of the country's finances, inasmuch as only a part of the war needs has been financed by this institution. Moreover, the domestic measures taken do not form the most important consideration for judging Russia's present position. Nevertheless, the Bank statement gives

us some interesting information. It shows that on Jan. 29 the Bank held \$438,000,000 of Treasury bills. (On March 1 1915 this amount was further increased to the total of \$533,915,000. These securities consist partly of short-term bonds of the State Treasury and Treasury bills discounted with the State Bank, or with interior or foreign credit institutions, and partly of four-year 4% Treasury bills secured by revenue receipts and accepted in payment of taxes and in payments to the State Bank. They are "to a certain extent a substitute for money, and are therefore not quoted on the Bourse.") This indicates that the major part of the \$531,000,000 of domestic Treasury bills issued up to that date had been financed by the Russian State Bank. Whether or not the remainder has been taken by the public or was placed with the other banks of the country, we cannot say.

The stock of gold of the Bank is only a little smaller now than at the outbreak of the war. Only \$40,000,000 has been sent abroad, all of which went to London. In view, however, of the tremendous increase in circulation, the gold cover has become proportionately smaller. Before the outbreak of the war, the circulation of the Russian State Bank amounted to \$831,300,000. On Jan. 14 1915 the amount was almost double, viz., \$1,545,300,000. Against this circulation the gold holdings, including the balances abroad, aggregated \$881,280,000. (The Russians before the war started could rightly boast of the fact that "not one bank of emission in the world ever possessed a gold supply of such dimensions.") Before the war, only \$153,000,000 notes could be issued without a cover of gold. Immediately upon the outbreak of the war these restrictions were removed and later modified so that at the present time \$765,000,000 of notes may be put into circulation without such gold cover. People in Russia expected that this liberal provision would amply take care of the situation, but with the plans of a joint loan by the Allies indefinitely postponed, it would seem that these expectations will come to naught. Consequently the information was recently passed along that the Bank would soon be authorized to further increase the amount of circulation that may be issued without a cover of gold.

In addition to the above-mentioned \$561,000,000 Treasury bills, Russia, not long after the beginning of the war (by Imperial Ukaz of Oct. 16), issued at 94 (yielding 5.62%) an interior 5% loan amounting to \$255,000,000. The results seemed to have been not altogether encouraging, for although the need for funds was urgent, one waited a long time before the experiment was repeated. (It must be noted that, according to Professor P. Migulin, "Russian private banks took up in the proportion of \$153,000,000, while the State Bank took up the balance of \$102,000,000 at the firm rate of 92, the subscription rate having been 94." Professor Migulin holds that the public demand for this loan proved enormous.) Instead of bringing out new loans, one tried the harder to get the necessary funds from abroad. It must be admitted that Russia has a very large gold supply, but also in this respect it can be said that "la memo chose n'est pas toujours la memo chose."

If it was only a question of temporarily finding the means to pay for war materials purchased abroad in order to provide for a partial payment of the temporary deficit of the balance of trade, the situation, in view of this stock of gold, would certainly not have been bad.

However, Russia is in the awkward position of being a large debtor State, and it is that fact which should not be lost sight of in comparing the condition of the country with that of its Allies. The debts which Russia owes abroad are well-nigh enormous. The service of the Government debt held abroad alone requires more than \$155,000,000 yearly. Furthermore, a very large part of the Russian industry has been financed by foreign capital, partly by means of bonds. The weightiest consideration, however, lies in the fact that the Russian trade, to very large extent, is being financed with foreign funds, and that the Russian Bank and credit transactions, as well as those in money and bills, are very strongly assisted by foreign capital, especially that of France, in the shape of bills, discounts, so-called pensions, loans and bank credits. The real debt of Russia to foreign nations, therefore, is much larger than can be computed on the basis of the above and other material. In reviewing the condition of France (this article is one of a series), we have already called attention to the fact that the Bank of France placed not less than \$100,000,000 at the disposal of the Russian State Bank, so as to enable Russian institutions to pay their obligations in France. From an interview with one of the directors of the Russian State Bank, published one of these days, it transpired that this sum will only suffice for the payment of a certain percentage of these debts. All this explains why Russia so zealously guards against demands on its gold supply. One knows altogether too well that one will have to finance not only the temporary needs created by the war, but also the old debts, and that the aggregate makes it out of the question trying to take care of this situation with the present amount of gold available. The late Count Witte went even so far as to suggest that the Government should seize all the gold held by private individuals.

It can be fully understood from the above why Russia, from the very beginning, exerted all its powers to obtain large funds abroad. At first these efforts met with only slow success. England was found willing to discount \$60,000,000 (six months) Russian Treasury bills provided Russia sent over a sum of \$40,000,000 in gold, which was subsequently done. (The fact that Russian soldiers guarded this gold on its way to England did originate the well-known "canard" according to which Russia was sending thousands of soldiers to England to assist in the French campaign.) In Great Britain it was soon realized, however, that small measures would not afford adequate relief, so that as David Lloyd-George declared in the House on Feb. 15 last, another advance of \$100,000,000 was made. The Chancellor at the same time stated that France and England combined would advance to Russia another \$250,000,000, and that in order to improve the badly-impaired Russian exchange position, already on the mind, Russians would be allowed to pay their debts in London by depositing with the Russian State Bank the money they owed to the English merchants, against which a corresponding amount of Russian Treasury bills would be purchased by London with the proceeds of which the English holders of Russian bills would be paid and the debts accordingly liquidated.

It will be seen, therefore, that the English and French markets, through new Russian loans, not only commit themselves to more requirements, but also that the English Government and the Bank of France, in behalf of their own citizens, are financing old Russian debts, in other words, that the central institutions are taking on their shoulders a part of the burden of Russia's obligations.

Great Britain did not give this assistance entirely unconditionally, for the Russian Government had to promise that it would do its utmost to find the means for carrying on the war within its own borders, while it was also agreed to that if the gold holdings of the Bank of England would fall below a certain amount, Russia, together with France, to which latter country Great Britain also has promised its financial aid, should replenish these gold holdings to certain extent.

It is not within the scope of this review to comment on the political consequences which may grow out of this important English influence on the finances of its allies. We cannot fail to realize, however, that the financial consequences alone must be of a far-reaching nature.

In deference to the wish of England, Russia has announced the issuance of another 5% interior loan of \$255,000,000, also to be marketed at 94, but

this fact, coupled with the announcement of an expected early enlargement of the uncovered Bank note circulation seems to indicate that not much faith exists of the entire absorption of this loan by private individuals.

Russia, no doubt, is a country with vast resources, and is capable of tremendous development provided that it is wisely governed. Nevertheless, it cannot be doubted that the new enormous obligations which are now being piled up on the shoulders of this country, before the outbreak of the war already so heavily in debt, must set it back severely.

If the war has an unfavorable ending for Russia, a financial crisis is not entirely out of the question. For the present, the Allies, in their own interest, will have to give Russia all possible aid, not only on account of political, but also, as for instance in the case of France, out of financial consideration. Russia's power in this respect, exercised upon its allies, is more or less akin to that of a well-known Parisian banker living in the nineties—and, by the way, a specialist in Russian securities—who once remarked, "Je vis de mon passif." However, he became bankrupt in the end.

It must be admitted that Russia is doing all within its power to help itself. A further increase in existing tax rates, and the imposing of new taxes, from which an additional \$220,000,000 is expected, is under consideration. (Soon after the outbreak of the war, partly to offset the falling off due to the abrogation of the vodka monopoly, almost all direct and indirect taxes were increased—land, house, lodging and trade taxes, also excise on tobacco, sugar, petroleum products, matches, cigarette cases and cigarette papers, yeast and beer, while customs duties and stamp duties were increased very appreciably. Assessments on expressage were introduced, postal and telegraph rates were raised and new taxes levied on telephones and raw cotton. It was also reported in January that the introduction of a personal income tax and a personal military tax, and also a reform of the inheritance tax and the introduction of other property taxes were considered.) Efforts are bent, furthermore, upon taking off as much as possible the sharp edges of the interior crisis. The so-called "Red Cross Syndicate," which was formed about a year ago, to come to the rescue of tottering Stock Exchange values, with about \$51,000,000 cash, and for which purpose already one-half has been used, has again been extended now for another nine months. The forced opening of the Dardanelles remains, however, the most important thing to do, as it will provide the country, through the exportation to the Allies of its great stores of grain, with a new means to protect its gold supply.

This sketch would not be complete without giving a few figures relative to Russia's debt and trade. The following table shows the growth of the Government debt of the country since 1901, and lays special stress upon the tremendous increase in debt due to the Russo-Japanese war:

1901	\$3,260,000,000	1906	\$4,399,000,000	1911	\$4,569,000,000
1902	3,363,000,000	1907	4,459,000,000	1912	4,518,000,000
1903	3,392,000,000	1908	4,514,000,000	1913	4,493,000,000
1904	3,612,000,000	1909	4,618,000,000	1914	4,590,000,000
1905	3,999,000,000	1910	4,695,000,000		

\* Approximate amount at the outbreak of the war. The railroad bonds guaranteed by the Russian Government amount to \$1,910,000,000, increasing the total obligatory and contingent debt of the Empire to about \$6,510,000,000.

The interest of this debt alone requires about \$190,000,000 yearly, and the amortization more than \$15,000,000, making the total amount needed for the annual service of this huge debt about \$205,000,000. It has been estimated that of this sum more than \$150,000,000 is being paid to foreign holders of Russian Government securities. Let us consider in how far this foreign obligation can be met by the annual balance of trade. The country's foreign trade in recent years has been as follows:

	Imports.	Exports.	Export Balance.
1911	\$609,457,000	\$717,947,000	\$108,490,000
1912	528,703,000	728,298,000	199,595,000
1913	521,558,000	771,637,000	250,079,000
1914	700,074,000	775,251,000	75,181,000

If we eliminate the disaster year 1914, we note that in recent years the export balance was on the increase. Taking into consideration, however, the enormous sum needed to provide for interest and amortization on Government and other debts held abroad, it is plain that this export balance was barely sufficient to take care of these two items.

Since the outbreak of the war enormous sums, which later will possibly be consolidated into one huge loan, have been added to this debt. They are mainly as follows:

	Roubles.	Equivalent in \$.
5% Interior loan	500,000,000	205,000,000
4% and 5% Treasury bills and bonds	1,100,000,000	561,000,000
Borrowed in Great Britain	75,000,000	38,250,000
Credits by France and England	375,000,000	191,250,000
Credit by J. P. Morgan & Company	31,000,000	15,810,000
New 5% loan now contemplated	500,000,000	255,000,000
Total	2,581,000,000	1,266,310,000

It goes without saying that this will not be all, and that more will have to be added before the war is over. We cannot fail to note that the interest burden on the above amount computed at 5% is equivalent to more than \$60,000,000.

Although the opening of the Dardanelles means a good deal, at the same time it seems very likely that the advantages to be derived therefrom will have to be converted into war material, which in turn will place heavier burdens upon the people. It would seem, therefore, that before the war is over Russia will have to pay at least more than \$300,000,000 annually in interest and amortization on its debt, of which three-quarters will have to be paid abroad. Even if Germany will be compelled to pay a huge indemnity, it would seem that, in view of the many participants, Russia will receive a comparatively small amount, so that, when the war will be over at last, it appears to be unlikely that the country can immediately provide for this annual amount of interest and amortization by its balance of trade.

The condition of the Treasury is not such as to expect fiscal wonders. The Secretary of the Treasury recently stated that on account of the war the Government receipts would fall off by about \$270,000,000, of which more than 75% can be attributed to the abrogation of the vodka monopoly. (The entire suspension of the Government operation of the liquor monopoly, which, according to Minister of Finance P. L. Barez, has increased the productive capacity of the people by from 30% to 50%, followed only seven months after directions were given by Rescript of Feb. 12 1914 for the restriction of the State sale of liquor as a source of revenue. The question of temperance had been under discussion almost from the beginning of the Duma's existence. During 1913 the net profits from the drink monopoly accruing to the State aggregated about \$338,000,000.) In order to recover from all this without impairing the country's stock of gold, new and tremendous credit operations abroad will be necessary, while in the country itself the tax-screw will have to be turned considerably closer. Viewed in this light, we are inclined to believe that in the first few years after peace shall have been established, a victorious Russia will not lay golden eggs for its people \* \* \* as a matter of fact, the citizens will be the ones who will have to contribute the golden eggs.

The above reminds us again of the fact that even if the present war may result in a long and permanent peace, posterity rather than the present generation will reap the fruits of such happy outcome.

It would, furthermore, appear that a recovery of the rouble exchange, at least a permanent one, is quite impossible.

Mr. Diamant also submits the following comparative statements of the Russian State Bank and of the Russian Budget:

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES OF THE RUSSIAN STATE BANK.

Assets. (Three cyphers (000) omitted.)	March 1		July 21		March 1		Difference for the year.
	1915.	1914.	1914.	1914.	1914.	1914.	
Gold	784,475	800,570	772,915	Inc.	11,560		
Balances abroad	70,370	71,975	80,315	Dec.	9,945		
Silver and subsidiary coin	26,025	36,910	34,195	Dec.	8,170		
Securities and short loans	275,805	196,635	264,755	Inc.	11,050		
Treasury bonds	533,915			Inc.	533,915		
Other loans and advances	227,090	183,720	221,335	Inc.	5,755		
Securities belonging to the Bank	53,910	50,895	50,120	Inc.	3,790		
Miscellaneous assets	69,845	78,230	36,915	Inc.	23,930		
Balances due by branches and treasuries	177,620	11,355		Inc.	177,220		
Total	2,210,055	1,430,340	1,460,550	Inc.	749,505		
Liabilities.							
Capital stock	27,500	27,500	27,500				
Note circulation	1,547,085	817,055	809,905	Inc.	737,180		
Deposit and current account	502,595	298,345	287,255	Inc.	215,350		
Treasury account	101,140	251,310	301,250	Dec.	300,110		
Miscellaneous liabilities	32,735	36,130	17,365	Inc.	14,365		
Balances due to branches and treasuries			17,275	Dec.	17,235		
Total	2,220,055	1,430,340	1,460,550	Inc.	749,505		

BUDGET ACCOUNTS OF THE RUSSIAN EMPIRE.

Ordinary Revenue—	Estimates 1915.		Differ. from 1914.	
	Roubles.	Roubles.	Roubles.	Roubles.
Direct taxes	342,465,270	Inc.	66,457,886	
Indirect taxes	694,184,300	Dec.	37,257,600	
Duties	508,913,532	Inc.	270,976,832	
Government monopolies	324,172,050	Dec.	746,051,200	
State property and capital	1,068,235,937	Dec.	51,853,720	
Expropriation of State property	1,828,790	Dec.	98,490	
Redemption payments	1,864,863	Inc.	919,963	
Reimbursements	123,333,152	Inc.	9,884,284	
Miscellaneous	15,112,420	Dec.	239,114	
Total	3,080,108,314	Dec.	492,061,159	

Extraordinary Revenue—	Estimates 1915.		Differ. from 1914.	
	Roubles.	Roubles.	Roubles.	Roubles.
Deposits in State Bank	1,500,000	Inc.	100,000	
Repayments	8,000,000	Dec.	4,000,000	
From Credit operations	144,700,100	Inc.	144,700,100	
Total	154,200,100	Inc.	140,800,100	
Free balance State Treasury		Dec.	27,999,925	
Grand total	3,234,308,414	Dec.	379,260,984	

Ordinary Expenditure—	Estimates 1915.		Differ. from 1914.	
	Roubles.	Roubles.	Roubles.	Roubles.
Imperial household	18,359,595			
Higher State institutions	8,912,010	Inc.	595,055	
Holy Synod	49,189,350	Dec.	3,903,875	
Ministry of the Interior	208,701,120	Inc.	2,153,570	
Finance	355,328,092	Dec.	142,535,268	
Justice	101,691,657	Dec.	3,209,642	
Foreign Affairs	7,790,288	Inc.	15,561	
Education	146,652,371	Dec.	22,927,028	
Ways of Communication	710,587,924	Dec.	8,497,568	
Trade and Industry	57,429,996	Dec.	13,463,573	
Board of Agriculture	146,038,330	Dec.	11,482,010	
State horse breeding	3,837,690	Dec.	745,870	
War Department	598,714,153	Dec.	22,834,669	
Naval Department	204,879,339	Dec.	41,214,094	
State Control	12,996,038	Inc.	38,436	
Payments on loans	439,706,598	Inc.	37,600,928	
Emergency fund	10,000,000			
Total	3,078,814,461	Dec.	230,709,056	

Extraordinary Expenditure—	Estimates 1915.		Differ. from 1914.	
	Roubles.	Roubles.	Roubles.	Roubles.
Russo-Japanese War		Dec.	435,000	
War Department	79,328,000	Dec.	46,092,000	
Railway construction	65,710,577	Dec.	42,226,223	
Payments to railway companies	1,071,176	Dec.	335,124	
Port Expenditures	9,384,200	Dec.	8,615,800	
Loan expenditures		Dec.	27,999,925	
Construction of branch railways, &c.		Dec.	22,847,856	
Total	155,493,953	Dec.	148,551,928	
Grand total	3,234,308,414	Dec.	379,260,984	

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BANK OF FRANCE—RECORD OF AN EVENTFUL YEAR.

The operations of the Bank were continued in normal fashion throughout the first six months, when suddenly our country was obliged, in spite of its manifest desire for peace, to accept the ordeal of a national war and to show the world once more in history of what an heroic and decisive effort France is still capable when the obligation is imposed upon it of engaging all its powers and all its resources.

We realized what a task was incumbent upon the Bank. We approached it with absolute confidence, because the Bank also had very carefully mobilized its forces.

We know that it was with a view especially to such a contingency that our gold reserve had been methodically increased for a long time, in order to make sure of a wider and wider base for the exceptional issues of notes which were necessarily entailed. For more than a year we have followed with attention all financial events which might be the sign of international complications, and we have fortified ourselves as far as possible by further increasing our gold reserve almost a billion francs in a few months.

We had to consider, also, that the private hoarding of all specie in circulation would result in provoking, on the eve of the conflict, a monetary crisis particularly embarrassing for all small transactions. In this respect, we were also prepared. The General Council had previously authorized the issuance of a considerable amount of 20-franc and 5-franc notes. These notes were provided and distributed beforehand to all parts of the country. When the critical moment arrived, their issuance could begin without delay, and the crisis, at the end of a few days, was completely and definitely averted.

All arrangements had, in short, been made, from the first hour to assure a systematic and diligent co-operation in the service of the Treasury. The instructions were given, they were followed by our directors with such promptness that all the credits could be extended in all parts of the territory without difficulty and without delay, and the Bank thus co-operated in the very impressive success of the general mobilization.

Our obligations to the State were not limited to this general service. In 1870 the Bank took great pride in furnishing to the Treasury for the national defense all the sums which it could not obtain by means of loan during the continuance of hostilities.

The way was mapped out for us by this memorable example, and furthermore, the agreement of 1911, which supplemented that of 1897, had in advance regulated up to a first maximum of 2 billions 900 millions the conditions of our co-operation. Even before this maximum was reached, a new agreement under date of Sept. 21, signed at Bordeaux, raised it to 6 billions. The rate of interest on these advances to the public treasury remains fixed at 1% during the continuance of hostilities, and during the year following; a decrease by  $\frac{1}{4}$  has been made in virtue of service to the State. An advance is then expected in order to establish a sinking fund from which shall be taken in the first place the amount of mitigations which there shall be need of applying to dangers resulting from our commercial notes, which have been realized by the postponement of maturities. The remainder is designed to hasten the repayment of the debt of the State, for advances so important have as their result a forced currency of notes, and nothing in the long run would be more disastrous than a failure to fund this debt, "as is proved," M. A. Ribot, Minister of Finances, with all authority has said, "by the experience of the countries which have not had the courage or which have not had the power to return to the banks the sums which they have borrowed from them."

While calling thus largely upon the co-operation of the Bank, and knowing that he can count in all circumstances upon its clear-sighted patriotism, the Minister of Finances has happily not depended exclusively upon this means, and has obtained from the public itself all the funds which a direct issue of Bonds of National Defense can procure. The success of this plan must lighten our task and pave the way for the issue of future loans. Therefore, we have been eager to help it on with the patronage of our clients, and, in a more general way still, by giving to the bonds issued all the facilities of conversion in the form of discount or advances.

These primordial duties toward the State, considerable as they were, did not, however, take up all our attention or all our resources.

It was our duty also to assure, in face of the mobilization, in face of the war, and in the most comprehensive way, the distribution of credit to commerce, industry, agriculture, banks and all the establishments which share also in the national defense, in the military and civil supplies, and more generally in the indispensable maintenance of economic activity throughout the whole country and up to the very front of the armies.

At the first threats of the conflict, all the deposit banks were beset with demands of withdrawals, which we enabled them to meet by consenting to unlimited re-discounts at this time. From July 27 to Aug. 1, our commercial paper was doubled, increasing in six days from 1 billion 583 millions to 3 billions 41 millions. A decree then intervened which postponed commercial maturities and limited the portion of deposited funds which might be demanded at sight in the banks.

The limitation, at first very strict, was relaxed at successive periods and new discounts were granted to the necessary extent, at the same time that we were receiving, either through the medium of banks and agricultural offices or directly, all the paper arising out of legitimate needs. In order to facilitate direct access to our discount windows, for merchants and manufacturers, we even opened a special bureau at Paris.

Our notes thus continued to increase until on Oct. 1, after two months of war, they reached 4 billions 476 millions. Since that time, important receipts have begun to come in, in spite of the postponement of maturities, and if in a general way this postponement, and the credit resulting from it, permit numerous transactions to be carried on for cash, affairs should tend from now on to take up a more normal aspect in the form of new discount notes regularly payable at maturity.

The special difficulties arising from the state of war, for the recovery of credits on Allied and neutral countries, and for the payments to be made in those countries, have led us to expand our relations with foreign places. We have established in the chief of these places a large amount of available funds, which give us every means of helping commerce and industry advantageously to maintain and develop their business abroad. A special agreement concluded with the State Bank of Russia will, thanks to our assistance, permit the settlement of operations of credit which have been outstanding since the declaration of war and will assure the liberation of important funds on the market of Paris.

Our transactions in advances were necessarily the object of particularly watchful attention during the first period of hostilities, when, under the impulse of the same fears which provoked the withdrawal of deposits in the banks beyond immediate needs, the public wanted also to convert into bank notes all the obligations which it was possible to present at our windows. Now it is known that the sum of these obligations on which, according to statute, the Bank may grant advances, amounts to 50 billion francs. Wise regulation was necessary to restrain the first exaggerated demands and then to maintain within reasonable limits operations whose importance must at no time be permitted to menace the full freedom of our discounts to commerce and our advances to the State.

The measures taken were effective enough to allow us to assure, without imitation, the necessary credit to bearers of 3½% redeemable Rentes desirous of discharging payments, and to lend our assistance to the Committee of the Stockbrokers of Paris in the repayment of an installment of 40% on the sums carried forward after the postponement of settlement on July 31.

It would certainly be very premature to consider the present figures of our balance sheet as giving the full measure of our effort. Our task is far from being completed. It will not cease even on the day of positive success for the Allied armies, for the credit of the Bank ought then to uphold not less effectively the work of economic rebuilding and repair, the great national strain which will follow victory.

We can, however, state with very legitimate satisfaction that, after six months of war, our metallic reserve remains intact. It exceeded 4 billions 514 millions on Dec. 24, and the circulation of notes was then about 10 billion francs. The difference between these two figures, representing the part of the circulation used for transactions of credit, was then about 5½ billions only, while at the same date we had lent 3 billions 900 millions to the State and 4 billions 481 millions to commerce, industry and private

individuals, in the form of discount and advances, or a total of about 8½ billions. The necessary additional resources have been furnished us, without an issue of notes, by the voluntary contribution of the public, whose available deposits in our coffers have reached nearly 3 billion francs. Our balance sheet thus shows, not less clearly than the premium on our notes on foreign markets, the universal confidence which the sagacity of the Bank has merited.

This confidence is at all times, and more especially at the present moment, our best inheritance. It allows us to look upon the future without alarm. While continuing to justify it, however prolonged may be the effort to do so, we will maintain the credit reserves indispensable for accomplishing our task to the very finish.

#### Sum of Transactions.

The amount of our productive transactions in the course of the year 1914 exceeded 36 billion francs, against over 38 billion the preceding year. These figures do not include the deposits of collateral, transfers of accounts, or the transactions carried on gratuitously for the account of the Public Treasury.

(1) The figures given in this account are as drawn up by the Comptabilité Générale (i. e., General Bookkeepers). There are lacking certain elements relating to a few branch banks with which communication has been interrupted. For the same reasons, the supplementary statistics will not be published until later.

#### Transactions for the Account of the Treasury.

The total of operations transacted for the account of the Public Treasury were:

To the credit .....	15,562,900 000 francs
To the debit .....	15,526,900 000 "
	31,089,800 000 "
In 1913 the aggregate total reached .....	13,746,600 000 "

These figures include the deposits and levies of the Treasury accounts, the clearings of funds effected by the Bank in Paris and in the Departments for the Treasury account; the remittances of bills for collection, the collections of orders, the issues of Treasury bonds and the payments of coupons of Treasury bills at our windows.

All these transactions of funds, in pursuance of the law of Nov. 17 1897, have been carried on by the Bank without remuneration.

#### Bonds of National Defense.

Our windows have been open gratuitously to all—to the public as well as to our patrons—at the Banque Centrale and at the Annexe Ventadour at Paris, and in all our branch banks and subsidiary bureaus in the Departments, for the issue and the renewal of Bonds of National Defense.

These bonds are received for discount when they have at most three months to run, and the Bank allows advances upon them, whatever their date of maturity, up to 80% of their value.

#### Metallic Reserves.

During the year which has just passed our metallic reserves have again increased. They reached at the end of the respective years:

In 1913, 4,157,500,000 francs, of which 3,517,400,000 francs were in gold.
In 1914, 4,514,400,000 francs, of which 4,168,500,000 francs were in gold.

Increase 356,900,000 francs, of which 641,100,000 francs in gold.

The increase in the total of our metallic reserves appears the more satisfactory as it has been realized in face of a reduction of 284 millions in our silver reserve. The contraction of credit provoked by the threat of war, and the substitution in ordinary transactions of payments in cash at periodic settlements, has, in fact, called forth an active demand for small monetary notes which the Bank of France had to supply for circulation. The decrease in the silver reserves, which has been the consequence of this, has nevertheless been much less than the increase in our stock of gold. That has been strengthened during the year 1914 by more than 641 million francs, thanks to exchanges steadily favorable and to a policy of foresight in monetary affairs which finds a new and positive justification in the present circumstances.

Thus, at the moment when the assistance which we were giving to the business world in order to ward off the effects of the crisis led us to increase greatly our issues; we were laying up powerful gold reserves, which enabled us to face the future with security. We have not been obliged up to the present time to draw upon these reserves; they have continued to increase, reaching their maximum figure at the end of the year as a result of the receipts from domestic circulation and the payments made by foreign markets.

France still possesses considerable private gold reserves, and in spite of temporary modifications brought about since the opening of hostilities, in the state of its foreign commerce, it continues to be creditor everywhere. Far from having to export gold, it has steadily been acquiring it. The disposable funds which are accumulating abroad to the credit of the Bank give it, in this respect, a new power of purchase and constitute virtual gold reserves, capable of being materialized if it is felt to be necessary.

At the present time our available reserve in gold amounts to more than 4 billions 400 millions.

During the year the course of our reserve has been as follows, compared with the year 1913:

		Silver.	
1st Half-year	1914 .....	Decrease	1,800,000 francs
	1913 .....	Decrease	65,600,000 "
2d Half-year	1914 .....	Decrease	282,400,000 "
	1913 .....	Increase	16,500,000 "
		Gold.	
1st Half-year	1914 .....	Increase	458,300,000 "
	1913 .....	Increase	109,700,000 "
2d Half-year	1914 .....	Increase	182,800,000 "
	1913 .....	Increase	200,400,000 "

#### Rates of Discount and Advances.

The improvement in the monetary situation which was manifested at the end of the year enabled us on Jan. 29 (1914) to lower the official rate of discount from 4% to 3½%. We believed it necessary, however, to maintain that of advances at 4½% in order to keep loans on obligations from assuming a magnitude not suited to a bank of issue.

These conditions remained in force for six months. It was only on July 30 and in the face of threats of serious events that we raised the rates of discount and advances to 4½% and 5½% respectively. On Aug. 1, when the war appeared inevitable, and when the Bank of England, after having carried its official minimum to 8%, raised it successively on the same day to 9% and 10%, we were obliged to fix our rates at 6% for discount and at 7% for advances. But, true to our traditional policy, we modified the conditions for obtaining credit as soon as the acuteness of the financial crisis was lessened and we could do so without danger. On Aug. 20 we restored our rate on discounts to 5% and that on advances to 6%.

#### Discounts—Commercial Paper.

The discounts in Paris, the branch banks and the subsidiary bureaus covered 21,953,000 notes for 18,802,000,000 francs.

The total of notes of the Bank reached its maximum on Oct. 1, with 4 billion 476 million francs.





One-eighth from Jan. 30 to July 30 1914 (rate 3½%);	
One-sixth from July 31 to Dec. 24 1914 (rate 4½%, 6% and 5%);	
This royalty amounted to	frances 14,486,160 11
The royalty owed by the Bank by reason of the advances granted to the State reached the figure of	1,115,131 58
The payment made to the State in execution of the law of Nov. 17 1897 was	134,566 22

The whole of the sums paid to the State as royalty amounted then this year to

frances 15,735,857 91

The total of sums coming from the royalty on productive circulation and capital, by the laws of Nov. 17 1897 and Dec. 29 1911, for the use of agricultural credit, along with the special advance of 40 millions, have reached 110,251,293 25 francs.

The total paid to the State in the form of taxes and royalties has been this year 20,580,983 02 francs, or 86% of the commercial net proceeds of the distribution made to the stockholders.

*Dividends and Number of Shareholders.*

The gross dividend of the first six months of 1914 was fixed at francs 104,166 That of the second six months at

93,750

Or, for the year

frances 197,916

corresponding to a net dividend, tax deducted, of

frances 190,000

The dividend on the 182,500 shares of the Bank is payable at Paris to 10,385 stockholders, possessing 93,186 shares, and in the branch banks and subsidiary bureaus to 22,159 stockholders, possessing 89,314 shares.

135,200 shares belong to persons having free disposal of their goods, and 47,300 to married women, minors, persons interdicted, &c., who cannot give up their stocks without certain authorizations or formalities.

In the course of the year 450 shares were transferred from Paris to branch banks and 2,231 from the branch banks to Paris.

On Dec. 24 1914 our stockholders were distributed as follows, as regards the number of shares they possessed:

Possessing 1 share	11,530	Possessing from 21 to 30 shs.	698
do 2 shares	6,954	do from 31 to 50 shs.	430
do from 3 to 5 shs.	7,141	do from 51 to 100 shs.	240
do from 6 to 10 shs.	3,680	do more than 100 shs.	120
do from 11 to 20 shs.	1,751		
Total			32,544

The number of persons possessing a single share form more than a third of the total, and the proportion of persons possessing one or two shares reaches almost 57%.

*Condition of the Principal Accounts of the Bank of France and Its Branch Banks on Dec. 24 1914.*

Assets.		Frances
<b>Metallie reserve:</b>		
Gold	4,158,460,879 49	
Silver	355,951,992 28	
		4,514,412,871 77
<b>Notes not matured:</b>		
Paris	127,745,449 77	
Branch banks	130,560,018 83	
		258,305,468 60
<b>Notes extended:</b>		
Paris	1,920,504,357 69	
Branch banks	1,557,178,960 00	
		3,477,683,317 69
<b>Total</b>		3,735,988,786 29
<b>Advances to the State (law of Aug. 5 and Dec. 26 1914)</b>		
		3,900,000,000 00
<b>Advances on obligations:</b>		
Paris	225,511,187 85	
Branch banks	519,867,033 00	
		745,378,220 85
<b>Liabilities.</b>		
Notes to bearer in circulation		10,042,899,720 00
Accounts current of the Public Treasury		450,466,780 45
<b>Accounts current:</b>		
Paris	1,386,410,411 38	
Branch banks	823,426,337 00	
		2,209,836,748 38
<b>Deposit accounts:</b>		
Paris	197,716,522 80	
Branch banks	243,042,963 00	
		440,759,485 80
		2,650,596,234 18

**UNITED STATES NOTE IN ANSWER TO BRITISH ORDER IN COUNCIL.**

The note of the United States taking exception to the British Order in Council of last month virtually declaring a blockade against commerce to and from Germany was made public on the 5th inst. The note was cabled to Ambassador Page at London on March 30 for presentation to the British Foreign Office, but its text was withheld for simultaneous issuance in London and Washington this week. A copy of the note has also been dispatched to Ambassador Sharp at Paris for submission to the French Foreign Office, with instructions to the effect that although the French Admiralty decree had not been officially received in Washington, it was understood there to be identical with the British Order in Council and therefore called for a similar reply. In seeking a modification of the British order (published in our issue of March 20) the United States declares that "were its provisions to be actually carried into effect as they stand", the order would constitute "a practical assertion of unlimited belligerent rights over neutral commerce within the whole European area and an almost unqualified denial of the sovereign rights of the nations now at peace." It is pointed out that the order "embraces many neutral ports and coasts,

bars access to them, and subjects all neutral ships seeking to approach them to the same suspicion that would attach to them were they bound for the ports of the enemies of Great Britain and to unusual risks and penalties." "It is manifest", it is added, "that such limitations, risks and liabilities placed upon the ships of a neutral power on the seas, beyond the right of visit and search and the right to prevent the shipment of contraband already referred to, are a distinct invasion of the sovereign rights of the nation whose ships, trade or commerce is interfered with." The United States expresses the hope that instructions will be issued directing the exercise of discretionary powers in such a manner as to modify in practical application those provisions of the order which, if strictly enforced, would violate neutral rights and interrupt legitimate trade.

In indicating that full reparation will be exacted for every act if the Order is strictly enforced, the note says: "The possibilities of serious interruption of American trade under the Order in Council are so many and the methods proposed are so unusual and seem liable to constitute so great an impediment and embarrassment to neutral commerce that the Government of the United States if the Order in Council is strictly enforced, apprehends many interferences with its legitimate trade which will impose upon His Majesty's Government heavy responsibilities for acts of the British authorities clearly subversive of the rights of neutral nations on the high seas. It is, therefore, expected that His Majesty's Government, having considered these possibilities, will take the steps necessary to avoid them and in the event that they should unhappily occur will be prepared to make full reparation for every act which under the rules of international law constitutes a violation of neutral rights." The note in full is as follows:

Washington, March 30 1915.

The Secretary of State to the American Ambassador at London.

You are instructed to deliver the following to His Majesty's Government in reply to your numbers 1,795 and 1,798 of March 15: The Government of the United States has given careful consideration to the subjects treated in the British notes of March 13 and March 15 and to the British Order in Council of the latter date.

These communications contain matters of grave importance to neutral nations. They appear to menace their rights of trade and intercourse, not only with belligerents but also with one another. They call for frank comment in order that misunderstandings may be avoided. The Government of the United States deems it its duty, therefore, speaking in the sincerest spirit of friendship, to make its own view and position with regard to them unmistakably clear.

The Order in Council of the 15th of March would constitute, were its provisions, to be actually carried into effect as they stand, a practical assertion of unlimited belligerent rights over neutral commerce within the whole European area, and an almost unqualified denial of the sovereign rights of the nations now at peace.

This Government takes it for granted that there can be no question what those rights are. A nation's sovereignty over its own ships and citizens under its own flag on the high seas in time of peace is, of course, unlimited, and that sovereignty suffers no diminution in time of war, except in so far as the practice and consent of civilized nations has limited it, by the recognition of certain now clearly-determined rights, which it is conceded may be exercised by nations which are at war.

A belligerent nation has been conceded the right of visit and search, and the right to capture and condemnation, if upon examination a neutral vessel is found to be engaged in unneutral service or to be carrying contraband of war intended for the enemy's government or armed forces. It has been conceded the right to establish and maintain a blockade of an enemy's ports and coasts and to capture and condemn any vessel taken in trying to break the blockade. It is even conceded the right to detain and take to its own ports for judicial examination all vessels which it suspects for substantial reasons to be engaged in unneutral or contraband service and to condemn them if the suspicion is sustained. But such rights, long clearly defined, both in doctrine and practice, have hitherto been held to be the only permissible exceptions to the principle of universal equality of sovereignty on the high seas as between belligerents and nations not engaged in war.

It is confidently assumed that His Majesty's Government will not deny that it is a rule sanctioned by general practice that, even though a blockade should exist and the doctrine of contraband as to unblockaded territory be rigidly enforced, innocent shipments may be freely transported to and from the United States through neutral countries to belligerent territory, without being subject to the penalties of contraband traffic or breach of blockade, much less to detention, requisition or confiscation.

Moreover, the rules of the Declaration of Paris of 1856—among them that free ships make free goods—will hardly at this day be disputed by the signatories of that solemn agreement.

His Majesty's Government, like the Government of the United States, have often and explicitly held that these rights represent the best usage of warfare in the dealings of belligerents with neutrals at sea. In this connection I desire to direct attention to the opinion of the Chief Justice of the United States in the case of the *Peterhof*, which arose out of the Civil War, and to the fact that that opinion was unanimously sustained in the award of the Arbitration Commission of 1871, to which the case was presented at the request of Great Britain. From that time to the Declaration of London of 1909, adopted with modifications by the Order in Council of the 23d of October last, these rights have not been seriously questioned by the British Government. And no claim on the part of Great Britain of any justification for interfering with the clear rights of the United States and its citizens as neutrals could be admitted. To admit it would be to assume an attitude of unneutrality toward the present enemies of Great Britain, which would be obviously inconsistent with the solemn obligations of this Government in the present circumstances, and for Great Britain to make such a claim would be for her to abandon and set at naught the principles for which she has consistently and earnestly contended in other times and circumstances.

The note of His Majesty's principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, which accompanies the Order in Council, and which bears the same date, notifies the Government of the United States of the establishment of a blockade which is, if defined by the terms of the Order in Council, to include all the coasts and ports of Germany and every port of possible access to enemy territory. But the novel and quite unprecedented feature of that blockade, if we are to assume it to be properly so defined, is that it embraces many neutral ports and coasts, bars access to them and subjects all neutral ships seeking to approach them to the same suspicion that would attach to them were they bound for the ports of the enemies of Great Britain, and to unusual risks and penalties.

It is manifest that such limitations, risks, and liabilities placed upon the ships of a neutral power on the seas, beyond the right of visit and search and the right to prevent the shipment of contraband already referred to are a distinct invasion of the sovereign rights of the nation whose ships, trade, or commerce is interfered with.

The Government of the United States is, of course, not oblivious to the great changes which have occurred in the conditions and means of naval warfare since the rules hitherto governing legal blockade were formulated. It might be ready to admit that the old form of "close" blockade, with its cordon of ships in the immediate offing of the blockaded ports is no longer practicable in the face of an enemy possessing the means and opportunity to make an effective defense by the use of submarines, mines and air craft; but it can hardly be maintained that, whatever form of effective blockade may be made use of, it is impossible to conform at least to the spirit and principles of the established rules of war.

If the necessities of the case should seem to render it imperative that the cordon of blockading vessels be extended across the approaches to any neighboring neutral port of country, it would seem clear that it would still be easily practicable to comply with the well-recognized and reasonable prohibition of international law against the blockading of neutral ports, by according free admission and exit to all lawful traffic with neutral ports through the blockading cordon.

This traffic would, of course, include all outward-bound traffic from the neutral country and all inward-bound traffic to the neutral country, except contraband in transit to the enemy. Such procedure need not conflict in any respect with the rights of the belligerent maintaining the blockade, since the right would remain with the blockading vessels to visit and search all ships either entering or leaving the neutral territory which they were, in fact, but not of right, investing.

The Government of the United States notes that in the Order in Council His Majesty's Government give as their reason for entering upon a course of action, which they are aware is without precedent in modern warfare, the necessity they conceive themselves to have been placed under to retaliate upon their enemies for measures of a similar nature, which the latter have announced it their intention to adopt and which they have to some extent adopted, but the Government of the United States, recalling the principles upon which His Majesty's Government have hitherto been scrupulous to act, interprets this as merely a reason for certain extraordinary activities on the part of His Majesty's naval forces and not as an excuse for or prelude to any unlawful action.

If the course pursued by the present enemies of Great Britain should prove to be in fact tainted by illegality and disregard of the principles of war sanctioned by enlightened nations, it cannot be supposed, and this Government does not for a moment suppose, that His Majesty's Government would wish the same taint to attach to their own actions or would cite such illegal acts as in any sense or degree a justification for similar practices on their part in so far as they affect neutral rights.

It is thus that the Government of the United States interprets the language of the note of His Majesty's principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, which accompanies the copy of the Order in Council, which was handed to the Ambassador of the United States by the Government in London and by him transmitted to Washington.

This Government notes with gratification that "wide discretion is afforded to the prize court in dealing with the trade of neutrals in such manner as may in the circumstances be deemed just, and that full provision is made to facilitate claims by persons interested in any goods placed in the custody of the marshal of the prize court under the Order." That "the effect of the Order in Council is to confer certain powers upon the executive officer of His Majesty's Government," and that "the extent to which these powers will be actually exercised, and the degree of severity with which the measures of blockade, authorized, will be put into operation, are matters which will depend on the administrative orders issued by the Government and the decisions of the authorities especially charged with the duty of dealing with individual ships and cargoes, according to the merits of each case."

This Government further notes with equal satisfaction the declaration of the British Government that "the instructions to be issued by His Majesty's Government to the fleet and to the customs officials and executive committees concerned will impress upon them the duty of acting with the utmost dispatch consistent with the object in view, and of showing in every case such consideration for neutrals as may be compatible with that object, which is, succinctly stated, to establish a blockade to prevent vessels from carrying goods for or coming from Germany."

In view of these assurances formally given to this Government it is confidently expected that the extensive powers conferred by the Order in Council on the executive officers of the Crown will be restricted by orders issued by the Government directing the exercise of their discretionary powers in such a manner as to modify in practical application those provisions of the Order in Council which, if strictly enforced, would violate neutral rights and interrupt legitimate trade. Relying on the faithful performance of these voluntary assurances by His Majesty's Government, the United States takes it for granted that the approach of American merchantmen to neutral ports situated upon the long line of coast affected by the Order in Council will not be interfered with when it is known that they do not carry goods which are contraband of war, or goods destined to or proceeding from ports within the belligerent territory affected.

The Government of the United States assumes with the greater confidence that His Majesty's Government will thus adjust their practice to the recognized rules of international law, because it is manifest that the British Government have adopted an extraordinary method of "stopping cargoes destined for or coming from the enemy's territory", which, owing to the existence of unusual conditions in modern warfare at sea, it will be difficult to restrict to the limits which have been heretofore required by the law of nations. Though the area of operations is confined to "European waters including the Mediterranean," so great an area of the high seas is covered, and the cordon of ships is so distant from the territory affected that neutral vessels must necessarily pass through the blockading force in order to reach important neutral ports which Great Britain as a belligerent has not the legal right to blockade, and which, therefore, it is presumed she has no intention of claiming to blockade.

The Scandinavian and Danish ports, for example, are open to American trade. They are also free, so far as the actual enforcement of the Order in Council is concerned, to carry on trade with German Baltic ports, although it is an essential element of a blockade that it bear with equal severity upon all neutrals.

This Government, therefore, infers that the commanders of His Majesty's ships of war, engaged in maintaining the so-called blockade, will be instructed to avoid an enforcement of the proposed measures of non-intercourse in such a way as to impose restrictions upon neutral trade more burdensome than those which have been regarded as inevitable when the ports of a belligerent are actually blockaded by the ships of its enemy.

The possibilities of serious interruption of American trade under the Order in Council are so many, and the methods proposed are so unusual, and seem liable to constitute so great an impediment and embarrassment to neutral commerce, that the Government of the United States, if the Order in Council is strictly enforced, apprehends many interferences with its legitimate trade which will impose upon His Majesty's Government heavy responsibilities for acts of the British authorities clearly subversive of the rights of neutral nations on the high seas. It is, therefore, expected that His Majesty's Government having considered these possibilities, will take the steps necessary to avoid them, and, in the event that they should unhappily occur, will be prepared to make full reparation for every act which under the rules of international law constitutes a violation of neutral rights.

As stated in its communication of October 22 1914, "this Government will insist that the rights and duties of the United States and its citizens in the present war be defined by the existing rules of international law, and the treaties of the United States, irrespective of the provisions of the Declaration of London, and that this Government reserves to itself the right to enter a protest or demand in each case, in which those rights and duties so defined are violated or their free exercise interfered with by the authorities of the British Government."

In conclusion, you will reiterate to His Majesty's Government that this statement of the view of the Government of the United States is made in the most friendly spirit, and in accordance with the uniform candor which has characterized the relations of the two governments in the past, and which has been in large measure the foundation of the peace and amity existing between the two nations without interruption for a century.

BRYAN.

#### GOLD FUND SUGGESTED AS BASIS FOR INTRA-DISTRICT CLEARANCES BY RESERVE BANKS.

The creation of a general gold fund at Washington to be used as a clearing system to expedite settlements between the Federal Reserve banks in transferring funds from one district to another is proposed in a plan under consideration by the Federal Reserve Board. It is believed to be the intention to create the fund by contributions from the twelve Reserve banks, which would subscribe thereto in proportion to their capital and surplus. No details regarding the plan are divulged by the Board, which, however, states that it is expected to become effective about the middle of May. While \$25,000,000 has been mentioned as the figure at which the fund is likely to start, it is intimated that there is a possibility of its being fixed as low as \$5,000,000; the Board itself has given no indication as to its purposes in this regard. Its statement issued on Wednesday says:

The Federal Reserve Board to-day considered the outline of a plan for effecting settlement between Federal Reserve banks. Details of the plan have been under discussion with the representatives of the Governors of the Federal Reserve Bank and general agreement on the main outline has been arrived at. The plan is based upon the idea of a general gold fund at Washington to be created by the Federal Reserve banks, title in which shall be transferred by one Reserve bank to another according as it is necessary to settle for transfers of funds between Federal Reserve districts. The plan is expected to become effective about the middle of May. Full details will be made known at a later date.

#### GUARANTEE OF DEPOSITS BY NATIONAL BANKS.

Reports early this week that U. S. Attorney General Gregory had approved a plan for the guarantee of national bank deposits evolved by Comptroller of the Currency John Skelton Williams were denied by the latter in a statement issued on the 6th. Comptroller Williams states that the story that a guarantee plan has been devised by him is without foundation. He refers to the fact that some national banks in certain sections of the country have had their deposits guaranteed for several years past, and questions having been raised as to the legality of the method in use the matter was presented for opinion by the Comptroller to the Secretary of the Treasury, who in turn referred it to the Attorney General. Mr. Gregory was asked whether a national bank had authority to pay a premium to a surety company for the purpose of having its deposits guaranteed. The Attorney General decided that the banks might do this under a section of the banking law, which authorizes banks to take proper precautions to protect their depositors. The newspapers in announcing that the Attorney General had signified his approval of a plan for the guarantee of national bank deposits stated that in substance it provided that national banks desiring to do so might have their deposits guaranteed by a surety or guaranty company. The statement of Comptroller of the Currency Williams in the matter said in part:

"It was announced to-day at the office of the Comptroller of the Currency, and confirmed by the Federal Reserve Board, that recently published statements to the effect that the Board has under consideration a plan for guaranteeing bank deposits, or that it has considered the subject, were without foundation. The question of guaranteeing deposits has never been raised before the Board in any way whatever, and the Board has had no official information to the effect that the matter was under consideration by any officer of the Government. There is no plan, so far as can be learned, for bringing the subject before the Board for consideration. The

Board learned to-day that sometime ago the Attorney General was asked by the Secretary of the Treasury whether a national bank could legally make a contract with a guaranty company, whereby such company would insure the full payment of deposits in such bank. This inquiry was not made at the instance of the Board, and there is no reason for expecting any action by the Board as the result of the Attorney General's reply, whatever that may be."

Attorney-General Gregory's opinion will be found in the next following page.

### NATIONAL BANKS HELD TO HAVE POWER TO HAVE DEPOSITS GUARANTEED.

As indicated in another item, U. S. Attorney-General Gregory has given it as his opinion that it is within the power of national banks to have their deposits guaranteed by surety companies. The matter was referred to the Attorney-General by the Secretary of the Treasury in response to a request of the Comptroller of the Currency, in view of certain questions which had arisen as to the interpretation of opinions given on the subject by the Attorney-General in 1908 and 1909. We print below in full the opinion of Mr. Gregory:

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.

Washington, March 31 1915.

The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir.—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of February 12 1915, enclosing letter of the Comptroller of the Currency, opinion of the acting Solicitor of the Treasury and brief filed with the Comptroller on behalf of a guaranty company and certain national banks, in which the question is raised as to whether a national bank may enter into a contract with a guaranty company under which, in consideration of premiums paid by the bank, the company "insures and guarantees each depositor in the bank the full payment of his deposit therein." You ask my opinion upon this question.

In my opinion, it is within the power of a national bank to enter into such a contract.

The law confers upon national banks such incidental powers as are required to meet all legitimate demands of the banking business, and to enable them to conduct their affairs safely and prudently within the scope of their charters. Section 5,136 Revised Statutes; *First National Bank vs. National Exchange Bank*, 92 U. S. 122, 127. The power to give security for deposits seems to be recognized by Section 5,153 Revised Statutes as among these incidental powers. The Section last mentioned, after providing that all associations created under the Act, shall, when so designated by the Secretary of the Treasury, be depositaries, further provides that "The Secretary of the Treasury shall require the associations thus designated to give satisfactory security, by the deposit of United States bonds and otherwise, for the safe keeping and prompt payment of the public money deposited with them", &c. It is believed that this Section is more reasonably construed as a recognition of the existence of the power on the part of national banks to give security for deposits, than as a grant by implication of authority to give security for government deposits alone.

The power of banks to give security for deposits or for payment of their debts, has been frequently recognized. It has been held that the property of a bank may be pledged as security for a debt. (*United States vs. Robertson* (1831); 5 Pet. 641, 650); that a bond with sureties may be given to prevent depositors from withdrawing their accounts (*Wylie vs. Commercial & Farmers' Bank* (1902), 41 S. E. 504, 509, 63 S. C. 406), and that a national bank may give its bond with sureties to secure a deposit of State funds (*State of Nebraska vs. First National Bank of Orleans* (1898); 88 Fed. 947, 951.)

The power to contract for guaranteeing or securing depositors arises from the nature of the relation existing between the banks and their depositors. The relation created between the bank and a depositor by the receipt of deposits is that of debtor and creditor. (*National Bank vs. Millard* (1869); 10 Wall. 152, 155; *Davis vs. Elmira Savings Bank* (1896); 161 U. S. 275, 288. The power to receive deposits, expressly granted to every national bank (Sec. 5,136 R. S.), is, of course, indispensable to the conduct of the business; and the extent of its exercise is in a degree the measure of the success of the bank. The ability of a bank to obtain deposits largely depends upon the confidence of depositors, or the belief that their deposits are secure. Loss of such confidence on the part of depositors is usually attended with loss and inconvenience to them, to the bank and to the public. The law, accordingly imposes upon the bank an imperative duty not only to [pay] deposits, but to keep them secure. For the protection of depositors, its revenues and property are pledged, its stockholders are made subject to a double liability, and its directors may be held liable for a violation of their duties.

The means by which depositors are to be protected and secured are not expressly limited or restricted by statute. A large discretion is left to the officers and directors. They may use such means for the purpose as are not prohibited by or inconsistent with the provisions of the law, and as they may reasonably find to be suitable and proper and not inconsistent with the prudent conduct of the affairs of the bank within the scope of its charter. "Whatever protects the depositors," it has been said, "protects the bank because it assures confidence in the bank." (*Noble State Bank vs. Haskell* (1908); 22 Okla. 48, 89.)

A contract of insurance or guaranty, such as described in the question submitted, may afford protection to depositors by securing the performance of an obligation on the part of the bank which otherwise might not be performed. And it is not unreasonable to believe that such a contract, at the same time, may prove valuable to the bank because of the confidence it may assure. No reason is perceived for prohibiting a national bank, in the discretion of its directors, from so securing its depositors, or for denying to the bank such benefits as they believe may accrue in the form of increased confidence resulting from such a contract.

Opinions of former Attorney Generals, dated respectively July 28 1908 (27 Op. 37) and April 6 1909 (27 Op. 272), are referred to in the enclosures as having been construed by the Comptroller of the Currency as holding that national banks are without authority to pay, as part of their legitimate expenses, premiums on policies insuring their depositors against loss.

As I view these opinions, the conclusion in neither of them is inconsistent with the conclusion reached herein. The opinion of July 28 1908, construing the Oklahoma State Banking Act, determined that a national bank could not lawfully participate in the plan contemplated by the Act for the guarantee of deposits, because it involved essentially a guarantee to the depositors of other banks that they should be paid in full—a contract which was deemed beyond the powers of the bank to make. The opinion of April 6 1909, held that national banks in the State of Kansas could not

avail themselves of the bank depositor's guaranty law of that State. The inquiry, upon the answer to which the decision rests, was, whether an acceptance of the provisions of the Kansas law "would so control the conduct of the affairs of national banks as to expressly conflict with the laws of the United States."

As pointed out in the opinion of the Solicitor of the Treasury, the more recent opinion of May 7 1909 (27 Op. 324), in which the form of a policy of insurance guaranteeing the assets of a national bank against loss was approved, provided certain suggested modifications should be made, is more nearly in point on the question now under consideration, and is in harmony with the views herein expressed.

The language employed in the opinions of July 28 1908 and April 6 1909, to the effect that national banks are without power to contract for insuring that depositors shall be paid in full, was used in the course of argument merely, applied to a question which it was not necessary to determine, and may be disregarded so far as inconsistent with this opinion.

Respectfully,

(Signed)

T. W. GREGORY,  
Attorney-General.

### HEARING ON BILL GIVING TRUST POWERS TO NATIONAL BANKS IN NEW YORK.

The hearing at Albany on Thursday on the bill intended to give trust powers to national and State banks brought together a large delegation representing the several classes of banking institutions of the State to voice their opinion on the proposed legislation. Those speaking for the national banks were in the minority and indeed so far as the New York City national institutions are concerned, they were practically unrepresented. On behalf of the trust companies, which are opposed to the bill, fifty-two representatives were present to argue against the measure. Among those well qualified to speak on the subject it is contended that one of the strongest objections to the bill is the grave danger to trust funds involved. It is pointed out that there are in the smaller country districts many men who by careful living save really sizeable fortunes, and the idea of a country bank with \$25,000 capital being named as executor of the estate of a man who had confidence in a bank while he lived and who died leaving a half a million or so, ought not to be lightly considered. As indicating the general attitude toward like bills which have been before other State legislatures at current sessions, it is said that out of fifteen States in which such legislation has been proposed, twelve have definitely killed the bills either in committee or out of it. In the three States which passed the measures it is reported that there was no public hearing and that no notice had been given to those who would have been interested if they had known that any such bill was pending.

At the hearing at Albany on Thursday, held before the Senate Committee on Banking and the Senate Code Committee, Edwin G. Merrill, President of the Trust Companies Association of the State of New York and President of the Union Trust Co. of New York City, was chief spokesman for the trust companies. Mr. Merrill presented a carefully prepared statement showing the untoward effect of the legislation upon these institutions, and concluded his argument with the assertion that—

If the State of New York does not retain for its trust companies the trust powers for which they were created, the great banking system now under the control of the New York Legislature will be rapidly disintegrated, and control over the great institutions—which are now entirely satisfied to continue under State supervision—will be transferred from Albany to Washington.

Mr. Merrill also remarked—and this is likely to become a classic—that the Federal Reserve system "has not yet demonstrated either perfection or infallibility." His argument in full was as follows:

Gentlemen:—I come before you as President of the Trust Companies Association of the State of New York, composed of the institutions organized under your laws for the specific purpose of carrying on a business which peculiarly belongs to the State, which is entirely under the supervision of the State Courts and under the control of State authority—the business of caring for trusts of every kind and description. I appear here, also, as President of the Union Trust Co. of New York, which is fairly typical of the conservative institutions which have grown up under the protection of your laws—an institution which has always made a special feature of this trust business which these laws have given it power to conduct.

As President of the Trust Companies Association and as President of the Union Trust Company of New York, I desire to protest against this pending bill, which proposes to confer upon a set of institutions, entirely outside of your control and outside of the control of the State banking authorities, these trust powers and privileges, which are so essentially powers and privileges in the gift of the State of New York.

I am not protesting against this legislation from a selfish point of view, either on the part of my own company or on the part of the Association. We do not fear competition when competition is on a fair and equal basis. We believe in encouraging the formation of trust companies whenever and wherever there are local needs for them. We would welcome national or State banks in our own field, if they are willing to become trust companies and assume the burdens and restrictions with which the wise legislation of the State of New York has surrounded the privileges which trust companies enjoy.

But I submit that this legislation proposes to confer upon national banks and State banks privileges without restrictions or safeguards. If you open the door to national banks to share in these privileges, you put it out of your power to insist upon restrictions. The competition produced will not be fair competition, and in so far as national banks secure this business it will be beyond your power to regulate it.

Under the laws as revised last year, the trust business is carefully safeguarded as it always has been in this State. A trust company is required to keep its capital all invested in certain specified and safe securities. No other banking institution is so restricted as to capital investment. A trust company must have a minimum capital of \$100,000, which seems little enough to require of a corporation acting in a fiduciary capacity. A national bank, however, can be organized with only \$25,000 capital. Furthermore, the trust companies of the State of New York are not only under the close supervision of the State Banking Department, but each company is required to deposit at Albany, for the protection of the public, not less than 10%, and in no case less than \$20,000 of its capital in securities of the highest grade. A State bank, on the other hand, is required to deposit only \$1,000 in securities and it would undoubtedly be impossible to require any deposit in the case of a national bank.

Perhaps, however, the most important restrictions that New York State exacts from its trust companies is the absolute preference of its trust deposits. In the case of trouble overtaking a trust company, the trust deposits are preferred ahead of any other deposits. As a result of these wise provisions, I understand that trust funds in the hands of New York trust companies have never suffered any losses on account of any trust company failure. There is, however, nothing in the national banking law which gives any such preference to deposits of this kind.

Isn't it clear that the competition which this bill would produce would be utterly unfair to the trust companies? Is it not inevitable that the only way trust companies can meet this competition on an equal basis is to give up their State charters altogether and become national banks, unless the State of New York is willing to remove all restrictions on corporate trustees?

The passage of this bill now before your committee would, therefore, be a first and a long step toward the disintegration of the banking system of New York State; its effect, undoubtedly, would be to force the trust companies out of the State system and into the Federal Reserve system, not as trust companies but as national banks. To-day the State of New York is in control of a system of trust companies and State banks that on Dec. 24 1914 had more deposits than all the member banks of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, and nearly one-fourth as many deposits as the entire Federal Reserve system of the United States. This system has stood the test of time, and the wise laws which have brought about the powerful development have been used as models for legislation in many other States. The Federal Reserve system is, on the other hand, in the experimental stage, and it has yet demonstrated either perfection or infallibility.

There is undoubtedly a concerted movement all over the country, backed by the Federal Reserve Board, to strengthen the Federal Reserve system at the expense of this and other State systems. The Federal Reserve Board admits that it is anxious to bring about the unification of the banking systems of the United States under supervision from Washington, and the resolutions passed urging legislation of this kind in the various States clearly show that it expects this legislation will help materially to effect such a unification. If the State of New York does not retain for its trust companies the trust powers for which they were created, the great banking system now under the control of the New York Legislature will be rapidly disintegrated and control over its great institutions—which are now entirely satisfied to continue under State supervision—will be transferred from Albany to Washington.

George W. Morgan, of the law firm of Breed, Abbott & Morgan, counsel to the Trust Companies Association, also entered a protest against the bill, saying in part:

The Federal Reserve system is in the early stages of development. If it ultimately proves to be the solution of our banking problems, State moneyed corporations will seek to avail themselves of its advantages by becoming member banks. Its early success, however, will be retarded rather than promoted by a policy exemplified in the Marshall bill, which seeks indirectly by legislative compulsion to force the decision of State institutions to enter the Federal system. But when the effect of such legislation is, as we have shown, to destroy our great State trust company system, if not indeed our commercial banking system as well, resentment should be decisively manifested against this character of Federal interference, not only by our moneyed institutions, but by all who have the welfare of our State at heart.

Some of those who spoke in favor of the legislation were B. H. Fancher, Vice-President of the Fifth Avenue Bank of New York; J. Adams Brown, President of the New Netherland Bank of New York; A. G. Todd of the New York Produce Exchange Bank, and E. C. Higley of the Hudson Falls (N. Y.) National Bank. Mr. Todd is quoted in the New York "Times" as saying:

I think the question involved in this legislation is a national not a State question. The entire banking system is in process of readjustment. We should not make our banking system in this State provincial and thus obstruct the building up of a big, strong central system of banks. I resent the strictures that have been passed on the Federal Reserve Board. With a strong Federal Reserve we will never again see in New York City another issue of Clearing-House certificates.

To D. J. Kenefick of the Marine National Bank of Buffalo is credited the following remark in the New York "Sun":

The State gave way to the Federal Government on the income tax, and it is time to stop surrendering the State's sovereignty to the National Government.

#### FEDERAL RESERVE BOARD DENIES ANY INTEREST IN BILLS AT ALBANY OR ELSEWHERE.

On the 6th inst. the Federal Reserve Board took occasion to issue a statement embodying a denial of reports that it had in any way participated or been represented in discussions before any Legislature with regard to bills conferring trust powers on national banks. Its statement is as follows:

The Federal Reserve Board to-day issued a comprehensive and absolute denial of current assertions that it had in any way participated or been represented in discussions before any State legislature relative to pending bills authorizing the exercise of the functions of executor, trustee, &c., by national banks. The Board has consistently declined to share in any of the discussions that are in progress on that subject, and it has never been represented by an attorney or other person, directly or indirectly, either at Albany or anywhere else. Some time ago the Board passed a general resolution intended to express to the public in a general way its attitude on the whole subject and this resolution has been transmitted to all inquirers and given to the press. There has been no other or further participation on the part of the Board in the discussion of this subject.

#### ACTION SUSPENDED IN NEW JERSEY ON GIVING NATIONAL BANKS TRUST POWERS.

As indicating the unlikelihood of the New Jersey Legislature passing at this session legislation which would authorize national banks to assume trust powers, the Newark "News" announced on the 1st inst. that Senator Hutchinson, as Chairman of the Committee on Banks and Insurance, in reporting three bills without recommendation on March 31, secured the adoption of a resolution holding the proposed legislation in abeyance and creating a legislative commission to study the subjects covered in the bills. These bills would authorize the State banks to enter the national system, and would permit all banking institutions, including national, to exercise trust functions.

#### NATIONAL BANKS AUTHORIZED TO ACT AS REGISTRARS.

The Federal Reserve Board has authorized a number of banking institutions in New York State to act as registrars of stocks and bonds; among the New York City institutions thus empowered are the Liberty National Bank, the Seaboard National, the Lincoln National, the Gotham National and the Bronx National. The Board has not yet authorized national banks of New York to perform trust privileges, since the laws of the State do not permit their assuming such functions.

#### THIRD INSTALLMENT OF CAPITAL CALLED FOR BY NEW YORK FEDERAL RESERVE BANK.

A call for the payment by May 2 of the third installment of their subscriptions to the capital of the New York Federal Reserve Bank was made upon the members by Governor Strong on the 6th inst. The first installment, amounting to \$3,321,950, was paid Nov. 2.; the second installment of about the same amount was paid Feb. 2. As on the previous occasions, one-sixth of the par value of the amount of the subscription is called for, the amount remitted in the three payments thus being 50% of the total allotment in each case. Governor Strong's letter is as follows:

To the Cashier:

Sir—You are advised that the third installment on your subscription to capital stock of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York is due on or before May 3 1915, and that the amount to be paid should be one-sixth of the par value of the amount of your subscription. This sum added to the amount remitted in payment of the first and second installments should equal 50% of the total amount of your allotment.

The law requires this payment to be made in gold or gold certificates, and you are requested to make such payment, so far as may be practicable, in gold certificates of large denominations from the reserves held in your own vaults.

These should be delivered to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York at 62 Cedar Street, New York City.

Fractional amounts which cannot be paid in gold or gold certificates may be paid in lawful money.

All gold coin received by this bank will be weighed, and if the abrasion exceeds the limit of tolerance the gold will be taken as its bullion value.

You are also requested to return, with your remittance, certificates of payment of first and second installments heretofore issued to you, and we will issue in exchange a 50% paid stock certificate. Unless otherwise requested, stock certificates (which are not transferable) will be mailed to member banks, at their risk without registration.

Form letters to be returned with your remittance and certificates of payment are herewith enclosed, which you are requested to complete by filling in the blanks.

In accordance with ruling of the Federal Reserve Board, this bank will no longer pay express charges.

#### APPLICATIONS FOR CHANGES IN STOCK OF FEDERAL RESERVE BANK TO BE MADE QUARTERLY.

The members of the New York Federal Reserve Bank have been asked by Governor Strong to hereafter file applications for additional stock, or the surrender of a part of the stock held by them, quarterly, on the first days of January, April, July and October. In his letter of the 6th inst. on this point Governor Strong says:

To the Cashier:

Sir.—In accordance with a request from the Federal Reserve Board, and in order to obviate the necessity for daily adjustment of the stock ledger accounts and the subsequent confusion which results from the continuous changes in the stock holdings of member banks occasioned by the increase or decrease of their capital or surplus, member banks are requested hereafter to file their applications for additional stock or the surrender of a part of the stock held by them, quarterly, on the first days of January, April, July and October.

In making applications for additional stock or for surrender of stock, banks should exercise care to see that the blanks are properly filled in, using as a basis the total capital and surplus at the time of their last previous stock allotment, and stating the total of all increases and decreases in capital or surplus separately, so that the total at the date of the prior allotment plus the increases and less the decreases will equal the total capital and surplus as of the date of application.

A member bank which has increased its surplus since the last report of condition to the Comptroller of the Currency should send a certificate to that effect to the Comptroller contemporaneously with filing its application with the Federal Reserve Bank, so that the records of the Comptroller's office may be in accord with those of the Federal Reserve Board.

In the case of changes in capital, this additional certificate will be unnecessary, in view of the fact that the Comptroller's approval must be obtained prior to any such change, and the records of his office must necessarily conform in such case.

Any member bank making an increase or a reduction in its capital or surplus is requested to notify the Federal Reserve Bank so that the proper application blanks may be forwarded.

In order to accommodate member banks as far as possible, the time for filing applications for the quarter ending April 1 1915 will be extended to April 15 1915.

Respectfully,

BENJ. STRONG JR., Governor.

#### PLANS OF CHICAGO FEDERAL RESERVE BANK FOR INTRA-DISTRICT COLLECTIONS.

The members of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago were notified by Governor J. B. McDougal on the 7th inst. that in accordance with the terms of the Federal Reserve Act and the rulings of the Reserve Board, it was prepared to inaugurate a system of intra-district collection—viz., a system of collection of checks and drafts received from and drawn on member banks in the district. A statement issued in the matter by Gov. McDougal says:

A further step has to-day been taken in the development of the functions of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, whereby there is presented to member banks for their consideration a plan for the collection of checks within the district served by this bank. Membership in the system will be voluntary, each bank being given opportunity to signify whether or not it desires to have its checks collected at par through the Reserve Bank.

The plan as presented has been carefully worked out, is based upon similar systems which have been in successful operation in other countries for many years, and has been authorized by the Federal Reserve Board.

It is understood the other Reserve banks will immediately offer this plan to their member banks, and it is believed the system will provide a safe and economical method for the collection of country checks and that it will go far toward correcting the recognized evils resulting from the indirect routing of such items.

We print in full below the circular issued by the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago in connection with the matter:

#### FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF CHICAGO.

Chicago, April 7 1915.

To the Member Banks of District Number Seven:

The Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, in accordance with the terms of the Federal Reserve Act and the rulings of the Federal Reserve Board, is prepared to inaugurate, for the benefit of its members, a system of intra-district collection, that is, a system of collection of checks and drafts received from and drawn on member banks in District No. 7. Membership in the system will be voluntary and items will be received only from and upon those banks which join it. Such items will be immediately credited and debited to the accounts of the sending and paying banks, respectively, subject to final payment.

For the present the system will not embrace the inter-district collection of checks and drafts, that is, the collection of checks and drafts drawn on banks outside of District No. 7. Such broader service can only be developed for the member banks of the various districts after experience shall have been gained in operating the intra-district service now offered.

This system is not intended to supersede the exchange of checks through local clearing houses or otherwise in or between nearby cities or towns. And wherever, in the case of a section far distant from its reserve bank or overlapping two Reserve districts, or for any other reason, the collection of checks is being made more quickly or economically by direct interchange between the banks of the section than would be possible under the proposed plan, such relations, for the present, at least, will doubtless continue.

The collection system outlined herein is offered by the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago as the first step in the improvement of present methods of collecting checks within its district. It is the result of much consideration on the part of the directors and officers of this bank and of many conferences of the Governors of the various Federal Reserve banks. This plan has been authorized by the Federal Reserve Board, and it is understood that substantially similar systems of intra-district collection will be introduced by all other Federal Reserve banks. The system will be subject to such modifications or extensions as experience may show from time to time to be necessary or advisable.

The directors of each member bank which joins the collection system will be required to adopt and file with the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago resolutions agreeing to the rules and requirements of the system. The resolutions and the rules and requirements are attached hereto. There is also enclosed a copy of the resolutions with the rules and requirements attached, to be executed and returned to this bank when the resolutions have been adopted by your board of directors. Action thereon by your board is requested before May 15 1915.

A further circular will be issued containing a list of the banks which have joined the collection system, announcing the date upon which it will begin operations, and giving such further information as may be necessary.

The collection system herein proposed is based upon the experience of other countries where similar systems have been in operation for many years and have been developed to a high point of efficiency.

It is believed that the establishment of the collection system in the twelve Federal Reserve banks will provide a safe and economical method for the collection of country checks and will go far toward correcting the recognized evils resulting from the indirect routing of such items.

We earnestly solicit your careful consideration of the plan, also your co-operation in its development, believing that it will result in substantial benefits to all concerned. With the system established, we will do all in our power to render our member banks the most efficient service in its operation.

Very respectfully,

JAMES B. McDOUGAL, Governor.

Bulletin No. 29.

#### Rules and Requirements Governing the Operation of the Collection System of Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago.

1. Each member bank joining the system authorizes the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago to charge immediately on receipt against its account, subject to payment by such member bank at its banking house, checks and drafts payable upon presentation drawn upon it, deposited by other member banks which have joined the collection system.

2. The member bank undertakes to provide sufficient funds to offset the items charged against its account under the collection system, without impairing the reserve required to be kept in the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, as shown by the books of the Reserve Bank, the amount of such funds to be determined by experience gained from actual operation.

3. Checks and drafts payable on presentation drawn on any member bank in District No. 7, which has joined the collection system, will be received for immediate credit, subject to final payment, but only from such member banks as have joined the collection system. Items marked "payable if desired" at either a member bank or a non-member bank, will not be received unless drawn on a member bank which has joined the collection system, in which case they will be charged to the member bank upon which they are drawn and not to the bank at which they are made "Payable if desired."

4. Items sent for credit should be divided in two classes:

(a) Items on member banks which are members of the Chicago Clearing-House Association.

(b) Items on other member banks in this district.

The items under each of these divisions should be listed on a separate sheet stating the name or the American Bankers' Association transit number of the bank on which each item is drawn, and the amount. Each sheet should be separately footed, and where more than one sheet is used in listing items under either of the divisions, the totals of such sheets should be listed and footed on a separate sheet.

5. All items received before 2 o'clock P. M. (except on Saturday, when the hour will be 12 o'clock noon), will be credited on the day of receipt. Items received after these hours will not be credited until the following business day. All items except those payable through the Chicago Clearing House, will be mailed at the close of each day to the member banks on which they are drawn. Member banks shall advise the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago on the day of receipt that such items have been received and credited. Unpaid items, not subject to protest, shall be returned on the day of receipt; protested items shall be returned not later than the day after receipt. Returned items will be credited to the account of banks on which they are drawn and charged to the account of and returned to the banks from which received. Unpaid items shall not be held for any purpose whatsoever except for immediate protest.

6. In receiving the checks and drafts herein referred to, the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago will act only as the collecting agent of the sending bank, and will assume no responsibility other than due diligence until the funds are actually in its hands, and said Reserve Bank is authorized to send them for payment direct to the bank on which they are drawn, or for collection to another agent at its discretion. Banks receiving items from the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago for collection shall be deemed the agent of the bank depositing such items with the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago for credit.

7. Checks and drafts drawn on member banks which have joined the system may be stamped or printed across the face: "Collectible at par through the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago," but such endorsement shall never be held to import that the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, in accepting such checks or drafts for collection, has become the owner thereof or is acting otherwise than as the agent of the sending bank.

8. Member banks which do not join the collection system at the time of its inauguration, may do so at any subsequent time. Member banks will be permitted, on thirty (30) days' notice to the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, to withdraw from the collection system. The Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago may, at its discretion, withdraw the privileges of the collection system from any member bank which fails to observe these rules and requirements, or for other good and sufficient reasons.

On the first and fifteenth days of each month, all changes, if any, which have occurred in the list of members of the collection system since the preceding notice, will be published and immediately thereafter the additions or withdrawals listed therein shall become effective.

9. No exchange charge will be made nor will any exchange charge be paid by the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago in operating this collection system, which is a reciprocal arrangement for the mutual benefit of all member banks which join it.

(Note.—The Federal Reserve Act provides that charges to be fixed by the Federal Reserve Board may be imposed for the service of collection rendered by the Federal Reserve banks. No charge will be made for the present, but if, after experience in operating the collection system, a charge is found necessary, such charge will be imposed only after due notice, and will not be retroactive.)

10. The Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago reserves the right to add to alter or amend these rules and requirements.

11. All items forwarded to the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago shall be endorsed without restriction to the order of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, and show on each side of the endorsement the American Bankers' Association transit number in prominent type.

#### Resolutions to Be Adopted by Member Banks.

Whereas, The Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago has announced its readiness to undertake for its member banks the collection of checks and drafts drawn upon its member banks, and

Whereas, The said Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago has promulgated certain rules and requirements governing its conduct and the conduct of member banks in the operation of the collection system, which rules and requirements are as shown by copy thereof hereto attached, and

Whereas, This bank desires to avail itself of the privileges offered by the said Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago and to join the collection system so to be established,

Now, therefore, be it resolved, That this bank hereby joins the said collection system of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago under the plan submitted by that bank in its circular letter, dated April 7 1915, and hereby agrees with the said Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago and with such other member banks of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago as have joined or may hereafter join the said collection system, to be bound according to the terms of the rules and requirements hereto attached, and by such other rules and requirements as may be hereafter promulgated.

And be it further resolved, That the Cashier of this bank (or the Secretary of its board of directors) is hereby directed to forward to the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago a certified copy of these resolutions.

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of resolutions of the \_\_\_\_\_, duly adopted at a regular meeting of the board of directors of the said bank at \_\_\_\_\_ on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 1915, and that the said resolutions have not been rescinded or modified.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed the corporate seal of the said bank, at \_\_\_\_\_ this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 1915.

(Seal)

Cashier, or  
Secretary of Board of Directors.

### NEW REGULATIONS OF RESERVE BOARD GOVERNING ACCEPTANCES.

In order to give effect to the amendment to the Federal Reserve Act which accords the Federal Reserve Board the right to authorize the discount of acceptances, based on imports or exports, up to the full amount of the capital stock and surplus of a bank, new regulations in the matter have been issued by the Board. Before the amendment was enacted into law, on March 3, the amount of acceptances which might be discounted was limited to 50% of the paid-up capital and surplus. The amendment was published in these columns March 6. The earlier regulations governing the discount of acceptances were issued under date of February 8, and were printed in our issue of February 20. The difference between the present regulations and those of February 8, which are replaced by those just issued, is not considerable; we print below the new regulations, indicating in italics the new matter and in brackets [matter now omitted]:

#### REGULATION J—SERIES OF 1915.

Superseding Regulation D of 1915.

Washington, April 2, 1915.

#### BANKERS' ACCEPTANCES.

##### I.

##### Definition.

In this regulation the term "acceptance" is defined as a draft or bill of exchange drawn to order, having a definite maturity, and payable in dollars, in the United States, the obligation to pay which has been accepted by an acknowledgment written or stamped and signed across the face of the instrument by the party on whom it is drawn; such agreement to be to the effect that the acceptor will pay at maturity according to the tenor of such draft or bill without qualifying conditions.

##### II.

##### Statutory Requirements Under Sections 13 and 14.

Section 13 of the Federal Reserve Act as amended provides that—

(a) Any Federal Reserve Bank may discount acceptances—

- (1) Which are based on the importation or exportation of goods;
- (2) Which have a maturity at time of discount of not more than three months; and
- (3) Which are indorsed by at least one member bank.

(b) The amount of acceptances so discounted shall at no time exceed one-half the paid-up capital stock and surplus of the bank for which the re-discounts are made, *except by authority of the Federal Reserve Board and of such general regulations as said Board may prescribe, but not to exceed the capital stock and surplus of such bank.*

(c) The aggregate of notes and bills bearing the signature or indorsement of any one person, company, firm or corporation re-discounted for any one bank shall at no time exceed 10% of the unimpaired capital and surplus of said bank; but this restriction shall not apply to the discount of bills of exchange drawn in good faith against actually existing values.

Section 14 of the Federal Reserve Act permits Federal Reserve Banks, under regulations to be prescribed by the Federal Reserve Board, to purchase and sell in the open market bankers' acceptances, with or without the indorsement of a member bank.

##### III.

##### Ruling.

The Federal Reserve Board, exercising its power of regulation with reference to paragraph II (b) hereof, rules as follows:

Any Federal Reserve Bank shall be permitted to discount for any member bank "bankers' acceptances" as hereinafter defined up to an amount not to exceed the capital stock and surplus of the bank for which the re-discounts are made.

##### IV.

##### Eligibility.

The Federal Reserve Board has determined that, until further order, to be eligible for discount under section 13, by Federal Reserve Banks, at the rates to be established for bankers' acceptances:

(a) Acceptances must comply with the provisions of Paragraph II, (a), (b), (c), hereof;

(b) Acceptances must have been made by a member bank, non-member bank, trust company, or by some private banking firm, person, company, or corporation engaged in the business of accepting or discounting. Such acceptances will hereafter be referred to as "bankers' acceptances;"

(c) A banker's acceptance must be drawn by a commercial, industrial or agricultural concern (that is, some person, firm, company, or corporation) directly connected with the importation or exportation of the goods involved in the transaction in which the acceptance originated, or by a "banker." In the latter case the goods, the importation or exportation of which is to be financed by the acceptance, must be clearly specified in the agreement with or the letter of advice to the acceptor. The bill must be not drawn or renewed after the goods have been surrendered to the purchaser or consignee.

(d) A banker's acceptance must bear on its face, or be accompanied by evidence in form satisfactory to a Federal Reserve Bank, that it originated in an actual bona fide sale or consignment involving the importation or exportation of goods. Such evidence may consist of a certificate on or accompanying the acceptance to the following effect:

"This acceptance is based upon a transaction involving the importation or exportation of goods. Reference No. \_\_\_\_\_ Name of acceptor: \_\_\_\_\_"

(e) Bankers' acceptances, other than those of member banks, shall be eligible only after the acceptors shall have agreed in writing to furnish to the Federal Reserve Banks of their respective districts, upon request, information concerning the nature of the transactions against which acceptances (certified or bearing evidence under IV, (d) hereof) have been made;

(f) A bill of exchange accepted by a "banker" may be considered as drawn in good faith against "actually existing values," under II, (c) hereof, when (1) the acceptor is secured by a lien or on by transfer of title to the goods to be transported; or, in case of release of the goods before payment of the acceptance, by the substitution of other adequate security;

(g) Except in so far as they may be secured by a lien on or by transfer of the title to the goods to be transported as under (f) the bills of any person, firm, company or corporation drawn on and accepted by any private banking firm, person, company or corporation (other than a bank or trust

\*Drafts and bills of exchange eligible for re-discount under section 13, other than "bankers' acceptances, have been dealt with by Regulation B, series of 1915.

company) engaged in the business of discounting or accepting, and discounted by a Federal Reserve Bank, shall at no time exceed in the aggregate a sum equal to 5% of the paid-in capital of such Federal Reserve Bank;

(h) The aggregate of acceptances of any private banking firm, person, company or corporation (other than a bank or trust company) engaged in the business of discounting or accepting, discounted or purchased by a Federal Reserve Bank, shall at no time exceed a sum equal to 25% of the paid-in capital of such Federal Reserve Bank.

To be eligible for purchase by Federal Reserve banks under section 14, bankers' acceptances must comply with all requirements and be subject to all limitations hereinbefore stated, except that they need not be indorsed by a member bank: Provided, however, That no Federal Reserve Bank shall purchase the acceptance of a "banker" other than a member bank which does not bear the indorsement of a member bank, unless (1) a Federal Reserve Bank has first secured a satisfactory statement of the financial condition of the acceptor in form to be approved by the Federal Reserve Board.

##### V.

##### Policy as to Purchases.

While it would appear impracticable to fix a maximum sum or percentage up to which Federal Reserve banks may invest in bankers' acceptances, both under section 13 and section 14, it will be necessary to watch carefully the aggregate amount to be held from time to time. In framing their policy with respect to transactions in acceptances, Federal Reserve banks will have to consider not only the local demands to be expected from their own members, but also requirements to be met in other districts. The plan to be followed must in each case adapt itself to the constantly varying needs of the country.

H. PARKER WILLIS,

Secretary.

CHARLES S. HAMLIN,

Governor.

### RICHMOND FEDERAL RESERVE BANK'S INCOME.

The Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond issued, under date of March 31, a statement of condition giving the first published information to members of the income of the bank since organization. Since its start the bank has discounted paper aggregating \$13,146,983 for 143 banks out of a membership of 500. The amount of re-discounted paper held at the present time is \$6,793,488. The bank reports discount earned of \$64,314 and discount unearned of \$33,130. No investments have been made by the bank, its entire resources having been conserved for the aid of the members during the past season, and for their use during the coming borrowing period. The total resources of the bank are \$15,822,331.

### NEW GOVERNOR OF DALLAS RESERVE BANK.

R. L. Van Zandt, Vice-Governor of the Dallas Federal Reserve Bank, was elected Governor of the Dallas district on the 6th inst. Mr. Van Zandt had been acting Governor since the recent resignation of Oscar Wells, who retired to become President of the First National Bank of Birmingham. John T. Scott, President of the First National Bank of Houston, has been chosen to succeed Mr. Wells as Class A director of the Dallas Reserve Bank.

### REPORT OF NATIONAL CURRENCY ASSOCIATION OF CINCINNATI.

All of the additional circulation issued under the supervision of the National Currency Association of Cincinnati has been retired. A report just issued by the Executive Committee shows that the total amount of additional circulation issued by the Association under the Aldrich-Vreeland law was \$9,592,500, or 16.86% of the maximum amount (\$56,881,000) available in that district under the law. Of the total amount of additional circulation in this district \$8,765,500 was issued by 33 banks in 16 cities in Ohio; \$504,000 by 8 banks in 6 cities in Kentucky, and \$323,000 by 3 banks in 2 cities in West Virginia. The Association's territory included Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky and West Virginia. None of the Indiana banks comprised in its territory availed of the privilege of taking out emergency currency. The number of banks in the Association totaled 105, of which 44 issued additional circulation. The maximum amount of additional circulation outstanding at any one time was \$9,592,500 and the maximum amount of securities pledged against additional circulation was \$13,271,713. The total number of applications approved by the Association was 68; August 6 was the first date applications were approved; the amount approved on that date was \$1,950,000. The last date on which applications for additional circulation were approved, was November 6, 1914, when the amount passed upon was \$150,000. The largest amount of additional circulation approved any one day was \$1,950,000 on August 6, 1914. The first date applications for retirement were approved was November 20 1914, and the last date on which applications for retirement were approved was March 23 1915. The largest amount of additional circulation retired any one day was \$1,141,000 on January 2 1915. The gross amount of securities passing through the hands of the Executive Committee, including both original and exchange deposits, was \$21,195,693.

The member banks of the Association which issued additional circulation were assessed 20 cents per thousand,

which covered the entire expense of the association. There was no membership fee and members who did not take out additional circulation were not asked to contribute.

#### REPORT OF NATIONAL CURRENCY ASSOCIATION OF BOSTON.

The National Currency Association of Boston retired the last of its emergency currency issue on March 19. A total of \$28,674,500 is shown to have been issued by the Association between Aug. 4 and Oct. 19 in a report issued by the executive committee of the Association under date of March 26. The total amount of circulation possible under the law, so far as the Boston Association is concerned, was \$66,022,000, so that the amount actually taken out was 43.43% of the total which might have been issued. Over \$26,000,000 of emergency currency was put out prior to Sept. 15. The first retirement of currency was on Nov. 4 1914. The report states that the committee received securities and commercial paper amounting to \$53,428,645, of which \$38,897,540 represented original deposits and \$14,531,105 represented securities substituted on withdrawal of those originally deposited. Of the total of \$53,428,645 commercial paper was represented by \$30,374,701 and bonds and securities by \$23,053,944. The number of applications for emergency currency approved was 81, of which 38 came from Boston banks and 43 from banks in Massachusetts. Of the 70 banks members of the Association (11 in Boston and 59 elsewhere in Massachusetts), 47 took out circulation; 10 of these were Boston banks and 37 outside of Boston. The expenses of the Association in connection with the issuance of the emergency currency amounted to \$6,352, and was paid for through two assessments, each at the rate of five cents per \$1,000 of capital and surplus of the member banks. Of the total amount of emergency currency issued, the Boston banks received \$24,759,500 and the country banks \$3,915,000.

#### EXCESS ISSUES OF DOMINION NOTES EXPLAINED.

In its issue of April 2 "The Monetary Times" of Montreal says that Hon. W. T. White's resolutions providing for the ratification of excess issues of Dominion notes by the Government were passed the previous week and a bill based upon it was introduced. The reasons for the issue of notes were explained by Sir Robert Borden and the Finance Minister. In the session of 1914 Parliament authorized the Government to guarantee bonds of the Canadian Northern Railway to the amount of \$45,000,000 and bonds of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway to the extent of \$15,000,000. The former company succeeded in floating \$15,000,000 of bonds in the London market at 91½. However, the underwriters under the English moratorium had been able to withhold payment since September. The Grand Trunk Pacific Co. was unable to float any of its bonds. Both companies asked the Government for loans last fall.

The Government endeavored to have the loans made through the banks, pointing out that the bonds were guaranteed by the Dominion of Canada and the Dominion notes could be issued to the banks on the security of those bonds under the legislation passed last August. The banks, however, declined to intervene. The Government thereupon passed an Order-in-Council whereby \$10,000,000 in Dominion notes was advanced to the Canadian Northern on the security of \$12,000,000 of guaranteed bonds and \$6,000,000 in notes was lent to the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway on the security of \$7,500,000 of guaranteed bonds. Had the money not been supplied by the Government the two railway companies would have had to cease construction work and thus thrown 12,000 men out of employment.

The Government also issued \$10,000,000 in Dominion notes to take up \$8,500,000 of treasury bills which fell due in London last November because at that time it could not borrow the necessary money.

Sir Robert Borden said that the bonds of the two railways could have been sold at an advance of eight, or ten per cent over the figure at which the loans were made, but that it had been felt that by a delay a better price might be obtained and more money would be available for the construction of the roads. As to the issue of \$10,000,000 for Government purposes, Mr. White said that against it \$1,200,000 in gold had been accumulated as a partial reserve and that more would be gathered as rapidly as possible. The Finance Minister said that no further inflation of the currency would be necessary in view of the improvement of the financial situation in London, New York and Canada.

#### BUSINESS SUFFERING FROM TOO MUCH LEGISLATION.

A memorial presented to the Illinois Legislature by two hundred business men who visited the State Capital on March 30 to petition against further new legislation declares that "business to-day is suffering not so much from the war as it is from its enforced readjustment to serious Federal legislative changes." "Under such conditions," it is contended, "radical experiments should not be indulged in by the State to further distress and strangle such activity as to-day exists." The particular legislation which brought about the petition was a bill proposing an eight-hour day for women, a minimum wage bill and rigid factory requirements. Charles Piez, formerly President of the Illinois Manufacturers' Association, and head of a Chicago factory, in voicing the attitude of the business men toward legislative acts, said:

"We want to co-operate with the Legislature. It is our purpose here to point out to the lawmakers our limitations, what certain legislation will do to our business, and how by co-operation these conditions may be improved to bring prosperity to Illinois."

"We ask for an investigation of the conditions of business and we are willing to put all the cards on the table so every one can see them, look into the innermost recesses of business, and then let legislation be enacted."

The memorial to the Legislature, according to the Chicago "Tribune", read in part as follows:

"Never has business been subjected to severer stress than during the last year; never has the present record of unemployment been surpassed; never have the charitable organizations been so burdened with cases of real want. Industry is working at half time or less; wages are reduced or cut off entirely, and the most stringent economy is being practiced in countless homes."

"Everywhere the effect of lack of business manifests itself. This is essentially a time when every possible encouragement should be given to revive business; where no extra burden should be placed on it; when every possible restriction that would hamper its growth should be removed."

"There are before the Legislature at this time several hundred bills that have some direct or indirect bearing on business. Among them are bills like the women's eight-hour bill and the minimum-wage bill, which are of the most far-reaching importance."

"Both of them will, if enacted, mean heavy wage increases; for even the eight-hour bill has underlying it the thought that it will carry with it nine or ten hour wages for eight-hours work."

"Has any investigation been made as to how these measures will affect the industries and the commercial activities of the state? Is any suggestion offered by the proponents of these measures as to how industry and commerce can adjust themselves to these burdens at such a time as this?"

"Let us squarely face the fact that business to-day is suffering not so much from the war as it is from its enforced readjustment to serious Federal legislative changes. We submit that under such conditions radical experiments should not be indulged in by the State to further distress and strangle such activity as to-day exists."

"If any real need for such legislation is shown for any industry or class of business, let that industry or class of business be singled out for special remedial legislation."

"We are opposed, with business in its present condition, to all new legislation. We ask for a period of rest from further restriction so that business may be brought back to full health and strength."

#### HESITANCY OF INVESTORS DUE TO POLITICAL AGITATION.

That "political agitation against capital, against the railroads, and against successful business generally, has been responsible, more than anything else, for the present waiting policy of investors", is the view expressed by E. W. Decker, President of the Northwestern National Bank of Minneapolis. Mr. Decker's opinions are set out in the Minneapolis "Tribune", of the 4th inst., which quotes him as saying that while to his mind we are on the upgrade, there will be no sudden revival of business. The end of the European war will help to some extent, he says, but there is a graver situation here at home. In charging that the hesitancy of investors can be laid to political agitation, he adds:

Congress has been to a large degree responsible, but State legislatures and even city councils have their degree of importance. The new Federal Trade Commission, with its practically unlimited powers, is an element of uncertainty.

Personally, I expect them to use their autocratic power in a conservative manner, but there exists the possibility of an abuse of authority and they must, as I believe they will, prove to the country their good faith with business before the man with money to invest will be willing to take a chance.

Fundamentally, the business of the United States is sound. But just now the condition is that the banks are bursting with money. Nobody wants to use it. They are afraid. As I said before, however, the tendency is in the right direction. The country cannot be held back forever. The golden flood is banking up behind the barriers of uncertainty and the time will come when it will burst through.

How soon will this happen? It will begin immediately, but it may take a year or two to get under full swing.

I feel especially optimistic about the Northwest. So far as this section is concerned, I can see no reason why we should not be back to normal condition within a year.

#### SEAMEN'S ACT EFFECTIVE NOV. 4—PACIFIC MAIL TO WITHDRAW SERVICE.

The Seamen's Act, which was passed during the closing days of the last Congress and was signed by the President on March 4, becomes effective on Nov. 4 1915 as to United States vessels and March 4 1916 as to vessels of foreign



countries, according to an opinion rendered by Attorney-General Gregory on March 31. A. L. Thurman, Solicitor of the Department of Commerce, had previously ruled that that part of the law relating to life-saving equipment and crews on domestic vessels would go into effect on July 1, as that date was fixed in one section of the Act. Many vessel owners, who were supported by Chairman Alexander of the House Merchant Marine Committee, contended that Nov. 1 was the date on which the provision in the Act would go into force, inasmuch as one of the later paragraphs of the Act stipulates that the law is to take effect in eight months. The Great Lakes vessel owners appealed to the Attorney-General from the opinion of the Solicitor of the Department of Commerce, and claimed that it would be impossible for them to provide the required lifeboat equipment and safety-appliances before Nov. 4.

In announcing his views in the matter, the Attorney-General said:

In my judgment no part of this Act becomes effective legislation until Nov. 4 1915 as to United States vessels and March 4 1916 as to all others.

One untoward effect of the bill is seen in the decision of the Pacific Mail SS. Co. to abandon its trans-Pacific service in the fall. Announcement of this is contained in a telegram from J. S. Hines, publisher of the Pacific Marine Review, to Albert Greene Duncan, president of the National Cotton Manufacturers' Association, published as follows in the "Wall Street Journal" of March 29:

Received your letter of March 9 and immediately interviewed Mr. Schwerin, Vice-President and General Manager of the Pacific Mail Steamship Co. He has shown me conclusively that under Section 13 of the Seamen's Bill the cost of operating their seven ships now in the trans-Pacific service will be increased \$620,000 per annum by substitution of English-speaking for Chinese crews.

The Japanese Government practically makes all the rates to and from Japan, and does not permit any raise of rates, paying the Japanese lines large subsidies in lieu of permitting them to advance rates from time to time. In consequence of this, it is impossible for Pacific Mail in any way to recoup itself to make up for this heavy increased cost of operation, and after being in this business since 1863, they are now making all their plans to withdraw from this service, their last ship leaving San Francisco Nov. 2 1915. The law becomes effective Nov. 4.

This company has a magnificent organization, both here and in the Orient, and has practically the cream of the trans-Pacific trade. It is lamentable at this time, when it seems the people of the United States are desirous of increasing the American mercantile marine in foreign trade, that the oldest and most aggressive line that has maintained its standing in the foreign trade should, by our own Government, be forced to the wall. I believe, if the people of the United States really understood the situation, they would demand the very reverse of what has taken place.

Not only has this Seamen's Bill hauled down the American flag on the Pacific, and turned over the entire traffic to the Japanese, but there are other conditions in this bill which practically deprive the commanding officer of any disciplinary control whatever in the safety and life of passengers at sea, nor will a master be able to continue a voyage from port to port, except at the pleasure of his crew.

(Signed) J. S. HINES, Editor and Publisher,  
Pacific Marine Review.

#### MASSACHUSETTS LAND BANK BILL REPORTED.

A bill providing for the establishment of a land bank was reported to the Massachusetts House on March 25 by the Committee on Banks and Banking. The bill, which is based upon recommendations of the State Board of Agriculture, provides that ten or more savings or loan associations which have aggregate resources of not less than \$2,000,000 upon authorization by the Bank Commissioner may form the Land Bank of the State of Massachusetts. The headquarters of the bank are to be in Boston and the shares to be taken by the associations are not to aggregate less than \$100,000, which must be paid in cash. The bank is to have at least nine directors. In addition to the powers conferred by the regular corporation law of the Commonwealth, the land bank is to be authorized to issue, sell and redeem debenture bonds and notes secured by bonds and first mortgages made to or held by member associations. The bank is to be authorized to receive property from its members and from other persons, with whom it has engagements, in installments and otherwise; may invest its capital and other funds in bonds secured by first mortgages of real estate situated within the territory in which its members are authorized to make loans. The bank may also receive by assignment from its members any first mortgages of real estate, and the bonds secured thereby, that are legally receivable by saving and loan associations; may buy, hold and convey real estate for its own administration building, any real estate which shall be mortgaged to it by way of security for loans, or any land conveyed to it for its debts previously contracted in the course of its business; and may designate as depositaries of its funds any banking institution of Massachusetts doing business under the laws of the United States. The bank would not do a general deposit business, nor invest its capital and other funds in bonds secured by first mortgages on real estate

if the amount secured is in excess of 60% of the appraised value of the real estate; neither would it receive from its members bonds or farm mortgages if the amount secured exceeded 75% of the appraised value. The bank would not be permitted to invest more than 25% of its surplus in real estate occupied by it for office purposes without the Bank Commissioner's approval and could not incur indebtedness upon notes and bonds in excess of twenty times the amount of its capital. Debenture bonds would be issued by the bank in series of not less than \$50,000, subject to call on any interest day at 102½% and interest on 60 days' notice in a newspaper. Provision is also made for a guaranty fund through the setting aside each year of an amount equal to one-half of 1% of the bank's capital until the fund shall equal 15% of the capital. The par value of the shares of the land bank would be \$1,000, no association being permitted to hold shares in excess of 10% of the resources of the association.

#### TOWNS SELECTED FOR RURAL CREDIT EXPERIMENT.

Several towns in Hampden County, Massachusetts, have been selected by the Federal Bureau of Markets to try out the Government's experimental rural credit system, according to the Boston "Transcript". The latter states that the system will be put into effect for a limited time to give opportunity for observations of its workings. The "Transcript" further says:

The plan that the Government proposes contemplates the organizing of associations among farmers. The farmers who join these associations jointly and severally assume the liability for the notes given by the members under a written agreement or guaranty giving the members the necessary credit up to a specified amount and enables them to obtain the specified loans at the lowest possible rate of interest. The prevailing rate in Hampden County would not be more than 6%. The banks would then discount the notes given in accordance with the guaranty without being endorsed. This will make money easily and readily available for all members of these associations, and will eliminate the embarrassment of getting some one to sign their notes. It will put the securing of money on a basis similar to ordinary business transactions.

#### PLUMBERS CONVICTED UNDER SHERMAN LAW IN TEST CASE.

Judge Pollock, in the Federal Court at Des Moines, on March 31, fined four of the thirty-six master plumbers who were convicted on February 24 on charges of violating the Sherman Anti-Trust Law. The four plumbers fined were selected, two by the prosecution and two by the defense, in accordance with a proposal of Judge Pollock, with a view to making a test case out of the proceedings. With this end in view he passed judgment on four of the defendants and held up the motion for a new trial in the case of the other thirty-two. The four in question will appeal their cases to the United States Court of Appeals.

The Government attorneys selected two men against whom they had the strongest cases. These were fined \$1,000 each. The two defendants picked by the defense were men against whom it is thought the prosecution's case was weakest. They were fined \$500 each.

As previously stated in these columns, the indictments against the thirty-six master plumbers, which were returned on June 4 last, charge the National Association of Master Plumbers with operating in violation of the Sherman Law and conspiring to interfere with the business of plumbers and plumbing supply houses not members of the association.

#### DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE INVITES POTTERS TO INVESTIGATE DATA.

In reply to the alleged assertions of members of the Potters' Association that the figures of cost in the recent report of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce on the pottery industry were twisted and distorted, the Department of Commerce issued the following statement on March 28 in its daily consular reports:

"Statements have appeared from time to time in various papers relative to the report of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce on the pottery industry, alleged to come from parties claiming to represent the Potters' Association, charging that the figures of cost in the report on the pottery industry have been twisted and distorted. These statements seem to have been made, however, prior to the issuance of the full report containing the facts in detail. In order that the fullest light may be thrown upon this matter, opportunity will be afforded to any potter who desires to take advantage of it to come in person or to send his representative to the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, and there go over the data relating to his own plant with the agents who worked upon it and with the commercial agent in charge of the inquiry, in order that he may thereby see that from the data the figures printed in the report were correctly computed and derived.

"Copies of the final schedules and wage data for large plants have already been furnished to operating potters in accord with the above.

"The bureau will welcome visitors who desire to accept the above invitation."

Secretary Redfield's report, a summary of which was printed in our issue of March 6, asserted that the potters of

the United States are without adequate knowledge of the cost of production in their own industry, and that there is a distinct need for more scientific methods of production.

#### LABOR LAW PROHIBITING NIGHT WORK OF WOMEN TO GO BEFORE U. S. SUPREME COURT.

A writ of error allowing the United States Supreme Court to review the decision of the New York State Court of Appeals, upholding the constitutionality of the provision in the State Labor Law prohibiting the employment of women between the hours of 10 p. m. and 6 a. m. was granted on the 3rd inst. by Justice Hughes to the counsel for the defendant, the Charles Schweinler Press, Inc. The opinion of the Court of Appeals, which affirmed a decision rendered in July last year by the Appellate Division of the New York Supreme Court, was referred to in these columns last week.

#### NO EVIDENCE OF A CORNER IN WHEAT.

District Attorney Charles F. Clyne of Chicago, who has been conducting an investigation in that city for the Department of Justice into the advance in the price of wheat and flour, is stated to have gathered no evidence sufficient to justify him in bringing a case before the Federal grand jury. He is said to have advised the Department that no tangible evidence has been found that any combination existed among commission merchants and dealers in foodstuffs in this country which operated to restrain trade in these articles in violation of the criminal sections of the Sherman Anti-Trust Law. A formal report of the investigation will be submitted to the Department by Mr. Clyne shortly.

#### PAN-AMERICAN CONFERENCE POSTPONED UNTIL MAY 24.

The Pan-American financial and commercial conference, which was to have been held in Washington on May 10, has been postponed to May 24 on account of the illness of Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo. It is reported that the program for the conference, which is under the personal direction of Secretary McAdoo, will be announced in a few weeks, and will be comprehensive enough to permit full discussion of financial and trade conditions in the countries of this hemisphere.

In his invitation, sent on March 16 to all countries of Central and South America, seeking their participation in the conference, Secretary Bryan asked for the appointment of not more than three delegates in each instance, and added:

The conference will be held with a view to establishing closer and more satisfactory financial relations between the republics of America, and it is hoped that the Minister of Finance of the respective governments will be able to attend as one of the three delegates, and that the delegates may be versed in finance and banking and business problems.

The delegates hereunder appointed while they are in this country will be the guests of the United States of America. The Secretary of State of the United States of America will participate in the conference and the diplomatic representatives of the United States of America of the respective countries to whom this invitation is sent will be themselves invited to attend the conference in addition to the members whose special appointment is herein invited.

It is the intention of the Secretary of the Treasury to invite to the conference, in addition to the above, leading representative bankers of the United States of America. It is expected that the conference will discuss in addition to the problems of banking, problems of transportation and commerce between the various countries represented.

John Barrett, Director-General of the Pan-American Union, in a speech delivered on the 2nd inst., at the annual convention in this city of the Commercial Teachers' Association, urged the financiers and business men of the country to take an active interest in the conference.

#### TWO-CENT POSTAGE TO BARBADOES AND LEEWARD ISLANDS.

Beginning April 1, two-cent postage rate went into force between the United States and the British colonies of Barbadoes and the Leeward Islands (including Antigua, Barbuda, Rodonda, St. Kitts, Nevis, Anguilla, Dominica, Montserrat and the Virgin Islands). The prepaid rate of postage on letters mailed in the above-mentioned British colonies, addressed for delivery in the United States, will be one penny an ounce or fraction thereof, and to letters mailed in the United States addressed for delivery in those colonies two cents an ounce or fraction thereof. This arrangement is in accordance with a general scheme being worked out by the Post Office Department for a uniform postage rate between the United States and all countries in the Western Hemisphere. As previously stated in these columns, two-cent letter postage has been established between the United States and British Honduras, Bahamas, Canada and Newfoundland.

#### PARCEL-POST SHIPMENTS OF FOOD TO GERMANY INCREASING.

Officials of the Chicago Post Office stated on the 2d inst. that shipments to Germany and Austria of parcel-post packages containing food have increased within the last two weeks from 115 packages daily to 1,200. The packages are said to weigh close to the maximum of eleven pounds. It is reported that a number of the department stores in Chicago have made special provision for sending the parcels, furnishing air-tight containers. As stated in these columns last week, the Post Office Department announced on March 25 that parcel-post packages of foodstuffs and merchandise sent into belligerent countries would be accepted and forwarded at the sender's risk.

#### BRIEF FILED IN RAILWAY MAIL PAY CASE.

The Government's brief in the so-called railway mail pay cases, involving \$35,000,000 and affecting 800 roads, was filed in the U. S. Supreme Court on the 8th inst. by Assistant Attorney-General Huston Thompson. The cases, which are the Chicago & Alton RR. vs. United States and Yazoo & Mississippi Valley RR. vs. United States, involve the right of the Postmaster-General to change the method in adjusting railway mail pay. Previous to 1907 mail was paid for annually on the basis of an estimate made by actual weighing for 105 days and dividing the totals by 90. This was known as the six-day divisor. After July 1 1907 the whole number of days was used as a divisor, and this became known as the seven-day divisor. The effect was to reduce the aggregate compensation of the railroads about one-seventh. In the brief filed on the 8th, the Government maintains that the only restrictions placed upon the Postmaster-General by statute were that he must keep within a maximum compensation and must weigh the mails for a period of not less than 90 days. Otherwise, he was at liberty to exercise his discretion. It argues also that the railroads, having carried mail under the order of the Postmaster-General, substituting the later method of weighing, cannot now recover damages. The Circuit Court decided in favor of the Government, but the roads appealed.

#### EXPRESS AND RAILWAY MAIL PAY COMPARED BY RALPH PETERS.

Further exception to the accusations made against the railroads by Postmaster General Burleson is taken in a statement given out on the 4th inst. on behalf of the carriers by Ralph Peters, President of the Long Island R. R. and Chairman of the Committee on Railway Mail Pay. In his latest announcement comparing the mail and express rates, Mr Peters says:

"Postmaster General Burleson has publicly accused the railroads of being insincere in claiming that they are underpaid for carrying the mails. He says that in reality they are overpaid and to sustain this charge says that 'they are receiving from the Government amounts which, for hauls of any considerable length, exceed by about two to one the amounts they receive from the express companies for like and similar service'.

"The dignity and prestige of the Cabinet office of which Mr. Burleson is the present incumbent assures him a hearing before the public and a large degree of credence, because of the natural assumption that a judicial attitude will be retained by a sworn public official, and that the responsibility he assumes in making any public assertion will be appreciated at least by himself.

"Mr. Burleson bases his assertion regarding the mail and express earnings of the railroads upon a number of comparisons of which this is typical:

"He says that from New York to Chicago, 'railway mail pay amounts to \$2.58 per 100 pounds, while the railroads' proportion of the first class express rate between those cities is approximately \$1.20 per 100 pounds'.

"Not one citizen in a thousand would ever suspect that this meant anything except that the railroads carry express matter from New York to Chicago for an average rate of only \$1.20 per 100 pounds. The fact is, however, that the express rate Mr. Burleson names is not an average, or in any way a representative rate, but is the railroad's share of the express company's charge for a single 100-pound package, on which the very lowest wholesale rate per pound is given to the shipper. The railroads are paid approximately half the express company's charge.

"The railroads' receipts from the smaller express packages, which make up the great bulk of the actual business—and hence their average receipts per 100 pounds of express—are far higher than the figure Mr. Burleson quotes, a fact of which it is scarcely conceivable he could be unaware.

"For instance, for carrying 100 1-pound express packages from New York to Chicago, the Express company would receive 23 cents apiece, or a total of \$23. Of this amount, the railroads' share for its portion of the service would be about half, or \$11.50, which is nearly 4½ times the rate for carrying 100 pounds of mail. Such comparison, if offered as representative of average conditions, would be no more misleading than the one going to the opposite extreme which Mr. Burleson has used. The truth, of course, lies between the two extremes.

"The railroads earned from express, in the latest year for which figures are available (1913), \$78,000,000. The annual rate of mail pay to the railroads on June 30th, 1913, was \$51,466,000.

"The growth of the revenue may be compared from the fact that the earnings from express traffic in 1907 were \$57,000,000, while the annual rate of pay for mail on June 30th 1907, was \$51,008,000. It, therefore, appears that the mail pay to the railroads increased less than 1 per cent. during the six-year term specified, while the returns to the railroads from express traffic increased 37 per cent.

"This entire question of mail and express receipts was thoroughly investigated by the Joint Congressional Committee on Railway Mail Pay, which filed its report last August. The Committee's finding on the general subject was this:

"Suffice it to say that we are convinced that the railroad earnings from mail were in 1909 decidedly lower than from express on a car-mile basis, which is the best basis for comparison we have. Certainly there is no warrant in the oft-repeated assertion that the Government is being robbed in its mail payments by comparison with what the express companies pay. There has been an amazing amount of reckless assertion on this subject."

"As to the particular form of argument which the Postmaster General has employed in his statements to the newspapers, and which was also used during the hearings before the Joint Committee, the Committee's report says:

"Figures were submitted by the Department comparing the average payments for mail transportation between specific cities per 100-pound and per 40-pound packages, with 50 per cent. of the first class express rates recently approved by the Interstate Commerce Commission, the 50 per cent. being taken as the railroad company's share of the earnings. . . .

"We are compelled to reject the Department's attempt to show higher relative earnings from mail as reckless and misleading."

"Inasmuch as the Joint Committee was especially designated by Congress to investigate and settle this and similar questions, and spent two years in so doing, its conclusions should be authoritative."

"Nevertheless, if it is possible that the Postmaster General has any remaining doubts on the subject, he could readily resolve them by an appeal to the Interstate Commerce Commission, before revealing his state of mind to the public."

#### END OF EMBARGOES ON CATTLE SHIPMENT.

That the foot-and-mouth disease has now practically been brought under control was indicated in an announcement made by the Department of Agriculture on the 1st inst. The Federal officers in charge of the campaign against the disease during the last six months were announced as having stated that, with the single exception of a herd of animals near Syracuse, N. Y., which had been designated for slaughter on the 1st inst., telegraphic reports from inspectors throughout the country showed that the disease had been, to the best of their knowledge, completely wiped out. Figures compiled by the Department indicated that 124,141 animals have been slaughtered because of foot and mouth infection from the time of the outbreak in October to March 25.

On the 5th inst. an announcement of the Department said:

An order, effective to-day, is the first of the various quarantine orders for foot-and-mouth disease which adds no new territory to the quarantined area and consists entirely of modifications because of improved conditions. In connection with the fact that for a brief time on April 1 there were no animals in the United States known to have the disease, this is regarded as significant evidence of satisfactory progress in the campaign. It is also pointed out that Michigan, the State in which the epidemic started, and which has suffered a loss of 7,799 animals, is believed to be entirely free from the disease. All territory in the State is now included in the restricted area, for which the regulations are the least stringent of any of the four classes in the quarantined area. No territory east of the Mississippi and north of the Tennessee-Virginia line is entirely free from quarantined regulations.

According to a statement issued by the Department on March 26, the Federal Government has spent \$3,273,077 in fighting the foot-and-mouth disease throughout the country during the current epidemic. Of this total, \$2,338,306 went to compensate owners of the cattle which were killed by the agents of the Bureau of Animal Industry. It is estimated that, including the amounts spent by the State governments, about \$5,000,000 to \$6,000,000 has been appropriated in combatting the disease.

A statement of the Agricultural Department on March 29 said:

At the beginning of the outbreak there was a belief in some quarters that the vigorous measures recommended by the Federal authorities, and adopted in the great majority of the infected regions throughout the country, were unnecessarily costly and that the disease could be controlled by milder methods. This belief resulted in the securing of a temporary injunction (in Kane County), and this injunction is held by those in charge of the campaign to have been responsible for the fresh outbreak in Illinois which occurred when the plague was apparently under control. Thus up to Feb. 3, 36,758 animals had been infected. Two weeks later this number had risen to 51,482, there were 36 herds awaiting slaughter, and 35 premises to be disinfected. In the six weeks since that time, only 5,900 more animals have been infected, and, as has already been said, the outlook is regarded as most encouraging. In the opinion of the Federal authorities this sudden checking of the epizoot would have been impossible without the cordial co-operation of the State authorities and of the people at large.

One of the incidents in the quarantine campaign was the embargo incidental thereto placed upon the railroads. Following an announcement that the State Live Stock Sanitary Board of Pennsylvania had declined to recede from its quarantine against shipments of cattle through Pennsylvania from districts infected by the foot-and-mouth disease, the presidents and directors of three railroad systems crossing Erie County were notified on March 6 by the Attorney-General's Department at Harrisburg that they would be personally prosecuted if they permitted cattle to be moved from Ohio to New York, across Pennsylvania territory, contrary to the orders of the Board. The notices of the Attorney-General's Department were sent to the President and directors of the Erie RR., the New York Chicago & St.

Louis RR. and the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern RR. The Act of 1913 makes directors liable to fine of \$100 for first violation of the live-stock law and to \$500 and imprisonment for subsequent violations. The Pennsylvania RR. and the Baltimore & Ohio were said to have given the State notice that they would not ship any cattle against the quarantine regulations. Word was also received from the New York Central Lines to the effect that "no more shipments of live stock would be made until further notice is received from the quarantined districts." The State had asked the Federal Government to decline to issue permits for shipments of cattle through Pennsylvania. As indicating the effect of the quarantine established by the Pennsylvania Live Stock Sanitary Board, W. H. Noyes, Vice-President and General Manager of Swift & Co., was quoted on March 5 as saying:

Nearly every railroad passes through Pennsylvania except the Michigan Central, which passes through Canada. By the order of the Pennsylvania Live Stock Board no shipments may now be made through that State, and the Dominion will not permit any shipments of live cattle at the present time across its borders. About 75% of live cattle killed in New York City under ordinary conditions is shipped from Chicago markets, which is to-day an exposed area, and therefore under the ban of Pennsylvania. Consequently the only free area we have in the United States to-day is west of the Missouri River and south of the Tennessee State line. That restricts us.

The cost of the foot-and-mouth disease in New York State was nearly \$700,000, of which the State's share is \$350,000. The first case of the disease in this State was diagnosed at Seneca Falls on Nov. 3 1914. Since that day the disease appeared in eighteen counties. Calvin J. Huson, State Commissioner of Agriculture, in giving out these facts on the 3d inst., announced that at the date of his statement there was not one single case of the disease in the State.

#### THE STOCK EXCHANGES.

There was a considerable advance in the price of New York Stock Exchange memberships this week, four having been posted for transfer, each at an advance over the one preceding. One sold for \$45,000, another \$46,000, the third \$48,000 and the fourth \$49,500, this last being an advance of \$5,000 over the price paid last week.

Following the action of the New York Stock Exchange last week, the Special Committee of Five of the Baltimore Stock Exchange voted on Thursday of this week to remove all minimum price restrictions. Commencing with Monday, April 12, trading in stocks and bonds in the Baltimore market will therefore be without restrictions of any kind.

The official ruling, under date of April 1, regarding the removal of all price restrictions on the Philadelphia Stock Exchange is as follows:

The Special Committee announce the removal of all minimum prices on New York stocks. Under this and previous rulings of the committee, transactions may now be made in all securities dealt in on this Exchange without price restriction.

The Governing Committee of the Exchange on Monday of this week voted to discharge the Special Committee of Five which has been in charge of trading since the Exchange closed in July last. The members of the committee were as follows: Isaac Starr Jr., Chairman; William D. Grange, James D. Windsor Jr., Charles H. Bean and Horace H. Lee. Mr. Grange is President of the Stock Exchange and Mr. Lee is Secretary.

As stated in these columns last week, trading with minimum price restrictions was resumed on the floor of the Montreal Stock Exchange on Tuesday of this week, after an interval of more than eight months. Stocks and bonds selling over the fixed minimum prices and also those with a minimum at \$15 or less, and all mining stocks, may be dealt in without restrictions. Those selling at the minimum or any that sink to the minimum must be handled through the Committee.

Trading was also resumed on the floor of the Toronto Stock Exchange on Tuesday of this week on the same basis as on the Montreal Stock Exchange—that is, in all stocks and bonds selling above the fixed minimum prices and on all stocks the minimum price of which is \$15 or less.

#### GERMANY ADMITS LIABILITY IN CASE OF THE WILLIAM P. FRYE.

Liability for the payment of the claim made by the United States for the sinking of the American steamer William P. Frye by the German armed cruiser Prinz Eitel Friedrich on Jan. 28 is admitted by the German Government in a note received at the State Department at Washington from the German Foreign Office on the 8th inst. While no claim had been

made by the United States for the value of the cargo, which is said to have been sold to a British subject in transit, the German Government signifies its willingness to pay for the loss of both the vessel and the cargo, if it is established that both were owned by American citizens at the time of their destruction. At the same time the note holds the action of Commander Thierichens of the Prinz Eitel Friedrich to have been "quite in accordance with the principles of international law as laid down in the Declaration of London and the German Prize Ordinance." The right of the United States to reparation is conceded by Germany under two Prussian-American treaties, one dated 1799 and the other 1828. The note states that on the ground of this treaty stipulation the American owners of the ship and cargo would receive compensation even if the Prize Court should declare the cargo of wheat to be contraband. "Nevertheless," it adds, "the approaching prize proceedings are not rendered superfluous, since the competent Prize Court must examine into the legality of the capture and destruction and also pronounce upon the standing of the claimants and the amount of indemnity." The text of the note, transmitted by Foreign Minister Von Jagow to Ambassador Gerard, is as follows:

The undersigned has the honor to make reply to the note of his Excellency, Mr. James W. Gerard, Ambassador of the United States of America, dated the 3d inst., Foreign Office No. 2892, relative to claims for damages for the sinking of the American merchant vessel William P. Frye by the German auxiliary cruiser Prinz Eitel Friedrich.

According to the reports which have reached the German Government, the commander of the Prinz Eitel Friedrich stopped the William P. Frye on the high seas Jan. 27 1915 and searched her. He found on board a cargo of wheat consigned to Queenstown, Falmouth or Plymouth, to order. After he had first tried to remove the cargo from the William P. Frye he took the ship's papers and her crew on board and sank the ship.

It results from these facts that the German commander acted quite in accordance with the principles of international law as laid down in the Declaration of London and the German Prize Ordinance. The ports of Queenstown, Falmouth and Plymouth, whither the ship visited was bound, are strongly fortified English coast places, which, moreover, serve as bases for the British naval forces. The cargo of wheat being food or foodstuffs was conditional contraband within the meaning of Article 24, No. 1, of the Declaration of London, and article 23, No. 1, of the German Prize Ordinance and was therefore to be considered as destined for the armed forces of the enemy pursuant to Articles 33 and 34 of the Declaration of London and Articles 32 and 33 of the German Prize Ordinance and to be treated as contraband pending proof of the contrary.

This proof was certainly not capable of being adduced at the time of the visiting of the vessel, since the cargo papers read to order. This, however, furnished the conditions under which, pursuant to Article 49 of the Declaration of London and Article 113 of the German Prize Ordinance, the sinking of the ship was permissible, since it was not possible for the auxiliary cruiser to take the prize into a German port without involving danger to its own security or the success of its operations. The duties devolving upon the cruiser before destruction of the ship pursuant to Article 50 of the Declaration of London and Article 116 of the German Prize Ordinance were fulfilled by the cruiser in that it took on board all the persons found on the sailing vessel as well as the ship's papers.

The legality of the measures taken by the German commander is furthermore subject to examination by the German Prize Court pursuant to Article 51 of the Declaration of London and Section 1, No. 2, of the German Code of Prize Procedure. These prize proceedings will be instituted before the Prize Court at Hamburg as soon as the ship's papers are received, and will comprise the settlement of questions whether the destruction of the cargo and the ship was necessary within the meaning of Article 49 of the Declaration of London; whether the property sunk was liable to capture, and whether or to what extent indemnity is to be awarded the owners.

In the trial the owners of ship and cargo would be at liberty, pursuant to Article 34, paragraph 3, of the Declaration of London, to adduce proof that the cargo of wheat had an innocent destination and did not, therefore, have the character of contraband. If such proof is not adduced the German Government would not be liable for any compensation whatever according to the general principles of international law.

However, the legal situation is somewhat different in the light of the special stipulations applicable to the relations between Germany and the United States since Article 13 of the Prussian-American treaty of friendship and commerce of July 11 1799, taken in connection with Article 12 of Prussian-American treaty of commerce and navigation of May 1 1828, provides that contraband belonging to the subjects or citizens of either party cannot be confiscated by the other in any case, but only detained or used in consideration of payment of the full value of the same.

On the ground of this treaty stipulation, which is, as a matter of course, binding on the German Prize Court, the American owners of ship and cargo would receive compensation even if the Court should declare the cargo of wheat to be contraband. Nevertheless, the approaching prize proceedings are not rendered superfluous since the competent Prize Court must examine into the legality of the capture and destruction, and also pronounce upon the standing of the claimants and the amount of indemnity.

The undersigned begs to suggest that the Ambassador bring the above to the knowledge of his Government and avail himself, et cetera.

April 4 1915.

JAGOW.

An indemnity of \$228,060 was asked from Germany by the United States for the destruction of the William P. Frye. An investigation into the sinking of the Frye was begun by the United States Government, following the arrival of the Prinz Eitel Friedrich German cruiser at Newport News on March 10, when the first intimation of the destruction of the American vessel was had by the officials at Washington. The Frye, bound for England, left Seattle, Wash., Nov. 4, with a cargo of wheat. The facts concerning the cargo of the Frye were sent to the State Department by Treasury officials on March 25. It was definitely established, the

report stated, that the cargo of wheat was consigned "to order," and that no evidence existed in the papers of the ship to prove that the foodstuffs were destined to any belligerent forces. In the absence of such proof, the wheat was held not to have been contraband, and the destruction of the vessel and cargo unjustifiable. It was announced on the 1st inst. that indemnity for the full value of the ship had been requested in a note forwarded by the State Department at Washington to Ambassador Gerard for presentation to the Foreign Office at Berlin, and on the 5th inst. the text of the note was made public.

Besides the one American vessel sunk by the Prinz Eitel Friedrich, Captain Thierichens, upon his arrival at Newport News, admitted sinking ten other merchant vessels since leaving Tsing-tao, China, last November; five were British ships, four French and one Russian. The German cruiser when it reached the American port had on board over 500 people, 342 representing the crews and passengers of destroyed ships; her own crew numbered 100.

#### PRINZ EITEL FRIEDRICH INTERNED.

The German converted cruiser Prinz Eitel Friedrich was interned at Newport News on the 7th inst., Commander Thierichens having decided upon that course within a few hours of the limit fixed by the Government Neutrality Board within which the vessel was obliged to leave the territorial waters of the United States or intern. In a letter to the German officer on March 20, Collector of the Customs Hamilton had set midnight of April 7 as the outside limit of time during which the ship might remain in the waters of the United States. The contents of this letter were kept a secret until the 7th inst. On the night of the 7th inst. Mr. Hamilton presented a letter to Commander Thierichens requiring that the Prinz Eitel leave by 4 a. m. April 8. In making known his decision to intern, Commander Thierichens sent the following letter to the Collector of Customs:

Sir:—I inform you I intend to intern H. M. S. Prinz Eitel Friedrich. The relief I expected to appear did not arrive in time, so the number and force of the enemy cruisers watching the entrance of the bay makes to me impossible the dash for the open sea with any hope of success. I have decided not to deliver crew and ship to this fruitless and certain destruction. Being obliged for the courtesies shown by all United States authorities, I am expecting your orders. I have sent the same information to Rear Admiral Helm, U. S. S. Alabama.

The Eitel was ready to put to sea up to the last moment. She is said to have had a full supply of provisions, and her bunkers were filled with coal. The vessel will remain in the custody of the United States until the end of the war; her engines will be put out of commission and her guns removed. It is reported that the German cruiser will be taken to Norfolk navy yard. Her officers will be paroled and, although the crew will remain on board, it is expected that they will receive shore leave under American guard.

#### GERMANY PLACES RESPONSIBILITY FOR DEATH OF AMERICAN ON FALABA ON GREAT BRITAIN.

Responsibility for the death of Leon Chester Thrasher, of Hardwick, Mass., who lost his life with the sinking of the British steamer Falaba by a German submarine in St. George's channel on March 28 is placed by Germany upon the British Government. So far as the United States is concerned no decision as to the course it will take in the matter has been arrived at; the State Department at Washington is conducting an investigation to determine definitely whether Thrasher was an American citizen. The statement of the German Embassy issued on the 6th inst. quotes an official message from the Berlin Foreign Office as follows:

"A report from the submarine has not yet been received. However, according to trustworthy reports, the submarine requested the steamer Falaba to put passengers and crew into lifeboats when the ships came up. Lately English merchant ships have been provided with guns by the British Government and advised to ram or otherwise attack German submarines. This advice has repeatedly been followed in order to win promised rewards. Military necessity consequently forced the submarine to act quickly, which made granting of longer space of time and the saving of lives impossible.

"The German Government regrets the sacrifice of human lives, but both British ships and neutral passengers on board ships were warned urgently and in time not to cross the war zone. Responsibility rests, therefore, with the British Government, which, contrary to international law, inaugurated commercial war against Germany, and, contrary to international law, has caused merchant ships to offer armed resistance."

#### GERMANY REQUESTS INVESTIGATION INTO DETENTION BY U. S. OF STEAMER ODENWALD.

An investigation into the detention of the Hamburg-American line steamer "Odenwald" by the United States Government at San Juan, Porto Rico, since March 21 has been asked for by the German Government. It is under-

stood that the steamer is held under the neutrality resolution signed by President Wilson on March 4 empowering the President to direct collectors of customs to withhold clearance from any vessel "which he has reasonable cause to believe to be about to carry fuel, arms, ammunition, men or supplies to any warship, or tender, or supply ships of a belligerent nation in violation of the obligations of the United States as a neutral nation." The "Odenwald" is said to have been warned that she could not leave San Juan until the port officers had been allowed to make a thorough inspection; permission for this, it is reported, was refused and clearance papers were withheld. The conviction was maintained by officials at Washington that the "Odenwald" while not loaded with supplies of coal and food usually carried by merchantman, may have intended to fit out on the high seas with guns and ammunition as an auxiliary cruiser like the "Prinz Eitel Friedrich." The detention of the "Odenwald" at San Juan was brought to the attention of the Secretary of War in a report received on March 22 from Lieut.-Col. Burnham, commanding the Porto Rican regiment, as follows:

Hamburg-American commercial steamer "Odenwald" attempted to leave this port about 3 o'clock this afternoon (March 21) without clearance papers. At request of Collector of Customs to prevent departure and in compliance with instructions in your telegram March 19 warning shots were fired with machine guns and shot across her bows with 5 inch rifle from El Morro. She then came to anchor under El Morro.

None were injured. Ship returned to her anchorage in the harbor. In presence of Collector of Customs March 19 I personally informed and warned German Consul and commander of "Odenwald" that force would be used if necessary to prevent vessel leaving without clearance.

In accordance with the instructions of Attorney General Gregory on March 23, a libel action was filed at San Juan on March 27 by the Collector of Customs against the steamer, asking that the ship be surrendered for violating the neutrality resolution. Indications that an investigation into the case had been requested by the German Government were given in the following statement issued by the German Embassy on the 6th inst.:

"The German Embassy has requested the State Department to investigate the case of the 'Odenwald.' The captain of this steamer had asked for clearance papers for Hamburg and the steamer was searched by order from Washington twice thoroughly by the custom house authorities. The result of the search having been satisfactory the captain was promised clearance papers. After having been kept waiting for three days the captain believed that the situation forced him to put to sea, disregarding the rules of the harbor, because otherwise the assembling of cruisers of the enemy which had been informed of his intention would have involved the inevitable loss of his ship.

"When the 'Odenwald' tried to leave sharp fire was immediately directed against her from Morro Castle without the blind warning shot having been fired, which is usual, according to international rules.

"The fire was continued until three minutes after the engines of the 'Odenwald' had been put on full steam backward. It is attributed to a lucky chance that by this attack no human life was lost."

**LAW MAKING CARRIERS LIABLE FOR FULL VALUE OF SHIPMENTS.**

We publish below the text of the bill approved by President Wilson on March 4, intended to prohibit the railroads from limiting their liability below the actual loss in damages to the shipper.

An Act to amend an Act entitled "An Act to amend an Act entitled 'An Act to regulate commerce,' approved February 4 1887, and all Acts amendatory thereof, and to enlarge the powers of the Inter-State Commerce Commission," approved June 29 1906.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That so much of section 7 of an Act entitled "An Act to amend an Act entitled 'An Act to regulate commerce,' approved February 4 1887, and all Acts amendatory thereof, and to enlarge the powers of the Inter-State Commerce Commission," approved June 29 1906, as reads as follows, to wit:

"That any common carrier, railroad or transportation company receiving property for transportation from a point in one State to a point in another State shall issue a receipt or a bill of lading, therefor, and shall be liable to the lawful holder thereof for any loss, damage or injury to such property caused by it or by any common carrier, railroad or transportation company to which such property may be delivered, or over whose line or lines such property may pass, and no contract, receipt, rule or regulation shall exempt such common carrier, railroad or transportation company from the liability hereby imposed: *Provided*, That nothing in this section shall deprive any holder of such receipt or bill of lading of any remedy or right of action which he has under existing law," be, and the same is, hereby amended so as to read as follows, to wit:

"That any common carrier, railroad or transportation company subject to the provisions of this Act receiving property for transportation from a point in one State or Territory or the District of Columbia to a point in another State, Territory, District of Columbia or from any point in the United States to a point in an adjacent foreign country shall issue a receipt or bill of lading therefor, and shall be liable to the lawful holder thereof for any loss, damage or injury to such property caused by it or by any common carrier, railroad or transportation company to which such property may be delivered or over whose line or lines such property may pass within the United States or within an adjacent foreign country when transported on a through bill of lading, and no contract, receipt, rule, regulation or other limitation of any character whatsoever, shall exempt such common carrier, railroad or transportation company from the liability hereby imposed; and any such common carrier, railroad or transportation company so receiving property for transportation from a point in one State, Territory or the District of Columbia to a point in another State or Territory, or from a point in a State or Territory to a point in the District of Colum-

bia, or from any point in the United States to a point in an adjacent foreign country, or for transportation wholly within a Territory shall be liable to the lawful holder of said receipt or bill of lading or to any party entitled to recover thereon, whether such receipt or bill of lading has been issued or not, for the full actual loss, damage or injury to such property caused by it or by any such common carrier, railroad or transportation company to which such property may be delivered or over whose line or lines such property may pass within the United States or within an adjacent foreign country when transported on a through bill of lading, notwithstanding any limitation of liability or limitation of the amount of recovery or representation or agreement as to value in any such receipt or bill of lading, or in any contract, rule, regulation or in any tariff filed with the Inter-State Commerce Commission; and any such limitation, without respect to the manner or form in which it is sought to be made, is hereby declared to be unlawful and void: *Provided, however*, That if the goods are hidden from view by wrapping, boxing or other means, and the carrier is not notified as to the character of the goods, the carrier may require the shipper to specifically state in writing the value of the goods, and the carrier shall not be liable beyond the amount so specifically stated, in which case the Inter-State Commerce Commission may establish and maintain rates for transportation, dependent upon the value of the property shipped as specifically stated in writing by the shipper. Such rates shall be published as are other rate schedules: *Provided, further*, That nothing in this section shall deprive any holder, of such receipt or bill of lading of any remedy or right of action which he has under the existing law: *Provided, further*, That it shall be unlawful for any such common carrier to provide by rule, contract, regulation, or otherwise, a shorter period for giving notice of claims than ninety days and for the filing of claims for a shorter period than four months, and for the institution of suits than two years: *Provided, however*, That if the loss, damage or injury complained of was due to delay or damage while being loaded or unloaded, or damaged in transit by carelessness or negligence, then no notice of claim nor filing of claim shall be required as a condition precedent to recovery."

Sec. 2. That this Act shall take effect and be in force from ninety days after its passage.

Approved March 4 1915.

The new law was referred to in these columns on Mar. 13 page 868. As pointed out therein, the argument has been advanced that the legislation, contrary to the purpose of its author, Senator Cummins, makes possible an increase of 10% in all freight rates. It is announced that on April 10 the Inter-State Commerce Commission will take up for final determination the matter of alternate rates, and will consider it in the light of the new Act of Congress.

**INTER-STATE COMMERCE STATISTICS FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30 1914.**

Under date of March 31 1915 the Inter-State Commerce Commission issued an abstract of the statistics of steam railroads in the United States for the year ended June 30 1914.

This abstract is based upon compilations made from the annual reports of carriers having operating revenues above \$100,000 for the year and also of railway companies owning property operated under lease or other agreement by those carriers. Returns of switching and terminal companies are not included. Advance figures given in this abstract, it is stated, may be slightly modified by revision before final publication.

**MILEAGE.**

On June 30 1914 the roads covered by this abstract represented 247,397.59 miles of line operated, including 11,298.88 miles used under track-charge rights. The aggregate mileage of railway tracks of all kinds covered by operating returns for these roads was 377,102.45 miles. This mileage was thus classified: Single track, 247,397.59 miles; second track, 27,604.12 third track, 2,696.03; fourth, fifth and sixth tracks, 2,071.45; yard track and sidings, 97,333.26. These figures indicate, for the roads under consideration, an increase of 7,522.65 miles over corresponding returns for 1913 in the aggregate length of all tracks, of which increase 2,995.24 miles, or 39.82%, represent yard track and sidings.

**EQUIPMENT.**

It appears, from the annual reports submitted to the Commission by the roads covered by this abstract that there were 64,760 locomotives in their service on June 30 1914, an increase of 1,382 over corresponding returns for such roads for the previous year. Of the total number of locomotives, 14,612 were classified as passenger, 38,752 as freight, 10,081 as switching and 1,315 were unclassified.

The total number of cars of all classes in the service of such roads was 2,503,822 (or 58,314 more than on June 30 1913), which equipment was thus assigned: Passenger service, 53,466 cars; freight service, 2,325,647; company's service, 124,709. The figures given do not include so-called private cars of commercial firms or corporations.

The 2,325,647 cars in freight service were classified as follows:

Description—	Number.	Aggregate Capacity. Tons.
Box .....	1,043,796	36,622,074
Flat .....	146,133	5,214,949
Stock .....	82,971	2,597,278
Coal .....	899,314	40,583,490
Tank .....	8,530	340,722
Refrigerator .....	48,888	1,577,973
Other cars in freight service .....	96,017	4,040,612
Total .....	2,325,647	90,977,008

It appears that the average number of locomotives per 1,000 miles of line was 262, and the average number of cars per 1,000 miles of line 16,121. The number of passenger-miles per passenger locomotive was approximately 2,365,000, and the number of ton-miles per freight locomotive was approximately 7,369,000.

The returns indicate that the number of locomotives and cars in the service of the carriers under consideration aggregated 2,568,582, of which 2,556,295, or 99.52% as against 99.36% in 1913, were fitted with train brakes, and 2,565,319, or 99.87% as against 99.86% in 1913, were fitted with automatic couplers. Of the 2,325,647 cars in freight service on June 30 1914, the number fitted with train brakes was 2,319,573 and the number fitted with automatic couplers was 2,322,762.

EMPLOYEES.

The total number of persons reported as on the pay-rolls of the steam roads of the United States on June 30 1914 (not including those in the employ of roads the gross operating revenues of which were reported as less than \$100,000 or those in the service of switching and terminal companies), was 1,695,483, or an average of 685 per 100 miles of line. As compared with corresponding returns for June 30 1913, there was a decrease of 119,756 in the total number of such railway employees. There were 61,365 engineers, 64,335 firemen, 47,621 conductors, 135,853 other trainmen and 37,671 switch-tenders, crossing-tenders and watchmen.

The total amount of wages and salaries reported as paid to railway employees during the year ended June 30 1914 for the roads under consideration was \$1,373,422,472.

CAPITALIZATION OF RAILWAY PROPERTY.

On June 30 1914, according to the annual reports submitted to the Commission by roads having gross operating revenues of \$100,000 or more, together with returns made in reports filed in behalf of their non-operating subsidiary lines, the par value of the amount of railway capital outstanding was \$20,247,301,257. This amount includes capital held by the railway companies concerned, as well as by the public. Of the total amount of such capital outstanding, there existed as stock \$8,680,759,704, of which \$7,304,479,846 was common and \$1,376,279,858 was preferred; the remaining part, \$11,566,541,553, representing funded debt, consisted of mortgage bonds, \$8,496,370,538; collateral trust bonds, \$1,182,683,530; plain bonds, debentures and notes, \$1,142,016,070; income bonds, \$254,230,505; miscellaneous funded obligations, \$72,700,640, and equipment trust obligations, \$418,540,270.

Of the total capital stock outstanding for the roads under consideration, \$3,019,020,981, or 34.78%, paid no dividends. The amount of dividends declared during the year (by both operating and non-operating companies represented in this statement) was \$451,263,197, being equivalent to 7.97% on dividend-paying stock. The average rate of dividends paid on all stocks outstanding pertaining to the roads under consideration was 5.20%. The increase in dividends declared during the year, being \$82,656,870, is principally accounted for by increased dividends declared by the Union Pacific Railroad Co. and the Central Pacific Railway Co. The dividends declared during the year by these two companies were more than \$86,000,000 greater than those of the preceding year. As appears in column 4 of this abstract, the total dividends of operating roads, \$379,865,024, included \$162,760,634 declared out of surplus and the dividends of non-operating roads, \$71,398,173, included \$34,170,961 declared out of surplus. No interest was paid on \$1,331,581,452, or 11.94%, of the total amount of funded debt outstanding (other than equipment trust obligations).

INVESTMENT IN ROAD AND EQUIPMENT.

The figures presented under this caption include returns for investment in road and equipment, shown by the operating roads covered by this abstract, as well as by their subsidiary non-operating roads (leased, operated under contract, &c.). The expenditures for additions and betterments, as well as the expenditures for new lines and extensions, during the fiscal year 1914 are analyzed in the following tabular statement:

	\$	\$
Investment to June 30 1914 (236,706.60 miles of line represented).....	16,936,697,840	
Investment to June 30 1913 (234,220.06 miles of line represented).....	16,424,359,514	
Increase 1914 over 1913.....		512,338,326
<i>Expendit's for Addit'ns &amp; Betterm'ts. &amp; Exten's.</i>		
	\$	\$
From cash or other working assets.....	330,529,491	61,370,851
From special approp'ns.....	43,616,529	114,129
Through issue of secur's.....	138,135,821	60,062,788
Not assigned to any of the above classes.....	3,779,449	157,910
Total.....	516,061,290	121,705,678
Miscellaneous Charges not classified.....		851,008
Total expenditures during year.....		638,617,976
<i>Credits.</i>		
Property retired or converted.....	88,104,245	
Adjustments.....	8,524,764	
Difference between record value of grantor and purchase price of grantee in cases of roads sold, merged, consolidated, &c.....	29,650,641	
Total.....	126,279,650	
Net increase during year.....		512,338,326

PUBLIC SERVICE OF RAILWAYS.

The number of passengers carried during the year ended June 30 1914 by roads represented in this abstract was 1,053,138,718. The corresponding number for the year ended June 30 1913 was 1,033,679,680. The increase in the number of passengers carried during the year over corresponding returns for 1913 was 19,459,038.

The passenger mileage, or the number of passengers carried 1 mile, reported by roads represented in this statement, was 35,258,497,509. The corresponding return for 1913 was 682,624,529 less. The number of passengers carried 1 mile per mile of road was 144,278, as against 143,067 for the preceding year.

The number of tons of freight reported as carried (including freight received from connections) by roads represented in this statement, for the year ended June 30 1914, was 1,976,138,155, while the corresponding figure for the previous year was 2,068,035,487, the decrease being 81,897,332.

The ton mileage, or the number of tons carried 1 mile, as reported by the carriers under consideration for the year ended June 30 1914 was 288,319,890,210. The corresponding ton mileage as reported for the year ended June 30 1913 was 301,398,752,108, from which it will be seen that the decrease in the ton mileage for the year ended June 30 1914, under the returns for 1913, as applying to the roads represented in this abstract, was 13,078,861,898. The number of tons carried 1 mile per mile of road for the year ended June 30 1914 was 1,176,923, as against 1,245,158 for the preceding year. The average number of tons of freight per train-mile was 451.80. The corresponding figure for the preceding year was 445.43.

The average receipts per passenger per mile, as computed for the year ended June 30 1914, for the roads covered by this statement, were 1.982 cents; the average receipts per ton per mile, 0.733 cent. The passenger-service train revenue per train-mile was \$1.34,496; the freight revenue per train-mile was \$3.30,845. The average operating revenues per train-mile were \$2.45,024. The average operating expenses per train-mile were \$1.76,917. The ratio of operating expenses to operating revenues was 72.21%.

REVENUES AND EXPENSES.

It should be noted that, as in the case of other figures in this abstract, the revenues and expenses shown below exclude returns for roads the gross operating revenues of which were less than \$100,000 for the year. The operating revenues of the railways in the United States for the year ended June 30 1914 herein represented (average mileage operated, 245,624.55 miles) were \$3,047,019,908; their operating expenses were \$2,200,313,150. The corresponding returns for 1913 (average mileage operated 242,657.12 miles) were: Operating revenues, \$3,125,135,798; operating expenses, \$2,159,968,924. The following figures present a statement of the operating revenues for 1914 in detail:

Freight revenue.....	\$2,114,697,629
Passenger revenue.....	700,403,353
Excess baggage revenue.....	7,477,062
Parlor and chair car revenue.....	677,631
Mail revenue.....	55,062,961
Express revenue.....	75,541,569
Milk revenue (on passenger trains).....	9,654,664
Other passenger revenue.....	6,229,246
Switching revenue.....	33,171,335
Special service-train revenue.....	1,777,780
Miscellaneous transportation revenue.....	6,995,174
Total revenue from operations other than transportation.....	32,930,397
Joint facilities—Dr.....	1,241,795
Joint facilities—Cr.....	3,643,872
Total operating revenues.....	\$3,047,019,908
Operating expenses, as assigned to the five general classes, were:	
Maintenance of way and structures.....	\$419,277,779
Maintenance of equipment.....	532,138,606
Traffic expenses.....	63,769,677
Transportation expenses.....	1,101,597,432
General expenses.....	83,529,665
Total operating expenses.....	\$2,200,313,150

With minor eliminations from the figures given above, operating revenues per mile of line operated (including line operated under trackage rights) averaged \$12,400 and operating expenses \$8,955 for the year.

CONDENSED INCOME ACCOUNT AND PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

There is given below a condensed income account and profit and loss account of operating roads, the gross operating revenues of which were \$100,000 or more for the year ended June 30 1914. A similar statement follows for non-operating roads (leased, operated under contract, &c.) controlled by the operating roads described. The statements omit returns for a few roads the reports of which were not sufficiently complete for inclusion therein. The accounts of the operating roads include both operating and financial transactions, while the accounts of the non-operating roads are confined for the most part to receipts and payments under leases, contracts and agreements. For a number of items, such as dividends, taxes, &c., both statements must be taken into consideration in order to learn the aggregates of such items for the railways of the United States therein represented. Thus the aggregate of dividends declared during the year, \$451,263,197, includes those declared out of current income and those declared from surplus both by the operating roads and by the non-operating roads. This amount includes dividends declared on railway capital stock owned by other railway companies.

OPERATING ROADS.

<i>Income Account—</i>	
Rail operations:	
Operating revenues.....	\$3,047,019,908
Operating expenses.....	2,200,313,150
Net operating revenue.....	\$846,706,749
Outside operations:	
Revenues.....	\$64,376,514
Expenses.....	65,866,609
Net deficit from outside operations.....	490,095
Total net revenue.....	\$845,216,654
Taxes accrued.....	139,591,520
Operating income.....	\$705,625,134
Other income.....	286,893,649
Gross income.....	\$992,518,783
Rents, interest and similar deductions from gross income.....	645,312,783
Net corporate income.....	\$347,206,000
Disposition of net corporate income:	
Dividends declared from current income.....	\$217,104,390
Appropriations for additions & betterments.....	29,226,675
Appropriations for new lines and extensions.....	39,622
Miscellaneous appropriations.....	12,916,177
Total.....	259,286,864
Balance to credit of profit and loss.....	\$87,919,136
<i>Profit and Loss Account—</i>	
Credit balance on June 30 1913.....	\$1,041,672,887
Credit balance for year 1914 from income account.....	87,919,136
Total.....	\$1,129,592,023
Dividends declared out of surplus.....	162,760,634
Difference.....	\$966,831,389
Appropriations for additions and betterments.....	\$4,962,901
Appropriations for new lines and extensions.....	2,081,227
Miscellaneous appropriations.....	3,646,706
Other profit and loss items—debit balance.....	30,806,359
Total.....	41,497,193
Balance credit June 30 1914 carried to balance sheet.....	\$925,334,196
NON-OPERATING ROADS.	
<i>Income Account—</i>	
Gross income from lease of road.....	\$110,670,101
Taxes accrued.....	940,055
Net income from lease of road.....	\$109,730,046
Other income.....	6,139,973
Gross income.....	\$115,870,019
Interest and similar deductions from gross income.....	64,561,479
Net corporate income.....	\$51,308,540
Disposition of net corporate income:	
Dividends declared from current income.....	\$37,227,212
Appropriations for additions and better'm'ts.....	2,271,026
Miscellaneous appropriations.....	1,178,765
Total.....	40,677,003
Balance to credit of profit and loss.....	\$10,631,537

*Profit and Loss Account—*

Credit balance on June 30 1913.....	\$31,327,523
Credit balance for year 1914 from income account.....	10,631,537
Total.....	\$41,959,060
Debits declared out of surplus.....	34,170,961
Difference.....	\$7,788,099
Appropriations for additions & betterments.....	\$1,925,334
Miscellaneous appropriations.....	434,617
Other profit and loss items—debit balance.....	13,165,029
Total.....	15,524,980
Balance debit June 30 1914 carried to balance sheet.....	\$7,763,817

**DEBT AND TAXATION OF STATES, MUNICIPALITIES, ETC.**

The Bureau of the Census has prepared an abstract of the decennial investigation of debt and taxation for the fiscal year 1913. This abstract contains the principal summary tables and necessary text from the bulletins, "Assessed Valuation of Property and Amounts and Rates of Levy: 1860-1912"; "National and State Indebtedness and Funds and Investments: 1870-1913"; "County and Municipal Indebtedness: 1913, 1902 and 1890, and Sinking Fund Assets: 1913"; "Taxation and Revenue Systems of State and Local Governments"; "National and State Revenues and Expenditures: 1913 and 1903, and Public Properties of States: 1913"; "County Revenues, Expenditures and Public Properties: 1913," and "Municipal Revenues, Expenditures and Public Properties: 1913." In addition, a synopsis of the contents of each of the seven bulletins is given. This is done, it is explained, in order that those interested in a special bulletin may know of such a publication and the contents thereof.

*Assessed Valuation.*—We reprint in part below table No. 6 showing the assessed valuation of all property subject to ad valorem taxation, by geographic divisions and States, 1912:

*Assessed Valuation of All Property Subject to Ad Valorem Taxation*

Geographic Division and State.	Assessed Valuation of All Property Subject to Ad Valorem Taxation			
	Total.	Real Property and Improvements.	Personal Property.	Other Property.
Total.....	\$69,452,936,004	\$1,554,009,436	12,135,887,928	5,241,114,687
New England.....	7,541,527,390	5,310,653,256	1,617,459,761	613,414,373
Maine.....	418,591,264	329,614,002	87,277,262	—
New Hampshire.....	439,683,132	299,333,340	80,314,189	—
Vermont.....	221,530,142	157,967,927	63,562,215	60,035,603
Massachusetts.....	4,803,078,625	3,316,714,460	1,032,985,395	—
Rhode Island.....	619,010,208	426,968,806	192,041,402	53,378,770
Connecticut.....	1,041,334,019	880,054,721	161,279,298	—
Middle Atlantic.....	18,691,072,439	17,386,461,961	985,631,027	97,148,398
New York.....	11,131,778,917	10,684,290,188	447,488,729	—
New Jersey.....	2,490,490,534	1,880,407,662	291,003,421	97,148,398
Pennsylvania.....	5,068,802,988	4,821,764,111	247,038,877	—
East North Central.....	15,507,238,035	10,578,108,161	4,081,911,663	847,218,211
Ohio.....	6,481,059,158	4,335,065,521	2,145,393,637	—
Indiana.....	1,898,307,218	1,221,410,854	676,896,364	(a)
Illinois.....	2,343,673,232	1,648,500,546	473,402,700	221,769,986
Michigan.....	2,317,561,634	1,649,105,370	429,589,039	238,867,225
Wisconsin.....	2,466,636,919	1,723,425,870	356,629,923	386,581,000
West North Central.....	8,094,364,580	5,469,851,989	1,840,478,971	784,033,620
Minnesota.....	1,474,585,315	1,154,269,735	320,315,580	—
Iowa.....	902,092,597	547,544,903	282,536,401	72,011,293
Missouri.....	1,860,087,056	1,187,413,981	481,443,865	191,230,110
North Dakota.....	293,048,119	199,070,596	93,977,520	(b)
South Dakota.....	354,278,413	264,163,184	55,917,277	34,197,952
Nebraska.....	463,371,889	319,049,627	88,937,396	55,384,866
Kansas.....	2,746,900,291	1,798,339,960	517,350,932	431,209,399
South Atlantic.....	5,816,456,645	3,850,269,446	1,119,228,266	846,958,933
Delaware.....	93,814,011	89,541,628	4,272,383	—
Maryland.....	1,235,457,607	1,151,374,665	(c)	84,082,942
Dist. of Columbia.....	359,932,253	330,322,487	29,609,766	—
Virginia.....	864,962,621	538,924,546	194,948,218	131,089,857
West Virginia.....	1,168,012,658	633,747,633	239,236,606	295,028,419
North Carolina.....	747,500,632	382,775,963	243,626,571	121,098,098
South Carolina.....	291,531,043	152,052,298	96,119,406	43,359,299
Georgia.....	842,358,342	431,329,671	278,007,657	138,021,114
Florida.....	212,857,518	140,200,555	38,407,759	34,279,201
East South Central.....	2,635,219,317	1,667,080,754	619,231,493	348,907,070
Kentucky.....	1,031,174,033	636,774,911	205,269,019	189,130,112
Tennessee.....	625,686,792	447,552,416	78,458,470	99,675,906
Alabama.....	566,807,488	342,648,441	623,159,047	(d)
Mississippi.....	411,551,004	240,104,986	111,344,966	60,101,052
West South Central.....	4,704,356,812	3,037,180,160	989,934,465	677,242,197
Arkansas.....	427,473,108	298,828,900	128,644,208	—
Louisiana.....	650,517,808	368,449,430	119,595,699	62,472,679
Oklahoma.....	1,193,655,846	719,703,439	214,142,358	259,810,049
Texas.....	2,632,710,050	1,650,198,381	527,552,200	354,959,469
Mountain.....	1,631,325,595	985,765,477	332,393,015	312,167,013
Montana.....	346,550,585	179,892,897	98,176,389	68,481,299
Idaho.....	167,512,157	912,531,637	(e)	34,080,620
Wyoming.....	180,730,630	81,276,300	47,966,596	51,513,334
Colorado.....	422,330,199	280,766,698	80,551,892	61,011,609
New Mexico.....	73,457,454	34,682,427	17,003,648	20,771,379
Arizona.....	140,338,191	84,328,045	24,071,908	31,938,240
Utah.....	200,299,207	109,625,848	47,203,027	43,470,332
Nevada.....	101,987,082	83,607,525	17,419,537	—
Pacific.....	4,831,375,881	3,567,638,242	549,712,267	714,024,872
Washington.....	1,005,086,251	729,751,400	117,949,520	157,385,331
Oregon.....	905,611,679	674,866,639	118,228,542	111,916,498
California.....	2,921,277,451	2,163,020,203	313,534,205	444,723,043

\* Includes \$221,931,053, assessed valuation of "main stem" and franchise of railroads and canal property not separately reported in New Jersey.  
 a Valuation of other property included with that of personal property.  
 b Valuation of personal property included with that of real property and improvements.

*Indebtedness.*—Table No. 7 given herewith shows the public indebtedness less sinking fund assets of the Nation, the States and all minor civil divisions of Government in the United States amounted to \$4,850,460,713 in 1913. This is an increase of \$2,011,564,591, or 70.9%, over the amount reported for 1902. During the period from 1890 to 1902 the total indebtedness increased \$849,783,280, or 42.7%. The per capita indebtedness increased \$13 98, or 38.8%, and \$4 23, or 13.3%, respectively, during the two periods mentioned.

The net indebtedness of the National Government increased \$59,106,814, or 6.1%, from 1902 to 1913, and \$117,544,489, or 13.8%, from 1890 to 1902. Owing to the rapid growth in the population, the per capita debt decreased \$1 63, or 13.3%, from 1902 to 1913, and \$1 38, or 10.1%, from 1890 to 1902.

The debt incurred by the 48 State governments increased \$106,573,034, or 44.5%, and the per capita debt increased \$0 54, or 17.8%, during the period 1902 to 1913. From 1890 to 1902 the net indebtedness of the States increased \$28,158,784, or 13.3%, and the per capita debt decreased \$0 34, or 10.1%.

The cities, villages, towns, townships, school districts, drainage, irrigation and levee districts, fire districts, poor districts, road districts and all other minor divisions of government in the United States having power to incur debt reported a net indebtedness of \$3,475,954,353 in 1913. This is an increase of \$1,845,884,743, or 113.2%, over the amount reported for 1902. A small part of this increase is due doubtless to a more complete canvass in the later year. During the period from 1890 to 1902 the net indebtedness of the minor divisions increased \$704,080,007, or 76%. The per capita net debt increased \$5 95, or 40.2%, from 1890 to 1902, and \$15 07, or 72.7%, from 1902 to 1913.

TABLE 7.—TOTAL AND PER CAPITA NET INDEBTEDNESS OF THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT, STATES AND MINOR DIVISIONS: 1913, 1902 AND 1890.

Division of Government.	Total Net Indebtedness.*			Per Capita Net Indebtedness.		
	1913.	1902.	1890.	1913.	1902.	1890.
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Total.....	4,850,460,713	2,838,896,122	1,989,112,842	49 97	35 99	31 76
Nation.....	1,028,564,055	969,457,241	685,912,752	10 59	12 22	13 60
States.....	345,942,305	239,369,271	221,210,487	3 57	3 03	3 37
Minor divisions.....	3,475,954,353	1,630,069,610	925,989,603	35 81	20 74	14 79

\* Total indebtedness less sinking fund assets or funds available for payment of debt. A indebtedness of 1891: that of 1890 not available.

The following figures taken from table 11 present, by States, the statistics of indebtedness of counties or parishes, and all minor civil divisions, the latter including cities, villages, towns, townships, boroughs, precincts, fire districts, irrigation districts, poor districts, school districts, &c.

The aggregate given is believed to include the indebtedness of every political division and subdivision of the United States other than that of the National Government and the 48 State governments whose indebtedness was reported in the bulletin entitled "National and State Indebtedness and Funds and Investments: 1870-1913" (see "Chronicle" of Aug. 22 1914, page 511).

*Indebtedness Less Sinking Fund Assets: 1913.*

Geographic Division and State.	Indebtedness Less Sinking Fund Assets: 1913.			
	Aggregate.	Of Counties.	Of All Other Civil Divisions, Cities, Villages, Townships, Precincts, &c.	School Districts.*
Total.....	\$ 3,475,954,353	\$ 871,528,268	\$ 2,985,555,484	\$ 118,870,601
New England.....	295,390,706	6,055,070	288,261,198	1,074,438
Maine.....	21,542,712	1,462,952	20,079,760	—
New Hampshire.....	9,344,558	488,234	8,376,579	480,745
Vermont.....	6,410,736	25,931	5,791,112	598,693
Massachusetts.....	187,578,004	3,113,436	184,464,568	—
Rhode Island.....	25,589,314	—	25,589,314	—
Connecticut.....	44,925,832	964,517	43,961,315	—
Middle Atlantic.....	1,461,733,152	87,916,084	1,350,288,440	23,528,628
New York.....	1,046,226,813	23,310,172	1,017,946,323	5,070,318
New Jersey.....	169,527,120	33,809,447	126,735,949	8,981,724
Pennsylvania.....	245,979,219	30,796,465	205,700,168	9,476,586
East North Central.....	528,510,310	65,374,456	443,275,918	19,859,936
Ohio.....	234,525,134	34,845,120	195,578,407	4,101,607
Indiana.....	66,033,653	9,721,434	59,653,058	5,679,161
Illinois.....	137,207,747	11,555,014	121,342,112	4,310,621
Michigan.....	52,907,733	6,152,318	44,589,335	3,166,080
Wisconsin.....	37,816,043	4,100,570	31,113,006	2,602,467
West North Central.....	274,789,959	49,459,318	197,811,341	27,519,300
Minnesota.....	69,018,441	14,012,782	47,948,136	7,057,623
Iowa.....	35,069,386	2,826,266	32,142,931	3,346,158
Missouri.....	56,951,123	6,580,540	46,999,363	3,371,290
North Dakota.....	12,440,699	2,212,102	5,798,415	4,430,182
South Dakota.....	12,314,512	3,590,560	6,330,121	2,393,831
Nebraska.....	36,371,067	3,706,128	29,049,052	3,615,887
Kansas.....	52,624,731	9,777,030	39,543,303	3,304,398

Geographic Division and State.	Indebtedness Less Sinking Fund Assets: 1913.			
	Aggregate.	Of Counties.	Of All Other Civil Divisions. Cities, Villages, Towns, Precincts, &c.	School Districts.*
South Atlantic	203,352,470	31,943,957	107,000,541	4,307,972
Delaware	6,097,324	1,280,283	4,665,436	42,605
Maryland	52,211,884	2,859,285	49,332,599	1,029,600
District of Columbia	9,060,823	—	9,060,823	—
West Virginia	39,886,753	5,643,733	33,019,364	1,393,756
North Carolina	11,105,094	2,443,173	7,279,221	1,478,700
South Carolina	26,285,249	7,019,219	19,336,030	—
Georgia	15,096,533	2,793,907	11,281,673	1,051,653
Florida	35,613,855	2,724,561	22,675,208	214,086
East South Central	17,894,955	7,170,890	10,406,287	227,772
East South Central	126,973,325	39,652,452	87,320,873	—
Kentucky	25,588,562	4,668,780	21,019,782	—
Tennessee	47,286,778	16,520,431	30,766,347	—
Alabama	29,330,124	7,933,919	21,991,205	—
Mississippi	24,167,861	10,624,319	13,543,542	—
West South Central	211,066,133	41,636,298	151,001,972	14,527,853
Arkansas	12,577,033	2,877,142	8,990,203	709,688
Louisiana	61,460,681	3,153,848	58,306,833	—
Oklahoma	53,790,889	7,937,004	38,982,074	6,871,811
Texas	83,237,530	27,668,304	48,622,862	6,946,304
Mountain	99,497,443	24,132,302	64,232,807	11,132,334
Montana	16,633,154	6,492,127	8,984,270	1,156,757
Idaho	11,987,079	3,321,426	6,339,296	2,326,357
Wyoming	4,202,012	972,940	2,972,485	256,587
Colorado	36,473,364	5,583,801	27,544,353	3,345,210
New Mexico	6,444,012	3,054,640	2,358,369	1,031,003
Arizona	7,323,794	2,478,410	4,114,427	739,957
Utah	13,858,621	936,730	10,988,423	1,933,468
Nevada	2,575,407	1,292,228	931,184	351,995
Pacific	274,740,855	25,358,331	232,462,394	10,920,130
Washington	94,415,072	10,300,505	77,173,977	6,940,590
Oregon	43,796,959	2,614,312	38,788,140	2,394,507
California	136,528,824	12,443,514	116,500,277	7,585,033

\*Includes all debt of independent school districts except that of those incorporated places shown in table 13 which had a population of 2,500 and over in 1910.

**Receipts and Expenditures.**—The following table (No. 14) is a summary of receipts, payments and cash balances of the National Government, States, counties and incorporated places having a population of 2,500 and over: 1913.

Subject.	Aggregate.	National Government.	States.	Counties.	Incorporated Places.
Aggregate of receipts & cash balances	\$ 8,070,944,432	\$ 3,891,501,454	\$ 643,823,550	\$ 1,067,619,247	\$ 2,468,000,181
Cash bal's at begin. of yr.	2,459,571,034	1,841,687,848	117,176,715	171,950,795	328,755,676
Rev. receipts	2,799,497,765	953,596,637	367,585,331	370,043,046	1,108,272,751
Non-rev. rec's	2,811,875,633	1,096,216,969	159,061,504	525,625,406	1,030,971,754
Aggregate of payments & cash balances	\$ 8,070,944,432	\$ 3,891,501,454	\$ 643,823,550	\$ 1,067,619,247	\$ 2,468,000,181
Cash bal's at close of year	2,544,383,059	1,893,628,805	136,975,610	185,214,074	328,564,570
Governmental cost paym'ts	2,966,992,825	952,600,857	382,551,199	385,181,760	1,246,659,009
Non-gov'tal cost paym'ts	2,559,568,548	1,045,271,792	124,296,741	407,223,413	892,776,602

\*Includes \$4,510,651 excess of postal receipts.

**THE INCOME TAX—RULINGS AND DECISIONS.**

John Z. Lowe Jr. of New York, whose appointment by President Wilson as Collector of Internal Revenue for the Second District of New York City, to succeed Charles W. Anderson, was mentioned in our issue of March 6, took the oath of office on the 1st inst. at the Custom House. Mark Eisner, whom President Wilson appointed Collector of Internal Revenue for the Third District of New York City as successor to Frederick L. Marshall, also took the oath of office on the 1st.

The objection made by the Merchants' Association of New York to the income tax ruling requiring returns to be made upon dividends declared but not actually paid during the fiscal year has resulted in a modification of the regulation. The Association also protested against the requirement that the tax must be paid upon profits made outside the ordinary course of business, but that losses so incurred cannot be deducted. Authority to change this requirement, however, the Secretary of the Treasury stated, is outside his province. In his letter to the Association's Secretary, S. C. Mead, last month, he said:

**TAX AFFECTING DIVIDENDS CHANGED SO AS TO APPLY TO PERIOD WHEN INCOME IS RECEIVED.**

Your letter of Feb. 20, calling my attention, under instructions of the Board of Directors of the Merchants' Association of New York, to two features of the regulations concerning the income tax returns, has been received.

The first matter to which you refer is based on a Treasury decision requiring payments on dividends declared during the year instead of upon dividends actually received. This decision has been modified so that the tax applies to the period when the income is received, as you suggest.

I regret that it is impossible to change the principle of the other decision to which you refer. The Act of Congress requires that the tax shall be paid "upon the entire net income arising or accruing from all sources," permitting the deduction of certain specified kinds of expenses and losses, one of which is "losses actually sustained during the year, incurred in trade."

I have no authority to permit any other losses to be deducted than those which Congress provides for. If Congress had intended that all losses might be deducted, it would doubtless have so drafted the law. Therefore, forbidding the deduction from income tax returns of losses incurred outside the ordinary course of business, but requiring the inclusion of profits made outside the business, is not the act of the Treasury Department, but of Congress.

The joint resolution passed at the recent session of Congress providing for the refund of portions of amounts accepted in compromise under the Income Tax Law, was printed in "Treasury Decisions" of March 18, along with an explanation as to its import. We quote the advice of the Acting Commissioner of Internal Revenue in the matter as follows:

**PROVISION FOR REFUND OF INCOME TAX COMPROMISES.**

(T. D. 2175.)

**INCOME-TAX COMPROMISES.**

Joint resolution providing for refund of portions of amounts accepted in compromise under the Income Tax Law.

**TREASURY DEPARTMENT.**

Office of Commissioner of Internal Revenue,

Washington, D. C., March 12 1915.

On March 4 1915 the following joint resolution was approved: [Public Resolution No. 68—Sixty-third Congress—H. J. Res. 398.]

Joint resolution to refund under certain conditions a portion of the offers in compromise for failure to make the returns required under the Act of Oct. 3 1913, said offers in compromise having been covered into the Treasury, and for other purposes.

Resolved by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Treasury, on application to the Commissioner of Internal Revenue, be, and is hereby, authorized to refund, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, unto corporations all amounts paid by them into the Treasury of the United States in compromise by such corporations on account of their failure to make report under the requirements of the Income-Tax Law for the income-tax year 1913, so paid in excess of \$10; and the Secretary of the Treasury is further authorized to likewise refund as to said tax year any and all amounts exacted and paid into the Treasury of the United States as penalties by corporations required by the law to make income-tax returns, but which in their nature are not subject to income tax; and the Secretary is further authorized to likewise refund as to same tax year any and all amounts paid by individuals as penalties on account of their failure to make income-tax returns for said year 1913, as required by law, so paid in excess of \$5.

Under the provisions of the foregoing Act the refunding of the amounts accepted in compromise of the specific penalties imposed for failure to file returns for the income-tax year of 1913 will be made upon claims filed on Form 46. These claims will be filed in the usual manner in the office of the Collector of Internal Revenue to whom the amount offered was originally paid.

The claims should set forth the date of payment, the total amount paid, and the fact that the offer in compromise was accepted.

The Collector shall in all cases insert in his certificate on page 2 of the claim the office file number of the case as shown on the copies of notices of acceptances of the offers in compromise. This case number is necessary to expedite the adjustment of the claim.

The amounts refundable are—

(1) In the cases of corporations not organized for profit the whole amounts accepted in compromise. Corporations which claim refund of the entire amount accepted as compromise for the reason that in their nature they are not subject to income tax must show definitely that they are not organized for profit, filing with their claims certified copies of their articles of incorporation;

(2) In the cases of corporations organized for profit, all amounts paid as compromise in excess of \$10; and

(3) In cases of individuals, all amounts paid as compromise in excess of \$5. The act in question covers only amounts paid as offers in compromise and accepted by the United States for the year 1913 under the Income Tax Law of Oct. 3 1913, and has no reference to the 50% or 5% penalties collected under the law.

Collectors will see to it that claims under the Act of March 4 1915 are not confounded with claims on Form 627 for the refund of amounts authorized heretofore to be refunded. The claims covered by the Act of March 4 1915 are for refund by this office of amounts formally accepted in compromise, while those refundable by the Collector on Form 627 are amounts not accepted or in excess of the amount actually accepted.

DAVID A. GATES,

Acting commissioner of Internal Revenue.

Approved:

BYRON R. NEWTON, Acting Secretary of the Treasury.

**TRAINED ACCOUNTANTS TO BE ENGAGED IN ASSISTING IN COLLECTION OF TAX.**

In furtherance of plans for a partial reorganization of the investigating forces of Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo and Internal Revenue Commissioner Osborne incidental to the collection of the income tax for 1915, some twenty special agents appointed last year have received suggestions that they resign in order that their places may be taken by trained accountants peculiarly fitted to handle the books of corporations.

**TEST OF INCOME TAX REGULATION.**

The directors of the United States Chamber of Commerce, at their meeting in Washington on the 17th ult., made known their intention "to test in the courts the correctness of the regulation of the Treasury Department which for the purpose of taxing net incomes requires business men to account for all net gains from all their transactions, but permits them to deduct only such losses as they incur in a regular occupation."

The directors of the Chamber state that "as things stand under the regulations a grocer, for instance, who sells two pieces of real estate at the same time at a profit of \$1,000 for



one and a loss of \$1,000 for the other has to report the former \$1,000 as income and cannot offset the loss. Thus he is in a position of paying a tax on fictitious income. The directors were anxious not to provoke a controversy in the matter in an antagonistic spirit, but felt that it was important to have it settled."

**BANKING, LEGISLATIVE AND FINANCIAL NEWS.**

The public sales of bank stocks this week aggregate 16 shares, and were all made at the Stock Exchange. The transactions in trust company stocks, all auction sales, reach a total of 27 shares. National City Bank stock sold at 360, an advance of 10 points over the sale price two weeks ago, and 5 shares of Brooklyn Trust Co. stock were sold at 470, which is 10 points higher than the price paid at the last previous sale in December 1914.

Shares.	BANKS—New York.	Low.	High.	Close.	Last previous sale.
*5	City Bank, National	360	360	360	Mar. 915—350
*11	Commerce, Nat. Bank of	165	165	165	Mar. 1915—165
TRUST COMPANIES—New York.					
15	Fulton Trust Co.	280	280	280	April 1913—285
5	Lawyers' Title & Trust Co.	112	112	112	Mar. 1915—125
2	Metropolitan Trust Co.	405½	405½	405½	Mar. 1915—390
TRUST COMPANY—Brooklyn.					
5	Brooklyn Trust Co.	470	470	470	Dec. 1914—400

\* Sold at the Stock Exchange.

With regard to the wild advance on the Stock Exchange in the price of the Bethlehem Steel Co. stock during the last few days, William C. Van Antwerp, a Governor of the Exchange, made the following statement yesterday:

A period of great speculation comes after every great war, and such speculation is now evident. This particular era of speculation is going to be different from any other. First, because manipulation has been prohibited by law. Had there been any manipulation in Bethlehem Steel common the stock would have acted differently.

Therefore, with manipulation eliminated, there will be wider fluctuations, but the most important feature of all is that a tax of \$4 has shut out room traders. For example, J. J. Manning was driven to the Chicago wheat market because of this condition. Had room traders been active in Bethlehem Steel, there would have been a different story. They would have had stock to sell and stock to buy.

All dealing has been carefully watched by the committee chosen for that purpose and no evidence of manipulation or a corner has been observed. The surest proof of the absence of a corner is that the stock is never loaned at a premium. The authorities have felt that for some reasons connected with the nature of the Bethlehem company's business the floating supply is small. It is known that a large portion of the stock has been taken out of the Street at prices between forty and eighty.

A canvass of existing conditions, more particularly as to agriculture and trade, has been completed by Lewis L. Clarke, President of the American Exchange National Bank. The reports, which in general indicate an optimistic feeling, have been obtained through the correspondents of the institution—representative banks located in various parts of the country. In announcing the conclusions of his canvass, Mr. Clarke says:

It goes without saying that business has suffered and in some cases is at a standstill, due to the unsettlement produced by the European war. On the other hand, the same cause has acted as a stimulus in certain lines of trade, but not to the extent of offsetting the general falling off which started in the summer of 1914.

In general, the reports indicate an optimistic feeling, and that bankers and business men are handling their affairs conservatively. They fully realize that the process of recovery will necessarily be slow. Our people adapted themselves quickly to the changed conditions following the declaration of war in Europe, and while much hardship ensued strong and successful efforts were made to equalize the burden. While the European nations are settling their disputes on the battlefield, a gradual readjustment has been at work in this country along lines of improvement in our banking and business systems. There has been a strengthening of the moral fibre in our people, which will increase our efficiency as a nation and will aid in placing us in a position where we will be able to compete for a share of the world's trade.

Henry C. Swords, President of the Fulton Trust Co. of this city, comments in his usual interesting way on current financial conditions in his circular letter, from which we take the following:

The abrogation of the Golden Rule both at home and abroad has made new features in the business situation which are hard to diagnose. Until the foreigners stop killing each other and get back to business, and until the politicians at home cease attacking corporations, we will have to refrain from prophesying. This country is all right of itself, but it does not work very well to have the Government of the North and East in the hands of other sections; but after all no one section nor any party is altogether to blame. Laws against capital have been advocated by all parties, as laws like the full-crew and Inter-State Commerce Act are not the work of any one party.

A blizzard which swept over the Atlantic Coast last Saturday resulted in a snowfall of ten inches in New York, placing it on record as the heaviest April snowstorm in this city in the history of the Weather Bureau. The record had previously been held by the storm of April 9 1907, when the snowfall amounted to 5.5 inches. The storm of last Saturday, which covered the city with a white mantle for Easter, also furnished the

heaviest snowfall of the present season; in the case of the other two snowfalls of the winter 4.5 inches was recorded for the first one (on Feb. 2-3), while a total of 7.7 inches fell in the second storm on March 6-7. Last Saturday's storm originated in the South on Friday and then moved northward along the coast to the southern New England States. As a snowstorm it was severest in Philadelphia, where a fall of nineteen inches broke all twelve hour records for that city. In Boston the snowfall measured 8.3 inches. In New York the snowfall, which was accompanied by a sixty-mile gale, lasted from 8:30 A. M. until 10 P. M. The storm temporarily tied up transatlantic shipping, and telegraphic communication south of Washington was for a time interrupted. Trouble was also experienced by the local trolley and suburban traffic. Easter Sunday, however, proved bright and mild, and under the influence of a warm sun the snow quickly disappeared—in considerable part on the same day and the rest on succeeding days.

Preparations for the annual convention of the American Bankers' Association to be held at Seattle the week of September 6, are progressing. The aim is to make the 1915 Convention unique in entertainment, diverging somewhat from the customary order, and offering several novel features which have not been hackneyed by the custom of preceding conventions. The details of entertainment will be announced in due course. Through correspondence between Association members and those in charge of the hotel accommodations, it is inferred that there is still a lack of understanding as to headquarters, so that the names of the houses selected for that purpose are again given: Washington Hotel, Washington Annex, Washington Apartments and St. Regis Hotel, all situated immediately together. In addition to the committees mentioned in our issue of February 6 the following additional committees have been created:

- General Entertainment—Chairman, Mr. J. H. Edwards, Vice-President Dexter-Horton Trust & Savings Bank.
- Ball—Chairman, Mr. James D. Hoge, President, Union Savings & Trust Co.
- Music—Chairman, Mr. F. K. Struve, President, Seattle National Bank.
- Transportation and Excursion—Chairman, Mr. J. A. Swallow, Vice-President, National Bank of Commerce.
- Automobile—Chairman, Mr. J. W. Maxwell, President, National City Bank.
- Decorations—Chairman, Mr. E. L. Grondahl, President, State Bank of Seattle.
- Information and Utility—Chairman, Mr. J. W. Spangler, Vice-President, Seattle National Bank.
- Clubs—Chairman, Mr. M. A. Arnold, President, First National Bank.
- Ladies' Committee—Chairman, Mrs. M. F. Backus.

H. W. Schrader, heretofore associated with the Merchants' Loan & Trust Co. of Chicago, has been appointed Assistant Manager of the foreign exchange department of the National Bank of Commerce in New York.

J. D. Lankford was reappointed Oklahoma State Bank Commissioner on March 19 by Governor R. L. Williams. Mr. Lankford's term under the administration of Governor Cruce expired on February 25. The Oklahoma Bankers' Association recommended the appointment of one of the following: Arch W. Anderson, of Oklahoma City; A. D. Kennedy, of Okmulgee; B. F. Barber of Lawton.

A. W. Anderson, Vice-President of the Tradesmen's State Bank of Oklahoma City, will be identified with the State Rural Credit Association which, as stated in our issue of last week, was formally organized in Oklahoma City on Mar. 20. Mr. Anderson will relinquish his post in the Tradesmen's State Bank and will devote his attention to perfecting the organization of the credit association, which purposes to lend money to Oklahoma farmers at a low rate of interest. The new association has offices in the Security Building.

At a regular meeting of the directors of the Corn Exchange Bank of this city on the 7th inst., Frederick K. Lister was appointed Assistant Cashier.

Fred W. Ellsworth, who has been in charge of the department of publicity and new business of the Guaranty Trust Co. of this city, has been made an officer of the company with the title of Publicity Manager. L. S. Critchell and Arthur R. Jones have been appointed Assistant Secretaries of the company.

The East Brooklyn Savings Bank of Brooklyn has published a small pamphlet giving rules and helps for saving money and opening a savings account.

The Mount Vernon Trust Co. of Mount Vernon, N. Y., is the recipient of an unusual favor; Cyrus Townsend Brady, who has just published a novel entitled "The Eagle of the Empire," has dedicated his book to the trust company. The dedication is in the following words:

DEDICATION.

Dedications have gone out of vogue save with the old-fashioned. The ancient idea of an appeal to a patron has been eliminated from modern literature. If a man now inscribes a book to any one it is that he may associate with his work the names of friends he loves and delights to honor. There is always a certain amount of assurance in any such dedication, the assurance lying in the assumption that there is honor to the recipient in the association with the book. Well, there is no mistaking the purpose anyway.

One of my best friends, and that friendship has been proved in war and peace, at home and abroad, is a bank. The bank is like Mercy in more ways than one, but particularly in that it is twice blessed; it is blessed in what it receives, I hope, and in what it gives, I know. From the standpoint of the depositor sometimes it is better to receive than to give. It has been so in my case and I have been able to persuade the bank to that way of thinking.

Therefore, in grateful acknowledgment of the very present help it has been to me in time of need, and in public recognition of many courtesies from its officers and directors, and as some evidence of my deep appreciation of its many kindnesses to me, I dedicate this book to the Mount Vernon Trust Company of Mount Vernon, New York.

The Farmers' National Bank of Rome, New York, gave a stockholders' dinner on March 25. W. L. Kingsley, Vice-President of the institution, acted as toastmaster and R. H. Treman, director of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, made a speech on "The Federal Reserve System." The institution was organized as a State bank on July 1 1875 and converted to the National system on January 14 1879. During the past ten years its deposits have increased from \$657,039 (March 17 1905), to \$1,144,380 (March 19 1915). The dividends paid during the period from 1905 to 1915 amounted to \$149,250 and a special stock dividend of \$100,000 was paid in 1911 increasing the capital of the institution from \$100,000 to \$250,000. Total dividends of \$486,750 have been paid since the organization of the bank. Its officers are Edward Comstock, President; W. L. Kingsley, Vice-President; George G. Clarabut, Cashier and Carl H. Simon, Assistant Cashier.

Interests in the Bank of Buffalo, at Buffalo, N. Y., have acquired control of the Commonwealth Trust Co. of Buffalo. Elliott C. McDougal, President of the Bank of Buffalo, has been elected President of the trust company, which has a capital of \$500,000 and deposits in the neighborhood of \$8,000,000.

The banking firm of Kidder, Peabody & Co. of New York and Boston celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of its existence on April 1. The concern was formed by Henry P. Kidder, Francis H. Peabody and Oliver W. Peabody of Boston. Frank G. Webster, who is the New York Stock Exchange member of the firm, is the only man now living who has been with the house through its fifty years of existence. Mr. Webster was one of the witnesses to the original partnership papers and as a bookkeeper closed out the books of J. E. Thayer & Brother during the two weeks previous to the formation of the firm of Kidder, Peabody & Co. The Boston "Transcript" gives the following sketch of the firm's history:

On July 1 1886, Frank G. Webster, Charles A. Kidder, Frank E. Peabody of Boston, George F. Crane and Herbert L. Griggs of New York were admitted into full partnership and the other partners then were: Francis H. Peabody, Oliver W. Peabody, George C. Magoun and Thomas Baring. On April 30 1891, the New York partners dropped out and formed the firm of Baring, Magoun & Co., at the same time adding Cecil Baring. Kidder, Peabody & Co. then discontinued their New York office, Baring, Magoun & Co. succeeding to the business. Later Baring, Magoun & Co. became Baring & Co.

Kidder, Peabody & Co. took Robert Winsor into full partnership on Jan. 1 1894, he having had an interest prior to that date; William Endicott, Jr., and Frank W. Remick were admitted on October 2 1905, they having had an interest in the business since Jan. 1 1898; William L. Benedict and Charles S. Sargent, Jr., on Jan. 2 1911.

Meantime, Hugo Baring returned to England and Baring & Co.'s business in New York was discontinued on Jan. 1 1908. George D. Hallock and Albert L. Mason of Baring & Co. became associated with Kidder, Peabody & Co., who reopened a New York office at 56 Wall street, the following day. William L. Benedict went there to take charge and C. S. Sargent, Jr., also went from Boston to the New York office about two years later. Mr. Hallock and Mr. Mason remain there in their same capacities. About a year ago the New York office of Kidder, Peabody & Co. was removed to 17 Wall Street.

The present members of the firm are F. G. Webster, F. E. Peabody, Robert Winsor, William Endicott, Jr., Frank W. Remick, William L. Benedict and Charles S. Sargent, Jr.

A. L. Williston, President of the First National Bank of Northampton, Mass., died on the 1st inst. Mr. Williston was Treasurer of Mount Holyoke College and a trustee of Smith College and Williston Seminary. He was one of the founders of the Florence (Mass.) Savings Bank.

George W. Prentiss, business man and banker of Holyoke, Mass., died on the 2d inst. Mr. Prentiss was founder and President of the Prentiss wire mills of Holyoke, and had been President of the Holyoke Savings Bank for many years, and was a director of the institution at the time of his death. He had also served as President and a director of the Holyoke National Bank and as a director of the Third National Bank of Springfield. [Mr. Prentiss was a member of Holyoke's first board of aldermen in 1874 and had been a director of the Dean Steam Pump Company and treasurer of the Holyoke and Westfield Railroad Corporation. He was eighty-five years of age.

An application for a charter for a new trust company to be operated in Worcester (Mass.) under the title of the Park Trust Company has been filed with the Massachusetts Bank Commissioner. The proposed institution will have a capital stock of \$300,000, in \$100 shares. It is intended to sell the stock at \$135 a share, thus providing a surplus of \$105,000. The new concern will have quarters in the Park Building on Main street. The incorporators include: George M. Wright, former mayor of Worcester and President and General Manager of the Wright Wire Company; J. Lewis Ellsworth, President of the Worcester Chamber of Commerce; Rufus B. Fowler, formerly President of the Worcester Board of Trade and Park Commissioner of Worcester.

The Mechanics' National Bank of Worcester this year will pay an annual dividend at the rate of 9%, the directors of the institution having voted to declare an extra dividend of 1% in addition to the usual semi-annual dividend of 4%. The Mechanics' National has a capital of \$200,000, surplus of about \$361,729 and deposits of \$5,131,019, according to the statement issued under the Comptroller's call of March 4.

Samuel S. Sharp, President of the Penn National Bank of Philadelphia, celebrated on April 1 [the thirtieth anniversary of his election to that office. It is stated that Mr. Sharp has served as chief executive of a Philadelphia bank longer than any one else in that city. The deposits of the Penn National have grown from \$1,385,000 to over \$6,453,000 and the surplus and undivided profits from \$175,000 to approximately \$1,637,000 during Mr. Sharp's administration. Dividends of 6% per annum were paid up to 1896; an 8% rate prevailed from 1897 to 1906; 10% was paid for the two following years and 12% since then. The Penn National Bank has a capital of \$500,000.

William Disston, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the German-American Title & Trust Co., of Philadelphia, died on the 5th inst. Mr. Disston was President of the Disston Saw Works.

Horace Binney Pearson, who was a Vice-President and Treasurer of the Merchants' Trust Co., of Philadelphia, when it united with the Union Trust to form the Merchants' Union Trust Co., in January 1911, and who became Treasurer of the consolidated institution, died on the 4th inst. He was seventy-six years of age.

Dr. H. H. Grace has been elected President of the Central Trust Co. of Camden, N. J., to succeed Alpheus McCracken, who has become Chairman of the Board of Directors. Dr. Grace has for some time been a director of the trust company.

A permanent association as of April 1 has been established between the First National Bank of Scranton, Pa., and the Lackawanna Trust Co. of that city. The business of both institutions will be carried on in the present quarters of the First National until a new building, which will house both corporations, can be erected upon the present site of the trust company. The First National has a capital of \$1,250,000, surplus (earned) of \$1,000,000, deposits of over \$13,000,000 and total resources of over \$16,000,000. The Lackawanna Trust Co. has a capital of \$250,000, and surplus (earned) of \$250,000. Under the new arrangements its capital and surplus is pledged exclusively for the performance of its trust undertakings. Previously the institution had a deposit line of over \$2,000,000.

Charles Weston is President of the bank and Vice-President of the trust company; J. Benj. Dimmick is President of the trust company and Vice-President of the bank; Frank

Hummler is Cashier of the bank and Treasurer of the trust company.

In recognition of his fifty years of service with the bank William H. O'Connell, President of the Citizens' National Bank of Baltimore, was presented by the directors with a magnificent silver service on March 31. Resolutions were also adopted commending his work. Gen. James A. Gary, who has been a member of the board of directors of the bank since 1870 made the presentation in behalf of the board. The employees of the bank presented President O'Connell with a Russian leather case containing gold link cuff buttons, a gold match safe, a link watch chain and a gold-handled knife. Mr. O'Connell has been identified with the institution since April 1 1865.

A new bank to be known as the Seaboard Bank, will be established in Baltimore in the near future. A site for the proposed institution has been secured, property on the southwest corner of Charles and Preston Streets having been purchased for its home by the Germania Savings Bank, of which W. Bernard Duke, former Vice-President of the National Bank of Baltimore, is President. Mr. Duke is promoting the establishment of the new bank. About a year ago he bought control of the Germania Savings Bank and its charter will be used for the new bank. The Germania Savings Bank, which is located at Lombard and Washington Streets, will be continued as a branch of the new institution. The Seaboard Bank will have a capital of \$150,000. Mr. Duke will be President of the bank.

The Union National Bank of Cleveland which, as recently stated in these columns, will increase its capital stock by \$400,000, or from \$1,600,000 to \$2,000,000, has offered the new stock to the existing shareholders at \$150 a share. The announcement sent to the shareholders concerning the new stock says in part:

"You are entitled to subscribe for 25% of your present holdings; payment for your subscription to be made in cash in four equal installments on the first days of May, August and November 1915, and February 1916. Interest at the rate of 6% per annum will be allowed upon the respective payments from the dates made until the certificates for the amount of your subscription can be legally issued. If subscriptions are not received by this bank on or before April 20, the understanding will be that the shareholder has waived. No fractional shares will be issued and the fractional rights will be purchased at the rate of \$150 per share, and, to the extent possible, sold to shareholders to make full shares, at the same rate.

George Lomnitz, Secretary of the Citizens' Savings & Trust Co. of Cleveland, died on March 31. He collapsed while assisting the firemen to fight an apartment house fire and died within an hour.

The South-West Merchants' State Bank of Chicago has declared a first dividend of 1%, thus placing the stock on a 4% per annum basis. The institution was organized in May 1913.

The Garfield Park State Savings Bank of Chicago has declared an initial dividend of 1%, payable April 15 to holders of record March 31. The bank began business June 7 1913.

Benjamin H. Marshall has been chosen a director of the Union Trust Co. of Chicago.

Based on an announcement in the Chicago "Herald" of March 26, we reported last week the sale of the Lorimer-Munday holdings in the Illinois State Bank of Chicago to a syndicate; the transaction was not actually concluded until the 7th inst., when Judge Foell of the Superior Court, Chicago, signed two decrees under which William Lorimer Jr. released his title to 970 shares of the bank to the Chicago Title & Trust Co., receiver for the Rosehill Cemetery Co. Following several formal proceedings, the receiver sold the bank stock for \$9,700 to Emile Levy, as trustee for a syndicate headed by Maurice L. Rothschild, Alfred Decker of Alfred Decker & Cohn, clothiers; Virgil C. Webster and Mr. Levy.

Arrangements for the consolidation of the First National Bank of Lake Forest, Illinois, and the State Bank of Lake Forest have been carried into effect, the enlarged institution, which has a capital and surplus of \$130,000 and deposits in the neighborhood of \$1,000,000, having begun business on the 1st inst. The officers are P. L. James, President;

Frank W. Read, Cashier, and George Anderson and George Findlay, Vice-Presidents.

A special meeting of the stockholders of the Security National Bank of Minneapolis will be held on May 4 to formally authorize the voluntary liquidation of the bank and the sale and transfer of its assets to the First National Bank. The details of the consolidation of these two banks were given in these columns on March 27 and April 3.

The Scandinavian-American National Bank of Minneapolis has leased the quarters in the Security Bank Building which were occupied by the Security National Bank prior to its recent consolidation with the First National Bank. President H. R. Lyon of the Scandinavian-American announces that the unexpired lease of the Security National, which has eleven years to run, has been obtained by his institution. The new quarters will be occupied by June 1. W. R. Murray has been chosen Assistant Cashier of the Scandinavian-American National Bank.

O. C. Rediek has been elected President of the City Trust Co. of Omaha, Neb., to succeed John F. Flaek, and D. A. Baum has been chosen Vice-President. Both Mr. Rediek and Mr. Baum have been directors of the company.

Leonard A. Imboden, who was convicted with James A. Hill of conspiracy to embezzle the funds of the Denver Savings Bank of Denver, which suspended in August 1905, and who served five years in the penitentiary, has announced his intention of restoring to the creditors of the savings bank the \$400,000 due them when the bank closed.

W. B. Slaughter, President of the Mercantile National Bank of Pueblo, Colo., which closed its doors on March 29, was arrested on March 31 on a charge made by County Treasurer Stannard alleging the embezzlement of \$20,000 of funds of Pueblo County which had been deposited in the institution. He was released from custody on April 4 under bonds of \$40,000 furnished by the United States Fidelity & Guaranty Co. of Baltimore, which has also agreed to pay the city of Pueblo an indemnity of \$19,300 for city deposits in the institution. As stated in these columns last week, the bank was closed following a run and rumors of irregularities circulated after the resignation of Cashier C. C. Slaughter, son of the bank's President. A warrant was also issued on the 31st ult. for the arrest of the younger Slaughter, and on the 2nd inst. he was indicted by the Federal Grand Jury at Denver, on six counts said to charge the making of false entries in the books of the bank. The whereabouts of the younger Slaughter are unknown. Francis A. Chapman, who had been named as temporary receiver, has been appointed permanent receiver of the bank.

The Kansas State Bankers' Association will hold its annual convention on May 11 and 12 at Independence. Charles B. Wiggin, Vice-President of the Merchants' National Bank of Boston, is to address the meeting. The Kansas bankers are making arrangements for a special train to take them to the annual convention of the American Bankers' Association, which will be held at Seattle in September.

Horatio N. Davis, a director of the Mississippi Valley Trust Co. and the State National Bank of St. Louis, died on March 22. Mr. Davis was a director of George Knapp & Co. (publishers of the St. Louis "Republic"), of the St. Louis Cotton Compress Co., the Union Electric Light & Power Co. and President of the Smith & Davis Manufacturing Co. Mr. Davis's brother, John D. Davis, is Vice-President of the Mississippi Valley Trust Co.

Pierre Viglini, President of the German Bank of Louisville, died on March 28. Mr. Viglini was President of the bank for thirty-six years, and, in point of service, was Louisville's oldest banker. He became Cashier of the bank in 1869 and was advanced from that position to the presidency in 1879 upon the death of his father-in-law, Henry Deppen, President and founder of the institution.

The City National Bank of Roanoke, Va., has been placed in voluntary liquidation, having been consolidated with the National Exchange Bank of Roanoke.



THE ENGLISH GOLD AND SILVER MARKETS.

We reprint the following from the weekly circular of Samuel Montagu & Co. of London, written under date of March 25 1915:

GOLD.

Gold movements continue to be active, and withdrawals considerably preponderate on balance.

The following amounts were received by the Bank of England:

Table showing gold receipts and withdrawals for March 18-24, 1915, including amounts in bar gold and foreign gold coin.

During the week the net reduction was £1,624,000.

The output of Rhodesia in February 1915 was £286,789, which compares with £293,133 in January 1915 and £259,888 in February 1914.

The output of West Africa in February 1915 was £144,034, which compares with £143,649 in January 1915 and £123,169 in February 1914.

SILVER.

The tone continues to be steady.

After the dip to 23 3/4d, a week ago, the quotation rallied to 23 13/16d. on the 19th inst. and has remained at that figure five days out of the six working days under review.

The Indian Bazaars have bought very little. The chief support has come from the Continent and from China, whence there was an inclination to replace some of the silver sold at about 5/4d higher during the preceding week.

American sales, though not made freely, have been fairly good, and in the circumstances, the market has shown a healthy appearance.

An Indian currency return of the 15th inst. gives the following details, in lacs of rupees:

Notes in circulation: 59.70

Reserve in silver coin: 30.43

Gold coin and bullion: 7.71

Gold in England: 7.65

The stock in Bombay consists of 7,100 bars, compared with 6,700 last week.

A shipment of 230,000 ozs. has been made from San Francisco to Hongkong.

Quotations for bar silver per ounce, standard:

Table showing silver quotations for March 19-25, 1915, including bank rates and forward delivery prices.

The quotation for cash delivery to-day is 3-16d. above that fixed a week ago.

TRADE AND TRAFFIC MOVEMENTS.

ANTHRACITE COAL PRODUCTION.—Anthracite coal shipments to tidewater during the month of March totaled 4,985,398 tons, a decrease of 179,305 tons from the figures for March last year. For the first three months aggregate shipments were 13,995,040 tons, against 14,461,886 tons in 1914 and 16,919,876 tons in 1913.

Table showing anthracite coal production by road for March 1915 and 1914, and for the first three months of each year.

New York City Banks and Trust Companies.

Large table listing various banks and trust companies in New York City, including assets and liabilities for different categories.

\* Banks marked with a (\*) are State banks. † Sale at auction or at Stock Exchange this week.

Canadian Bank Clearings.—The clearings of the Canadian banks for the month of March 1915 show a decrease from the same month of 1914 of 10.6%, and for the three months the loss reaches 16.3%.

Table showing Canadian bank clearings for March 1915 and 1914, and for the three months ending March 31, 1915 and 1914.

The clearings for the week ending April 3 at Canadian cities, in comparison with the same week of 1914, shows a decrease in the aggregate of 20.3%.

Table showing Canadian bank clearings for the week ending April 3, 1915 and 1914, including a total for Canada.

\* Not included in total; this year's figures not received.

Pacific and Other Western Clearings brought forward from first page.

Table showing Pacific and other western bank clearings for March 1915 and 1914, and for the three months ending March 31, 1915 and 1914.

Table showing Kansas City, Minneapolis, Omaha, St. Paul, Denver, St. Joseph, Des Moines, Sioux City, Wichita, Lincoln, Dayton, Peoria, Cedar Rapids, Colorado Springs, Pueblo, Fargo, Sioux Falls, Duluth, Waterloo, Helena, Fremont, Hastings, Billings, Aberdeen, Joplin, Grand Forks, Lawrence, Iowa City, and other western cities' clearings for March 1915 and 1914.

Total West \$01,046,132,700,210,001 +14.2,270,080,903 1,067,886,345 +15.3

The course of bank clearings at leading cities of the country for the month of March and since Jan. 1 in each of the last four years is shown in the subjoined statement.

BANK CLEARINGS AT LEADING CITIES.

Table with columns: Clearings at-- (1915, 1914, Inc. or Dec., 1913, 1912), Total Pacific, Kansas City, Minneapolis, Omaha, St. Paul, Denver, St. Joseph, Des Moines, Sioux City, Wichita, Lincoln, Davenport, Topeka, Cedar Rapids, Colorado Springs, Pueblo, Fargo, Duluth, Waterloo, Helena, Fremont, Hastings, Billings, Aberdeen, Tot. oth. West.

Table with columns: (000,000s omitted), March (1915, 1914, 1913, 1912), Jan. 1 to March 31 (1915, 1914, 1913, 1912). Lists cities like New York, Chicago, Boston, Philadelphia, St. Louis, Pittsburgh, San Francisco, Cincinnati, Baltimore, Kansas City, Cleveland, New Orleans, Minneapolis, Louisville, Detroit, Milwaukee, Los Angeles, Providence, Omaha, Buffalo, St. Paul, Indianapolis, Denver, Richmond, Memphis, Seattle, Hartford, Salt Lake City, Total, Other cities, Total all, Outside New York.

Clearings by Telegraph—Sales of Stocks, Bonds, &c.—The subjoined table, covering clearings for the current week, usually appears on the first page of each issue, but on account of the length of the other tables is crowded out once a month. The figures are received by telegraph from other leading cities.

Table with columns: Clearings—Returns by Telegraph, Week ending April 10, 1915, 1914, Per Cent. Lists cities like New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Chicago, St. Louis, New Orleans, Seven cities, five days, Other cities, five days, Total all cities, five days, All cities, one day, Total all cities for week.

Commercial and Miscellaneous News

Breadstuffs Figures brought from page 1275.—The statements below are prepared by us from figures collected by the New York Produce Exchange. The receipts at Western lake and river ports for the week ending last Saturday and since Aug. 1 for each of the last three years have been:

Table with columns: Receipts at— (Flour, Wheat, Corn, Oats, Barley, Rye), Chicago, Milwaukee, Duluth, Minneapolis, Toledo, Detroit, Cleveland, St. Louis, Portland, Kansas City, Omaha, Total wk. '15, Same wk. '14, Same wk. '13, Since Aug. 1, 1913-15.

Total receipts of flour and grain at the seaboard ports for the week ending April 3 1915 follow:

Table with columns: Receipts at— (Flour, Wheat, Corn, Oats, Barley, Rye), New York, Boston, Portland, Me., Philadelphia, Baltimore, New Orleans, Newport News, Galveston, St. John, Total week 1915-17, Week 1914, Same wk. 1913-15.

Our usual monthly detailed statement of transactions on the New York Stock Exchange is appended. The results for the three months of 1915 and 1914 are given below:

Table with columns: Description, Three Months 1915, Three Months 1914. Lists items like Stk's/SH's, RR. bonds, Gov't bds, State bds, Bank stks, Total.

The volume of transactions in share properties on the New York Stock Exchange each month since Jan. 1 in 1915 and 1914 is indicated in the following.

Table with columns: SALES OF STOCKS AT THE NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE, Mth, Number of Shares, Values, 1915, 1914. Lists months Jan, Feb, Mar, 1st qr.

The following compilation covers the clearings by months since Jan. 1.

Table with columns: MONTHLY CLEARINGS, Clearings, Total All, Clearings Outside New York, Month, 1915, 1914, %.

\* Receipts do not include grain passing through New Orleans for foreign ports on through bills of lading.

The exports from the several seaboard ports for the week ending April 3 are shown in the annexed statement:

Table with columns: Exports from— (Wheat, Corn, Flour, Oats, Rye, Barley, Peas), New York, Portland, Me., Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore, New Orleans, Newport News, Galveston, St. John, Total week, Week 1914, Same wk. 1913-15.

The destination of these exports for the week and since July 1 1914 is as below:

Table with columns: Exports for week and Since July 1, 1914, Flour, Wheat, Corn, Week, 1914, 1913-15.

The world's shipments of wheat and corn for the week ending April 3 1915 and since July 1 1914 and 1913 are shown in the following:

Table with columns: Exports, Wheat (1914-15, 1913-14), Corn (1914-15, 1913-14). Rows include North Amer., Russia, Danube, Argentina, Australia, India, Oth. countries, and Total.

The quantity of wheat and corn afloat for Europe on dates mentioned was as follows:

Table with columns: Wheat, Corn. Sub-columns: United Kingdom, Continent, Total. Rows for April 3 1915, Mar. 27 1915, April 4 1914, and April 5 1915.

Auction Sales.—Among other securities, the following, not usually dealt in at the Stock Exchange, were recently sold at auction in New York, Boston and Philadelphia:

Table listing auction sales for New York, Boston, and Philadelphia. Columns include Shares, Stocks, Per cent., and specific company names like 25 Bond & Mtge. Guar. Co., 12 Lawyers' Mortgage Co., etc.

Table listing auction sales for Boston and Philadelphia. Columns include Shares, Stocks, \$ per sh., and specific company names like 10 Merrimack Mfg. Co., 10 Boston Belting Co., etc.

DIVIDENDS.

The following shows all the dividends announced for the future by large or important corporations. Dividends announced this week are printed in italics.

Table listing dividends for various companies. Columns: Name of Company, Per Cent., When Payable, Books Closed, Days Inclusive. Includes Railroads (Steam), Street and Electric Railways, and other corporations.

Large table listing various companies and their financial details. Columns: Name of Company, Per Cent., When Payable, Books Closed, Days Inclusive. Includes St. & Elec. Ry., Produce Exchange, Trust Companies, and many others.

a Transfer books not closed for this dividend. b Less British income tax. c For correction. d Payable in stock. e Payable in common stock. f Payable in scrip. g On account of accumulated dividends. h April dividend on common stock not to be paid.

Imports and Exports for the Week.—The following are the imports at New York for the week ending April 3; also totals since the beginning of the first week in January:

FOREIGN IMPORTS AT NEW YORK. Table with 4 columns: 1915, 1914, 1913, 1912. Rows include Dry Goods, General Merchandise, Total, and Since January 1.

The following is a statement of the exports (exclusive of specie) from the port of New York to foreign ports for the week ending April 3 and from Jan. 1 to date:

EXPORTS FROM NEW YORK. Table with 4 columns: 1915, 1914, 1913, 1912. Rows include For the week, Previously reported, Total 13 weeks.

The following table shows the exports and imports of specie at the port of New York for the week ending April 3,

and since Jan. 1 1915, and for the corresponding periods in 1914 and 1913:

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS OF SPECIE AT NEW YORK. Table with columns for Gold, Exports, Imports, Week, Since Jan. 1. Rows include Great Britain, France, Germany, West Indies, Mexico, South America, All other countries, and Total 1915, 1914, 1913.

Of the above imports for the week in 1915, \$242,730 were American gold coin and \$836 American silver coin.

The Federal Reserve Banks.—Following is the weekly statement issued by the Federal Reserve Board on April 3: As the Federal Reserve banks in Philadelphia and Minneapolis observed last Friday as a legal holiday, the statement shows the condition of these banks as at the close of business on April 1. The condition of the other banks is given as at the close of business on April 2.

The figures of the consolidated statement for the system as a whole are given below and in addition we present the results for each of the eight preceding weeks, thus furnishing a useful comparison. In the second table we show also the separate figures for each of the twelve Federal Reserve banks.

STATEMENT OF COMBINED RESOURCES AND LIABILITIES OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AT THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS APRIL 1-2 1915.

Table with columns for dates from April 1-2 '15 to Feb. 5 1915. Rows include Gold coin and certificates, Legal-tender notes, Bills discounted and loans, Investments, Total resources, Capital paid in, Reserve deposits, Federal Reserve notes in circulation, Total liabilities, and Net liability of Reserve Banks.

WEEKLY STATEMENT OF RESOURCES AND LIABILITIES OF EACH OF THE 12 FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS AT CLOSE OF BUSINESS APL. 1-2 1915

Table with columns for cities: Boston, New York, Phila., Cleveland, Richmond, Atlanta, Chicago, St. Louis, Minneap., Kan. City, Dallas, San Fran. Rows include RESOURCES (Gold coin, Legal-tender notes, Bills, Investments, Total resources) and LIABILITIES (Reserve deposits, Federal Reserve notes, Capital paid in, Total liabilities).

Note.—Data for Philadelphia and Minneapolis show condition of the banks as at close of business on April 1 1915.

Statement of New York City Clearing-House Banks and Trust Companies.—The following detailed statement shows the condition of the New York City Clearing-House members for the week ending April 3. The figures for the separate banks are the averages of the daily results. In the case of the totals, actual figures at the end of the week are also given. In order to furnish a comparison we have inserted the totals of actual condition for each of the three groups, and also the grand aggregates, for the four preceding weeks.



NEW YORK WEEKLY CLEARING-HOUSE RETURN.

Main table with columns: CLEARINGS HOUSE MEMBERS, Capital, Net Profits, Loans, Discounts, Investments, &c., Gold, Legal Tenders, Silver, Nat. Bank Notes (reserve for State Institutions), Nat. Bank Notes (not counted as reserve), Federal Reserve Bank Notes (not reserve), Reserve with Legal Depositories, Excess due from Reserve Depositories, Net Demand Deposits, Net Time Deposits, National Bank Circulation.

STATEMENTS OF RESERVE POSITION.

Table with columns: Averages (Cash reserve in vault, Reserve in depositories, Total reserve, Reserve required, Surplus reserve, Inc. or dec. from previous wk.) and Actual Figures (Cash reserve in vault, Reserve in depositories, Total reserve, Reserve required, Surplus reserve, Inc. or dec. from previous wk.).

\* This is the reserve required on Net Demand Deposits in the case of State Banks and Trust Companies, but in the case of Members of the Federal Reserve Bank it includes also the amount of reserve required on Net Time Deposits, which was as follows: April 3, \$452,950; March 27, \$413,750; March 20, \$388,600; March 13, \$395,100; March 6, \$400,000; Feb. 27, \$400,300.

The State Banking Department reports weekly figures showing the condition of State banks and trust companies in New York City not in the Clearing House, and these are shown in the following table:

SUMMARY OF STATE BANKS AND TRUST COMPANIES IN GREATER NEW YORK, NOT INCLUDED IN CLEARING-HOUSE STATEMENT

Table with columns: Item, April 3, Differences from previous week. Rows include Loans and Investments, Gold, Currency and bank notes, Total deposits, Deposits, Reserve on deposits, and Percentage of reserve.

RESERVES.

Table comparing State Banks and Trust Companies for Cash in vault and Deposits in banks and trust companies.

The averages of the New York City Clearing-House banks and trust companies, combined with those for the State banks and trust companies in Greater New York City outside of the Clearing House, compare as follows for a series of weeks past:

COMBINED RESULTS OF BANKS AND TRUST COMPANIES IN GREATER NEW YORK.

We omit ciphers in all these figures.

Table showing weekly combined results for Loans and Investments, Demand Deposits, Specie, Other Money, Total Money Holdings, and Entire Reserve on Deposits from Jan. 9 to April 3.

In addition to the returns of "State banks and trust companies in New York City not in the Clearing House" furnished by the State Banking Department, the Department also presents a statement covering all the institutions of this class in the whole State. The figures are compiled so as to distinguish between the results for New York City (Greater New York) and those for the rest of the State, as per the following:

For definitions and rules under which the various items are made up, see "Chronicle," V. 98, p. 1661.

The provisions of the law governing the reserve requirements of State banking institutions were published in the "Chronicle" March 28 1914 (V. 98, p. 968). The regulations relating to calculating the amount of deposits and what deductions are permitted in the computation of the reserves were given in the "Chronicle" April 4 1914 (V. 98, p. 1045).

STATE BANKS AND TRUST COMPANIES.

Table comparing State Banks in Greater N. Y. and Trust Cos. in Greater N. Y. for Capital as of Dec. 24, Surplus as of Dec. 24, Loans and Investments, Gold, Currency and bank notes, Deposits, Reserve on deposits, and P. C. reserve to deposits.

Non-Member Banks and Trust Companies.—Following is the report made to the Clearing-House by clearing non-member institutions which are not included in the "Clearing-House return" on the preceding page:

RETURN OF NON-MEMBER INSTITUTIONS OF NEW YORK CLEARING HOUSE.

Large table with multiple columns: Week Ending April 3 1915, Capital, Net Profits, Loans, Discs., Investments, &c., Gold, Tenders, Steer., Nat. Bank Notes, Federal Reserve Bank, Reserve with Legal Depositaries, Excess Due from Reserve, Net Demand Deposits, Net Time Deposits, National Bank Circulation.

Philadelphia Banks.—Summary of weekly totals of Clearing-House banks and trust companies of Philadelphia:

We omit two ciphers (00) in all these figures.

Table showing weekly totals for Philadelphia banks: Capital and Surplus, Loans, Reserve, Deposits, Circulation, Clearings from Jan. 23 to April 3.

Boston Clearing-House Banks.—We give below a summary showing the totals for all the items in the Boston Clearing-House weekly statement for a series of weeks:

BOSTON CLEARING-HOUSE MEMBERS.

Table showing weekly totals for Boston Clearing-House members: Circulation, Loans, Discs. & Investments, Individual deposits, Due to banks, Time deposits, Exchanges for Clearing House, Due from other banks, Cash reserves, Reserve in Fed. Res. Bank, Reserve with other banks, Reserve excess in bank, Excess with reserve agents, Excess with Fed. Res. B'k.

Imports and Exports for the Week.—See second page preceding.





For record of sales during the week of stocks usually inactive, see second page preceding.

Table with columns: STOCKS—HIGHEST AND LOWEST SALE PRICES. (Saturday April 3, Monday April 5, Tuesday April 6, Wednesday April 7, Thursday April 8, Friday April 9), Sales of the Week Shares, STOCKS NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE, Range Since Jan. 1. (Lowest, Highest), Range for Previous Year 1914. (Lowest, Highest). Rows include various stock listings such as Anaconda Copper, Baldwin Locomotive, and many others.

\* Bid and asked prices: no sales on this day. † Less than 100 shares. ‡ Ex-rights. § Ex-div. and rights. ¶ New stock. †† Quoted dollars per share. ‡‡ Ex-stock dividend. §§ Ex-dividend.



Main table containing two columns of bond listings. Each column lists various bonds with columns for Price Friday (Apr 9), Week's Range or Last Sale, Range Since Jan. 1, and other details. The left column is headed 'N. Y. STOCK EXCHANGE Week Ending April 9' and the right column is headed 'BONDS Week Ending April 9'.

MISCELLANEOUS BONDS—Continued on Next Pa. e.

Table of miscellaneous bonds, divided into 'Street Railway' and 'United Rys St L 1st g 4s' sections. It includes various utility and transportation bonds with their respective prices and dates.

\* No price Friday; latest bid and asked this week. a Due Jan. c Due Feb. d Due Apr. e Due July. f Due Aug. g Due Oct. h Option sale.

BONDS N. Y. STOCK EXCHANGE Week Ending April 9

Table of bond listings for N. Y. Stock Exchange, including columns for Bond, Price, Week's Range, and Range Since Jan. 1.

BONDS N. Y. STOCK EXCHANGE Week Ending April 9

Table of bond listings for N. Y. Stock Exchange, including columns for Bond, Price, Week's Range, and Range Since Jan. 1.

MISCELLANEOUS BONDS—Continued on Next Page

Table of miscellaneous bond listings, including Gas and Electric Light, Kingsboro, and other utility bonds.

Table of miscellaneous bond listings, including Gas and Electric Light, Kingsboro, and other utility bonds.

\* No price Friday; latest bid and asked. † Due Jan. ‡ Due Feb. § Due May. ¶ Due June. †† Due July. ‡‡ Due Oct. §§ Due Nov. ¶¶ Option bids.



BONDS N. Y. STOCK EXCHANGE Week Ending April 9

Table of bond listings for the New York Stock Exchange, including titles like 'S & A Pass 1st gu g 4s', 'S F & N P 1st sink g 5s', and 'Seaboard Air Line g 4s'. Columns include bid/ask prices, weeks since sale, and ranges.

BONDS N. Y. STOCK EXCHANGE Week Ending April 9

Table of bond listings for the New York Stock Exchange, including titles like 'Wabash (Concluded)', 'Det & Ch Ext 1st g 5s', and 'Des Moln Div 1st g 4s'. Columns include bid/ask prices, weeks since sale, and ranges.

BONDS N. Y. STOCK EXCHANGE Week Ending April 9

Table of bond listings for the New York Stock Exchange, including titles like 'Am Ag Chem 1st c 5s', 'Am Cot Oil ext 4 1/2s', and 'Debutante 5s'. Columns include bid/ask prices, weeks since sale, and ranges.

BONDS N. Y. STOCK EXCHANGE Week Ending April 9

Table of bond listings for the New York Stock Exchange, including titles like 'Mexican Petrol Ltd conv 6s', 'Nat Tram & Stgp 1st 5s', and 'Natl Sugar Corp 1st g 5s'. Columns include bid/ask prices, weeks since sale, and ranges.

MISCELLANEOUS BONDS—Concluded

Miscellaneous bond listings including 'Buff & Sme Iron s f 5s', 'Debutante 5s', 'Am Telegraph & Telephone', and 'Telegraph & Telephone'. Columns include bid/ask prices, weeks since sale, and ranges.

\*No price Friday; latest bid and asked. a Due Jan. d Due April. e Due May. g Due June. h Due July. k Due Aug. p Due Oct. q Due Nov. r Due Dec. s Option sale.

SHARE PRICES—NOT PER CENTUM PRICES.

Table with columns for days of the week (Saturday April 3 to Friday April 9) and various stock prices. Includes sub-headers for 'Sales of the Week Shares' and 'STOCKS BOSTON STOCK EXCHANGE'.

Table listing various stocks and bonds under the heading 'STOCKS BOSTON STOCK EXCHANGE'. Columns include stock names, prices, and dates. Includes sub-headers for 'Range Since Jan. 1.' and 'Range for Previous Year 1914'.

\* Bid and asked prices. # Assessment paid. b Ex-stock dividend. A Ex-rights. a Ex-dividend and rights. # Unstamped. e 2d paid. w Half paid

Outside Exchanges—Record Transactions

Boston Bond Record.—Complete record of transactions in bonds at Boston Stock Exchange Apr. 3 to Apr. 9, incl.

Table with columns: Bonds, Friday Sales, Week's Range (Low, High), Sales for Week (Shares), Range since Jan. 1 (Low, High). Includes entries like Am Agric Chem 5s, Am Tel & Tel 4s, etc.

Philadelphia Stock Exchange.—The complete record of transactions at the Philadelphia Stock Exchange from April 3 to April 9, both inclusive, compiled from the official sales lists, is given below. Prices for stocks are all dollars per share, not per cent. For bonds the quotations are per cent of par value.

Large table with columns: Stocks, Par, Friday Sales, Week's Range (Low, High), Sales for Week (Shares), Range since Jan. 1 (Low, High). Includes entries like Alliance Insurance, American Gas of N. J., American Milling, etc.

Baltimore Stock Exchange.—Complete record of the transactions at the Baltimore Stock Exchange from April 3 to April 9, both inclusive.

Table with columns: Stocks, Par, Friday Sales, Week's Range (Low, High), Sales for Week (Shares), Range since Jan. 1 (Low, High). Includes entries like Balt Electric pref, Commercial Credit, Cons Gas E L & Pow., etc.

Chicago Stock Exchange.—Complete record of transactions at Chicago Stock Exchange from Apr. 3 to Apr. 9, both incl., compiled from the official sales lists, is as follows:

Table with columns: Stocks, Par, Friday Sales, Week's Range (Low, High), Sales for Week (Shares), Range since Jan. 1 (Low, High). Includes entries like American Can, American Radiator, Booth Fisheries, etc.

Pittsburgh Stock Exchange.—Following sales were reported April 3 to April 9, both inclusive.

Table with columns: Bonds, Range since Jan. 1 (Low, High). Includes entries like Central District Teleph. 5s, Independent Brewing 6s, etc.

Stocks.

Amalgamated Copper (par \$100)—April 8, 50 at 64. American Sewer Pipe (par \$100)—April 7, 420 at 18 1/2...

Tobacco Stocks—Per Share.

American Cigar common 100 Bid. Ask. 108 112. Preferred 100 99 101. Amer Machine & Fdry 100 70 75...

Short-Term Notes—Per Cent.

Amer Locomotive 5s, '15-J 100 100 1/2. 5s, July 1915 -J 100 100 1/2. 5s, Jan 1917 -J 100 100 1/2...

West Penn Tr & Wat Pow 100

Preferred 100. Elec, Gas & Power Co—Am Gas & Elec com 50 \$88 81. Preferred 50 \$48 48 1/2...

Industrial and Miscellaneous

Adams Exp Coit R 4 1/2 47-D 70 71 1/2. Alliance Realty 100 75 85. Amer Bank Note com 50 \$32 35...

Volume of Business at Stock Exchanges

TRANSACTIONS AT THE NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE DAILY, WEEKLY AND YEARLY.

Table with columns: Week ending April 9 1915, Stocks, Railroad, State Bonds, U. S. Bonds. Rows for Saturday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Total.

Table with columns: Sales at New York Stock Exchange, Week ending April 9, Jan. 1 to April 9, 1915, 1914. Rows for Stocks-No. shares, Par value, Bank shares, Government bonds, State bonds, RR. and misc. bonds, Total bonds.

DAILY TRANSACTIONS AT THE BOSTON, PHILADELPHIA AND BALTIMORE EXCHANGES.

Table with columns: Week ending April 9 1915, Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore. Rows for Saturday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Total.

Inactive and Unlisted Securities

All bond prices are "and interest" except where marked "I."

Table with columns: Standard Oil Stocks—Per Share, Stand Oil Stks (Concl)—Per share. Rows for Anglo-Amer Oil new, Atlantic Refining, Borine-Serjmsen Co, Buckeye Pipe Line Co, Chesbrough Mfg Cons, Colonial Oil, Continental Oil, Crescent Pipe Line Co, Cumberland Pipe Line, Eureka Pipe Line Co, Galena-Signal Oil com, Preferred, Illinois Pipe Line, Indiana Pipe Line Co, National Transit Co, New York Transit Co, Northern Pipe Line Co, Ohio Oil Co, Pierce Oil (new).

New York City Notes

6s, Sept 1 1915 101 1/2 101 5/8. 6s, Sept 1 1916 102 1/2 102 5/8. 6s, Sept 1 1917 104 1/2 104 5/8.

RR. Equipments—Per Ct. Basis

Baltimore & Ohio 4 1/2 4.55 4.45. Buff Roch & Pittsburgh 4 1/2 4.60 4.45. Equipment 4s 4.60 4.45. Caro Clinch & Ohio 5s 5.25 5.05. Central of Georgia 5s 5.00 4.80. Equipment 4 1/2 5.00 4.80. Chicago & Alton 4s 6.00 5.80. Chicago & Eastern Illinois 6s 6.00 5.80. Equipment 4 1/2 5.00 4.80. Chic Ind & Louis 4 1/2 4.75 4.60. Chic St L & N O 6s 4.60 4.40. Chicago & N W 4 1/2 5.00 4.80. Chicago R I & Pac 4 1/2 5.00 4.75. Colorado & Southern 6s 5.00 4.80. Erie 5s 5.00 4.80. Equipment 4 1/2 5.00 4.80. Equipment 4s 5.00 4.80. Hoeking Valley 4s 4.85 4.70. Equip 6s 4.60 4.40. Illinois Central 6s 4.60 4.40. Kanawha & Michigan 4 1/2 5.10 4.90. Louisville & Nashville 5s 4.60 4.40. Minn St P & S S M 4 1/2 4.75 4.60. Missouri Kansas & Texas 5s 5.75 5.20. Missouri Pacific 5s 6.25 5.20. Mobile & Ohio 6s 5.00 4.80. Equipment 4 1/2 5.00 4.80. New York Central Lines 6s 5.00 4.90. Equipment 4 1/2 5.00 4.80. N Y Ontario & West 4 1/2 4.90 4.70. Norfolk & Western 4 1/2 4.50 4.40. Equipment 4s 4.50 4.40. Pennsylvania RR 4 1/2 4.40 4.25. Equipment 4s 4.40 4.25. Pere Marquette 5s 6.00 5.80. Equipment 4 1/2 5.00 4.80. St Louis Iron Mt & Sou 5s 5.00 4.80. St Louis & San Francisco 6s 5.00 4.80. Equipment 4 1/2 5.00 4.80. Southern Pacific Co 4 1/2 4.60 4.50. Southern Railway 4 1/2 4.80 4.60. Toledo & Ohio Central 4s 4.00 3.80.

Railroads

New York Central "rights" West Pac 1st 5s, 1933 M-S 73 1/2 37 1/2.

Street Railways—Par Bid. Ask.

Com'wth Pow Ry & L 100 52 54. Preferred 100 81 82. Federal Light & Traction 100 14 18. Preferred 100 59 63. Republic Ry & Light 100 18 20. Preferred 100 70 72. Tennessee Ry & P com 100 26 27 1/2. Preferred 100 43 46. United Lt & Rys com 100 69 71. 1st preferred 100 65 68. 2d preferred 100 65 68. Wash Ry & El Co 100 87 1/2 89 1/2. Preferred 100 83 1/2 84 1/2. 4s, 1951 J-D 81 1/2 81 1/2.

\* Per share. a And accrued dividend. b Basis. / Flat price. a Nominal. s Sale price. \* Ex-dividend. y Ex-rights.

Investment and Railroad Intelligence.

RAILROAD GROSS EARNINGS.

The following table shows the gross earnings of every STEAM railroad from which regular weekly or monthly returns can be obtained. The first two columns of figures give the gross earnings for the latest week or month, and the last two columns the earnings for the period from July 1 to and including the latest week or month. We add a supplementary statement to show the fiscal year totals of those roads whose fiscal year does not begin with July, but covers some other period. The returns of the electric railways are brought together separately on a subsequent page.

Main table with columns: ROADS, Latest Gross Earnings (Week or Month, Current Year, Previous Year), July 1 to Latest Date (Current Year, Previous Year), Latest Gross Earnings (Current Year, Previous Year), July 1 to Latest Date (Current Year, Previous Year). Rows include various railroads like Ala N O & Tex Pac, N Y N H & Harf, etc.

AGGREGATES OF GROSS EARNINGS—Weekly and Monthly.

Summary table with columns: \*Weekly Summaries (Current Year, Previous Year, Increase or Decrease, %), \*Monthly Summaries (Mileage, Cur. Yr., Prev. Yr., Current Year, Previous Year, Increase or Decrease, %). Rows include 2d week Jan, June, July, August, etc.

Does not include earnings of Colorado Springs & Cripple Creek District Ry. Includes the Lake Shore & Mich. So., the Chicago Ind. & So., the Dunkirk Allegheny Valley & Pitts., the New York & Ottawa, the St. Lawrence & Adirondack and the Ottawa & New York Ry., the latter of which, being a Canadian road, does not make returns to the Inter-State Commerce Commission. Includes Evansville & Terre Haute and Evansville & Indiana RR. Includes Cleveland Lorain & Wheeling Ry. in both years. Includes Louisville & Atlantic and the Frankfort & Cincinnati. Includes the Texas City & Fort Dodge and Wisconsin Minnesota & Pacific. Includes Louisville & Atlantic and the Frankfort & Cincinnati. Includes the Texas Central and the Wichita Falls Lines. Includes not only operating revenues, but also all other receipts. Includes St. Louis Iron Mountain & Southern. Includes the Northern Central beginning July 1 1914. \* We no longer include the Mexican roads in any of our totals.

Latest Gross Earnings by Weeks.—In the table which follows we sum up separately the earnings for the fourth week of March. The table covers 36 roads and shows 4.13% decrease in the aggregate under the same week last year.

Table with 5 columns: Road, 1915, 1914, Increase, Decrease. Lists 36 roads and their earnings for the fourth week of March 1915 and 1914.

Net Earnings Monthly to Latest Dates.—The table following shows the gross and net earnings of STEAM railroads and industrial companies reported this week:

Table with 5 columns: Road, Current Year, Previous Year, Current Year, Previous Year. Lists monthly gross and net earnings for various roads.

INDUSTRIAL COMPANIES.

Table with 5 columns: Companies, Current Year, Previous Year, Current Year, Previous Year. Lists earnings for Adirond El Pow Corp.

a Net earnings here given are after deducting taxes. b Net earnings here given are before deducting taxes. c After allowing for miscellaneous charges and credits to income for the month of Feb. 1915, total net earnings were \$72,850, against \$13,997 last year, and for the period from July 1 to Feb. 28 were \$445,663 this year, against \$979,576.

Interest Charges and Surplus.

Table with 5 columns: Roads, Current Year, Previous Year, Current Year, Previous Year. Lists interest charges and surplus for various roads.

Table with 5 columns: Roads, Current Year, Previous Year, Current Year, Previous Year. Lists earnings for Bellefonte Central, Denver & Rio Grande, Hocking Valley, Louisiana & Arkansas, Nevada-Cal-Oregon, Norfolk & Western, Rio Grande Southern.

INDUSTRIAL COMPANIES.

Table with 5 columns: Companies, Current Year, Previous Year, Current Year, Previous Year. Lists earnings for Adirond El Pow Corp.

r After allowing for other income received.

EXPRESS COMPANIES.

Table with 5 columns: Express Companies, Current Year, Previous Year, Current Year, Previous Year. Lists earnings for Globe Express Company, Southern Express Co., Wells, Fargo & Co., Western Express Co.

Table with 5 columns: Express Companies, Current Year, Previous Year, Current Year, Previous Year. Lists earnings for Great Northern Express Co.

Table with 5 columns: Express Companies, Current Year, Previous Year, Current Year, Previous Year. Lists earnings for Southern Express Co.

Table with 5 columns: Express Companies, Current Year, Previous Year, Current Year, Previous Year. Lists earnings for Wells, Fargo & Co.

Table with 5 columns: Express Companies, Current Year, Previous Year, Current Year, Previous Year. Lists earnings for Western Express Co.

Table with 5 columns: Express Companies, Current Year, Previous Year, Current Year, Previous Year. Lists earnings for Wells, Fargo & Co.

Table with 5 columns: Express Companies, Current Year, Previous Year, Current Year, Previous Year. Lists earnings for Western Express Co.

Table with 5 columns: Express Companies, Current Year, Previous Year, Current Year, Previous Year. Lists earnings for Wells, Fargo & Co.

Table with 5 columns: Express Companies, Current Year, Previous Year, Current Year, Previous Year. Lists earnings for Western Express Co.

Table with 5 columns: Express Companies, Current Year, Previous Year, Current Year, Previous Year. Lists earnings for Wells, Fargo & Co.

Table with 5 columns: Express Companies, Current Year, Previous Year, Current Year, Previous Year. Lists earnings for Wells, Fargo & Co.

Table with 5 columns: Express Companies, Current Year, Previous Year, Current Year, Previous Year. Lists earnings for Wells, Fargo & Co.

Table with columns: Name of Road, Latest Gross Earnings (Current Year, Previous Year), Jan. 1 to latest date (Current Year, Previous Year). Lists various railroads and their financial data.

b Represents income from all sources. c These figures are for consoli dated company. f Earnings now given in milreis. g Figures constitu companies.

Electric Railway Net Earnings.—The following table gives the returns of ELECTRIC railway gross and net earnings reported this week:

Table with columns: Roads, Gross Earnings (Current Year, Previous Year), Net Earnings (Current Year, Previous Year). Lists electric railroads and their weekly earnings.

a Net earnings here given are after deducting taxes. b Net earnings here given are before deducting taxes.

Interest Charges and Surplus.

Table with columns: Roads, Int., Rentals, &c.—Current Year, Previous Year; Bal. of Net Earnings.—Current Year, Previous Year. Lists railroads and their interest and surplus data.

z After allowing for other income received.

ANNUAL REPORTS

Annual Reports.—An index to annual reports of steam railroads, street railways and miscellaneous companies which have been published during the preceding month will be given on the last Saturday of each month. This index will not include reports in the issue of the "Chronicle" in which it is published. The latest index will be found in the issue of March 27. The next will appear in that of April 24.

Vandalia Railroad.

(10th Annual Report—Year ended Dec. 31 1914.)

Pres. J. J. Turner, Pittsburgh, March 17, wrote in subst.:

Results.—The income statement reflects the unsatisfactory business conditions in the territory served by your lines, the depression increasing in the year progressed, and resulting in the curtailment of the demand for bituminous coal, which in normal years furnishes about 50% of your total tonnage. Total bitum. coal carried in 1914, 5,028,768 tons, a decrease of 3,108 tons! The Commission granted this increase partially, but this increase was more than offset by the decrease in shipments of manufactured articles and building materials.

The total operating revenues were \$11,006,672, a decrease of \$519,611. The railway operating income was \$1,774,890, a decrease of \$206,617, and non-operating income was \$85,484, a decrease of \$17,841, so that the gross income was \$1,860,374, a decrease of \$224,457. Deductions increased \$144,802, the principal item being in hire of equipment, which was \$109,690 greater than in 1913.

The net income was \$282,559, a decrease of \$369,259, of which \$170,214 was appropriated for the consol. M. sinking fund, an increase of \$25,312, and the balance \$112,345, equal to 0.77% on outstanding capital stock, or 0.32% on investment in road and equipment, was transferred to the credit of profit and loss account. In view of this small return the company could not pay a dividend. (V. 99, p. 1750).

5% Rate Case.—Early in 1913 it was evident that the financial condition of the railroads would be seriously affected by reason of expenditures for increased wages of employees, obtained through Federal arbitration, the continual increase in taxes, and other State and Federal Governmental requirements. An application was therefore made to the I. S. C. Commission for an increase of 5% on all inter-State freight rates. In the latter part of 1914 the Commission granted this increase partially, but denied it on coal and other heavy commodities constituting something over 50% of our tonnage transported. While it was possible to increase the inter-State rates on a portion of the tonnage, very many of the increases could not be made without interference with the intra-State rates in Indiana and Illinois, permission to increase which has not yet been granted by the utility commissions of those States.

Road and Equipment Expenditures.—These during the year amounted to \$358,965, of which \$176,817 was expended on road, \$91,069 for increased weight of rail, track material, bridges, &c., \$40,343 for additional yard and station facilities at Keokuk to take care of the increasing coal traffic in this district, \$45,405 for street paving at Terre Haute, water station facilities at Rushrod and additions to stations and station tracks at various points, while \$182,148 was expended on equipment, chiefly on account of cost of acquiring 100 refrigerator cars.

Joint Guaranty of Indianapolis Union Railway Co. Obligations.—See a subsequent page.

Terre Haute & Peoria RR.—This line, operated under 99-year lease, (its gross and net earnings being included in the income account below), shows an increase in revenues of \$50,151 and a consequent increase in the rental 30% of operating revenues, of \$15,045. The result to your company in operating the road show a loss for the year of \$271,150, an increase of \$18,573, as compared with 1913.

OPERATIONS AND FISCAL RESULTS.

Table with columns: Freight, Passenger, Passengers, Av. earnings, Earnings, Expenses, Total oper. revenue, Expenses, Total, Net earnings, Other income, Gross income, Lease of other roads, Hire of equip., Joint facilities, Bond interest, Miscellaneous, Sinking fund, Dividends, Total deductions, Balance, sur. or def. Lists various metrics for the railroad.

x Including Terre Haute & Peoria RR., 165.75 miles.

GENERAL INCOME ACCOUNT FOR YEARS ENDING DEC. 31 FOR ALL LINES DIRECTLY OPERATED (incl. T. H. & P.)

\*Comparison of items so marked is inaccurate, the figures having been somewhat changed in later years; the final results, however, remain unchanged.)

Table with columns: Earnings, Expenses, Total, Net earnings, Other income, Gross income, Lease of other roads, Hire of equip., Joint facilities, Bond interest, Miscellaneous, Sinking fund, Dividends, Total deductions, Balance, sur. or def. Lists various metrics for the railroad.

EARNINGS OF TERRE HAUTE & PEORIA RR.

Table with columns: Year, Gross Earnings, Expenses, Net Earnings, Rental, 30% of Equip., Balance, Loss. Lists earnings data for the Terre Haute & Peoria RR.

BALANCE SHEET DECEMBER 31.

Table with columns for Assets and Liabilities, and rows for 1914 and 1913. Assets include Road & equip't, Inves. in affil. cos., Stocks, Bonds, Advances, etc. Liabilities include Stock, Mortgage bonds, Equip. trust oblig., etc.

Total 39,210,363 38,842,141. \* Includes common stock, \$14,613,950, and stock liability for conversion of outstanding securities of constituent companies, \$35,566. a After adding sundry net items aggregating \$5,210.—V. 99, p. 1750.

The Toledo & Ohio Central Railway.

(Report for Fiscal Year ending Dec. 31 1914.)

Pres. Alfred H. Smith, N. Y., says in substance: Results.—The total operating revenues were \$4,930,626, a decrease of \$1,100,804. Freight revenue decreased \$1,034,013. There was a decrease in bituminous coal traffic of 1,306,967 tons, principally due to the suspension of coal mining in the Ohio fields during April, May, June and July and in the West Virginia fields during a considerable part of the same period.

Operating expenses decreased \$674,356. The heavy decrease (\$230,586) in maintenance of way expenses was due to retrenchment made necessary by adverse business conditions. An increase of \$208,186 is shown in non-operating income, in which is included dividends of \$226,927 received from stock of the Kanawha & Michigan Ry. Co., which we purchased during the year.

There were used for renewals on main track 211,740 ties (about 30% cross-tied) and 1,224 tons of 90-lb. and 1,783 tons of 80-lb. new steel rails. Additions, etc.—The viaduct at Parsons Ave., Columbus, was opened for traffic Nov. 14 1914, thus fulfilling contracts with the City of Columbus. Expenditures for additions and betterments aggregated \$209,650, including \$140,311 for crossings and signs.

Equipment.—There was charged to equipment account \$1,920,765, chiefly in connection with the acquisition of 2,300 general service gondola cars (equipment trust of 1913) for \$1,980,667, less (net) items retired, etc. Out of \$24,000,000 of certificates authorized under N. Y. Central Lines trust agreement dated Jan. 1 1913, there were issued to Dec. 31 1913 an aggregate of \$15,494,000, of which our pro rata allotment was \$1,128,138. During 1914 \$6,944,000 additional certificates were issued. The cost of the equipment assigned to this company in connection with the issue of these latter certificates is approximately \$2,156,137 50 and its pro rata amount of certificates, representing not over 90% of cost, is \$1,929,636. Demand Notes.—To provide for its current requirements and to purchase \$9,478 shares of the capital stock of the Kanawha & Michigan Ry. Co., this company issued during the year its demand or one-year notes in an aggregate amount of \$8,719,012.

CLASSIFIED TONNAGE.

Table with columns for Agricultural, Products of, Manufactures, Bituminous, Ores, Coke, etc., and Miscellaneous. Rows show 1914, 1913, 1912, and 1911.

TRAFFIC STATISTICS.

Table with columns for Miles operated, Operations, No. passengers carried, Pass. carried one mile, Rev. per pass. per mile, Tons moved (revenue), Tons moved 1 mile (rev.), Rev. per ton per mile, Avgt. train-load (tons), Earn. per pass. train m., Earn. per ft.-train mile, Gross earnings per mile. Rows show 1914, 1913, 1912, and 1911.

INCOME ACCOUNT YEARS ENDING DEC. 31.

Table with columns for Freight revenue, Passenger revenue, Mail, express, &c., Incidentals, Total oper. revenues, Maint. of way & struc., Maint. of equipment, Traffic expenses, Transportation, General and miscel., Total, Net operating revenue, Uncollectibles, Taxes accrued, Operating income, Other income, Hire of equipment, Dividends received, Miscellaneous, Gross corp. income, Deduct, Hire of equipment, Interest on bonds, Other interest, &c., Joint facility rents, Other rents, &c., Deficit of Z. & W. Ry., Preferred dividend, Common dividend, Additions & betterments, Total deductions, Balance, surp. or def. Rows show 1914, 1913, 1912, and 1911.

BALANCE SHEET DEC. 31.

Table with columns for Assets and Liabilities, and rows for 1914 and 1913. Assets include Road & equip't, Inves. in affil. cos., Stock, Bonds, Notes, Advances, etc. Liabilities include Stock, common, Stock, preferred, Bonds (ser. 'Ry. & Ind.' Section), Car. trust's, Vouchers & wages, Maturity int. emp., Miscel. accounts, Z. & W. deficit, Accrued int., divs. and rents, Def'd credit items, Deprec'n (equip.), Road, Mis. phys. prop., Approp'd surplus, Profit and loss.

Total 41,608,348 30,531,752. a After deducting \$167,868 for sundry adjust'ts, net.—V. 100, p. 1169, 399.

Green Bay & Western Railroad.

(Report for Fiscal Year ending Dec. 31 1914.)

Table with columns for Freight, Passenger, Mail, express & miscel., Total earnings, Maintenance of way, &c., Maintenance of equip't, Traffic expenses, Transportation expenses, General expenses, Total oper. expenses, Net earnings, Miscellaneous earnings, Total, Taxes, rents, &c., Add'n's & betterments, Balance, Paid on deb. 'A', Paid on stock, 5%, Paid on deb. 'B', Balance. Rows show 1914, 1913, 1912, and 1911.

GENERAL BALANCE SHEET DEC. 31.

Table with columns for Assets and Liabilities, and rows for 1914 and 1913. Assets include Construc. & equip., Add'n's & betterm'ts, Materials & supplies, Coal account, Tie account, Cash, Treasurer, General Auditor, Due from agents, Due from R.R. cos., Stocks and bonds, Old rail account, Miscellaneous. Liabilities include Capital stock, 'A' debentures, 'B' debentures, Pay-rolls, Accounts payable, Replacement funds, Due to railroads, Dividends unpaid, Sundry accounts, Divs. due Feb., Adv. through income, Profit and loss.

Total 10,800,810 10,732,347. a After adding \$235 for adjustments in 1914.—V. 100, p. 1168, 397.

United Gas & Electric Corporation.

(Report for Fiscal Year ending Dec. 31 1914.)

The report will be found at length on subsequent pages, including the remarks of President Bullock, the consolidated balance sheet, surplus account, statement of earnings, including equity in net earnings from subsidiary companies, whether actually received as dividends or not, and also the comparative results of operation of subsidiary companies for several years. Compare V. 99, p. 266-7.

Below we give a comparative statement of earnings for two years and a comparative balance sheet.

STATEMENT OF EARNINGS YEAR ENDING DEC. 31.

Table with columns for Net earnings, Int. on notes, &c. pay., Balance, Approp'n of prop., Total, Interest on notes, 1st pref. dividend, 2d pref. dividend, Balance, surp., Direct earnings (less expense) of the U. G. & E. Corp. and net earnings of its sub. cos., after deduction of divs. on their pref. stocks, incl. the equity of the direct sub. cos. in the operations of their respective sub. cos. calculated on the basis of their holdings at the end of the period.

Includes United Gas & Elec. Corp. and Sheet Gas & Elec. Eng. Corp. Includes United Gas & Elec. Corp. and Sheet Gas & Elec. Eng. Corp. Includes United Gas & Elec. Corp. and Sheet Gas & Elec. Eng. Corp. Includes United Gas & Elec. Corp. and Sheet Gas & Elec. Eng. Corp.

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET DECEMBER 31.

Table with columns for Assets and Liabilities, and rows for 1914 and 1913. Assets include Inv. in stocks, Am. Cities com. atk, Paym'ts acct. stk. subscriptions, Other investments, Coupon notes, Office fixtures, &c., Demand notes, Open accounts, Divs. accrued, Deferred items, &c., Miscellaneous, Cash (incl. \$514,496 to retire bonds of a sub. co.), Total. Liabilities include 1st pref. stock out, 2d pref. stock out, Com. stock out, 3-yr. 5% sec. notes, Notes payable, Note int. accrued, Prof. divs. accrued, Due sub. corp. cos., Miscellaneous, Discount, Surplus.

Total 41,517,547 32,408,706. \* Of the subsidiary companies, The corporation also has contingent liabilities, viz.: (a) In respect of its guaranty of \$1,537,300, par. of the 5% gold bonds of The Wilkes-Barre Co., and as endorser of \$32,198 notes.



EARNINGS OF SUBSIDIARY COMPANIES FOR YEARS ENDING DEC. 31.

Table with columns: Companies, Gross Earnings (1914, 1913, 1912), Net Earnings (1914, 1913, 1912). Lists companies like Altoona G. L. & P., Citizens' G. & P., etc.

Table with columns: Companies, Fixed Charges, Dividends on Preferred Stock, Surp. Applic. to Com. Dts. & Residuals (1914, 1913, 1912). Lists companies like Birmingham Ry. & P., Houston Lighting & P., etc.

American Cities Co.

(Report for Fiscal Year ending Dec. 31 1914.)

The report will be found at length on subsequent pages, including the remarks of President McCloskey, the income and profit and loss accounts, the combined income statement of the constituent companies for a number of years, description of constituent companies, &c. Compare V. 99, p. 266-7.

COMPARATIVE INCOME ACCOUNT OF AMERICAN CITIES CO. FOR YEARS ENDING DECEMBER 31.

Table with columns: 1914, 1913, 1912. Rows include Dividends on securities owned, Interest on bank balances, Net earnings, etc.

AMERICAN CITIES CO. BALANCE SHEET DECEMBER 31.

Table with columns: 1914, 1913, 1912. Rows include Assets (Securities owned, Cash, etc.) and Liabilities (Preferred stock, etc.).

The company also has contingent assets and liabilities of equal amount arising from the company's guaranty of the principal of the New Orleans Ry. & Light Co.'s 6% debenture notes and other loans of its subsidiaries, aggregating \$3,665,000, and subsequent interest thereon.—V. 100, p. 810.

Washington (D. C.) Railway & Electric Co.

(Report for Fiscal Year ending Dec. 31 1914.)

Pres. Clarence P. King, Washington, Feb. 1, wrote in sub.:

Results.—Notwithstanding the general business depression, we decided to go forward on broad lines. There was used or set aside for maintenance and depreciation the sum of \$853,328, or nearly \$500,000 more than in any previous year (and \$48,757 more than in 1913), the property being in better condition than ever before.

As required by the I. S. C. Commission, effective July 1 1914, operating expenses include depreciation of equipment amounting to \$43,572 for the six months ending Dec. 31 1914. Total charge for depreciation of equipment for 1914, \$73,572.

Express car service on lines running through suburban territory was begun early in 1912 and quickly found favor with the traveling public.

Capital Transactions.—The net expenditures for additions, betterments, &c., amounted for railway to \$129,242, Potomac El. P. Co. to \$265,012.

Bonds.—The company issued and sold during the year (a) at a discount of \$200,000, \$1,000,000 Consol. Mortgage 4% bonds, to redeem \$500,000 1st 6s and \$500,000 2d 6s of the Columbia Railway maturing Oct. 1 1914. (b) \$515,000 of its Consol. M. 4s bonds and \$200,000 Potomac El. Power Co. Consol. 5s held in its treasury Jan. 1 1914. The Potomac Electric Power Co. issued \$271,000 of its Consol. 5s; \$241,000 of these bonds were sold with \$113,000 treasury bonds (V. 98, p. 1847, 1995; V. 100, p. 231, 400).

Extensions, &c.—The Massachusetts Ave. extension of 2.058 miles has been completed, bringing the total mileage of the system up to 163.73. An extension of our Anacostia Division to the steel plant at Giesboro Point, via Portland St., was ordered by Act of Congress and work started in Dec. Plans for new shops mentioned in the 1913 report have been postponed, but important improvements have been made at our P. St. shops.

Potomac Electric Power Co.—In the past 12 years the connected load has increased from 270,080 to 1,175,510 k. v. equivalents; meters installed, 4,165 to 24,318. The number of street lamps, both arc and incandescent, in service Dec. 31 was 8,215, an increase of 888 for the year. Total connected load Dec. 31 1914 was 58,775.5; increase 6,521.9 k. v.; total equivalent in 16 c. p., 1,175,510; increase for year 95,510. Total electrical output for year, 104,706,274 k. w. hours.

Decisions.—The contention of the citizens of Somerset, Md., that they were entitled to an extension of the District of Columbia rate to Somerset, Md., virtually a free ride of about one-half mile, because they had enjoyed this privilege for a number of years, was finally dismissed by the I. S. C. Commission on Jan. 12 1915. The complaint also of certain citizens of Berwyn, Md., before the P. S. Commission of Maryland, seeking chiefly the elimination of one of the fare zones between Berwyn and Washington, was dismissed by the Commission Dec. 18 1914, inasmuch as the matters involved had already been adjudicated by the I. S. C. Commission, and in view of the decision of the U. S. Supreme Court in the Shreveport case.

Valuation.—Under the Act creating the P. U. Commission, a valuation of the utilities of the District is being made. We have retained a well-known consulting engineer with a staff trained for valuation work, who is now engaged in making an independent appraisal of our property.

Municipal Ownership.—The so-called "Crosser Bill," under which the District Commission was to be authorized to acquire by condemnation the street railways of the District and vicinity, though the committee voted to report it to the House, was never considered by that body and died with the expiration of the 63rd Congress (V. 99, p. 344, 469).

Legal Department.—465 claims were set off at a total expense of \$134,112.

Table titled ENTIRE SYSTEM FOR CALENDAR YEARS. Columns: 1914, 1913, 1912, 1911. Rows include Paying passengers, do average fare, Free transfers, Total average fare, Gross earnings, Operating expenses, Taxes, Net earnings, etc.

Surplus—\$161,473 \$309,150 \$340,730 \$295,908

\* Includes depreciation of equipment 6 mos. ending Dec. 31 1914, in accordance with Inter-State Commerce Commission classification of accounts effective July 1 1914.

Note.—The surplus income after providing for fixed charges was \$1,041,473. Deducting dividends paid by the Wash. Ry. & Elec. Co., \$880,000, there was a balance of \$161,473. Deducting distribution to conductors and motemen under profit-sharing plan, \$15,527; depreciation on equipment (railways), \$30,000; sinking fund requirements, Potomac Elec. Power Co., \$98,320, and miscellaneous items aggregating \$6,853; leaving balance to credit of profit and loss, \$10,773.

BALANCE SHEET OF WASHINGTON RY. & ELECTRIC CO.

Table with columns: 1914, 1913. Rows include Assets (Cost of property, Potomac Electric, etc.) and Liabilities (Preferred stock, Common stock, etc.).

\* After deducting \$25,000 depreciation on equipment; \$11,572 distribution to conductors and motemen under profit-sharing plan, and miscellaneous items (net), \$3,637.

a The funded debt, \$16,471,350, as above, includes \$11,642,350 Washington Ry. & El. consol. 4s, \$1,850,000 Met. RR. 1st 5s and \$2,979,000 Anacostia & Potomac River RR. 1st 5s.

The total funded debt of the system, incl. the debt of the controlled cos. (\$8,755,000), is \$25,226,350. See page 129 of "Elec. Ry. Section."

Note.—The net income of the whole system for 1914, as shown above in the income account, was \$1,041,473, of which \$168,411 was applied directly by the subsidiary companies without passing through the profit and loss account of the Washington Ry. & Elec. Co.—V. 100, p. 644, 400.

United Light & Railways Co.

(Report for Fiscal Year ending Dec. 31 1914.)

The report, including the remarks of President Hulswit, the income accounts of the company and also of its subsidiaries, and the consolidated balance sheet, is given at length on a subsequent page.

President Hulswit recently said:

Financing of the subsidiaries and the parent company has been provided for well ahead and all the companies are in excellent financial condition. For the current year we have no extensive construction program. Beyond the usual replacements and extensions, where it can be shown they will be self-supporting, we will not do any great amount of work in 1915. Extensions and improvements of any magnitude will have to await improved conditions for financing.

The new year opened well from an earning viewpoint. Gross revenues of subsidiaries for Jan. 1915 were well ahead of those for Jan. 1914, and one of the encouraging factors in this gain was that the electric railway lines, with one exception, reported gains over the first month of 1914. The improvement began in the latter part of 1914 and has been maintained since. For February the increase in earnings was above that of January, so that we are well satisfied with the results of operation for the opening months of the current year, and feel certain it will show as large, or probably a larger increase, in earnings than did 1914 over 1913. For Jan. 1915 the amount available for dividends on United Light & Railways common was 12% ahead of Jan. 1914, and for Feb. 1915 there was an increase of 65% in this amount. The jitney competition has not affected us to any extent, having appeared in only a few places and receiving but little support. Our reports from the communities served by the subsidiaries indicate a steady improving financial and industrial condition and the great central and lake section of the country may be expected to give a very good account for 1915.

Below are the usual comparative tables:

EARNINGS OF SUBSIDIARY COMPANIES CALENDAR YEARS. 1914. 1913. Gross earnings... \$8,166,959 \$6,054,224

REVENUE ACCOUNT UNITED LIGHT & RYS. CO., CALENDAR YRS. 1914. 1913. Earn from sub. cos. \$1,039,783 \$1,116,253

The total surplus Dec. 31 1914, after adding \$383,170 surplus on Dec. 31 1913 and \$34,260 net credits due to adjustment and deducting \$462,801 (85% 1st pref. dividends; \$63,272 (3% 2d pref. dividend; \$275,245 (4% common dividend; of which 1% (\$68,484) was paid in stock, was \$387,539.

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET DEC. 31 (INCL. SUBSID. COS.). [For details of balance sheet in 1914 see a subsequent page.]

Assets— Plant, construe. & investment \$45,170,618 44,292,522 Unamortized bond discount 345,270

regards advertising contracts and pattern business. Up to Aug. 31 1914 gross sales and net earnings from current business were larger than in 1913, but for the remaining 4 months there was a considerable decline in sales...

SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS FOR YEARS ENDING DEC. 31.

1914. 1913. Gross sales \$2,255,261 \$2,408,658 Operating income \$416,216 \$590,864

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET OF McCall Corporation AND THE McCALL CO. DEC. 31.

1914. 1913. Assets— Machinery & plant \$308,346 \$18,426 First preferred stock 1,375,300 1,458,000

\* After deducting \$25,325 for sundry adjustments, \$75,000 sinking fund reserve to retire first pref. and \$25,000 to retire second pref. stock. Contingent liabilities Dec. 31 1914, \$5,000.—V. 100, p. 1082.

Consolidated Gas Co. of New York.

(Report for the Year ending Dec. 31 1914.)

The Public Service Commission, First District, has made public the income accounts and balance sheets of the company and its subsidiaries (subject to revision) for year 1914 (compare official statements in V. 100, p. 394, 312, 1081).

STOCK HOLDINGS DEC. 31 1914 AND PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL AMOUNTS OUTSTANDING.

Consol. Gas Co. Holdings— N. Y. Edison \$65,943,400 99.98 Astoria L., H. & P. 10,000,000 100.00

x Includes \$760,000 owned by Central Union Gas Co. y Includes \$200,000 owned by United Electric Light & Power Co.

The Consolidated Gas Co. also hold on last accounts \$4,818,000 1st M. 5s and \$1,000,000 notes of United Electric Light & Power Co.; \$275,000 Brush Elec. Ill. 5s and \$5,000,000 1st M. 5s of Astoria L., H. & Power Co.]

1914. 1913. Commercial lighting \$10,874,440 \$10,927,937 \$11,124,825 Prepaid gas 2,078,709 2,064,358 1,918,374

\* Sales of gas in 1914 include 13,593,920 M. cu. ft. commercial lighting @ 80c.; 2,608,376 M. cu. ft. prepaid gas @ 80c., and \$306,605 M. cu. ft. municipal lighting @ 75c.

INCOME ACCOUNT CONSOL. GAS CO. AND CONTROLLED COS [See separate statement for New York Edison Co. below.]

Consolidated Gas Co.— 1914. 1913. Operating revenues \$14,185,246 \$14,155,420 \$6,020,045 \$5,587,612

May Department Stores Co., New York.

(Report for Fiscal Year ending Jan. 31 1915.)

Pres. David May, N. Y., Mar. 30, wrote in substance:

The sales for the year amounted to a net total of \$25,409,150, representing a decrease of \$905,654, or only 3.4%, notwithstanding the adverse trade conditions which have prevailed throughout the country during the entire six months ending Jan. 31 1915.

The addition to real estate, buildings, leases, equipment, &c., amounted to \$505,311, against which \$201,085 has been charged off for depreciation and amortization; net increase \$304,226. This outlay is mainly represented by the construction and equipment of an additional building in Akron, O., the completion of the construction and equipment of the addition to the Pittsburgh store, the completion of the equipment of the St. Louis store and fixtures for the new Cleveland store.

The volume of business since Jan. 31 1915 is well maintained as compared with last year, when conditions were substantially normal.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT YEARS ENDING JAN. 31.

1913-14. 1913-14. 1912-13. 1911-12. Net sales \$25,409,150 \$26,314,804 \$24,504,769 \$14,884,819

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET JAN. 31.

1915. 1914. Assets— Real est., imp., &c. \$5,564,409 5,260,182 Good will, trade names, &c. 15,525,310 15,525,310

\* Consists of real estate, bldgs., leases, improvements, equipment, furniture and fixtures (including capital stock of May Bldg. Co., lessor of portion of Cleveland premises, and Kingston Investment Co., lessor of portion of St. Louis premises), as of Feb. 1 1914, \$6,028,067; additions during year, including expenditures on buildings at Pittsburgh and Akron, furniture and fixtures at St. Louis and Akron, &c., \$505,311; total, \$6,533,378. Deduct balance of reserve for depreciation of buildings and fixtures and amortization of leases, &c., as of Feb. 1 1914, \$787,884; and 1914-15, \$201,085; remainder, as above, \$5,564,409. x Consists of good-will and trade-names, including cost of acquisition, subsequent to the organization of this company, of good-will of Boggs & Buhl, Pittsburgh, and of the M. O'Neil & Co., Akron. y After deducting \$34,463 premium paid on acquisition of preferred stock for retirement under provision of charter.—V. 100, p. 1172.

McCall Corporation, New York.

(Second Annual Report—Year ended Dec. 31 1914.)

Pres. Edward A. Simmons, N. Y., Mar. 1, wrote in subst.:

The statements this year represent a consolidation of operations of the McCall Corporation and The McCall Co. and thus differ slightly in form from last year.

The net earnings for the year were \$340,203, the war in Europe having affected the Corporation materially in the last months of 1914, both as

Central Union Gas Co. - North Union Gas Co. Balance sheet comparing 1914 and 1913 for operating revenue, expenses, taxes, and income.

Standard Gas Lt. Co. - United El. Lt. & P. Co. Balance sheet comparing 1914 and 1913 for operating revenue, expenses, taxes, and income.

N.Y. & Q. El. Lt. & P. Co. - N.Y. & Queens Gas Co. Balance sheet comparing 1914 and 1913 for operating revenue, expenses, taxes, and income.

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION AS OF DEC. 31 - HOLDING CO. Consolidated Gas Co. Data on consumers, street lamps, open flame, miles of gas mains, holders capacity, and coal gas works.

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION AS OF DEC. 31 - CONTROLLED COMPANIES. Astoria L., New Am., N.Y. Mut., Cent. Un., Nor. Un., Stand Gas H. & P. Co., Gas Co., Gas Lt. Co., Gas Co., Gas Co., Light Co.

BALANCE SHEET OF CONSOLIDATED GAS CO. DEC. 31. Assets: Fixed capital, ins. partic. certif., other invest., cash, special deposits, temp. advances to assoc. cos., accts. rec. with City of N. Y., consumers' accts., miscell. accounts, materials & supp., suspense. Liabilities: Capital stock, funded debt, taxes accrued, unmat'd int., &c., other curr. liab., renewals & contingencies, corp. surplus.

a After deducting \$737,118 for accrued amortization. b After deducting contingent expense, \$1,650,890, and surplus adjustments, \$139,215. Note - The company has contingent liabilities aggregating \$21,825,000, consisting of bonds of Westchester Lighting and merged companies, which are guaranteed both as to principal and interest.

NEW AMSTERDAM GAS CO. BALANCE SHEET DEC. 31. Assets: Fixed capital, other investments, ins. partic. certif., cash, special deposits, temp. advances to assoc. cos., accts. rec. with City of N. Y., consumers' accts., miscell. accounts, materials & supp., prepayments, &c., suspense. Corporate deficit. Liabilities: Capital stock, mortgage bonds, taxes accrued, unmat'd interest, due associated cos., miscell. accounts, renewals & contingencies, corp. surplus.

NEW YORK MUTUAL GAS CO. BALANCE SHEET DEC. 31. Assets: Fixed capital, ins. partic. certif., other investments, cash, accts. rec. with City of N. Y., consumers' accounts, other accounts, materials & supplies, temporary advances. Liabilities: Capital stock, taxes accrued, unmat'd interest, other current liabilities, insur., &c., reserves, other reserves, corporate surplus.

b After deducting \$1,022,375 for accrued amortization. c After deducting surplus adjustments, \$377.

STANDARD GAS LIGHT CO. BALANCE SHEET DEC. 31. Assets: Fixed capital, ins. partic. certif., other investments, cash, accts. rec. with City of N. Y., consumers' accts., materials & supp., other accounts, suspense, &c. Liabilities: Capital stock, mortgage bonds, taxes accrued, unmat'd int., &c., other current liabilities, renewals & contingencies account, reserves, corporate surplus.

d After deducting \$208,636 contingent expense and \$23,395 for surplus adjustments.

CENTRAL UNION GAS CO. BALANCE SHEET DEC. 31. Assets: Fixed capital, ins. partic. certif., other investments, special deposits, accts. rec. with City of N. Y., consumers' accts., other accounts, materials & supp., temp. advances to associated cos., prepayments. Liabilities: Capital stock, funded debt, accrued taxes, unmat'd int., &c., other current liabilities, renewals & contingencies account, casualty, &c., reserve, corporate surplus.

e After deducting \$92,184 for accrued amortization. f After deducting contingent expense, \$282,030, and \$48,169 for surplus adjustments.

NORTHERN UNION GAS CO. BALANCE SHEET DEC. 31. Assets: Fixed capital, investments, cash, accts. rec. with City of New York, consumers' accounts, other accounts, materials & supplies, temp. advances to associated cos., suspense, &c. Liabilities: Capital stock, mortgage bonds, taxes accrued, unmat'd int., &c., other current liabilities, renewals and contingencies account, reserves, corporate surplus.

g After deducting \$110,758 for accrued amortization. h After deducting \$155,143 contingent expense and \$31,025 for surplus adjustments.

ASTORIA LIGHT, HEAT & POWER CO. BALANCE SHEET DEC. 31. Assets: Fixed capital, investments, cash, consumers' accts., other accounts, material & supp., temp. advances to associated cos., prepayments. Liabilities: Capital stock, funded debt, construction adv., accrued liabilities, miscell. accounts, renewals and contingencies account, reserves, corporate surplus.

k After deducting \$183,732 for accrued amortization. l After deducting \$536,909 contingent expense and \$57,297 for surplus adjustments.

UNITED ELECTRIC LIGHT & POWER CO. BALANCE SHEET DEC. 31. Assets: Fixed capital, ins. partic. certif., other investments, cash, accts. rec. with City of N. Y., consumers' accts., other accounts, material & supp., temp. advances to associated cos., suspense, &c., corporate deficit. Liabilities: Capital stock, mortgage bonds, construction adv., due associated cos., accrued liabilities, other current liabilities, renewals & contingencies account, casualty and insurance reserve, corporate surplus.

m After deducting \$125,383 for accrued amortization. n After deducting \$394,522 for renewals and contingencies and \$53,123 for surplus adjustments.

N. Y. & QUEENS ELEC. LIGHT & POWER CO. BALANCE SHEET DEC. 31. Assets: Fixed capital, investments, cash, special deposits, accts. rec. with City of New York, consumers' accounts, other accounts, material & supplies, prepayments, &c. Liabilities: Capital stock, funded debt, due associated cos., taxes accrued, unmat'd int., &c., other current liabilities, casualty, &c., reserve, corporate surplus.

r After deducting \$151,780 contingent expense and \$13 surplus adjustments.

NEW YORK & QUEENS GAS CO. BALANCE SHEET DEC. 31. Assets: Fixed capital, ins. partic. certif., other investments, cash, accts. rec. with City of New York, consumers' accounts, other accounts, material & supplies, prepayments, &c. Liabilities: Capital stock, funded debt, taxes accrued, unmat'd int., &c., other current liabilities, other reserves, corporate surplus.

s After deducting \$62,255 for accrued amortization. t After crediting \$47 surplus adjustments - V. 100, p. 1170, 904, 394.

New York Edison Co.

(Report for Fiscal Year ending Dec. 31 1914.)

The Public Service Commission, First District, has made public the company's report for the calendar year 1914.

Table with columns for 1914, 1913, and 1912. Rows include K.W. Hours, Sales of Electric Current, Municipal street lighting, etc.

INCOME ACCOUNT FOR CALENDAR YEARS.

Table with columns for 1914, 1913, 1912, and 1911. Rows include Total sales of current, Miscellaneous revenue, Total operating revenue, etc.

Table with columns for 1914, 1913, 1912, and 1911. Rows include Total revenue deductions, Operating income, Non-operating income, Gross income, etc.

a Consists of interest revenues, \$1,281,632; dividends, \$92,792; miscellaneous rents, &c., \$44,420, and non-operating revenue deductions, \$48,745. b Includes in 1914 interest on funded debt, \$1,698,324; other interest, \$529,770; rent of other plant (Brush Elec. Ill. Co.), \$47,656; subway rents, \$1,502,306; other rents, \$15,750; amortization of premium on debt (Cr.), \$5,661.

The number of active meters was 212,818 (Manhattan, 159,108; Bronx, 53,710), against 193,650.

NEW YORK EDISON CO. BALANCE SHEET DECEMBER 31.

Balance sheet table with columns for 1914 and 1913. Rows include Assets (Fixed capital, Int. partic. etc., Cash, etc.) and Liabilities (Capital stock, Mortgage bonds, etc.).

x Includes \$687,299 construction work in progress. Also see foot-note z. y The company has included among investments \$146,493, the cost of re-acquiring stock of Edison Elec. Illum. Co. of N. Y. of a par value of \$29,351, the par value of the stock is here deducted from the capital stock liability, and the balance \$117,143, is transferred to suspense. z After deducting reserve for renewals and contingencies, \$5,483,056, and sundry adjustments (net), \$44,036.—V. 100, p. 984, 905.

Yale & Towne Mfg. Co., N. Y. and Stamford, Conn. (46th Annual Report—Year ending Dec. 31 1914.)

Pres. Henry R. Towne, March 11, wrote in substance: Because of the European war, the volume of sales and the profit realized thereon were both smaller than in 1913, although the ratio of profit to sales was slightly larger by reason of unusual economies still in force.

The decrease in the volume of the business during 1914 was almost wholly due to the influence of the European war on our export business, and to its indirect effect on domestic business. Sales for the first seven months compared favorably with 1913, but the widespread depression during the last five months more than offset the previous improvement. Canadian industries have suffered even more severely than those of the United States, and the results for our Canadian subsidiary reflect this condition.

The Yale & Towne Co., through which is conducted the business in Great Britain, shows a satisfactory profit. Owing to the war, we have not yet been able to secure full returns of the year's operations by Yale & Towne Ltd., which conducts our business in Continental Europe, but the figures thus far available indicate that this subsidiary will show little or no loss. The large new brass foundry has been finished and occupied, thus completing all of the extensive improvements commenced in 1912-13. During the year \$205,783 was expended for upkeep and charged directly to operating expenses, and the usual percentages, amounting to \$120,451, were charged off to cover annual depreciation; total of these two items is \$326,234 (see foot-note following balance sheet).

By reason of the economies thus effected and the profit realized from the operations of the year, the outstanding notes payable were reduced from \$837,000 on Jan. 1 1914 to \$682,000 on Dec. 31 (further reductions have reduced this item to \$407,000 as of March 11), increasing the ratio of quick assets to current liabilities from 3.26 to 3.87 on Jan. 1 1915.

RESULTS FOR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31.

Table with columns for 1914, 1913, and 1912. Rows include Net earnings, Repairs & maint., Balance, Interest.

BALANCE SHEET JANUARY 31.

Balance sheet table with columns for 1915, 1914, 1913, and 1912. Rows include Assets (Plant, off. bldg., Trade-mk's & pats, etc.) and Liabilities (Capital stock, First mtge. bonds, etc.).

\* After deducting 50% stock distribution, (\$1,500,000) Jan. 2 1914, \$81,410 depreciation of investments, \$25,000 reserve for foreign losses and \$74,765 miscellaneous adjustments of former years, obsolete goods, &c.—V. 100, p. 985, 907.

Willys-Overland Co., Toledo, Ohio.

(Report for Six Months ending Dec. 31 1914.)

CONSOLIDATED INCOME ACCOUNT (INCL. SUBSIDIARY COS.)

Table with columns for 6 Mos. end. and Year end. Rows include Net earnings and income of all companies, Deduct—Interest on floating debt, Reserve for contingencies, etc.

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS.

Table with columns for Dec. 31 '14, June 30 '14, Dec. 31 '14, and June 30 '14. Rows include Assets (Real estate, bldgs., machinery, etc.) and Liabilities (Preferred stock, Common stock, etc.).

\* Includes Dec. 31 1914, real estate, \$5,022,634; buildings, \$3,225,554; tools, dies, patterns, &c., as depreciated, \$678,508; real estate, buildings, &c., as based on appraisals made by American Appraisal Co. as of June 30 1912, adjusted in respect of additions and deductions since \$587,860; furniture and fixtures, \$113,817; construction work in progress, \$107,616; automobile equipment in service, \$64,123; total, \$9,500,122. Deduct reserve for depreciation and accruing renewals, \$718,918 (including \$169,140 provided out of earnings for the 6 months, excluding \$266,000 for depreciation of tools, dies, patterns, &c., deducted from the asset), and \$45,995 losses on dismantled property and replacement expenditures written off; balance as above, \$9,127,188. x Includes investments in and advances to affiliated manufacturing companies. y Includes balances due from European distributing agent and affiliated domestic selling companies (less reserve). z Reserves Dec. 31 1914 include \$450,000 against liquidating losses and other contingencies, \$384,005 for redemption of prof. stock, including accretions arising from discount on prof. stock purchased; \$235,486 for quantity and other rebates to customers and \$30,000 for car repairs under guarantee.—V. 100, p. 560.

Remington Typewriter Co., Ilion, N. Y.

(Report for Fiscal Year ending Dec. 31 1914.)

Pres. John Walter Earle, March 29, wrote in substance:

The European war has made a considerable reduction in our profits for the year. When it became impossible to foretell the duration of the war, and its effect upon both foreign and domestic business, the directors decided to defer the payment of further dividends. In view of changed conditions, also, a revised plan was adopted for the inventoring of second-hand machines on hand, and also for a more rigid restriction of the items entering into the cost at which new machines were inventoried. The reduction in inventory values resulting from this change, to which effect has been given as of Jan. 1 1914, has been charged against surplus.

The company, so far as we are informed, has suffered (except in earnings) little or no actual loss in the war zone; but a contingent reserve has been set up against any possible losses due to general conditions of business abroad. In the summer of 1914 negotiations were pending for the purchase of some of the foreign business which had been conducted by our dealers. This transaction, however, had not been consummated when the war began, but, to meet any possible liability in this connection, provision also has been made in the contingent reserve.

Our expenses have been and are being reduced by increased efficiency. A new Remington machine, embodying decided improvements over all other machines, is ready to market. We are already securing large orders for typewriters which were formerly placed with foreign manufacturers, and from such orders a continuing business should result after the close of the war. It is believed that our business is on an improved basis; better results are anticipated during 1915.

INCOME ACCOUNT FOR CALENDAR YEAR.

Table with columns for 1914, 1913, 1912, and 1911. Rows include Net earnings, Interest (net), Depreciation of plant, Net profits, First pref. divs., Second pref. divs., Common divs., Balance, surplus.

The company deducts from profit and loss the 3 quarterly dividends on the prof. stock paid in April, July and Oct. 1914, calling for \$510,000. The payments shown in 1913 are the 4 quarterly disbursements made during the year, a fifth quarterly dividend on both classes of prof. stock, calling for \$170,000, paid Jan. 2 1914, having been deducted from profit and loss.

BALANCE SHEET AS OF DEC. 31.

Table with columns for 1914, 1913, and 1912. Rows include Assets (Plants, pats., trade-mk's, & good-will, etc.) and Liabilities (First preferred stock, 2d pref. stock, etc.).

x After deducting 3 quarterly dividends on prof. stock (\$510,000), \$1,639,816 for readjustment of inventories and \$500,000 contingent war and European reserve.—V. 100, p. 1172, 985.

United Dry Goods Companies, New York.

(Balance Sheets of Subsidiary Companies Dec. 31 1914, &c.)

The report of the parent company for the 11 months ending Dec. 31 1914, with the remarks of Pres. C. N. Bliss Jr., and the balance sheet of the company itself, were given on Feb. 20 1915 (p. 637). Balance sheets of subsidiary cos.:

Table with columns for subsidiaries: Hanna & Co., Wm. Han-ger & Co., Powers Merc. Co., Stewart D. G. Co., Lord & Taylor. Rows include Assets (Real estate, Fixtures, Investments, Cash, etc.) and Liabilities (Preferred stock, Common stock, etc.).

Total. \$7,531,088 \$3,165,185 \$2,120,794 \$2,409,667 \$13,312,030. Includes \$2,500,000 1st pref., \$1,895,100 2d pref. and \$3,000,000 common stock. Compare V. 100, p. 637.

(The Associated Merchants' Co.

(Balance Sheets of Subsidiary Companies Dec. 31 1914.)

The report of the parent company for the 11 months ending Dec. 31 1914, with the remarks of Pres. C. N. Bliss Jr., and the balance sheet of the co. itself, were given Feb. 20, p. 637.

Below are shown the balance sheets of the subsidiary cos.:

BALANCE SHEETS DECEMBER 31 1914.

Table with columns for subsidiaries: Jas. McCrory & Co., Stewart J. N. Adam & Co., J. N. Adam & Co., G. Gun-ther's Sons, The Hoby Co. (a). Rows include Assets (Real estate, Good-will, Fixtures, etc.) and Liabilities (Capital stock, Bonds, Accounts payable, etc.).

\*Includes leases, &c. a Books not closed. c Includes 1st pref., \$500,000; 2d pref., \$250,000, and common stock, \$250,000. d Includes 1st pref., \$200,000; 2d pref., \$421,000, and common stock, \$400,000. e Includes \$60,573 reserves and \$53,947 contingent account.—V. 100, p. 637.

La Belle Iron Works, Wheeling, W. Va.

(Report for Fiscal Year ending Dec. 31 1914.)

President W. D. Crawford says in substance:

Operations.—The year 1914 was a most unsatisfactory one in the steel business. Prices were extremely low and the demand for finished goods was very disappointing. In normal times your plants are large producers of railway car plates and consequently the inability of the railroads to purchase needed equipment has had a most serious effect on your business.

The ore properties, operating on a basis sufficient to supply the requirements of your Steubenville furnaces, produced for the year 289,614 gross tons. The coke properties were operated at full capacity, producing 123,845 net tons of coke. The Steubenville coal mine, operating at sufficient capacity to supply the open-hearth steel plant, produced 137,440 net tons of coal.

The manufacturing plants were operated at about 66% of capacity, except in the last quarter, when operations were less than 33%.

Tonnage.—Year 1914. Year 1913. Year 1912. 6 Mos. 1911. Pig iron..... 170,020 256,659 203,867 69,762 Billets and slabs..... 244,560 327,864 322,603 103,200 Finished goods..... 338,488 401,982 418,487 143,259

Average number of workmen employed in 1914, 3,724; pay-roll, \$3,119,826, or an average of \$837.76 for each employee.

Additions.—A new iron and brass foundry, locomotive repair shop and additional yard trackage.

Oil Production.—For year 5,669 barrels; present output about 500 barrels per month.

Reserves.—As there has been appropriated for your various reserve accounts the sum of \$2,450,203, the board deem it unnecessary at this time to make any further provision for general depreciation.

Dividends Paid in 1914.—Cash dividends \$743,655, being at rate of 7% on the outstanding pref. and 1/2 of 1% on the common stock (V. 99, p. 1601).

RESULTS FOR YEARS ENDING DEC. 31.

Table with columns for years 1914, 1913, 1912. Rows include Shipments, Net earnings, Exhaustion of minerals, Profits for year, Interest on bonds, Preferred dividends (cash), Common dividends (cash), Total, Balance, Appreciation of ore lands, Surplus beginning of year, Total, Stock dividend (100%), Special depreciation, Total surplus end of year.

\* Dividends in 1912 were at the rate of 10% yearly on the outstanding capital stock until Oct. 15 1912, when the stock was readjusted; since then the rate has been 8% on the pref. and 2% on the common. x After deducting charges for maintenance and repairs of plant of approximately \$636,200, against \$648,200 in 1913.

BALANCE SHEET DEC. 31.

Table with columns for years 1914, 1913. Rows include Assets (Property acct., Investments, Deferred charges, Inventories, Accounts and bills receivable, Cash) and Liabilities (Preferred stock, Common stock, Bonds, Wages, taxes and royalties accrued, Accounts payable, Accrued int., Dividends unpaid, Depr., &c., funds, Total surplus).

a Includes real estate, buildings, machinery, &c., also mining, gas and oil properties. b At cost in 1914. c Reserve funds include: For depreciation, \$1,402,318; exhaustion of minerals, \$886,455; for re-lining furnaces, extraordinary repairs and contingencies, \$161,430.—V. 100, p. 904.

Federal Mining & Smelting Co., New York.

(Report for Fiscal Year ending Dec. 31 1914.)

Harry L. Day, Pres. and Gen. Man., says in substance:

Earnings.—The operating profit amounted to \$189,093 and miscellaneous earnings to \$702,463, or a total of \$891,556. Deducting general expense, \$94,663, leaves a net balance of \$796,893.

A large decrease in operating profit and ore tonnages will be noted, due to (a) suspension of operations at the Morning mine, our largest producer, for practically 5 months, May 20 to June 19, and Sept. to Dec.; (b) Shrinkage in production at Wardner mine; (c) reduced prices for lead and silver.

The increase in miscellaneous earnings is largely due to dividends amounting to \$576,000 [as against \$352,000 in cal. year 1913], received from operations of the Green Hill-Cleveland Mining Co. in which the Federal Co. is a 50% stockholder.

Production, &c.—There were mined at all of the properties 421,631 tons (wet weight) of ore, of which 21,091 tons were first class. There were milled 389,450 tons (dry weight) of ore.

There were produced 57,058 tons lead concentrates and shipping ore, averaging 14.07% lead and 16.01 oz. silver per ton; 4,200 tons zinc shipping ore and concentrates, averaging 44.61% zinc. Of this amount 21,091 tons were first class, or shipping ore, which carried from 26.10% to 59.2% lead and averaged 34.0%. The first class shipped from Wardner averaged 51.2% and from Morning 29.6% lead. Average contents in concentrates: (a) Wardner, silver 20.19 oz. in 1913 and 22.4 oz. in 1914; lead 55.93 and 59.12; (b) Morning, silver 13.42 in 1913 and 14.69 in 1914; lead 44.8 and 44.67.

Prices.—New York quotations for silver ranged from 59.25¢ per oz. down to 47.62¢, averaging 54.80¢. The quotations for lead varied from \$4.15 per 100 lbs., down to \$3.50 and averaged \$3.869. Prices for silver produced averaged 5.56¢ per oz. lower than in the year ending Aug. 31 1913, while the average price received for lead was 39.2¢ per 100 lbs. lower.

Development.—The development work (drifting, raising, sinking and cross-cutting) aggregated 7,256 ft., as against 16,224 ft. during the previous fiscal period. The sharp fall in metal prices immediately following the war developments, rendered it imperative to reduce expense as much as possible and development work was thereby curtailed in consequence.

Estimate of Company's Engineers of the Reserves.

Table with columns for Milling Ore (1915, 1914, 1915, 1914) and Concentrates (1914, 1915, 1914, 1915). Rows include Wardner, Morning, Mace, Frisco, Green Hill-Cleveland.

Total.....988,450 997,000 99,150 92,070 48,640 54,560

Notwithstanding the apparently small reserve at Wardner yet experience leads to belief that this property will still produce through 1915 provided prices do not fall below the remunerative minimum. The Morning is in better condition than ever before and a profitable era of production is confidently looked forward to as soon as metal prices shall justify reopening. While the Morning is the largest and best of our properties yet its ores are the lowest grade of any property in the district; first class ore shipped crude only averaging 11 oz. silver and 30% lead. There are about 300,000 tons of mine run in pillars, which is not shown as reserves, but will eventually be available for stoping.

The estimated ore reserves of Green Hill-Cleveland show a decrease of 116,000 tons, indicating a rapid extinction of the mine ore bodies on the Green Hill side. On the Federal Mace side, however there still remains a quantity of rather low grade tonnage and underground conditions indicate the existence of probable ore bodies.

Helena-Frisco.—This new property (see V. 97, p. 1424) has received a large amount of rehabilitation and development. After unwatering it was necessary to entirely retiler the shaft for nearly 1,600 feet to build a practically new mill and to work out a new process for concentrating. A process has now been developed, involving wet concentration, flotation, roasting, and magnetic separation which it is believed will insure a relatively high efficiency. Installation of additional machinery will be undertaken early in the year and the plant started as soon thereafter as possible. The total expenditures to Dec. 31 1914 including purchase, rehabilitation, new construction and operation, aggregated \$363,301, of which \$37,070 has been charged off as operating expense. On Dec. 14 the mill started with one shift working underground. There may be considerable zinc-lead ore contract with Thompson Falls Power Co.—Delivery of current under our contract with this company will begin about June 1 1915, and it is estimated will save your company \$50,000 per year on present consumption.

Litigation.—Our proportion of the settlements, &c., with the land owners in the Couer d'Alene Valley was \$0.37 for year 1914.

Our suit against the Washington Water Power Co., growing out of a raise in rates made in August 1913 is on appeal before the Supreme Court of Idaho, but is likely to be disposed of by favorable legislation. The companion action for injunction brought by the Power Co. to prevent us from purchasing power from the Thompson Co. is before the Idaho P. U. Comm. The suit of one Sidney Norman, a stockholder, to set aside our smelting contract with the Am. Smelting & Refining Co., was decided by Justice Phillips in the N. Y. Supreme Court in favor of the defendant companies, but is pending on appeal (V. 99, p. 62).

Future Developments.—Notwithstanding the campaign which resulted in the Green Hill-Cleveland consolidation, the Star and Flynn Group options (relinquished during 1914) and the purchase of the Frisco, no new properties have since been acquired. A large number of examinations have been made, without satisfactory result. The need for new mines is evident; these, however, are extremely difficult to obtain. In my judgment the best policy is to secure substantial interests in attractive prospected properties and to grow up with their development.

DETAILS OF INCOME ACCOUNT FOR YEARS ENDING DEC. 31.

Table with columns for years 1914, 1913. Rows include Tot. value of prod., Deduct (Cost of production, Smelt., ft. & treat., Adj. acct. Gr. Hill-Cleveland lease), Net income, General expenses, Corp. excise tax, Net earnings, Preferred divs., Total, Balance for year, Previous surplus, Total, Deduct—Depr., Green Hill-Cleveland, Invest. ment, Frisco plant op., &c., Development, &c., Net Income, Total surp. Dec. 31.

BALANCE SHEET DECEMBER 31.

1914.		1913.		1914.		1913.	
Assets—	\$	\$	Liabilities—	\$	\$	\$	\$
Mines & equip't.	18,168,469	17,883,999	Common stock	6,000,000	6,000,000	12,000,000	12,000,000
Investments	286,120	403,402	Pf. stk. (7% cum)	12,000,000	12,000,000	12,000,000	12,000,000
Material & supp.	114,376	137,286	Accounts payable	211,887	187,601		
Accounts receivable	261,040	505,874	Surplus	1,388,614	1,435,523		
Cash	770,498	693,504					
Total	19,600,501	19,623,124	Total	19,600,501	19,623,124		

—V. 99, p. 541.

GENERAL INVESTMENT NEWS

RAILROADS, INCLUDING ELECTRIC ROADS.

**Atlanta Birmingham & Atlantic RR.—Default Expected May 1 on Joint 5% Notes of 1912.**—It being "practically certain" that default will occur May 1 on the payment of the principal then due on the \$5,761,000 5% joint collateral trust notes of 1912 made by the Atlantic & Birmingham Construction Co. and Atlanta Birmingham & Atlantic RR. Co., the committee named below urges the necessity of depositing the notes as soon as possible with the Equitable Trust Co. of N. Y. or the American Trust Co. in Boston. A circular dated at N. Y., April 1, says in substance:

The above notes (\$5,761,000) are secured by deposit with the Equitable Trust Co. of N. Y., trustee, of (1) \$1,100,000 (all) common stock of Brunswick SS. Co. (2) \$750,000 1st M. 5% gold bonds of Brunswick SS. Co. (principal and interest guaranteed by Atlantic Gulf & West Indies SS. Lines), payable \$50,000 July 1 yearly, the last payment in 1929. (3) \$4,000,000 common stock of Woodward Iron Co. (4) \$17,000,000 common stock, \$5,600,000 pref. stock and \$5,005,000 1st M. 5% bonds of Atlanta Birmingham & Atlantic RR. Co.

Under agreement of Feb. 1912, between certain individuals and the Construction Co., the int. on these notes was guar. up to and incl. May 1 '15. As regards the collateral, the Brunswick SS. Co. has sold all its steamers; and its only asset is the lease of certain dock properties in N. Y. City, from which at present an income is being received; its bonds are secured by a mortgage on certain steamships owned by the Atlantic, Gul. & West Indies SS. Lines and are guaranteed by that company. (V. 91, p. 465).

The Woodward Iron Co. of Birmingham, Ala. (V. 94, p. 1255) owns large coal and iron mines, operates blast furnaces, &c. It is capitalized as follows: \$13,500,000 sinking fund gold 3s. due Jan. 1 1952; \$3,000,000 6% cum. pref. stock and \$10,000,000 common stock. It owns about 46,000 acres of Pratt coling coal in Alabama, estimated at approximately 160,000,000 tons, and large deposits of ore, estimated at about 235,000,000 tons. It is one of the most successful pig-iron manufacturers in the South; the plant is complete and up to date, having by-product coke ovens, four modern blast furnaces with an annual capacity of about 400,000 tons pig iron.

The bonds and stocks of the Atlanta Birmingham & Atlantic RR. Co. have practically no value. The company has been in the hands of a receiver for six years, and, unless the earnings should increase, so that a possible value might result to these securities from the right to participate in some reorganization, they will be valueless.

It is practically certain that the principal of these notes will not be paid at maturity, on May 1, and protective measures are therefore necessary. The undersigned, owners of a large amount of these notes, will act as a committee for such purpose and will make no charge for their services. It is our intention to hasten a sale of the collateral, and, if a satisfactory price is not obtained, to buy it in, in whole or in part, for the depositing noteholders, disposing of the same, from time to time, as satisfactory prices may be realized, and dividing the proceeds. The committee will also have the power, if thought advantageous, to distribute some or all of the collateral directly among the noteholders pro rata; and it is probable that all of the Woodward Iron stock will be thus distributed.

Notes in coupon form should have the May 1 1915 coupons detached for collection by the holder; interest-bearing scrip should be accompanied by the proper income tax certificate.

Committee.—George C. Clark, Sylvanus L. Schoonmaker, Percy R. Pyne and Russell G. Fessenden, with George C. Clark Jr. as Secretary, 51 Wall St.—V. 99, p. 968.

**Baltimore & Ohio RR.—Trackage Arrangement.**—See Western Maryland RR. below.

**Commutation Fares.**—The I.-S. Commerce Commission on April 7 authorized the company to put into effect its new commutation fares, which were filed last November, to become effective Dec. 1, from points in the Washington district as far east as Baltimore and as far west as Washington Junction, except in one instance.

As the advance in commutation fares made in the district was intended to be uniform and to cover all districts, it is assumed that the decision will be applied also to all other districts. The Commission held that the road is justified in its demand for the withdrawal of the 24, 50 and 180-trip tickets, and the increased fare on the 10-trip ticket, but sustained the existing fares on the 60-trip ticket. It was pointed out that the railroad has shown that the commutation traffic on the Washington and Metropolitan branches is not as a whole profitable, the traffic being light, and that there is little likelihood of growth, but rather of diminution.—V. 100, p. 307, 228.

**Belt RR. & Stock Yards of Indianapolis.—Dividend Increased.**—A quarterly dividend of 5% has been declared on the \$1,500,000 com. stock, comparing with 3% in Jan. 1915 and 2% in Oct. 1914, 3% in July, 5% in April and 4% in Jan. 1914.

Dividend Record Since 1906 (Per Cent.)

1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.
11	12	6	6	3	10	13	14	Jan. 3

See Indianapolis Union Ry. below.—V. 98, p. 1070.

**Central Railroad of New Jersey.—Fine.**—

Judge Rollstab in the U. S. District Court at Trenton, N. J., on April 5 imposed a fine of \$200,000 on the company on its conviction on May 11 of granting rebates to the Lehigh Coal & Navigation Co. The Court suspended sentence on 160 of the 185 counts of the indictment. The company, it is reported, will appeal.—V. 100, p. 981.

**Chicago & Eastern Illinois RR.—Committee.**—The interest on the Evansville & Terre Haute RR. 1st Gen. M. 5s, due April 1, having been defaulted, the following committee requests deposits with Farmers' Loan & Trust Co., depositee:

Augustus V. Heely, V. Pres. Farmers' Loan & Trust Co., N. Y.; Frederick J. Lisman, 30 Broad St., N. Y.; A. S. Wing, Pres. of Provident Life & Trust Co., Phila.; Geller, Rolston & Horan, counsel, 22 Exchange Place, N. Y.; Farmers' Loan & Trust Co., depository, 22 William St., N. Y. See V. 100, p. 1167, 981.

**Chicago Railways Co.—Full Income Interest.**—The directors have declared the full 4% interest on the \$2,500,000 non-cumulative adjustment income bonds, payable in one installment on May 1 for the fiscal year ended Jan. 31 1915.

Earnings.—For the year ending Jan. 31:

Fiscal Year—	Gross Income.	Joint Account with the City.		Of which to—	
		Net (after Int., 5% Taxes).	Balance on Inve.	City, 55%.	Co., 45%.
1914-15	7,180,402	4,116,762	3,063,640	1,685,002	1,378,638
1913-14	19,674,715	7,302,911	3,374,331	1,855,882	1,518,449

—V. 100, p. 1078, 139.

**Chicago Rock Island & Pacific Ry.—Nominees of Sheldon Committee.**—The proxy committee of which Edward W. Sheldon is Chairman announces that it has selected the following stockholders as the nominees for whom its proxies are to be voted at the election of four directors to be held on April 12 1915:

W. Emlen Roosevelt, senior member of the firm of Roosevelt & Son, director Chemical Nat. Bank, N. Y. Life Ins. & Trust Co. and Buff. Roch. Pits. Ry. Co.; William J. Matheson, merchant; director of Bank of N. Y. (N. B. A.); Title Guar. & Tr. Co. and Continental Ins. Co.; T. S. Williams, Pres. of Brooklyn Rapid Transit Co.; Charles Hayden, Senior partner of Hayden, Stone & Co., director Nat. Shawmut Bank of Boston and the Equitable Trust Co. of New York.

In making these selections the committee states that it has been actuated solely by a desire to procure for the stockholders the benefit of the advice and services of gentlemen of high standing, wide experience and a record of success in respect of the affairs with which they have been connected.

N. L. Amster of Boston, Chairman of the Amster committee, objects to these nominations as too closely allied with the present management, and expresses the belief that his committee will represent at the meeting between 150,000 and 200,000 shares.

**Improvements—Probable Preferred Stock Issue.**—The "New York Times" of April 6 said:

The board of directors shortly after the annual meeting April 12 will consider a plan for raising \$30,000,000, all to be expended in raising the efficiency of the Rock Island's lines in the State of Iowa.

Several plans for raising the needed money are now under preparation by the interests most concerned, but it was said yesterday that the one calling for an issue of preferred stock met with the greatest support. This plan, according to one of the directors, calls for an authorization of \$30,000,000 preferred stock, to be issued in three yearly installments of \$10,000,000 each. It is planned to give the present holders of the stock of the Rock Island Company, the second of the holding companies of the Chicago Rock Island & Pacific Ry. Co., opportunity to purchase this stock.

It has been proposed to issue bonds on a junior mortgage, but it is stipulated in the present First and Refunding Mortgage that no junior mortgage shall be authorized except by the consent of the holders of the First and Refunding M. bonds. Such consent, it is assumed, would not be forthcoming. The indenture of the railway company's debenture mortgage further blocks the plan to issue new mortgage bonds, for under this indenture the debentures, amounting to about \$20,000,000, must have the same standing as the proposed new mortgage bonds.

Another plan that has been suggested calls for Adjustment Income bonds, and still another for more debentures. All of these plans, however, by increasing the funded debt, would tend to cheapen the securities. The solution seems to lie in an issue of preferred stock. This plan was talked of last summer, and is favored by the Phelps-Dodge interests, who have large holdings of Rock Island securities.

Of the \$30,000,000 every dollar will be spent on improvement of the railway company's properties. It is a fact that the Atchison Topeka & Santa Fe, using the same traction power, can haul a train just twice as long on its lines as the Rock Island can on the Rock Island lines in the State of Iowa. We must raise our efficiency to the standard set by the Atchison. The only hope of modern railroads is to cut their expenses and increase the train-haul.—V. 100, p. 1167, 1078.

**Chicago Utilities Company.—Default.**—The coupons due April 1 on the 1st M. Series A 5% bonds have not been paid, no deposit to cover the same having been made. Of the \$5,999,900 issued, about \$900,000, it is stated, are held in the treasury.

Secretary Payton is quoted: The interest has not been paid and probably will not be paid. I believe we have sixty days to make payment before default, but there is no probability that the money will be available in sixty days. There are also \$4,000,000 Series B bonds which do not become a fixed charge until Jan. 1 1917.—V. 100, p. 641.

**Cincinnati Indianapolis & Western Ry.—Deposits—Time Limit.**—The bondholders' committee, William A. Read, Chairman, announces that over 72½% of the 1st & Ref. M. 4% 50-year gold bonds and 66% of Indiana Decatur & Western Ry. 1st M. 40-year 5s, have been deposited with the committee, under protective agreement dated July 9 1914.

The mortgages securing the respective bond issues are now under foreclosure and it is expected that decrees of foreclosure will shortly be entered. Further bonds will be received by the Equitable Trust Co. of N. Y., the depository, after April 26 1915, except upon approval and on such terms as the committee may determine. (See adv. above.)—V. 100, p. 641, 397.

**City Ry., Dayton, O.—Quarterly Dividend 1½%.**—A quarterly dividend of 1½% has been declared on the \$2,400,000 common stock, payable March 31 to holders of record March 23. This compares with 1¾% in December last and 2% quarterly from June 1912 to Dec. 1914.—V. 100, p. 53.

**Columbus (O.) Railway, Power & Light Co.—Mortgage.**—The company has filed its new \$5,000,000 1st & ref. mortgage to the Girard Trust Co., Phila., as trustee.—V. 100, p. 397, 229.

**Cumberland Valley RR.—Earnings.**—

Calendar Year—	Gross Earnings.	Net (aft. Earnings, Taxes).	Income, Chgs. &c. (8%).	Dis.	Balance, Surplus.
1914	\$3,227,054	\$956,016	\$102,323	\$111,118	\$426,676
1913	3,587,682	1,000,488	98,320	247,273	426,676

Of the surplus in 1914, \$518,271 was expended during the year and the remaining \$274 held in reserve.—V. 98, p. 1071.

**Detroit United Ry.—Sale of City Lines.**—The resolution adopted by the stockholders on Mar. 31, authorizing the sale of the lines within the "one-fare zone" to the city, directs that the board be authorized "to enter into an agreement to sell the property to the city at \$24,900,000, plus any amounts expended for betterments and extensions after April 1 1915, on terms, including terms of payment, satisfactory to said board and determined by its counsel to be valid."

City officials, it is reported, now desire that the amount of \$4,880,000 Detroit United bonds which cover lines outside the city be deducted from the purchase price, as the city would have no control over these properties. The Commission believes that such details in connection with the purchase will be settled in the next three months and will, it is stated, not approve extensions in order to prevent additions to the price by such extensions. It is said that a special election on the purchase of the street railway properties may be called for the middle of May.—V. 100, p. 1167, 900.

**Evansville & Terre Haute RR.—Committee.**—See Chicago & Eastern Illinois RR. above.—V. 93, p. 1456.

**Grand Trunk Pacific Ry.—Government to Operate Road.**—Press dispatches state that the Canadian Government will at once begin operating the Transcontinental Ry., on which steel has been laid along the whole route of 1,800 miles from Moncton, N. B., to Winnipeg, the company having declined to take it over at present, under lease, as originally contemplated.

The company, it is reported, claims that the terminals at Quebec have not been completed and that the road is incomplete in other respects, and in order to prevent damage to the road by frost and flood the Government proposes to inaugurate a train service of its own.—V. 100, p. 642.

**Hanover & McSherrytown Street Ry.—Change in Control.**—This property, which for some time has been controlled by Frazier & Co., bankers, of Philadelphia and New York, has been taken over by the Brooks interests of Scranton.

The new owners, it is said, will probably incorporate the property into a chain of street railway and lighting enterprises in Pennsylvania and nearby States. The company has been operating for over 20 years, connecting a number of towns in the vicinity of York, Pa., by an electric railway line and distributing current for light and power in Hanover and adjacent territory. At Hanover it connects with the lines of the York Railways Co. Frazier & Co. in May 1914 placed \$249,000 1st M. 5s of 1908, due June 1 1928, making \$400,000 outstanding. See V. 98, p. 1459.

**Hocking Valley Ry.—Appeal to U. S. Supreme Court.**—The Ohio Supreme Court has granted the company a stay pending appeal to the U. S. Supreme Court from the order of the P. U. Commission requiring it to restore interurban service between Wellston and Hamden. The Ohio Supreme Court recently held that the order was not unreasonable and declined to set it aside.—V. 100, p. 1078.

**Hudson & Manhattan RR.—Earnings.**

Calendar Year	Railroad Gross	Net (after Taxes, etc.)	Other Income	Bond Int., &c.	Int. on Balance	Inc. Bds. Surplus
1914	\$3,750,950	\$2,052,409	\$1,025,898	\$2,357,797	\$662,040	\$8,467
1913	3,743,712	2,027,381	1,059,744	2,351,700	662,040	53,389

\*Bond interest, &c., as above, includes interest on the first lien and Ref. M. bonds for Jan. 1913 issued Feb. 1 1913), as if the bonds had been outstanding during that month. Interest on income bonds is likewise so shown for the sake of comparison, although issued at the same time.—V. 100, p. 812, 397.

**Illinois Central RR.—Equipment Trusts.**—Kuhn, Loeb & Co. recently purchased and it is understood have sold privately at par and int. \$1,980,000 Equip-Tr. 4 1/2s, Ser. C. These certificates mature in equal semi-annual installments from Oct. 1 1915 to April 1 1925 incl., but are subject to redemption on any coupon date on or after April 1 1920 at 102 1/2 upon 90 days' notice. Coupon certificates of the Commercial Trust Co. of Philadelphia. Denom. \$1,000 ea. Principal and coupons (A. & O.) payable in gold without deduction for taxes, excepting any Federal income tax. The certificates represent 80% of the cost of the following new equipment: 1,000 refrigerator cars, steel underframes; 50 mikado-type locomotives and 25 switching-type locomotives.—V. 100, p. 474, 397.

**Indianapolis Union Ry.—Guaranteed Bonds Offered.**—Wm. A. Read & Co., Harris, Forbes & Co. and Union Trust Co. (of Pittsburgh) have sold at 99 1/2 and int. \$4,000,000 General and Refunding Mortgage Series A 5% gold bonds dated Jan. 1 1915 and due Jan. 1 1965, but callable as a whole or in series 15 years after date, or on any interest date thereafter at 103 and int.

Denom. \$1,000 ea. Int. J. & J. by N. Y. The N. Y. Stock Exch. will be asked to list the bonds. Trustees, Farmers' Loan & Trust Co., N. Y., and Union Trust Co., Indianapolis. Total auth., \$10,000,000. Data from Pres. J. J. Turner (First Vice-Pres. Pennsylvania Lines West of Pittsburgh), April 3 1915.

**Organization.**—Owns the only steam railroad station and terminal railway in Indianapolis, the original company dating from 1850. The ownership of the company is divided among the following: Chicago & St. Louis Ry. Co., the Cleveland Cincinnati Chicago & St. Louis Ry. Co. and the Vandalia RR. Co., and these companies jointly and severally guarantee by endorsement the principal and interest of these bonds. One of the most strategically valuable terminal railway properties in the West and indispensable to the handling of railroad traffic at Indianapolis, the chief railroad centre between Pittsburgh and St. Louis. The physical property exceeds the bonded debt, respectively of the value added by this issue.

**Company's Property.**—(1) Union Passenger Station, located in the heart of the business district of Indianapolis, embracing about three city blocks, and a mile of double-track connecting main line terminal railway, furnishing the approach to the station in both directions, together with yard tracks and sidings in the heart of the city, reaching important industries and the local railroad freight yards. (2) A 999-year lease dated Oct. 1 1882, of the railroad of the Belt RR. & Stock Yards Co. of Indianapolis, which, located entirely within city limits, includes a main-line right-of-way of 14.18 miles in length, and with second, third or fourth tracks, 61.92 miles of single track. An average of 162 passenger trains a day arrive or depart from the Union Passenger Station. In 1914 the ticket sales amounted to \$2,202,009; freight cars handled on Union Ry. and "Belt Line," 2,182,074, or nearly 6,000 a day.

The following seven railroads, being all the steam railroads entering Indianapolis, are authorized by resolution of Sept. 3 1883 to use the property in perpetuity, paying a proportion of the charges and rental therefor, including interest and sinking fund charges:

P. C. C. & St. L. Ry. (Pa. System), Ind. Southern RR. (Ill. Cent. Syst.)  
 Vandalia RR. (Pa. System), Cinc. Ham. & Dayton Ry.  
 C. C. C. & St. L. (N. Y. C. System), Lake Erie & West. (N. Y. C. System)  
 Chicago Indianapolis & Louisville Railway.

Every steam railroad entering Indianapolis must use the tracks of the Indianapolis Union Ry. Co. to reach the passenger station, and every railroad except one has to use these tracks to reach its own local freight station. The "Belt Line" serves a large proportion of the industries of Indianapolis, having handled 453,934 freight cars to and from these industries in 1914; it is also the only link, both for through traffic and for interchange of traffic, between the Pennsylvania Lines east and west of Indianapolis and the various divisions of the Clev. Ch. & S., Louisville Ry.

**Bond Issue.**—The proceeds of these \$4,000,000 bonds will be used for improvements, the purchase of additional property, and expenditures on the Union Passenger Station. Under an Indiana statute, the City and Marion County will contribute substantially 25% towards the cost of the enlarged track facilities incident to track elevation. A direct mortgage on the entire property, subject to \$835,000 bonds (being steadily reduced by the sinking fund), and also secured by a lien on the 999-year lease dated 1882 of the railroad of the Belt RR. & Stock Yards Co., which has \$1,000,000 4% bonds outstanding.

**Kansas City Railway & Light Co.—Circular to Holders of 6% Collateral Gold Notes Due Sept. 1 1912.**—The Dennis committee, representing a large majority of these \$5,478,000 notes, in urging further deposits by May 15, says:

By the terms of the 30-year franchise approved by popular vote on July 7 1914, it is provided that unless the Kansas City Railways Co. (the new company) shall acquire, free of liens, all of the street railway properties within six months from July 7 1914, or within such further period as the city may by ordinance grant, the franchise is to become void. The city extended the time within which the company may acquire the properties to July 7 1915, and it is not known whether another extension can be secured.

The franchise also provides that the stock issued by the Kansas City Railways Co. should be deposited with the Hon. William C. Hook, to be delivered to those who may be entitled to it under any plan of reorganization that shall be approved by Judge Hook, or, if no plan of reorganization shall be approved by him, to those who paid for the same. It is claimed, in substance, and Judge Hook has expressed the view, that this provision means that no one can derive any benefit from the new franchise unless the Kansas City Railways Co. shall, within the time limited by the city, acquire all of the street railway properties through the medium of a reorganization effected under a plan approved by Judge Hook.

The European war made it practically impossible to sell sufficient new securities to pay off the existing indebtedness in cash. At the request, therefore, of a committee representing a large majority of the stockholders of the Kansas City Ry. & Light Co., the undersigned committee under agreement dated Aug. 15 1912, together with committees representing other indebtedness of the company and of its controlled street railway companies, co-operated with the stockholders' committee in working out a plan which was thought to be fair to all interests for re-financing the existing indebtedness by an exchange thereof for new securities. The committee representing the stockholders adopted this plan and the other committees

were ready to adopt it, if it should be approved by Judge Hook. The plan was submitted to Judge Hook and on Feb. 26 1915, after a hearing, was disapproved by him, one of his reasons being that the plan provided for the continuance of the Kansas City Ry. & Light Co.'s stock ownership in both the street railway and electric light properties (see V. 100 p. 812, 556).

An immediate separation of the stock ownership in the properties, under existing financial conditions, presents serious difficulties, and, in view of the entire situation, it may become necessary to foreclose very promptly the various mortgages resting upon the street railway and electric light properties and upon securities representing those properties. Proceedings are already in progress to foreclose the mortgages upon the street railway properties which constitute in part the security under the note agreement. Such foreclosures may, and probably will, necessitate the purchase of the mortgaged properties or of the securities pledged under the note agreement, in whole or in part by, or for the benefit of, the holders of certificates of deposit representing notes deposited with the undersigned committee. In order, therefore, that those who have not deposited their notes may be in a position to share pro rata in the benefits of any such purchase, made wholly or in part in the interest of the deposited notes, the committee will accept additional deposits of the notes on or before May 15 1915 with the New York Trust Co., 26 Broad St., N. Y., or Old Colony Tr. Co., Boston.

Committee: John B. Dennis, Samuel L. Fuller, Jerome J. Hanauer and James J. Storrow, with Lawrence G. Bennett, Secretary, 24 Broad St.

**Deposit of Bonds.**—A similar circular has been sent by the committee named below to the holders of the \$10,200,000 First Lien Refunding 5% bonds, due May 15 1913, emphasizing the importance of depositing their bonds on or before May 15 1915.

Depository, New York Trust Co., 26 Broad St., N. Y., with Old Colony Trust Co., 17 Court St., Boston, as agent. Committee: John B. Dennis, Jerome J. Hanauer, Acosta Nichols and James J. Storrow, with Lawrence G. Bennett, Sec., 24 Broad St., N. Y.

A letter from Mayor Henry L. Joost to A. S. H. Jones of this city says: "I feel certain that a reorganization of the street railway properties here will be effected within the time of the present extension, which expires July 1 1915. My understanding is that bondholders have assured the Court that a new plan would be submitted conforming to the views of the Court."—V. 100, p. 982, 733.

**Lake Tahoe Ry. & Transportation Co.—Authorized.**—The U. S. C. Commission on April 6 granted the petition of the company for permission to continue to operate its boat line on Lake Tahoe. The Commission says that so long as the respective operation of the rail and boat lines remains as at present, the boat line being merely an extension of the rail line, and neither competing with the other, their joint ownership is not forbidden by the Federal statute.—V. 100, p. 474.

**Lehigh-Buffalo Terminal Railway Corp.—Application.** The company has applied to the P. S. Commission for a certificate of convenience and necessity, and consent to issue \$50,000 capital stock, and \$5,000,000 debenture bonds to acquire property and construct facilities at Buffalo. Compare V. 100, p. 733.

**Lehigh Valley RR.—Securities of Controlled Company.**—See Lehigh-Buffalo Terminal Ry. Corp. above.—V. 100, p. 733, 397.

**Long Island RR.—New Director.**—Herbert C. Lakin of Lord, Day & Lord, has been elected a director to succeed A. J. County, who resigned.

**Suit.—Dick Bros & Co. on April 7, as minority stockholders, brought suit in the Supreme Court in this city to prevent continuance of the present relations with the Pennsylvania RR.**

The complaint alleges misuse of the properties and money of the Long Island RR. for the advantage of the Pennsylvania RR. and the Pennsylvania Tunnel & Terminal RR., which it controls. Among other relief the complainant asks for two injunctions, one to restrain the directors controlling the Long Island RR. from continuing the practices complained of and a second to restrain them from advancing money for "further expenditures of the Long Island RR. for the benefit or purposes of the Pennsylvania RR.," and also from paying any principle or interest on account of advances made by the Pennsylvania RR.—V. 100, p. 1074, 982.

**Louisville Bridge Co.—Meeting—New Bridge.**—The meeting of stockholders which was to be held March 30 was postponed for 60 days, pending, it is stated, an investigation by minority stockholders' including Geo. W. Norton, of Louisville, as to a proposition to spend a sum reported as \$2,100,000 for a double-track bridge at 14th St., Louisville, Ky.—V. 99, p. 1832.

**Maine Central RR.—New Securities Authorized.**—The bill signed by Governor Curtis of Maine on Mar. 29 permits the issuance of bonds, notes or non-voting preferred stock carrying dividends of not exceeding 5%, to an amount not over \$10,000,000, to retire at par an equal amount of the present stock.

The law provides that new securities must be offered at par to the stockholders, including the trustees of the Maine Railways, in exchange for and retirement of an equal amount of common stock, or, in lieu of such exchange, the stockholders will be allowed to purchase for cash at not exceeding par their proportional part of the new securities so offered them in exchange and the proceeds may be applied by the Maine Central RR. to the retirement of common stock. Any balance of bonds, notes or pref. stock not taken by stockholders may be exchanged for common stock held by the Maine Railways Companies or sold by the Maine Central RR., and the proceeds used to obtain and cancel common stock of the Maine Railways Companies of equal par value; but the common stock so obtained, whether through the direct purchase of stock or the purchase or calling for payment of the notes of the Maine Railways Companies, shall be obtained at a cost not exceeding par.—V. 100, p. 1168, 642.

**Memphis (Tenn.) Street Ry.—Dividend Deferred.**—The directors have deferred the usual quarterly dividend of 1 1/4% on the \$2,500,000 5% cum. preferred stock.—V. 99, p. 1748.

**Michigan Central RR.—Authorized.**—The Illinois P. U. Commission has authorized the issuance of the \$4,000,000 1st M. 3 1/2% bonds recently placed by Wm. A. Read & Co. (V. 100, p. 642).—V. 100, p. 1168, 1091, 1073.

**Missouri Kansas & Texas Ry.—New Director—Int. Rate.** David Mulyane of Topeka, Kan., has been elected a director to succeed A. J. Poor, who resigned, and W. W. Brown to fill an existing vacancy.

The stockholders on April 5 authorized the directors to increase the rate of interest on the consolidated M. bonds at their discretion from 5 to 6%.

Holders of 1st M. 4% bonds, due June 1 1990, may present the talon attached to the bonds on and after June 1 to the English Association of American Bond & Share Holders, Ltd., 5 Great Winchester St., E. C., who will issue warrants in exchange therefor, calling for the delivery at an early date of sheets of 150 coupons for interest, to become payable up to and including June 1 1990.

**Notes.**—No announcement has yet been made in regard to the financial plan for caring for the \$19,000,000 5% secured gold notes due May 1. It is reported that the holders will be asked to consent to an extension for one year at 6% and that a large number of the holders have indicated that they will accept the plan.—V. 100, p. 1168, 1078.

**Missouri Oklahoma & Gulf Ry.—New Co-receiver.**—Henry C. Ferris has been appointed co-receiver with Alexander New, with office at Muskogee, Okla., vice Louis S. Posner, resigned; effective March 1 1915.—V. 100, p. 901, 734.

**Missouri Pacific Ry.—Note Extension Plan.**—The company yesterday issued a formal request for the extension of its \$24,845,000 extended 3-year 6% secured notes, which mature June 1 next, for another year, at the same rate of interest. A cash commission of 1/2 of 1% upon the face value of the notes will be paid to noteholders when the extension becomes operative. See adv. on another page.

An extension agreement has been lodged with the Union Trust Co. of N. Y., which prohibits the withdrawal of pledged collateral upon the substitution of other collateral, and the rates for withdrawal of collateral for cash deposited with the trustee are to be the same as heretofore fixed. Until the payment of the extended notes, the St. Louis Iron Mountain & Southern Ry. Co. is not to issue additional bonds, notes or other obligations, except for the purpose of providing for taxes, equipment and equipment obligations, terminal commitments and current operations.

The extended notes are to be subject to redemption on the first day of any month, upon four week's published notice, at their face value plus accrued interest and a premium of 1%.

The extension is to become operative only when declared operative by the company's board of directors or executive committee. If the extension should not become operative, the notes will be returned with the June 1 1915 coupon.

The company urges the prompt deposit of the notes for extension in the interest of the noteholders themselves, so that the board of directors may proceed with their plans for strengthening the financial position of the company.

Face or Par Value.	Description.	Withdrawal Value.
\$25,000,000	St. Louis Iron Mt. & Sou. Ry. Co. First & Ref. M. 6% 40-year gold bonds, Series A (non-convertible), due July 1 1952.	95
1,070,000	St. Louis Iron Mtn & Sou. Ry. Co. stock.	70
1,972,000	Missouri Pacific Ry. Co. 5% First & Ref. M. 50-Year gold bonds, Series B (non-convert.), due Sept. 1 1959.	87 1/2
828,380	The Texas & Pacific Ry. Co. 5% notes, due June 1 1915 (which may be extended or renewed to June 1 1916).	100
400,000	Concordia Coal Co. 1st M. 5% bonds, due Oct. 1 1945.	95
150,000	Baring Cross Bridge Co. 7% stock.	100
125,000	Del Rio Stock Yards Co. stock.	175
1,000,000	Western Coal & Mining Co. stock.	75
9,800,000	Denver & Rio Grande Ry. Co. preferred stock.	50
15,000,000	Denver & Rio Grande Ry. Co. common stock.	25

—V. 100, p. 982, 991.

**Mt. Vernon (Ohio) Electric Street Ry.—Receivership.**—Robert L. Carr was on April 6 appointed receiver, on application of President N. C. L. Kachelmacker of Columbus, claiming \$4,125 for salary.

**New York Central RR.—Annual Report.**—Regarding the recent annual reports (See "Chronicle" of March 27, p. 1034, 1072 and 1084 to 1091. Pres. A. H. Smith in a revised statement says in substance:

The decrease of nearly \$10,000,000 in the gross earnings of the (old) N. Y. Central & Hudson River RR. Co. was due to the general depression in business in and throughout the territory served. The saving of about \$9,400,000 in expenses was made possible through improvements in facilities completed or in progress, as well as from some increase in efficiency. The loss of \$2,500,000 in investment income reflected the less prosperous condition of certain affiliated lines, due to the business depression, and also the fact that the full year's dividend was not declared on its investment in Lake Shore stock, because the consolidation became effective before the close of the year.

As to the increase of about \$1,600,000 in interest charges, some short-term obligations had to be extended or re-issued right in war times and there was an increase in the capital account due to the betterment expenditures in the previous year. The loss of corporate income is thus due to external causes for which the return of prosperity to our country is the one remedy.

It is probably not generally realized that the New York Central system for the past year has had an average of about \$40,000,000 worth of cars and \$10,000,000 worth of locomotives idle, which condition obtains at the present time. This means that we now have in the neighborhood of 50,000 idle cars, almost entirely iron ore, coal, coke and flat cars, which are bringing no return of revenue to us, and upon which we are carrying the interest charges.

This is a condition which is common to all roads in this territory. Before the business depression, every available car was taxed to its utmost in meeting the demands of shippers, and there was a car shortage. Similar conditions obtain as regard other railroad facilities, shops, tools, grain yards, engine houses, freight and passenger stations. Briefly, railroads are called upon in times of prosperity to meet the maximum demand of the high tide of business and when the tide goes out they are left with the investment unsupported. To meet this condition railroad companies should be permitted to accumulate a reserve fund or surplus such as banks, trust companies, &c., are permitted, and even required, to accumulate against exigencies such as these.

The increase in rates granted to the eastern railroads of 5% on a portion of their traffic is helpful to the extent of the increase. It does not solve the problem of increased carrying charges, above recited, increases in wages, taxes, &c., and of the necessity for safe and adequate reserves. But, as the problem becomes better known to the authorities and the public, I feel hopeful that they will meet it in a reasonable and helpful spirit.

On the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Ry. the loss in revenue was mostly in freight which yields carload shipments such as coal, ore and iron. The percentage of loss in gross was about double that of the Central, so that the proportion of facilities and equipment to the curtailed volume of business made a difficult situation to meet. Improvement work in progress was stopped wherever it was feasible to curtail without impairing the standard of the property. Of the decrease in investment income of about \$2,800,000, \$627,000 was due to decreased use of equipment in interchange, on account of the decline in business, and \$2,200,000 to decreased return from affiliated companies by reason of the bad times. Therefore, the falling-off in net income for the past year of approximately \$5,360,000 was largely due to external causes, and the shrinkage of business which can only be remedied by a return of general prosperity.

The improvement work at the Grand Central Terminal is nearly completed, the only work now in progress is that in connection with the company's contract with the Government for the erection of a building to be used by the Post Office Department.

The consolidation of the Central and Lake Shore properties should prove of material benefit to the system.—V. 100, p. 1079.

**New York New Haven & Hartford RR.—New Notes.**—Arrangements, it is understood, have been practically completed with a banking syndicate headed by J. P. Morgan & Co. for the sale of \$30,000,000 collateral 1-year notes to provide for the obligations maturing May 1, namely the company's \$19,399,000 1-year 5% notes and \$10,000,000 Harlem River & Port Chester 1-year 6s. The National City Bank and the First National Bank will presumably participate in the underwriting. The official announcement, it is said, will be made today.

**Official Circular—Capital Stock—Bonds—Pending Legislation.**—Pres. Howard Elliott, April 3 1915, wrote in substance:

A special meeting of the stockholders will be held April 24 1915 (V. 100, p. 1168) to vote on reducing the capital stock from 1,800,170 shares to 1,571,179 shares by canceling the 228,991 shares now in the treasury. The Massachusetts P. S. Commission has recommended to the Massachusetts General Court that all of the capital stock in the hands of the public 1,571,179 shares, be validated under the laws of Massachusetts, but has recommended that the 228,991 shares in your treasury be canceled. The continued existence of this treasury stock is unnecessary; its retirement will not affect your balance sheet; and the remaining stock, if so validated, will start the company with its capital stock and indebtedness issued and outstanding and premiums paid in and shown in company's premium account on June 30 1914, validated by the laws of all three States.

The stockholders will also act upon an amendment to the Connecticut charter, approved March 19 1915, which will permit us to sell, pledge or otherwise dispose of, any part of the capital stock of the Boston & Providence RR. Corporation or of the Old Colony RR. Co. now in the treasury. The acceptance of this amendment will enable your company to use these stocks as collateral and will assist it in obtaining the renewal of the \$29,399,000 of notes falling due May 1 1915.

The stockholders will also be requested to accept the amendment to the company's Rhode Island charter, approved March 26 1915.

The stockholders will also be requested to authorize the issue of bonds by this company as successor to the N. Y. Prov. & Boston RR. Corp. and as successor to the New Haven & Northampton Co., in accordance with the terms of the mortgages dated April 1 1892 and June 1 1906, respectively. These bonds, if issued, can be used as collateral for one-year notes to be issued May 1 1915, in renewal of those then due (V. 100, p. 1168).

**Pending Legislation.**—Your company and its subsidiary, The Harlem River & Portchester RR. Co., have how outstanding in the hands of the public short-term notes amounting to \$32,304,000, of which \$29,399,000 become due May 1 1915 and \$2,905,000 between that date and Aug. 1 1915.

The New England Navigation Co., of which your company is the sole owner, and for which it is responsible, has issued and has outstanding in the hands of the public short-term notes of \$20,000,000, due May 1 1917.

Under the laws of Conn., Mass. and R. I., there is no legal authority that permits your company to dispose of this large debt in any way except (1) Renew it from time to time for short periods. (2) To pay all or part of it from earnings. (3) To pay all or part of it from the sale of securities and other property that may be disposed of.

Every effort is now being made to utilize the two last-named plans, but the volume of earnings of the company, and the prices at which securities and property can be sold under present conditions, are not such that any large amount of these notes can be paid off in this manner.

Your company has, therefore, applied to the proper authorities of Conn., Mass. and R. I., for remedial legislation that, if enacted, would permit the adoption of some plan of permanent financing as follows:

1. By the issue of a pref. stock, provided that the holders of at least two-thirds of the present capital stock vote to adopt such plan.
2. By the making of a mortgage which would permit the issue of First and Second Mortgage bonds, from the proceeds of which the short-term notes could be paid off. Presumably long-time bonds of this character could be issued at a much lower rate of interest than is now paid upon unsecured short-term notes, and there would be a saving in interest of the difference between 7%, which is about what the present debt is costing the company, and the rate of interest carried by the bonds.

**Massachusetts Bills (Drafted by State P. S. Commission and Now Before Railroad Committees of House and Senate.)**

- (1) Any mortgage executed shall include outstanding unsecured notes and debentures upon which the company is the original and principal obligor, but may exclude bonds already secured by another mortgage, also contingent liabilities.
- (2) Company may issue obligations up to amount of its capital stock and premiums, in excess of such further amount up to twice the amount of its capital stock and premiums as the Commission may approve.
- (3) & (4) Company may issue pref. stock subject to approval of Commission.
- (5) Capital stock and indebtedness issued and outstanding and premiums paid in as shown June 30 1914 shall be validated.
- (6) Commission to be entitled to full information as to all sub. cos.
- (7) Holders of convertible debentures may subscribe for future stock issues.
- (8) Co. to account to Commission for proceeds of sub. Co. securities.

**Connecticut Bills Recommended by State Commission, Now Awaiting Hearing.**

- (1) Company must not exercise any of its rights under The Consolidated Railway Co. charter except as to properties which it now owns, or controls.
- (2) Company not to acquire, hold or guarantee the stocks or securities of, or make mergers with, other corporations without approval of Commission.
- (3) Company hereafter is to issue stock only after approval by Comm.
- (4) Company may issue obligations and secure them by mortgage substantially as by Massachusetts legislation.
- (5) A two-thirds majority of the directors must be citizens and residents of New England (instead of a majority Connecticut citizens).
- (6) Company may sell, pledge or otherwise dispose of any part of the stock of Boston & Providence RR. or of Old Colony RR. now in its treasury.

**Rhode Island Law, Signed March 26 1915 by Governor.**

- (1) Name to be the same as in Mass. and Conn. by prefixing "The."
- (2) Defects in acceptance of original charter cured.
- (3) Company authorized to issue obligations up to twice the amount of its capital stock and premiums and to execute a mortgage to secure obligs.
- (4) Capital stock and premiums declared to be the same amount as validated by proposed Massachusetts legislation.
- (5) Corporation authorized to issue stock both com. and pref. as shall be approved by P. U. Commission.
- (6) Sale of New England RR. to the company under authority of General Court of Massachusetts in 1905 ratified.

(As to statement of directors of Feb. 9 1915, see V. 100, p. 642.)

Your directors hope and expect to renew the short-term notes as they fall due, but if the legislation falls at this session your company will be confronted with the necessity of renewing the notes again in 1916, and of again making an effort to get the necessary laws so that some permanent plan of financing can be adopted.

Attached to this statement is one showing the financial results to Feb. 28 1915 (see a last week, page 1161). From this you can see that there has been a considerable fall in earnings, with a considerable reduction in expenses, and a very narrow margin above interest charges. We are straining every nerve to conduct the business economically and efficiently, but business is at a low ebb and the margins are very small.

**Summary of Net Income (after Fixed Charges) for Eight Months ending Feb. 28 1915 and Increase or Decrease as Compared with 1913-14.**

	Inc. or Dec.
New York New Haven & Hartford RR. Co.	\$591,886 Inc. \$1,217,107
Central New England Railway Co.	86,357 Dec. 208,779
New England Steamship Co.	2,850 Inc. 36,734
Hartford & New York Transportation Co.	46,922 Dec. 8,759
N. Bedf. Mar. Vine'd & Nant. Steamboat Co.	50,796 Dec. 6,286
*New England Navigation Co.	Def. 524,050 Dec. 463,081

Total net income.....\$253,822 Inc. \$566,935

\* The large decrease in net income of The New England Nav. Co. is due to its failure to receive any interest on the \$2,500,000 bonds of the Eastern Steamship Corp., now in the hands of a receiver, and interest on debentures of the Merchants & Miners Transportation Co. which it held last year and subsequently sold; also increased charges account of the \$20,000,000 3-year gold notes. The deficit should be materially reduced in the month of June by dividend to be received from the Hartford & N. Y. Transportation Co., the New Bedford Martha's Vineyard & Nantucket Steamboat Co., and the \$40,000,000 stock of The Connecticut Co. now in the hands of trustees under orders of the Federal Court.

**Distribution of Stock.**—Of the company's \$157,117,900 of outstanding capital stock there was on Jan. 1 1915 held in Mass., 35% (against 35% in 1912); in Conn., 16 1/2% (against 19% in 1912); in N. Y., 34% (same as in 1912); R. I., 2 1/2% (against 3% in 1912); else, 10 1/2% (against 9% in 1912); foreign, 1/2%. Of the stockholders Jan. 1 1915 males numbered 11,322, females numbered 10,813, trusts and guardianships 3,522, insurance cos. and other corporations 887; total, 26,544. Average share per stockholder: 1915, 59.2% against 71.3% in 1912.

President Elliott at Norwich, Conn., on April 8 delivered an address before the members of the Eastern Connecticut Development Committee and Chamber of Commerce on "New England after Ten Years of the New Haven Road." In the course of this address Mr. Elliott presented a comprehensive review of the company's finances since July 1 1903, with tabulated statements of capital expenditures, earnings, &c., which he said "seemed to prove conclusively that the road is absolutely solvent, with much more value than its debt; that there is a great equity because of its location and ability to serve New England; that it is earning to-day, in spite of all the difficulties surrounding it, and a heavy decrease in gross earnings, its fixed charges,



although by a margin too narrow for the good of the road, as a servant of New England."—V. 100, p. 1168, 1079.

**Northern Electric Ry. of California.—Extension of Time for Reorganization.**—Holders of the underlying Northern Electric Co. bonds voted on March 29 to grant the bankers' syndicate which is obtaining subscriptions an extension of 30 days in which to carry out its plans.

The plan embraces five agreements, and it is said that sufficient signatures to all of them except the last have been obtained to render these provisions operative. The fifth agreement calls for subscriptions at 90 for \$1,400,000 underlying bonds, of which, it is reported, only about one-half had been subscribed for prior to Mar. 30. See V. 100, p. 1168, 902.

**Ohio Traction Co., Cincinnati.—Note Issue.**—The issue of \$1,500,000 6% gold coupon notes dated March 1 1915 has been completed and the notes have been sold to Cincinnati bankers and Ervin & Co., Phila.

Authorized and outstanding, \$1,500,000, maturity being as follows: (on Sept. 1): 1916, \$200,000; 1917, \$300,000; 1918, \$300,000; 1919, \$350,000; 1920, \$350,000. An agreement with the Pennsylvania Co. for Ins. on Lives & Granting Annuities, as trustee, provides (a) all property, including securities held, not already pledged under the \$2,500,000 mortgage of the company shall be kept free and unincumbered until these notes are paid; (b) no further securities, stocks or bonds are to be issued except provision is made for the retirement of these notes at the time; (c) the proportion of maturities and accrued interest shall be provided and set aside before dividends are paid on outstanding stock. Denom. \$1,000. Interest (M. & S.) and principal are payable at office of trustee. The issue was authorized by the P. U. Commission of Ohio to pay for extensions, improvements and additions already made and contemplated to be made during the next few months.—V. 100, p. 399.

**Pacific Gas & Electric Co.—Notes Called.**—The company has called for payment at 100 $\frac{1}{4}$  and int. \$1,500,000 one-year 5% notes dated Dec. 15 1914.

Payment will be made at the company's office in San Francisco or at the Bankers Trust Co., N. Y., as the bearer or registered holder may elect. Compare V. 100, p. 1168, 902.

**Pennsylvania RR.—Decision.**—

The U. S. Supreme Court on April 5 affirmed the decision of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court rendered on Oct. 14 1912, which in turn affirmed that of the Court of Common Pleas of Clearfield County, Pa., awarding a judgment for \$74,323 in favor of the Puritan Coal Mining Co. The judgment was for damages for discrimination against the company in favor of the Berwind-White Co. in the distribution of coal cars during the anthracite strike from Apr. 1 1902 to Dec. 31 1914.

Authorized.—The P. U. Commission has authorized the company to purchase the franchises and properties of the Lewisburg & Tyrone, Lancaster & Quarryville and Pennsylvania Monongahela & South. RRs.—V. 100, p. 1169, 1079.

**Philadelphia Co. of Pittsburgh.—Cash Dividend, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ %.**—A quarterly dividend of 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ % has been declared on the \$39,043,000 common stock, payable in cash on May 1 to holders of record Apr. 17. This compares with 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ % quar. from Aug. 1912 to Feb. 1915, inclusive, the Feb. 1915 and Nov. 1914 payments being, however, made in scrip.

Previous Dividend Record (per cent.)

'94-'95, '96-'97, '98, '99, '00, '01, '02-'09, '10-'11, '12, '13-'14, 1915, 5 y'ly. None. 4 4 $\frac{1}{4}$  5 5 $\frac{1}{4}$  6 y'ly. 7 y'ly. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$  7 y'ly. Feb., 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ —V. 100, p. 1079, 475.

**Pittsburgh Cincinnati Chicago & St. Louis Ry.—Earnings.**—Results for calendar years 1914 and 1913:

Calendar Year	Revenues	Taxes, &c	Net (after Taxes, &c)	Other Income	Fixed Charges	Dividends Paid	Balance, Sur. or Def.
1914	39,139,400	7,210,547	604,514	5,560,964	1,378,245	sur.	935,852
1913	44,576,843	6,020,534	838,636	5,372,477	3,232,543	def.	1,745,850

Dividends as above in 1914 include 4% on prof. stock, calling for \$1,099,442, and \$378,803 (14%) on common stock. In 1913 5% was paid on both classes, calling for \$1,373,800 on prof. and \$1,858,652 on com. stock. (These were deducted in 1913 from profit and loss, but are shown as above for the sake of simplicity). There was also deducted in 1914 \$880,520, which was applied to sinking and other reserve funds, against \$856,628 in 1913, leaving a surplus of \$55,332, against a deficit of \$2,602,478 in 1913.—V. 100, p. 475, 230.

**Public Service Corporation of New Jersey.—New Terminal Co.**—The company has applied to the P. U. Commissioners for the approval of the issue by the Public Service Newark Term. Ry. of \$5,000,000 bonds and \$8,300,000 stock.

The purpose of the stock and bond issues is to pay for the construction of the Newark terminal, with connecting tracks to the Public Service Ry., to cost about \$6,000,000, and to sell at par to the Public Service Corporation \$7,500,000 of capital stock, taking in exchange obligations of the Public Service Ry. amounting to \$7,500,000.

Subject to approval by the board, it is proposed to consolidate the Public Service Ry. and the Public Service Newark Terminal RR., upon which stock of the railway company will be issued; share for share, for stock of the terminal company.

Counsel said upon the hearing that the perpetual interest-bearing certificate holders of the Public Service Corp. will receive as additional security \$7,500,000 of stock of Public Service Ry., which is now represented by a floating indebtedness having priority to the certificates, and in addition thereto an additional \$800,000 par value of stock of the railway company represented by the stock interest of the terminal company in the terminal property.—V. 100, p. 1000, 974.

**Public Service Newark Terminal Ry.—New Company.**—See Public Service Corporation of New Jersey above.

**St. Louis & San Francisco RR.—Favorable Rate Decision.**—Judge Trieber in the U. S. District Court on April 5 granted a permanent injunction restraining the enforcement of the Arkansas 2-cent passenger rate law of 1907 on the ground that the same is confiscatory.

Press dispatches state that statistics introduced by the company showed that the return on the road's assessed valuation in Arkansas, \$17,000,000, was negligible on intra-State traffic and only 5% on inter-State business at the 3-cent rate. The case has been in the courts for 7 years. The decision relieves the company from the payment of refunds. The company will probably file tariffs on a 3-cent passenger rate basis and 6% increase in freight rates.—V. 100, p. 1169, 734.

**San Antonio Uvalde & Gulf RR.—New Co-receiver.**—A. R. Ponder has been appointed co-receiver with Duval West, with offices at San Antonio, Tex.—V. 100, p. 310.

**Southern Pacific Co.—New Director, &c.**—Hugh Neill, Secretary of the company, has been elected a director to succeed James N. Wallace.

Mr. Wallace already has resigned as a director from a number of companies, and it is understood that he intends to sever his connection with other boards of which he is now a member.

The stockholders on April 7 authorized the purchase of the companies mentioned in V. 100, p. 112.—V. 100, p. 813, 732.

Lewis J. Spence has been made a member of the executive committee to succeed Mr. Wallace.—V. 100, p. 813, 734.

**Toledo St. Louis & Western RR.—Time Extended—Penalty.**—The stockholders' committee, Jules S. Bache, Chairman, announces that more than 70% of the entire outstanding capital stock has been deposited with the committee under agreement of Dec. 15 1914, and that the time for deposits has been extended to and including May 1 1915.

After May 1 no further deposits will be received except upon the payment to the committee of 50 cents per share. Application has been made to the N. Y. Stock Exchange to have the certificates of deposit listed. Depository Empire Trust Co., N. Y. City.—V. 100, p. 1080, 902.

**Vera Cruz (Mexico) Rys., Ltd.—Prof. Div. Deferred.**—As a result of the occupation of the port of Vera Cruz by forces of the United States on April 21 1914, the company's train service was suspended between April 21 and Sept. 21. A claim for loss of revenue will shortly be presented to the American Government. This fact, coupled with the serious fall in the value of the Mexican dollar, has involved the company in heavy loss, and the directors consequently find themselves compelled to postpone the consideration of any dividend on the \$375,000 6% cum. preference shares, in respect of the current financial year, until after June 30 next.—V. 71, p. 237.

**Virginia Railway & Power Co.—Listing.**—

The Phila. Stock Exchange on Mar. 6 listed \$180,000 additional pref. stock issued in exchange for the entire (\$150,000) capital stock of Virginia-Carolina Power Co., making the total pref. stock listed \$7,879,400.—V. 100, p. 557, 142.

**Western Maryland Ry.—Trackage Agreement.**—It is reported that arrangements have been fully or practically completed for securing trackage rights over the Baltimore & Ohio RR., in order to gain an entrance to properties of the Consolidation Coal Co.

Under the terms of the trackage agreement, it is said, the Western Maryland will build a short branch from a point in the Somerset region of Pennsylvania to a point in Westmoreland County, which will give it access to the Consolidation Coal fields. To complete the connection, the Western Maryland will, it is stated, use about 20 miles of Baltimore & Ohio track. In the Fairmont region of West Virginia it will be necessary for the Western Maryland to build another small branch line, and it will also use about 70 miles of B. & O. trackage.—V. 100, p. 56.

**Western New York & Pennsylvania Ry.—Earnings.**—

Calendar Year	Gross Revenue	Net (after Taxes)	Other Inc.	Fixed Charges	Prof. Div.	Balance, Deficit
1914	\$9,574,786	\$385,968	\$38,006	\$2,309,870	\$664,561	\$2,540,457
1913	10,315,796	265,716	34,242	2,081,854	1,499,851	3,281,748

—V. 99, p. 404.

**Western Pacific Ry.—Dutch Protective Committee.**—The following committee has been formed in Holland for the protection of holders of 1st M. 5s:

A. de Bijl Nachenius (Chairman), P. J. J. Jonas van der Heer Arends-kerke (Vice-Chairman), C. E. J. de Bordes, Dr. W. M. J. van Lutterveld, F. P. Muisson, A. Offers and Th. Sanders. Mr. J. D. Santillano of Amsterdam acts as Secretary.—V. 100, p. 1080, 813.

**INDUSTRIAL, GAS AND MISCELLANEOUS.**

**Aluminum Co. of America.—Contracts.**—See Cedar Rapids Mfg. & Power Co. below.—V. 100, p. 1080.

**American Ice Securities Co.—Balance Sheet of Dec. 31.**—

Assets	1914.	1913.	Liabilities	1914.	1913.
Pf. stk. Amer. Ice	14,340,700	14,352,700	Stock issued	19,048,900	19,045,100
Com. stk. Am. Ice	4,706,180	4,704,380	Debentures	3,000,000	3,000,000
Sk. pur. Am. Ice	15,500	—	Accrued interest	44,718	—
Treas. stk. 1-share	20	20	Notes and accounts payable	8,575	45,123
Treas. hdq. & scrip	26,920	26,920	Surplus	906,296	6702,131
Prof' no corp. &c.	3,916,000	63,798,000			
Cash, &c.	1,169	334			
Total	23,006,489	22,882,354	Total	23,006,489	22,882,354

\* 70,592.7 shares Am. Ice common stock at \$26.23 per share. A includes proportion of surplus of Amer. Ice Co. and sub. cos. as of Oct. 1 1914 applicable to stock owned, eliminating dividends accumulated but not paid by American Ice Co. b Approximate, supplied by editor so as to put balance sheet on same basis as in 1914.—V. 100, p. 1080.

**American Pneumatic Service Co.—Earnings.**—

Cal. Year	Earns.	Depr. &c.	Net Profits	1st Pref. Div. (7%)	2d Pref. Div. (3%)	Min. Div.	Surp.
1914	\$539,506	\$177,491	\$362,015	\$105,000	\$188,981	\$661	\$67,373
1913	689,593	217,607	471,986	105,000	188,981	333	177,673

—V. 99, p. 540.

**American Rolling Mill Co., Middletown, O.—Notes.**—A syndicate, consisting of A. G. Becker & Co. of Chicago and W. E. Hutton & Co., and Field, Richards & Co., Cincinnati, has purchased an issue of \$2,500,000 6% notes, maturing as follows: \$500,000 in two years, \$750,000 in three years, \$750,000 in four years and \$500,000 in five years. J. M. Hutton was, on April 1, quoted as saying:

These notes are issued for the purpose of retiring every dollar of bank indebtedness and of providing additional working capital, which will be made necessary by the increase in business. The issue will not add anything to the net indebtedness, as it simply changes the form. Instead of banking notes maturing every 3, 4 and 6 months, there will be no notes maturing under two years. The company will have the right to redeem the short-term notes at 101 and int. on 30 days' notice, and the longer term notes at 102 and int. on the same notice.

It is believed by the management that, with anything like normal business, all of these notes can be taken care of out of earnings. The company is now operating at full capacity; the patent suit has been settled in its favor, and the vote of the Amalgamated Association held last Saturday, by which the workmen agree to a reduction of their wages, will preclude any possibility of labor troubles. Expert accountants are now auditing the books and are preparing a statement of its financial condition as of April 1. When this statement is completed the notes will be offered to the public at par and interest.

Regarding the \$1,500,000 note issue of three years ago (V. 94, p. 1058), \$1,125,000 have been paid, of which \$375,000 was paid on March 15. The balance of \$375,000 will be paid Sept. 15 out of the last payments on the new stock (see V. 99, p. 1830).—V. 100, p. 1169.

**American Round Bale Press Co.—Sale.**—

Paul Jones, trustee, pursuant to the order of Wm. Allen, referee (appointed by U. S. Dist. Court for So. Dist. of N. Y.), will offer for sale the entire property free and clear of all liens and incumbrances, at public auction at office of referee, 67 Wall St., N. Y., on April 21 1915. The property consists of 59 gin plants, including real estate, cotton presses, &c., in various cities located in Ark., Texas, Okla., Miss. and Tenn., the properties in each State to be offered as a separate parcel; also 252 double round-lap bale presses now or formerly installed in gin plants of the fleeceness of said presses and located in 9 States.—V. 100, p. 558, 143.

**American Water Works & Electric Co.—Plan Operative.**—See United Water & Light Co. below.—V. 100, p. 1080, 558.

**Armour & Co.—Texas Suit.**—

The Attorney-General of Texas on April 1 filed suit in the Twenty-sixth District Court against the company Swift & Co. and Morris & Co., charging violations of the anti-trust laws. The petition alleges that the companies consume large quantities of cottonseed oil, and prior to the date of the alleged combination were competitors in the purchase of cottonseed

oil, but that after the formation of the combination competition between them was lessened and suppressed, which affected the price of the product. The combination involves the common ownership by the companies of a line of gins and oil mills throughout the cotton States, including Texas. The petition asks for the forfeiture and cancellation of charters and permits, injunctions dissolving the combination, and prohibiting the defendants from investing their assets in gin and oil mill properties. No specific amount of penalties is stated in the petition as the number of days of the alleged violations will not develop until the proof is given. The penalty prescribed is not less than \$50 nor more than \$500 for each day of the existence of the alleged combination.—V. 100, p. 558, 306.

**Anaconda Copper Co.—Output.**—  
1915 (lbs.)—Mar.—1914. (lbs.) Dec. se.—  
19,000,000 23,800,000 4,800,000 47,800,000 69,500,000 21,700,000  
—V. 100, p. 735.

**Atlantic & Birmingham Construction Co.—Joint Note**<sup>8</sup>  
See Atlanta Birm. & Atlantic RR. under "RR.s" above.—V. 95, p. 681.

**Atlas Powder Co., Wilmington, Del.—Preferred Stock.**—  
The stockholders will vote on April 24 on increasing the authorized stock from \$5,000,000 to \$10,500,000 by creating an issue of \$5,500,000 6% cum. pref. stock. The proceeds will be used for working capital and to ultimately retire the \$3,000,000 6% non-cum. income bonds. Compare V. 98, p. 683.—V. 100, p. 636.

**Barney & Smith Car Co.—Time Extended.**—  
The time for the deposit of stock with the Central Trust & Deposit Co. of Cincinnati as depository has been extended to and including April 14. Over half of the stock has been deposited. This extension of the time will delay for a short time the forming of any definite plan.—V. 100, p. 814, 953.

**Beaver River Power Co.—Decision.**—  
The P. U. Commission by a divided vote on March 26 denied the application of the company for a certificate of convenience and necessity in the city of Pocatello in competition with the Southern Idaho Water Power Co. The former Commission on Nov. 7 1914 also denied the application, but this was renewed after the Commission changed. Compare V. 99, p. 1530.

**Berlin Mills Co.—Bonds of Sub. Co.—Earnings, Bal. Sh., &c.**  
See Brown Corporation below.—V. 87, p. 287.

**Bethlehem Steel Co.—Bonds All Sold.**—  
Hallgarten & Co., Harvey Fisk & Sons and William Salomon & Co. It is announced, have completed the sale of the \$4,300,000 First Lien & Ref. M. 5% 30-year bonds purchased by them some time ago, making \$10,777,500 of the issue outstanding. The bonds in question were pledged last year (V. 98, p. 1922) to secure \$3,000,000 one-year 5% notes, of which \$1,410,000 have already been retired (V. 100, p. 1165), and the remainder will shortly be called and paid. See further data in V. 100, p. 1169, 1165.

**Bethlehem Steel Corporation.—Bonds Sold.**—  
See Bethlehem Steel Co. above.

**Annual Meeting.**—During and following the annual meeting April 6, Pres. Schwab, it is reported, said in substance:

The matter of paying dividends on the common stock has not even been considered by the management. It has always been my chief ambition to make a success of the Corporation and to carry out that idea there were years when we paid no dividends on the pref. stock, though I was the chief sufferer, through holding a majority of the pref. stock. I shall maintain the same policy regarding the common stock while the funds of the company are still needed for its development. We intend to spend between \$20,000,000 and \$30,000,000 on our Chilean ore properties (V. 100, p. 1170) within the next few years, and in so far as it is possible we are going to pay for those developments out of earnings. The corporation has a capitalization of only about \$30,000,000 com. and pref. stock and about \$36,000,000 bonds. Our bonds exceed our capital stock and I do not think that it is wise to overload the company with bond interest.

I am an optimist regarding the outlook for American manufacturing and industry. While the year 1914 was a very bad one for the general steel business, the Bethlehem Co. has been fortunate in being engaged in the manufacture of lines which are in strong demand. [The company is generally believed to be filling war orders to a very large total, but no further information respecting the same was made public.]

The general business outlook is encouraging. I think the steel business will show an improvement in volume of orders, but I hardly look for much higher prices.

I have no interest in the action of the stock market concerning Bethlehem Steel stock, but I believe that the floating supply of the com. is very small. [Harvey Fisk & Sons, referring to the recent annual report (V. 100, p. 1165), says: It will be noted that the interest on the company's obligations was carried more than 3½ times. The surplus earnings were equivalent to 7% upon the pref. stock and over 30% upon the com. stock. However, the company, instead of paying dividends upon its common stock, pursued the conservative course of carrying \$5,000,000 to appropriated surplus account. See edit. columns as to rise in price of common stock.—See V. 100, p. 1165.]

**British Westinghouse Electric & Mfg. Co., Ltd.**—  
Calendar Year—Profits, Int. and Depr., Res., Preferred Dividends, Miscel. Bal., Surp.  
1914—\$207,819 269,654 243,716 275,000 (7½) 275,000 22,822 21,627  
1913—223,104 69,654 44,100 50,000 (5) 50,000 2,856 6,494  
—V. 99, p. 1433.

**Brooklyn Union Gas Co.—P. S. Commission reports:**  
Calendar Year—Operating Revenue, Net (after Taxes), Other Income, Interest & Divs., Balance, Deficit.  
1914—\$10,730,812 \$1,918,897 \$208,292 \$831,807 \$1,439,920 \$144,538  
1913—10,218,514 1,596,447 205,073 825,558 1,439,920 463,958  
Total gas sales in 1914, 14,102,733 M. cu. ft.—V. 100, p. 312.

**Brown Corporation.—Timber Bonds—Cap. Stock All Owned Jointly by Berlin Mills Co. and Burgess Sulphite Fibre Co. (Paper and Pulp Manufacturers).**—Hornblower & Weeks the James D. Lacey Timber Co. and several other banking houses are placing at par and int. \$3,000,000 1st M. serial gold 6% bonds.

Dated March 15 1915. Principal due \$100,000 semi-annually beginning March 15 1916 and ending Sept. 15 1930. Principal and int. (M. & S. 15) payable at Old Colony Trust Co., Boston, and Michigan Trust Co., Grand Rapids, Mich., the mortgage trustees; also at Chase Nat. Bank, N. Y. Callable on any interest date at 102½ and interest. Denom. \$1,000, \$500 and \$100. Company will pay normal Federal income tax.

**Digest of Statement of Pres. H. J. Brown, Portland, Me., Mar. 10 1915.**—Berlin Mills Co. and Burgess Sulphite Fibre Co. of Berlin, N. H., and Portland, Me., and Brown Corporation, a Canadian Corporation.

Organization founded in 1852 and purchased in 1868 by William W. Brown (father of writer), and has remained in profitable operation ever since. Now manufactures news print paper, kraft wrapping paper, sulphate fibre, bleached and unbleached sulphite pulp, building paper, window frames, lumber, soda ash, Cream Krisp and various other by-products. Total annual sales average \$12,500,000.

Cash investment in manufacturing plants over \$12,400,000, principally in paper and lumber mills at Berlin, N. H., on the Androscoggin River (V. 80, p. 1364), and in pulp and lumber mills at LaTuque, Quebec, on St. Maurice River, and in hydro-electric developments of 20,000 h.p. and steam boiler developments of 20,000 h.p. in connection with these mills. Employs 3,500 men. To supply raw material has acquired and developed in Me., N. H. (chiefly on Androscoggin River) and Vt., and along St. Lawrence River in Province of Quebec, over 2,300,000 acres (in fee and perpetual license) of timber and pulpwoods, which should supply the mills for about 70 years.

Entire \$2,000,000 common stock of the Berlin Mills (owner of 85% of the common cap. stock of the Burgess Co.) is owned by my brothers and myself, its officers being H. J. Brown, Pres.; O. B. Brown, Vice-Pres. and Treas.; W. R. Brown, Asst. Treas.; and D. P. Brown, a director. The stock of the Brown Corporation is owned jointly by the Berlin Mills Co. and the Burgess Sulphite Fibre Co.

**Brown Corporation, formerly the Quebec & St. Maurice Industrial Co.** Owns nearly 2,000,000 acres of pulpwood lands in fee and perpetual lease (and a small amount of leasehold) in Canada, that have cost in cash \$3,273,771, and a sulphite pulp mill and a lumber mill at La Tuque, Province of Quebec, on St. Maurice River, that have cost in cash \$2,614,661, with developed hydro-electric power 4,000 h.p. and undeveloped water power of 100,000 h.p., all covered by these bonds. James D. Lacey & Co. have recently appraised (a) Timber holdings at \$7,307,170 (embracing principally spruce with some balsam and jack-pine; 2,630,342 cords est. being freehold timber on 358,144 acres, and 6,678,996 cords est. licensed timber on 1,595,815 acres of leased land). (b) Water powers at \$250,000. (c) Current assets aggregate \$1,878,482; (d) plant cost, \$2,614,661. Total valuation, \$12,050,313, or about four times the bond issue.

The payment of the principal and interest of this bond issue is further secured by the assignment to Old Colony Trust Co., trustees, of the proceeds of a sale by the Brown Corporation of about 3,750,000 cords of standing pulpwood timber for \$4,485,000 to the Berlin Mills Co. and Burgess Sulphite Fibre Co., payment therefor being made semi-annually in amounts equal to the interest and principal requirements of this bond issue. Lumber cut is limited to 250,000 cords yearly unless an additional 1½ cord is paid, so that only 40% of the timber will have been cut on redemption of all bonds.

The proceeds of these bonds and \$2,200,000 in stock reimburse the Berlin Mills Co. and the Burgess Sulphite Fibre Co. for cash advances amounting to about \$6,000,000 made during the acquiring of this property.

**Earnings for Interest and Reserve.**—(1) Of Berlin and Burgess cos., Incl. earnings of subsidiaries (a) year ending Nov. 30 1914, \$1,578,520; (b) average for past five years, \$1,714,730. (2) Of Brown Corporation year ending Nov. 30 1914, \$549,329, being equal to over three times the annual interest requirements on these \$3,000,000 bonds.

**Bal. Sheets Jan. 1 1915:** (1) Berlin-Burgess Combined; (2) Brown Corporation. (After applying proceeds of these bonds; also after eliminating from "Berlin-Burgess" capital stock, &c., between companies.)

Berlin-Bur. Brown Corp.		Berlin-Bur. Brown Corp.	
Assets—	\$	Liabilities—	\$
Timber lands	4,472,700	Capital stock	3,600,000
Mfg. plants, &c.	9,245,514	Bonds	3,000,000
Cash	565,375	Cur. bills payable	3,023,882
Securs. other cos.	4,162,346	Accounts payable	299,730
Notes & acct. rec.	1,369,292	Notes payable	292,969
Due from sub. cos.	101,115	Due subid. cos.	7,357
Inventories, &c.	3,795,270	Int., &c., accrued	26,325
Int., &c., accrued	116,997	Accrued dividends	14,500
Adv. for pulp wood	392,622	Deferred liabilities	1,073
Suspense accounts	80,694	Surp., res'v'os, &c.	14,609,983
			195,914
Total assets	24,206,219	Total	24,206,219

w Includes Berlin 1st 5s of 1899, \$200,000 (V. 75, p. 795), and 1st 5s of 1902, \$1,750,000 (V. 80, p. 1364). x Includes surplus, undivided profits and reserves. y Bonds now offered. z Real estate and other notes on long time. zz Deferred real estate notes, \$560,150, and acct. pay, \$90,000. [The Berlin Mills has outstanding \$2,000,000 common stock, \$500,000 6% cum. pref. and \$350,000 2d pref. 6% cum. pref. The Burgess Co. has in the hands of the public \$600,000 pref. and \$150,000 common stock, the remaining \$850,000 common being held by the Berlin Mills.]

**Brunswick-Balke-Collender Co.—Earnings.**—  
Calendar Year—Net Profits, Res'v'os, &c. (7%), Pref. Divs., Common Dividend, Balance, Surplus.  
1914—\$841,675 \$253,983 \$405,651 (3%) \$180,000 \$2,041  
1913—1,370,681 411,540 959,141  
—V. 98, p. 1922.

**Brunswick Steamship Co.—Status.**—  
See Atlanta Birm. & Atlantic RR. under "RR.s" above.—V. 91, p. 465.

**Burgess Sulphite Fibre Co.—Allied Companies.**—  
See Brown Corporation above.

**(F. N.) Burt Co., Ltd., Toronto.—Earnings.**—  
Cal. Year—Profits, Pf. Div. (7%), Com. Div., Reserves, Fees, Bal., Sur.  
1914—\$212,392 \$138,264 (5%) \$37,500 \$30,000 \$6,628  
1913—217,302 136,515 (6%) 145,000 25,000 \$3,026 7,761  
—V. 99, p. 3412.

**Bush Terminal Co., New York.—Earnings.**—  
Calendar Year—Gross Earnings, Net Earnings, Other Income, Int. & Pf. Div., Com. Div., Balance, Surplus.  
1914—1,350,161 1,008,764 196,673 690,236 138,000 200,000 177,201  
1913—1,192,375 821,005 226,416 692,437 138,000 200,000 16,984  
—V. 100, p. 1170.

**Canadian Consolidated Felt Co., Montreal.—Earnings.**—  
Calendar Year—Total Sales, Net Income, Int. &c., Dividends, Surp. or Def., Balance, Surplus.  
1914—\$53,642 \$43,309 \$56,810 (3%) \$17,500 \$31,000 \$10,360  
1913—733,390 100,983 42,646 (7%) 35,000 sur. 23,337 210,249  
—V. 99, p. 1054.

**Canadian Consolidated Rubber Co.—Earnings.**—  
Cal. Year—Sales, Net Earnings, Other Income, Int. &c., Divs., Miscel. Balance, Surplus.  
1914—\$6,245,819 \$969,985 \$145,840 \$29,603 \$22,688 \$38,869 \$210,325  
1913—6,788,559 910,770 89,806 593,115 250,907 10,412 139,742  
Other income in 1914 includes \$78,389 profit on the sale of land; miscellaneous deductions include expenses of previous periods not provided for.—V. 100, p. 736.

**Cedars Rapids Mfg. & Power Co., Montreal.—Bonds, &c.**—A Montreal circular recommending at 86 the 1st M. 5% 40-year sinking fund gold bonds of 1913 (\$15,000,000 auth., \$10,000,000 outstanding) reports in substance:

Income from contracts now in operation with the Aluminum Company of America and Montreal Light, Heat & Power Co., and utilizing only 80% of the installed capacity, will, after paying operating expenses, leave a surplus equal to about 1½ times the interest on total outstanding bonds. Under contract with the Dominion Govt. and the Govt. of the Province of Quebec, has the perpetual right to take from the St. Lawrence River 56,000 cu. ft. of water per second, which is sufficient at the head of 32 ft. available at this point to develop 160,000 h. p. during the entire year. The construction work, including canal 12,000 ft. long cut out of solid rock, concrete dam and power house, has been in progress during the past 2½ years, and has been completed, covering the initial installation of an aggregate capacity of 100,000 h. p. This initial installation has cost about \$10,000,000 (\$100 per h. p.), but as the work done embraced a very large outlay necessary for an additional 60,000 h. p., the cost of the complete plant per h. p. will be about \$80.

Long-term contracts have been made with the Aluminum Company of America for 60,000 h. p., to be utilized at Massena, N. Y., and with the Montreal Light, Heat & Power Co. (V. 98, p. 1685), covering 60,000 h. p., for distribution in Montreal and vicinity. 60,000 h. p. is now being taken by the Aluminum Co. of America (V. 100, p. 1080) and 20,000 h. p. by the Montreal Lt., Ht. & Power Co., and the balance will be taken as required by the latter company. Delivery of all this power is made at the generating station to the transmission lines of the purchasers.

Capital stock now out, \$3,550,000. Management and control is vested in the Montreal Lt., Heat & Power Co. and Shawinigan Water & Power Co. (V. 100, p. 898) and their allied interests.

Assured income from aforesaid contracts now in operation will be about as follows: Gross, \$900,000; net, \$850,000; bond interest, \$500,000; balance, surplus, \$350,000. The sale of the 20,000 h. p. additional covered by the first installation will increase the gross not less than \$200,000 per year. [The company, of which J. E. Aldred is President, has issued a finely illustrated 46-page pamphlet describing the plant, copies of which may be obtained from the company's fiscal agents, Aldred & Co., 24 Exchange Place, New York.]

A Montreal report [confirmed] announces that the company which began operating on a commercial basis on Jan. 1, had just entered upon a new contract for 5,000 h. p. with the Northern Power Co. (of N. Y.) for distribution to small consumers located within a radius of 50 miles of Messina Springs, N. Y. This power will be delivered over the wires of the transmission lines of the Aluminum Co. of America (see V. 100, p. 1080), which is now taking 40,000 h. p., but will shortly be taking full 60,000 h. p. Compare V. 96, p. 288, 490.

**Chicago Junction Railways & Union Stock Yards Co.**  
 —Bonds for Refunding—Option of Exchange.—Lee, Higginson & Co., Wm. A. Read & Co., Parkinson & Burr and Estabrook & Co. purchased and have sold at 99 and interest, yielding about 5.05%, \$10,000,000 Mortgage & Collateral Trust Refunding 5% gold bonds of 1910, the proceeds of which are to be used toward paying the \$10,000,000 collateral trust 5% bonds maturing July 1 1915. These new bonds mature April 1 1940 and are secured by a deed of trust dated April 10 1900, under which \$4,000,000 4% bonds have heretofore been issued. Under a supplemental indenture the new bonds will bear an additional 1% of interest, this 1% to be secured by a secondary charge upon the property. These two indentures will cover by a first lien after July 1 1915 all the property now securing the maturing bonds as well as the property securing said \$4,000,000 4% bonds.

At the request of the company the firms named offered to the holders of the bonds due July 1 the opportunity of exchanging their holdings for these new bonds, at 99 and int., at which they yield about 5.05%. The firms will allow for the maturing bonds a price equivalent to discounting the principal and coupon at 3%. This price on April 15 would be 100.397 and int.; exchange to be made on April 15 or as soon thereafter as the company is able to deliver temporary receipts, exchangeable for definitive bonds on or after July 1.

**Official Data from V.-Pres. Eugene V. R. Thayer April 8 1915.**  
 Organization.—Incorporated in N. Y. in 1890 and through ownership of the entire capital stock of the Union Stock Yards & Transit Co. and of the Chicago Junction Ry. Co., owns one of the largest freight terminals in the U. S., including about 842 acres of real estate in the heart of the manufacturing district of the city of Chicago, comprising (a) the Chicago Stock Yards, (b) the "Central Manufacturing District," (c) about 143 miles of railroad track with 7-mile belt line connecting the stock yards and the "Central Mfg. Dist." with all the railroads entering Chicago. In 1914 there was handled over the Chicago Junction Ry. 2,135,128 freight cars earning revenue. The Ashland Ave. yard has a capacity of over 8,000 cars. About 60 locomotives are employed in continual switching service.

**Capitalization of Chicago Junction Rys. and Union Stock Yards Co.**  
 Stock (\$6,500,000 is preferred 6% cumulative) \$13,000,000  
 Mortgage and Coll. Trust Ref. bonds due 1940 (4s. \$4,000,000; those 5s. \$1,000,000) 14,000,000  
 First M. Real Est. Imp. 5s. 1928, on Cent. Mfg. Dist. 2,503,000  
 Union Stock Yards & Transit Co. debenture 4 1/2s. 1920 500,000

[Also is guarantor of \$2,327,000 1st M. 4% bonds of the Chicago Junction R.R. Co., which owns an elevated passenger road from the Lake front at 42d St. to Union Stock Yards, 3 1/2 m. leased to South Side L.I.R.R.]

**Security.**—These bonds, due in 1940, under terms of trust deed as amended April 1 1915, will be a first lien on (1) Entire \$5,500,000 capital stock (except directors' qualifying shares) of Chicago Junction Ry. Co. (2) After July 1 1915 on \$13,108,300 out of the entire \$13,200,000 capital stock of Union Stock Yards & Transit Co. (3) \$2,500,000 Indiana Harbor Belt R.R. Co. Gen. M. bonds, guaranteed principal and interest, jointly and severally, by Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Ry. Co. and the Michigan Central R.R. Co.

The Chic. Junction Ry. Co. and Union Stock Yards & Transit Co. have no funded debt except the \$500,000 4 1/2% debentures due 1920, and no mortgage or lien can be placed on their properties except as security for said debentures and the Mortgage & Collateral Trust bonds.

The 4% bonds and the 5% bonds will be equally secured under these indentures except that, owing to the fact that the original indenture provided only for 4% bonds, the promise to pay an additional 1% on the new bonds is a secondary charge upon the security.

**Combined Earnings of Union Stock Yards & Transit Co. and Chic. Junc. Ry. Co.**  
 1909. 1911. 1913. 1914.  
 Gross earnings \$5,057,980 \$5,577,938 \$5,905,964 \$5,561,305  
 Exp., incl. maint., taxes & int. 2,900,436 3,475,638 3,737,696 3,456,427  
 Balance, surplus \$2,148,544 \$2,102,300 \$2,168,268 \$2,104,878  
 Annual interest charges on these \$14,000,000 bonds require— \$660,000

The decrease in gross earnings in 1914 was chiefly caused by the "hoof-and-mouth" disease, which required the closing of the stock yards for about ten days and prevented their full operation for about two months.

The above earnings take no account of the income from the "Central Mfg. District" tract of about 145 acres (adjoining the stock yards), estimated, with manufacturing plants, to be worth at least \$6,200,000, and yielding net income from rentals alone more than sufficient to pay the interest and 2% annual sinking fund on the \$2,503,000 Real Estate bonds, (covering exclusively said tract, impts., &c.), in addition to being of great value as a freight producer to the railway. The Real Estate Impt. bonds (originally \$2,940,000, \$352,000 retired by sinking fund and \$85,000 owned by co., leaving \$2,503,000 outstanding) do not stand ahead of the Refunding bonds, as they are a lien upon an entirely separate property which is not subject to the lien of the Refunding bonds.

**Equity.**—The capital stock at present market prices represents an equity over the total bonded debt (\$17,003,000) of \$16,900,000, making a total valuation of about \$34,000,000. No floating debt. Net current assets Dec. 31 1914 over \$1,700,000.—V. 99, p. 1834, 1530.

**Colorado Power Co.—Earnings.**  
 Calendar Year—Gross Income, Net Income, Interest, Dividend, Preferred Balance, Surplus.  
 1914—\$745,869 \$478,712 \$29,678 \$206,275 \$66,000 \$29,705 \$206,410  
 1913—602,585 463,299 19,890  
 Inter-company charges are eliminated in above.—V. 100, p. 736.

**Consolidation Coal Co.**  
 See Western Maryland Ry. under "RRs." above.—V. 100, p. 1076.

**E. I. du Pont de Nemours Co.—Purchase.**  
 See International Smokeless Powder & Chem. Co. below.—V. 100, p. 904.

**East Butte Copper Mining Co.—Earnings.**  
 Calendar Year—Gross Income, Net Income, Interest, Add'ns & Imp'ys, Balance, Surplus.  
 1914—\$1,455,455 \$406,597 \$36,499 \$147,845 \$222,252  
 1913—2,645,668 764,455 44,064 188,619 631,772  
 Total copper produced in 1914 was 9,175,579 lbs., against 14,401,108 lbs. in 1913, and the price received per lb. was 13.5685cts. in 1914, against 15.0867 cts. in 1913.—V. 98, p. 1159.

**Eastman Kodak Co. (of N. J.), Rochester.—Earnings.**  
 (including subsidiary companies)  
 Calendar Year—Net after Prof. Divs., Common Dividends, Reserved for Contingency, Balance, Surplus.  
 1914—\$1,313,012 \$369,942 (30)\$5,859,840 \$1,000,000 \$5,083,230  
 1913—1,162,436 369,942 (40) 7,810,620 1,000,000 4,981,874  
 Total surplus Dec. 31 1914, after deducting \$15,798,081 reserve required in addition to previous years and appropriations to offset entire book value of good-will and patents, was \$11,774,458.—V. 99, p. 1676.

**General Motors Co.—Redemption of First Lien 5-Year Sinking Fund Gold Notes.**—In last week's issue J. & W. Seligman & Co. and Lee, Higginson & Co. announced by advertisement that they had been authorized by the company to redeem all or any part of the \$7,852,000 6% First Lien Five-Year Sinking Fund gold notes due Oct. 1 1915, paying therefor at a price yielding 3% per annum for the unexpired time (but subject to change of price at any time without notice), the price named being—

Equal as of April 1 to 101.455 & int.; equal as to April 15 to 101.342 & int.; equal as of May 1 to 101.213 & int. (not 102.213 and int.); and decreasing progressively thereafter.

Payment for the notes will be made on presentation thereof at the following offices: (1) In New York, J. & W. Seligman & Co. and Lee, Higginson & Co.; (2) in Boston, Lee, Higginson & Co.; (3) in Chicago, Lee, Higginson & Co.; (4) in Detroit, First & Old Detroit Nat. Bank.—V. 100, p. 1171.

**Grand Rapids (Mich.) Gas Lt. Co.—No Municipal Plant.**  
 See "Grand Rapids" in "State and City" department.—V. 100, p. 478.

**(J. B.) Greenhut Co., New York.—Receivership.**  
 Judge Hand in the U. S. District Court yesterday on a bill of complaint filed by the Monmouth Securities Co., appointed Walter C. Noyes and Wm. A. Marble receivers. The company consented to the receivership. Other (small) creditors have filed petitions in bankruptcy against the company. The assets are given in the Monmouth petition as \$7,465,419, including merchandise, cash, accounts receivable, &c. The liabilities are \$3,513,064 exclusive of 2 underlying mortgages of \$1,750,000 and \$2,000,000; there is also a liability in the shape of 6% bonds amounting to \$6,000,000. The receivership is stated to be a friendly one with a view to reorganization. Mr. Greenhut and his family are stated to own a majority of the securities of the company, in addition to being large creditors for moneys advanced.

The receivers say: "The business has been very large and apparently there is a splendid and loyal co-operation in the organization. The business will be continued in a normal manner. The creditors are exclusively for merchandise and money borrowed. The banking firm of J. B. Greenhut & Co., we are informed, have paid all their depositors in full and the banking business has been entirely discontinued."—V. 98, p. 1247.

**Holland American Line.—Annual Income Account.**  
 Voyage Profits, Total Profits, Depreciation, &c., Secur., &c., &c., Dividends.  
 1914—\$2,672,090 \$2,901,520 \$1,195,383 \$191,304 \$408,828 (17)\$816,000  
 1913—2,679,409 2,788,735 1,416,171 407,806 (15) 720,000

**Indian Refining Co., Inc., N. Y.—Waiver of 2d M. Sinking Fund for 18 Mos.**—Pres. Theodore L. Pomerooy, N. Y., March 25, in circular addressed to holders of the \$1,200,000 2d M. notes maturing May 1 1918, wrote in subst.:

From May 1 1913, the date of the 2d M. Notes, to May 2 1915, the outstanding obligations of the company will have been reduced as follows:

Company's Funded Obligations—	May 1 '13.	May 2 '15.	Reduction.
1st M. bonds (less sinking fund) and bonds owned by co.	\$2,956,356	\$1,830,321	\$1,126,035
Car trust notes	485,570	150,000	335,570
2d M. notes	2,550,000	1,200,000	1,350,000
Total	\$5,991,926	\$3,180,321	\$2,811,605

These heavy disbursements, which were made without sacrificing the property, have drawn down our cash resources to a point where the capital payments coming immediately due must be met by loan. It is necessary that the obligations under the first mortgage be promptly met in order that the lien of the second mortgage notes may be protected. Accordingly, the directors have arranged with a group of bankers that a credit of \$800,000 be extended to the company to carry the sinking fund requirements of the first mortgage, make the car trust payment of \$80,000 July 1 1915, pay the \$70,000 2d M. notes due May 1 1915, and for working capital. This loan will only be made by consent by the holders of the 2d M. notes that the sinking fund payments of \$33,000 per month under the 2d M. be waived for a period of 18 months commencing June 1 1915, upon which date such payments are provided to begin, the notes to be deposited for stamping with such waiver under supplementary agreement of March 25 1915, at either the Guaranty Tr. Co., N. Y., or Market Nat. Bank, Cincinnati.

Instead of being obliged to discharge \$1,121,000 of funded debt per annum as in the fiscal year 1914, the requirement will thus be limited to about \$548,000 annually for sinking fund payments on the first mortgage and \$70,000 to retire the last car trust notes, Jan. 1 1916. Moreover, on May 1 1915, when the 2d M. notes mature, the first mortgage should be only \$154,953 and the 2d M. notes only \$291,000, while the last of the car trust notes should be paid Jan. 1 1916. These figures assume that the first mortgage will not be increased as permitted by issue of new bonds to the extent of five-eighths (say \$354,500) of the car trust notes retired. Compare V. 100, p. 1171.

**Interlake Steamship Co., Cleveland.—Earnings.**  
 Calendar Year—Net Other, Bond, Dividend, Balance, Surplus Def.  
 1914—\$881,722 \$61,678 \$172,500 \$250,000 (7) \$401,915 def. \$184,015  
 1913—1,155,312 26,146 306,027 250,000 (4) \$231,380 sur. \$34,051  
 "Bond interest, &c." includes in 1913 \$186,027 discount on bonds, &c.—V. 99, p. 897.

**International Mercantile Marine Co.—Receivership.**  
 Interest on the \$52,744,000 coll. trust 4 1/2s having been in default for more than six months, Judge Hough in the U. S. District Court in N. Y. on April 3 placed this company in the hands of Vice-Pres. A. S. Franklin as receiver in an equity suit brought by the bondholders' committee and others.

An official statement says: The receivership does not in any way affect any of the subsidiary companies the stocks of which are owned by the International Mercantile Marine Co., including the White Star Line, Atlantic Transport Line, Leyland Line, White Star-Dominion Line. The steamers of all these lines and of the (indirectly owned) American, Red Star and Panama Pacific lines as well, comprising a fleet of about 125 steamers, will continue to be operated as at present, and the business of the various lines carried on without change or interruption.

A member of the committee as quoted said: "It has long since been recognized that the capitalization is excessive. There must be a scaling down of both stocks and bonds. Freight earnings have been substantial since the beginning of the war, and it may be that a plan can be devised which will not entail an assessment on the security-holders. A new company, will of course, have to be formed to take over the assets of the old, and the present bondholders will probably receive a certain amount of new bonds, together with new stock, in exchange for their holdings. Every effort will be made to hasten the reorganization."

The Fidelity Trust Co. of Phila. is trustee of the underlying International Navigation Co. mortgage. The Fidelity Trust Co. of New York is not connected in any way with the receivership proceedings or the securities of the allied properties.—V. 100, p. 1171, 1082.

**Internat. Smokeless Powder & Chemical Co.—Sale.**  
 The stockholders on April 5 voted to sell the property for \$5,760,000 to the E. I. du Pont de Nemours Co. interests, or at the rate of \$30 per share. The purchasers in their offer agreed to assume all obligations. There were less than 300 shares opposed to the sale. Of 12,000 shares of preferred stock, 11,584 were voted, and of the 180,000 shares of common stock outstanding about 133,300 were voted. All of the common stock is held by the du Pont Co. and the pref. only 573 shares are, it is stated, in the hands of the public.—V. 100, p. 904, 559.

**McGraw Tire & Rubber Co., East Palestine, O.—Pref. Stock.**—The Maynard H. Murch Co., Cleveland, is offering at par and divs. \$500,000 7% cumulative pref. (p. & d.) stock, tax-free in Ohio. Dividends Q.-J. Redeemable for 5% sink. fund on or after one year as a whole at 110 and div. First Tr. & Sav. Co., Cleveland, registrar.

Capitalization, authorized and issued, 7% cum. pref. stock, \$500,000; common stock, \$500,000; no bonds or mortgages; net value of tangible property, \$1,353,690; pref. dividends, \$25,000; earnings for fiscal year 1914, \$594,136. (Previously a Penn. corp., re-incorporated in Ohio in 1913.)  
 Balance Sheet Nov. 30 1914. (Total each side, \$1,548,372)  
 Plant, land, &c. (appraised) \$430,289 Preferred stock 500,000  
 Other equipment 4,893 Common stock 500,000  
 Cash 96,733 Trade accounts, &c. 90,589  
 Notes & accts. rec., less res. 364,716 Accrued taxes—not due 8,021  
 Merchandise inventory 629,130 Preferred divs., reserve 5,833  
 Other assets 15,203 Contingencies, reserve 90,230  
 Prepaid insurance, &c. 7,408 Profit and loss, surplus 353,699

Data from President E. C. McGraw, East Palestine, O. Dec. 15 1914. Organized six years ago (now incorp. in Ohio) to manufacture pneumatic automobile tires and tubes of standard quality, and has recently added thereto the motor truck tires; the success of this is now well established. Products well known throughout the U. S.; has distributing depots at N. Y., Chicago and Atlanta, and intends in the near future to establish such depots in Kansas City and Dallas. (Makes the Pullman,

Imperial and Congress tires.] Our plant at East Palestine is of modern construction, equipped with sprinkler system and all labor-saving devices. Our initial investment was small, but we have grown so that our net tangible assets to-day, without any allowance for good-will, patents, patterns, designs or other intangible property, exceed \$1,350,000, of which over \$900,000 is represented by net current assets, consisting of cash, bills, accounts receivable and inventory, less all indebtedness.

Results—Years end, Jan. 31 '12 and '13, 10 Mos. and Year end, Nov. 30 '14. (Exclusive of Interest Charges Eliminated by Proceeds from Sale of Pref.)

	1911-12.	1912-13.	10 Mos. '14.	Yr. 1913-14.
Net sales	\$738,444	\$1,039,852	\$1,705,500	\$3,309,989
Net profits	49,138	91,075	285,558	594,137

To protect the pref. stockholders it is provided: (a) The pref. stock is entitled to 7% p. a., payable quarterly and cumulative before the common stock receives anything. (b) 5% of the total issue of the pref. must be redeemed each year out of surplus earnings at 110 and divs., or at the market price, if purchasable. Also, after one year, all of the pref. stock may be redeemed at 110 and divs. upon 60 days' notice, as also upon liquidation, dissolution or consolidation. (c) Net liquid assets of \$500,000 must be maintained. (d) A yearly audit must be made by certified public accountants and a monthly statement of assets, liabilities, sales and profits must be submitted to Maynard H. Murch Co. (e) No additional pref. stock on a parity with this issue is permitted and no mortgaging or otherwise encumbering the assets without the written consent of 75% of the outstanding stock; nor can the company borrow in excess of 30% of its tangible assets or set its book accounts. (f) A pref. stock dividend guaranty fund of \$70,000 is to be created (and thereafter maintained) by deposits with the First Trust & Savings Co. of Cleveland, as trustee, of 36 monthly installments, for the sole purpose of guaranteeing dividends on this issue of pref. stock. (g) In case of default as to the pref. dividend fund, or if net current assets fall below \$500,000, the pref. stockholders shall be entitled to vote 50% of all votes cast at stockholders' meetings. (h) A member of the Maynard H. Murch Co. [at present F. B. Squire] is to be a director so long as any pref. is outstanding.

**Marconi Wireless Teleg. Co., Ltd.—Div. Deferred.**—Owing to the abnormal circumstances prevailing due to the war, the payment of the interim dividend on the ordinary shares has been deferred. The preference dividend has been declared. Since the outbreak of the war the stations have been largely devoted to Government work. The new direct public line to New York, which had been contemplated would have been opened in the summer of last year, has been postponed. Considerable business pending in foreign countries has been delayed or deferred, but this has been substantially compensated for by Government and other business directly resulting from the war, and the works and all of the staff have been working under the highest pressure throughout the whole period. A number of matters, including the compensation and payment for services, being still in abeyance, the directors are as yet unable to estimate with sufficient reliability the results of the business of last year to warrant them in declaring an interim dividend on the ordinary shares.—V. 100, p. 1172.

**Mexican Light & Power Co.—Further Default.**—Interest due April 1 on the \$800,000 Pachuca Lt. & Pow. 5% bonds, guaranteed unconditionally by Mexican Lt. & Pow. Co., remains unpaid.—V. 100, p. 559, 144.

**Miami Copper Co.—Dividends Resumed.**—A quarterly dividend of 50 cts. per share (par \$5) has been declared on the \$3,733,795 stock, payable May 15 to holders of record May 1. Quarterly distributions at this rate were made from May 1912 to Aug. 1914, but in Nov. 1914 and Feb. 1915 no distributions were made, owing to the unsettled conditions in the copper trade and the reduced output of the mines due to the war. Compare V. 100, p. 134; V. 99, p. 1134, 1054.

**Montana Power Co.—All Sold.—New Director.**—The \$5,000,000 1st ref. 5s due 1943, recently purchased by Lee, Higginson & Co., Guaranty Trust Co. and J. & W. Seligman & Co., have all been sold. See V. 100, p. 976, 984.

**Frederic W. Allen**, of Lee, Higginson & Co., has been elected a director to fill a vacancy.—V. 100, p. 976, 984.

**Montreal Light, Heat & Power Co.—Contracts.**—See Cedars Rapids Mfg. & Power Co. above.—V. 99, p. 1054.

**Mount Vernon-Woodberry Mills, Inc., Baltimore.—Notes Offered.**—The Mercantile Trust & Deposit Co., Nelson, Cook & Co., Townsend Scott & Son and Strother, Brogden & Co., all of Baltimore, having disposed of a large part of the issue, are offering at 96 and int. (to yield about 7½%) the remainder of the \$2,500,000 Three-Year 6% gold notes dated Feb. 2 1915 and due Feb. 1 1918, but red. at 102½ and int. at any interest date. Company agrees to pay normal Federal income tax, so far as may be lawful.

Digest of Report by Expert J. E. Serrine, Greenville, S. C., Feb. 22 '15. Herewith the report of the appraiser, including an appraisal, as of Feb. 21 1914, of the property, comprising the following mills, with the values as shown aggregating \$4,820,599, viz.: Mount Vernon Mill, No. 1, \$346,283; and No. 3, \$209,123; Clipper Mills, \$235,699; Woodberry Mill, \$213,136; Meadow Mill, \$300,845; Druid Mill, \$248,589; Park Mill, \$81,042; Mount Washington Mill, \$143,004; Franklinville Mill, \$64,008; Phoenix Mill, \$89,894; Laurel Mill, \$118,053; Columbia Mill, \$810,272; and Tallahassee Mill, \$1,968,651. This valuation covers land, buildings, machinery, power plants, general equipment, belting and supplies actually in use, but not office furniture or fixtures, cotton or cloth on hand, cotton in process, supplies not in use, or any other quick assets, nor any allowance for the brands of the company, which are undoubtedly of great value. These brands are well known all over the world, and enable this company to sell its products at a premium over its competitors.

These mills, without change in machinery, should earn, under average market conditions, approximately \$650,000 a year, from which it would be wise for the company to deduct or to set aside \$150,000 a year for renewals and replacements. This amount of money properly expended in new machinery should increase the earning capacity of \$650,000 a year above stated. In our estimate of operating profit we have taken into consideration only the mills in regular operation. We have not, therefore, considered for this purpose the Franklinville, Phoenix and Laurel Mills, as these mills are not equipped for operation, and we understand it to be the intention of the company to dispose of them. In the physical valuation these mills have been included at an aggregate of about \$281,000, a figure that should be readily realized for the real estate alone. See also V. 100, p. 816, 905.

**National Fireproofing Co., Pittsburgh.—New Directors.**—George A. Jones and W. E. Cooke, both representing the minority interests, have been elected directors to succeed C. E. Andrews Jr., who represented the minority interests, and H. W. Kearsney, representing the present management, who retired. President Henry announced that John R. Gregg, W. C. Jones and C. S. Campbell would constitute the finance committee. Resolutions offered by stockholders requesting the usual quarterly dividend of 1% be declared on the preferred stock, that the par value of the stock be increased from \$50 to \$100, and that the board consist of not less than 9 nor more than 15, were taken under advisement.—V. 100, p. 1082, 896.

**New England Power Co.—Earnings of System.**—

	3 Mos. end.	Gross Earnings.	Net Earnings.	Bond Interest.	Note Interest.	Accrued Divs.	Sur. or Def.
1915		\$313,629	\$195,401	\$83,063	\$6,085	\$65,450	sur. \$37,803
1914		256,961	138,501	83,412	6,635	61,650	def. 13,196

—V. 100, p. 976, 984.

**Nipissing Mines Co.—Earnings.**—For years end, Dec. 31:

Calendar Year—	Dies. From	Other	Total	Dividends Paid.	Balance, Surplus, Deficit.
1914	\$235,000	\$89	\$235,089	(20%) \$1,200,000	\$59
1913	1,830,000	125	1,830,125	(30%) 1,800,000	1,632

Net income of the Nipissing Mining Co. for the year 1914 was \$2,516,065, (against \$2,756,612 in 1913); other income, \$42,668 (against \$47,181); total income, \$2,558,732. From this was deducted the cost of mining and all other expenses, \$980,016 (against \$1,158,984) and dividends, \$1,235,000, leaving a balance, surplus of \$343,716 (against a deficit of \$184,892). The total accumulated surplus Dec. 31 1914, as per balance sheet, was \$1,602,776.—V. 99, p. 1371.

**Northern Calif. Power Co., Consol., S. Fr.—Debentures.**—Negotiations, we learn, are still pending for an extension in the maturity date of the Series "A" debentures, but have not reached a point where any definite information respecting same can be made. See particulars in V. 100, p. 979.

**Old Dominion Co. of Maine.—Earnings for Cal. Year.**—

Calendar Year—	Dies. &c.	Exp. Received.	Incres'd Tax &c.	Dividends Paid.	Balance, Surplus.
1914		\$660,410	\$7,403	\$582,574	(16%) \$1,173,412
1913		1,496,555	27,975	(20%) 1,466,765	22,387

Increase in book value as above, \$582,574, is \$3 75 per share on the 155,353 shares of the Old Dominion Copper Mining & Smelting Co. owned. Total surplus Dec. 31 1914, \$433,065.—V. 99, p. 1678.

**Old Dominion Copper Mining & Smelting Co. of N. J.**—

Cal. Year—	Total Earns.	Net Profits.	Dividends Paid.	Bal., Sur.
1914	\$2,674,206	\$978,510	(11%) \$145,500	\$533,010
1913	3,057,107	1,043,793	(20%) 1,010,000	233,793

Total surplus Dec. 31 1914, \$967,293.—V. 99, p. 1915.

**Oro Electric Corporation.—Earnings for Cal. Year.**—

Cal. Year—	Gross Earnings.	Net Earnings.	Total Bond Int.	Div. Dis. (2½%)	Balance, Surplus.
1914	\$215,594	\$100,749	\$195,769	\$54,000	242,518
1913	221,894	114,333	284,139	398,472	\$87,500

\* Interest charged to construction, \$55,800, against \$55,768.—V. 100, p. 816, 58.

**Pachuca Light & Power Co.—Default.**—See Mexican Lt. & Power Co. above.—V. 92, p. 1503.

**Ray Consolidated Copper Co.—Earnings.**—

Cal. Year—	Gross Revenue.	Net Op. Revenue.	Other Inc. &c.	Bond Int.	Dividends Paid.	Balance, Surplus.
1914	7,597,724	2,316,240	338,023	259,540	(7½%) 1,089,321	1,306,301
1913	7,899,721	2,497,219	377,097	199,123	(11¼%) 1,631,504	1,043,689

There were produced in 1914 57,004,281 lbs. of copper, against 52,341,029 in 1913.—V. 100, p. 559.

**Reece Button-Hole Machine Co., Boston.—Earnings.**—

Calendar Year—	Gross Earnings.	Total Expenses.	Net Earnings.	Dividends Paid.	Balance, Surplus.
1914	\$824,391	\$518,225	\$306,166	(14%) \$140,000	\$166,166
1913	948,519	526,335	422,184	(12%) 120,000	302,184

The gross and net earnings of the International Buttonhole Machine for the cal. year 1914 were \$70,623 and \$50,025, respectively, against \$74,500 and \$61,616, respectively, in 1913. Dividends paid yearly amount to \$25,000, leaving a surplus of \$25,025 in 1914, against \$36,617 in 1913.—V. 98, p. 1248.

**Sears, Roebuck & Co.—Sales.**—

1915—March—	1914—	Increase.	1915—3 Months—	1914—	Increase.
\$10,198,741	\$8,946,029	14.00%	\$27,707,979	\$25,644,532	8.05%

—V. 100, p. 906, 816.

**Simpson-Crawford Corporation, N. Y.—Liquidation of Recent Successor Simpson-Crawford Co.—Pres. Alexander MacLachlan says in substance:**

The directors have unanimously determined that the business of this company shall be voluntarily liquidated without further delay. There will be no court proceedings and the liquidation will be by retail sales. The assets, exclusive of fixtures and interest in real estate of Jan. 31, approximate \$1,800,000. The liabilities are less than \$800,000. The company is, therefore, entirely solvent, and the creditors of the present company will be paid as their debts mature or shortly thereafter.

The reason for this voluntary liquidation is that the business for the past year has not been conducted profitably and it did not seem to the board fair to those who subscribed the \$350,000 new money in April of last year, and to the creditors of the old Simpson-Crawford Co. that accepted stock in payment of their debts, to conduct the business further with possible risk of additional losses.

Upon liquidation, after the payment of all obligations of the new company, the amount realized from the assets will be distributed pro rata to the holders of the first pref. stock, and any surplus remaining to the holders of the second pref. stock. The management has no doubt that the creditors of the old Simpson-Crawford Co. will receive considerably more by reason of this liquidation than they would have received if they had accepted the cash dividend of 16½% which was available under the decree selling the assets of the old company. See V. 98, p. 1004, 1160, 1997.

**Southern Utilities Co. (of Fla.)—Bonds Offered.**—The Engineering Securities Corporation, N. Y. and Chicago, is offering, by adv. on another page, at 98 and int., to yield 6.20, the unsold portion (less than \$300,000) of their block of \$925,000 1st M. sinking fund 6% gold bonds of 1913, due April 1 1933, but callable at 105 and int. on any interest date.

Denom. \$500 and \$1,000. United States Mortgage & Trust Co., trustee. Coupons payable A. & O. in N. Y. or London, without deduction for normal Federal income tax. Penn. State tax refunded. Authorized, \$20,000,000.

Data from V. Pres. & Gen. Mgr. C. F. Day, Jacksonville, Feb. 8 1915. Property.—Incorporated in March 1913, under laws of Florida. Owns and operates electric, ice, gas and water properties, furnishing the following communities with one or more of these four classes of service:

**Communities Served (All Securities of Sub. Cos. Owned Except \$56,000 Bonds).**

Arcadia, Fla.	Lakeland, Fla.	Punta Gorda, Fla.
Bradenton, Fla.	Live Oak, Fla.	St. Augustine, Fla.
Cordele, Ga.	Manatee, Fla.	Sanford, Fla.
Dania, Fla.	Miami, Fla.	Sutherland, Fla.
Fernandina, Fla.	Ozona, Fla.	Tarpon Springs, Fla.
Fort Lauderdale, Fla.	Palatka, Fla.	Tifton, Ga.
Fort Myers, Fla.	Palmetto, Fla.	Titusville, Fla.
Lake City, Fla.	Pensacola, Fla.	

The Florida properties are owned in fee and leased to subsidiary local operating companies, while the two Georgia properties are controlled through ownership of their entire stock issues.

All the outstanding securities of the subsidiary companies have been acquired and deposited with the trustee under the mortgage securing the company's bond issue, except \$36,000 bonds of Sanford Light & Fuel Co. and \$20,000 bonds of Ariston Ice & Electric Co.; \$65,000 bonds of Southern Utilities Co. are held to cover these underlying securities. The properties are operated through the local subsidiaries with the object of maintaining close relations with the public, but all details are under the direction and management of the company's general office at Jacksonville and supervised by the J. G. White Management Corporation at New York, thus insuring efficiency and economy combined with the advantages derived from distinctively local organizations. No competition except at Fernandina, where there is a small municipal ice plant.

**Capitalization.**—

First Mortgage 6% bonds	\$20,000,000	Authorized. Outstanding.
One-year 6% notes due July 1 1915 (V. 99, p. 124)	250,000	\$25,000
7% cumulative preferred stock	5,000,000	1,610,000
Common stock	5,000,000	2,570,100

There is also (a) \$400,000 of the common stock issued but held by a trustee for benefit of company; (b) \$375,000 of the 1st M. 6s held as collateral for the one-year note issue, \$65,000 held to retire underlying securities and \$485,000 in treasury.

**Earnings for the Nine Months and Also for the Year ending Dec. 31.**

	1914.	1913.	1914.
Gross	\$832,426	\$702,847	\$1,068,297
Net (after taxes)	\$227,339	\$186,938	\$271,686
Bond interest			57,084
Balance			\$214,602
Interest on notes and floating debt and discount on notes			38,211
Surplus			\$176,391

Inasmuch as the company began operations on April 1 1913, it is impossible to give a comparative statement for the full year.

**Physical Value and Equity.**—The reproduction value of the physical properties, exclusive of franchises and other intangibles, is estimated to be

not less than \$2,374,000 at this time. This issue is followed by \$1,510,000 pref. stock, for which the company received par and by \$2,570,100 common stock.

Territory.—Serves over 20 substantial, prosperous and growing communities, together with their surrounding districts, all but two of which are located in Florida. Total population 50,412 in 1900; 81,805 in 1910 (U. S. Census); now estimated over 100,000, exclusive of numerous tourists in winter months.

Franchises.—Favorable in terms, nearly all the principal ones extending beyond 1933. No franchises are required for the manufacture of ice, from which the company derives a large revenue.

This Bond Issue.—Secured by a direct first mortgage covering substantially the entire property, real and personal, now owned and hereafter acquired, there being only \$56,000 outstanding underlying securities. After \$2,000,000 bonds are outstanding, the par value of additional bonds issued must not exceed 80% of the actual cash cost of improvements, extensions or additional properties, and then only when the annual net earnings of the company and of the properties to be acquired are twice the interest charges, including the bonds proposed to be issued.

Cumulative sinking fund, beginning April 1 1916, an amount equal to 1% of the outstanding bonds, for redemption of bonds. Also, beginning in 1915, the company must annually expend for additions or extensions to physical property, against which no bonds may be issued, or turn over to the trustee, an amount equal to 1/2 of 1% of the outstanding bonds.—V. 100, p. 234; V. 99, p. 124.

Springfield Gas & Electric Co.—Suit.—Judges Sanborn, Pollock and Van Valkenburgh on April 3 heard argument in the U. S. District Court at Kansas City, Mo., in the suit brought by the company asking an injunction restraining new rates prescribed by the P. S. Commission. The company asserts that "the Utility Act is unconstitutional, that the Utility Commission erred in fixing a valuation of the property, and that the valuation and the rates fixed are confiscatory."

Standard Oil of Kansas.—Earnings.—The earnings for the year ending Dec. 31 1914 were \$33,219. After deducting dividends paid at the rate of 13%, amounting to \$260,000, the total accumulated surplus Dec. 31 1914 was \$3,183,144, as shown in balance sheet, V. 100, p. 1173, 450.

Tamarack Mining Co.—Earnings.—Calendar Year—1914—1913—Total Receipts—Expenses—Net Profit—Loss—Paid—Deficit—Surplus.

Texas Company, Houston, Tex.—New Stock.—The shareholders will vote May 1 1915 on increasing the capital stock from \$30,000,000 to \$37,000,000 by the sale of 70,000 shares. Of the new stock it is proposed to offer \$6,000,000 to shareholders of record May 12 at par, pro rata, and the remainder (\$1,000,000) to employees.

Digest of Statement by Pres. C. P. Dodge, New York, April 8 1915. In spite of the war we have been able not only to maintain our volume of business, but to materially increase it; and while prices for our products have declined considerably, this has been offset by the large amount of business taken previous to the decline at better prices than now prevail.

United States Light & Heating Co. of Maine.—Reorganization Plan.—The stockholders' protective committee as of April 5, says in substance: "The debts of the company, with expenses of receivership, &c., amount to nearly \$800,000, and your committee has found it impracticable to attempt to raise all of this amount by the sale of bonds, because it was deemed unwise under present business conditions to burden the property with so large a fixed charge."

United Cigar Stores Co. of America.—Earnings.—Calendar Year—1914—1913—Receipts—Less Charges—Preferred Dividends—Common Dividends—Balance—Surplus.

United States Light & Heating Co. of Maine.—Reorganization Plan.—The stockholders' protective committee as of April 5, says in substance: "The debts of the company, with expenses of receivership, &c., amount to nearly \$800,000, and your committee has found it impracticable to attempt to raise all of this amount by the sale of bonds, because it was deemed unwise under present business conditions to burden the property with so large a fixed charge."

Plan Adopted and Underwritten.—Authorized Capitalization of New Company. Common Stock, total authorized—\$4,000,000. Holders of present common stock, deposited, upon subscribing at Guaranty Tr. Co., N. Y., on or before May 5, \$2.50 per share of their holdings of common, will receive, along with \$5 in new pref. stock, \$20 in new common stock. As to issue with new bonds, see below.

Non-cumulative 7% pref. stock to have the right to elect a majority of the board and to be held in a voting trust for five years to insure control of management. Total authorized—3,000,000. (a) Holders of present preferred stock, if deposited, will, upon subscribing \$15 per share of their present holdings, at Guaranty Tr. Co., N. Y., on or before May 5, receive, share for share, in new pref. stock. (b) Subscribing common shareholders, with the aforesaid \$20 in new common, will receive \$5 in preferred.

First Mortgage 6% Sinking Fund 20-year gold bonds, sinking fund to be sufficient to retire entire issue by maturity. Denom. \$500 and \$100. To be issued and sold at present time, \$500,000. Total authorized—1,000,000. Both common and preferred stockholders of the present company are offered the right to subscribe for the \$500,000 new 1st M. bonds on the basis of \$875 and int. for each \$1,000 of bonds, with \$1,000 of common stock attached. Subscriptions to the bonds will be allotted in the order in which they are received until the amount of bonds offered are taken. \$160,000 of these bonds have been taken and withdrawn from this offering, under the terms of the underwriting agreement.

Est. assets \$2,612,000 (5 times new bonds) excl. of patents and good will. Plant valuation—\$1,412,000 Bills receivable—\$300,000 Mat. & supp. (cost \$725,000) 650,000 Cash (estimated)—250,000 The payment of the subscription of \$15 per share on all the preferred stock deposited has been underwritten without commission. The sale of

the bonds has also been underwritten. The success of the reorganization is therefore assured, but unless the shareholders contribute their share by subscribing, as aforesaid, they lose their equities in this valuable property. Signed: Walston H. Brown, N. Y., Chairman, and Herbert V. Falk, 29 Broadway, N. Y., Secretary of committee. Guaranty Trust Co., 140 B'way, N. Y., depository, and Guy M. Walker, counsel, 60 B'way, N. Y. [Present cap. stock outstanding, \$2,500,000 pref. and, it is understood, some \$13,100,000 common stock, par \$100. Compare V. 100, p. 1099.]

Condensed Extracts from Report to Committee by John Fraser, Consulting Engineer. The physical plant, real estate, buildings and machinery are carried on the books at \$1,412,000. There is little doubt that the plant cost this sum, and since the property has been well maintained, and some considerable additions have been made and charged to operation, there seems no reason for reducing said valuation. The materials on hand are inventoried at \$650,000 and should realize as much. The receivers hold about \$150,000 cash and bills receivable of \$300,000, so that the total actual tangible assets amount to about \$2,500,000, exclusive of patents and good-will.

It is extremely difficult to value the patents and good-will in definite figures, but as a going concern this value would be very large. The patents enable the company to save both on operation and in royalties. If the patents were owned by others the royalties would probably run from \$100,000 to \$200,000 yearly, depending upon volume of business done. This sum capitalized would represent a fair value on the patents now in use. There are other patents, however, owned that seem to be so fundamental and so revolutionary that it seems impossible to over-estimate their possibilities.

The earning capacity of the company properly financed and properly operated would be quite large, and I believe it is possible within five years after reorganization, under normal business conditions, to develop a business of \$6,000,000 a year with a net above operating expenses of \$1,000,000 applicable to interest charges, depreciation account, sinking fund to retire bonds, dividends, &c. The receivership is now acting as a dam that is holding back a large volume of business, and with the resumption of active buying by the railroad stimulating the car lighting business, and of general business activity affecting the storage battery and auto starter business, the full capacity of the plant and organization will be needed. Compare V. 98, p. 1065; V. 100, p. 1099.

United Water & Light Co., Pittsburgh.—Plan Operative. More than 70% of the collateral trust notes have been deposited under the plan for the exchange of such notes for bonds of American Water Works & Electric Co., Inc., and the plan has therefore been declared operative. Upon surrender of deposit receipts endorsed in blank and witnessed, the new bonds and check for an amount equal to April 1 1915 interest on your deposited notes will be delivered at the institution with which you deposited your notes and whose receipt you hold. Noteholders who have not yet deposited their notes will be given the privilege of doing so for a limited period, receiving par in the new bonds and a check for April 1 1915 coupon.—(See V. 100, p. 560, 1099.)

Utah Consolidated Mining Co.—Earnings.—For cal. year: Calendar Year—1914—1913—Total Profits—Previous Profits—Surplus—Paid—Off—Written Total—Surplus.

Vulcan Detinning Co.—Earnings.—3 Mos. end. Mar. 31—1915—1914—Total Sales—Income—Inventories—Costs and Gen. Exp.—Balance—Surplus.

Wayland Oil & Gas Co., N. Y.—New Stock.—The shareholders will vote April 24 on increasing the capital stock from \$2,000,000 to \$2,500,000 by the addition of \$500,000 6% pref. (p. & d.) stock (par \$5 a share) cum. from May 1 1915; and also entitled to share pro rata with the common stock in any further dividends in any year after 6% on both stocks; but subject to redemption at any time, at option of company on 30 days' notice at 110 (\$5.50 per share) and divs. The new pref. stock, par \$5 each, is to be sold at \$4.50 per share.—V. 99, p. 1372.

Woodward Iron Co., Birmingham, Ala.—Status.—See Atlanta Birm. & Atl. R.R. under "R.R.'s" above.—V. 94, p. 1255. (F. W.) Woolworth Co.—Sales.—1915—March—1914—Increase—1915—3 Mos.—1914—Increase.

Yale & Towne Mfg. Co.—Report—New Stock.—See annual reports on a preceding page. A circular dated April 1 1915 states that holders of the existing \$4,500,000 capital stock of record March 25 have the legal right on or before April 15 to subscribe and pay for, pro rata at par (\$100), \$500,000 of new capital stock. It being desired to provide stock for employees, holders of 75% of the outstanding stock have signified their intention to waive their rights of subscription, and it was hoped that the shareholders generally would do so. Compare V. 100, p. 985, 907.

CURRENT NOTICE.

—Kountze Brothers, A. B. Leach & Co., Colgate, Parker & Co. and Spencer Trask & Co. are jointly advertising in to-day's "Chronicle" a new loan of \$2,125,000 City of Quebec, Canada, 5-year 5% coupon bonds, due April 1 1920. Having sold the greater part of this issue, the bankers offer the unsold balance at 98 1/2 and int., yielding about 5.30%.

A manual of the simplified "Standard Shorthand," a new system of stenography evolved by Otto M. Whitstock, 31 Nassau Street, has just come to hand. According to the claims of the author, it is easy to write and read, truly phonetic and can be acquired by self-instruction in six lessons. The price of the manual is \$2.

—The revised edition of the descriptive circular on the Inspiration Consolidated Copper Co. will be ready for distribution next Monday. Copies may be had on application to the bankers, Eugene Meyer Jr. & Co., 14 Wall St., this city.

—Parmele & Co., 31 Nassau St., this city, are offering Dayton Power & Light Co. 6% cumulative preferred stock at 90 and accrued dividend, with a return to the investor of 6.66%. Circular will be furnished on request.

—Horace Bacon, a partner in the firm of Kissel, Kinncutt & Co., 14 Wall St., died yesterday morning.

## Reports and Documents.

### UNITED LIGHT AND RAILWAYS COMPANY

REPORT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31 1914.

To the Stockholders of the United Light & Railways Company—

The Directors submit this Annual Report for the fiscal year ending December 31st 1914.

The Statement of Earnings and Expenses of the United Light & Railways Company and its Subsidiary Companies for the Year is as follows:

#### SUBSIDIARY COMPANIES.

*Gross Earnings (Including \$713,585 07, being Inter-Company Business).....	\$6,166,959 34
*Operating Expenses, including Maintenance and Taxes (Including \$713,585 07, being Inter Company charges).....	3,797,534 17
Net Earnings, Subsidiary Companies.....	\$2,369,425 17
Interest on Subsidiary Companies Bonds and Notes:	
To United Light & Railways Co.....	\$339,552 73
To the Public.....	974,583 45
	1,314,136 18
Net Profit on Stocks—Subsidiary Companies.....	\$1,055,288 99
Net Profit due others than United Light & Railways Co.....	15,596 28

#### UNITED LIGHT & RAILWAYS COMPANY.

Earnings available on stocks owned by United Light & Railways Company.....	\$1,039,782 71
Dividends and Interest Receivable (as per detailed Revenue Account annexed).....	344,294 27
Salaries and Miscellaneous Earnings (as per detailed Revenue Account annexed).....	123,155 34
Gross Earnings—United Light & Railways Company.....	\$1,507,232 32
Expenses.....	\$103,835 42
Taxes, General and Federal.....	10,779 87
	114,615 29
Net Earnings—United Light & Railways Company.....	\$1,392,617 03
Interest on First and Refunding 5% Bonds.....	333,033 83
	\$1,059,583 20
Interest on Notes.....	\$109,887 30
Bond Discount.....	12,912 00
	122,799 30
Balance Available for Dividends.....	\$936,783 90
Dividends—First Preferred Stock—6%.....	462,801 00
	\$473,982 90
Dividends—Second Preferred Stock—3%.....	63,272 25
Balance Available for Common Stock and Depreciation.....	\$410,710 65
Credit to Depreciation Reserve.....	165,992 90
	\$244,717 75

\*Note.—The amount of \$713,585 07 included in the Gross Earnings and Operating Expenses of Subsidiary Companies represents Inter-Company transactions. This amount, which is identical in both the Income and Expense sides of the Accounts, has been carried this and previous years as Income and Expenses, following the practice of the Subsidiary Companies. Interested prior to their acquisition by the United Light & Railways Company.

In addition to the sum set aside for Depreciation from Current Earnings on the books of the Subsidiary Companies, amounting to \$169,390 86 (of which the United Light & Railways Company's proportion pro-rated on its stock holdings of Subsidiary Companies is \$165,992 90, as shown above), the Subsidiary Companies expended or set aside for Maintenance an additional sum of \$392,750 43, which was charged directly to Operating Expenses, making the total expended or set aside for Maintenance and Depreciation of Property \$562,141 29.

In addition to Credits to the Reserve for Depreciation from Current Earnings, the Book Surplus of the Mason City & Clear Lake Railroad Company and Peoples' Gas & Electric Company existing at the time of their purchase by your Company, in amount \$86,399 90, has also been set aside as an addition to the Reserve for Depreciation.

Operating Expenses of Subsidiary Companies include \$249,952 69 accrued for payment of General and Federal taxes, an increase of \$41,406 22 for the fiscal year and also material increases in wage scales paid to Street and Inter-urban Railway employees.

There were outstanding in the hands of the Public on December 31st 1914 the following stocks of your Company.

First Preferred.....	\$7,713,600 par value
Second Preferred.....	2,108,700 par value
Common.....	6,899,200 par value

The business of your Company in the Gas and Electric Departments shows a satisfactory increase, but, due to depressed industrial conditions, the Railway Department shows a slight decrease. The Gas Sales in cubic feet for the 12 months ending December 31st 1914, were 1,290,701,400, an increase of \$9,374,200, or 7½%. Electric Sales in kilowatt hours were 90,116,518, an increase of 3,742,559, or 4½%; while the Revenue passengers of all classes carried were 35,621,922, a decrease of 935,010, or 2 6-10%.

During the year the Company acquired in exchange for its securities, or by purchase, further amounts of the stocks and bonds of its Subsidiary Companies, of which the control was already owned. The proportion of Bond and Stock issues of Subsidiary Companies owned as of December 31st 1914 can be ascertained by a review of the annexed Consolidated Balance Sheet.

Through Sinking Fund Operations, additional bonds of the Tri-City Railway & Light Company, Citizens' Railway & Light Company, Iowa City Gas & Electric Company, Chattanooga Gas Company and Peoples' Gas & Electric

Company, aggregating \$191,000 were purchased and canceled. During the year there were also retired Certificates of Indebtedness and Car Trust Notes of the Cedar Rapids & Marion City Railway Company and Grand Rapids Grand Haven & Muskegon Railway Company in amount \$12,767. There were also retired \$420,000 of Notes issued in part payment of properties, leaving outstanding \$500,000 of similar Notes to become due January 1st 1916.

During the year \$984,923 61 was expended for additions to properties and extensions of service. Of this total \$191,325 55 was expended on Gas Properties, \$417,699 73 on Electric Properties, \$373,147 58 on Railway properties and \$2,750 75 on Heating properties. Following the granting in May 1914 to the People's Gas & Electric Company, by the electors of Mason City, of three new franchises for 25 years each, covering the sale and distribution of Gas, Electricity and District Heat, considerable expenditures were made to comply with promises, verbally made, prior to the granting of the Franchises, and additional expenditures will be necessary in Mason City during the year 1915 to fully comply with these obligations. The expenditures made have proven profitable and further expenditures are fully warranted. Additional expenditures based on Franchise obligations, involving extensions of track, will also be necessary on the property of the Cedar Rapids & Marion City Railway Company and on the Railway properties of the Tri-City Railway & Light Company. These expenditures will require an outlay of money which will not be immediately profitable, but should become so with the growth of the Cities served.

In addition to the expenditures above noted, Auxiliary Water Gas Plants were installed at Iowa City and Muscatine, Iowa, and several miles of additional Street Railway extensions were made in Cedar Rapids, Muscatine, Iowa, and in the Tri-City System. The improvements to the Fort Dodge Gas and Electric Stations commenced in 1913 were completed during the year. These expenditures have placed the Gas and Electric Stations of the Company in good physical condition and materially added to their capacity, thus enabling them to take on considerable additional business.

During the year regular Dividends were paid on the First and Second Preferred Stocks of your Company at the rate of 1½% and ¾ of 1%, respectively, quarterly. On the Common Stock, dividends of 1% cash were paid on January 1st, April 1st and July 1st 1914, and an extra dividend of 1% in Common Stock was disbursed on April 1st 1914. All dividends were declared payable from and were charged against the Surplus.

No dividends were declared payable on the Common Stock October 1st 1914, as explained in letter sent to the Stockholders on September 15th 1914, it being the opinion of the Directors that, pending the adjustment of the then existing general unsettled financial conditions, the duration and extent of which it was not possible to estimate, it would be for the best interests of the Common Stockholders to conserve the Cash Resources of your Company and defer action on the payment of Dividends on the Common Stock. This action on the part of the Directors assisted the Company in reducing its outstanding Notes Payable and paying all its obligations as they became due, including unfulfilled contracts for construction which could not be deferred or concealed.

In February 1915 the Company sold \$750,000 Three-Year and \$750,000 Five-Year Gold Notes, secured by deposit with The New York Trust Company, Trustee, of \$2,000,000 par value of your Company's First and Refunding Mortgage 5% Bonds, which bonds had been certified against construction expenditures and property previously paid for. These Notes are of an Authorized Issue of \$3,000,000 par value—are dated January 1st 1915, and draw 6% interest payable semi-annually January and July 1st. The Three-Year maturity can be called at par, and the Five Year maturity at 101, at any time on thirty days' notice.

The resulting proceeds enabled the Company to very materially reduce its Notes Payable, so that the amount outstanding March 15th 1915 is \$479,386 16, as against \$1,354,372 37 outstanding as of December 31st 1914.

The Cash Balances of the United Light & Railways Company and Subsidiary Companies as of March 15th 1915 are \$932,349 83.

The relations between the Managements of the Subsidiary Companies and the communities they serve are satisfactory and the service given is efficient.

Accompanying this Report is a Map showing the territory served by the Subsidiary Companies.

The Total Number of stockholders on December 15th 1914 was 2,400 (an increase during the year of 332), of which the large proportion are Preferred Stockholders.

Appended is the Consolidated Balance Sheet of the United Light & Railways Company and its Subsidiary Companies

as of December 31st 1914, and Statements of Revenue and Surplus Accounts for the year. The certificate of Barrow, Wade, Guthrie & Company, Chartered Accountants, who have audited the books and accounts of your Company and its Subsidiary Companies, is hereto annexed.

By order of the Board,  
FRANK T. HULSWIT,  
President.

March 15 1915.

THE UNITED LIGHT & RAILWAYS COMPANY AND  
SUBSIDIARY COMPANIES CONSOLIDATED  
BALANCE SHEET AS AT DEC. 31 1914.

ASSETS.	
Plant, Construction and Investment Account	\$45,170,617 71
Unamortized Bond Discount	345,270 00
<b>Total Capital Assets</b>	<b>\$45,515,887 71</b>
Preferred and Common Stocks of United Light & Railways Company Purchased and Held in Treasury at Cost	180,101 90
<b>Current Assets—</b>	
Treasury Bonds, First and Refunding 5% par value \$1,007,000	\$1,006,090 00
Cash on hand and in Bank	381,574 85
Accounts Receivable, less Reserve for Bad Debts	424,374 64
Bills Receivable	29,562 10
Stocks and Bonds of other Companies	64,804 00
Interest and Dividends Receivable	678 89
Tri-City Railway & Light First and Refunding 5s, par value \$6,000	5,100 00
Supplies	423,648 33
Prepaid Accounts	67,264 16
Deposit with New York Trust Company	2,403,096 97
Cash in Hands of Trustees for Sinking Funds	3,800 00
	41,201 31
	<b>\$48,144,087 89</b>
<b>LIABILITIES.</b>	
<b>Capital Stock—</b>	
United Light & Railways Company:	
First Preferred 6% Cumulative, Issued	\$7,794,800 00
Second Preferred 3% Cumulative, Issued	2,120,262 50
Common, Issued	\$7,324,184 00
Less—Amount in Treasury	294,484 00
	7,020,700 00
Cedar Rapids & Marion City Railway Company:	
Common Issued	\$650,000 00
Less—Amount held by United Light & Rys. Co.	584,801 24
	65,198 76
Chattanooga Gas Company:	
Preferred 6% Cumulative Issued	\$500,000 00
Less—Amount held by United Light & Rys. Co.	207,200 00
	292,800 00
Common Issued	\$750,000 00
Less—Amount held by United Light & Rys. Co.	745,300 00
	4,700 00
Iowa & Illinois Railway Company—	
Common Issued	\$1,500,000 00
Less—Amount held by United Light & Rys. Co.	1,439,650 00
	60,350 00
Tri-City Railway & Light Company—	
Preferred 6% Cumulative Issued	\$3,000,000 00
Less—Amount held by United Light & Rys. Co.	173,800 00
	2,826,200 00
Common Issued	\$9,000,000 00
Less—Amount held by United Light & Rys. Co.	8,823,500 00
	176,500 00
<b>Bonds—</b>	
United Light & Railways Co. First and Ref. 5s—	
Outstanding	\$8,221,000 00
Cadillac Gas Light Company First 5s—	
Outstanding	\$122,000 00
Less—Amount held in Treasury	\$22,000 00
Amount held by United Light & Railways Co.	92,000 00
	114,000 00
Cedar Rapids & Marion City Railway Co. 5s—	
Outstanding	\$250,000 00
Less—Held in Treasury	\$15,000 00
Retired through Sinking Fund but not canceled	21,000 00
Amount held by United Light & Railways Co.	171,000 00
	\$237,000 00
Chattanooga Gas Company First 5s—	
Outstanding	\$598,000 00
Less—Amount held by United Light & Rys. Co.	6,000 00
	592,000 00
G. R. G. H. & Muskegon Railway Co. First 5s—	
Outstanding	\$1,500,000 00
Less—Amount held by United Light & Rys. Co.	2,000 00
	1,498,000 00
Iowa City Gas & Electric Company First 6s—	
Outstanding	255,500 00
Iowa & Illinois Railway Company First 5s—	
Outstanding	\$1,209,000 00
Less—Amount held in Treasury	\$137,000 00
Amount held by United Light & Railways Co.	615,000 00
	752,000 00
Mason City & Clear Lake Railroad Company—	
First 6s Outstanding	8,000 00
General Mortgage 6s Outstanding	316,000 00
People's Gas & Electric Company	
First and Refunding 5s Outstanding	116,000 00
General Mortgage 6s Outstanding	379,000 00
Tri-City Railway & Light Company—	
First and Refunding 5s Outstanding	\$5,419,000 00
Less—Amount held in Treasury	\$137,000 00
Amount owned by United Light & Rys. Co.	2,070,000 00
	\$2,207,000 00
Collateral Trust 5s Outstanding	3,212,000 00
Tri-City Railway Company—	
First 5s Outstanding	7,859,000 00
Citizens Railway & Light Company—	
First 5s Outstanding	54,000 00
Less—Amount owned by United Light & Rys. Co.	288,000 00
	500 00
Notes—	
Issued in part payment of Properties due Jan. 1 1916	287,500 00
	500,000 00
<b>Total Capital Liabilities</b>	<b>\$44,158,501 25</b>

Current Liabilities—	
Accounts Payable	\$350,203 12
Notes Payable	1,354,372 37
Certificates of Indebtedness and Car Trust Notes	45,544 00
Meter Deposits	44,507 22
Paving Taxes	47,997 98
Other Liabilities	24,656 87—\$1,867,281 56
<b>Accrued Liabilities—</b>	
Interest Accrued	\$251,800 62
Taxes Accrued	199,967 99
Preferred Stock Dividends Accrued	175,677 25
Expenses Accrued	2,400 00— 629,845 86
<b>Surplus of Subsidiary Companies—</b>	
Available for Dividends to other Stock-holders	8,798 13
<b>Reserves—</b>	
Sundry Reserves	\$106,611 83
For Depreciation	985,409 89—1,092,021 72
Surplus—as per Schedule attached	387,539 36
	<b>\$48,144,087 89</b>

UNITED LIGHT & RAILWAYS COMPANY REVENUE  
ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING DEC. 31 1914.

INCOME.	
Earnings Receivable of Subsidiary Co's	\$1,039,782 71
Less, Proportion of Total Depreciation	165,992 90—\$873,789 81
Dividends and Interest Receivable—	
On Permanent Investment	216,082 00
On Bonds and Stocks of Other Co's	2,827 49
On Bonds and Stocks of Inter Co's	1,934 64
On Notes	121,536 09
On Bank Balances and Certificates of Deposit	1,914 05— 344,294 27
Salaries for Management of Subsidiary Companies	65,804 15
Salaries for Engineering and Supervision of Construction of Subsidiary Companies for year 1914	30,763 23
Miscellaneous Earnings	26,587 96
	123,155 34
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$1,341,239 42</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES.</b>	
Miscellaneous Expenses	\$103,835 42
Taxes	10,779 87
	114,615 29
Interest on Bonds	333,033 83
Interest on Notes	109,887 30
Bond Discount Charged off	12,912 00— 455,833 13
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$570,448 42</b>
Balance, being Profit for year, before deduction of dividends, less depreciation, carried to Surplus Account	770,791 00
	<b>\$1,341,239 42</b>

BENJAMIN C. ROBINSON, Treasurer.

UNITED LIGHT & RAILWAYS CO. CONDENSED  
STATEMENT OF SURPLUS ACCOUNT FOR  
FISCAL YEAR ENDING DEC. 31 1914.

Credit Balance of Surplus Account on December 31st 1913 as per Consolidated Balance Sheet in Annual Report for the Fiscal Year 1913	\$383,170 76
Credits to Surplus for the Year 1914	
*Profit for year as per Revenue Account annexed after deducting \$165,992 90 for Depreciation Reserve	\$770,791 00
Net Credits due to adjustments pertaining to period prior to December 31st 1913	34,895 85
<b>Total Credits to Surplus for 1914</b>	<b>805,686 85</b>
<b>Total Surplus to Account for</b>	<b>\$1,188,857 61</b>
<b>Debits to Surplus for the Year 1914—</b>	
Dividends on 1st Preferred Stock	\$462,801 00
Dividends on 2nd Preferred Stock	63,272 25
<b>Total Dividends on Preferred Stocks</b>	<b>526,073 25</b>
Dividends on Common Stock—3% in cash	\$206,761 00
Dividends on Common Stock—1% in stock	68,484 00
<b>Total Dividends on Common Stock</b>	<b>275,245 00</b>
<b>Total Debits to Surplus for 1914</b>	<b>\$801,318 25</b>
Credit Balance of Surplus Account on December 31st 1914 as per Consolidated Balance Sheet	387,539 36
<b>Total Surplus Accounted for</b>	<b>\$1,188,857 61</b>

\* Note.—The total reserve for Depreciation and Replacement set aside by the Subsidiary Companies out of their earnings for 1914 is \$169,390 86 of which the proportion chargeable to the earnings of the United Light & Railways Company is, as above stated, \$165,992 90, due to the fact that small amounts of the common stocks of four of the Subsidiary companies are not owned by the United Light & Railways Company.

BENJAMIN C. ROBINSON, Treasurer.

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS' CERTIFICATE.

New York, March 10 1915.

We have examined the books and accounts of the United Light & Railways Company, and its Subsidiary owned and controlled Companies as follows: The Cadillac Gas Light Company, Cedar Rapids Gas Company, Cedar Rapids & Marion City Railway Company, Chattanooga Gas Company, Fort Dodge Gas & Electric Company, Grand Rapids, Grand Haven & Muskegon Railway Company, Iowa City Light & Power Company, Iowa & Illinois Railway Company, Iowa & Illinois Terminal Company, La Porte Gas & Electric Company, Mason City & Clear Lake Railway Company, Ottumwa Gas Company, People's Gas & Electric Company, Tri-City Railway & Light Company and its Subsidiary owned and controlled Companies, and we have compiled the foregoing Balance Sheet with Revenue Account and Surplus Account annexed. The Company has charged a sum of \$165,992 90, against the Profits for the year for Depreciation. It has credited the Profit and Loss Account for the year 1914 with \$30,763 23, representing fees for Engineering and Supervision of Construction of Subsidiary Companies—a like credit for \$49,360 22, covering Construction, Engineering and Supervision for the year 1913, has been credited by the Company to Surplus Account.

We are of the opinion that the foregoing Balance Sheet correctly represents the position of the Company at December 31 1914.

BARROW, WADE, GUTHRIE & COMPANY,  
Chartered Accountants.

## THE UNITED GAS AND ELECTRIC CORPORATION

ANNUAL REPORT—FOR THE YEAR ENDED DEC. 31 1914.

New York, March 31 1915.

To the Stockholders of The United Gas and Electric Corporation:

A report of the affairs of your Corporation, its earnings for the year ended on December 31, 1914, and its financial condition on that date, with passing reference to its operating subsidiaries, is herein respectfully submitted by your Directors.

For convenience in reference there have been incorporated into this report certain exhibits designated as follows and appearing at the end of this report:

- Statement A. Consolidated Balance Sheet as of December 31, 1914.  
 Statement B. Consolidated Surplus Account for the Year ended December 31, 1914.  
 Statement C. Statement of Earnings from all sources for the Year ended December 31, 1914, including equity in net earnings from subsidiary companies, etc.  
 Statement D. Comparative results of operation of subsidiary companies for the Years ended December 31, 1914, 1913 and 1912.

(Statements A, B and C above are the results of the annual audit by Messrs. Touche, Niven & Company.)

In almost every field of industry, commerce and finance, a review of operations over the past year must be made with its unprecedented disturbances in mind. Conservatism and caution were required from those in whose discretion rested the safeguarding of the interests of others. Fully sensible to this requirement, your Directors have adhered to a policy of economy and conservation without denying to the communities in which our subsidiaries operate improvements in, and extensions of, their service, and without permitting the physical properties of your Corporation to deteriorate in condition. Indeed, in this latter respect it has seemed the most enlightened economy to put aside ample reserves for renewal and replacement and to make liberal capital expenditures wherever there appeared to be a real and positive demand. Of this more will be said later under appropriate headings.

After careful consideration of the question of payment of dividends, the Directors voted to defer action although the dividend had been earned, as is shown by the earnings statement submitted herewith. Although your Corporation was successful, as detailed below, in making arrangements to pay the \$7,500,000 Notes maturing April 1st, it was not possible to increase the amount of financing in order that its cash working capital might be increased, while the expenses incident to the payment of the \$7,500,000 Notes maturing on April 1st, had to be cared for. The Corporation will have on hand on April 1st about \$650,000 cash, but the uncertain outlook in the business and financial world and the extreme importance of conserving its cash resources, in order that it might be in a strong position and able to render financial assistance, should any be necessary, to its subsidiary companies, convinced the Directors that the wisest course in the interest of the stockholders required no action at the present time.

## FINANCING.

The Corporation's Five Per Centum Three-Year Gold Coupon Secured Notes of the par value of \$7,500,000 which were issued April 1, 1912, will mature on April 1, 1915, and will be payable at the Central Trust Company of New York, Trustee, on that date.

In order that your Corporation might take advantage of every favorable circumstance and at the same time avoid any disadvantage inherent in the unusual condition of the money market generally, a Special Committee for the consideration of this matter was appointed at a meeting of the Board of Directors held December 30, 1914, which Committee consisted of the following:

A. J. Hemphill, A. H. Wiggin,  
 S. Z. Mitchell, R. L. Montgomery,  
 S. R. Bertron, George Bullock.

The Committee, taking into consideration prevailing financial conditions, the character of securities being issued and offered by other corporations, both public service and industrial, by municipalities and by state and national governments, agreed upon and recommended a plan of financing which was outlined in a notice of a special meeting of stockholders to be held March 17, 1915, which notice was duly mailed to you.

The plan provided for the authorization of \$15,000,000 Thirty-Year Collateral Trust Sinking Fund Gold Bonds to be dated April 1, 1915, and for the issuance of \$10,000,000 of such bonds bearing interest at 6% per annum, \$7,650,000 of which said bonds should be pledged as collateral for \$5,500,000 Three-Year 6% Secured Gold Notes to be dated April 1, 1915, the remaining \$2,350,000 of the said bonds to be sold. This plan was approved and accepted by your Board of Directors and a bid for the \$5,500,000 Three-Year 6% secured Gold Notes by Messrs. Drexel & Company was accepted, and bids for the \$2,350,000 6% Collateral Trust Sinking Fund Gold Bonds by Messrs. Bertron, Griscom & Co. and Messrs. Reilly, Brock & Co. also were accepted. Pro-

vision was thus made for the payment of the notes maturing April 1, 1915.

The Richmond Light, Heat & Power Company in March 1914 met maturities of \$700,000, consisting of \$200,000 First Refunding 5% Bonds and \$500,000 Three-Year 6% Notes. These maturing obligations, as well as requirements for improvements and betterments, were financed by the sale of \$400,000 First Mortgage 6% Bonds, due March 1 1939, and \$450,000 6% Guaranteed Gold Notes due March 1, 1919, bearing the guaranty of the United Gas & Electric Company of New Jersey.

The Elmira Water, Light and Railroad Company, during the year 1914, refinanced \$1,250,000 6% Debenture Gold Bonds, which matured May 1st, 1914, \$355,000 West Side Railroad Company First Mortgage 5% Bonds, which matured October 1, 1914, besides calling and retiring \$307,000 Chemung County Gas Company First Mortgage 6% Bonds, which had approximately nine years to run. Provision was also made for additional funds for improvements and betterments. This comprehensive plan of financing was carried out by the issuance and sale of \$972,000 First Consolidated 5% Bonds due September 1, 1956, an additional \$317,000 5% Preferred Stock, and the issuance of \$1,275,000 First Preferred 7% Stock, to which the entire issue of the former preferred stock was subordinated, becoming designated thereafter as Second Preferred Stock. This resulted in reduction of the aggregate mortgage debt, a lessening of the number of mortgage liens and a consequent improvement in the conditions under which the Company might seek additional credit when needed.

Changes in the outstanding bonded debt and capital stock issues of other operating subsidiaries occurred as follows:

COMPANY	AMOUNT
Citizens Gas and Fuel Co., Terre Haute, Ind.	
Issued and sold of its First and Ref. Mtge. 5% Bonds due Jan. 1, 1930	\$25,000
The Colorado Springs Light, Heat and Power Co., Colorado Spgs., Colo.	
Issued and sold of its First and Ref. Mtge. 5% Bonds due Aug. 1, 1920	105,000
Consumers Electric Light & Power Co., New Orleans, La.	
Issued and sold of its First Mtge. 5% Bonds due Jan. 1, 1935	20,000
Edison Electric Co., Lancaster, Pa.	
Issued and sold of its First and Ref. Mtge. 5% Bonds due Feb. 1, 1943	142,000
Issued and sold of its Capital Stock	37,500
Harrisburg Light and Power Co., Harrisburg, Pa.	
Issued and sold of its First and Ref. Mtge. 5% Bonds due Aug. 1, 1952	212,000
Issued and sold of its Common Stock	500,000
The Hartford City Gas Light Co., Hartford, Conn.	
Issued and sold of its First Mtge. 4% Bonds due July 1, 1935	150,000
Houston Gas and Fuel Company, Houston, Texas.	
Issued and sold of its Preferred Stock	100,000
International Railway Company, Buffalo, New York.	
Issued and sold of its Ref. and Imp. 5% Bonds due Nov. 1, 1962	129,000
International Traction Co., Buffalo, New York.	
Redeemed Car Trust Certificates	85,000
Redeemed Serial Debenture Notes	50,000
Lockport Light, Heat and Power Co., Lockport, New York.	
Issued and sold of its First Ref. Mtge. 5% Bonds due Jan. 1, 1938	9,000
Union Gas & Electric Co., Bloomington, Ill.	
Issued and sold of its First Mtge. 5% Bonds due Sept. 1, 1935	64,000
Retired through Sinking Fund of above Bonds	10,000

## CAPITAL EXPENDITURES.

During the year approximately \$2,792,000 was expended for additions, betterments and extensions in the railway, gas, electric, steam and water departments. The principal expenditures, by companies, were as follows:

Elmira Water, Light and Railroad Company	\$1,117,000
International Railway Company	602,000
The Hartford City Gas Light Company	321,000
Lancaster Properties	175,000
Harrisburg Light and Power Company	129,000
Houston Heights Water & Light Association	110,000
Houston Gas and Fuel Company	99,000
The Wilkesbarre Company	70,000
Citizens Gas and Fuel Company	52,000
Miscellaneous	117,000

At Elmira, the expenditure was mainly represented by the completed cost of the new power plant referred to in the last Annual Report, having a present capacity of 10,500 K.W. and an ultimate capacity of 20,000 K.W. Other improvements consist of a high tension transmission line from Elmira to Corning, N. Y., the laying and replacing of track with heavier steel rail, and the erection of additional buildings at Rorick's Glen Park.

At Buffalo, the principal expenditure was for the reconstruction of tracks, the installation of new fare-boxes and the erection of a new car house on Hertel Avenue.

At Hartford, the expenditure is represented principally by the completed cost of new vertical retorts and appurtenances for a coal gas system, referred to in the last Annual Report.

At Lancaster, there was erected a station and waiting-room on Central Square and North Queen Street.

At Harrisburg, there were installed additional boilers, with necessary auxiliaries in connection with the development of the steam heat department, also additional over-head distribution lines for the increasing business.

At Houston, mains were laid and services and meters installed to meet the requirements of increasing business.

At Wilkes Barre, an addition was made to the boiler plant and the steam heating system extended, also a new storehouse was erected and a coal handling conveyer installed.

At Terre Haute, the Citizens Gas & Fuel Company, the principal expenditures were for laying of mains, due to repaving by the city, and for the purchase of an office building.





30 Broad Street, New York, March 17th, 1915.

We have examined and audited the books and accounts of the United Gas and Electric Corporation and those of the United Gas & Electric Engineering Corporation for the year ended December 31st, 1914, and we certify that the foregoing Balance Sheet (Statement A) with relative Statement of Surplus Account (Statement B) are in accordance therewith, and exhibit, in our opinion, correct statements of the Corporations' affairs at the date stated and of the transactions of both Corporations for the year then ended.

Incidental to our examination, we have also examined for the same period the books and accounts of the United Gas & Electric Company and the Lancaster County Railway and Light Company, being two of the Subsidiary Holding Companies, and we have scrutinized the monthly returns of the several Operating Companies controlled directly or indirectly by all the Corporations. These Monthly returns of operations are verified from time to time by officials of The United Gas and Electric Corporation, and the foregoing statement of equity in combined Net Earnings for the year ended December 31st, 1914 (Statement C), is prepared from the results shown therein.

TOUCHE, NIVEN & CO.,  
Chartered Accountants, Auditors.

#### STATEMENT D—THE UNITED GAS AND ELECTRIC CORPORATION

COMPARATIVE RESULTS OF OPERATION OF SUBSIDIARY COMPANIES FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1914, 1913 AND 1912

	1914	1913	1912*
Gross Earnings	14,013,353.59	13,628,342.87	12,851,444.77
Operating Expenses	6,083,161.28	5,972,888.61	5,648,286.22
Net Operating Income	7,930,192.31	7,655,454.26	7,203,158.55
Other Operating Expenses—			
Maintenance	1,268,074.67	1,263,345.79	1,122,442.97
Taxes	794,148.07	709,615.74	633,283.87
Total	2,062,222.74	1,972,961.53	1,755,726.84
Gross Corporate Income	5,867,969.57	5,682,492.73	5,447,431.71
Fixed Charges	3,459,237.98	3,308,260.24	2,969,573.63
Balance	2,408,731.59	2,374,232.49	2,477,858.08
Renewal & Replacement Reserve	486,826.55	387,700.19	521,654.69
Surplus applicable for Dividends	1,921,905.04	1,986,532.30	1,956,203.39
Surplus at close of Year	4,688,065.86	4,041,331.00	4,185,921.91

\* As the Corporation began business June 6, 1912, it is impossible to furnish comparative figures for the year 1912, but for the purpose of ascertaining the earnings applicable for a twelve months' period, we have assumed the earnings of the various subsidiary companies which went into the Corporation as of June 6, covering the period January 1, 1912, to June 6, 1912.

## AMERICAN CITIES COMPANY

### FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT—YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31 1914.

Jersey City, N. J., March 2, 1915.

To the Stockholders:

Herewith are submitted statements of the business of your Company as follows:

Statement A. Condensed Balance Sheet as of December 31, 1914;

Statement B. Income and Expenditures for the twelve months ended December 31, 1914;

Statement C. Combined Income of Constituent Companies American Cities Company, twelve months ended December 31, 1914;

Statement D. Gross Earnings all Sources Constituent Companies, 1902 to 1914 inclusive.

The income of the Company as set forth in Statement B is derived wholly from dividends declared and paid upon the stocks of the various constituent companies, except a comparatively small amount received as interest upon loans, cash balances and operating contracts. The constituent companies do not declare in dividends their entire applicable surpluses and their undivided surplus earnings are not taken into the income or assets of the American Cities Company. Statements A and B do not set forth full earnings of the properties controlled by the Company, but only such portions thereof as actually reach your Company through the medium of interest on loans and dividends on stocks.

If the proportionate interest of your Company in the undivided surplus earnings of the constituent companies were added to the surplus earnings as shown in Statement B, the result for the year 1914 would be as follows:

Surplus of American Cities Company for year 1914	\$100,597.61
American Cities Company's proportionate share of undivided surplus earnings over dividends	121,821.09
Total	\$222,418.70
Equivalent rate on Common Stock of American Cities Company	1.36%

#### THE CONSTITUENT COMPANIES

The American Cities Company owns in the aggregate 85.83% of the Preferred and 95.79% of the Common Stocks of the following companies:

New Orleans Railway & Light Company,  
Birmingham Railway Light & Power Company,  
The Memphis Street Railway Company,  
Little Rock Railway & Electric Company,  
Knoxville Railway & Light Company,  
Houston Lighting & Power Company, 1905.

Appended to this report is a brief description of each of these properties.

#### RESULTS OF OPERATION IN 1914

Gross earnings increased \$141,803, operating expenses and taxes increased \$15,596, deductions, including interest charges, increased \$133,174, leaving a decrease in net income applicable to dividends on stocks of only \$6,967.

In view of the reduction in rates and increased operating expenses, etc., hereinafter stated, and the general business depression existing during the last half of the year, the results above enumerated are very gratifying.

The New Orleans Railway & Light Company reduced its gas rates on April 1, 1914, and its electric rates on December 1, 1914. This Company also reduced the fare on its West End-Spanish Fort line to 5c.

After lengthy negotiations with the City of Houston, agreement was reached whereby the Houston Lighting & Power Company 1905 has granted reduced rates for electric lighting and power service.

Operating expenses of the New Orleans Railway & Light Company were increased approximately \$100,000, due to

advanced price of coal and of gas oil. However, new contracts for these commodities were entered into December, 1914, at prices which, it is estimated, will effect a saving in 1915 over 1914 of approximately \$90,000.00.

The operating ratios of the constituent companies are:

1914	52.77	1911	52.23
1913	53.67	1910	53.30
1912	51.61		

#### FINANCES

During the year your Company has had no occasion to borrow or finance its requirements.

On March 31, 1914, the Houston Lighting & Power Company 1905 increased its Capital Stock, Common, \$500,000, for the purpose of purchasing the Houston Heights electric property, and to reimburse its Treasury for previous construction expenditures made.

#### GENERAL

The Board of Directors of your Company recently visited the properties of the constituent companies. We believe that the following letter from Mr. Frank B. Hayne, one of your Directors, regarding this trip, is of sufficient interest to be quoted at length.

New Orleans, January 26 1915.

"To the Board of Directors American Cities Company, New Orleans, La.:

"Gentlemen—At the request of your Executive Committee, I am submitting impressions which I gathered on a recent trip of inspection of the American Cities subsidiary properties. I am including in my views the expressions of other members of the Board of Directors with whom I made the visit to the several cities, as our conclusions were unanimous. We started from New Orleans on January 9th and visited Houston, Little Rock, Memphis, Knoxville and Birmingham, in the order named; the tour being concluded on January 15th.

"We made a thorough inspection of all the properties, including power houses, car shops, trackage, and gas works, and found the physical condition of each company to be modern, up-to-date and well handled. Apparently, all the large expenditures seem to be over, and the money to have been well spent. The properties are fully rounded out to adequately serve each community, and with facilities already provided in advance of requirements. It looks as if for some time the management of these properties will be directed towards efficiency in operation, and maintaining them in their present satisfactory physical condition, rather than to extensive work which has been so necessary in the past. It is now a more important question of fully developing the available business for which the systems have been so adequately equipped. I was particularly well pleased with the competent men who were in charge of the operation of all the plants. From the general managers down, they all seemed to thoroughly understand their duties in every respect.

"A most gratifying spirit of co-operation on the part of the citizens was exhibited toward the public utilities in each city in which we are interested. It was very pleasing to hear the Mayor of one city refer to us, who were supplying funds from other centres, as the greatest factor in helping to build up his city, and he not only appreciated our efforts but wanted to assure us of his co-operation. He also stated that he considered the electric and railway facilities which we were supplying in his city as the best service given in any city of its size in the United States. Practically this same



local real estate developments, which are feeders for the company, an interurban line about twelve miles of which is in operation, from East Lake to Ensley, the gas business in Bessemer and electric lighting in North Birmingham. To the latter section, however, power lines were extended in 1912.

The various systems cover thoroughly all the City of Birmingham and also the adjoining municipalities of Brighton, Bessemer and Irondale. Power is supplied to a number of industries in different sections of the country outside of the regular service limits.

The population of the territory served is estimated to be 180,000.

The natural resources of the Birmingham District are phenomenal. Nowhere else in the world are coal, iron ore and limestone, the three essential elements which enter into the production of iron, found in such close proximity or in such extensive quantities, nor can pig iron be manufactured so cheaply.

All of the Company's franchises are unlimited in time excepting those covering the operation of comparatively small and unimportant portions of trackage.

The Company now has a favorable long-term contract with the Alabama Power Company for the purchase of electric power generated at the water plant of that Company on the Coosa River about forty miles from Birmingham. Under this contract the Company's steam station is now held as a reserve plant.

The Company does the city lighting in Birmingham, Bessemer and Brighton. The Company has expended over nine million dollars in the reconstruction and extension of its property within the past ten years. Its physical condition is excellent and the capacity of the property is sufficiently great to handle a large increase in business.

#### THE MEMPHIS STREET RAILWAY COMPANY

The Memphis Street Railway Company owns and operates the entire street railway system in the City of Memphis, Tennessee, and also operates a number of lines to points outside the city limits, the population of which, with the suburban sections served, is at present about 170,000.

Memphis is the largest city in Tennessee, the county seat of Shelby County, and is located at the head of navigation throughout the year on the Mississippi River. It is one of the most important railroad centres in the Southern States, having eleven trunk line railroads radiating in all directions. It is the largest inland primary cotton market in the country, handling about one million bales of cotton per annum, the largest hardwood lumber market in the world, and one of the most important jobbing centres in the country.

The Memphis Street Railway Company operates under franchises extending to November 1945, confirmed in all their terms by a decision of the Supreme Court of Tennessee in 1907. The Company has expended within the past ten years over \$5,600,000, thereby putting its property in excellent physical condition, and providing sufficient capacity to care for a large increase in business.

#### LITTLE ROCK RAILWAY & ELECTRIC COMPANY

The Little Rock Railway & Electric Company owns and operates all the street railway business in the City of Little Rock, Arkansas, and the electric light and power business in the cities of Little Rock, Argenta and Pulaski Heights. Competitive electric company was purchased October 1914. The population of these cities and suburbs is estimated to be 65,000.

Little Rock is the capital of Arkansas and the county seat of Pulaski County. It is the largest city and the commercial, financial and railroad centre of the State. It is situated on the Arkansas River, which is navigable to this point all the year. It is the fourth greatest interior cotton market in the United States and one of the most important jobbing centres in the Southwest.

#### CURRENT NOTICE.

—Reilly, Brock & Co., bankers, 306 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, are advertising and offering for investment in this issue \$2,000,000 City of Philadelphia School District 4½% bonds, free of Pennsylvania State tax and Federal income tax. These bonds are legal investment for trust funds, due \$100,000 annually July 1 1925 to 1944, the legality of which has been approved by John G. Johnson of Philadelphia. The prices net 4% for short maturities to 4.02% for long maturities. See to-day's advertisement for full particulars. A descriptive circular and a copy of John G. Johnson's opinion will be mailed on inquiry.

—Messrs. A. D. Converse & Co., 49 Wall St., New York, have issued their circular for April 1915 in which they offer some very attractive investments, both as to safety of principal and yield. Among their list of offerings are bonds and preferred shares of railroad and public utility companies yielding from 5.10 to 7%, also a conservative list of municipal bonds yielding from 4.15 to 4.55%. The firm will be glad to mail a copy of their circular upon request.

—Hollister & Carpenter, specialists in Government and municipal securities, 31 Nassau St., this city, have prepared a municipal bond circular of attractive American and Canadian issues which the firm offers subject to prior sale and advance in price. A copy of this descriptive circular will be mailed on request to investors, banking institutions and others interested in municipal investments.

—At 92 and interest, to yield about 5.60%, E. W. Clark & Co. of Philadelphia are offering to investors Central Illinois Light Co. first and refunding mortgage bonds due April 1 1943. Earnings for twelve months ended Dec. 31 1914 were, the bankers state, more than 2½ times the interest on all bonds, including underlying bonds. See to-day's advertisement in our advertising columns.

The Company operates its lighting department under franchises which are unlimited in time and the railway department under franchises which extend to September 28, 1951. It has expended more than \$2,200,000 upon its property within the past ten years. The plant and equipment are consequently in the best condition and adequate to handle a large increase in business.

#### KNOXVILLE RAILWAY & LIGHT COMPANY

The Knoxville Railway & Light Company owns and operates all the street railway, electric light and power business in Knoxville, and serves in addition the outlying incorporated cities of Park City, Lonsdale and Mountain View, and the suburbs known as Fountain City, Oakwood, Vestal, Lincoln Park and South Knoxville. This territory has a population estimated to be 85,000.

Knoxville is the commercial and banking centre of a large part of the South Appalachian region, the natural resources of which is hardwood, marble, coal, iron, copper, and zinc are now being rapidly developed. It is also an important manufacturing and jobbing centre. In addition to the excellent railroad facilities, it is situated on the Tennessee River, which is navigable during a considerable portion of the year to a point above Knoxville.

The Company owns Chilhowee Park, recently enlarged and beautified as a site for the National Conservation Exposition. It also operates Fountain City Park under a lease so long as it remains a park. The franchises are unlimited in duration except for a railway franchise about 1½ miles on two unimportant streets, which expire in 1946. The Company now has a favorable long-term contract with the Tennessee Power Company for the purchase of electric power generated at the water power plant of that Company on the Ocoee River, about eighty miles from Knoxville. Under this contract the steam station of the Company is now held as an auxiliary or reserve plant.

The Company has expended for reconstruction and extensions within the past ten years over \$2,900,000. In consequence the physical condition of the property is the best that can be had and the capacity is sufficient to take care of the growth of business which is assured in the immediate future.

#### HOUSTON LIGHTING & POWER COMPANY 1905

The Houston Lighting & Power Company 1905 owns and operates the entire municipal and commercial electric lighting and power business in the City of Houston and Houston Heights, Texas. The electric branch of the Houston Heights Water & Light Company was purchased on March 31, 1914.

Houston is one of the largest cities of Texas, having a population, including suburbs and nearby points served, of over 100,000. The city limits embrace thirty square miles. It is the county seat of Harris County, and is the greatest railroad centre of the State, having seventeen lines of railroad, with the finest terminals south of St. Louis.

Bonds have been voted and issued to the amount of \$1,250,000 by the City of Houston, which together with an equal amount appropriated by the United States Government, makes a total appropriation of \$2,500,000 available for the improvement of the Houston Ship Channel, which gives direct connection with the sea. The city has also recently voted bonds to the amount of \$300,000 for building wharves and warehouses on the Channel. Work on this is to start at once. Houston is the centre of the oil-producing district of Texas, and it does the greatest jobbing and manufacturing business of any city in Texas, being also a very important lumber, cotton and rice market.

The Company operates under perpetual franchises. It has expended more than \$1,700,000 on its system in the past ten years, placing the property in excellent physical condition, and of sufficient capacity to handle a largely increased business.

**The Financial Review for 1915**, issued by the publishers of the "Commercial and Financial Chronicle," will be ready March 25. It is an invaluable book (360 pages) for reference throughout the year.

Some of the contents are as follows:

- Retrospect of 1914, giving a comprehensive review of the business of that year, with statistics in each department, financial and commercial.
- Bank Clearings in 1914, with comparative statistics for 20 years.
- Number of shares sold on the New York Stock Exchange in each of the past 20 years.
- Securities listed on the New York Stock Exchange in 1914, with statistics for a series of years.
- Call money rates daily in 1914.
- Money rates by weeks for past three years on all classes of loans.
- Weekly statements in 1914 for Banks and Trust Companies.
- Crop statistics for a series of years.
- Iron and Coal—Production for a series of years.
- Gold and Silver—Production for a series of years and Monthly Range of Price of Silver in London from 1837 to 1914, inclusive.
- Building Operation Statistics, United States and Canada, comparison for a series of years.
- Comparative prices of Merchandise for a series of years.
- Foreign Exchange—Daily Prices in New York in 1914.
- Great Britain—Review of commercial and financial affairs, with comparative statistics.
- State Bonds—Record of prices since 1860.
- Foreign Government Securities—Range of Prices monthly on New York Stock Exchange for five years.
- Railroad and Miscellaneous Bonds and Stocks—Monthly Range of Prices for five years in New York and for one year in Boston, Philadelphia and Baltimore.
- Exports and Imports for a series of years.
- Stock Quotations During Period when Stock Exchange was closed.
- Railroad and Industrial Dividends, 1905-1914.
- Description of Railroad and Industrial Securities, Record of Earnings, Dividends, Railroad Construction, Total Mileage, Capitalization, Passenger and Freight and other statistics for a series of years.



The exports for the week ending this evening reach a total of 136,971 bales, of which 65,147 were to Great Britain, 27,473 to France and 44,351 to the rest of the Continent. Exports for the week and since Aug. 1 1914 are as follows:

Table with columns: Exports from, Week ending April 9 1915, From Aug. 1 1914 to April 9 1915. Sub-columns: Great Britain, France, Cont., Total.

Note.—New York exports since Aug. 1 include 5,276 bales Peruvian and 25 bales West Indian to Liverpool, 50 bales Egyptian to Mexico.

In addition to above exports, our telegrams to-night also give us the following amounts of cotton on shipboard, not cleared, at the ports named. We add similar figures for New York.

Table: On Shipboard, Not Cleared for— April 9 at— Great Britain, France, Ger-many, Other Foreign, Coast-wise, Total, Leasing Stock.

Speculation in cotton for future delivery has been on a fairly liberal scale at some advance in prices for a time. Later came a sharp reaction, followed by another rally. The rise early in the week was due to the strength of Liverpool quotations, good buying here by spot interests, the scarcity of contracts, sympathy with a strong and active stock market, talk of a sharp decrease in acreage and fertilizers, &c. Speculation broadened out on the bull side. Exports for the season to date now exceed 6,700,000 bales. That is a total far beyond what was expected early in the season. As to the widening out of speculative transactions, the one effect was seen in an advance in New York Cotton Exchange memberships to \$11,000. Two were sold at that price. The big advance in cotton in the last six weeks attracted wide attention to it. Liverpool's spot sales, moreover, have latterly increased. Manchester has been strong. Cable dispatches reported quite a good business in Lancashire. On this side of the water cotton goods have sold quite freely in some cases and prices advanced for certain goods 1/4 to 1/2c. per yard. Private reports stated that the acreage would be reduced 18 to 20% and fertilizers 38 to 40%. New high records have been reached on futures on this movement. Wall Street and the West have bought. So at times has the South. Spinners' takings have made a good showing. Reports are persistent that the consumption this year is going to be large, far larger than was at one time expected. In the manufacture of explosives alone a good many people insist that the consumption of American cotton will be 1,250,000 to 1,500,000 bales. Spot markets advanced for a time, although not so fast as futures. At times, too, the weather at the South has been cold and rainy with occasional snow in North Carolina. The season in a number of sections at the South is reported rather backward. On all reactions shorts early in the week certainly showed a disposition to cover. Bulls who had sold out took hold again. The argument was frequently heard that the consumption, in spite of the war, was about normal, and that therefore normal prices ought to prevail—i. e., those which were current for several years before the war, or something like 12 to 14 cents. But, on the other hand, it was noticeable that after the opening of the month of April exports began to decrease. It was gradual at first. But on April 7 they suddenly dropped to a single 100 bales. That aroused widespread comment. What is more, it caused a good deal of selling. Believers in lower prices plucked up courage. They had long been contending that an advance of nearly 300 points from the low point of the season had discounted anything bullish that could with any pretense of reason be adduced in favor of the market. Also there has been a vein of skepticism in many of the recent reports as to the likelihood of there being as big a cut in the area as some have been predicting. Reports which put the nominal decrease at 18 to 20% have expressed the opinion that in the end it would not be much more than 15%. Other reports from Texas have bluntly said that the decrease in

most parts of that State would not be over 10%. To cap the climax, some reports from Austin, Tex., have expressed the conviction that in the southern part of Texas there might even be an increase of 2%. This fact attracted no little attention. Besides, Liverpool reports stated that the Continent and Lancashire were beginning to refuse to follow the advance. On some days, in fact, the Continent has been selling in Liverpool. Export trade at the South has been hurt not only by the blockade but also by high freights and insurance charges and heavy war risks, notably to England, France and Spain. The parity between America and Liverpool has been singularly narrow, under the circumstances, i. e., about 150 points, whereas many believe that it should be anywhere from 200 to 300 points. Ocean freights at Galveston to European ports have been \$1.45 to \$1.75 per hundred pounds, the latter to Genoa. There seems to be everything to hamper the export trade. This is a factor in the situation that is being keenly watched. The future of the price may hinge on the size of the exports. If they are greatly curtailed from now on it is conceivable, it is argued, that the surplus carried over into next season may be four or five million bales. Naturally, that will have to be added to the next crop in reckoning the next season's supply. Under the circumstances, it may easily happen that next season's supply may be large. But many are looking for a renewal of exports on a liberal scale. They are also inclined to look for decisive events in Southeastern Europe in the near future, very possibly paving the way for an early peace. To-day prices declined early on Liverpool depression, general liquidation, the increasing stock here, and talk of a greater disposition on the part of the South to hedge here, as well as a decreased export demand. Later there was a quick upturn. Three days of liquidation had apparently cleared the market. Besides, there were rumors that Count Von Bernstorff, the German Ambassador at Washington, had intimated that Germany might listen to peace proposals from the Allies provided German interests should not suffer. Large spot interests, Wall Street, the West, the Waldorf-Astoria contingent, the South and shorts covered. The week's statistics were considered, in the main, bullish. Spot cotton closed at 10 cents for middling uplands, showing an advance for the week of 20 points.

The following averages of the differences between grades, as figured from the April 8 quotations of the nine markets, designated by the Secretary of Agriculture, are the differences established for deliveries in the N. Y. market on Apr. 15. Middling fair.....1.04 on Good middling "yellow" tinged 0.33 on Strict good middling.....0.78 on Strict middling "yellow" tinged 0.20 off Good middling.....0.55 on Middling "yellow" tinged.....0.50 off Strict middling.....0.37 on Strict low mid. "yellow" tinged 1.00 off Strict low middling.....0.46 off Low middling "yellow" tinged.....1.62 off Low middling.....1.01 off Middling "blue" tinged.....0.84 off Strict good ordinary.....1.61 off Strict low mid. "blue" tinged.....1.23 off Good ordinary.....2.17 off Low middling "blue" tinged.....1.80 off Strict good mid. "yellow" tinged 0.39 on Middling "stained".....1.16 off

The official quotation for middling upland cotton in the New York market each day for the past week has been:

Table: NEW YORK QUOTATIONS FOR 32 YEARS. Columns: Year, Price. Rows: 1915, 1914, 1913, 1912, 1911, 1910, 1909, 1908.

Table: MARKET AND SALES AT NEW YORK. Columns: Spot Market Closed, Futures Market Closed, SALES (Spot, Contr't, Total). Rows: Saturday, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Total.

FUTURES.—The highest, lowest and closing prices at New York for the past week have been as follows:

Table: Futures prices. Columns: Saturday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Week. Rows: April, May, July, August, September, October, November, December, January, March.

THE VISIBLE SUPPLY OF COTTON to-night, as made up by cable and telegraph, is as follows. Foreign stocks, as well as the afloat, are this week's returns, and consequently all foreign figures are brought down to Thursday evening. But to make the total the complete figures for to-night (Friday), we add the item of exports from the United States, including in it the exports of Friday only.

Table showing cotton supply statistics for 1915, 1914, 1913, and 1912. Includes categories like Stock at Liverpool, Total Great Britain, Total Continental stocks, and Total American supply.

Table showing movement to April 9, 1915, and April 10, 1914, broken down by town and receipts.

Continental imports for past week have been 255,000 bales. The above figures for 1915 show a decrease from last week of 44,725 bales, a gain of 1,806,000 bales over 1914, an excess of 2,466,781 bales over 1913 and a gain of 2,063,608 bales over 1912.

AT THE INTERIOR TOWNS the movement—that is, the receipts for the week and since Aug. 1, the shipments for the week and the stocks to-night, and the same items for the corresponding period of the previous year—is set out in detail below.

Large table showing movement to April 9, 1915, and April 10, 1914, for various towns including Ala., Eufaula, Montgomery, Selma, Ark., Helena, Little Rock, Ga., Albany, Athens, Atlanta, Augusta, Columbus, Macon, Rome, La., Shreveport, Miss., Columbus, Greenville, Greenwood, Meridian, Natchez, Vicksburg, Yazoo City, Mo., St. Louis, N. C., Raleigh, O., Cincinnati, Okla., Hugo, S. C., Greenville, Tenn., Memphis, Nashville, Tex., Brenham, Clarksville, Dallas, Honey Grove, Houston, and Paris.

The above totals show that the interior stocks have decreased during the week 49,334 bales and are to-night 323,880 bales more than at the same time last year. The receipts at all towns have been 61,294 bales more than the same week last year.

OVERLAND MOVEMENT FOR THE WEEK AND SINCE AUG. 1.—We give below a statement showing the overland movement for the week and since Aug. 1, as made up from telegraphic reports Friday night. The results for the week and since Aug. 1 in the last two years are as follows:

Table showing April 9—Shipped— statistics for 1914-15 and 1913-14, including routes like Via St. Louis, Via Cairo, Via Rock Island, etc.

\* Including movement by rail to Canada.

The foregoing shows the week's net overland movement this year has been 42,203 bales, against 20,770 bales for the week last year, and that for the season to date the aggregate net overland exhibits a decrease from a year ago of 90,669 bales.

Table showing In Sight and Spinners' Takings for 1914-15 and 1913-14.

Total marketed 279,452 12,427,796 181,792 13,050,386

Came into sight during week 230,118 126,497

North spinners' takings to April 9 44,269 2,383,871 50,892 2,400,575

\* Decrease during week.

Movement into sight in previous years:

Table showing movement into sight in previous years for 1913-14 and 1912-13.

QUOTATIONS FOR MIDDLING COTTON AT OTHER MARKETS.—Below are the closing quotations of middling cotton at Southern and other principal cotton markets for each day of the week.

Table showing closing quotations for MIDDLING COTTON on Saturday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday for various locations like Galveston, New Orleans, Mobile, etc.

NEW ORLEANS CONTRACT MARKET.—The highest, lowest and closing quotations for leading contracts in the New Orleans cotton market for the past week have been as follows:

Table showing New Orleans Contract Market data for April 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9, including Range, Closing, and Spot/Options.

WEATHER REPORTS BY TELEGRAPH.—Telegraphic reports to us this evening from the South indicate that dry weather has prevailed over much of the cotton area the past week. Temperature has been rather low at times.

Galveston, Tex.—We have had a rainfall of sixty-two hundredths of an inch during the week.

Dallas, Tex.—It has rained lightly on two days of the week, the rainfall reaching eight hundredths of an inch. Minimum thermometer 34.

Palestine, Tex.—There has been a trace of rain on one day during the week. The thermometer has averaged 59, ranging from 38 to 80.

San Antonio, Tex.—It has been dry all the week. The thermometer has ranged from 40 to 82, averaging 61.

Taylor, Tex.—We have had no rain the past week. Minimum thermometer 36.







The visible supply of grain, comprising the stocks in granary at principal points of accumulation at lake and seaboard ports April 3 1915 was as follows:

UNITED STATES GRAIN STOCKS. Table with columns for Amer. Bonded, Amer. Corn, Amer. Oats, Amer. Rye, Amer. Barley, Amer. Bonded. Rows include New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore, New Orleans, Galveston, Buffalo, Toledo, Detroit, Chicago, Milwaukee, Duluth, Minneapolis, St. Louis, Kansas City, Peoria, Indianapolis, Omaha.

\* Including 20,000 bushels bonded.

CANADIAN GRAIN STOCKS.

Table with columns for Canadian Bonded, Canadian Corn, Canadian Oats, Canadian Rye, Canadian Barley, Canadian Bonded. Rows include Montreal, Ft. Williams, Arthur, Other Canadian.

SUMMARY.

Summary table with columns for American, Canadian, Total. Rows include April 3 1915, Total Mar. 27 1915, Total April 4 1914, Total April 5 1913.

\* Including 20,000 bushels bonded at New York.

THE DRY GOODS TRADE

New York, Friday Night, April 9th 1915.

Business in drygoods continues on a large scale in most departments despite the advances in prices which have taken place during the last few weeks. In cotton goods the tendency is still upward regardless of the reaction which has taken place in prices for cotton futures. Quotations in the cotton yarn market have again been marked up and although the advances were not well received and caused considerable falling off in the demand, spinners are firm in their views, especially on yarns for future delivery. Manufacturers of finished goods continue to talk higher prices later on and are very conservative in accepting forward contracts except where substantial premiums are obtained over current spot quotations. Manufacturers continue to set forth that they are poorly covered ahead on raw material and that they are compelled to regulate prices according to what they believe raw material will cost them at the time the goods are to be made up. This applies to manufacturers of other fabrics as well as cotton goods, as woolen and worsted goods manufacturers are, if anything, more in the dark regarding future supplies of raw material and the prices they will have to pay than those making cotton goods. Also, the latter have no way of hedging against future prices of raw material as have cotton goods manufacturers, who can protect themselves considerably by operations in the market for cotton futures. Jobbers report a steady call for goods well distributed over all lines. Salesmen on the road are beginning to send in orders for fall goods, but it is too early yet for them to begin showing results. Weather conditions are favorable for distribution, and jobbing houses are receiving prompt shipping instructions on all old orders. Reports from large retail houses were encouraging, stating that Easter trade was equal to, and in many cases ahead of, last year. Retailers are now awaiting an increase in summer sales before giving much attention to fall and winter requirements. The very late spring a year ago hurt retailers severely, as it was well into the summer before they disposed of goods which should have been off their shelves in the spring. The prospect of more reasonable weather this year is, therefore, encouraging. Export business showed further improvement during the week, several orders having been closed on standard drills for India at satisfactory prices. The business was for April-May delivery and the price about 6 3/4c per yard. Small sales are being made to South America, the West Indies and Manila, but nothing new has come to hand from either China or Red Sea markets. Japanese competition in China is forcing American goods out of that market despite the inferior quality of the Japanese goods.

DOMESTIC COTTON GOODS.—The exports of cotton goods from this port for the week ending April 3 were 10,791

packages, valued at \$487,609, their destination being to the points specified in the table below:

Table with columns for New York to April 3, Week, Since Jan. 1, 1915, Week, Since Jan. 1, 1914. Rows include Great Britain, Other Europe, China, India, Arabia, Africa, West Indies, Mexico, Central America, South America, Other countries.

The value of these New York exports since Jan. 1 has been \$6,425,823 in 1915, against \$6,959,903 in 1914.

Staple cotton goods are active and firm, most houses reporting good sales during the past week. Mills are cautious in accepting forward contracts and are asking higher prices for future delivery than those ruling on spot goods. Buyers seem to be meeting the advances readily and, with the exception of print cloths, there has been no slackening in demand following the higher prices. Standard drills and sheetings for future delivery are held an eighth to a quarter cent above spot quotations. Coarse sheetings are also being marked up as a result of the heavy demand for these to replace burlaps. Print cloths are strong, but business has turned quieter, following the higher prices. Sales of print cloths for spot and near-by delivery are good, but buyers are slow to meet the prices demanded on future contracts. Favorable weather has stimulated demand for wash goods, many buyers who have been delaying purchase, coming forward with good orders. Colored goods are decidedly firm, owing to the scarcity of dye-stuffs. Many mills are expected to close unless some relief is offered in the near future. Southern manufacturers visiting this market claim that present supplies of dyes will not last beyond June and that experiments with domestic dyes have failed completely. Gray goods, 38-inch standard, are quoted at 4 1/4c.

WOOLEN GOODS.—In the dress goods trade, both jobbers and manufacturers report a fair volume of business. Buying of fall lines has so far been satisfactory, with demand well distributed over all fabrics. Serges and broadcloths are favored, if anything, while a very pronounced demand is developing for black-and-white checks. The latter are being used for both suits and cloaks. The demand for black-and-white stripes and checks is rapidly cleaning the market of supplies and several manufacturers are heavily booked ahead on these descriptions. The dye situation continues to cause manufacturers much anxiety and many mills have been compelled to curtail bookings, owing to their inability to guarantee shipments. In men's wear, demand is chiefly for spot goods for spring and summer requirements, buying of fall lines being held in abeyance. FOREIGN DRY GOODS.—Business in linens is quiet and, owing to the uncertainty of getting supplies, is confined largely to spot and near-by requirements. Plain and solid colored dress linens are in fair demand and supplies of these are rapidly dwindling. There is a movement among cotton manufacturers to begin making up heavy cotton goods as substitutes for low-end linens. The cutting off of importations of these goods from Germany has offered American manufacturers an opportunity to get control of the market. Burlaps remain firm, with demand active for both light and heavy-weights. Light-weights are quoted unchanged at 5.10c. and heavy-weights 15 to 25 points higher at 6.10c. to 6.25c.

Importations & Warehouse Withdrawals of Dry Goods.

The importations and warehouse withdrawals of dry goods at this port for the week ending April 3 1915 and since Jan. 1 1915, and for the corresponding periods of last year, were as follows:

Imports Entered for Consumption for the Week and Since Jan. 1. Table with columns for Week Ending April 3 1915, Since Jan. 1 1915, Pkgs., Value. Rows include Manufactures of— Wool, Cotton, Silk, Flax, Miscellaneous, Total 1915, Total 1914.

Warehouse Withdrawals Thrown Upon the Market.

Table with columns for Manufactures of— Wool, Cotton, Silk, Flax, Miscellaneous, Total withdrawals, Entered for consumption. Rows include Total marketed 1915, Total marketed 1914.

Imports Entered for Warehouse During Same Period.

Table with columns for Manufactures of— Wool, Cotton, Silk, Flax, Miscellaneous, Total, Entered for consumption. Rows include Total imports 1915, Total imports 1914.

STATE AND CITY DEPARTMENT.

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Sworn to and subscribed before me this 1st day of April 1915. Thomas A. Cressan, Notary Public. (My commission expires March 30 1917.)

Published every Saturday morning by WILLIAM B. DANA COMPANY, Jacob Selbert Jr., President and Treas.; George S. Dana and Arnold G. Dana, Vice-Presidents; Arnold G. Dana, Sec. Address of all, Office of the Company.

MUNICIPAL BOND SALES IN MARCH.

Our records show that municipal bond issues placed last month reached a total of \$64,515,256. This sum includes, of course, the block of \$27,000,000 4 1/4s sold by the State of New York. Other large issues included in the total are: \$3,525,000 4 1/4s of the State of Georgia, \$3,845,000 4 1/2s of the City of Cleveland, Ohio, \$2,750,000 4 1/2s of St. Louis, Mo., \$2,250,000 4s of Chicago, Ill., \$2,000,000 4 1/4s of Philadelphia School District, Pa., and \$1,500,000 4 1/2s of Elmira, N. Y.

In addition to the \$64,515,256 long-term issues sold in March, \$22,801,614 temporary loans were negotiated, including \$14,957,884 short-term securities (revenue bonds and corporate stock notes) issued by New York City. In Canada \$35,825,599 bonds were disposed of, including the \$25,000,000 Dominion Government loan underwritten in London.

In the following we furnish a comparison of all the various forms of obligations put out in March of the last five years:

Table comparing bond sales from 1910 to 1915: Perm't loans (U. S.), Temp'y loans (U. S.), Canadian (Per perm't), Total.

\* Includes temporary securities issued by New York City in March, \$14,957,884 in 1915, \$59,013,765 in 1914, \$24,463,229 in 1913, \$19,063,426 in 1912 and \$18,348,569 in 1911.

The number of municipalities emitting permanent bonds and the number of separate issues made during March 1915 were 483 and 267, respectively. This contrasts with 331 and 534 for February 1915 and 358 and 522 for March 1914.

For comparative purposes we add the following table, showing the output of long-term issues for March and the three months for a series of years:

Table showing bond sales by month from 1910 to 1915: 1915, 1914, 1913, 1912, 1911.

z Includes \$50,000,000 bonds of New York City.

Owing to the crowded condition of our columns, we are obliged to omit this week the customary table showing the month's bond sales in detail. It will be given later.

News Items.

Coatesville, Chester County, Pa.—Water Case Dismissed.—A newspaper dispatch from Coatesville says that the injunction of Jesse Shallcross, former Burgess, to restrain the borough from the sale of the \$185,000 bonds for the erection of a proposed water works on Rock Run was

dismissed by Judge Butler and the costs placed upon the plaintiff. These bonds were awarded last November to A. B. Leach & Co. of New York (V. 99, p. 1693).

Grand Rapids, Mich.—Municipal Ownership of Gas Plant Defeated.—The question of municipal ownership of the gas plant was defeated at an election held April 5. The vote, which is reported as 4,470 "for" to 11,396 "against," was merely a straw vote, following the rejection at the March primaries of the offer of the Grand Rapids Gas Light Co. to furnish 75-cent gas in return for a 20-year franchise.

Maine.—Legislature Adjourns.—The Maine Legislature adjourned April 3. It is expected that a special session will be called for next January to revise the statutes.

New Jersey.—Death of Secretary of State.—David S. Crater, Secretary of the State of New Jersey, dropped dead in New York City last Saturday afternoon (April 3). Thos. F. Martin of Weehawken, minority leader in the lower branch of the Legislature, will succeed Mr. Crater, his appointment having been confirmed by the Senate on April 5.

New York City.—Uncollectible Personal Taxes; Proposed Legislation.—See item under New York State below.

New York State.—Bonds of San Francisco, Cal., Not Legal Investments for New York Savings Banks.—In an opinion dated March 12 1915, Attorney-General Egburt E. Woodbury held that bonds of the city of San Francisco, Calif., are not legal investments for savings banks in New York State. We print the opinion in full below:

The amendment of 1910 to the constitution of California removed from the field of municipal taxation what were termed "operative properties," that is, railroads, street railways, express companies, telegraph and telephone companies, gas and electric companies, insurance companies, &c. Under the new plan these companies are to be taxed directly by the State, with the one saving provision, that municipalities may retain the properties on their assessment rolls, and tax the same to pay the principal and interest on any bonded indebtedness of the municipality theretofore created and still outstanding. In this particular, the amendment reads:

Operative properties "shall be subject to taxation in the manner provided by law to pay the principal and interest of any bonded indebtedness created and outstanding by any city, city and county, town, township or district before the adoption of this section. The taxes so paid for principal and interest on such bonded indebtedness shall be deducted from the total amount paid in taxes for State purposes."

Sub-division 5 of Section 239 of the Banking Law of this State provides, with several conditions and restrictions, that savings banks may invest their moneys in the stocks and bonds of any incorporated city situated in one of the States of the United States, with the added limitation that—

"If at any time the indebtedness of any such city, together with the indebtedness of any district, or other municipal corporation or sub-division except a county, which is wholly or in part included within the bounds or limits of said city, less its water debt and sinking funds, shall exceed seven per centum of the valuation of said city for purposes of taxation, its bonds and stocks shall thereafter, and until such indebtedness shall be reduced to seven per centum of the valuation for the purposes of taxation, cease to be an authorized investment for the moneys of savings banks."

From the latest available financial statement of the City of San Francisco the assessed valuation of property in the city, and the city's indebtedness, appear as follows:

Table with financial data: Real and personal property \$526,247,536, Operative properties 97,594,298, Bonded indebtedness \$41,298,100, Water debt 1,618,000.

The net debt, \$39,000,000, thus slightly exceeds seven per cent of the assessed valuation of real and personal property, \$526,000,000. Recently the city has issued \$1,577,000 of bonds, so there can no longer be any question but that the debt exceeds by a large figure seven per cent of the total assessed value of taxable property, unless we include the value of the operative properties.

I am inclined to the view that operative properties cannot be included within the phrase of our statute "valuation of said city for purposes of taxation." Although these properties are still taxable to meet bonds theretofore issued, they are certainly not taxable to meet any bonds issued subsequent to Nov. 8 1910, the date of the constitutional amendment, that is, they are no longer available for any future debt service of the city. And if we were to construe "operative properties," whose taxation for future needs has been enjoined, as within the words "valuation of said city for purposes of taxation," we might suppose an instance where all the property in a city was removed from municipal taxation and placed with the State for that purpose, and yet the new bonds of that city, with no prospective source of revenue to meet them, would be legal investments so long as the city kept its debt within seven per cent of the total of property assessable and taxable by another governmental power, the State. The statute as drawn had in view the payment of all bonds, and contemplated a power in the city to tax all property on the assessment rolls to meet all bond issues. This is not to say that the Legislature might not have provided a way to pro-rate the bonded indebtedness of any city over properties taxable and not taxable for different purposes, but it has not done so in the statute under consideration.

I have not overlooked the argument that the standards fixed by the section are purely arbitrary, such, for example, as the number of inhabitants a city must have before its bonds may become legal investments, a difference of one inhabitant turning the balance in favor of or against the legality of an investment. Nor have I failed to consider the opinion of the former Attorney-General of this State, rendered April 27 1914, wherein bonds of the City of Minneapolis were held legal investments by including in the "valuation of said city for purposes of taxation" certain moneys and credits which were taxable at a lower rate than other property in the city. The number of inhabitants must always be arbitrary, but taxable property is intrinsically and fundamentally connected with stability of resources, and if property is taxable at all, no matter at how small a rate, the amount which may be so raised aids pro tanto to a retirement of the city's debt. This is a literal interpretation of the statute. The Legislature might, as before mentioned, have provided for a pro-rating of past and future debt without danger to the safety of any of the bonds. It has not done so, and I follow accordingly the literal interpretation of the statute as it stands. The bonds of the City of San Francisco are no longer legal investments for savings banks of the State.

Dated March 12 1915.

EGBURT E. WOODBURY, Attorney-General.

Constitutional Convention Organizes.—The opening session of the convention which is to revise the State constitution was called to order by Secretary of State Francis M. Hugo in the Assembly Chamber at noon Tuesday (April 6). Elihu Root, former U. S. Senator, was elected President of the convention. Other important business included the election of other officers of the convention and the adoption of the rules of procedure, with slight modifications, which governed the last convention in 1894.

The legislative leaders having stated that the Legislature cannot adjourn before April 22, the convention on April 7 voted a recess until 8:30 p. m. April 26. At that time Mr. Root is expected to announce the committee appointments

which will complete the organization of the convention. In an effort to adjourn the convention by Aug. 15 the rules committee has decided to fix June 1 as the time limit for the introduction of suggested amendments to the Constitution.

**Widows' Pension Bill Signed.**—Governor Whitman on April 7 signed the measure known as the "Widows' Pension Bill." As already explained, the new law gives opportunity to provide for the maintenance of dependent children in the homes of widowed mothers, where it would otherwise be necessary to provide for them in institutional homes (V. 100, p. 1107).

**Amendment to New York City Charter in Relation to Uncollectible Personal Taxes.**—A bill has been introduced in the Legislature by Senator Carswell to amend the Greater New York charter in relation to uncollectible personal taxes. These taxes, ranging from 40 to 50 millions, have been carried for years in the City Comptroller's accounts as an asset with a foot-note that they are uncollectible. The purpose of the proposed amendment is to change the mode of the Comptroller's report so as to remove this item from the books of the department. The proposed amendment is to Section 248 of the City Charter and changes this section to read as follows:

Deficiencies: amount of to be included in annual estimate—248—The Board of Estimate and Apportionment shall, in addition to such other amounts as it is required by law to provide and as in its discretion it provides for public purposes in the City of New York and the several counties wholly contained in its territorial limits, annually include in its final estimate the following sum, which shall annually be raised and appropriated: A sum equal to so much of the deficiency, on the preceding first day of January, in the product of taxes theretofore levied and deemed by the board to be uncollectible, as shall not have been provided for in prior tax levies or by the issue of corporate stock of the City of New York or by such other corporate stock duly authorized by said board to be issued.

The Board of Estimate and Apportionment shall have the power, upon the advice of the Corporation Counsel with the concurrence of the Comptroller, to direct the receiver of taxes to cancel or record all personal assessments the tax of which the said board shall determine to be uncollectible, and to mark the records in the office of the Comptroller in accordance therewith, which said uncollectible taxes shall no longer be deemed or carried as an asset of the City of New York.

To carry into effect the provisions of this Act, the Corporation Counsel shall, from time to time, prepare and submit to said board a statement in such detail as may be necessary to enable said board to make the determination herein provided for.

The last two paragraphs are added to the law as it now stands.

**Tax Reform and Conservation Bills go to Governor.**—The tax reform and conservation commission reorganization measures were finally passed by the Assembly on April 8 and sent to the Governor. The tax reform bill wipes out the present State Tax Commission and establishes the State Tax Department, to which is transferred the assessing of corporate taxes, a power now held by the State Comptroller's office. The Conservation Commission bill amendment provides that the State Engineer and Attorney-General, with the new Commission, shall act as a board on all water-power matters.

**Taxation of Secured Debts and Mortgages.**—We have already referred to the suspension of the law exempting secured debts from taxation upon the payment of a registration fee, and the proposed substitution of an annual as well as a recording tax upon this class of securities. Two measures with this purpose in view are now before the Legislature. One of these, known as the Talmage bill, proposes an annual tax of two mills on all debts hereafter registered with the Comptroller except obligations based upon New York State real property. The Investment Bankers' Association is opposing the passage of the measure on the ground that this exception makes the bill unequal in its operation in that it favors the real estate interests at the expense of holders of other bonds. In a statement recently issued Mr. Robert R. Reed, counsel for the Association, explains that the Association "does not oppose the annual tax on funded debt, but it does oppose the arbitrary selection of unsecured debts and debts not secured by New York real estate as a special object of taxation, while the same kind of debt happening to carry such security remains practically exempt. "We urge," says Mr. Reed, "that the proposed annual tax take the form of a compulsory tax against all funded debt, with a permissive provision for the payment of such tax in advance at a discount for a limited number of years, so that the exemption tax, so-called, will be apportioned to the period of the debt, and that neither a hundred-year bond nor an indefinitely extended mortgage debt should be permanently exempted. The tax under this plan would be apportioned to the actual maturity of the debt, and in the case of a three or five-year mortgage bond should certainly not exceed one-half of 1%, the amount of the present tax."

The suggestion that real estate mortgages be subjected to an annual tax is considered unfair by various real estate and property owners' organizations. These interests claim that real estate and mortgages on real estate are already over-taxed as compared with other forms of bonded indebtedness.

The other bill putting an annual tax on secured debts was introduced April 8 by Senator Ogden L. Mills. This measure, it is said, would tax bonds according to their market value. Secured debts which have been filed with the Comptroller and on which the registration tax has been paid are to pay an annual tax of one and one-half mills. Secured debts not filed and which have not paid the registration tax are to be taxed at the rate of two mills on a dollar. If secured debts are due in five years or less the tax for registration is to be two-tenths of a mill on face value for each year or fraction of a year before the debt becomes due. If the debts run for more than five years after the date of registration the registration tax is to be 1/2 of 1% of the face value of such secured debt.

**Oregon City, Clackamas County, Ore.—Water Bonds Upheld.**—The State Supreme Court on April 2 decided that the \$375,000 water bonds awarded on March 25 to Sweet, Causey, Foster & Co. of Denver (V. 100, p. 1190) are legal.

**Rapid City, Pennington County, So. Dak.—Bond Case Decided.**—The U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals has affirmed the judgment of the lower Court deciding in favor of the city the suit brought to recover on \$70,000 bonds issued by the city May 1 1891. The decision will appear in 219 Federal Reporter, under the title of Dnet vs. City of Rapid City.

**San Francisco, Calif.—Bonds not Legal Investments for Savings Banks in New York State.**—See item above under "New York State":

**Saratoga Springs, N. Y.—Commission Government.**—A bill providing a commission form of government for Saratoga Springs was signed by Governor Whitman on April 7. According to reports, the measure calls for the election of the mayor and the following commissioners every two years: Accounts, finance, public works and public safety.

**Vermont.—Legislature Adjourns.**—The 1914 session of the Vermont Legislature ended April 3.

### Bond Proposals and Negotiations this week have been as follows:

**AKRON, Summit County, Ohio.—BOND OFFERING.**—Bids will be received by James McCausland, City Aud., until 12 m. May 5 for \$525,000 of the issue of \$600,000 4 1/2% water-works-ext. bonds authorized March 15 (V. 100, p. 1108). Denom. \$1,000. Date April 1 1915. Int. A. & O. at Nat. Park Bank, N. Y. Due \$25,000 yrly. on April 1 from 1916 to 1925 incl., \$35,000 yrly. on April 1 from 1926 to 1932 incl., and remainder on April 1 1933. Cert. or cashier's check on a bank other than the one making the bid, for 2% of bonds bid for, payable to City Treas., required. Bids must be made on forms furnished by the city. Bonds to be delivered in Akron.

**ALBANY SCHOOL DISTRICT (P. O. Albany), Athens County, Ohio.—BONDS VOTED.**—The proposition to issue the \$12,000 building bonds (V. 100, p. 1186) carried at the election held April 3 by a vote of 125 to 56.

**ALLEN COUNTY (P. O. Lima), Ohio.—BOND OFFERING.**—Bids will be received until 12 m. Apr. 22 by H. J. Lawlor, County Aud., for \$21,000 5% Lima and Spencerville road impt. bonds. Denom. \$375. Date May 1 1915. Int. M. & N. at office of County Treas. Due \$3,500 each six months from Nov. 1 1915 to May 1 1918 incl. Cert. check for \$500, payable to County Treas., required. Bonds to be delivered and paid for within 10 days from time of award. Purchaser to pay accrued interest.

**ALMYRA SCHOOL DISTRICT (P. O. Almyra), Arkansas County, Ark.—BOND SALE.**—Gunter & Sawyers of Little Rock have purchased \$10,000 6% 5-20-year building bonds. Denom. \$500. Date April 1 1915. Interest A. & O.

**ANDERSON, Anderson County, So. Caro.—BOND SALE.**—On March 31 \$83,000 5% 30-year street-paying bonds were awarded, reports state, to H. T. Holtz & Co. of Chicago for \$85,100 (102.53)—a basis of about 4.84%.

**ARENAC TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 4 (P. O. Omer), Mich.—BOND OFFERING.**—Bids will be received until 3 p. m. May 3 by J. J. Ransom, Secy. Bd. of Ed., for \$6,000 5% coupon tax-free building bonds. Denom. \$500. Date May 1 1915. Int. ann. in June at Omer. Due \$500 yearly in June from 1917 to 1928 incl. Bonded debt, this issue, no floating debt.

**ARMSTRONG SCHOOL DISTRICT (P. O. Armstrong), Emmet County, Iowa.—BOND ELECTION.**—An election will be held April 12, it is stated, to vote on the question of issuing building bonds.

**ATLANTIC CITY, Atlantic County, N. J.—BONDS AUTHORIZED.**—According to reports, the City Commissioners on April 8 authorized the issuance of \$150,000 school and \$100,000 drainage-extension bonds.

**ATTLEBORO, Bristol County, Mass.—TEMPORARY LOAN.**—Reports state that on March 30 a loan of \$50,000 dated Mar. 29 1915 and maturing Oct. 29 1915 was negotiated with N. W. Harris & Co. of Boston at 3% discount, plus \$1 premium.

**AURORA SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 131 (P. O. Aurora), Kane County, Ill.—BOND SALE.**—On April 3 the \$45,000 4 1/2% school bonds (V. 100, p. 749) were awarded to H. T. Holtz & Co. of Chicago for \$45,127 (100.282) and interest.

**AVERY COUNTY (P. O. Newland), No. Caro.—BOND SALE.**—On Apr. 6 the \$150,000 5% 40-year road bonds (V. 100, p. 918) were awarded to C. N. Malone & Co., Asheville, for \$150,500 (100.333) and int.—a basis of about 4.981%. The bonds were sold subject to approval of purchaser's attorney. A. J. Hood & Co. of Detroit also submitted a bid.

**AVON, Livingston County, N. Y.—BOND SALE.**—On Apr. 8 the \$8,000 sewer-ext. bonds (V. 100, p. 1186) were awarded to Geo. B. Gibbons & Co. of N. Y. at 100.26 for 4.65%.

**BANGOR, Penobscot County, Maine.—TEMPORARY LOAN.**—According to reports, this city has awarded a loan of \$50,000 maturing in 8 months to the Eastern Tr. & Banking Co. of Bangor at 3.37% discount.

**BARBERTON, Summit County, Ohio.—BOND SALE.**—On April 5 the \$17,500 5% 9 1/2-year (aver.) coupon water-main-ext. bonds (V. 100, p. 1108) were awarded to the Brighton-German Bank Co. of Cin. for \$17,865 25—equal to 102.087—a basis of about 4.72%. Other bidders were:

Hoehler, Cummings & Prudden, Toledo	\$17,822 50
A. E. Aub & Co., Cincinnati	17,790 00
Seasongood & Mayer, Cincinnati	17,782 00
Brod. Elliott & Harrison, Cincinnati	17,767 75
Stacy & Braun, Toledo	17,738 97
The Titlontson & Wolcott Co., Cleveland	17,722 25
Sidney Spitzer & Co., Toledo	17,720 35

**BARBOURVILLE, Knox County, Ky.—BOND OFFERING.**—Bids will be opened at 1 p. m. May 1 for \$16,500 6% 10-30-year grade-school bonds. Interest semi-annually. Certified check for 2% required. W. G. Black, Chairman.

**BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY (P. O. Columbus), Ind.—BOND SALE.**—On Apr. 6 the two issues of 4 1/2% (aver.) highway-impt. bonds aggregating \$15,280 (V. 100, p. 1108) were awarded at par and int. as follows: \$10,000 to Schaefer & Schwartzkopf of Columbus, \$1,408 to Albert Harmon, \$2,464 to Laura Sutherland and \$1,408 to John E. Gilliland. Date Mar. 15 1915. Int. M. & N.

**BATES SCHOOL DISTRICT (P. O. Bates), Scott County, Ark.—BOND SALE.**—An issue of \$10,000 6% 5-20-year (ser.) building bonds has been purchased by Gunter & Sawyers of Little Rock. Denom. \$500. Date April 1 1915. Interest A. & O.

**BEAVERTON, Washington County, Ore.—BONDS VOTED.**—A favorable vote was cast, it is stated, at a recent election on the question of issuing \$4,500 funding bonds.

**BELLEVILLE, Essex County, N. J.—BOND OFFERING.**—Bids will be received until 8 p. m. April 13 by Robert G. Minton, Town Clerk, for \$80,000 4 1/2% 30-year coupon (with priv. of registration) funding bonds. Denom. \$1,000. Date Mar. 1 1915. Int. M. & S. at First Nat. Bank, Belleville. Cert. checks on an incorporated bank or trust company for 2% of bonds bid for, payable to "Town of Belleville", required. Purchaser to pay accrued int. Bids must be made on forms furnished by the town. The U. S. Mtge. & Tr. Co. will certify as to the genuineness of the signatures of the officials signing the bonds and the seal impressed thereon, and their legality approved by Hawkins, DeHafeld & Longfellow of N. Y. City,





















35,000 Eugene Martin joint county road impt. bonds. Date May 5 1915. Due \$4,000 Mar. 1 and \$3,000 Sept. 1 from Mar. 1 1916 to Sept. 1 1920 incl.  
 Denom. \$1,000. Int. M. & S. at office of County Treas. Cert. check on a Bowling Green bank for \$500 required. Purchaser to pay accrued int.  
**WYANDOT COUNTY (P. O. Upper Sandusky), Ohio.—BOND SALE.**—On Apr. 7 the \$12,300 5% 5½-year average road-impt. No. 58 bonds (V. 100, p. 1192) were awarded, reports state, to Seasongood & Mayer of Cincinnati for \$12,430—equal to 101.056—a basis of about 4.78%.  
**BOND OFFERING.**—Proposals will be received until 12 m. April 23 by Jay Marguerat, Co. Aud., for \$21,600 5% road-impt. No. 60 bonds. Denom. \$500 and \$160. Date April 1 1915. Int. A. & O. at office of Co. Treas. Due \$2,160 yearly on April 1 from 1916 to 1925 incl. Cert. check (or cash) for \$500, payable to Co. Treas., required. Bids must be unconditional. Bonds to be delivered within 5 days from date of sale or execution by the proper officers.  
**YUMA COUNTY (P. O. Yuma), Ariz.—BOND SALE.**—The \$500,000 5% 29½-year (aver.) gold highway bonds offered on March 16 (V. 100, p. 758) have been sold, it is stated, to Field, Richards & Co. of Cincinnati at par. The bonds are dated Dec. 31 1913.

**Canada, Its Provinces and Municipalities.**

**ASSINIBOIA RURAL MUNICIPALITY, Man.—DEBENTURE SALE.**—Reports state that W. A. Mackenzie & Co., acting in conjunction with A. E. Ames & Co. of Toronto, have been awarded \$413,000 5% sewer, paving and water-impt. debentures at 89.3. Due in 7, 20 and 30 years.  
**AURORA, Ont.—DEBENTURE SALE.**—On Mar. 29 the \$3,000 water-works and \$5,000 light 5½% 20-year debentures voted Jan. 4 (V. 100, p. 421), were awarded to A. H. Martens & Co. of Toronto, it is stated.  
**BEVERLY, Alta.—DEBENTURE SALE.**—According to newspaper dispatches the Alberta School Supply Co. of Edmonton has been awarded at \$9 \$75,000 20-year and \$25,000 8-year 6% debentures.  
**BRACEBRIDGE, Ont.—DEBENTURE ELECTION.**—The questions of issuing \$4,000 pump, \$2,700 main-extension and \$5,300 water-works-impt. debentures will, it is stated, be submitted to a vote on April 12.  
**FORT GARY RURAL MUNICIPALITY, Man.—DEBENTURE OFFERING.**—Bids will be considered until April 26 by Chas. J. Drake, Clerk (719 McIntyre Block, Winnipeg), for \$22,500 15-year concrete pavement, \$5,500 7-yr. sidewalk and \$11,000 5-yr. grading 6% semi-annual debentures.  
**HUMBOLDT, Sask.—DEBENTURE SALE.**—A. H. Martens & Co. of Toronto have purchased \$6,517 6% 10-yr. local-impt. debentures, it is stated.  
**INGERSOLL, Ont.—DEBENTURES NOT AWARDED.**—Using newspaper reports we stated in last week's "Chronicle", page 1193, that on March 20 the \$21,000 5% 20-annual-installment debentures were awarded to Morgan, Dean, Rapley & Co. of Hamilton at 97.26. Reports now state that no award has yet been made.

**KAMLOOPS, B. C.—DEBENTURES AUTHORIZED.**—Local newspaper dispatches state that the City Council recently passed a by-law to provide for the issuance of \$80,000 hydro-electric-plant debentures.  
**LEDUC, Alta.—DEBENTURE SALE.**—Reports state that W. L. Mc Kinnon & Co. of Toronto have purchased, at 85.59, \$5,800 cement walk and crossing debentures.  
**NEW LISKEARD, Ont.—DEBENTURE SALE.**—Local newspaper reports state that Brent, Noxon & Co. of Toronto have purchased \$2,500 6% 15-year debentures.  
**NEW RICHMOND TOWNSHIP, Ont.—DEBENTURE ELECTION.**—The question of issuing \$3,000 bridge-construction debentures will be submitted to a vote on April 12, it is stated.  
**POINT GREY, B. C.—DEBENTURES AUTHORIZED.**—The Council has, according to dispatches, passed a temporary loan by-law amounting to \$400,000.  
**PORT ALBERNI, B. C.—OPTION GRANTED TO PURCHASE DEBENTURES.**—Reports state that a two-week's option at 88½ and int., net, has been granted to Kerr & Bell of Toronto on \$10,000 10-year and \$10,000 20-year 6% debentures.  
**SMITH'S FALLS, Ont.—DEBENTURES AUTHORIZED.**—The Town Council on March 15 passed a by-law, it is stated, providing for the issuance of \$3,000 armory site-purchase debentures.  
**STRAITHCLOAIR, Man.—DEBENTURE VOTED.**—By a vote of 46 to 9 the proposition to issue the \$15,000 6% 20-year (sar.) school debentures (V. 100, p. 837) carried, at the election held Mar. 13 (not Mar. 15 as first reported).  
**SUBBURY, Ont.—DEBENTURE SALE.**—According to reports, Wood, Gundy & Co. of Toronto have been awarded an issue of \$13,800 5% 20-installment debentures.  
**SUMMERLAND, B. C.—DEBENTURES DEFEATED.**—At the election held March 18 the proposition to issue \$8,000 school-building debentures was defeated, it is stated.  
**SUMMERSIDE, P. E. I.—DEBENTURES AUTHORIZED.**—The Local Council passed a by-law on March 8, it is stated, providing for the issuance of \$12,060 school-building-improvement debentures.  
**VANCOUVER, B. C.—DEBENTURE SALE.**—Newspaper reports state that Spitzer, Rorick & Co. of Toledo, Ohio, have purchased, at 87.31 and int., an issue of \$1,118,947 4½% 10-year local-improvement debentures.  
**VEGEVILLE, Alta.—DEBENTURE ELECTION.**—The proposition to issue \$4,500 Main St. improvement debentures will be submitted to a vote on April 26, it is stated.  
**VIBDEN, Man.—DEBENTURE SALE.**—According to reports, an issue of \$25,000 debentures has been disposed of at 90.17.  
**WALKERTON, Ont.—DEBENTURE ELECTION.**—An election will be held April 16, it is reported, to submit to the voters the question of issuing \$5,000 water-works and \$3,500 bridge-construction (town's share) debentures.

**NEW LOANS.**

**\$102,000**

School District of the Borough of Cliffside Park, Bergen County, New Jersey  
**5% BONDS**

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Education of the Borough of Cliffside Park, in the County of Bergen, will receive sealed proposals at the School House No. 3, situated at the South-westerly corner of Palisade Avenue and Park Ave., on the **FOURTEENTH DAY OF APRIL, 1915**, at 8:30 o'clock in the evening for an issue of coupon bonds in the sum of One Hundred and Two Thousand dollars, to be issued under an Act of the Legislature of the State of New Jersey, "an Act to establish a thorough and efficient system of free public schools and to provide for the maintenance, support and management thereof", approved October 19, 1903, and the supplements and amendments thereto, said bonds to bear date March 1st, 1915, and to be of the denomination of One Thousand dollars each and payable as follows: three bonds on March 1st, 1935, four bonds on March 1st, 1939, five bonds on March 1st, 1940, sixteen bonds on March 1st, 1941, seventeen bonds on March 1st, 1942, eighteen bonds on March 1st, 1943, 19 bonds on March 1st, 1944, and twenty bonds on March 1st, 1945, and bear interest at the rate of 5 per cent per annum, payable semi-annually on the first day of September and March in each year, principal and interest payable at the Northern New Jersey Trust Co., Edgewater, New Jersey.  
 All bids shall provide for the payment of accrued interest from the date of the bonds, March 1st, 1915, to the date of delivery of the bonds.  
 Each bid must be accompanied by a certified check upon an incorporated bank or trust company to the order of the Board of Education of the Borough of Cliffside Park, in the sum of \$2,000.  
 The right is reserved to reject any or all bids.  
 By order of the Board of Education of the Borough of Cliffside Park.  
 Dated March 29th, 1915.  
**JOSEPH F. WHELAN,**  
 President.  
**JOHN F. KELLY,**  
 District Clerk.

**NEW LOANS.**

**CITY OF MACON, GA.**

\$120,000 1915 Paving Bonds  
 30,000 1915 Sewer Bonds  
 150,000 Macon Hospital Bonds

Bids for the purchase of the City of Macon's "1915 Paving Bonds," aggregating One Hundred and Twenty Thousand (\$120,000) Dollars, and of the City of Macon's "1915 Sewer Bonds," aggregating Thirty Thousand (\$30,000) Dollars, and also the City of Macon's "Macon Hospital Bonds," aggregating One Hundred and Fifty Thousand (\$150,000) Dollars, all of said bonds being of the denomination of One Thousand (\$1,000) Dollars each and bearing interest at the rate of Four and One-Half Per Cent per annum, will be received by the Clerk of Council up to 7:30 p. m. on the **27TH DAY OF APRIL, 1915**. Said bonds will be sold to the highest and best bidder, acceptable to the Mayor and Council of the City of Macon, and delivered to the purchaser at the office of the Treasurer of the City of Macon. No bid for less than the par value of the bonds will be accepted. The City reserves the right to reject any and all bids or to pro rate the entire issue of said bonds or any one or more of said issues among the highest and best bidders in the event there is a tie bid, should it see fit so to do.

D. S. JONES,  
 Clerk of Council,  
 Macon, Ga.

**MUNICIPAL AND RAILROAD BONDS**

LIST ON APPLICATION

**SEASONGOOD & MAYER**

Ingersoll Building  
**CINCINNATI**

**NEW LOANS.**

**\$150,000**

**TOWN OF SEYMOUR, CONN.**  
**4½% Refunding Bonds**

Seymour, Conn., April 8th, 1915.

The Town of Seymour, Conn., will receive proposals for the purchase of \$150,000 4½% "Refunding bonds". Interest payable semi-annually March 1st and September 1st. Issued in coupon form in denomination of \$1,000 each, dated March 1st, 1915 (the principal may be registered if desired), payable \$2,000 on the first day of March in each of the years 1916 to 1945, both inclusive and \$90,000 on the 1st day of March, 1946. Principal and interest are payable at the Seymour Trust Co., in Seymour, Connecticut.

Bonds engraved under the supervision of and certified as to genuineness by the First National Bank of Boston, and their legality approved by Messrs. Rowe, Gray, Boyden & Perkins, whose opinion will be furnished the purchaser. All legal papers incident to this issue will be filed with said bank, where they may be inspected at any time.

Bids will be received until 10 a. m. **THURSDAY, APRIL 15TH, 1915**, and are to be sealed and addressed to W. L. Ward, Town Treasurer, Seymour, Conn., and marked "Proposal for Bonds".

Bonds will be delivered to the purchaser Tuesday, April 20th, 1915, at the First National Bank of Boston, in Boston, Mass.  
 The right is reserved to reject any and all bids.

**DEBT STATEMENT.**

Bonded debt	\$30,000 00
Floating Debt	122,500 00
Total Debt	\$152,500 00
\$150,000 of the Total Debt to be refunded by the issue now offered.	
Grand List (1914)	\$3,998,440
Population (estimated)	5,200
Tax Rate 1915	15 mills

W. L. WARD,  
 Town Treasurer.

**\$400,000**

**City of Vicksburg, Miss.,**  
**WATERWORKS 5% BONDS**

On **MAY 1ST, 1915**, the undersigned will sell to the highest and best bidder \$400,000 City of Vicksburg Water-works 5% Bonds (the entire issue), which we bought from the City in May 1914. Bids are invited for the whole or any part thereof. Each bid to be accompanied by certified check for 2% of the amount of bonds applied for. All bids will be opened at the office of the First National Bank, Vicksburg, Miss., at 12 o'clock noon on **SATURDAY, MAY 1ST, 1915**. We reserve the right to reject any and all bids.  
 Bonds dated May 1st, 1914, payable \$5,000 each year for 10 years, remainder May 1st, 1934. Coupon Bonds; Denomination \$1,000 00; interest 5%, payable semi-annually; principal and interest payable in New York City. Legal opinion of C. B. Wood (of Wood & Oakley, Chicago).  
 Further information will be furnished on request.  
**PEOPLE'S SAVINGS BANK & LOAN CO.**  
**CITY SAVINGS & TRUST CO.**

The Union Trust Company of New York has two well-equipped Branches for its uptown business—the 38th Street Branch in the heart of the busy Fifth Avenue shopping district, and the Plaza Branch at Fifth Avenue and 60th Street, just opposite the entrance to Central Park.

The facilities of all the offices of the Company are offered to depositors of either Branch or of the Main Office at 80 Broadway.

The Union Trust Safe Deposit Company, entirely owned by the Union Trust Company, conducts modern safe deposit vaults at both Branches.