



### THE FINANCIAL SITUATION.

On a subsequent page (page 412) we publish a communication from Benjamin Strong, Jr., the Governor of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, explaining the process by which the different Federal Reserve banks (and the Reserve Bank of New York in particular) are managing to put out additional amounts of Federal Reserve notes each week notwithstanding these Reserve banks find little demand for the discount facilities which are supposed to furnish the basis for the issue of the Reserve notes. Mr. Strong undertakes to show that there is warrant in the law for the course pursued and also that the policy of accumulating gold is sound in itself. On the latter point it is of course too obvious to need urging that the more gold these Federal Reserve banks have at their command the stronger will be their position and the better able will they be to serve the community. We are not raising objection to the act of accumulating gold per se, but it appears to us that the method of accumulation is illegitimate and that this being so it is a matter for consideration whether more harm than good is not likely to result from the policy being pursued.

We do not see how any one cognizant of the discussions in Congress while the new law was under consideration, or any one who undertakes a study of the law itself without knowledge of these discussions, can escape the conclusion that the purpose of the issuance of Reserve notes is solely and simply to provide the means for carrying on the re-discounting functions of the institutions. There is no way in which Reserve notes can be issued except under Section 16 of the law, and this distinctly provides that as a prerequisite commercial paper (as defined therein) must be deposited as security for the notes to be taken out. Mr. Strong argues that to limit the issuance and use of the notes according to the provisions of this section would make the notes merely a species of emergency currency, which he thinks would be a serious mistake. It by no means follows, however, that to limit the issue of notes in the way intended and declared by the law would make mere emergency currency of the notes or prevent the elasticity which the re-discounting facilities, and the notes resting on the same, are supposed to furnish. In the ordinary course of trade there will be more mercantile paper out at one time than at another, and if the discounting functions are availed of with absolute freedom, the notes will fluctuate as the volume of outstanding paper does. At one time there may be \$250,000,000 of notes out because that amount of paper has been presented as collateral for the notes and at another time there may be \$1,000,000,000 of notes out, since the volume of paper is such as to demand that amount of notes. Thus we get the elasticity contemplated by the statute. And indeed, the whole argument for the issuance of notes rests on the theory that the notes shall be retired as soon and as fast as the mercantile paper, which the notes are supporting, shall mature and be extinguished. To emphasize the determination that the notes shall not remain outstanding, it is provided that no Reserve bank may pay out the notes issued by another Reserve bank except under penalty of a tax of 10% upon their face value.

What is now being done, however, is just the reverse of what was intended—plainly intended and unequivocally expressed in the law itself—by the

framers of the statute. Instead of the notes being retired, when their mission as a medium for carrying mercantile paper has been fulfilled, they are being forced into circulation and a determination exists to keep them afloat indefinitely. Mr. Strong argues that this does no harm and that if the notes become redundant they will quickly come in and be presented for redemption. As a matter of fact unless some crisis intervenes they will stay out just as long as the banks and trust companies continue to pay them out. In the Spring of last year the writer when drawing cash from his account with one of the trust companies received gold certificates, in December when drawing cash he received nothing but bank notes and now he is given Reserve notes. To what extent the practice is being carried is evident from the circumstance that the twelve Reserve banks now have nearly 100 million of Reserve notes out—in exact figures the amount last Saturday was \$97,831,000 and of this only \$16,092,000 is secured by commercial paper, the remaining \$81,739,000 representing notes nominally in process of retirement and against which the Federal Reserve agents hold corresponding amounts of gold, but which notes there is not the remotest intention of retiring. Only the three Southern banks—Richmond, Atlanta and Dallas—have any appreciable amounts of notes out on paper, and these three account for \$15,202,000 of the notes secured by paper as collateral.

It is the Reserve Bank at New York that has carried the movement farthest. It has \$47,720,000 of notes out, of which the insignificant amount of \$200,000 is secured by commercial paper. Against the remaining \$47,520,000 notes, gold is on deposit with the Federal Reserve Agent for taking up the notes. Every week a few millions more are added to the amount, while the amount of commercial paper, without which the notes cannot be obtained in the first instance, remains practically unchanged. The result is, to say the least, curious. Here is the weekly record since April 23—this being as far back as the figures are available:

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF NEW YORK.

Date of Weekly Report.	Amount of Paper Held.	—Record of Federal Reserve Notes—		
		Total Amount Taken Out.	How Secured—By Gold Coin & Certificates.	By Commercial Paper.
April 23	6,045,000	25,040,000	24,858,700	181,300
" 30	6,118,000	27,040,000	26,858,700	181,300
May 7	5,501,000	27,040,000	26,858,700	181,300
" 14	4,851,000	29,440,000	29,258,700	181,300
" 21	4,189,000	29,440,000	29,260,000	180,000
" 28	3,597,000	31,840,000	31,660,000	180,000
June 4	4,573,000	32,440,000	32,260,000	180,000
" 11	5,196,000	35,100,000	34,920,000	180,000
" 18	4,872,000	38,100,000	37,920,000	180,000
" 25	5,171,000	40,500,000	40,320,000	180,000
July 2	5,343,000	40,500,000	40,320,000	180,000
" 9	5,464,000	42,900,000	42,720,000	180,000
" 16	5,206,000	45,320,000	45,120,000	200,000
" 23	5,688,000	45,320,000	45,120,000	200,000
" 30	6,124,000	47,720,000	47,520,000	200,000

Thus the amount of commercial paper which the Federal Reserve Bank of New York had available for the issuance of notes was practically the same on July 30 as on April 23, namely \$6,124,000 and \$6,045,000, but in the interval the amount of notes outstanding has increased from \$25,040,000 to \$47,720,000. The notes are being emitted, not as representatives of paper but as representatives of gold. Two questions arise with reference to this operation, namely its expediency and whether there is warrant for it in the law. The question of expediency involves more than a single consideration. It is not sufficient to say that the accumulation of an extra stock of gold is desirable. There is the further

point to consider, whether the operation will find favor in the eyes of those antagonistic to the financial interests and whether the gold now being stored up will really be available when needed.

It is known, of course, that the new banking law was enacted in a spirit of hostility to the Money Power supposed to be centred at New York and other financial centers. It was for this reason that twelve separate institutions were authorized where one would have been sufficient. There is no reason or justification for the prejudice referred to, but it exists, and has to be reckoned with. In spite of the attempt to rob New York City of its rightful pre-eminence, the strength of the Federal Reserve System lies right here. Of the \$266,192,000 gold held by all the Federal Reserve banks last Saturday, \$128,114,000 was contributed by the Reserve Bank at this center. The splitting up of the system into twelve parts has served only to advertise the weakness of the remoter districts. Nothing that the lawmaker can do will ever change this situation, but will those whose prejudice is deep and ineradicable take kindly to the idea of having a further large fund (already approaching the 50-million mark) set up here not expressly authorized by the law? Will not the Reserve authorities presently have to face the charge, no matter how ill-founded, that the "Money Power" is aiming to entrench itself still further by seeking to confirm its hold upon the Federal Reserve System through wholly unauthorized methods?

With due respect to Mr. Strong and the other members of the Reserve banks who support him in his views, we cannot see that there is any sanction for the operations that are being conducted for putting notes afloat and impounding gold. If at any time during the bill's course through Congress, it had been proposed to allow the issue of Reserve notes against deposits of gold coin or gold certificates, the proposition would have been instantly voted down. Yet, what is now being done is tantamount to the same thing. Notes are being put out in order that gold to retire them may be placed with the Reserve Agent. Doubtless it is correct to say that the same commercial paper may be used over and over again to initiate the proceeding of creating notes, and it is apparent that the Federal Reserve authorities are complying with all the legal technicalities required, but we cannot help believing that the operation of issuing notes one minute, only to provide for their retirement the next minute—which is what is being done—is wholly outside the law.

Mr. Strong refers us to Section 14 of the law, which permits the exchange of Federal Reserve notes (if the Reserve Bank has any) for gold, but a moment's consideration will show that this has no pertinency to the operation. Section 14 deals entirely with the Open Market Operations of the Reserve banks, and the object of exchanging notes for gold would be to add to the bank's holdings of gold. But the process now being carried on does not add at all to the gold holdings of the Reserve banks, for the gold obtained by the issue and exchange of the notes cannot be retained, but must be turned over to the Federal Reserve Agent. The Reserve Agent holds the impounded gold, and the Reserve bank can only repossess itself of it by some clumsy and indirect method. It can only get the gold back into its own hands by issuing batches of new notes (on commercial paper) and then presenting these notes for redemption to the Reserve Agent. Is there not an element

of weakness, too, in the impounding operation by reason of that fact? The notes being in forced circulation and in immoderate supply, will it not be open to anybody to gather them up—trust companies, State banks and private bankers—and present them to the Federal Reserve Bank for redemption, forcing the latter in turn to go to the Reserve Agent and get the gold back of them, but not being able to retain it for its own use? And if this should happen—and it is conceivable that it *might* happen—at the time of a crisis, would not the impounded gold prove a poor reliance?

At all events, does not this analysis conclusively demonstrate that the use to which the notes are now being put is foreign to the purpose of the Act? If there is any fact that is incontrovertibly established, it is that the notes are intended to furnish an unlimited supply of currency at any time when there is need for extra supplies of currency. That view is all the time being urged upon the attention of the member banks by practically all of the Federal Reserve authorities. But with notes being put in forced circulation and used as substitutes for gold, we will have the anomaly of the notes coming in for redemption (so as to get the gold securing them, dollar for dollar) at the very time when it was the intent of the law that they should pass freely into circulation to relieve or to prevent pressure. We do not question the motives or good intentions of the managers of the Reserve banks, and we are not opposed to giving them complete and effective authority for acquiring gold. We realize, too, that the task assigned to them of placing the new banking system on a firm and enduring foundation is an herculean one. For the reasons given, however, the policy being pursued with reference to the issuance of notes seems open to decided objection.

Before closing the discussion we cannot refrain from noticing the illustration which Mr. Strong uses to enforce his contention that the Reserve banks should be allowed to issue notes in order to accumulate gold. Here is what he says:

Last Fall this country witnessed a rather humiliating exhibition when it became necessary for the Federal Reserve Board and a committee of bankers to invite and even urge contributions of gold from over 800 national banks, in order that means might be available for the citizens of this country to pay maturing indebtednesses to Europe, when exchange could not be purchased. No more graphic exhibition of the weakness of our banking situation, caused by our decentralized reserves, has been afforded.

We do not think there was anything humiliating in the reluctance of the national banks to supply any more gold for export last Summer and Autumn following the outbreak of war in Europe. The United States had in the months immediately preceding the war parted with nearly 280 million dollars gold, the engagements of the metal in one single week having reached close to 50 million dollars, and had done all that could decently be asked of it to relieve the strain in Europe. It was now incumbent upon the banks in this country to safeguard the situation at home. Europe was prepared to drain the United States of every dollar of its gold if no obstacles were interposed. At the same time the United States was confronted with an unprecedented crisis in its own affairs—with a state of things hardly less critical than that with which Europe had to deal. The Stock Exchange had to be closed. The New York Clear-

ing House banks were showing huge deficiencies in the required cash reserves, and had to resort to the issue of Clearing House loan certificates for settlement purposes. The national banks were taking out emergency currency by the hundreds of millions. The situation could easily have become one of grave danger.

We then took the position that not another dollar of gold should be allowed to leave the country. It is true we had some maturing obligations to meet, but there was no reason why these should not be arranged in the ordinary way through an adjustment of credits. The dislocation of exchange was not of our making. It was due to the fact that all our credits abroad had been suddenly cut off through the promulgation of moratoria by the leading countries of Europe and it seemed to us that Europe was in no position to demand that we must pay in actual gold when it was not paying at all. It was plain that as soon as the outstanding credits in favor of the United States, which had been rendered dormant by the British moratorium, became available through the termination of the moratorium the normal equilibrium in exchange would be quickly restored. This is precisely what happened early in November, when the first of the British pre-moratorium bills began to run off. Exchange rates at once became demoralized. The \$100,000,000 gold pool was called upon to ship only \$10,000,000 to \$12,000,000 of the metal.

It is our belief that if our financial leaders had taken a firm stand in support of such a course the matter could have been arranged without further gold shipments of any kind. Had the late J. P. Morgan been alive it would certainly have been so arranged. He would have taken the responsibility upon his own shoulders and every one would have acquiesced in his decision. We are positive on this point, for Mr. Morgan did precisely that thing twenty years before when he and Mr. Belmont entered into the celebrated Morgan contract under which the outflow of gold, so threatening then, was definitely arrested. Mr. Morgan's position in the financial world was, of course, unique, by reason of the unbounded confidence he commanded, but in addition he had a knowledge of foreign exchange conditions which has never been surpassed by any one.

Looking back now, it must be apparent that a mistake was made last autumn in fixing attention too intently upon what was owing by us to Europe, and in completely overlooking the fact that for every million due by us there were two to three millions due to us, but for which we could not obtain payment or credit for the time being. It was also unfortunate that the primeval and primordial view should have been advanced that unless the United States made payment in actual gold its credit and financial prestige would be irreparably damaged. Great Britain has for the last six months been doing the very thing that we were told we must not do if we would escape lasting injury, namely has endeavored to prevent an outflow of gold from her shores, and yet no one would venture to suggest that thereby her credit is being impaired. We mention these things simply to indicate that in our estimation, should there be at any time in the future a recurrence of the 1915 situation, it will not be the province of the Federal Reserve Board to facilitate an outflow of gold, but it will be its duty to follow in the footsteps of the large European banks and endeavor to keep the gold at home.

Bank clearings in the United States in July 1915 furnish, as in June, an aggregate in excess of 1914, or in fact of any earlier year for the same month. Nevertheless important increases in clearings, where shown, are in the main due either to greater speculative activity (as at New York) or to the magnitude of the demand for certain articles that arises directly out of the conflict abroad. Eliminating these influences, it is quickly found that bank clearings—the business barometer—are really running a little behind last year. In fact, the total for the country outside of New York makes such an exhibit.

Our statement presented on the first page of this issue includes 160 cities in all, of which 91 report totals below 1914, with the percentages in some instances quite large. The aggregate of all for the month, however, at \$14,925,063,909 compares with only \$14,493,300,896 in 1914, thus showing an increase of 3.0% and the gain over 1913 reaches 10.1%. At New York the augmentation for the month, as contrasted with last year, is 6.3% and with 1913 is 18.4%. On the other hand, the total for the cities outside of New York fails by 1.3% to reach that of a year ago, having been \$6,229,650,341 against \$6,312,816,275, and there is only a small gain over 1913. For the seven months of the current calendar year there is a small loss at New York as compared with 1914 (1.4%), the outside cities, moreover, show a decrease of 2.6% and the total of all a decline of 1.9%. As regards the individual cities, no special comment seems to be called for, except that where any notable gains are recorded they are, as a rule, not to be dissociated with the urgent demand for munitions, &c., from Europe. The exhibit made by the group figures for the seven months does not essentially differ from that for the half-year, New England, outside of Boston, and the "Other Western" sections alone making a better showing than in 1914.

Speculative transactions on the New York Stock Exchange in July were of much greater volume than in the month a year ago, with the co-called war stocks—the stocks of corporations under orders to furnish munitions to the participants in the conflict in Europe—especially active and in most cases at rapidly advancing prices. A year ago, it will be recalled, dealings were upon a restricted scale day by day until July 28, when the war scare in Europe precipitated a selling movement and larger dealings. The close of the Exchange followed on the 31st. The dealings of the month this year aggregated 14,371,633 shares against only 7,920,924 shares a year ago and 5,124,015 shares in July 1913. For the seven months they were 76,301,612 shares against but 45,990,575 shares in 1914 and 51,381,313 in 1913. Five years ago, however, they were 112,095,658 and in 1901 the record of 192,080,413 was set. Bonds were only a little more freely traded in during the month than a year ago and the transactions for the period since Jan. 1 at 452 million dollars, par value, contrast with 425 millions in 1914 and 319 millions in 1913. At Boston, too, operations in stocks were much in excess of last year, the comparison for the month being between 730,799 shares and 403,007 shares and for the seven months 7,146,951 shares and 3,283,671 shares.

The Canadian clearings exhibit for July was much in line with preceding months of 1915. At most of the cities large decrease occurred, and in the aggregate of all (22 cities) the loss from 1914 reached

23.4%. For the seven months the decline from last year was 18.0%.

The commercial failures statement for the United States for July 1915 is on the whole a comparatively favorable one under existing conditions, in that it does not indicate that the strain usually inseparable from the semi-annual settlements made any impress upon the business mortality of the country. In fact, the number of mercantile disasters for the month fell a little under the total for June and liabilities were only nominally greater. Failures were also larger in number than for the like period of 1914, but covered a volume of indebtedness somewhat smaller than then or in 1913. The aggregate of liabilities reported by insolvents since Jan. 1 establishes by a small margin the high record for the period. A feature of the month was the comparatively few failures for large amounts, these comprising 17 for \$100,000 or more, giving in all an aggregate of \$5,290,151 against 29 for \$8,589,014 in July 1914 and 40 for \$11,434,492 in 1913. The elimination of these large disasters leaves the average liability of the remaining insolvents this year only \$7,924 against \$8,530 a year ago.

The total of liabilities in all commercial and industrial lines in July 1915 reached, according to Messrs. R. G. Dun & Co., \$18,934,903, representing 1,739 defaults, this contrasting with \$20,377,148 and 1,411 in the preceding year and \$20,325,705 and 1,169 in 1913. Of the fifteen branches into which the manufacturing division is segregated, seven show heavier liabilities than in the month a year ago, but there is a net decrease for all lines of almost four million dollars, the debts in iron, foundries and nails having been merely nominal against  $1\frac{3}{4}$  millions, lumber, carpenters, &c., showing a decline of over  $1\frac{1}{4}$  millions and the miscellaneous group of manufacturers one million. In the trading group, however, nine branches report debts greater than in July last year, and for the whole division there is an increase of nearly  $1\frac{1}{2}$  million dollars. Among brokers, transporters, &c., the exhibit is also less satisfactory, the increase in amount of liabilities over 1914 being a million dollars.

The exhibit for the seven months is, of course, much less favorable than a year ago, or any earlier year, as regards number of insolvents. In fact, the number who have succumbed in the period in 1915 is no less than 14,479 against 9,954 in 1914 and 9,332 in 1913. In the matter of indebtedness, however, due to the Claffin failure last year, there is closer agreement, the comparison being between \$207,522,438 and \$205,476,878, with the 1913 total \$153,234,766. The liabilities in manufacturing lines this year reach \$75,761,498 against \$69,051,235 in 1914; the comparison in trading branches is between \$107,141,930 and \$110,599,066, and among brokers, &c., \$24,619,010 and \$25,826,577.

The outlook for the cotton crop on July 25 this year, as announced by the Department of Agriculture on Monday last, was hardly in accord with the indications given in the weekly official weather reports issued during the period since June 25. Under normal circumstances this official report would have acted as a stimulus to prices for the staple; but the fact that a considerable portion of the previous crop still remained to be marketed, and the probability that demand for the current

yield would be restricted, owing to the continuation of the conflict in Europe, acted as a damper upon bullish sentiment. Moreover, at the very close of July droughty conditions had been relieved in some portions of the belt by the fall of beneficial rains. Reflecting the droughty conditions that private and official reports had shown recently, the Department finds more or less deterioration in all States of important production. In Texas a drop of 6 points is indicated during the month, and this was expected, but declines of 7 points in Alabama and 8 points in Mississippi and Louisiana were hardly looked for.

The report as issued makes the average condition July 25 for the whole cotton territory 75.3% of a normal, a falling off of 5 points from a month earlier, and comparing with 76.4 at the same time last year, 79.6 two years ago, 76.1 in 1912 and 89.1 in 1911, with the ten-year average 78.5. Comparing the situation this year with last year, July 25, in the individual States, it will be observed that in Texas there is an improvement of 5 points, in Arkansas 8 points and in Tennessee 12 points; along the Gulf and in Atlantic sections, however, the deterioration ranges from 1 point in Louisiana to 10 points in Alabama and Virginia. But it is to be remembered that at this time last year the average condition was reported officially as only 1.1 points better than now, and yet the largest aggregate yield on record was secured and the production of lint per acre, according to the Department, 209.2 pounds, or the greatest since 1898. On the other hand, we have to consider the fact that this year the use of commercial fertilizers has been considerably neglected in those sections where they have been looked upon as a prime necessity to satisfactory production. Theorizing as to the effect this will have on the ultimate yield of cotton is, however, not our purpose. There is nothing in the current situation to preclude the possibility of a good crop and, at any rate, barring an absolute disaster, there should be enough cotton to supply all needs, taking into account the amount carried over from the previous season. The latest weekly weather bulletin, covering a date (Aug. 2) fully a week later than that to which the official monthly report is brought down, refers to further deterioration in condition as the result of drought.

The text of three notes from Great Britain and also the text of the American notes of July 14 and 15 by our own Government to Great Britain were made public on Monday last by Secretary of State Lansing. On Tuesday the reply of Germany to the American note regarding the sinking of the Wm. P. Frye was also published. In brief, the British and German notes are merely a reiteration of former positions. Great Britain insists she has justification for enforcing the Order-in-Council by which trade with Germany and Austria is restrained, because of the atrocious methods of warfare adopted by the Germans. The American note of July 14 was the caveat wherein the United States insisted upon the application of international law to prize court cases without limitation or impairment by the Order-in-Council. The note of the following day contained the protest against the detention of the American ship Neches, which was bringing Belgian goods to the United States. The first of the British notes dated July 24, was an argument defending the Order-in-Council. It asserts that inasmuch as the American Govern-

ment recognizes that new methods of warfare have brought about new conditions of war, then the conditions of blockade also have changed. On this basis, since England has the right to exercise a blockade of German ports, it has the right to intercept and stop trade between Germany and a neutral country contiguous to Germany. It is pointed out that the United States during the Civil War exercised a similar commercial blockade over the Confederate States. The note concludes with a statement that "his Majesty's Government have been gratified to observe that the measures which they are enforcing have had no detrimental effect on the commerce of the United States. Figures of recent months show that the increased opportunities afforded by the war for American commerce have more than compensated for the loss of the German and Austrian markets." The second British note bears date of July 31 and is the formal reply to the American caveat. It is a document of about 2,000 words and is devoted chiefly to a discussion of the Jay Treaty of 1793 and cases arising thereunder which the United States had held might be submitted to review by an international tribunal. The note suggests that an appeal to an international prize court from any decision of the British Prize Courts might be taken in the form of a claim for compensation. The third note was a response to a protest regarding the Neches. It calls attention to the fact that in the same waters in which the Neches was found the German submarines had been sinking neutral vessels and drowning neutral citizens without exercising the usual laws of warfare. Reference to all these notes in greater detail appears on a later page of this issue of the "Chronicle." It is understood that Washington is to send a prompt reply to the documents.

As to the German note, it contains an offer to pay for the sinking of the Wm. P. Frye conditional upon it being understood that such action was not to constitute a satisfaction of the United States for violation of treaty rights. Our State Department, it is understood, will indicate a willingness in its reply to consider the German offer to pay for the sinking of the vessel on condition that it be stated that such acceptance is not to be regarded as a concession by the United States of any point set forth in its discussion of the principles involved in the case. Germany suggests that the issue be referred to arbitration should the two Governments fail to reach a settlement in any other way. It is desirable that the dispute over the treaty of 1828 be settled as it is to come up again in the case of the Leelanaw, the American vessel torpedoed by a German submarine last week. The text of the German note appears on a subsequent page of this issue.

Warsaw, the capital of Poland, and the third largest city in the Russian Empire, was abandoned by the Russians on Thursday. Thus the Germans have finally succeeded in their sustained drive that began in a serious way in the last week of May. It is estimated that between 6,000,000 and 7,000,000 men have since that time been engaged in almost daily conflict. Up to July 29 hope was entertained in military quarters in London and Paris that the Russians had some tremendous coup in reserve and that they would stand a sustained siege. But on July 29 advices from Petrograd stated that in order to save the Russian armies a retreat must be made and the fortresses of the Warsaw salient abandoned.

While the Bavarians commanded by Prince Leopold were the first to enter Warsaw in the name of the German Emperor and his consort who are expected to make a state entry in a few days, the real conquerors are the troops fighting under Field Marshall von Hindenberg along the Narew River to the north-east as well as the Austro-Germans across the Vistula to the south of the city, and the armies of the Austrian Archduke Joseph Ferdinand and of German Field Marshall von Mackensen which are advancing northward between the Vistula and Bug Rivers. The Russian fortress of Ivangorod 55 miles south-east of Warsaw on the Vistula River has, it is reported from Vienna, been captured by the Austro-German army commanded by Archduke Joseph Ferdinand. These troops began entering the fortress on Wednesday when they took the fortifications on the west bank of the Vistula. They are now in possession of the city and all the forts on both sides of the river. Occupation of the great Russian Baltic seaport of Riga is also believed to be only a question of hours. Nineteen miles northeast of Warsaw the Russians still hold the fortress of Novogeorgievsk. The Russian armies are by no means out of danger of capture, although their fierce counter attacks have gained much valuable time. They are reported to have re-formed on the left bank of the River Bug. While expressing the fullest confidence in the future, the British military critics make no attempt to belittle the achievements of the Germans or the effect their success is likely to have in the Near East and the West. The Russians stripped Warsaw of everything that could be of benefit to the enemy. There have been no mails for ten days and the removal of the State banks and the private banks with all their funds have left the city without means of carrying on trade.

On the western frontier there has been little of importance this week except in the Argonne and the Vosges where German attempts to recapture lost ground or take new trenches have failed, according to the French communication. Important events are expected in the Near East during the coming week. The ministers of Great Britain, France, Russia and Italy have held conferences with the Greek Premier, which are expected to have far-reaching results in the stand of the Balkan States. Gen. Sir Ian Hamilton, commander of the allied forces in the Dardanelles, sends word of a successful attack by the Australians and New Zealanders on the Turkish trenches which has placed them in possession of the crest of a hill near their own lines. These colonial troops hold positions along the western side of the Gallipoli Peninsula and thus prevent the Turks sending all their forces against the Anglo-French army which holds the tip of the Peninsula.

The London correspondent of the New York "Sun" cables that he has learned on excellent authority that the British Cabinet has decided to inaugurate a system of conscription for raising additional armies and that the system in all probability will be put in force early in the Fall or as soon after the adjournment of Parliament as possible. A Cabinet meeting was held on Thursday in Downing Street, and the question of compulsory service was thoroughly discussed. The correspondent has been informed that no fewer than eleven members of the Cabinet are strongly in favor of the immediate institution of compulsory service. Foremost among these members are

David Lloyd George and Winston Spencer Churchill (Chancellor for the Duchy of Lancaster) and a majority of the Union members of the Government. It is known that Sir Edward Grey, Secretary for Foreign Affairs, is sympathetic towards a system of compulsion, while Earl Kitchener is energetically opposed to the view that the voluntary system has proved a failure. He is willing to admit, however, that new methods are needed.

President Wilson's plan for enlisting the co-operation of the six Latin-American Governments in an effort to stop the anarchy that is ruling in Mexico appears to be bearing fruit. Representatives of these six Governments participated in a conference that was begun on Thursday and continued yesterday. It is expected that the first practical step will be a renewed attempt to have the various warring factions stop fighting and agree on the personnel of a central Government in Mexico City. Washington advices state that should this step fail the United States will be prepared to go further, even if it has to act alone. Latest accounts state that Carranza has retaken Mexico City.

American forces from the battleship Connecticut have occupied without opposition the national fort which dominates the town of Port au Prince, Hayti. Admiral Capperton, who was in charge of American operations in Hayti, has wired Washington that the troops of General Bobo, leader of the successful revolution, will disarm on their arrival at the capital. These troops are reported to be en route from Cape Haitien to Port au Prince, and should arrive at the latter point early next week. News dispatches from Port au Prince state that the National Assembly was awaiting word from General Bobo as to whether he desired the office of President.

The London Stock Exchange, as is the custom on the first Monday in August, was closed for Bank Holiday on Monday last, having been closed also as a special holiday on the preceding Saturday. There has been a very light movement in trading at the British centre during the week, the new loan attracting chief interest. It formally began selling ex-conversion rights on Tuesday. Dealings with "conversion rights on" began on Thursday of last week. The dealings on the former commenced at 97 and closed the day at 98½. Later quotations were 98⅜ with conversion rights attached and 98½ ex-rights. The old loan of November last year, according to latest reports, was quoted at 92½. Applications for conversion must be sent to the Bank of England not later than Oct. 30. As the last installment on the new loan is not due until Oct. 26, and as the payment must be made in full before application can be made, it is obvious that only four days are available for the process. However, the new loan can be paid up in full under discount at any time. Hence subscribers who take advantage of the full payment option will be able to lodge their applications as soon as they have paid up. London advices state that the impression prevails that German influence is endeavoring to depress the loan in the London market. Well-informed interests there, however, place little faith in such a statement. Consols as a separate transaction have this week been virtually unsaleable at the minimum quotation of 65. There has, however, been some business transacted on the condition

that the proceeds shall be utilized to purchase the war loan at par from the buyers of the Consols, meaning that a premium is in this instance being paid for the war loan for the purpose of unloading Consols.

In money circles in London there has this week been somewhat of an easier tendency, closing rates for day-to-day funds being 3½@4%, which compares with 4@4½% a week ago. Discounts in Lombard Street, too, are easier, being quoted now fractionally below the Bank rate. A 15% installment on the new loan became due and was paid on Tuesday. It was after this transaction was out of the way that the easiness ensued. Latest advices cabled from London based on British revenue returns indicate that thus far only £273,500,000 has been paid on the new loan, the total subscriptions to which, it will be recalled, amounted, in round numbers, to £600,000,000. This apparently small volume of payment is explained by the fact that the large banks have been permitted to carry as Government deposits, until the funds are required by the Government, the amount of their own subscriptions. Another form of relief is an arrangement by which banks may borrow from the Bank of England at a special rate—about 1% under the Bank rate—to counteract the effect of the transfer of deposits in making war loan payments. How seriously the loan payments have dislocated the London situation is indicated by the fact that all the banks temporarily have decided to suspend their monthly statements.

On Wednesday all business on the London Stock Exchange was suspended for a quarter hour at noon when the members sang "God Save the King," in observance of the conclusion of the first year of the war. Further evidence is available of the development of war industrial speculation on the London market, to which we referred last week, Canadian Car & Foundry, which is understood to have received preferential treatment in English orders for war supplies, being especially active and buoyant. Reports have been current on the London market that Standard Oil interests have become actively identified with the company in a proprietary way, and also that, through the influence of that corporation, the company has received large additions from Russia to the war supply orders it previously had on hand. Coates Patent Fire Arms stock has been another strong feature, as likewise has been Hercules Powder. It is estimated that during the first twelve months of the war the outstanding speculative account of last July has been reduced 70%. The British Treasury has instructed the Post Office and all public departments making cash payments, to use notes instead of gold whenever possible. The public is earnestly requested in the interests of the nation to co-operate with the Treasury in this policy by paying all available gold to the Post Office and the banks and in making payments whenever possible in checks and notes instead of gold.

The London "Statist," as reported by cable, referring to the movement to mobilize Great Britain's gold reserve, estimates that £60,000,000 in gold is in circulation. Beyond this there is a large amount in the vaults of the banks. If, says the "Statist," "a large part of the gold in the country were to be sent in to the Bank of England, it is believed that the amount of gold in that institution would be increased to nearly £150,000,000, a sum which would enable the country to meet any drain on our gold resources for a long time." The London market is obviously

becoming increasingly cautious. The significance of the fall of Warsaw is fully appreciated, for, to quote one cable correspondent, "in addition to releasing German forces at the East for a more vigorous campaign at the West, the success of the enemy, it is conceded, is not unlikely to complicate seriously the situation in the Balkans and prevent for the present at least the adhesion of the wavering Balkan States to the side of the Allies." The same correspondent declares that while confidence in the final outcome of the war is not diminished, there is to-day throughout England a better appreciation of the enormity of the task and the sacrifices that are inevitable. The Index number of the London "Economist" at the close of July, as reported by cable, is 3281 against 3250 at the end of June and 3227 $\frac{1}{8}$  in May, the largest advance being shown by cereals and meat, which advanced 20 $\frac{1}{2}$  points during the month, while other food products rose 12 $\frac{1}{2}$  points.

As to the proposed establishment of an English credit in New York, nothing of a definite character has been reported. Advices cabled from London indicate that the question of a loan based on American bonds as collateral has been given some consideration. Referring to a letter addressed to Lloyd George, Minister of Munitions, from Samuel H. Barker, Financial Editor of the Philadelphia "North American," suggesting such a loan, a reply was received dated July 13, stating that the information and suggestions had been "forwarded to the Secretary of the Treasury." The London "Times," referring to an American credit based on American bonds as collateral, argues in its issue of last Wednesday that should the British Government require such bonds it should not purchase them in the open market, but should secure them by negotiation with insurance companies, trust companies and other large holders of American bonds in London.

Reports received by cable from Paris show very slight activity there in securities of any kind. The 3% rentes closed at 69 francs for cash, unchanged from a week ago. The first meeting of the Chamber of Deputies following the establishment of a union of all political parties in France "to endure so long as the war lasts," was held on Thursday. The session was marked by impressive demonstrations of patriotism and was strongly indicative of the unanimity of all Frenchmen. The meeting was, too, the first one since the formation of the present coalition Cabinet in France. M. Deschanel, President of the Chamber, opened the session with a flowery and eloquent speech. He said that a year had passed since the enemies of France had violated French territory even before declaring war. "This year has been so full of glory, so pure," he continued, "that it will forever illumine the human race. It has been a year in which the France of Joan of Arc and Dalmy has risen, if possible, to even greater heights." The speaker referred to the "breaking of the German military power" and "the forcing back of the enemy of France. Be the war of short or long duration, France accepts it," he said. M. Deschanel then reviewed briefly the work of Parliament, praising especially the activities of the several committees. "Let us thrust to one side," he said, "both the sowers of panic and the sowers of illusions. Let us be sowers of reasoned confidence for the reason that the issue of this conflict will not depend solely on material forces. In the final analysis it is to be a matter of will power and constancy." In conclusion,

the President of the Chamber repeated the determination of France to continue the struggle until complete victory had been attained. "It is not only a matter of life," he said, "it is a matter of that honor which France always has preferred to life." A message from President Poincare addressed to the French Parliament was read in both houses. It placed a special emphasis on the "sacred union of the political parties in France," calling this one of the conditions of victory. This union, he said, is more firmly established to-day. The message concluded as follows: "The only peace the Republic can accept is one which will guarantee the security of Europe."

In the French Senate on Thursday, explaining the bill designed to raise the limit of national defense issues which was passed in the Chamber of Deputies July 29, Alexandre Ribot, the Minister of Finance, reviewed the Government financial situation. "On July 31," he said, "there were 6,958,000,000 francs (\$1,391,600,000) of defense issues in circulation. In July alone 825,000,000 francs (\$165,000,000) net was placed in the short-term bonds and 322,000,000 francs (\$64,400,000) in the long-term obligations. Our financial burdens are constantly growing. Arms and ammunition cost a great deal. We shall probably have recourse to a long-term loan whereby we can consolidate all our short-term Treasury issues. We still have a great military and financial effort to make to reach a victorious conclusion of the war." The bill increasing the limit of national defense issues was passed. The total exchanges at the Bank of France of gold for paper since May 27 amount to 314,741,475 francs (\$62,948,295). The temporary issue of paper money of the value of \$1 and \$4 will be retired and replaced by a better quality of notes.

Press advices from Berlin state that the chief business of the Reichstag when it assembles on Aug. 19 will be to vote new credits for war purposes. While details for the new bonds have not been arranged, it is assumed in German banking circles that the amount of the loan, like that of the recent one, will be unlimited. The rate will be 5% and the subscription price (quoting the cable dispatch) "is expected to be somewhat above 99, as compared with 98 $\frac{1}{2}$  for the March loan. The prospects for the success of the next loan are regarded as being highly satisfactory. The great German banks say they have completely sold out their bonds of the two previous war loans, and now have unusually heavy deposits. These recently were swollen so abnormally that the Berlin Bank a short time ago reduced the rate paid on current deposits to the normal level." Dr. Karl Helfferich, Secretary of the Imperial Treasury, in a statement prepared for the Associated Press, gave his views on the economic and financial affairs in Germany as they exist at the end of the first year of war. Referring to the financial situation, he said:

So far as finances are concerned, Germany will carry the war through for an unlimited time. We produce in our own country practically everything needed for war. Thus expenditures for war purposes resolve themselves into savings. These again are at the Empire's disposition, as payments on the war loans and deposits are flowing into the banks and savings institutions more plentifully than in times of peace. The total of deposits to-day, after over \$3,000,000,000 has been paid on war loans, is higher than at the outbreak of the war. The gold reserve of the Reichsbank has almost doubled since the war



began. Notes and deposits in the Reichsbank covered by gold are 33½%, as compared with 26.7% in the Bank of France and 21.7% in the Bank of England.

The confidence of the German people in our financial strength is as unbounded as their confidence in our military superiority. After twelve months of war, Imperial 3s are quoted at 70, which is 8 points below the quotation in March 1914; the minimum price of British Consols, 65, is 11% below the quotation in March 1914; 3% French Rentes, at 69, are 19% below March 1914.

Work, skill, discipline, organization, economy, and last, but not least, the categorical imperative of patriotism, have upheld Germany in the first year against world enemies, and will help us further to win the war.

In the Russian Duma at Petrograd on Sunday Michael V. Rodzianko was reelected President of the Duma by a vote of 296 to 24. The war was actively discussed at the session and on the conclusion of the debate the Duma unanimously adopted the resolution declaring it to be the Empire's unshakable determination not to conclude peace before Russian victory was complete and pledging the willing assistance of the entire population for the creation of fresh means for continuing the struggle. The resolution emphasized the necessity of forgetting old political quarrels and recalled the Government's benevolence with regard to the interests of "all loyal citizens of Russia without distinction of race, language or religion." The members also expressed their "unshakable faith that the shortcomings which hitherto had existed in providing munitions for the army will immediately be removed and that those responsible for criminal omissions will be made to pay the penalty no matter what their position."

Official bank rates at all the European centers remain at last week's quotations. In London, Paris, Berlin, Amsterdam, Vienna and Copenhagen the rate is 5%; in Norway, Sweden and Portugal it is 5½%; in Italy and Russia 6%, and in Spain and Switzerland 4½%. In London money conditions are easier and the private bank rates at the close of business yesterday are 3¼@4⅞% for sixty day bills and 4⅞% for three months. A week ago the corresponding figures were 5⅞% for sixty and 5@5⅞% for ninety days. Day to day funds in London are 3½@4% against 4@4½% a week ago. There have been no private bank rates received by cable this week from any of the Continental centers so far as we have been able to learn.

In this week's return the Bank of England reports an increase in the proportion of reserve to liabilities to 20.40% from 16.77% a week ago. A year ago—the statement at that time being contemporaneous with the beginning of the war—the proportion was only 14.60%. Threadneedle Street gained an additional £1,315,255 in gold during the week, bringing the total up to £62,221,755 which compares with £27,622,069 at this date one year ago and £39,013,434 in 1913. A large decrease amounting to £30,578,000 is noted in the item of public deposits indicating of course heavy government expenditures. From the proceeds of the recent loan the Government has been enabled to repay to the Bank of England £96,000,000 advanced by the latter in the early stages of the war. The large reduction of £36,930,000 is reported in loans (other securities). The total

reserve increased £1,361,000, note circulation decreased £45,000, "other deposits" decreased £11,319,000 and government securities decreased £6,284,000. The reserve stands at £47,184,000 and compares with the low figure of £9,966,659 at this date one year ago and £27,507,269 in 1913. The public deposits aggregate £147,058,000 against £11,499,452 a year ago and the outstanding loans are £155,264,000 against £65,351,656 in 1914 and £26,988,361 in 1913. Our special correspondent furnishes the following details by cable of the gold movement into and out of the Bank for the Bank week: Inflow, £2,015,000 (of which £821,000 bought in the open market, £400,000 released from miscellaneous accounts and £794,000 net received from the interior of Great Britain); outflow, £700,000 (of which £350,000 bar gold sold and £350,000 earmarked miscellaneous). We add a tabular statement comparing for the last five years the different items in the Bank of England return:

BANK OF ENGLAND'S COMPARATIVE STATEMENT.

	1915. Aug. 4.	1914. Aug. 5.	1913. Aug. 6.	1912. Aug. 7.	1911. Aug. 9.
	£	£	£	£	£
Circulation.....	33,456,000	36,105,420	29,956,165	29,987,790	30,463,734
Public deposits.....	147,058,000	11,499,452	9,350,113	10,816,359	7,651,734
Other deposits.....	84,221,000	56,749,610	39,822,895	40,850,814	43,469,888
Government securities.....	46,874,000	11,941,132	12,756,539	13,982,472	14,967,286
Other securities.....	155,264,000	65,351,656	26,988,361	33,613,567	26,527,500
Reserve notes and coin.....	47,185,000	9,966,649	27,507,269	23,154,041	27,561,177
Coin and bullion.....	62,221,755	27,622,069	39,013,434	39,691,831	39,674,922
Proportion of reserve to liabilities.....	20.40%	14.60%	55.92%	48.80%	54.52%
Bank rate.....	5%	6%	4½%	3%	3%

The Bank of France reports an increase of 92,739,000 francs in its gold holdings and a decrease of 235,000 francs in silver. Note circulation shows an expansion of 132,855,000 francs, general deposits a decrease of 101,815,000 francs, bills discounted an increase of 24,646,000 francs and Treasury deposits a decrease of 2,193,000 francs. The Bank now holds 4,222,077,000 francs in gold. Comparisons are not available, as beginning with the corresponding date last year the publication of the French Bank statement was suspended for quite a while. On July 29, however, of 1914, the Bank held 4,141,350,000 francs. The silver stock is 367,636,000 francs, against 625,325,000 francs on July 29 1914, and note circulation is 12,724,855,000 francs, which compares with 6,683,184,785 francs the last available date of last year for comparison.

The Imperial Bank of Germany reports this week (as of Aug. 3) an increase in gold of 7,128,000 marks, of discounts, including Treasury paper, 232,984,000 marks, of loans 3,340,000 marks, of note circulation 3,382,000 marks and of deposits 23,840,000 marks. The cash item, which includes Imperial and loan bank notes and notes of other banks, in addition to coin and bullion, decreased 53,729,000 marks, and securities decreased 177,000 marks. The gold stock is 2,399,674,000 marks. The interruption of the Reichsbank's statement last year, after the war had started, prevents an accurate yearly comparison, except with July 23. In that statement gold holdings were 1,356,872,000 marks. Combining loans and discounts, we have a total of 4,143,212,000 marks, which compares with 801,074,000 marks on July 23 1914, while note circulation stands at 5,210,995,000 marks, comparing with 1,890,893,000 marks shown by the last returns of the Reichsbank before hostilities began.

The local money market has been maintained, so far as lenders' views are concerned, at the advances we noted a week ago. The demand for funds, however, has not been active and supplies have been coming to New York in fair volume. Call money rates have covered a range of  $1\frac{1}{2}$ @ $2\%$ , with most business passing at  $1\frac{3}{4}\%$ , the increased activity on the Stock Exchange apparently making no lasting impression on the volume of loanable funds. The New York market may be said to have taken a languid interest in the official announcement from Washington that the Federal Reserve banks have ample facilities to offer all the financial aid necessary for marketing the cotton and other agricultural crops this year. The Federal Reserve Board made public on Monday a circular letter to the Boards of Directors of the twelve banks. It declared in brief that, while the warehouse facilities in the South are inadequate, they are sufficient to accommodate all the cotton of the 1915 crop which is likely to be stored. The Board has decided that the member banks offering to loan upon cotton stored and properly insured should bargain as to the loan price of the cotton, and that if the market value of the commodity should fall below that price it is to become the duty of the member bank to see that additional security is provided. Special attention is drawn in the circular to recent regulations on trade acceptances whereby two-name paper bearing the endorsement of buyers and sellers is subject to discount at the Reserve banks at lower rates than other commercial paper. The Board proposes that facilities shall also be provided for wheat and corn on condition that storage and insurance conditions are adequate. The plan in detail appears in full on a subsequent page in this issue of the "Chronicle." How far it will enter in a practical way in the distribution of this year's crops is something that will have to be demonstrated by time.

Last Saturday's statement of the New York Clearing House showed an increase of \$11,845,000 in loans, of \$16,192,000 in net demand deposits and \$6,950,000 in net time deposits. The surplus reserve above requirements showed an expansion of \$7,458,160 to \$180,384,050, which compares with a deficit of \$17,425,750 under the old form of bank statement at this date a year ago and a surplus of \$26,208,100 at the corresponding date in 1913. Reserves in "own vaults" increased \$4,018,000 to \$449,003,000, including \$372,815,000 in specie; reserves in Federal Reserve banks increased \$221,000 to \$133,737,000, and reserves in other depositories increased \$6,136,000 to \$38,733,000. Thus the aggregate reserve increased during the week \$10,375,000.

Referring to money rates in detail, the range for demand loans during the week has been  $1\frac{1}{2}$ @ $2\%$  against  $1\frac{3}{4}$ @ $2\%$  a week ago. The higher figure has been current each day this week, while  $1\frac{3}{4}\%$  was the lowest on Monday,  $1\frac{1}{2}\%$  on Tuesday,  $1\frac{3}{4}\%$  on Wednesday,  $1\frac{1}{2}\%$  on Thursday and  $1\frac{3}{4}\%$  Friday. On Monday the ruling rate was  $2\%$ , but this was reduced to  $1\frac{3}{4}\%$  on Tuesday and it remained at that figure throughout the week. Time money rates have not been changed from  $2\frac{1}{2}$ @ $2\frac{3}{4}\%$  for sixty days,  $3\%$  for ninety days,  $3\frac{1}{4}\%$  for four months,  $3\frac{1}{4}$ @ $3\frac{1}{2}\%$  for five months and  $3\frac{1}{2}\%$  for six months. Commercial paper discounts are a shade firmer, closing at  $3\frac{1}{2}$ @ $3\frac{3}{4}\%$  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 of the Federal Reserve Bank have not been altered at any center, except that the rate for sixty to ninety days bills at Boston has been reduced from  $4\frac{1}{2}$  to  $4\%$ . The rate for trade acceptances at the New York Federal Reserve Bank remains at  $3\frac{1}{2}\%$ . The Federal Board has approved rates for trade acceptances at other points as follows; Dallas,  $3\frac{1}{2}\%$  to 60 days;  $4\%$  to 90 days; San Francisco,  $3\%$  to 60 days,  $3\frac{1}{2}\%$  60 to 90 days. The discount rate for bankers' acceptances in Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Cleveland, Chicago, Indianapolis and San Francisco as authorized by the Federal Reserve Board are  $2\%$  minimum and  $4\%$  maximum. The rates below are the current discount rates of all the Reserve banks.

Federal Reserve Bank—	Maturities of 10 days and less.	Maturities of 30 days and less.	Maturities of over 30 days to 60 days, inclusive.	Maturities of over 60 days to 90 days, inclusive.	Agricultural and live stock paper over 90 days.
Boston.....	3	4	4	4	5
New York.....	3	4	4	4	5
Philadelphia.....	3	4	4	4½	5
Cleveland.....	—	4	4	4½	5
Richmond.....	—	4	4	4½	5
Atlanta.....	—	4	4	4½	5
Chicago.....	—	4	4	4½	5
St. Louis.....	3	4	4	4½	5
Minneapolis.....	—	4	4	5	5
Kansas City.....	—	4	4	4½	5
Dallas.....	—	4	4	4½	5
San Francisco.....	3	3½	4	4½	6

The market for sterling exchange has ruled quiet. On Saturday demand bills were quoted as low as  $4\ 75\frac{3}{4}$ , which brings the level down to the minimum reached in June. The imminence of the fall and its final accomplishment, of Warsaw, have exerted a restraining influence on operations but the weakness in quotations was checked by buying of bills by local bankers. There have been no developments that have become public in connection with the proposed English credit that is expected to be established here. It may not be stated that there has been a very general pressure of bills. The war order payments are apparently being treated as a separate transaction quite aside from routine sterling exchange operations. The \$25,000,000 Russian acceptances arranged last January became due on Thursday and were paid and it is reported that there will be a renewal of the credit in such form as will make the Russian bills acceptable for rediscount with Federal Reserve banks. Negotiations of a tentative character are in progress for the establishment of an Italian credit here, supposed to be for about \$50,000,000. There was at first some talk of a direct loan but it is understood that this plan has been abandoned and that the credit when finally arranged will be for the purpose of financing purchases by the Italian Government in this country. The Department of Commerce has this week published a preliminary statement of July's foreign trade showing that the exports of merchandise from the chief customs districts of the country exceeded the imports by the large amount of \$95,000,000. This suggests clearly that our foreign trade balance is still steadily increasing. It is well known that manufacturers of shrapnel and high explosives continue very backward in their deliveries, extensions of delivery dates of contracts having in many instances been found necessary. This of course suggests that when these manufacturers begin to fully live up to their contracts there will be a sudden and sensational increase in the export movement. A total of \$1,960,000 gold was received at the Sub-Treasury from Ottawa on Monday through the agency of a Canadian bank.

Compared with Friday of last week, sterling exchange on Saturday was weak, breaking sharply on news of the impending fall of Warsaw; demand declined to 4 85<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>—a drop of nearly 1 cent in the pound from the rate prevailing a week before; the high was 4 76<sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub>, while cable transfers ranged at 4 76<sup>3</sup>/<sub>8</sub>@ 4 76<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>; sixty days was unchanged at 4 71@4 71<sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub>. On Monday extreme dulness was the outstanding feature, largely on account of the holiday in London; rates held steady, at 4 76@4 76<sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub> for demand, 4 76 11-16@4 76<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> for cable transfers and 4 71@ 4 71<sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub> for sixty days. A firmer tone was evident on Tuesday, although trading continued dull and almost nominal; quotations were unchanged for cable transfers at 4 76 11-16@4 76<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, fractionally lower for demand at 4 76@4 76 1-16, while sixty days advanced to 4 71<sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub>@4 71<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>. On Wednesday narrow fluctuations and light transactions again marked the day's operations; the tone was steady with rates a trifle higher and demand quoted at 4 76 1-16@ 76<sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub> and cable transfers at 4 76<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>@4 76 13-16; sixty days remained unchanged at 4 71<sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub>@4 71<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>. Buying by an international banking house on Thursday caused an advance of <sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub>c. in demand, to 4 76<sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub>@4 76 3-16; cable transfers and sixty-day bills, however, were not changed from 4 76<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>@4 76 13-16 and 4 71<sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub>@ 4 71<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, respectively; trading was light. On Friday the market ruled irregular. Closing quotations were 4 71@4 71<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> for sixty days, 4 76<sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub>@4 76<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> for demand and 4 76 13-16@4 76 15-16 for cable transfers. Commercial on banks nominal, documents forpayment nominal. Seven-day grain bills at 4 75<sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub>@ 4 75<sup>3</sup>/<sub>8</sub>. Cotton for payment nominal grain for payment nominal.

In the Continental exchanges the week's changes have not been important. Bankers' checks on Berlin have advanced to 82<sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub> against 81<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> a week ago, presumably reflecting the success of the Warsaw campaign. Cable transfers closed at 82<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> against 81<sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub>. Sterling exchange in Paris closed at 27.02 against 27.10 last week. In New York, checks on the French centre are 5.64<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> against 5.69 and cable transfers 5.64 against 5.68<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>. Swiss exchange finished at 5.31 and 5.30<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> for sight and cables, respectively, against 5.37 and 5.36. Italian liras are firmer at 6.23 for sight and 6.22 for cables against 6.38 and 6.37, respectively, a week ago. Bankers' checks on Amsterdam are 40 5-16 against 40<sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub> a week ago, and cables are 40<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> against 40<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>. Greek exchange remains at 5.26 and 5.25 for checks and cables, respectively. Copenhagen checks are 25.85 against 25.83. Norway and Sweden both are quoted at 25.90 against 25.88, while Russian rubles have advanced to 33 against 32<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> a week ago and 32 a fortnight ago.

The New York Clearing-House banks, in their operations with interior banking institutions, have gained \$3,661,000 net in cash as a result of the currency movements for the week ending Aug. 6. Their receipts from the interior have aggregated \$8,694,000, while the shipments have reached \$5,033,000. Adding the Sub-Treasury operations and the gold imports, which together occasioned a loss of \$123,000, 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 \$3,538,000, as follows:

Week ending Aug. 6.	Into Banks.	Out of Banks.	Net Change in Bank Holdings.
Banks' interior movement.....	\$8,894,000	\$5,033,000	Gain \$3,861,000
Sub-Treas. oper. and gold imports...	18,870,000	18,993,000	Loss 123,000
Total.....	\$27,564,000	\$24,026,000	Gain \$3,538,000

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

Banks of	August 5 1915.			August 6 1914.		
	Gold.	Silver.	Total.	Gold.	Silver.	Total.
England...	£ 62,221,755	£ -----	£ 62,221,755	£ 27,622,069	£ -----	£ 27,622,069
France...	168,883,320	14,669,680	183,553,000	165,653,680	25,913,280	190,666,960
Germany...	120,034,600	2,300,000	122,334,600	67,842,850	16,727,050	84,569,900
Russia...	167,367,000	5,403,000	172,670,000	174,509,000	7,382,000	181,891,000
Aus-Hung...	51,578,000	12,140,000	63,718,000	51,578,000	12,140,000	63,718,000
Spain...	27,925,000	29,776,000	57,701,000	21,740,000	29,191,000	50,931,000
Italy...	45,984,000	4,787,000	50,471,000	45,400,000	2,885,000	48,285,000
Netherl'ds...	31,121,000	191,400	31,312,400	15,509,000	685,700	16,194,700
Nat. Belg...	15,380,000	600,000	15,980,000	8,472,000	4,236,000	12,708,000
Sweden...	6,298,000	-----	6,298,000	5,818,000	-----	5,818,000
Switz'land...	9,601,900	-----	9,601,900	7,202,000	-----	7,202,000
Norway...	3,598,000	-----	3,598,000	2,916,000	-----	2,916,000
Denmark...	5,950,000	316,000	6,266,000	4,052,000	300,000	4,352,000
Tot. week	715,542,375	70,183,080	785,725,655	596,314,599	98,558,030	694,872,629
Prev. week	711,031,600	70,277,340	781,308,940	591,007,434	98,351,313	689,358,847

c July 30 1914 in both years. h Data in 1915 for Sept. 21 1914. \* June 20.

THE STRUGGLE FOR MAINTAINING FIXED RETAIL PRICES.

The latest decision upon the power of producers of articles under patents or trade marks to control the retail prices of such goods gives some encouragement to those who are striving for price maintenance and suggests a compact review of the principal decisions on this subject.

Following the language of the constitutional grant of power to encourage authors and inventors, the patent law grants "the exclusive right to make, use, or vend, a patented article." This avowed monopoly for a limited term, the only one ever formally set up, is apparently as exclusive and broad as language could make it, and until recent years was pretty strictly construed as such. Exclusive ownership seems to involve exclusive right of disposal, and that seems to involve power to dictate terms of sale; but it is less clear whether this exclusive power enables the original seller to attach conditions which shall virtually fasten a lien on the second and subsequent sales and even upon all use. A somewhat similar question has arisen as to the power to sell real estate under restrictions, and the tendency has been increasing to hold that the original owner of patented goods may fix his price but must make his conveyance absolute and final.

In 1908, the Supreme Court held that copyright owners cannot control the retail price of a book by printing it therein, with a "notice" that nobody has authority to sell it for less; in delivering the opinion Justice Day remarked that there is a difference between the patent and the copyright law and that the Court was not then passing on the power of patentees to control prices but had never conceded such power. In a subsequent case, with Justice Hughes delivering the opinion, that power over sales was denied to owners of proprietary medicines, but again without passing on it as to patented goods.

That question came up in March of 1912, when there was one vacancy in the Court and Justice Day was absent. The subject was the Dick mimeograph, the machine having been sold with conditions (printed on a label attached) that it was licensed for use only with ink and other needed materials which were made by the makers of the machine. In the case selected for test, Dick sued the seller of the ink, not the buyer and user, and the question as taken to the Court was whether this sale of forbidden material constituted a "contributory" infringement. Justice Lurton, with concurrence of Justices Holmes, McKenna and Vandevanter, sustained that view, while Justices Lamar and Hughes united with Chief Justice White in dissent. The latter wrote a vigorous

protest against what seemed to him a doctrine liable to be pushed to an intolerable abuse.

One year later, in the "Sanatogen" case, the Court stood five to four in the other direction, holding, through Justice Day, that when a patentee tries to control retail prices by attaching printed notice of "conditions" to the article it is a misuse of terms to call the transaction a license; the patent owner had sold the article for a price satisfactory to himself and he had neither interest in nor power over any subsequent sales.

The attempt to "keep a string tied to product from factory to scrapheap" (as one indignant person put it) continued notwithstanding. A well-known make of disk phonographic record had been going out to market with conditions printed on the label, and as the label has been phrased in the present year the conditions of the "license" went so far as to omit all reference to selling or selling price; the entire statement follows the usual phrasing of license, even mentioning "royalties" and setting forth that the title remains in the maker and he is at liberty to claim the article back from the private user at any time, on some breaking of condition, and in that event to refund the money paid, less allowance for the elapsed time, and so on; this printed matter (which probably not one purchaser in a thousand ever noticed) is taken off the label on the record itself and placed on the envelope containing it, and record and envelope must not be separated, or the separation will be an infringement.

In March last the suit brought by this company against Macy alleged that the defendants had sold records when, not having a license as agents, they possessed only a non-assignable right of use, as limited by the printed conditions. With the Bauer (Sanatogen) case before him, Judge Hand of the Federal District Court promptly dismissed the case; he saw no attempt at combination in restraint of trade and therefore no violation of either of the anti-trust acts. "If this were a case of first impression," he said, "I might feel that no sufficient reason exists for holding that a patentee could not attach such limitations to the future use of his patented goods as he might choose, irrespective of whether he had received the full royalty or not;" but the Supreme Court had covered that in the Bauer case.

About a fortnight before this decision by Judge Hand, the Cream of Wheat Company sent to the grocery trade a letter setting forth that a large store in this city persistently cut the price of that article to consumers below what the regular retail grocer must pay, and that this process, if carried to other articles, will completely demoralize legitimate jobber and legitimate retailer together. Therefore the addressee was requested to watch his sales carefully, so that no quantity of the article, at any price, should fall into possession of the offending concern. That concern promptly sought a temporary injunction, alleging monopoly and trade restraint; but Judge Hough in the Federal District Court denied this on July 20. The article, he said, is not a necessity nor even a staple in commerce and interference with price-cutting, so far as not contrary to statute, seemed to him entirely reasonable:

How it can be called substantial and unreasonable restraint of trade to refuse to deal with a man who avowedly is to use his dealing to injure the vendor, when such vendor makes and sells only such advertisement-begotten articles as Cream of Wheat,

whose fancy name needs the nursing of carefully-handled sales to maintain an output of trifling moment in the food market, is beyond my comprehension. There is no proof that the defendant refused or threatened to refuse to sell to any one who sold to the plaintiff; it did request its chosen customers not to deal with the plaintiff.

While this is not a case of a distinctive or a patented article it offers encouragement to maintenance of fixed retail prices by concurring in what seems the reasonable proposition that if the retailer may put his own price upon any article which he has lawfully obtained the patentee or the producer has an equal right to cut off the supplies by any lawful means within his reach. It seems needless to argue that the benefits of cutthroat competition are limited and transient and that maintenance of reasonable fixed prices is in the long run best for all interests. The Stevens bill to that end failed in the last Congress, but the American Fair Trade League and other organizations interested will keep on and the effort will probably be renewed next Winter.

At the other extreme, a bill appeared in both branches of the legislature at Albany, last Spring, proposing a severe penalty for any person or corporation engaged in making or selling "of any food product" who should "discriminate in price between different purchasers thereof," or "refuse to sell the same to all offering to purchase," or make any sale or price-concession on condition that the purchaser "shall not re-sell the same to any person, firm, or corporation, or except at a fixed price," when the effect of such a condition "may be to fix the price thereof to the consumer." The third prohibition is quite covered in the first; the second, which is completely covered in the first, would bar the mild action which Judge Hough has approved; the first would destroy all middlemen by prescribing one price to all. The wild absurdity of such ostensible attempts to combat the high cost of living needs no words of comment.

#### LABOR TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE WAR SITUATION.

Concessions which are natural and unavoidable, under the pressure of orders for war munitions that cannot wait for any final adjustment of difficulties in the way, have been made here and there to labor, and the general situation is one of continued disturbance, breaking out in one plant as temporarily quieted in another. This is true of the Welsh coal mines, of England's war work everywhere, of war work here, and it is useless to decry or bemoan it. The feeling of labor is that contracting employers should not expect to have and will not be allowed to have "all" the profits of this imperative but transient activity; this is labor's opportunity and hour, and no sooner is a strike "off" in one place than it is "on" or threatened elsewhere. Labor intends to make the most of its position as the indispensable factor, and the union leaders intend to solidify themselves as the controlling power.

Observe the admirable frankness of one of them, manager of one division of the International Machinists' Association. The present time is the best that has ever happened for us, he says; in the last fourteen years there have been three men for every job and strikers have been handicapped, but now there are three jobs for every man and the bosses are crying for help. "This is our time, and can you

blame us if we take it?" The conditions are also favorable, he says, because no other labor trouble is on now, whereas we have been burdened in the past by having too much on our hands at a time. We have learned the lesson "that a general strike paralyzes the strikers more than the employers, and therefore we will not call out all the factories at once." Instead:

"We intend to start in New York, and then to hop along the line through New England and the entire country; there are more than 400 factories in which we intend to serve notice. \* \* \* We're going to just hop along the line and as fast as we settle one we'll take on another."

The method of this should not be overlooked; it is just the method undertaken in the Danbury hat-making industry, some years ago—hopping along the line and overcoming the resistance of one unit shop at a time and "as fast as we settle one we'll take on another."

All heretofore said in the "Chronicle" regarding the misplaced direction of labor unionism to bad ends instead of good ends which are attainable, and concerning the bad political economy which fights abundance and seeks to raise wages by diminishing output and efficiency and cannot see that high prices are not an advantage to labor, all this remains true. Yet it is vain to expect to teach sound political economy to the unionists as a body, except very slowly and painfully, and it is quite vain to expect that the leaders will ever look beyond their own immediate powers. We may also refrain from accusing labor of especial selfishness; it is both greedy and shortsighted, but so is capital, more or less, and contractors in war time cannot pose as either altruists or patriots. In such a situation as the present, particularly, we must allow the laborer for whom everybody is calling to make the most of his "hour," just as his employer is sure to do.

We can waive patriotism and altruism and comparative selfishness and even discussion of political economy to quieter times; but one thing we cannot waive to either quieter or more strenuous times, and that is: the supremacy of law. Laborers may bargain, and may leave their work if they choose; but they must not interfere with work, and they must not attempt to force the closed shop and the refused concessions by violence. They keep doing this, but the issue keeps closing more sternly down. There was another example of the familiar paltering, in the Bayonne oil district; and then came a better one in the prompt intervention by this State in the outbreak at Massena. What the Executive of New Jersey did not do, following like conduct elsewhere and in more than one State, the Executive of New York did without dallying.

This is the lesson of to-day, the same lesson so often urged, and so often emphasized by current events. We cannot escape it by weakly putting it by for just this once more. Any Government which does not preserve unimpaired the right to hire labor and the right to sell and use it is not worth having, at any price. The first function of government is maintenance of order and law and personal rights. Until that is fulfilled, all professions and attempts to make trade "fair" by regulative commissions are a travesty. Let us first attend to the primal duty. Teach labor, at whatever cost, to respect and obey law. When this is publicly and firmly accomplished and labor has been taught the submission it boldly refuses, it will be quite soon enough to seek to improve the morals and practices of trading.

### DRINK AND THE WAR AND THE WAR AGAINST DRINK.

In the swift course of startling events which followed the opening of the war in Europe, one that attracted wide and permanent attention was the action of the belligerent nations with regard to alcoholic drink. There was almost universal testimony that its use constituted a serious element of weakness and immediate steps were taken to restrict or prohibit it. In response to the demand of the people, the Russian Government prohibited the sale of vodka during the period of the war; France did the same in regard to absinthe; King George for the sake of example banished liquor from the royal household, and the Kaiser spoke in warning of the danger. Officers in the German navy had already organized in favor of total abstinence, because of the disastrous effect even of beer upon gunnery; and England has had her legislation paralyzed and the Government itself put in peril by being compelled to face the drink problem among her working people.

All this, however, has been of secondary interest to us compared with the other issues of the war. They are still abundant enough and exciting enough to monopolize the headlines. Nevertheless, however important may be the economic and financial relations into which the war has already brought us, or however serious may yet prove to be the other grave questions with which the Government is dealing, there is a war going on over the whole length and breadth of our country against an evil that is causing an actual loss of human life and a destruction of all that gives value to life, so constant and so vast as to be second to none that any war forced upon us from abroad can entail. News of individual disaster now and again breaks into the circle of our friends, or our home, as it does coming from the front to-day in the homes of Europe. But the destruction wrought by drink has been endured so long, and is entangled with so many personal habits, that we are inured to it. We realize our individual helplessness when it comes home to us, and we treat it as an intensive annoyance when others try to disclose to us or hold our attention upon the actual situation. So long as we do not suffer, we try not to care and we do not want to know.

To-day, however, no man who pays any attention to public events can fail to be aware that a great movement is under way and that an issue is already joined in a movement of far-reaching importance and involves a social and moral upheaval.

The subject is brought before us in New York by the recent action of Dr. Goldwater, the able and serious Commissioner of Health. But before considering his action, let us have before us these facts. From the liquor produced or consumed by the people in the fiscal year ending June 30 1914 the United States Government received a revenue of \$226,179,690. Arrayed against this enormous interest, 18 States of the Union, with a population of 25,828,613, are already under total prohibition, or have adopted prohibitory laws to go into effect in 1916. Adding to these those sections of the country under no-license laws and those where the sale of liquor is prohibited by the United States Government, there is 76% of the area of the country, with 51,000,000 of the people, under prohibition. This, of course, does not measure the fighting force arrayed against the liquor interest, but it represents the source from which that force is

to be drawn. The state of the contest is expressed in the bill to provide for amending the Constitution of the United States to prohibit "the sale, manufacture, transportation for sale or importation for sale of intoxicating liquors for beverage purposes," which was presented in Congress last December and received 197 affirmative, as against 189 negative votes; and failed only because a two-thirds majority is required.

In these circumstances, Dr. Goldwater announces that his department proposes to inaugurate a campaign against the use of alcohol. His official statement is this: "A diminution in the consumption of alcohol by the community, according to those who are in a position to know and to judge, would mean less tuberculosis, less poverty, less dependency and less pressure on our hospitals, asylums and jails. Intemperate drinking cuts into the support of the family. The drinking of parents weakens the vitality of children. Drinking mothers lose twice as many babies as do sober mothers. More alcoholism is found in the parents of feeble-minded children than in the parents of normal children. The children of drinkers develop more slowly and do poorer school work than do the children of abstainers. Alcohol impairs the tone of the muscles, lessens the product of laborers, depreciates the skill and endurance of artisans, impairs memory, multiplies industrial accidents, causes chronic diseases of the heart, liver, stomach and kidneys, increases the death rate from pneumonia, and lessens natural immunity from infectious diseases."

On the basis of this statement he has secured the co-operation of representatives of the New York State Commission for the Blind, the American Association for Labor Legislation, the Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor, the Hudson Guild, the State Charities Aid Association, the Brooklyn Bureau of Charities, the New York Social Center Committee, the Jewish Community, the Committee of Safety, the Russell Sage Foundation and the Boy Scouts of America; also public officials representing the Departments of Public Charities, Education, Police, Mayor's Employees' Committee and the State Department of Labor, with representatives of Columbia and Cornell universities, the Central Federated Union of Labor, the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co., the Wholesale Grocers' Association and a group of leading medical men.

These gentlemen are to aid in "an educational campaign." It is true we have had that since the days of Lyman Beecher and "the Washingtonians" in 1830, and it seems to have accomplished less than what might have been expected. But times have changed. The pressure upon organized society and the State to sustain itself is becoming increasingly heavy. The war is rapidly piling up a vast debt which will add enormously to the burden of taxation, which in all lands is already an incubus upon the industries of the people. The country is coming to see that the revenue from liquor, large as it is, does not begin to compensate for the loss and outlay that drink involves. Business men, East and West, whatever have been their personal habits, are committing themselves on the side of prohibition, and there is every sign of a demand for radical measures that will not be gainsaid. A lantern slide, which the Health Department is putting into 800 moving picture theatres in Greater New York, is suggestive of what is going on. This reads as follows:

"The intemperate use of alcohol is filling our hospitals, asylums, poor houses, jails and cemeteries. These facts are vouched for by the Department of Health, City of New York."

#### THE LEHIGH VALLEY REPORT.

The Lehigh Valley Railroad Co. is the first prominent company to render its report for the fiscal year ending June 30 1915. The report in printed form came to hand at the beginning of the week, and as this allowed scarcely more than 30 days after the close of the year, the achievement must be considered quite noteworthy, having regard especially to the extended statistics contained in the report.

Results for the twelve months, though not in all respects as good as could be wished, owing to causes beyond the control of the management, must on the whole be considered quite satisfactory. Most occasion for gratification is found in the particulars where administrative efforts have had free play and have borne expected fruit either in an addition to traffic and revenues, or a reduction in expenses. Efforts in both directions have been evident for years and have been attended with an unflinching measure of success, but unfortunately have not been apparent in the final results to the extent that could be desired, because of unfavorable tendencies and influences affecting railroad property in general and which it was beyond the power of any management to control or overcome.

In the matter of expenses, for instance, the rise in cost of operations has been a feature common to the whole railroad world. Yet this has occurred in face of constant endeavors to promote operating efficiency, evidences of which are to be found in the statistics of all the roads and particularly the Lehigh Valley by any one competent to analyze the same. The causes of the rise in operating costs, which has been in progress for so long and has impaired the value of many a railroad property, are many. The enhanced price of most of the things entering into the operating accounts, and especially the higher wage schedules that have had to be paid to labor, has been one of these, the demand of the public and the requirement of legislative bodies and public officials for increased services and extra accommodations has been another, while at the same time all public utility concerns have been called upon to pay increasing amounts out of their revenues for taxes to the Government. Vexatious meddling and interference on the part of Government in one way or another have also been potent influences in swelling the expense accounts of the carriers.

There is little general recognition of the extent to which expenses are added to in many different ways from the causes and by reason of the circumstances cited. It is easy to understand how full-crew laws work to swell the expense accounts by requiring the employment of help for which there is no need and through which no good is accomplished. Numerous other, though relatively small, ways in which extra outlays are entailed, escape attention. We have been particularly impressed with the importance of this element by a simple matter-of-fact statement in the present report of the Lehigh Valley company. The statement we have in mind is contained in an apparently casual remark of President E. B. Thomas in his narrative of the events and incidents of the year, to the effect that the "company has 17 men en-

gaged in the preparation of data and collection of records in connection with the valuation of the company's property, for use by the Inter-State Commerce Commission, as required by law, and this force will have to be increased as the work progresses." This may appear to be a small thing in itself, adding, say, \$20,000 a year to expenses, and yet this particular work is only in its initial stage, and State and national commissions are all the time calling for extra information and additional statistics and thus making necessary constant enlargement of the permanent force in the statistical and clerical departments and often, too, in the higher grades of the service.

The Lehigh Valley is better circumstanced than most railroads to endure drains of this description, and yet these drains are to be reckoned with even in its case. The company is maintaining its 10% dividends, which is a high rate of return in these times, but the margin above the requirement for this purpose is now small, and no such dividends would in any event be possible except that for a considerable time in the recent past shareholders were obliged to forego dividends altogether and enormous amounts out of earnings were devoted to the physical and financial rehabilitation of the property. Nor would results be sufficiently favorable to permit the continuance of existing dividends except for the increase in operating efficiency that has been attained, in part as a result of the large expenditures referred to and in part as a result of skillful management in other ways.

One evidence of the development of operating efficiency is found in the increase in train load. It is unfortunately impossible to make accurate comparisons in this and other respects with previous years because with July 1 1914 the Inter-State Commerce Commission ordered material changes in the classification of both revenues and expenses. The figures for the year immediately preceding have been revised to accord with this change, in order to give correct comparisons, but it was not possible to make revisions for previous years, and exact comparisons therefore with these earlier years are out of the question. For 1915 the train load of revenue freight was 621 tons and for 1914 622 tons, the figures for both these years being on the same basis of computation. Including company materials, the train load was respectively 644 and 645 tons. On the old basis the 1914 figures averaged 595 tons of revenue freight and 617 tons of all freight, including company material. In the report for 1910 President Thomas directed attention to the increase in the average train load of revenue freight from 485 tons in the year 1903 to 542 tons in 1910. If the comparison be extended further back, the improvement accomplished is found to have been still more noteworthy, for in 1898 the average train load was only 384 tons, and this apparently included company freight.

What is being all the time done to reduce the unit of cost appears from a statement in the remarks under "Additions and Betterments." This statement tells us that during the past fiscal year 53 heavy consolidation type freight locomotives were rebuilt and equipped with superheaters, new cylinders and Walschaert valve gears, and that these changes have resulted in a reduced fuel consumption as well as increased efficiency of operation due to the better sustained steaming qualities of the engines.

Up to the last year the savings in this and other directions was counterbalanced by a general rise in expenses. For the late year, however, it is encouraging to find a small reduction in expenses with some addition to revenues. Briefly stated, gross earnings increased \$355,315, while expenses were reduced \$140,518, thus producing \$495,833 increase in net. This reduction in expenses occurred in face of an increase in the expenditures for maintenance of equipment of \$537,698, though, on the other hand, \$190,800 less was spent upon maintenance of way. The saving was effected in the transportation expenses, which were \$421,872 less than in the preceding year, and in the traffic expenses, which were \$80,764 less. In view of what has already been said, it will be readily understood how the saving here was brought about. The increase in gross earnings may come as a surprise (even though it is not large in amount) in view of the many unfavorable conditions which have prevailed, but there was a considerable loss in revenues the previous year.

Passenger earnings in 1915 did fall off \$751,348, due principally to the suspension of immigration business, a large part of which has annually gone to the Lehigh Valley. Since the outbreak of war in Europe the immigration movement into the United States has dwindled to practically nothing. The revenue tonnage was slightly larger in the aggregate than in the preceding year, the increase being about 1.5%. The gain, however, was almost entirely in the anthracite coal tonnage and in the agricultural tonnage. Both had been reduced in 1914, the one by reason of dull conditions in the anthracite trade due to an exceptionally mild winter and the other because of deficient grain harvests in the West.

Notwithstanding the larger net income from operation, the amount available for dividends was only \$6,322,445 against \$7,056,659. The falling off, however, followed mainly from the circumstance that a \$685,080 dividend on Temple Iron Co. stock owned by the Lehigh Valley had been included in the 1914 income statement by order of the Inter-State Commerce Commission. Of course, there was no similar dividend in 1915. With \$6,322,444 available in 1915 the requirement for the dividends actually paid was \$6,060,800, showing how small was the margin remaining, though, on the other hand, this does not include the results of the Lehigh Valley Coal Co., where also there was some margin of surplus. One indication of the business depression which marked the year is found in the item of "Hire of Equipment." In other years this has shown a credit, the credit in 1914 having been \$325,440, but in the year under review a debit balance of \$68,807 is shown, a difference of \$394,247. The explanation is found in the fact that the company was not able to find employment for its equipment on other lines to the same extent as in 1914. President Thomas again calls attention to the great increase that has taken place in the calls for taxes. In the late year there was a further increase in these taxes, and it is pointed out that they now form 4.23% of the company's gross earnings. In the last ten years the gross earnings increased, roughly, 30% while taxes were augmented 154%.

No increase in the funded debt of the company occurred during the year, notwithstanding the large improvement expenditures. The report tells us that it is proposed at a later date to make a specific issue of bonds to cover the major portion of the

expenditures already made for the new freight and passenger terminals at Buffalo. It is expected that the freight terminal will be ready for use by November next and the passenger terminal at a later date. As pointed out by us in previous reviews, the company pursues very conservative bookkeeping methods, and in 1915 a further reduction has been made in the book value of the capital stock of Coxe Brothers & Company, \$1,000,000 having been charged off on that account in profit and loss. A like reduction was made in the book value of this property in each of the seven preceding years, so that altogether \$8,000,000 has now been charged off.

As indicating the constant handicaps under which operations are conducted, allusion may be made to the decision rendered in May 1915 under the so-called Panama Canal Act, the effect of which (unless the decision can be modified) will be to compel the Lehigh Valley R.R. to cease the operation of six steamers owned by the Lehigh Valley Transportation Co. and now operated upon the Great Lakes. President Thomas states that these vessels have for years been operated in miscellaneous freight service and served as valuable feeders from Western points to the company's lines which end at Buffalo. He says the matter is one of grave concern and is now occupying the earnest attention of the officials. The order of the Commission does not require the discontinuance of these operations until Dec. 1 1915.

#### ISSUING FEDERAL RESERVE NOTES TO ACQUIRE GOLD.

In the following Gov. Benjamin Strong, Jr., of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York undertakes to explain and to justify the policy by which the Federal Reserve Banks throughout the country are putting out new issues of Reserve notes from week to week in order to get gold in the hands of the Federal Reserve agents for the retirement of the notes. Some comments on Mr. Strong's communication and the position he takes in the same will be found in our article on "The Financial Situation" on a preceding page.

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF NEW YORK.

August 2 1915.

Editor *Commercial & Financial Chronicle*, New York City:

Sir: The editorials in your issues of July 10th and 17th raise various objections to the operation of substituting gold as security for Federal Reserve notes issued by the Federal Reserve Agents, and I gather that the principal grounds of your criticism are:

1. That the operation may be "ultra vires."
2. That it violates the plain intent of the Act which you state "was to issue notes for the simple purpose of conducting rediscounting operations of the Reserve Banks," or, as you later express it, that "the course pursued is plainly a departure from the purpose of the statute," although, as indicated in both editorials, the soundness of the plan now in practice is not necessarily questioned.

3. That it will tend "to keep them (Federal Reserve notes) out indefinitely."

As to the question of "ultra vires," the phrase "ultra vires" means "beyond the power of." The question which is thus presented is, therefore, one of law as to whether or not there is to be found anywhere in the Federal Reserve Act, authority for the process under consideration.

Section 16, of the Federal Reserve Act, provides that any Federal Reserve bank may deposit with the Federal Reserve agent, gold, gold certificates, or lawful money of the United States, and thus reduce its liability for outstanding Federal Reserve notes. Naturally, when the liability of a bank for outstanding Federal Reserve notes is reduced by a deposit of gold, a similar amount of collateral security in the form of rediscounted notes or bills of exchange is released by the Federal Reserve agent, who returns it to the bank, as it would be manifestly absurd for the Federal Reserve agent

to hold 100% of gold against outstanding Federal Reserve notes plus 100% of commercial paper.

Section 16 also provides that every application to the Federal Reserve agent on behalf of the bank for the issue of Federal Reserve notes, shall be accompanied with a tender of collateral in amount equal to the Reserve notes applied for and issued. There is nothing in the statute which either expressly or by any implication prohibits the use of commercial paper which has once been hypothecated with the Federal Reserve agent from being used over again when occasion requires. On the contrary, Section 16 provides that any Reserve bank may make application for such amount of Federal Reserve notes "as it may require." There is no indication as to the existence of any limitation in the nature or character of such requirements. Had it been the intention of Congress to limit the using of Federal Reserve notes to an amount not exceeding the amount of commercial paper rediscounted by the Federal Reserve bank and on hand in its possession, it would have been very simple to have inserted a proviso to that effect.

The provisions of Section 16 should be read in connection with the provisions of Section 14, which you quote as follows: "Every Federal Reserve bank shall have power to deal in gold coin and bullion at home or abroad, make loans thereon, exchange Federal Reserve notes for gold, gold coin, or gold certificates." This section relates to the so-called open market operations initiated by the bank as distinguished from discount operations resulting from applications made by member banks which the Federal Reserve bank does not initiate. Transactions under Section 14, therefore, are undertaken as a matter of voluntary policy when the management of the Reserve banks deem it desirable for any reason to exercise the privileges there conferred. If a Federal Reserve bank considered it prudent to accumulate gold, it could only do so by three processes under Section 14; one by borrowing the gold and pledging its assets; another by selling its assets for gold, and a third by exchanging Federal Reserve notes for gold, the last of which is distinctly and unmistakably authorized by the Act. In Section 14, nothing is said as to how these notes shall be obtained by the bank. Neither does it limit the operation of the exchange of notes for gold, only to those occasions when the Reserve banks may happen to hold unpledged commercial paper available as collateral for notes in its portfolio. It is, in fact, a perfectly fair construction of the statute to hold that a Federal Reserve bank may procure such notes, "as it may require" by the process provided under Section 16 in order that they may be used to conduct transactions authorized by Section 14. Otherwise a prudent policy, adopted by the banks, and authorized by the statute, would be defeated by too narrow a construction of the statute as a whole.

As to the second point, we do not think that the purpose of the statute intended any such limitation as you have suggested. Such a limitation would have had the effect of making the Federal Reserve Act simply an emergency currency measure, as it would have limited the using of Federal Reserve notes to the amounts required by the member banks in the shape of rediscounts.

This theory of the law is incorrectly held by many people. They believe that Federal Reserve notes should be used only as emergency currency and merely to assist the bankers in time of stress. The opposite and correct theory is that Federal Reserve notes should be and become part of the general currency of the country, passing from hand to hand in the daily commerce of the people, and they will in time largely replace national bank notes. This view has clearly been adopted by the Federal Reserve Board as indicated by their action in acquiescing in the operations above described and has also been adopted by all the officers if the Federal Reserve banks. It has apparently met with no criticism on the part of the framers of the law. Incidentally, it may be observed that there is not included among the purposes of the Act, the purpose of creating an "emergency" currency, but there is included a purpose to "furnish an elastic currency," and also to "afford means of rediscounting commercial paper." The emergency currency passed out of existence with the Aldrich-Vreeland Act, a month ago—this act is in no sense an "emergency" act, but it is a "currency" act. There is no indication that the purpose and method of "furnishing elastic currency" was to be limited in any way by the purpose and method of "affording means of rediscounting commercial paper."

I believe that you have also failed to observe that the accumulation of gold by the Reserve banks by the processes described affords greater elasticity to the currency than any



other means that can be employed under the terms of the Act. It creates a wider margin of reserve against note issues and consequently permits a safer and greater expansion of note issues in time of emergency than would be possible if the gold holding of the Reserve banks was limited to that contributed by way of capital and deposits of member banks. If the purposes of this legislation were to mobilize gold reserves, furnish an elastic currency and afford discount facilities for member banks, those purposes are being promoted by the operation which you criticize.

As to the third criticism, that it will keep the notes in circulation, I hardly see what bearing this has on the discussion. The operation does not contribute in any way to a redundancy of currency. In fact, from a credit standpoint, it has rather the reverse effect. Federal Reserve notes do not count as cash reserves for the banks, whereas gold does and to the extent that Federal Reserve notes are substituted in circulation for gold, it has the effect of either reducing the surplus of cash reserves of the banks, or of substituting Federal Reserve notes for gold now in pockets and tills.

The first effect named is one of contraction rather than of inflation and is desirable at this time from every prudent banking standpoint. If the notes become redundant, they will come in for redemption, either by being deposited for credit by the member banks, or by their return from other Federal Reserve banks which are not permitted to reissue them. When returned by the member banks, they will accumulate in the hands of the Reserve bank of issue, and if the member banks withdraw in gold the balances so created, the notes can then be surrendered to the Reserve agent, and the gold reserves of the Federal Reserve banks be thereby restored. If they come in from other Federal Reserve banks (as they constantly do) the other Reserve banks will immediately receive settlement for them, through the Gold Settlement Fund, and again the notes can be surrendered and reserves restored. It should be borne in mind that the accumulation of gold now taking place is a perfectly natural process and is not being forced or encouraged by any artificial means. As currency is required by member banks for use by their tellers or for shipment to their correspondents, they get it from the Reserve banks against their balances. This in itself, indicates that the demand is a perfectly legitimate one and I hardly see how the claim can be justly advanced that the process will tend to keep the Federal Reserve notes out in circulation too long, particularly when the redemption process is more simple and prompt than that which applies to the notes of national banks. The relations which are gradually developing between the Reserve banks and member banks naturally lead to the member banks regarding the Federal Reserve banks as the first source for supplies of currency as needed. As these calls are made, the Federal Reserve banks must elect whether they shall ship reserve money out of their vaults, that is to say, gold, or whether they shall retain the gold under the plan now in operation and ship Federal Reserve notes. To illustrate what gradually may be accomplished, investigation recently disclosed that of the \$1,070,000,000 of gold certificates now in circulation in the United States, \$722,000,000 was held by national, State and Federal Reserve banks, leaving \$348,000,000 of gold certificates in the pockets of the people of the United States. If for one-half, or even more of this gold, Federal Reserve notes can be substituted, and the gold mobilized in the Federal Reserve banks, the banking system of this country will, for the first time, rest upon a foundation of gold such as we have long desired. Last fall, this country witnessed a rather humiliating exhibition when it became necessary for the Federal Reserve Board and a committee of bankers to invite and even urge contributions of gold from over 800 national banks, in order that means might be available for the citizens of this country to pay maturing indebtedness to Europe, when exchange could not be purchased. No more graphic exhibition of the weakness of our banking situation, caused by our decentralized reserves, has been afforded. I do not think that the purpose exhibited by the management of the Federal Reserve banks should be questioned, or in fact, that it is questioned generally by bankers and students of this subject. In normal times, thererules now being accomplished would have been highly desirable; in these abnormal times, there can be no doubt of the wisdom of the policy, so long as it is sanctioned by the statute, and I believe there is no question as to that.

Respectfully,

BENJ. STRONG, JR.,

Governor.

### THE STOCK EXCHANGE UNABLE TO RESTRAIN SPECULATIVE EXCESSES.

President Noble of the New York Stock Exchange has written the following letter to the New York "Times" indicating why in his estimation it would be useless for the Exchange authorities to attempt to deal with the present wild speculation in the so-called war stocks:

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

August 3, 1915.

To the Editor of the New York Times:

The Times has recently given expression, editorially, to its disapproval of the excited speculation now taking place in the so-called "war-stocks." Your example has been followed by several other influential newspapers, and in each case condemnation of this speculation has been accompanied by the assertion that it could, in some undefined manner, be suppressed by the authorities of the Stock Exchange. It has also been urged that if the Stock Exchange does not promptly accomplish this desired suppression it should be brought to terms by a punitive act of the Legislature.

In the interest of arriving at a clear understanding of this question the following facts must be borne in mind: Any event tending to disturb the equilibrium of security values brings about a period of speculation which lasts until the equilibrium has been readjusted. The greater and the more far-reaching this disturbing event happens to be, the longer and the more excited will be the resultant speculations. A historic example of this can be found in the experiences of our civil war. That great national convulsion, accompanied by a suspension of specie payments and the issue of paper money, created a speculation of unprecedented magnitude. The Stock Exchange of those days was a small organization doing business in a primitive way, and when the great war speculation came it refused to enlarge its facilities to meet the new conditions, and thus virtually did what was in its power to impede the rising speculative tide. The result was that speculation, finding itself choked off from the regular organized channels, proceeded to form new and unorganized channels for itself, and a great, continuous and unregulated market was established in the open street to carry on the business that the daily "calls" of the Stock Exchange were incompetent to handle. The mania for trading on the war news of the day was such that the market did not close in the afternoon hours, but was transferred uptown to the lobby of the old Fifth Avenue Hotel, where it continued during the evening. Out of this unorganized market there grew the "Open Board of Brokers," which the old Stock Exchange was finally obliged to unite with in 1869.

At the present time we are witnessing events similar in principle to these happenings of fifty years ago. The great world war has shaken the accepted adjustment of values like an earthquake. As a consequence of this there is likely to be speculative excitement in many fields. One of the first signs of it has been the rise in the stocks of all companies obtaining war contracts. This rise has not been confined to securities listed on the Exchange, for its most violent manifestations have shown themselves in unlisted properties. The stock of the Du Pont Powder Company, which was selling at about 170, has risen to 700 and fallen back again to about 600. Had this fluctuation taken place upon the floor of the Exchange and been advertised by the ticker the attacks upon that institution would have been intensified, but being consummated unobtrusively it has caused no comment. We are told by one conservative publication that the great volume of the transactions recorded is in itself a scandal and that the profits upon which these violent changes in prices are based have not yet been secured. The magnitude of the transactions is due to the fact that New York is a great world market and that the number of individuals who are buying and selling there is enormous. Speculation is always an act of anticipation, and if profits had been secured and big dividends established investors would take these properties out of the market and speculation would disappear.

While the right of free contract remains there is no power in the Stock Exchange, or even in the Legislature, to prevent individuals from using their own money or credit to buy securities in which they anticipate an advance. There is one restraining influence upon the excess of speculation which is undoubtedly being exercised to-day, and that is the refusal of money lenders to make advances upon over-inflated properties. There is also a duty incumbent upon the Stock Exchange to see that the law of the State and its own regulations against fictitious transactions, or "wash sales," be rigidly enforced. This duty is being carefully performed by the "Business Conduct Committee," which was organized for that specific purpose.

Speculative excesses, like all other excesses, are deprecated by every thoughtful man, but while human nature remains as it is there is no clear and easy way for any one to stop them by promulgating rules and regulations.

H. G. S. NOBLE, President.

### SINKING FUND VERSUS SERIAL METHOD OF MUNICIPAL BOND REDEMPTION.

Boston, August 3 1915.

To the Editor of The Commercial and Financial Chronicle.

New York, N. Y.

My dear Sir:—

I have just read your editorial in the issue of the "Chronicle" for July 31 1915 on "The Constitutional Convention and New York State's Method of Financing Bond Issues," wherein reference is made to my communication in the "Chronicle" of Aug. 1 1914, going to show that "if New York City should issue \$65,000,000 of 50-year 4% bonds, there would be a final saving in favor of the serial bond method of \$15,040,953, as compared with the sinking fund method."

"But this computation," you now affirm, "was based entirely on the assumption of an average earning of 3½% by the sinking fund on the theory that 'this is the generally accepted average rate for such long-time operations.'" And you add that, "there is no warrant for any such low interest return as 3½%," and also "that the supposed great saving over the sinking fund method, where both are impartially applied (the italics are mine), is largely illusory," although you strongly endorse the serial bond method.

I beg to affirm that it is absolutely impracticable to "impartially apply" the two methods. Not to re-state the reasons for this, I beg to call your attention to one phase of that difficulty on the sinking fund side, as exemplified in the financial operations of the City of New York, as summarized from week to week in the New York "Times," whereby it appears that the balance of the sinking funds *uninvested* from week to week has during the past year—I take a dozen cases at hand for illustration, ranging from \$3,565,189 to \$15,003,889—averaged over \$10,000,000, causing a loss in interest probably of about \$1,000 a day. What the aggregate losses from lack of punctual and continuous investment of the sinking funds of New York City have been, probably no one will ever know, those funds now being between three and four hundred million dollars.

On the other hand, there is an absolute impossibility of keeping intact and of promptly and continuously investing, for the life of a long-time municipal or State bond, the differences in the annual payments between the two methods, distributed as those differences are among hundreds of thousands of taxpayers who are shifting and dying in the interim.

You assert that "if a million dollars used each year to retire bonds were contributed to a sinking fund and this sinking fund were invested so as to yield the same rate of interest as the bonds, the return from the investment would take care of the interest on the bonds for the forty-nine years, the forty-eight years, the forty-seven years, or whatever the number of years might be to maturity. Of course, the actuary does not overlook this point. It is only the layman who is misled."

I am not an actuary, far from it, but bring to bear upon this question the analysis of a practical administrator, who sees that in dealing with long-time municipal or State loans—not a private industrial that one man or a group could control—the "if" that you depend upon in your assertion is fatally unsound, for you cannot practically keep that "million dollars" in a sinking fund for the forty-nine and diminishing number of years. In my correspondence with actuaries throughout the land, more than one has had to admit this upon having his attention called to this practical phase of the question.

Yours sincerely,  
ALFRED D. CHANDLER.

### FOREIGN COMMERCE OF FRANCE DURING THE HALF-YEAR.

[From "L'Economiste Français," July 24 1915.

	First Six Months		Difference in 1915.
	1915.	1914.	
<i>Imports—</i>	<i>Francs.</i>	<i>Francs.</i>	<i>Francs.</i>
Articles of food.....	978,872,000	942,930,000	+35,942,000
Material needed for manu- factures.....	1,467,646,000	2,652,363,000	-1,184,717,000
Manufactured articles.....	1,104,239,000	814,746,000	+289,493,000
Totals.....	3,550,757,000	4,410,039,000	-859,282
<i>Exports—</i>	<i>Francs.</i>	<i>Francs.</i>	<i>Francs.</i>
Articles of food.....	278,245,000	360,374,000	-82,129,000
Material needed for manu- factures.....	310,490,000	974,173,000	-663,683,000
Manufactured articles.....	752,876,000	1,758,148,000	-1,005,272,000
Parcels Post.....	108,235,000	282,906,000	-174,671,000
Totals.....	1,449,846,000	3,375,601,000	-1,925,755,000

\* Of which 3,043,000 francs were for parcels post containing silk fabric and silk floss. The corresponding figures for 1914 were 20,835,000 francs.

### FRENCH MORATORIUM OF JUNE 24.

In the following we furnish a translation of the text of the latest French moratorium as published by "L'Economiste Français" in its issue of July 3 1915:

Art. 1. The delays granted by Articles 1, 2, 3 and 4 of the decree of Aug. 29 1914 and extended by the first articles of the decrees of Sept. 27, Oct. 27, Dec. 15 1914, Feb. 25 and April 15 1915, are extended with the same conditions and reservations for a new period of 90 full days.

The benefit of this is extended to negotiable securities which will fall due before Nov. 1 1915, provided that they were issued previous to Aug. 4 1915.

Art. 2. The holder of a commercial note whose date of maturity is postponed for the first time is required to advise the debtor that he is in possession of the said note and that payment may be made into his hands.

This notification may be evidenced either by the signature of the debtor upon the commercial note at the time of presentation or by a registered letter.

If the holder neglects to carry out these formalities within a month after the normal date of maturity of the note, the interest of 5% allowed by the decree of Aug. 29 1914 for his profit will cease to accrue after the expiration of this period.

However, these formalities are not necessary if the holder can prove that the debtor has previously been informed.

Art. 3. All the provisions of the decrees of Aug. 29, Sept. 27, Oct. 27, Dec. 15 1914, Feb. 25 and April 15 1915, not at variance with the present decree are maintained.

However, the application of Article 2, paragraphs 2 and 3, and of Article 3, paragraph 2, of the decree of Oct. 27 1914, concerning the recovery of negotiable securities and of credits arising from commercial sales or advances upon obligations, is suspended until the expiration of the said delay of 90 days.

Art. 4. The present decree is applicable to Algeria.

Art. 5. The Ministers of Commerce, Industry, Postal and Telegraph, Finance, Justice, the Interior, Foreign Affairs, Labor and Public Fore-  
sight are charged, each in his own field, with the execution of the present decree, which shall be published in the "Journal Officiel" and inserted in the "Bulletin des Lois."

Drawn up at Paris, June 24 1915.

### SECRETARY McADOO PLEADS FOR SHIP PURCHASE BILL.

Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo in a letter read at the Pan-American dinner of the Greensboro, N. C., Chamber of Commerce on the 4th inst. appealed for an American merchant marine to carry the commerce of the United States and to form a naval auxiliary fleet in time of war. Mr. McAdoo said that "If you want South American trade, if you want world trade, the indispensable step is an American merchant marine to carry our commerce to the ends of the earth under the protection of the Stars and Stripes." The letter referred to the failure of the ship purchase bill in the last Congress and stated that "there was no more important bill for the best interests of the South and the Southern people than this shipping bill." Secretary McAdoo was to have been the principal speaker at the dinner, but being unable to attend sent the letter which was devoted almost entirely to an appeal to Southern people to work for the passage

of legislation to provide means for transporting cotton to the South American market. The letter says in part:

Not only are ships under the American flag needed to carry our trade into Central and South America, but they are imperatively demanded for the protection of our commerce with the nations of Europe. I firmly believe that, if we had an ample supply of American ships to carry our cotton to Europe, at the rates of freight which prevailed prior to the European war, it would mean an increase of one to two cents per pound over what it will be possible to get for raw cotton under present conditions. Before the European war, it used to cost from \$1 25 to \$2 50 per bale to transport cotton to the leading European ports. Now it costs from \$5 to \$15 per bale to transport cotton between the same ports. The present ocean freight rates mean a charge of from one to three per cent. per pound for carrying cotton to Europe. This is an enormous tax and, of course, it adversely affects the price which the farmer gets for his cotton, because the higher the cost of transporting any commodity to market, the lower the price realized by the producer.

The Administration at Washington foreseeing the serious injury that the cotton producers and the other producers of our country would suffer because of the lack of American ships and the extortionate rates for freight charged by foreign ship owners since the European war broke out, submitted to the last session of Congress a bill for the creation of an American merchant marine. The government of the United States owns to-day, and has owned since 1902, the entire capital stock of the Panama Railroad Co., which railroad company owns and operates a line of steamships from New York to Panama. The Republican party, with the aid of Democratic votes, put the government in this steamship business. These ships have been operated at a profit during all the years the government has owned them, and since the European war broke out the service has been maintained and there has been no increase in the rates for passengers or freight. This service has been of incalculable benefit to the American people and to the people of that part of Central and South America who are accommodated by it.

In the last Congress the Administration proposed to carry this principle a little further by organizing another steamship company, in which the government was to be the sole stockholder, and which steamship company was to buy, build and operate ships under the American flag to South America and to other places where the interests of American commerce required. This steamship company was also to be authorized to lease ships if they could not be bought or built in time, and to operate such leased ships in the interest of American commerce. The bill also provided for the creation of a shipping board, which was to supervise the operations of the steamship company and see that its business was conducted in the interest of the American people.

Had this bill been promptly passed, there is no doubt that a very considerable number of ships could have been bought at that time; that others could have been chartered, and the company would have been ready by this time to begin rendering a substantial service to American commerce. Orders for other ships could have been placed in our ship-yards and a large number of ships would already have been under construction. But, if ships could not have been bought promptly, the company had authority to lease ships, as before stated, and undoubtedly a very considerable fleet of vessels could have been assembled by this time to carry our cotton and other American products upon the high seas at reasonable rates of freight and with corresponding benefit to all of the American people. The capacity of foreign steamship owners would have been checked. The competition by the government owned corporation would have compelled them to carry cargoes at reasonable rates, and an immense amount of money would have been saved to the American farmer and the American manufacturer who ship their goods to foreign markets.

There was no more important bill for the best interests of the South and the Southern people than this shipping bill. It was filibustered to death in the last Senate of the United States by the Republican party, aided, I regret to say, by some Democratic Senators, several of whom are from the South. It is time, not only for the Southern people but for the American people, to look this momentous shipping problem squarely in the face. These are times when conditions are extraordinary, and we must resort to extraordinary measures, if necessary to meet them.

We need American ships, not only for the expansion of our commerce, but we imperatively require them as auxiliaries for our navy. Our navy is to-day sorely handicapped because there are not enough American ships of suitable tonnage and character to form an effective naval auxiliary in time of war. A modern navy without adequate and suitable naval auxiliaries is rendered helpless for offensive operations at any considerable distance from its home base. We would be justified to-day in spending fifty to sixty million dollars for the creation of an adequate fleet of naval auxiliaries. These auxiliaries could be used in time of peace for the training and education of the American seamen upon whose courage and valor and knowledge we should have to depend in the event of war, while, in time of peace, they could be used in the fruitful pursuit of trade with enduring benefit to the commerce, industry, and the prosperity of our country.

It is simply fatuous to hope that private capital will provide these ships. Private capital will not provide them, even if the navigation laws, about which there is so much irresponsible talk, should be changed as private capital demands. I have never found even two capitalists who agree as to what changes should be made in our navigation laws. I have yet to find any man, who, although arguing that the only thing needed to create an American merchant marine is to change our navigation laws, has been able to tell how the navigation laws should be changed to guarantee the enlistment of private capital. Our capitalists are not interested in the shipping business—not because they cannot make money in the shipping business, but because they can make more money in other directions. Moreover, they are not familiar with shipping enterprises and will not engage in them on any large scale, no matter what inducements may be held out. We cannot afford to enter upon the scandalous policy of subsidizing private corporations or individuals. To subsidize is merely to make gifts from the Treasury of the United States to those of the strong pull and the long pull, and to repeat all the scandals and corruption which formerly characterized the enactment of our tariff laws. Instead of giving say fifty million dollars to subsidize any private interests, it would be far better for the government to buy fifty million dollars worth of ships and operate them in the interest of our commerce in time of peace and have them as effective naval auxiliaries in time of war.

### PUBLIC MONEYS AND SECURITIES TO BE SENT BY MAIL.

An order directing that beginning August 16 all public moneys and securities be transported by mail instead of by express was issued by Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo on the 3rd inst. It was announced by the Treasury Department that this arrangement will result in the saving of many

thousands of dollars annually to the Government and to the banks. The moneys and securities will be transported by registered mail and will be insured. Shipments belonging to the Government will be sent under frank and will have the benefit of free registration, the only expense being the small cost of insurance. Banks will pay for the transportation of moneys and securities between them and the Treasury or sub-Treasuries and the charge will involve only a small postage rate, the registration fee and insurance. It is expected that the change in the method of shipping money and securities by the Government will be criticised by the railroads as they will lose considerable in revenue without being relieved of the physical transportation of the articles in question.

Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo decided to perfect an arrangement with the Postmaster General to take over the business following the receipt of bids from the express companies for the fiscal year of 1915 which showed only a negligible reduction from the rates in force. The statement issued from the Secretary of the Treasury's office on the 3rd said in part:

This new policy changes the practice of a quarter of a century, during which the Government has paid hundreds of thousands of dollars to express companies for the transportation of moneys and securities between the Treasury, sub-Treasuries and banks.

The reform has been accomplished by Secretary McAdoo with the hearty co-operation of Postmaster General Burslow. For several months the Secretary and the Postmaster General have been making a thorough test of the feasibility of making all shipments by mail. These experiments demonstrated the great saving to be effected. The Post Office Department is fully equipped to undertake the business successfully.

The moneys and securities will move by registered mail and will be insured. Those belonging to the Government will be sent under frank and will have the benefit of free registration, the only expense to the Government being the small cost of insurance.

Banks pay for the transportation of moneys and securities between them and the Treasury or sub-Treasuries. Under the new plan, instead of paying express charges, they will have to pay only the small postage rate, the registration fee and insurance.

To handle this business the Post Office Department will establish a branch post office in the Treasury building, occupying quarters which the Government had formerly allowed the express companies to use.

In addition to the great economy effected, many delays will be eliminated. The mail service is much faster in many instances because between points where an express company has not a direct line it is necessary to use the lines of two or more companies and the route is frequently circuitous.

#### THE FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS AND INTRA-DISTRICT COLLECTIONS.

In his address to the Michigan Bankers' Association at the annual convention in Grand Rapids last week, President Charles H. Bender, Vice-President of the Grand Rapids National City Bank, had something to say about the Federal Reserve Act. Mr. Bender discussed the regulations relative to membership of State banks in the Reserve System and the installation of clearing house facilities, intra-district. He said in part:

Some criticism has been heard because the Federal Reserve banks have not thus far been able to earn the dividend to which their stockholders are entitled. It is confidently asserted that they will at least earn their expenses during the first year of actual operation. Their principal customers—the member banks—have not needed to avail themselves of the discount privileges which is their greatest source of revenue, but the investment may still have returned an intangible benefit if the system as a whole has had the effect of steadying the interest rate and keeping it all times in harmony with the law of supply and demand. \* \* \*

The matter of providing facilities for clearing checks at par deposited with member banks and drawn upon member banks, intra-district, presents one of the most perplexing problems with which banks have had to deal since checks have become a substitute for money, and in order to perform their functions most perfectly, their circulation should be as free as possible, and their redemption easily and promptly accomplished. Under the authority of the Federal Reserve Act, the Federal Reserve banks have taken the first step in producing a system which will clear checks at par, and for the time being have asked the member banks to consent that items deposited with them, drawn upon member banks within the district, also consenting shall, upon receipt at the Federal Reserve bank, be immediately charged to the account of the drawee, and that the sending bank shall receive immediate credit. Out of a total membership of 984, 110 members have so far given consent.

Naturally, the largest advantage which accrues by this direct method of collection is the elimination of exchange charges made necessary in many instances by labor and expense incident to collection, or the keeping of compensating balances in the large centres, when justified on the part of such centres the absorption of exchange charges.

The method in use since checks have become so largely a medium of settlement has been one of routing, re-routing and almost cross-routing, solely to avoid exchange charges; this practice has often gone to the extent of finding that the same item has twice passed through the same city before reaching its destination, and has traveled 500 to 600 miles, when a direct route would be not more than 25 miles. \* \* \*

Under the practice now inaugurated, by Federal Reserve banks, all items drawn upon a member bank which has consented to have charged directly to itself, have the advantage of having credit immediately upon receipt, without deduction for exchange or transit, for all items received by it from all sources drawn upon other member banks who have likewise given consent.

If banks generally, through a unified system, would go into such an arrangement, no one would question the wisdom of such a procedure. Unless the system embraces practically all of the banks, its success is doubtful and we will have the same old question of exchange—one getting it out of the other, shifting it from one shoulder to the other, duplicating effort and multiplying expense, but some plan must be worked out which gives to the so-

called country banks what has so long been to them a source of legitimate and well-earned revenue, because of the costs necessarily incurred by remitting banks to provide funds in the large centres to cover remittances for checks and compensation for the postage and labor of handling remittances, and in the development of this system it is to be hoped that the Federal Reserve Board will use the powers vested in it of fixing a legitimate exchange to cover these items.

#### FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS TO FINANCE CROP MOVEMENT.

The Federal Reserve Board in a circular letter made public on Monday and addressed to the boards of directors of the twelve Reserve banks sets forth preliminary plans for the financing of the crop movement by the Federal Reserve banks. The Board declares that "in view of the large surplus reserves now held by the Federal Reserve banks throughout the country, there should be no difficulty in affording the producers the assistance necessary to enable them to market their products in volume corresponding to the power of the trade to absorb them." In order to accomplish this the Board suggests that the Reserve banks adopt a definite policy with reference to rediscounting paper secured by documents, in a satisfactory form, which evidence the ownership of stored agricultural products. The Board believes that, if such a policy is inaugurated, together with proper methods of warehousing, the Reserve banks "can be a potent factor in assisting the normal movement of staple agricultural products from the field to the factory or to the consumer." It is further recommended by the Board that the Federal Reserve banks whose members are actively engaged in financing the movement of crops to market, issue regulations governing the rediscount of notes covering advances on such products. The letter goes on to say that "the carrying of products in behalf of speculators is not permitted under the law and member banks cannot certify the notes of speculators as eligible since the act does not allow the rediscounting of notes, drafts or bills of exchange covering 'merely investments'."

The Board calls special attention to the marketing of the cotton crop because "it is clearly in the common interest that credits based upon this crop be protected as far as possible from the danger of demoralization." It shows that no staple commodity is subject to greater variations in prices than cotton and quotes figures showing an average annual fluctuation on the New York Cotton Exchange of 5.38 cents per pound. Usually the crop movement has been taken care of by Government deposits in banks or the issue of emergency currency under the Aldrich-Vreeland act which recently expired.

The full text of the letter sent out by the Federal Reserve Board is as follows:

There has been frequently in past seasons a congestion of farm products accompanied usually by high money rates, or at times by actual difficulty in obtaining the necessary funds and credits for moving these crops. These conditions have been met for several years past by deposits made with banks by the Secretary of the Treasury for crop moving purposes, and last year by the further expedient of the issue of emergency currency authorized under the act of May 30, 1908, as amended, now expired by limitation. The Federal Reserve act makes provision for meeting the demands for crop moving funds and is intended to guard against a recurrence of past stringencies. In order to forestall any possibility of congestion of crops this fall or lack of accommodation to move them the Board calls the attention of all Federal Reserve banks to the provisions in the Federal Reserve act which have a special bearing on this subject.

Section 13 of the act, hereinafter quoted in full, gives specific permission for the rediscounting for member banks of notes, drafts and bills of exchange secured by staple agricultural products. The manifest intent of this provision is to enable producers to market their crops in a normal and effective manner. In view of the large surplus reserves now held by the Federal Reserve banks, by member banks and by other banks throughout the country, there should be no difficulty in affording the producers the assistance necessary to enable them to market their products in volume corresponding to the power of the trade to absorb them. In order to accomplish this end, it is suggested that Federal Reserve banks adopt a definite policy with reference to rediscounting paper secured by documents in satisfactory form evidencing the ownership of stored agricultural products. Through such a policy, together with proper methods of warehousing, Federal Reserve banks can be a potent factor in assisting the normal movement of staple agricultural products from the field to the factory or to the consumer.

It is recommended that regulations governing the rediscount of notes covering advances on such products be issued by such of these Federal Reserve banks whose members are actively engaged in financing the movement of such crops to the market. In so doing the object in view should be to assist effectively, as above pointed out, in the normal movement of such products—in orderly transfer to the consumer. The carrying of products in behalf of speculators is not permitted under the law, and member banks cannot certify the notes of speculators as eligible since the Act does not allow the rediscounting of notes, drafts or bills of exchange covering "merely investments."

Special attention is herewith directed to the marketing of the cotton crop. While the yield of corn, wheat and other cereals promises to be large, there is every reason to expect that these products will find a market in an orderly way. Cotton, however, is peculiarly sensitive to abnormal conditions such as now exist in our export trade, and it is clearly in the common interest that credits based upon this crop be protected as far as possible from the danger of demoralization, such as existed during the autumn of 1914. No staple commodity is subject to greater variations in price than

is cotton, which during the past twelve years has shown, according to figures based upon official quotations on the New York Cotton Exchange, an average annual fluctuation of 5.38 cents per pound, the maximum price range during any year of this period being 10.40 cents per pound in 1904, and the minimum range 2.65 cents per pound in 1906.

It should be noted, however, that with two exceptions, there has been no very great difference in the average price of cotton for each of these twelve years, the exceptions being the year 1905 when the average price during the year in New York was 9.80 cents per pound, the lowest of the twelve-year period, and the other being the year 1910 when the average price per pound was 16.45 cents; but the average price for the entire twelve-year period was 12 cents per pound. Sudden and violent fluctuations are clearly to the advantage of neither the loaning banks, the producer, the manufacturer nor the consumer. They offer on the contrary an inviting field for the speculator, and should the Federal Reserve system, in making possible the more normal movement of the crop, be a contributing factor in reducing these fluctuations, it would have accomplished a great public good.

It is, therefore, recommended that in pursuance of the policy already indicated, the Federal Reserve banks communicate with their members and with others who may be interested, for the purpose of directing attention to the steps which must be taken to secure the necessary co-operation. It is suggested that the Federal Reserve banks point out to their members, and to the public generally, that those who are engaged in cotton production, if they intend to take advantage of the facilities offered by the banks for carrying cotton, should begin at once to arrange for its proper storage and insurance as rapidly as ginned. Federal Reserve banks should particularly point out to their members that they are prepared to rediscount the notes of farmers and merchants secured by proper warehouse receipts for cotton and accompanied by evidence of insurance.

Member banks offering these notes should be prepared to state the grade and market value of the cotton securing paper, and the notes should be of the usual collateral form, providing the right to call for additional security in event of material decline in the market value. The amount to be advanced per bale would be left primarily to the judgment of the member bank.

It is further suggested that Federal Reserve banks in the cotton states should call attention of their members to the desirability of reserving storage space in localities where warehouse facilities are inadequate for such cotton as will be used as security for loans. While there is not sufficient warehouse capacity in the South to provide storage at any one time for the entire cotton crop, it is believed that there are ample facilities for the proper storage of all cotton that is likely to be pledged as security for loans. In a normal movement of the cotton crop, warehousemen at concentrating points estimate that the maximum storage required will not exceed 20% of the total receipts for the season. It should be made plain also that compliance with the essential features of the plan herein outlined, modified as circumstances may demand, will be necessary for the normal marketing of this year's crop and for the proper protection of those who are interested in its movement, whether banks, producers or manufacturers.

While there seems no reason to believe that the world's present and potential supply of cotton is out of proportion to requirements during the next twelve months, it is nevertheless important, because of our lack of adequate shipping facilities as well as restrictions brought about by the war upon free exports to all countries, that ample means be provided for the proper handling and effective marketing of cotton.

Similar steps may properly be taken by Federal Reserve banks whose members are likely to be called upon to finance other agricultural products, wherever there is available a system of warehouses, elevators or other approved means of storing and certifying to given quantities of staple agricultural products.

The Board calls particular attention to regulation "P," recently issued, with reference to the subject of "trade acceptances." Such trade acceptances when growing out of transactions involving the movement of staple agricultural products and being endorsed by a member bank are eligible for rediscount with a Federal Reserve bank in the manner indicated in said regulation, and their use should aid materially in the marketing of the crops of the country during the coming autumn.

The Board will be prepared from time to time to pass upon such special phases of the crop-moving problem as member banks may present to it through the Federal Reserve agents, who are brought into contact with the special conditions prevailing in the various sections of the country, and it will adapt existing regulations to such conditions as may have to be met in facilitating the normal and economic movement of the staple agricultural products of the country.

#### TRUST COMPANIES ENTER RESERVE SYSTEM.

The formal entrance of the Broadway Trust Company of this city into the Federal Reserve System took place on the 3d inst., when the institution paid into the New York Federal Reserve Bank half of its subscription to the capital stock of the Reserve bank. The payment amounted to about \$75,000. As heretofore stated in these columns, the decision of the institution to join the Reserve system was announced on June 10, by Frederic G. Lee, President of the trust company.

The Fidelity Trust Company of Kansas City also became a member of the Reserve system on the 3d inst. when the institution paid over \$60,000 as one-half of its subscription to the capital stock of the Kansas City Federal Reserve Bank. The Fidelity, which has the largest combined capital and surplus of any State institution in Group 10, is also the first State institution in that district to join the Reserve system. The trust company has subscribed for 1200 shares of the stock of the Reserve bank.

In regard to the action of the trust company, Vice-President Thornton Cooke is quoted as saying:

"The Fidelity Trust Company is joining the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City because the officers and directors of the Fidelity believe that the Federal Reserve system should be supported by the larger institutions, whether State or national. The Aldrich-Vreeland Act has now expired by limitation, and the Federal Reserve Act, which superseded it, is, in our judgment, superior. If neither Act had been in operation the country would have experienced a violent panic last year. The Federal Reserve Act will do good by steadying the business of the country. It provides credit at all times for sound business, and it insures an adequate supply of currency for business needs."

The full possibilities of the Act can be realized, however, only by the co-operation of the State banks and trust companies. The more State institutions that join the stronger the Reserve bank will be, and the stronger the bank the more valuable will it be to the member trust companies and banks and through them to the commercial world.

Already the Federal Reserve Bank is doing a great work in marshalling the resources of District No. 10, and as business becomes more and more active its facilities will be more and more valuable to its members. The Fidelity is developing its country bank connections to a considerable extent, and by membership in the Federal Reserve Bank will be able to use the resources of the system for the benefit of its clients. The bank will have a large effect in stimulating the growth of the West, and the Fidelity is so sure of this that it is taking membership in order to do its part.

#### GARMENT MAKERS' DIFFERENCES ADJUSTED.

A general strike by the employees in the cloak, suit and skirt industries in this city which would have involved about 60,000 garment workers was definitely averted on the 4th inst. when the Cloak, Suit and Skirt Manufacturers' Protective Association accepted the recommendations of the Mayor's Council of Conciliation. The agreement was reached at a conference between the executive boards of the Employers' Association and the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union and the Council. Prior to the settlement, twenty-three sessions of the Council had been held in an effort to bring about an agreement. As previously noted, the Council of Conciliation presented its report for the adjustment of the differences between manufacturers and employees on July 23. The joint board of the Ladies' Garment Workers' Union agreed to accept the recommendations but the attitude of the manufacturers was not made known. A vote was taken by the unions last Saturday, Sunday and Monday on the question of a strike if the agreement proposed by the Council should not be accepted by the manufacturers by the 3rd inst. and the result was a decision in favor of the strike. The calling of the strike was postponed until the 4th inst. by the garment workers' unions out of deference to the Council and until a final meeting with the Council could be held. In discussing the adjustment which has been reached Dr. Felix Adler, Chairman of the Council, said that it was impossible to do entire justice to both sides but stated that the agreement provided the basis of machinery for settling any disputes which might arise under it. Dr. Adler addressed a letter on the 4th inst. to the Employers' Association, following their acceptance of the recommendations, which said in part:

It is but simple fairness to state that the announcement of your acceptance was first received on Thursday July 29 and that you left in our discretion the proper action as to its publication. As several of our members were at a distance it was impossible to assemble the council until Monday August 2. We trust that this explanation will remove any misunderstanding to which the delay in the publication of your action may have given rise.

As to your request for a specific interpretation of certain points in our recommendations, the council affirms its position as follows:

(1) The language of its original recommendation is sufficiently clear and explicit.

(2) If contradictory interpretations of that language have been made by others than the council, those interpretations are not to be received as authentic, but as expressing the opinions of those who put them forth.

If a case of actual dispute due to differences of interpretation arise between the parties, our recommendations specifically provide for a method of adjustment. Finally, we wish forcibly to remind you that the council will be available for interpreting and applying the principles laid down in the agreement whenever the parties appeal to it.

#### CHARGE FOR SPOTTING CARS DISALLOWED BY NEW YORK PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION.

An order of the Second District, New York Public Service Commission on Aug. 4, marked the end of the efforts of the railroads of the State to collect a charge for "spotting" cars, or placing them on and collecting them from industrial tracks and roads. This charge was proposed to be imposed on both inter and intra-State traffic. The Public Service Commission suspended it in the case of intra-State traffic pending the decision of the Inter-State Commerce Commission as regards inter-State traffic. The Inter-State Commerce Commission having decided against the reasonableness of the charge, in the larger field, the Public Service Commission now follows that decision. The carriers—all of the roads of importance in the State—have now filed tariffs abandoning the proposed spotting charge and the Commission has discontinued its proceedings. The charge was to have been made at 5½ cents per ton, with a minimum of \$2 per car.

#### REDUCED SENTENCES FOR CONVICTED POULTRY MEN.

Sentences of three months' imprisonment and fines of \$500 each imposed upon eleven members of the "poultry trust" of this city, who were convicted for acts in restraint of trade, were commuted on July 30 by Gov. Whitman to two months and eighteen days' imprisonment. The eighteen days which the men spent in the Tombs were counted off their sentences,

so they will be released from Blackwell's Island on Aug. 9. As heretofore stated in these columns, the men were indicted in March 1910 upon a charge of creating and maintaining a monopoly of the live poultry supply in New York City in violation of the penal law of the State, and were convicted in 1911. The conviction was upheld by the Appellate Division of the New York Supreme Court on Feb. 6 1914 and by the Court of Appeals at Albany on May 41 last. Judge Rosalsky, who presided at the trial, is said to have recommended the commutation of the sentences.

#### BRITISH NOTES ON UNITED STATES PROTEST TO ORDER-IN-COUNCIL HOLD BLOCKADE LEGAL.

The State Department made public on the 3d inst. five diplomatic communications exchanged between the United States and Great Britain relating to the interferences with American trade in connection with the British Order-in-Council by which trade with Germany and Austria is cut off. The five notes comprise an answer by Great Britain, under date of July 24, to the American protest of March 30, taking exception to the British Order-in-Council, virtually declaring a blockade against commerce to and from Germany; the caveat which was sent by this country to Great Britain on July 17; Great Britain's answer to the caveat, under date of July 31; the United States' protest against the detention and unloading of the American steamship *Neches*, and Great Britain's reply to this protest. The British note of July 24, replying to the American protest of March 30, was received by the State Department on July 26, but its publication was withheld by request of Sir Edward Grey, British Minister for Foreign Affairs, pending the arrival of a supplementary note. The first of the British notes attempts to defend the British Order-in-Council, declaring a blockade, and points out that in view of the atrocious methods of warfare adopted by the Germans, Great Britain feels justified in enforcing the Order-in-Council. The note argues that inasmuch as England has the right to exercise a blockade of German ports, it has the right to intercept and stop trade between Germany and a neutral country conducted through a neutral country contiguous to Germany. On this point the note says:

It seems, accordingly, that if it be recognized that blockade is in certain cases the appropriate method of intercepting the trade of an enemy country, and if the blockade can only become effective by extending it to the enemy commerce passing through neutral ports, such an extension is defensible and in accordance with principles which have met with general acceptance.

Support for the blockade is sought by reference to the acts of the United States in attempting to exercise a similar blockade over the Confederate States during the Civil War. The note refers to the general condemnation by all international law experts of the decision of the United States Supreme Court in the *Springbok* case. Assurances are contained in the British note that Great Britain is not interfering with goods with which she would not be entitled to interfere by blockade if the geographical position and conditions of Germany at this time were such that her commerce passed through her own ports. It is stated that the utmost possible care is being taken not to interfere with commerce "genuinely destined for or proceeding from neutral countries." The main argument of Great Britain is that when the established underlying principles governing blockade and contraband are not violated, it is permissible to adopt new measures of enforcement.

The note of the British Government dated July 31, which is supplementary to the answer to the American note of March 30, is a response to the caveat telegram of Secretary Lansing of July 14. In the caveat the United States served notice on Great Britain that American rights will be construed under accepted principles of international law and that prize court proceedings based on British municipal legislation not in conformity with principles of international law will not be recognized as valid by the United States. In his reply to the caveat, Sir Edward Grey says that he knows of no differences between the two Governments as to the principles of law applicable to cases before the prize courts, and then discusses at length prize court procedure. The suggestion is made that if appeals open to dissatisfied American litigants in the prize court are overruled by British appellate courts, an international tribunal shall be called on to decide.

The protest of the United States against the compulsory discharge of the cargo of the American steamship *Neches*, from Rotterdam to the United States, disputes the legality of the seizure on several grounds, and is a re-assertion of the American position in denial of British right to interfere with shipments from neutral countries to the United States. The United States calls for the expeditious release of the goods taken from the *Neches*, which belong to American citizens.

In his response to this protest, Sir Edward Grey mentions the difference between the character of the sea warfare of Great Britain and Germany as justification for not permitting goods from Germany to pass freely through waters controlled by British warships. A willingness is expressed, however, to examine the facts in any particular case in a spirit of consideration for the interests of neutrals.

The texts of the five communications as given to the press on the 3d are as follows:

#### BRITISH ANSWER TO AMERICAN PROTEST ON SEIZED SHIPS.

Ambassador W. H. Page to the Secretary of State:

From the American Embassy, London, July 24 1915.

Following note, dated July 23, received from Sir Edward Grey this morning:

1. On the 2d of April your Excellency handed to me a copy of a communication containing the criticisms of the United States Government on the measures we have been constrained to take on account of the menace to peaceful commerce resulting from the German submarine policy. This communication has received the most careful consideration of his Majesty's Government.

2. I fully appreciate the friendly spirit and the candor which are shown in the communication, and, replying in the same spirit, I trust that I may be able to convince your Excellency, and also the Administration at Washington, that the measures we have announced are not only reasonable and necessary in themselves, but constitute no more than an adaptation of the old principles of blockade to the peculiar circumstances with which we are confronted.

3. I need scarcely dwell on the obligation incumbent upon the Allies to take every step in their power to overcome their common enemy, in view of the shocking violation of the recognized rules and principles of civilized warfare of which he has been guilty during the present struggle. Your Excellency's attention has already been drawn to some of these proceedings in the memorandum which I handed to you on the 19th February. Since that time Lord Bryce's report, based on evidence carefully sifted by legal experts, describing the atrocities committed in Belgium; the poisoning of wells in German Southwest Africa, the use of poisonous gases against the troops in Flanders, and, finally, the sinking of the *Lusitania* without any opportunity to passengers and non-combatants to save their lives, have shown how indispensable it is that we should leave unused no justifiable method of defending ourselves.

4. Your Excellency will remember that in my notes of the 13th and 15th March I explained that the allied governments intended to meet the German attempt to stop all supplies of every kind from leaving or entering British or French ports by themselves intercepting goods going to or from Germany. I read the communication from your Excellency's Government not as questioning the necessity for our taking all the steps open to us to cripple the enemy's trade, but as directed solely to the question of the legitimacy of the particular measures adopted.

5. In the various notes which I have received from your Excellency the right of a belligerent to establish a blockade of the enemy ports is admitted, a right which has obviously no value save in so far as it gives power to a belligerent to cut off the sea-borne exports and imports of his enemy. The contention which I understand the United States Government now puts forward is that if a belligerent is so circumstanced that his commerce can pass through adjacent neutral ports as easily as through ports in his own territory, his opponent has no right to interfere, and must restrict his measures of blockade in such a manner as to leave such avenues of commerce still open to his adversary.

This is a contention which his Majesty's Government feel unable to accept and which seems to them unsustainable either in point of law or upon principles of international equity. They are unable to admit that a belligerent violates any fundamental principle of international law by applying a blockade in such a way as to cut off the enemy's commerce with foreign countries through neutral ports if the circumstances render such an application of the principles of blockade the only means of making it effective. The Government of the United States indeed intimates its readiness to take into account "the great changes which have occurred in the conditions and means of naval warfare since the rules hitherto governing legal blockade were formulated," and recognizes that "the 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 aircraft."

6. The only question, then, which can arise in regard to the measures resorted to for the purpose of carrying out a blockade upon these extended lines is whether, to use your Excellency's words, they "conform to the spirit and principles of the essence of the rules of war"; and we shall be content to apply this test to the action which we have taken in so far as it has necessitated interference with neutral commerce.

7. It may be noted in this connection that at the time of the Civil War the United States found themselves under the necessity of declaring a blockade of some 3,000 miles of coast line, a military operation for which the number of vessels available was at first very small. It was vital to the cause of the United States in that great struggle that they should be able to cut off the trade of the Southern States. The Confederate armies were dependent on supplies from overseas, and those supplies could not be obtained without exporting the cotton wherewith to pay for them.

To cut off this trade the United States could only rely upon a blockade. The difficulties confronting the Federal Government were in part due to the fact that neighboring neutral territory afforded convenient centres from which contraband could be introduced into the territory of their enemies and from which blockade running could be facilitated. Your Excellency will no doubt remember how, in order to meet this new difficulty, the old principles relating to contraband and blockade were developed, and the doctrine of continuous voyage was applied and enforced, under which goods destined for the enemy territory were intercepted before they reached the neutral ports from which they were to be re-exported.

8. The difficulties which imposed upon the United States the necessity of re-shaping some of the old rules are somewhat akin to those with which the Allies are now faced in dealing with the trade of their enemy. Adjacent to Germany are various neutral countries which afford her convenient opportunities for carrying on her trade with foreign countries. Her own territories are covered by a network of railways and waterways, which enable her commerce to pass as conveniently through ports in such neutral countries as through her own. A blockade limited to enemy ports would leave open routes by which every kind of German commerce could pass almost as easily as through the ports in her own territory. Rotterdam is indeed the nearest outlet for some of the industrial districts of Germany.

9. As a counterpoise to the freedom with which one belligerent may send his commerce across a neutral country without compromising its neutrality, the other belligerent may fairly claim to intercept such commerce before it has reached, after it has left, the neutral State, provided, of course, that

he can establish that the commerce with which he interferes is the commerce of his enemy and not commerce which is bona fide destined for or proceeding from the neutral State. It seems, accordingly, that if it be recognized that a blockade is in certain cases the appropriate method of intercepting the trade of an enemy country, and if the blockade can only become effective by extending it to enemy commerce passing through neutral ports, such an extension is defensible and in accordance with principles which have met with general acceptance.

10. To the contention that such action is not directly supported by written authority, it may be replied that it is the business of writers on international law to formulate existing rules rather than to offer suggestions for their adaptation to altered circumstances, and your Excellency will remember the unmeasured terms in which a group of prominent international lawyers of all nations condemned the doctrine which had been laid down by the Supreme Court of the United States in the case of the *Springbok*, a doctrine upheld by the Claims Commission at Washington in 1873. But the United States and the British Government took a broader view and looked below the surface at the underlying purpose, and the Government of this country, whose nationals were the sufferers by the extension and development of the old methods of blockade made by the United States during the Civil War, abstained from all protest against the decisions by which the ships and their cargoes were condemned.

11. What is really important in the general interest is that adaptations of the old rules should not be made unless they are consistent with the general principles upon which an admitted belligerent right is based. It is also essential that all unnecessary injury to neutrals should be avoided. With these conditions, it may be safely affirmed that the steps we are taking to intercept commodities on their way to and from Germany fully comply. We are interfering with no goods with which we should not be entitled to interfere by blockade if the geographical position and the conditions of Germany at present were such that her commerce passed through her own ports. We are taking the utmost possible care not to interfere with commerce genuinely destined for or proceeding from neutral countries. Furthermore, we have tempered the severity with which our measures might press upon neutrals by not applying the rule, which was invariable in the old form of blockade, that ships and goods on their way to or from the blockaded area are liable to condemnation.

12. The communication made by the United States Embassy on April 2 describes as a novel and quite unprecedented feature of the blockade that it embraces many neutral ports and coasts and has the effect of barring access to them. It does not appear that our measures can be properly so described. If we are successful in the efforts we are making to distinguish between the commerce of neutral and enemy countries there will be no substantial interference with the trade of neutral ports, except in so far as they constitute ports of access to and exit from the enemy territory. There are at this moment many neutral ports which it would be mere affectation to regard as offering facilities only for the commerce of the neutral country in which they are situated, and the only commerce with which we propose to interfere is that of the enemy who seeks to make use of such ports for the purposes of transit to or from his own country.

13. One of the earlier passages in your Excellency's memorandum was to the effect that the sovereignty of neutral nations in time of war suffers no diminution, except in so far as the practice and consent of civilized nations have limited it "by the recognition of certain now clearly determined rights," which it is considered may be exercised by nations at war, and these it defines as the right of capture and condemnation for un-neutral service for the carriage of contraband, and for breach of blockade. I may, however, be permitted to point out that the practice of nations on each of the three subjects mentioned has not at any time been uniform or clearly determined, nor has the practice of any maritime nation always been consistent.

14. There are various particulars in which the exact method of carrying a blockade into effect has from time to time varied. The need of a public notification, the requisite standard of effectiveness, the locality of the blockading squadrons, the right of the individual ship to a preliminary warning that the blockade is in force, and the penalty to be inflicted on a captured blockade runner, are all subjects on which different views have prevailed in different countries and in which the practice of particular countries has been altered from time to time. The one principle which is fundamental and has obtained universal recognition, is that by means of blockade a belligerent is entitled to cut off, by effective means, the sea-borne commerce of his enemy.

15. It is the same with contraband. The underlying principle is well established, but as to the details, there has been a wide variety of views. As for unneutral service—the very term is of such recent introduction that many writers of repute on international law do not mention it—it is possible, in the view of his Majesty's Government in these circumstances, to maintain that the right of a belligerent to intercept the commerce of his enemy is limited in the way suggested in your Excellency's communication.

16. There are certain subsidiary matters dealt with in your Excellency's communication to which I think it well to refer. Among these may be mentioned your citation of the Declaration of Paris, due, no doubt, to the words which occur in the memorandum sent by me to your Excellency on the 1st of March, wherein it was stated that the Allied Governments would hold themselves free to detain and take into port ships carrying goods of presumed enemy destination, ownership or origin, and to our announcement that vessels might be required to discharge goods of enemy ownership as well as those of enemy origin or destination.

17. It is not necessary to discuss the extent to which the second rule of the Declaration of Paris is affected by these measures or whether it could be held to apply as it does between Great Britain and the United States. In actual practice, however, we are not detaining goods on the sole ground that they are the property of an enemy. The purpose of the measures we are taking is to intercept commerce on its way from and to the enemy country. There are many cases in which proof that the goods were enemy property would afford strong evidence that they were of enemy origin or enemy destination, and it is only in such cases that we are detaining them. Where proof of enemy ownership would afford no evidence of such origin or destination, we are not in practice detaining the goods.

18. His Majesty's Government have been gratified to observe that the measures which they are enforcing have had no detrimental effect on the commerce of the United States. Figures of recent months show that the increased opportunities afforded by the war for American commerce have more than compensated for the loss of the German and Austrian markets.

19. I trust that in the light of the above explanations it will be realized that the measures to which we have resorted have been not only justified by the exigencies of the case, but can be defended as in accordance with general principles which have commended themselves to the Governments of both countries. I am glad to be able to assure your Excellency that we shall continue to apply these measures with every desire to occasion the least possible amount of inconvenience to persons engaged in legitimate commerce.

I have, &c.,

E. GREY.

#### AMERICAN PROTEST ON PRIZE COURT PROCEDURE.

The Secretary of State to Ambassador W. H. Page:

*Department of State, Washington, July 14 1915.*

In view of differences which are understood to exist between the two Governments as to the principles of law applicable in prize court proceedings in cases involving American interests, and in order to avoid any misunderstanding as to the attitude of the United States in regard to such proceedings, you are instructed to inform the British Government that, in so far as the interests of American citizens are concerned, the Government of the United States will insist upon their rights under the principles and rules of international law, as hitherto established, governing neutral trade in time of war, without limitation or impairment by Orders-in-Council or other municipal legislation by the British Government, and will not recognize the validity of prize court proceedings taken under restraints imposed by British municipal law in derogation of the rights of American citizens under international law.

#### BRITISH ANSWER ON PRIZE COURT PROCEDURE.

Ambassador W. H. Page to the Secretary of State:

*American Embassy, London, July 31 1915.*

*I have to-day received the following note from Sir Edward Grey:*

*Foreign Office, July 31 1915.*

Your Excellency: (1) I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the note dated 16th inst., in which you were good enough to communicate to me for the information of his Majesty's Government the opinion held by the Government of the United States, that, in view of differences which they understand to exist between the two countries as to the principles of law applicable in cases before the Prize Court, they could not recognize the validity of proceedings taken in his Majesty's Prize Court in derogation of the rights of citizens of the United States.

2. I do not understand to what divergence of views as to the principles of law applicable in cases before the Prize Court the Government of the United States refers, for I am not aware of any differences existing between the two countries as to the principles of law applicable in cases before such courts.

3. British prize courts, according to the ancient form of commission under which they sit, are to determine cases which come before them, according to the course of Admiralty and the law of nations and the statutes of rules and regulations for the time being in force in that behalf.

As to the principles applied by the American prize courts, I note that in the case of the *Amy Warwick* (2 Sprague, 123) it was held that prize courts are subject to the instructions of their own sovereign. In the absence of such instructions their jurisdiction and rules of decisions are to be ascertained by reference to the known powers of such tribunals and the principles by which they are governed under the public law and the practice of nations. It would appear, therefore, that the principles applied by the prize courts of the two countries are identical.

4. As illustrating further the attitude adopted by the Judges of British prize courts toward these two courses of law, the municipal legislation of its sovereign on the one hand and the principles of international law on the other, I should like to refer your Excellency to a classical passage in the Judgment of Lord Stowell, in the case of the *Fox*, in which that famous Judge observed in the course of the discussion:

"A question has been stated: What would be the duty of the court under Orders-in-Council that were repugnant to the law of nations? It has been contended on one side that the court would at all events be bound to enforce the Orders-in-Council, on the other that the court would be bound to apply the rule of the law of nations adapted to the particular case, in disregard of the Orders-in-Council.

"This court is bound to administer the law of nations to the subjects of other countries in the different relations in which they may be placed toward this country and its Government. That is what others have a right to demand for their subjects, and to complain if they receive it not. This is its unwritten law, evidenced in the course of its decisions and collected from the common usage of civilized States. At the same time, it is strictly true that by the Constitution of this country the King in Council possesses legislative rights over this court and has power to issue orders and instructions, which it is bound to obey and enforce and these constitute the written law of this court.

"These two propositions, that the court is bound to administer the law of nations and that it is bound to enforce the King's Orders-in-Council, are not at all inconsistent with each other, because these orders and instructions are presumed to conform themselves, under the given circumstances, to the principles of its unwritten law. They are either directory applications of those principles to the cases indicated in them—cases which, with all the facts and circumstances belonging to them and which constitute their legal character, could be but imperfectly known to the court itself; or they are positive regulations, consistent with these principles, applying to matters which require more exact and definite rules than those general principles are capable of furnishing.

"The constitution of this court, relatively to the legislative power of the King-in-Council, is analogous to that of the Courts of Common Law relatively to that of the Parliament of this Kingdom. These courts have their unwritten law, the approved reasons, principles of natural reason and justice; they have likewise the written or statute law in Acts of Parliament, which are directory applications of the same principles to particular subjects or positive regulations consistent with them upon matters which would remain too much at large if they were left to the imperfect information which the courts could extract from mere general speculations.

"What would be the duty of the individuals who preside in these courts if required to enforce an Act of Parliament which contradicted those principles is a question which, I presume, they would not entertain a priori because they will not entertain a priori the supposition that any such will arise. In like manner this court will not let itself loose into speculations as to what would be its duty under such an emergency; because it cannot, without extreme indecency, presume that any such emergency will happen. And it is less disposed to entertain them because its own observation and experience attest the general conformity of such orders and instructions to its principles of unwritten law."

5. The above passage has recently been quoted and adopted by the President of the prize court in the case of the *Zamora*, in which Sir S. Evans said: "I make bold to express the hope and belief that the nations of the world need not be apprehensive that Orders-in-Council will emanate from the Government of this country in such violation of the acknowledged laws of nations that it is conceivable that our prize tribunals, holding the law of nations in reverence, would be called upon to disregard and refuse obedience to the provisions of such orders."

6. In the note which I handed to your Excellency on the 23d of July, I endeavored to convince the Government of the United States, and I trust with success, that the measures that we have felt ourselves compelled to adopt, in consequence of the numerous acts committed by our enemies in violation of the laws of war and the dictates of humanity, are consistent with the principles of international law. The legality of these measures has not yet formed the subject of a decision of the prize court; but I wish to take this opportunity of reminding your Excellency that it is open to any

United States citizen whose claim is before the prize court to contend that any Order-in-Council which may affect his claim is inconsistent with the principles of international law, and is, therefore, not binding upon the court. If the prize court declines to accept his contentions, and if, after such a decision has been upheld on appeal by the Judicial Committee of His Majesty's Privy Council, the Government of the United States of America consider that there is serious ground for holding that the decision is incorrect and infringes the rights of their citizens, it is open to them to claim that it should be subjected to review by an international tribunal.

7. This principle, that the decisions of the national prize courts may properly be subjected to international review, was conceded by Great Britain in Article VII of the Jay Treaty of 1793 and by the United States of America under the Treaty of Washington of 1871. Your Excellency will no doubt remember that certain cases (collectively known as the "Matamoros cases") were submitted to the commission established under Articles XII-XVII of the Treaty of Washington. In each of these cases proceedings in prize had been instituted in the prize courts of the United States, and in each case the judgment of the Supreme Court, the court of last resort in cases of prizes, had been obtained. The United States filed a demurrer in these cases, alleging that, as they had been heard by the prize courts of the United States of original and appellate jurisdiction, the decision of the appellate court was final, and no claim based upon it could be made before the commission. The demurrer was unanimously overruled and the cases heard, and the agent of the United States, in his reports of the proceedings of the commission, stated that he, personally, maintained no doubt of the jurisdiction of the commission as an international tribunal to review the decisions of the prize courts of the United States where the parties alleging themselves aggrieved had prosecuted their claims by appeals to the court of last resort; as this jurisdiction, however, had been sometimes questioned, he deemed it desirable that a formal adjudication by the commission should be held upon this question.

8. The same principle was accepted both by the United States Government and His Majesty's Government in 1907 in connection with the proposed establishment of an international prize court, although certain constitutional difficulties have led the United States Government to propose that the right of recourse to the international prize court in connection with a decision of the Supreme Court of the United States should take the form of a direct claim for compensation.

9. It is clear, therefore, that both the United States Government and His Majesty's Government have adopted the principle that the decisions of a national prize court may be open to review if it is held in the prize court and in the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, on appeal, that the orders and instructions issued by His Majesty's Government in matters relating to prize are in harmony with the principles of international law; and, should the Government of the United States unfortunately feel compelled to maintain a contrary view, His Majesty's Government will be prepared to concert with the United States Government in order to decide upon the best way of applying the above principle to the situation which would then have arisen. I trust, however, that the defense of our action, which I have already communicated to your Excellency, and the willingness of His Majesty's Government, (which has been shown in so many instances) to make reasonable concessions to American interests, will prevent the necessity for such action arising.

10. In any case, I trust that the explanations given above will remove the misapprehension under which I cannot but feel the Government of the United States are laboring as to the principles applied by British prize courts in dealing with the cases which come before them.

I have, &c.,

E. GREY.

#### AMERICAN PROTEST ON SEIZURE OF NECHES CARGO.

The Secretary of State to Ambassador W. H. Page:

Department of State, Washington, July 15 1915.

Ambassador Page is informed that it has been brought to the attention of the Department that the steamship *Neches* of American register, sailing from Rotterdam for the United States, carrying a general cargo, after being detained at the Downs, was brought to London, where it was required by the British authorities to discharge cargo, the property of American citizens.

It appears that the ground advanced to sustain this action is that the goods originated, in part at least, in Belgium, and fall, therefore, within the provisions of Paragraph 4 of the Order-in-Council of March 11, which stipulates that every merchant vessel sailing from a port other than a German port, carrying goods of enemy origin, may be required to discharge such goods in a British or allied port.

Ambassador Page is instructed in this case to reiterate the position of the Government of the United States as set forth in the Department's instruction of March 30 1915, with respect to the Order-in-Council mentioned, the international invalidity of which the Government of the United States regards as plainly illustrated by the present instance of the seizure of American-owned goods passing from the neutral port of Rotterdam to a neutral port of the United States, merely because the goods came originally from territory in the possession of an enemy of Great Britain.

Mr. Page is also instructed to inform the Foreign Office that the legality of this seizure cannot be admitted and that, in the view of the Government of the United States, it violates the right of the citizens of one neutral to trade with those of another, as well as with those of belligerents, except in contraband or in violation of a legal blockade of an enemy seaport; and that the right of American owners of goods to bring them out of Holland, in due course, in neutral ships must be insisted upon by the United States, even though such goods may have come originally from the territories of enemies of Great Britain. He is directed further to insist upon the desire of this Government that goods taken from the *Neches*, which are the property of American citizens, should be expeditiously released to be forwarded to their destination, and to request that he be advised of the British Government's intended course in this matter at the earliest moment convenient to the Government.

LANSING.

#### BRITISH ANSWER ON SEIZURE OF NECHES CARGO.

Ambassador W. H. Page to the Secretary of State:

American Embassy,  
London, July 31 1915.

Sir Edward Grey has to-day sent me the following note:

The note which your Excellency addressed to me on the 17th inst. respecting the detention of the cargo of the steamship *Neches* has, I need hardly say, received the careful attention of His Majesty's Government.

The note which I had the honor to send to your Excellency on the 23d inst. has already explained the view of His Majesty's Government on the legal aspect of the question, though it was prepared before your Excellency's communication of the 17th had been received, and, pending consideration by the Government of the United States of the views and arguments set forth in the British note of the 23d, it is unnecessary for me to say more on the question of right or of law.

There is, however, one general observation that seems relevant to the note from your Excellency respecting the cargo of the *Neches*.

It is the practice of the German Government, in the waters through which the *Neches* was passing, to sink neutral as well as British merchant vessels, irrespective of the destination of the vessel or origin of the cargo, and without proper regard or provision for the safety of passengers or crews, many of whom have lost their lives in consequence. There can be no question that this action is contrary to the recognized and settled rules of international law, as well as to the principles of humanity.

His Majesty's Government, on the other hand, have adhered to the rule of visit and search, and have observed the obligation to bring into port and submit to a Prize Court any ships or cargoes with regard to which they think they have a good case for detention or for condemnation as contraband.

His Majesty's Government are not aware, except from the published correspondence between the United States and Germany, to what extent reparation has been claimed from Germany by neutrals for loss of ships, lives and cargoes, nor how far these acts have been the subject even of protest by the neutral Governments concerned.

While those acts of the German Government continue, it seems neither reasonable nor just that His Majesty's Government should be pressed to abandon the rights claimed in the British note of the 23d and to allow goods from Germany to pass freely through waters effectively patrolled by British ships of war.

If, however, it be alleged that, in particular cases and special circumstances, hardships may be inflicted on citizens of neutral countries, His Majesty's Government are ready in such cases to examine the facts in a spirit of consideration for the interest of neutrals, and in this spirit they are prepared to deal with the cargo of the *Neches*, to which your Excellency has called attention, if it is held that the particular circumstances of this case fall within this category.

PAGE.

#### FULL TEXT OF AUSTRIAN NOTE PROTESTING AGAINST MUNITION EXPORTS.

The official text of the note sent by the Austro-Hungarian Government to the United States protesting against the exports of war supplies from this country to England was made public by the Austro-Hungarian Embassy at Washington on the 1st inst. The note was published in Vienna early in July upon the receipt of the permission of the United States Government and portions of it received by cable from Vienna via London were also published in this country. The note points out that the scale on which the war munitions industry in this country is being developed is far beyond anything contemplated when the rule of international law permitting the shipment of munitions by neutral states was formulated and states that "according to all the authorities on international law who have especially dealt with the questions which here arise, the neutral government is not permitted to allow unhindered trade in contraband of war if this trade assumes such character and proportions that the country's neutrality is thereby impaired." The note suggests that, if the United States professes inability to alter the character of the "illegal blockade" whereby Germany and Austria are cut off from availing themselves of the American arms market, it might remedy the situation by a refusal to ship foodstuffs to Great Britain and her allies until they agree to abide by the rules of a proper blockade. The full text of the note is as follows:

The far-reaching effects resulting from the fact that a very extensive trade in war supplies has been going on for some time between the United States and Great Britain and her allies, while Austria-Hungary and Germany have been entirely shut off from the American market, have from the first attracted the most earnest attention of the Imperial and Royal Government. If the undersigned permits himself to take part in the discussion of a question which hitherto has been brought to the attention of the Washington Cabinet by the Imperial German Government only, he merely follows the dictates of unavoidable duty of protecting the interests entrusted to him from further grave injury growing out of the situation afflicting Germany and Austria-Hungary equally.

The Imperial and Royal Government is convinced that the attitude of the United States Government in this matter originates from no other intention than the maintenance of the strictest neutrality and the observance to the letter of all the stipulations of the international agreements involved, but the question arises as to whether the conditions, as they have developed in the course of the war, certainly quite independently of the will of the United States Government, are not such that the very intention of the Washington Cabinet is defeated—indeed, that exactly the opposite effect is produced. If this question be answered in the affirmative—and, according to the opinion of the Imperial and Royal Government this cannot be doubted—then another question automatically follows, namely, whether it is not possible, indeed advisable, to take measures to provide full effectiveness to the wish of the Government of the United States to assume an attitude of strict fairness toward both belligerent parties. The Imperial and Royal Government does not hesitate to answer this question also in the affirmative, without qualification.

It certainly has not escaped the attention of the American Government, which has co-operated in the work of The Hague in such a prominent manner, that the spirit and the letter of the fragmentary stipulations of the treaties in question are not entirely coextensive.

If one takes into consideration the genesis of Article 7 of the Fifth and Thirteenth conventions respectively, upon which the Government of the United States apparently rests the present case, and the wording of which, as will not be denied, offers a formal basis for the toleration of the trade in war materials as carried on at present by the United States, it is not necessary to point out—in order to realize the true spirit and range of this stipulation, which incidentally seems to have been modified already by prohibiting the delivery of warships and certain supplies for warships of belligerent countries—that the various rights as conceded to neutral countries, in the spirit of the preamble of the last-named convention, are limited by the requirements of neutrality in correspondence with the accepted principles of international law. According to all the authorities on international law, who have especially dealt with the questions which here arise, the neutral government is not permitted to allow unhindered trade in contraband of war if this trade assumes such character and proportions that the country's neutrality is thereby impaired.

In judging the admissibility of the trade in contraband of war, one can use as a basis any one of the various criteria established by law, and arrive, according to each, at the conclusion that the export of war materials from the United States as it is carried on cannot be made to accord with the requirements of neutrality. It is not a question as to whether the branch of American industry occupied with the production of war material shall be protected in order that its export, as it has been carried on in peace times, may suffer no impairment.

Furthermore, this industry has experienced an unexpected increase because of the war. In order to manufacture the immense amount of weapons, munitions and other war material of all kinds which Great Britain and her allies have ordered in the United States of America in the course of the last month, it required not only the full utilization and adaptation of existing plants, but the creation of new factories, as well as the diversion of large numbers of workmen from all branches of trade—in short, a widespread change in the economic life of the country—the right of the American Government can from no quarter be disputed to decree an embargo on this obviously enormous export of war material which is notoriously for the exclusive benefit of one of the belligerent parties.

The United States Government could meet with no reproach if it were to avail itself of its competency, even if it took recourse to the passage of a law in accordance with its Constitution. Even if it proved correct in principle that a neutral state may not change the law in force within its jurisdiction concerning its attitude toward belligerents during the war, there is, however, an exception to the principle, as is clearly shown in the preamble of the Thirteenth Hague Convention: " \* \* \* where experience has shown the necessity for such change for the protection of the rights of that power."

This case arises for the United States Government by the mere fact that Austria-Hungary as well as Germany are cut off from any commercial intercourse with the United States without the existence of a legal ground—a legally effective blockade.

To the possible objection that although American industry is perfectly willing to supply Austria-Hungary and Germany as well as Great Britain and her allies, the United States are not able to carry on trade in consequence of the war situation, it may well be mentioned that the United States Government is without doubt in a position to remedy the above described condition. It would be entirely sufficient to hold out to the adversaries of Austria-Hungary and Germany the inhibition of the export of foodstuffs and raw materials if the legitimate trade in these articles between the Union and the two central powers is not permitted.

If the Washington Cabinet could find itself prepared to act in this direction, it would not only follow the tradition always upheld in the United States to safeguard the freedom of the seas, but it would also offer the great service of defeating the criminal endeavor of the enemies of Austria-Hungary and Germany to enlist starvation as an ally.

The Imperial and Royal Government, in the spirit of the excellent relations which have never ceased to exist between the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy and the United States of America, and in the name of sincere friendship, permits itself to make an appeal to the Government of the Union to submit to careful examination the point of view heretofore taken in this most important question and consider the statements given herewith. The revision of the present attitude of the Government of the Union to agree with the views proffered by the Imperial and Royal Government would not only be—according to the conviction of the Imperial and Royal Government—within the scope of the rights and duties of a neutral government, but also in the direction of those principles prompted by humanity and the love of peace which the United States of America has ever written upon her banner.

The undersigned has the honor, &c.

BURIAN.

#### GERMANY INSISTS SINKING OF FRYE NOT TREATY VIOLATION.

In a note to the United States Government under date of July 30 the German Government rejects the contention of the United States that the sinking of the American sailing vessel William P. Frye by the German auxiliary cruiser Prinz Eitel Friedrich was a violation of the Prussian-American treaties despite the fact that the vessel was carrying contraband. The issue between the two governments really narrowed down to the point as to whether the question of reparation which was demanded by the United States was one for the consideration of German prize courts, or whether it was one to be settled by direct negotiations between the two governments. In the note sent by the United States to Germany bearing date June 24 our State Department took the position that the matter concerned "a disputed interpretation of treaty provisions, the settlement of which requires direct diplomatic discussion between the two governments and cannot be properly based upon the decision of the German prize court, which is in no way conclusive or binding upon the Government of the United States." The German reply now insists that "the question whether the German commander acted legally was primarily a subject for the consideration of the German prize courts, according to general principles of international law, as laid down also in Article 1 of the Hague Convention for the establishment of an international prize court and in Article 51 of the Declaration of London." The note informs our Government that the case has been settled in the Hamburg prize court except as to the determination of the amount of indemnity to be paid and states that the court found that the cargo of the vessel was contraband, that the ship could not be carried into port and its sinking was therefore justified and that the German Government is liable for indemnity. The prize court did not undertake to fix the amount of the indemnity on the ground that it had no data before it to make such a decision. Germany proposes that each of the two governments designate an expert, who are to jointly fix the amount

of indemnity. "This payment," the note states, "does not constitute satisfaction for the violation of American treaty rights, but a duty or policy of this Government founded on the existing treaty stipulations." If the American Government does not agree to this manner of settling the matter, the German Government suggests a submission of the differences to the tribunal at The Hague. The text of the note which was made public on the 4th inst. is as follows:

Ambassador Gerard to the Secretary of State,  
American Embassy, Berlin, July 30 1915.

Following note received:

Foreign Office, Berlin, July 30 1915.

The undersigned has the honor to inform his Excellency, Mr. James W. Gerard, Ambassador of the United States of America, in reply to the note of the 26th ultimo, Foreign Office No. 3,990, on the subject of the sinking of the American merchant vessel William P. Frye by the German auxiliary cruiser Prinz Eitel Friedrich, that the points of view brought out in the note have been carefully examined by the Imperial German Government. This examination has led to the following conclusions:

The Government of the United States believes that it is incumbent upon it to take the position that the treaty rights to which America is entitled, as contained in Article 12 of the Prussian-American treaty of amity and commerce of Sept. 10, 1785, and in Article 13 of the Prussian-American treaty of amity and commerce of July 11, 1799, were violated by the sinking of the William P. Frye. It interprets these articles as meaning that a merchantman of the neutral contracting party carrying contraband cannot in any circumstances be destroyed by a warship of the belligerent contracting party and that the sinking of the William P. Frye was, therefore, in violation of the treaty, even if her cargo should have consisted of contraband, which it leaves outside of the discussion.

The German Government cannot accept this view. It insists as heretofore that the commander of the German auxiliary cruiser acted in the legal exercise of the right of control of trade in contraband enjoyed by warships of belligerent nations, and that the treaty stipulations mentioned merely oblige the German Government to make compensation for the damage sustained by the American citizens concerned.

It is not disputed by the American Government that according to general principles of international law a belligerent is authorized in sinking neutral vessels under almost any conditions for carrying contraband. As is well known, these principles were laid down in Articles 49 and 50 of the Declaration of London, and were recognized at that time by the duly empowered delegates of all the nations which participated in the conference including the American delegates, to be declarative of existing international law, (see preliminary clause of the Declaration of London) moreover, at the beginning of the present war the American Government proposed to the belligerent nations to ratify the Declaration of London and give its provisions formal validity also.

The German Government has already explained in its note of April 4 last for what reason it considers that the conditions justifying the sinking under international law were present in the case of the William P. Frye. The cargo consisted of conditional contraband, the destination of which for the hostile armed forces was to be presumed under the circumstances; no proof to overcome this presumption has been furnished. More than half the cargo of the vessel was contraband, so that the vessel was liable to confiscation. The attempt to bring the American vessel into a German port would have greatly imperiled the German vessel in the given situation of the war, and at any rate practically defeated the success of her further operations. Thus the authority for sinking the vessel was given according to general principles of international law. There only remains then to be examined the question how far the Prussian-American treaty stipulations modify these principles of international law.

In this connection Article 12 of the Treaty of 1785 provides that in the event of a war between one of the contracting parties with another power, the free commerce and intercourse of the nationals of the party remaining neutral with the belligerent powers shall not be interrupted, but that on the contrary the vessel of the neutral party may navigate freely to and from the ports of the belligerent powers even neutralizing enemy goods on board thereof. However, this article merely formulates general rules for the freedom of maritime intercourse and leaves the question of contraband untouched; the specific stipulations on this point are contained in the following article, which is materially identical with Article 13 of the Treaty of 1799 now in force.

The plain intention of Article 13 is to establish a reasonable compromise between the military interests of the belligerent contracting party and the commercial interests of the neutral party. On the one hand the belligerent party is to have the right to prevent the transportation of war supplies to his adversaries even when carried on vessels of the neutral party; on the other hand, the commerce and navigation of the neutral party is to be interfered with as little as possible by the measures necessary for such prevention, and reasonable compensation is to be paid for any inconvenience or damage which may nevertheless ensue from the proceedings of the belligerent party.

Article 13 recites the following means whereby the belligerent party can prevent the vessels of the neutral party from carrying war supplies to his adversary. The detention of the ship and cargo for such length of time as the belligerent may think necessary; furthermore, the taking over of the war stores for his own use, paying the full value of the same as ascertained at the place of destination. The right of sinking is not mentioned in the treaty, and is, therefore, neither expressly permitted nor expressly prohibited, so that on this point the party stipulations must be supplemented by the general rules of international law. From the meaning and spirit of the treaty it really appears out of the question that it was intended to expect of the belligerent that he should permit a vessel loaded with contraband, for example a shipment of arms and ammunition of decisive importance for the outcome of the war, to proceed unhindered to his enemy when circumstances forbid the carrying of the \* \* \* into port, if the general rules of international law allow sinking of the vessel.

The remaining stipulations of Article 13 must likewise be considered in this light; they provide that the Captain of a vessel stopped shall be allowed to proceed on his voyage if he delivers out the contraband to the warship which stopped his vessel. For such delivering out cannot, of course, be considered when the ensuing loss of time imperils either the warship herself or the success of her other operations. In the case of the William P. Frye the German commander at first tried to have matters settled by the delivery of contraband, but convinced himself of the impracticability of this attempt in that it would expose his ship to attack by whatever superior force of enemy war vessels pursuing him, and was accordingly obliged to determine upon the sinking of the Frye. Thus he did not exceed on this point the limits to which he was bound by Article 13.

However, Article 13 asserts itself here to the extent that it finds the obligation to compensate the American citizens affected, whereas according



to the general rules of international law the belligerent party does not need to grant compensation for a vessel lawfully sunk. For, if by Article 13, the mere exercise of right of highways makes the belligerent liable for compensation, this must apply a fortiori to the exercise of the right of sinking.

The question whether the German commander acted legally was primarily a subject for the consideration of the German prize courts, according to general principles of international law as laid down, also in Article 1 of the Hague Convention for the establishment of an international prize court and in Article 51 of the Declaration of London. The German Government consequently laid the case of the William P. Frye before the competent prize court at Hamburg, as was stated in its note of the 7th ult. This court found by its judgment of the 10th inst. that the cargo of the American vessel, William P. Frye, was contraband; that the vessel could not be carried into port, and that the sinking therefore was justified; at the same time the court expressly recognized the validity of the Prussian-American Treaty stipulations severally \* \* \*

It will now be necessary to settle these points in a different way. The German Government suggests as the simplest way that each of the two Governments designate an expert and that the two experts jointly fix the amount of indemnity for the vessel and any American property which may have been sunk with her. The German Government will promptly pay the amount of indemnity thus ascertained; it expressly declares, however, reverting to what has been stated above, that this payment does not constitute satisfaction for the violation of American treaty rights, but a duty or policy of this Government founded on the existing treaty stipulations.

Should the American Government not agree to this manner of settling the matter, the German Government is prepared to submit the difference of opinion as being a question of the interpretation of the existing treaties between Germany and the United States to the tribunal at The Hague, pursuant to Article 38 of The Hague Convention for the pacific settlement of international disputes.

The undersigned begs to suggest that the Ambassador bring the above to the attention of his Government and avails himself, &c.

VON JAGOW,  
Gerard.

\* Omissions

#### AMERICAN VESSEL TAKEN AS PRIZE BY GERMAN SUBMARINE.

According to an item given out by the Overseas News Agency at Berlin on the 3d inst., the American ship Pass of Balmaha bound for Archangel with a cargo of cotton was compelled to put into Cuxhaven after being stopped by a German submarine, which placed an officer on the vessel as a prize crew. The dispatch says:

The American ship Pass of Balmaha has arrived at Cuxhaven, having on board one non-commissioned officer of a German submarine boat, which had stopped the ship and placed the officer on her as a prize crew.

While the officer was asleep, the Captain of the Pass of Balmaha changed his course toward the British coast, but when the officer awakened, he compelled the captain of the ship to obey his orders and put into Cuxhaven.

On investigation at Cuxhaven it was discovered that a British prize crew of one officer and four men were on board, hiding below.

The bark was bound with cotton for Archangel, Russia. She sailed from New York on June 24.

#### GREAT BRITAIN CHECKS COAL EXPORTS.

The British Government has forbidden, after Aug. 30, the exportation of coal and coke except to British possessions and protectorates, according to an Order-in-Council issued on the 3d inst. This order stops the shipment of coal to Great Britain's allies, which had been allowed under the embargo declared on May 13.

#### FRENCH PRIZE COURT CONFIRMS SEIZURE OF DACIA.

The seizure of the American steamer Dacia, which was captured by a French cruiser in February in the English Channel and taken to Brest, was confirmed on the 4th inst. by a French prize court. The Dacia was transferred in January from German to American registry and left Galveston, Texas, on Jan. 31 for Rotterdam with a cargo of cotton for trans-shipment to Germany. The following official statement was issued on the 4th inst. by the French Ministry of Marine regarding the decision of the Court:

The Prize Court to-day returned its decision in the case of the steamer Dacia as follows:

"This steamer, which belonged to the Hamburg-American Navigation Co., was captured on Feb. 27 1915 by the French auxiliary cruiser Europe. The vessel cannot be considered as belonging to a neutral, since it was purchased from the German owners during the course of the war. The Prize Court, therefore, decides that the capture of the steamer Dacia was valid and just as an act of war."

Advices from Washington on the 4th inst. said that the State Department was preparing to protest the Prize Court decision, which carries with it the forfeiture of the vessel and planned to make this a test case of the right of a neutral country to grant registry to a belligerent owned merchant ship. The Dacia's cotton cargo is not involved in this decision, the French Government having purchased it through a special appropriation. The first payments to the owners of the cargo were made at the State Department on the 4th inst.

#### GERMAN SUBMARINE SINKS STEAMSHIP IBERIAN; AMERICANS KILLED.

The British steamship Iberian of the Leyland line, bound for Boston from Liverpool, was torpedoed and sunk on July 30 by a German submarine, with a loss of one or two Americans. Sixty-one officers and members of the crew were landed safely at Queenstown. "Tom" Curtis, the boatswain, in an interview described the attack as follows:

The submarine was sighted about five miles off, when she fired some shots. The submarine gained on the Iberian and then fired shells, one bursting on deck and killing six men.

The ship was then stopped and the submarine commander ordered the remainder of the crew, sixty-three in number, to leave the vessel, which they did, eight of them being badly injured. A torpedo was then fired at the Iberian, striking her on the starboard side amidships.

According to reports of the crew, the Iberian was ordered to stop and submit to search and was shelled when attempting to escape. American Consul Frost, at Queenstown, reported the facts to the American Embassy at London as follows:

Steamer Iberian submarined. Whitley, American muleteer, killed. Ship surgeon Burns, of the Iberian, an American citizen, states that submarine did not shell Iberian until the latter disregarded signal. Gave time to take boats. Whitley died from shock and superficial wounds. No other Americans injured.

The Iberian left Boston on July 7 for Manchester, where she was reported to have arrived on July 20. It is stated that the vessel has been used for several months for the transportation of war supplies between the United States and England.

#### UNITED STATES CONFERS WITH LATIN-AMERICAN COUNTRIES ON MEXICAN POLICY.

Conferences on the Mexican situation were held in Washington Thursday and Friday of this week between Secretary of State Lansing and the diplomatic representatives of Argentina, Brazil, Chili, Bolivia, Uruguay and Guatemala. The meetings were called by the Secretary of State with a view to obtaining, not only the advice of the diplomats, but also the moral support of the Latin-American countries in whatever Mexican program is decided upon by this country. The conference was announced at the State Department on Monday as follows:

On Thursday afternoon there will be an informal conference at the State Department to consider the Mexican situation. Those taking part in the conference will be the Ambassadors from Brazil, Argentina and Chile, and the three ranking Ministers of the American republics, namely those of Bolivia, Uruguay and Guatemala. As to the details which will be considered, nothing can be said at the present time, as the conference will be entirely confidential.

The calling of the conference is regarded as the first step towards carrying out the new policy to be pursued by this country towards Mexico, which was decided upon by President Wilson and his Cabinet on June 1. The President stated at that time that if the factions in Mexico failed to get together the United States would be compelled to consider what measures must be taken to deal with the situation.

At the conclusion of the conference on Thursday no announcement as to the results of the session was made. It was reported that a tacit agreement was reached, however, that the Latin-American countries back up the United States in a final warning to Carranza, Villa and Zapata. A definite time will be fixed, it was stated, in which the Mexican leaders must settle their differences. The conference was continued on Friday. It is stated that the invitation of the United States to the six Latin-American countries to have their diplomatic representatives confer with Secretary of State Lansing was extended more than a month ago.

#### TRUST COMPANY ATTACKS WAR REVENUE ACT.

The Fidelity Trust Company of Newark, N. J. has instituted a suit attacking the constitutionality of the Act of Congress passed last October to provide additional revenue on account of the European war. The trust company disclaims the right of the Government to assess a special tax against its "permanently invested stocks and bonds." Collector of Internal Revenue Charles W. Duffy is named as the technical defendant. The case will be called September 14 at the opening of the term in the U. S. District Court at Trenton. In its complaint the Fidelity contends that, of its capital stock, surplus and undivided profits amounting to \$9,983,335 on December 31 1914, \$9,065,895 is not used by the trust company as a banker, but is invested. In accordance with its interpretation of the statute the company forwarded its revenue assessment amounting to \$612, based on the amount of capital actually engaged in the bank. The complaint alleges that the \$612 was returned by the Collector and the amount of the assessment was fixed at \$6,655.

This sum was paid January 6 to the Collector under protest and last June a complaint was filed. The complaint alleges that the tax as imposed by the Collector was a direct tax levied without apportionment among the states; that it was arbitrary, unequal and not uniform and that it was assessed and collected without the taxing power of Congress to make it legal. It is furthermore alleged by the trust company that sums permanently invested in stocks are not subject to the special war tax so long as they are not used by the company as a banker. The Government's answer which was filed by United States District Attorney J. Warren Davis, makes a general denial of the allegations of the complaint and sets forth that the tax was levied properly and in all respects rightfully assessed. The company in its suit asks for the return of so much of the assessment as is in excess of the amount levied against the capital actually engaged by the trust company. As heretofore stated in these columns, the Farmers' Loan & Trust Company and the Guaranty Trust Co. of New York filed proceedings on July 29 to test the War Revenue Act of last October insofar as it imposes a tax on banking capital. It is reported that the Government may make a test case of the Fidelity suit to determine other cases against the Act which have been brought and may be brought in the future in other revenue districts.

#### REDUCTION IN OVERDRAFTS OF NATIONAL BANKS.

The order issued by the Comptroller of the Currency last February to national banks directing the discontinuance of the practice of permitting overdrafts has had a decided effect in remedying the overdraft habit according to communications from different sections of the country recently received by the Comptroller. The following circular relative to the matter was issued by the Comptroller of the Currency under date of Aug. 2:

The Superintendent of Banks of the State of Oregon, under date of July 23 1915, writes from Salem as follows:

"It is gratifying to note the substantial reduction made in overdrafts during the past year. The overdrafts in State banks have decreased \$68,770.42, or 33%; overdrafts in national banks have decreased \$104,957, or 69%.

"It appears that your efforts to eliminate the evil have not been in vain, and this office will continue to co-operate with you to secure further reductions."

A National Bank Examiner writing from Dallas, Tex., in a letter dated July 27 1915, says:

"In further connection with the overdraft practice, beg to advise that I have just completed a trip of several weeks in my district and found only one bank with an overdraft and that bank had one account of recent date for two cents. It is as uncommon to find a bank now with overdrafts as it was in the past to find one without them.

"Some of the bankers who objected most strenuously to discontinuing the practice are now making the statement that it was the best thing that could have happened in that respect. The letter as sent out by you relating thereto was of untold value in eliminating the practice and has been resorted to in a majority of cases where the best results have been obtained."

Prior to the promulgation by the Comptroller of the Currency of his order on the subject of overdrafts, the overdrafts of the national banks of Texas exceeded those of any other State in the Union, amounting at the time of the Dec. 31 1914 call to \$1,781,664.

The President of a large national bank in Oklahoma, under date of July 30 1915, writes as follows:

"Can but commend you for your famous overdraft order and at the same time call your attention to the fact that, although a number of the bankers seemed to think it impossible to conform to the requirements of your order, many of the directors adopted resolutions favoring your order and doubtless as a direct result of the same overdrafts in banks in this country have been decreased.

"On every hand I hear words of praise in reference to the order, where many months ago I heard criticism."

#### TELEGRAPH COMPANIES REQUIRED TO FURNISH TICKER SERVICE, ALTHOUGH APPLICANTS ARE DISAPPROVED BY EXCHANGE.

A temporary injunction secured by Henry C. Tucker and other Buffalo stock brokers against the Western Union Telegraph Company and the Gold & Stock Telegraph Co. restraining the telegraph companies from shutting off the ticker service of the brokers from the New York Stock Exchange, was continued by order of Justice Pooley in the Supreme Court at Buffalo on June 23; the injunction will hold pending the determination of the action against the telegraph companies.

The latter pay the exchange \$50,000 a year for the privilege of distributing quotations, the Exchange reserving the right to determine to whom the service shall be granted. The quotations are sent throughout the country by direct wire and also by ticker service, at the rate to subscribers in Buffalo of \$35 a week for the direct service, and \$6 a week for the ticker service. The proceedings in question were instituted by the stock brokers because the Stock Exchange, declined to approve the applications of the plaintiffs for ticker service. As a result of the action of the Exchange, the telegraph companies in accordance with their contract

with the Exchange, refused to furnish the service. The Stock Exchange is not a party to the action but was represented by counsel in the injunction proceedings. According to Justice Pooley the main issues in the suit are:

"First, that the Stock Exchange has an absolute right to the quotations collected and compiled by it; second, that under the contract of July 1, 1914, between the Exchange and the telegraph company, the relation of sender and carrier of messages exists, and that to require the telegraph to furnish these quotations to others than those approved by the Stock Exchange would compel a violation of the penal law."

Justice Pooley finds that the Stock Exchange has an absolute property right in the quotations, but goes on to say:

"As to the second contention, that of the relation of sender and carrier and of a violation of the penal law, I cannot agree. This law contemplate a person who wrongfully obtains or attempts to obtain any knowledge of a telegraphic message by connivance with an employee of a telegraph company, or being such employee, wilfully divulges the contents of a message.

"It is obvious this has reference to messages as generally understood. But the service under discussion is extraordinary, one which has grown up to meet the demand of business, the quick transmission of market conditions to all parts of the country.

"The value of the service is not in its secrecy, but in the publication of the information as soon as it is available."

Justice Pooley points out that the telegraph companies are not paid by the Exchange for furnishing the ticker information to patrons but that the telegraph companies pay a large sum for the information which they transmit to others, charging for the service. He furthermore says:

"It seems clear to me that the service in question is that of purchasing rights in information, made valuable by its publication and assuming the telegraph company has the right to make such purchase, it has not the right to do so unless it has also the right to dispose of it on equal terms to all who legally may require it.

"But it appears the information received and transmitted might be and probably has been used unlawfully and the Exchange desiring to prevent such transactions, determined to control the business to the extent of requiring the telegraph company to refuse the service to anyone making unlawful or improper use of it."

The court argues that it is not claimed that the plaintiffs in the action ever used or contemplated using the service otherwise than in accord with the regulations proposed. On the question as to the right of the defendants to refuse ticker service to bucket shops, Justice Pooley points out that there is no claim made that the plaintiffs are engaged in that line of business. He states that the Stock Exchange has the right to withhold such information, and the telegraph companies may have the right to refuse to furnish the quotations, but if these rights are waived and the information is furnished to one, it must be furnished to all, inasmuch as the companies thereby become conformable, as far as this information is concerned, to the public service law. In the view of the Court the relief afforded by the restraining injunction is the only remedy adequate to the situation.

#### BANKING, FINANCIAL AND LEGISLATIVE NEWS.

The public sales of bank stocks this week aggregate 14 shares and were all made at auction. Twelve shares of trust companies' stock were also sold at auction. A sale of five shares of Guaranty Trust Co. stock was made at 60 1/2, an advance of 68 points over the price paid at the last previous public sale in March. Extensive tables reporting bid and asked quotations, deposits, surplus, &c., of banks and trust companies in all important cities in the United States are published monthly in the "Bank and Quotation" Section, the August issue of which accompanies to-day's "Chronicle." Bid and asked quotations for all New York City bank and trust company stocks are also published weekly in another department of this paper, and will be found to-day on page 439.

Shares.	BANKS—New York.	Low.	High.	Close.	Last previous sale.
6	Commerce, Nat. Bank of.....	160 1/4	160 3/4	160 1/4	July 1915—161
3	Fidelity Bank.....	142	142	142	Nov. 1907—170 1/4
5	Mech. & Metals Nat. Bank.....	255 1/4	255 1/4	255 1/4	May 1915—258
TRUST COMPANIES—New York.					
1	Central Trust Co.....	977	977	977	July 1914—1005
5	Guaranty Trust Co.....	601	601	601	Mar. 1915—532 1/4
5	Title Guarantee & Trust Co.....	370	370	370	April 1915—395
TRUST COMPANY—Brooklyn.					
1	Franklin Trust Co.....	245	245	245	Mar. 1915—260

Three New York Stock Exchange memberships were posted for transfer this week, the consideration in each case being \$55,000. This is the same price as the last preceding sale.

The business and entertainment program for the annual convention of the American Bankers' Association to be held at Seattle during the week of Sept. 6 was made public on Monday. The committees of Seattle bankers, with the co-operation of city authorities, representative organizations and clubs have completed the preparation of an attractive program for the entertainment and education of the visitors which the natural resources of that section afford.

The program of the main body, as thus far arranged, is as follows:

**Wednesday, September 8.**

*First Day's Session.*

Invocation by Bishop Keator of the Diocese of Olympia.  
Addresses of welcome by Hon. Ernest Lister, Governor of Washington; Hon. Hiram O. Gill, Mayor of the city of Seattle; M. F. Backus, President of the Seattle Clearing House Association.

Response to addresses of welcome by William A. Law, President of the First National Bank, Philadelphia, and President American Bankers' Association, who will then deliver his annual address.

Reports of officers.  
Reports of committees.

At 11 o'clock, address, speaker to be announced later.  
Afternoon session—Routine business.

Address by Hon. Henry D. Estabrook, member of the New York Bar and one of the Empire State's most famous orators.

**Thursday, September 9.**

*Second Day's Session.*

This session will be given over to the activities of the Agricultural Commission of the American Bankers' Association, B. F. Harris, Chairman.

Afternoon session—Routine business.  
Election of officers.

Address by Hon. William H. Taft, ex-President of the United States.

The relation of trust companies to the Federal Reserve Act and the provision in that Act granting trust company powers to national banks will figure prominently in the deliberations of the Trust Company Section. As is known, the Executive Committee decided to test by friendly suit the constitutionality of Article K, Section 11, of the Reserve Act granting trust powers to national banks, and to that end the services of John G. Johnson of Philadelphia and Henry M. Campbell of Detroit were secured as counsel. A test case has already been instituted in the courts of Michigan, the Attorney-General of the State joining in this proceeding. Mr. Campbell is to deliver an address at the Seattle meeting and will explain his views as to this provision of the Federal Reserve Act. It is intended also to have another address by a representative trust company official as to the attitude of trust companies toward the Federal Reserve system. The program of the Trust Company Section, as tentatively planned, is as follows:

**TRUST COMPANY SECTION.**

**Tuesday, September 7 1914.**

*Order of Proceedings.*

Invocation.

Address of welcome.

Reply to address of welcome and annual address of the President, Ralph W. Cutler, President Hartford Trust Co., Hartford, Conn.

Report of the Executive Committee, Uzal H. McCarter, Chairman, President Fidelity Trust Co., Newark, N. J.

Report of the Committee on Legislation, John H. Mason, Vice-President Commercial Trust Co., Philadelphia, Pa.

Report of the Committee on Protective Laws, Lynn H. Dinkins, Chairman Interstate Trust & Banking Co., New Orleans, La.

Report of the Secretary, Phillip S. Babcock.

Address, "Can Congress Confer Trust Powers Upon National Banks?" Henry M. Campbell, Detroit, Mich.

Discussion—Speakers limited to five minutes each.

Address.

Discussion—Speakers limited to five minutes each.

Roll-call of States, to be answered by the Vice-Presidents of the Section in brief written reports dealing with the history of the trust companies, in the several States during the preceding year, and with the conditions under which they are now operating, and other matters of interest now pertaining to them. (Vice-Presidents may be heard from in brief addresses amplifying or explaining any topics contained in their reports by giving previous notice of their intention to the Secretary.)

Election and Installation of officers.

Unfinished business.

L. W. Knowles, former Credit Manager of the Liberty National Bank of this city, has been elected an Assistant Cashier of the institution. J. P. Maguire succeeds Mr. Knowles as Credit Manager.

Extensive alterations have been completed in the banking rooms of the United States Mortgage & Trust Co. of this city in the Mutual Life Insurance Building, 55-57 Cedar St. One of the striking results of the changes effected is to throw open to full view the main banking room. As heretofore stated in these columns, the United States Mortgage & Trust recently secured additional space at 59 Cedar St., adjoining the company's main office.

Albert A. Tilney, who retired last year as a member of Harvey Fisk & Sons, has become Assistant to President Seward Prosser of the Bankers Trust Co. of this city.

Frederick T. Martin, heretofore Cashier of the Corn Exchange Bank of this city, has been appointed a Vice-President of the institution. Edward S. Malmar, who has been an Assistant Cashier of the bank, succeeds Mr. Martin as Cashier.

The National City Bank of New York inaugurated on Aug. 1 a school wherein young men will be trained for

efficient work in promoting the service of the bank in South America. The new course, which will at first include about twenty employees, is an extension of the plan already in operation under the auspices of the City Bank Club. It is stated that the graduates of the course will be sent to the bank's branches at Buenos Aires, Montevideo, Rio de Janeiro, Santos and Sao Paulo to act as foreign exchange and credit men or assistant managers of departments. The course consists of special training in the actual operation of the bank departments, particularly the foreign exchange, credit, loans and securities departments, and in supplementary lectures and lessons. The teaching of languages is to be aided by "language tables" at which employees who wish to study French, Spanish or Portuguese will converse with trained linguists while at lunch. The employees in the course are required to learn thoroughly the economic, social and physical conditions of the countries where they intend working. Shorthand, stenography and practical bookkeeping form a part of the curriculum. It is reported that no guaranty of stay is exacted from the men who take training for the work in South America. The course will last one year, and during the training period students will receive the pay ordinarily paid to beginners in banking.

The directors of the Brooklyn Trust Co. and the Brooklyn City Safe Deposit Co. have insured the lives of their employees under contract made with the Equitable Life Assurance Society. The insurance is on the new group plan inaugurated by the Equitable and benefits every employee in the service. The insurance company requires no medical examination. The proceeds of the life insurance are paid to the beneficiaries of the individual employees regardless of the cause of death. Each employee will receive a certificate of insurance in the sum of one year's salary with a minimum amount of \$500 and a maximum of \$3,000 to any individual. It is stated that the plan will affect about 70 employees.

The Morris Plan Company of Albany, N. Y., opened for business on Friday, July 30, with a capital of \$100,000. This is the second company organized in New York State to operate the Morris plan of industrial loans and investments, the New York City company being just seven months older. Charles L. A. Whitney is President of the Albany company, Donald McDonald and Samuel Hessberg Vice-Presidents, and Luther H. Tucker Secretary-Treasurer and General Manager. The capital stock was sold at \$120 a share, which provided for all organization, installation and equipment expenses and left a cash surplus of \$10,000. This is the tenth company organized within the past fourteen months under the auspices of the Industrial Finance Corporation to operate the Morris plan of industrial loans and investments. On May 31 twenty-two such companies, the oldest of which dates from 1910, had loaned over \$8,775,000 to more than 70,000 borrowers. There are twenty-four companies in operation to-day and six others are in process of organization.

Ralph Lovell, former paying teller of the First National Bank of Edgewater, N. J., who was charged with the larceny of \$125,000 of cash and securities of the bank, was sentenced on July 28 to two years in State prison by Judge Rellstab in the U. S. District Court at Trenton, N. J. As previously stated in these columns, Lovell disappeared in May 1914 and was arrested in London the following September. He pleaded guilty to the charge and was sentenced on one of four indictments against him.

William T. Tilden, a director in the Union National Bank of Philadelphia, died on July 29. Mr. Tilden was President and founder of the W. T. Tilden Company and had been a prominent member of the Board of Public Education of Philadelphia.

Adolph Blau of Scranton, Pa., who disappeared on June 10, the day before his private bank closed its doors, was brought back to that city on July 30 following his arrest in Chattanooga, Tenn., on a charge of having absconded with \$375,000 of his depositors' money. Blau was committed to the county jail in default of \$50,000 bail. He alleges that he is penniless and that he did not take a cent with him when he left the city. At the time of the closing of Blau's private bank it was stated by his attorneys that the deposits totalled \$450,000 while the assets, including Blau's equity in real estate, amounted to about \$175,000. It was reported that



Canadian Bank Clearings.—The clearings of the Canadian banks for the month of July 1915 show a decrease from the same month of 1914 of 23.4%, and for the seven months the loss reaches 18.0%.

Table showing Canadian Bank Clearings for July and Seven Months (1915 vs 1914) with columns for city, month, and percentage change.

\* Not included in total; comparison incomplete.

The clearings for the week ending July 31 make an unsatisfactory comparison with the same week of 1914, the decrease in the aggregate having been 23.5%.

Table showing Weekly Clearings for Week ending July 31, comparing 1915, 1914, Dec., 1913, and 1912 across various cities.

Pacific and Other Western Clearings brought forward from first page.

Table showing Pacific and Other Western Clearings for July and Seven Months (1915 vs 1914) with columns for city, month, and percentage change.

\* Not included in total for month or seven months; comparison incomplete.

Table showing Weekly Clearings for Week ending July 31, comparing 1915, 1914, Inc. or Dec., 1913, and 1912 across various cities.

Commercial and Miscellaneous News

National Banks.—The following information regarding national banks is from the office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Treasury Department:

- APPLICATION TO CONVERT APPROVED JULY 15.
The Dolores State Bank, Dolores, Colo., to "The First National Bank of Dolores." Capital, \$25,000.
CHARTER ISSUED TO NATIONAL BANK JULY 17.
10,757—The Farmers & Merchants National Bank of Kaufman, Tex. Capital, \$75,000. Wood Nash, Pres.; George W. Smith, Cashier.
VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION.
8,967—The First National Bank of Cortez, Colo., July 9 1915. Liquidating agents: H. M. Gullett and C. H. Rudy, Cortez.
INSOLVENT NATIONAL BANK.
6,520—The Dresden National Bank, Dresden, O., was placed in the hands of a receiver on July 15 1915.
RESUMPTION OF BUSINESS JULY 19.
8,966—The Third National Bank of Fitzgerald, Fitzgerald, Ga., placed in the hands of a receiver June 3 1915, has been restored to solvency and was this day permitted to resume business.
CHANGE OF TITLE JULY 19.
7,120—The Exchange National Bank of Coeur d'Alene to "The First Exchange National Bank of Coeur d'Alene," Idaho.

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:

- By Messrs. Adrian H. Muller & Sons, New York:
Shares, Stocks, Per cent.
3 Bond & Mortgage Guarantees, 272
5 Title Guarantee & Trust, 370
2 Brooklyn Academy of Music, 11 1/2
4 H. B. Claflin Co. 1st pref, \$10 lot
1 Central Trust Co., 977
3 Fidelity Bank, 142
5 Franklin Safe Deposit Co., 321
1 Franklin Trust Co., 345
5 Guaranty Trust Co., 601
4 C. G. Gunther's Sons, 1st pref, 11
6 C. G. Gunther's Sons, com, 4
5 Mechanics & Metals Nat. Bk., 255 1/2
6 National Bank of Commerce, 160 1/2
6 National Fuel Gas, 200 1/2
1 Realty Associates, 101
1 N. Y. Prod. Exch. S. D. & S., \$50 par., 1 00
By Messrs. R. L. Day & Co., Boston:
Shares, Stock, \$ per sh.
1 Mutual National Bank, 105
1 Naumkeag Steam Cotton, 202
2 Cornell Mills, 155
8 Mass. Cotton Mills, ex-div., 116 1/2
2 Dartmouth Mfg. Corp., com, 165
By Messrs. Francis Henshaw & Co., Boston:
1 National Shawmut Bank, 200
50 Peppercorn Mfg. Co., 120-120 1/2
20 Sharp Mfg., pref., 102
20 Arlington Mills, 80
4 Haywood Bros. & Wakefield, pt. 95 1/4
10 Mass. Fire & Marine Insur., 125
10 Hende Mfg., pref., 97 1/2
By Messrs. Barnes & Lofland, Philadelphia:
Shares, Stocks, \$ per sh.
168 N. Wildwood Ld. Assn., \$50 ea, 50
3 Pennys. Academy of Fine Arts, 25
7 Fire Assoc. of Phila., \$50 each, 315 1/2
10 Youngs-Smyth-Field, pref., 90
1 Chester Co. Motor Co., 1
1 Conestoga T. & T., \$10 each, 1
5 Haddonfield (N.J.) Nat. Bank, 180
1 Belmont Trust Co., \$50 each, 30 1/2
20 Corn Exchange National Bank, 300
2 Continental-Equit. Tr., \$50 ea, 90
8 Farmers Trust Co., Mt. Holly, 130
1 Philadelphia Trust Co., 720
6 2d & 3d Sts. Passenger Ry., 230
10 N. Liberties Gas Co., \$25 each, 43 1/2
100 Un. Gas & Elec. Corp., 1st pf., 35
100 Pratt Food Co., \$1 each, 2 1/2
1 Marine Tr. Co., Atlantic City, 315
1 J. B. Stetson, common, 345
8 Philadelphia Bourse, common, 5 1/2
Bonds, Per cent.
\$500 Suburban Gas & F. Co., N.Y., 1st 5s, 1940, April 1914 coup., 5
W8500 Castlewood Irrig. Dist. 6s, 1926, Dec. 1913 coupons on, 1
\$1,000 Wilcox-Barre Co. 1st & ref. 5s, 1960, 94

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 with columns: Name of Company, Per Cent., When Payable, Books Closed. Days Inclusive. Lists various companies like Alabama Great Southern, Aetna, etc.

Table with columns: Name of Company, Per Cent., When Payable, Books Closed. Days Inclusive. Lists various companies like National Carbon, National Cloak & Suit, etc.

a Transfer books not closed for this dividend. b Less British income tax. c Corporation. d Payable in stock. e Payable in common stock. f Payable in scrip. g On account of accumulated dividends.

Imports and Exports for the Week.—The following are the reported imports at New York for the week ending July 31 and since the first of January:

Table: FOREIGN IMPORTS AT NEW YORK. Columns: For Week Ending July 31, 1915, 1914, 1913, 1912. Rows: Dry Goods, General Merchandise, etc.

Table: EXPORTS FROM NEW YORK. Columns: Week Ending July 31, 1915, 1914, 1913, 1912. Rows: For the week, Previously reported, Total 30 weeks.

The gold and silver exports and imports for the week and since January 1 have been as follows:

Table: EXPORTS AND IMPORTS OF SPECIE AT NEW YORK. Columns: Week ending July 31, Exports, Imports. Rows: Gold, Silver, Great Britain, France, etc.

Of the above imports for the week in 1915, \$318 were American gold coin and \$2,092 American silver coin.

The Federal Reserve Banks.—Following is the weekly statement issued by the Federal Reserve Board on July 31: The total gold reserve of the banks shows a gain of about 2.6 million dollars, the larger gain at the New York bank being partially offset by net withdrawals of gold mainly from the Philadelphia, Chicago, St. Louis and Minneapolis banks.

STATEMENT OF COMBINED RESOURCES AND LIABILITIES OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AT THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS JULY 30 1915.

RESOURCES. July 30 1915. July 23 1915. July 16 1915. July 9 1915. July 2 1915. June 25 1915. June 18 1915. June 11 1915. June 4 1915. Gold coin and certificates in vault... Gold redemption fund with U. S. Treasurer... Gold settlement fund... Total gold reserve... Legal tender notes, silver, &c... Bills discounted and bought... Investments: U. S. bonds... Due from Federal Reserve banks—Net... Federal Reserve notes—Net... All other resources... LIABILITIES. Capital paid in... Reserve deposits—Net... Federal Reserve notes—Net... All other liabilities... Total liabilities... Cash reserve against net liabilities (b)... Cash reserve against liabilities after setting aside 40% gold reserve against net amount of Federal Reserve notes in circulation (b)...

(a) Federal Reserve notes: Gross liability... Deduct: Gold and lawful money in hands of Federal Reserve Agents for retirement of outstanding notes... Net liability of Reserve Banks upon outstanding notes... (b) After deduction of items in transit between Federal Reserve banks, viz.:...

WEEKLY STATEMENT OF RESOURCES AND LIABILITIES OF EACH OF THE 12 FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS AT CLOSE OF BUSINESS JULY 30 1915.

Table with columns for Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Cleveland, Richmond, Atlanta, Chicago, St. Louis, Minneapolis, Kansas City, Dallas, San Francisco, and Total. Rows include RESOURCES (Gold coin & etc., Gold redemption fund, Total gold reserve, Legal-ten notes, silver, &c., Bills discounted & bought, Investments U. S. bonds, Due from other Federal Reserve banks—Net, Fed. Res'v notes—Net, All other resources, Total resources) and LIABILITIES (Capital paid in, Reserve deposits—Net, Fed. Res'v notes—Net, Due to other Federal Reserve banks—Net, All other liabilities, Total liabilities). Includes a Memorandum section for F.R. notes issued to banks, F.R. notes in hands of banks, F.R. notes in circulation, Gold and lawful money with agents, Carried to net liabilities, Carried to net assets.

\*Items in transit, i. e., total amounts due from minus total amounts due to other Federal Reserve banks.

STATEMENT OF FEDERAL RESERVE AGENTS' ACCOUNTS JULY 30 1915.

Table with columns for Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Cleveland, Richmond, Atlanta, Chicago, St. Louis, Minneapolis, Kansas City, Dallas, San Francisco, and Total. Rows include Federal Reserve Notes—Rec'd from Comptrol'r Ret'd to Comptroller, Amount chargeable to F. R. agent, In hands of agent, close of business July 30, Issued to F. R. bank less notes ret. to agt. for redemp. & cancel., Held by F. R. agent—In reduction of liability on outstanding notes: Gold coin & certifs., Lawful money, As security for outstanding notes: Commercial paper, Total, Amount comm'l paper turned over to F. R. agt.

a Including: \$235,000, b \$120,000, c \$313,000, in gold redemption fund.

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 July 31. 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: CLEARING HOUSE MEMBERS, Week Ending July 31 1915, Capital, Net Profits, Loans, Discounts, etc., Gold, Legal Tenders, Silver, Nat. Bank Notes, Federal Reserve Bank, 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, Actual Figures, Cash Reserve in Vault, Reserve in Depositories, Total Reserve, Reserve Required, Surplus Reserve, Inc. or Dec. from Previous Week.

\* 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 Banks includes also the amount of reserve required on Net Time Deposits, which was as follows: July 31, \$889,900; July 24, \$833,600; July 17, \$827,400; July 10, \$836,200; July 3, \$845,000; June 26, \$831,550; June 19, \$812,400.

a 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 Banks, it includes also the amount of reserve required on Net Time Deposits, which was as follows: July 31, \$930,450; July 24, \$847,650; July 17, \$833,050; July 10, \$824,600; July 3, \$863,500; June 26, \$833,600; June 19, \$833,600.



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. (Figures Furnished by State Banking Department.)

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.

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.

STATE BANKS AND TRUST COMPANIES.

Table comparing State Banks and Trust Companies in Greater N. Y. and outside of Greater N. Y. for the week ended July 31.

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 detailing returns of non-member institutions, including columns for Capital, Profits, Loans, Legal Tenders, Silver, Federal Reserve Bank, Reserve with Legal Depositories, and National Bank Circulation.

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

Table showing weekly totals for Philadelphia banks, including Capital and Surplus, Loans, Reserve, Deposits, and Clearings.

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:

Table showing weekly totals for Boston Clearing-House members, including Circulation, Loans, Individual deposits, and Cash reserve.

a Includes Government deposits and the item "Due to other banks" (July 31, \$144,710,000); also "Exchanges for Clearing House" (July 31, \$12,801,000). Due from banks July 31, \$53,259,000.

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

# Bankers' Gazette.

Wall Street, Friday Night, Aug. 6 1915.

**The Money Market and Financial Situation.**—The remarkably favorable conditions of important factors in the general situation in this country have exerted a more powerful influence in Wall Street this week than any other matters. The effect is seen in steadily advancing prices for railway and other securities of the investment class, not to mention a continuance of the pyrotechnical movement mentioned last week in some industrial issues. As an illustration of the latter, Bethlehem Steel, which sold on Monday at 250, sold at 311 to-day and other stocks of a similar character advanced from 5 to 12 or more points.

The conditions referred to are not new, but include a general belief that permission will be given the Western railroads to increase freight rates; the practical certainty that the corn and wheat crops will be fully up to recent expectations and the improving outlook for general business as foreshadowed by the actually increased demand for iron and steel products at a substantial advance in prices. The latter is reported to be from 25 to 50 cents per ton and in some cases an additional premium is offered for early delivery. Iron production in July was 3,300 tons more daily than in June and the output which on Jan 1st was at the rate of 18,000,000 tons per year is now at a rate of 32,000,000 tons.

In the absence of these favorable conditions it is quite possible that the evacuation of Warsaw by the Russians, its psychological effect in the belligerent countries and other possibilities in the Eastern European war zone, would have had an unfavorable effect upon some departments of activity in this country. It seems, however, that the occupation of Warsaw by German troops can hardly, under the circumstances, be classed as a great victory, or in any way decisive, and future developments in that or other centers of the war may have a counteracting influence.

The Bank of England reports an increase of gold amounting to \$6,575,000 and a percentage of reserve equal to 20.4 as against 16.8 last week and 14.5 a year ago. It is interesting, as illustrating the wonderful resources of that country, that the Bank of France added \$19,000,000 to its gold holdings during the week covered by its last report.

**Foreign Exchange.**—The market for sterling exchange has ruled very quiet during the week, changes being particularly small. Buying by a prominent banking house sustained rates during the closing days.

To-day's (Friday's) actual rates for sterling exchange were 4 71/4 @ 4 71/4 for sixty days, 4 76 1/8 @ 4 76 1/4 for cheques and 4 76 11-16 @ 4 76 15-16 for cables. Commercial on banks nominal and documents for payment nominal. Cotton for payment nominal and grain for payment nominal.

There were no rates for sterling posted by prominent bankers this week.

To-day's (Friday's) actual rates for Paris bankers' francs were nominal for long and 5 66 for short. German bankers' marks were 82 1/8 for short. Amsterdam bankers' guilders were 40 1-16 for short.

Exchange at Paris on London, 27.02 fr. week's range, 26.83 1/2 fr. high and 27.10 fr. low.

Exchange at Berlin on London not quotable. The range for foreign exchange for the week follows:

Sterling Actual—	Sixty Days.	Cheques.	Cables.
High for the week—	4 71 1/4	4 76 1/4	4 76 15-16
Low for the week—	4 71	4 75 3/4	4 76 3/4
<b>Paris Bankers' Francs—</b>			
High for the week—	5 64 1/2	5 64	5 64
Low for the week—	5 71 1/2	5 70 1/2	5 70 1/2
<b>Germany Bankers' Marks—</b>			
High for the week—	82 1/2	82 1/2	81 9-16
Low for the week—	81 1/2	81 1/2	81 9-16
<b>Amsterdam Bankers' Guilders—</b>			
High for the week—	40 5-16	40 1/2	40 1/2
Low for the week—	40 1-16 plus	40 3-16 plus	40 3-16 plus

**Domestic Exchange.**—Chicago, 10c per \$1,000 discount. Boston, par. St. Louis, 10c per \$1,000 discount bid and par asked. San Francisco, 45c per \$1,000 premium. Montreal \$1 87 1/2 @ \$2 50 per \$1,000 premium. Minneapolis, 20c per \$1,000 premium. Cincinnati, par. New Orleans, commercial, 50c per \$1,000 discount and bank \$1 premium.

**State and Railroad Bonds.**—Sales of State bonds at the Board include \$15,000 New York 4 1/2s at 109 1/4 to 109 1/2, \$17,000 N. Y. Canal 4 1/2s at 109 1/2 to 109 3/8, \$6,000 N. Y. Canal 4 1/2s reg. 1965 at 104 3/8 to 104 1/2 and \$30,000 Virginia 6s deferred trust receipts at 58 to 58 1/2.

In sympathy with the stock market the market for railway and industrial bonds has been dull, especially for high-grade issues. A large part of the transactions has been in new bonds of the industrial companies, among which Bethlehem Steel 5s, Laekawanna Steel 5s, Westinghouse 5s w. i., International Mer. Mar., Inspiration Copper and other copper issues have been conspicuous.

Practically all these have advanced in price. Laek. Steels are 6 points higher than at the close last week. Beth. Steels 3, Inter. Mer. Mars. 2 to 2 1/2, Inspiration Copper 6 and other coppers less.

Several railway bond issues have advanced from 1/2 to 1 1/2 points including Atchison, Baltimore & Ohio, Rock Island, and Southern Railway.

**United States Bonds.**—Sales of Government bonds at the Board are limited to \$40,000 4s reg. at 109 1/4.

**Railway and Miscellaneous Stocks.**—The stock market has been much less active than last week, but the upward movement which then received a temporary check has been resumed and new high records have, in several important cases, been established. The daily transactions have averaged about 720,000 shares against 1,023,000 shares last week.

The market opened strong on Monday and recovered sharply from last week's break, on hopes of a favorable decision by the Inter-State Commerce Commission in the Western freight rate matter and the improving condition of general business. During the latter part of Tuesday's Stock Exchange session there was a perfectly natural reaction from the phenomenal advance in some issues, but the market was strong again on Wednesday with U. S. Steel the conspicuous feature. This stock has sold up to 73 3/4, the highest price recorded since 1912. On Thursday Steel added nearly 2 points to the price on Wednesday, and dealings in it aggregated nearly three times as much as the next most active stock. To-day's market was strong at the opening, but became irregular later and closing prices were in many cases well below the highest.

The railway list has been relatively steady. Every active issue has advanced and several are from 2 to 4 points higher than at the opening of the week. Canadian Pacific leads with a gain of 4 points, Reading follows with 3 and Union Pacific nearly 3. It seems useless to comment upon the movement of several industrial issues which, without apparent good reason, have fluctuated over a range of 5 to 15 or more points—a speculative movement which will doubtless end in the usual disastrous way.

For daily volume of business see page 439. The following sales have occurred this week of shares not represented in our list on the pages which follow:

STOCKS. Week ending Aug. 6.	Sales for Week.	Range for Week.		Range since Jan. 1.	
		Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.
Adams Express.....	100 06	Aug 6 94	Aug 6 94	80	Jan 96
American Express.....	30 03	Aug 6 93	Aug 6 93	83	Feb 97
Am Writing Paper pref.....	700 6 1/2	July 31 8 1/2	Aug 6 5	July 15	Apr 9
Asa. Realization.....	600 5	July 31 5 1/2	July 31 5	Jan 9	Aug 9
Brantwick Terminal.....	100 6	Aug 6 6	Aug 6 4 1/2	Mar 7 1/2	May 7 1/2
Butterick.....	100 28	Aug 3 28	Aug 3 27	Feb 32 1/2	Apr 32 1/2
Canada Southern.....	57 54	Aug 6 55	Aug 6 54	Aug 60	May 60
Cent & So Am Teleg.....	10 127	July 31 127	July 31 110	Jan 127	July 110
Chicago & Alton.....	100 8	Aug 6 8	Aug 6 8	Aug 9 1/2	Jan 9 1/2
Comstock Tunnel.....	1,000 11c.	July 31 11 1/8	Aug 2 7 1/2	May 21c.	June 21c.
Detroit Edison.....	42 114	Aug 4 115	Aug 3 11 1/4	Feb 11 1/4	Mar 11 1/4
Havana Elec R. L. & P.....	200 84	Aug 6 84	Aug 6 71	Mar 84	Aug 84
N Y Chic & St. Louis.....	1,000 30 1/2	Aug 3 32	Aug 5 30	June 30 1/2	Apr 30 1/2
Ontario Silver Mining.....	50 2 1/2	Aug 4 2 1/2	Aug 4 2	Feb 4 1/2	June 4 1/2
Petroleum-Multi Int pref.....	100 90	July 31 90	July 31 83	May 90	July 83
Philadelphia Co (Phis).....	1,850 73	Aug 4 78	Aug 6 71	Apr 81 1/2	July 81 1/2
Pittsburgh Steel pref.....	700 90	July 31 92	Aug 4 74	May 92	Aug 92
Sloss-Sheft Steel & I pref.....	200 90	Aug 4 90	Aug 4 85	May 90	July 90
So Porto Rico Sugar.....	100 75	Aug 6 75	Aug 6 40	Feb 75	Aug 75
Texas Co full paid reets.....	700 133	Aug 3 135	Aug 5 123	June 135	Aug 135
Tobacco Products pref.....	700 97	Aug 3 100 1/2	Aug 6 95	May 102 1/2	Apr 102 1/2
United Dry Goods pref.....	200 58	Aug 4 58	Aug 4 56	Mar 59	Mar 59
U S Reduction & Refg.....	100 3 1/2	Aug 3 3 1/2	Aug 3 1 1/2	Apr 10 1/2	June 10 1/2
Preferred.....	200 3	Aug 3 3	Aug 3 1	Apr 10 1/2	June 10 1/2
Virginia Iron, Coal & C.....	4,600 48	Aug 2 51 1/2	Aug 5 36	June 51 1/2	Aug 51 1/2
Wells Fargo & Co.....	2,325 98	Aug 2 109	Aug 6 77 1/2	Jan 109	Apr 77 1/2
West Maryland pref.....	400 34	Aug 2 38	Aug 5 25	Jan 40	Mar 40

**Outside Market.**—Strength and activity continue in the "euro" market, though this week the prominence hitherto assumed by the so-called war-order issues was shared in to a large degree by the oil stocks. The latter, with scarcely an exception, made substantial gains, the advances in some cases being noteworthy. Atlantic Refining jumped 56 points to 603 and reacted only 3 points to 600. Prairie Oil & Gas advanced steadily from 341 to 375 and closed to-day at 374. South Penn Oil moved up from 276 to 323 and ends the week at 320. Standard Oil, California, after early loss from 295 to 290, sold up to 311 and at 310 finally. Standard Oil, Indiana, in the first two days' trading advanced from 402 to 460, then broke to 442, but moved upward again and rested at 447 finally. Standard Oil, Kansas, advanced 40 points to 400. Standard Oil of N. J. improved from 405 to 422 and eased off to 419. Vacuum Oil was prominent with a gain of 22 points to 230, but fell away to 220. The rest of these issues traded in, while not so active, show advances of from 1 to 17 points. Among the war stocks Electric Boat com. and pref. advanced to new high figures during the week, the former 82 points to 440 and the latter 90 points to 445. The close to-day was at 440 and 440 respectively. Trading in the new pref., "w. i.," was up from 38 1/2 to 44 1/4 and at 44 1/2 finally. Canadian Car & Fdy. com. sold up 23 points to 112 and closed to-day at 107. The pref. improved from 110 to 119 and reacted to 115. Car Ltg. & Power moved up over 2 points to 11 1/2 but fell to 10 1/4 subsequently. Cramp Shipbldg. advanced from 71 to 80 and ends the week at 76. Int. Motors com. rose from 15 to 21 and ends the week at 19 1/4. Kelly-Springfield Tire com. gained 11 points to 173 and closed to-day at 172. In the bond list Kennecott Copper 6s advanced from 116 to 126 1/2 and sold at 125 finally. Pierce Oil 6s advanced 3 points to 80. In the mining list Braden Copper was conspicuous for a rise of over a point to 8, closing to-day at 7 3/4. Kennecott Copper moved up from 32 1/2 to 37 and down finally to 36 3/4. Outside quotations will be found on page 439.

New York Stock Exchange—Stock Record, Daily, Weekly and Yearly 431

OCCUPYING TWO PAGES.

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

STOCKS—HIGHEST AND LOWEST SALE PRICES

Main table with columns for days of the week (Saturday to Friday), sales of stock, stock names (Railroads, Industrial & Miscellaneous), and price ranges (Lowest, Highest). Includes sub-headers for 'Range Since Jan. 1' and 'Range for Previous Year 1914'.

\* Bid and asked prices; no sales on this day. † Ex-rights. ‡ Less than 100 shares. a Ex-div. and rights. b New stock. c Certificates of deposit. d Quoted dollars per share. e First installment paid. f Ex-dividend. g Full paid.

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 Aug. 31 to Friday Aug. 6), Sales of the Week (Shares), STOCKS NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE, Range Since Jan. 1 (Lowest, Highest), and Range for Previous Year 1914 (Lowest, Highest). Rows list various stocks like Baldwin Locomotive, Bethlehem Steel, etc.

\* 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. ¶¶ Par \$25 per share.







Main table containing bond listings for 'N. Y. STOCK EXCHANGE' and 'BONDS BOND EXCHANGE' with columns for price, range, and date.

\* No price Friday; later bid and asked. † Due Jan. ‡ Due April. § Due May. ¶ Due June. †† Due July. ‡‡ Due Aug. §§ Due Oct. ¶¶ Due Nov. ††† Due Dec. ‡‡‡ Out on sale.



SHARE PRICES—NOT PER CENTUM PRICES.

Table with columns for days of the week (Saturday Aug 31 to Friday Aug 6) and stock prices for various companies. Includes a 'Sales of the Week Shares' column.

STOCKS BOSTON STOCK EXCHANGE

Main table of stock prices with columns for 'Range Since Jan. 1.' (Lowest, Highest) and 'Range for Previous Year 1914.' (Lowest, Highest). Lists various stocks and their prices.

\* Bid and asked prices. \* Ex-dividend and rights. \* Ex-stock dividend. \* Assessment paid. \* Ex-rights. \* Unstamped. \* 25 paid. \* Half paid.

Outside Exchanges—Record Transactions

Boston Bond Record.—Complete record of transactions in bonds at Boston Stock Exchange July 31 to Aug. 6, both inclusive:

Table with columns: Friday Sales, Week's Range (Low, High), Sales for Week (Shares), Range since Jan. 1. (Low, High). Rows include Amer Tel & Tel 4s, Atl G & W I S S L 5s, Cent Vermont 1st 4s, etc.

Chicago Stock Exchange.—Complete record of transactions at Chicago Stock Exchange from July 31 to Aug. 6, both incl., compiled from the official sales lists, is as follows:

Table with columns: Friday Sales, Week's Range (Low, High), Sales for Week (Shares), Range since Jan. 1. (Low, High). Rows include American Radiator, American Shipbuilding, Booth Fishertes, etc.

a Ex 50% stock dividend. z Ex dividend.

Philadelphia Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at the Philadelphia Stock Exchange from July 31 to Aug. 6, both inclusive, compiled from the official sales lists, is given below.

Table with columns: Friday Sales, Week's Range (Low, High), Sales for Week (Shares), Range since Jan. 1. (Low, High). Rows include Alliance Insurance, American Gas of N. J., American Milling, etc.

Table with columns: Friday Sales, Week's Range (Low, High), Sales for Week (Shares), Range since Jan. 1. (Low, High). Rows include Scrip—Cambria Steel scrip, do scrip, Philadelphia Co scrip, etc.

z Ex-dividend

Pittsburgh Stock Exchange.—The complete record of transactions at the Pittsburgh Stock Exchange from July 31 to Aug. 6, both inclusive, compiled from the official sales lists, is given below.

Table with columns: Friday Sales, Week's Range (Low, High), Sales for Week (Shares), Range since Jan. 1. (Low, High). Rows include Am Wind Glass Mach, Am Window Glass, Columbia Gas & Elec, etc.

z Ex-Dividend.

Baltimore Stock Exchange.—Complete record of the transactions at the Baltimore Stock Exchange from July 31 to Aug. 6, both inclusive, compiled from the official sales lists, is given below.

Table with columns: Friday Sales, Week's Range (Low, High), Sales for Week (Shares), Range since Jan. 1. (Low, High). Rows include Baltimore Electric pref, Balt Spar P & C 4 1/2s, City & Suburb 1st 5s, etc.

Volume of Business at Stock Exchanges

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

Table with columns: Week ending Aug. 6 1915., Stocks (Shares, Par Value), Railroad, State, Mun. & Foreign Bonds, U. S. Bonds.

Table with columns: Sales at New York Stock Exchange, 1915., 1914., 1915., 1914. Includes Stocks, Bonds, and Total bonds.

DAILY TRANSACTIONS AT THE BOSTON, PHILADELPHIA AND BALTIMORE EXCHANGES.

Table with columns: Week ending Aug. 6 1915., Boston (Shares, Bond Sales), Philadelphia (Shares, Bond Sales), Baltimore (Shares, Bond Sales).

New York City Banks and Trust Companies.

Table listing various banks and trust companies with columns for Bid, Ask, and other financial details.

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

CURRENT NOTICE.

Byrne & McDonnell, New York, and San Francisco, are offering on another page \$1,250,000 State of California 4% Highway Gold Bonds, due 1947-1958.

Harry J. Kane, formerly associated with the bond department of Hornblower & Weeks, has become associated with Sheldon Morgan & Co. and assumes charge of their municipal bond department.

Inactive and Unlisted Securities

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

Table listing Standard Oil Stocks and other inactive securities with columns for Share, Bid, Ask, and other prices.

Large table listing various stocks including Tobacco Stocks, Railroad, Ordnance Stocks, Short Term Notes, Industrial and Miscellaneous, and New York City Notes.

\* Per share, † Basis, ‡ Purchase also pays accrued dividend. / Flat price - Nominal. x 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). Includes sub-tables for 'Various Fiscal Years' and 'AGGREGATES OF GROSS EARNINGS - Weekly and Monthly'.

AGGREGATES OF GROSS EARNINGS - Weekly and Monthly.

Summary table with columns: Weekly Summaries (Current Year, Previous Year, Increase or Decrease, %), Monthly Summaries (Current Year, Previous Year, Increase or Decrease, %), Mileage (Cur. Yr., Prev. Yr.), and Fiscal Year (Current Year, Previous Year, Increase or Decrease, %).

Does not include earnings of Colorado Springs & Orippe 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 the Northern Ohio RR. Includes earnings of Mason 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. No longer include the Mexican roads in any of our totals.



ELECTRIC RAILWAY AND TRACTION COMPANIES.

Table with columns: Name of Road, Latest Gross Earnings (Current/Previous Year), Jan. 1 to latest date (Current/Previous Year). Rows include American Rys Co., Atlantic Shore Ry, Aur Elgin & Chic Ry, Bangor Ry & Electric, Baton Rouge Elec Co, Belt L Ry Corp (N.Y.), Berkshire Street Ry, Brazilian Trac. L & P, Brock & Plym St Ry, Bklyn Rap Tran Syst, Cape Breton Elec Co, Chattanooga Ry & Lt, Cleve Painesv & East, Cleve Southw & Col, Columbus (Ga) El Co, Colum (O) Ry, P & L, Com w th P Ry & L, Connecticut, Constn Pow (Alch), Cumb Co (Me) P & L, Dallas Electric Co, Detroit United Lines, D E B & Batt (Res) April, Duluth-Superior Trac June, East St Louis & Sud, Eastern Texas Elec, El Paso Electric Co, 42d St M & St N Ave April, Galv-Hous Elec Co June, Grand Rapids Ry Co June, Harrisburg Railways June, Havana El Ry, L & P (Railway Dept), Wk Aug 1, Honolulu R T & Land May, Houghton Co Tr Co June, Hudson & Manhat June, Illinois Traction June, Interboro Rap Tran May, Jacksonville Trac Co June, Keokuk Electric June, Key West Electric June, Lake Shore Elec Ry May, Lehigh Valley Transit March, Lewist Aug & Waterv June, Long Island Electric April, Louisville Railway June, Milw El Ry & Lt Co June, Milw Lt, Ht & Tr Co June, Nashville Ry & Light June, N Y City Interboro April, N Y & Long Island April, N Y & North River April, N Y & Queens Co April, New York Railways May, N Y & Stamford Ry May, N Y Westchest & Bos May, Northampton Trac May, Nor Ohio Trac & Lt June, North Texas Electric June, North Pennsylv Ry June, Ocean Electric (L.I.) April, Paducah Tr & Traction April, Pensacola Electric Co June, Phila Rapid Transit June, Port (Ore) Ry, L & P Co May, Portland (Me) RR June, Puget Sound Tr L & P June, Republic Ry & Lt June, Rhode Island Co May, Richmond Lt & RR April, St Joseph (Mo) Ry, Lt, Heat & Power Co June, Santiago El L & P May, Savannah Electric Co June, Second Avenue (Rec) April, Southern Boulevard April, Staten Isl'd Midland April, Tampa Electric Co June, Third Avenue April, Toronto Street Ry June, Twin City Rap Tran 3d wk July, Union Ry Co NYCO April, Virginia Ry & Power June, Wash Bal & Annap May, Westchester Electric April, Westchester St RR May, Wonkers Railroad April, York Railways June, Youngstown & Ohio June, Youngstown & South April

b Represents income from all sources, c These figures are for consolidated company. f Earnings now given in mills. g Includes constituent companies.

Electric Railway Net Earnings.—The following table gives the return of ELECTRIC railway gross and net earnings reported this week:

Table with columns: Roads, Gross Earnings (Current/Previous Year), Net Earnings (Current/Previous Year). Rows include Bangor Ry & Elec a, Chattanooga Ry & Lt a, Colum (O) Ry, P & L a, East St Louis & Sub a, Grand Rapids Ry a, Hudson & Manhattan (all sources) a, Kingston Consol RR b, Lewis Aug & Waterv a, Milw Elec Ry & Lt a, Milw Lt, Ht & Trac a, Nashville Ry & Light a, North Penn Ry, Port(Ore) Ry, L & P a

Table with columns: Roads, Gross Earnings (Current/Previous Year), Net Earnings (Current/Previous Year). Rows include Portland (Me) RR a, Jan 1 to June 30

a Net earnings here given are after deducting taxes. b Net earnings here given are before deducting taxes.

Table with columns: Roads, Interest Charges and Surplus (Int., Rentals, &c.), Bal. of Net Earnings (Current/Previous Year). Rows include Bangor Ry & Electric, Chattanooga Ry & Lt, Colum (O) Ry, P & L, Cumber'd Co (Me) P & L, E St Louis & Sub, Grand Rapids Ry, Hudson & Manhattan (all sources), Kingston Consol RR, Lewis Aug & Waterv, Milw Elec Ry & Lt, Milw Lt, Ht & Trac, Nashville Ry & Light, Port (Ore) Ry, L & P, Portland (Me) RR

r After allowing for other income received.

ANNUAL REPORTS

Lehigh Valley Railroad.

(Report for Fiscal Year ending June 30 1915.)

On subsequent pages will be found the remarks of President E. B. Thomas at length, and also the profit and loss account for the late year and the balance sheet of June 30 1915. Below are comparative figures of operating results and income account for several years and comparative balance sheet:

Table with columns: OPERATIONS, 1914-15, 1913-14, 1912-13, 1911-12. Rows include Average miles operated, Oper. revenue per mile, Net earnings per mile, No. passengers carried, No. pass. carried 1 mile, Average distance each pass. carried (miles), Passenger train mileage, Pass. rev. per train mile, Av. No. pass. in each tr., No. tons carr. (rev. fig.), Tons 1 mile (rev. fig.), Freight train mileage, Average rev. per ton per mile (revenue freight), Freight train earnings (rev.) per train mile, Average No. tons in each train (revenue freight)

\*Three 000s omitted.

OPERATING REVENUES, EXPENSES, ETC., JUNE 30 YEARS.

Table with columns: Revenue from Oper., Coal freight revenue, Mdso. freight revenue, Traffic expenses, Transportation expenses, General expenses, Total oper. revenue, Total oper. expenses, P.O. corp. exp. to rev., Net operating revenue

INCOME ACCOUNT.

Table with columns: Net operating revenue, Taxes accrued, Uncollectible railway revenue, Operating income, Other Income, Hire of equipment—balance, Joint facilities—rents, Dividends on stocks, Interest on bonds, Miscellaneous, Total income, Deduct, Interest on funded debt, Rents for lease of other roads, Joint facilities—rents, Miscellaneous rents, Miscellaneous tax accruals, Miscellaneous deductions, Preferred dividends (10%), Common dividends (10%), Total deductions, Balance, surplus

\* Includes dividend of \$885,080 on Temple Iron Co. stock.

BALANCE SHEET JUNE 30.

[Owing to change in method of classification, comparisons with 1914 are inaccurate—see remarks on a subsequent page.]

Table with columns for 1915 and 1914, and sub-columns for Assets and Liabilities. Assets include Road & equip't, Stocks, Bonds, Advances, Misc. investm'ts, Misc. phys. prop., Cash, Apts. & condue., Traffic, &c., bal.s, Material & supp., Misc. accounts, Acc. int. rents, &c., Prepaid ins., &c., Oth. def. deb. item. Liabilities include Common stock, Preferred stock, Funded debt, Traff., &c., bal.s, Vouch. & wacs., Mored int., &c., Other work liab., Misc. accounts, Unmatured int., Unmat'd rents, Accrued divs., Taxes accrued., Def. cred. items, Profit and loss.

\* After adding \$574,236 adjustments account, distribution of sundry real estate purchased in prior years and \$7,402 miscellaneous adjustments, and deducting \$1,000,000 for reduction of book value of capital stock of Coxo Bros. & Co., Inc., and \$49,250 for property abandoned.—V. 100, p. 1672.

Union Pacific Railroad.

(Preliminary Statement for Fiscal Year ending June 30 1915.)

The company has issued a statement of the results for the fiscal year ending June 30 in comparison with those for the preceding year. The figures are subject to change when the final results for the year shall have been ascertained. We append the figures for the year 1913-14 and two earlier years made up on the old basis, as shown in previous reports.

The decrease of \$4,387,861 in "Income from investments and other sources" is due principally to distribution of \$26,074,003 pref. stock and \$50,013,765 common stock of the Baltimore & Ohio RR. Co., as a part of the extra dividend declared Jan. 8 1914, payable to stockholders of record Mar. 2 1914.

Table with columns for 1914-15, 1913-14, 1912-13, 1911-12, and 1910-11. Rows include Average miles oper., Operating Income, Freight, Passenger, Mail, express, &c., Incidental, Total revenue, Maint. way & struc., Maint. of equip't, Traffic expenses, Transportation exp., Misc., oper. exp., General expenses, Transp. for inv.—cr, Taxes, Net after taxes, Other oper. income, Total oper. inc., Fixed & oth. chgs., Surplus (transp. oper's) after all charges, Equiv. (% on com. stk. (aft. deduc'g pref. div. shown below)), Inc. from inv. &c., P. C. com. stock, Total surplus, Prof. divs. (4%), Balance, P. ct. com. stock, Common divs.—(S%)

Note.—The item of "other operating income" in the 2 later years is a new item, the corresponding figure having in earlier years been included in that of "Income from investments and other sources." The item of "fixed and other charges," as well as the details of operating income and operating expenses have been also changed under the new method of accounting, although the final results remain unchanged.—V. 101, p. 214.

Southern Railway.

(Prelim. Income Statement for Fiscal Year end. June 30 1915.)

The company has issued, subject to final audit, a preliminary income statement for the late fiscal year in comparison with the preceding year, made up on the new basis of accounting prescribed by the I.-S. Commerce Commission, effective July 1 1914. Under the change in method the results of so-called "outside operations" are now included in gross earnings and operating expenses instead of being shown separately as a net item as in former years. As all of the other figures remain unchanged, we append the results of two earlier years as given in the annual reports.

In connection with the semi-annual statement of earnings, President Fairfax Harrison has given out the following extract from a letter recently addressed by him to one of the largest holders of the preferred stock.

Results of Operations.—We have been through a hard year. The entire South slowed up the pace at which it has been doing business for several years, because when the cotton crop, which largely determines the purchasing power of the South, was ready for sale last autumn, the prices were at first inadequate and later disappointing. As a result, the revenues of all the railroads in the South went off badly, our loss aggregating \$5,500,000 for the year, though our percentage of loss was less than that of our competitors. As soon as the tendency was evident, we applied emergency brakes to expenses, and by extraordinary retrenchment of the most disagreeable kind, as well as by a renewed stimulus to economy, we have reduced expenses for the year more than \$5,500,000. Whatever the armchair critics may say, knowing the conditions and the property, I believe that we have done everything we ought to have done, and that further retrenchment would have been no economy.

The result is that we have come out of the fiscal year just closed with a surplus of about \$1,500,000 above all fixed charges—seriously less than in previous years of prosperity, but, considering our problem, not disappointing. The physical condition of the property has not deteriorated; indeed, the track and roadway, like the personnel of the organization, is now better than it ever was.

To illustrate what this means, as compared with conditions in the past, we carried this year more than 16,500,000 passengers, the equivalent of the entire population of the territory we serve, with only a single fatal accident to a passenger on a train, and he was riding on a car platform contrary to the rules. The condition of the motive power is good, a most important consideration. There is, however, some deferred maintenance in freight cars, but nothing abnormal at a time when so many freight cars are idle of necessity.

Status.—We have no maturing capital obligations to take care of until after Jan. 1 next, when \$2,000,000 of old underlying bonds mature and will be taken up with consolidated ss. and on Feb. 1 next these will mature \$5,000,000 of notes. The notes will also be taken care of. Meanwhile, our cash situation is conservatively safe; our reserves for current operating expenses are ample and our balance sheet is clean.

Bonds Sold.—As an evidence of the support of our bankers, you may have noted that we have just sold \$3,500,000 of divisional bonds to J. P. Morgan & Co. to push on our work of double-tracking the main line. There never was a time to get more for a dollar put into construction work than the present moment, as we have proved by our experience this past winter, and we are confident that there is to be such a renewal of business in the South as will justify the enlarged facilities we are providing before we can get them ready.

Outlook.—Any holder of our preferred stock who holds for investment and not for speculation, and can endure the short rations in dividends, will do well to hold on, for, unless there is some general economic catastrophe affecting the whole country, the Southern will come out of this present situation stronger than ever it has been and better able to pay dividends. The discipline of this experience of Lent is not without advantages.

Even if the business depression in the South extends over another year, as some now prophesy, on the ground that the British may embargo our cotton crop, we have the affairs of the Southern so in hand that we can get through without affecting the property, though we cannot, of course, think of dividends.

Table with columns for 1914-15, 1913-14, 1912-13, 1911-12, and 1910-11. Rows include Average miles operated, Gross oper. revenues, Total oper. expenses, Net oper. revenue, Outside operations (net), Net income, Taxes accrued, Uncollectible revenues, Operating income, Other income, Total gross income, Deduc'ns from gross inc., Int. on mtge., bonded and secured debt, Balance, Dividends on pref. stock, Additions & betterm'ts, Net income for year.

—V. 101, p. 289.

Boston & Maine Railroad.

(Preliminary Statement for Fiscal Year ending June 30 1915.)

In explanation of the decrease in deficit after charges for the year from \$2,044,742 to \$334,462, President Hustis says:

The decrease in deficit has been accomplished despite a decrease of \$1,487,237 (8.1%) in operating revenue, and without neglecting maintenance of way or equipment. In fact, the program for track work, which last year was not begun until after July 1, was undertaken this year early in April and practically completed by June 30. Had the work been deferred until the new fiscal year, this year's accounts would have shown fixed charges increased and a slight surplus.

The improvement in operating results is the result of a combination of increased passenger and freight rates and decreased operating costs. Just how much additional revenue came from the higher rates it is difficult to say, because of the smaller volume of business, but the figures for operating efficiency are more definite. With a decrease of 3.1% in operating revenue there has been a decrease of approximately 13% in all train and yard expenses, including locomotive fuel. Transportation expenses as a whole are 10% less than last year. Contributing to this result, the freight train load has increased about 9% and the debit balance for freight-car hire has decreased 24%.

In this critical period in the history of the company, the helpful attitude of the public in not insisting on unremunerative expenditures and the efficient co-operation of officers and employees have aided greatly in the better fiscal result.

RESULTS FOR YEAR ENDING JUNE 30.

Table with columns for 1914-15, 1913-14, 1912-13, 1911-12, and 1910-11. Rows include Freight revenue, Passenger revenue, Other traffic revenue, Incidental revenue, Total oper. revenue, Maintenance of way, Maintenance of equip'mt., Transportation expenses, Other operating expenses, Total oper. expenses, Net operating revenue, Taxes, Uncollectible revenue, Operating income, Other income, Gross income, Hire ftg. equip., deb. bal., Rents, int. & sinking fund, Divs. on pref. stock, Divs. on common stock, Balance, deficit.

—V. 101, p. 237.

Illinois Traction Co., Champaign, Ill.

(Eleventh Annual Report—Year ended Dec. 31 1914.)

The report signed by President Wm. B. McKinley, Champaign, Ill., and Vice-Pres. Executive and Gen. Man. H. E. Chubbuck, Peoria, Ill., says in substance:

Acquisition.—The arrangement which had been under consideration for several months covering the consolidation of the Western Railways & Light Co. with the Illinois Traction Co., was consummated on a basis acceptable to the directors of each company (V. 97, p. 1425, 1504). The operating properties of the Western Railways & Light Co. were thereby brought under the management of the Illinois Traction Co., and the accompanying financial report includes the statements of these properties, marked "a" below.

Results.—Satisfactory increases are shown in the electric and gas departments, which were obtained by judicious advertising and strenuous campaigns for introducing improved appliances for the use of gas and electricity. The interurban and street railway receipts have been affected by the general business depression, which caused the closing of many manufacturing plants in whole or in part, and by the increased use both in town and country of the automobile, resulting in a slight decrease in such earnings.

Close application to securing more efficiency and economy in the operation of generating stations and reduction of all items of operating expense resulted in a gratifying decrease in the operating costs at generating stations. This saving was partly offset by the increase in taxes and the increase in wages to trainmen. Taxes for the year were \$61,454, or approximately 16.6% above the amount so expended the previous year. Wage agreements with trainmen on several of the city and interurban lines expired and the terms of renewal agreements, which were decided by arbitration, provided for wage schedules which for the year increased our expense \$31,517.

Interurban Lines.—Between Springfield and Carlinville and between Staunton and Edwardsville the installation of electric automatic block signals was completed, and there is now protected by this type of signal all the interurban trackage contemplated when the installation was decided upon. The addition of the 5,000 k. w. turbine in the Riverton power station will result in an assured continuity of power supply and a general saving in power-generating cost. The demand on the freight equipment was such as to justify the purchase of additional cars and an order was placed for 50 standard hopper-bottom coal cars, 50-ton capacity. There was no abatement in the construction of industrial tracks, nor in the replacement of wooden bridges with concrete structures of increased capacity.

There were no serious accidents and the relations between the management and employes remained undisturbed.

RESULTS FOR CALENDAR YEAR.

Table with columns for 1914, 1913, 1912, and 1911. Rows include Earnings, Interurban lines, City lines, Gas, Electric, Heat, Miscellaneous, Total gross earnings, Total oper. exp. & tax, Net oper. revenue, Deduct, Interest on bonds, Preferred dividend, Common dividends, Balance, surplus.

From the surplus as above in 1914 there was deducted \$309,580 for depreciation and \$47,956 for bond discount, leaving \$877,069.

BALANCE SHEET DEC. 31.

Table with columns for 1914 and 1913. Rows include Assets (Stock of sub. cos., Adv. to sub. cos., Due by sub. cos., Accts. & notes rec., Stores on hand, Cash in bank) and Liabilities (Preferred stock, Common stock, Debenture bonds, Acc'd int. & divs. of controlled cos., Accts & notes pay., Special reserves, Surplus).

\* After deducting \$623,518, total unexpired bond discount, which the directors have considered advisable to write off out of the accumulated surplus instead of providing for this discount in yearly amounts during the life of the bonds, in order that the assets may show on as accurate a basis as possible; also \$35,741 for income tax adjustment and fire loss account, \$30,950.

PRINCIPAL COMPONENT PROPERTIES OF ILLINOIS TRACTION SYSTEM (See "Electric Railway" Section, pages 22 to 26).

- List of companies including: xAtchison Ry., Light & Power Co., xBloomington Decatur & Champaign RR., xBloomington & Normal Ry. & Light Co., xChicago City Gas Co., xChicago Electric & Traction Co., xChicago & St. Louis Ry. Co., xChicago Railway & Light Co., xChicago Light & Power Co., xChicago Ottawa & Peoria Ry. Co., xCitizens' Lighting Co., xCitizens' Pure Ice Co., xClinton Gas & Electric Co., xColfax Electric Light Co., xConsum. Wat. & Lt. Co. of Marseilles, xDanville Cham. & Dec. Ry. & Lt. Co., xDanville & Eastern Ill. Ry. Co., xDanville & Northern RR. Co., xDanville & Southeastern Ry. Co., xDanville Street Ry. & Lt. Co., xDanville Urbana & Champ. Ry. Co., xDecatur Railway & Light Co., xDes Moines Electric Co., xDes Moines & Central Iowa Electric Co., xGalesburg Ry., Ltg. & Power Co., xIllinois Central Traction Co., xJacksonville Railway & Light Co., xJacksonville Railway Co., xJefferson City Lt., Ht. & Power Co., xKansas Railway & Light Co., xMadison County Light & Power Co., xMontezuma Elec. Lt., Pow. & Htg. Co., xMonticello Electric Light Co., xMound City Light & Water Co., xNew Valley Junc. Water & Lt. Co., xNorthern Ill. Light & Traction Co., xOskaloosa & Buxton Elec. Ry. Co., xOskaloosa Traction & Light Co., xPeoria Railway Co., xPeoria Traction Co., xQuincy Railway Co., xSt. Louis Electric Bridge Co., xSt. Louis Electric Term. Ry. Co., xSt. Louis Springfield & Peoria Ry., xTopeka Edison Co., xTopeka Railway Co., xUrbana & Champaign Ry., Gas & El. Co., xUrbana Light, Heat & Power Co., xWehla Railroad & Light Co.

RESUME OF SERVICE, EXCLUSIVE OF INTERURBAN, IN CITIES.

Street Railway Service.—(a) In Illinois: Bloomington, Cairo, Champaign, Danville, Decatur, Galesburg, Granite City, Jacksonville, LaSalle, Madison, Normal, Ottawa, Peoria, Peru, Princeton, Urbana, Venice and Quincy. (b) In Kansas: Topeka, Atchison and Wichita. (c) In Iowa: Oskaloosa. (d) Into Missouri at St. Louis. Gas.—(a) In Illinois: Cairo, Carlinville, Champaign, Clinton, Danville, Decatur, Galesburg, Jacksonville, LaSalle, Peru and Urbana. (b) In Missouri: Jefferson City. Heating.—(a) In Illinois: Bloomington, Champaign, Clinton, Danville, Decatur, Galesburg and Urbana. (b) Iowa: Oskaloosa. (c) Kansas: Topeka. Water.—Marseilles and Mound City, Illinois. Electric Lighting and Power.—(a) In Illinois: Abingdon, Bloomington, Brooklyn, Cairo, Carlinville, Champaign, Chenos, Chrisman, Clinton, Danville, Decatur, Edwardsville, El Paso, East Alton, Galesburg, Glen Carbon, Gridley, Georgetown, Granite City, Hudson, Indianola, Jacksonville (also ice at Jacksonville), Knoxville, LaSalle, Lexington, Madison, Meadows, Monticello, Morton, Marseilles, Mound City, National City, Normal, Ottawa, Peru, Ridge Farms, Sidell, Tremont, Urbana, Venice, Vermillion Grove, Wood River, Westville and Worden. (b) In Kansas: Atchison and Topeka. (c) Iowa: Colfax, Des Moines, Montezuma, New Sharon, Oskaloosa and New Valley Junction. (d) In Missouri: Jefferson City. No statement is made regarding the outstanding bonds and preferred shares of the several controlled companies, which were increased during the year by the taking over of the control of the Western Railway & Light Co. and its subsidiaries. The report for 1913 (see V. 98, p. 1456) contained a list of these securities aggregating \$42,771,000 bonds against \$37,985,000 on Dec. 31 1912, and \$4,659,500 pref. stock against \$4,509,000 Dec. 31 1912 (see pages 22 to 26 of "Electric Ry." Section).—V. 100, p. 2166.

Montreal Tramways Company.

(Report for Fiscal Year ending June 30 1915.)

Pres. E. A. Robert on Aug. 3 reported as follows:

Results.—It will be noted that owing to the war and the general financial depression, this company has suffered a considerable decrease in its gross revenue, this being partly offset by a saving in operating expenses. The gross earnings have decreased during the year \$617,572, or 8.65%; the operating expenses \$492,118, or 11.70%, and the net earnings \$125,454, or 4.27%. The ratio of operating expenses to earnings is 56.92%, compared with 58.89% last year.

The sum of \$212,732 has been charged to contingent renewal account during the year, representing expenditures made for special renewals. In addition the sum of \$666,430 has been expended for the maintenance of plant and equipment, and charged to operating expenses, making the total expenditure during the year on upkeep \$879,162.

Capital Charges—Bonds.—During the year there has been expended on capital account the sum of \$621,125. The company under its trust indenture is entitled to issue bonds on its capital expenditures to an amount

equal to 75% thereof, and under this provision it is now entitled, when it shall so desire, to have bonds certified to an amount of \$742,477. During the year there has been redeemed and canceled \$144,007 of the underlying bonds. The amount of underlying bonds redeemed to date is \$983,513. In accordance with the desire of the city of Montreal to remove as far as possible the overhead wires in the city streets, the company is now proceeding at considerable expense to place its overhead feeder wires in the municipal conduits which have so far been provided for that purpose. The company has also been working on a plan to make the power from the different stations interchangeable.

RESULTS FOR YEARS ENDING JUNE 30.

Table with columns for 1914-15, 1913-14, and 1912-13. Rows include Gross earnings, Operating expenses, Net earnings, Deduct, City percentage, Interest on bonds and loans, Interest on debenture stock, Taxes, Dividends, Proportion discount bonds sold, Contingent account, Capital reserve, Balance, surplus.

BALANCE SHEET JUNE 30.

Table with columns for 1915 and 1914. Rows include Assets (Road & equipm't, New construction, Investments, Accts. receivable, Stores, Cash in bank, do underlying sec's red. fd.) and Liabilities (Common stock, Debenture stock, Bonds and mtgs., Accounts & wages, Accrued interest, Accr. tax on earnings, Unred'm'd tickets, Suspense account, Dividend Aug. 1, Capital reserve, Contingent acct., Miscellaneous, Surplus).

Total. 38,499,998 38,394,881

—V. 101, p. 370.

Maine Central Railroad.

(Statement for Fiscal Year ending June 30 1915.)

Table with columns for 1914-15, 1913-14, and 1914-15. Rows include Revenues (Freight, Passenger, Mail, Express, All other transport'n, Incidental), Total, Oper. Expenses (Maint. of way, Maint. of equipment, Traffic, Transportation, Miscell. operations, General, Transp. for investm.), Total expenses, Net revenue, Deduct, Railway tax accruals, Uncollectible Ry. rev., Ry. oper. income, Inc. from oth. sources, Total income, Deductions from income, Fixed charges, Impos. to leased roads, (chgd. as rental), Dividends (6%), Add'n's & betterm't's, Balance, surplus.

Total expenses... \$143,965 8,685,607

RESULTS FOR THREE PRIOR YEARS ON OLD BASIS.

Table with columns for 1913-14, 1912-13, and 1911-12. Rows include Gross earnings, Net, before taxes, Balance, sur. or def. (after dividends, &c.).

—V. 101, p. 288, 213.

Commonwealth Power, Railway & Light Co.

(Report for Year ending June 30 1915.)

Pres. Anton G. Hodenpyl, N. Y., Aug. 2, wrote in subst.:

The directors on July 12 1915 declared the regular quarterly pref. dividend of 1 1/2% and common dividend of 1%, both payable Aug. 2 1915 to holders of record July 16 1915.

The accompanying statements of earnings for the years ending June 30 1915 and 1914 include a full year's earnings on the stocks acquired as of May 1 1913, but the statement for the year 1913 includes only the earnings of your company together with the earnings of the subsidiary companies for the time the stocks of those companies were owned by the Commonwealth Power, Railway & Light Co.

(Under authority recently obtained the subsidiary Consumers' Power Co. of Maine will be made the owner and operating company of the properties owned by it in Michigan, as stated in V. 101, p. 369.)

CONDENSED EARNINGS STATEMENT FOR YEARS END. JUNE 30.

Table with columns for 1914-15, 1913-14, 1912-13, and 1911-12. Rows include Earnings on stocks owned in sub-companies, Miscellaneous earnings, Gross earnings, Expenses and taxes, Interest paid, Divs. on pref. stocks, Divs. on com. stock, Balance for replacements, deprec., &c.

\* The pref. dividend charge in 1912-13 (\$460,000) includes \$100,000 to cover dividend requirement for May and June 1913 on the \$10,000,000 of additional pref. stock issued as of May 1 1913.

CONDENSED BAL. SHEET AS OF JUNE 30 1915 AND DEC. 31 1914.

Table with columns for June 30 '15 and Dec. 31 '14. Rows include Assets (See & prop. owned, Mich. Ry. 5-year 6% note guar'y, Advances sub-cos., Accts. rec. (sub-cos.), Int. rec. (sub-cos.), Debt disc. (amort.)) and Liabilities (Capital stock, 6% conv. bonds, Contracts payable, Mich. Ry. Co. 5% guaranteed note, Accrued accounts, Surplus).

Total. 48,523,482 48,449,515

a Capital stock above includes: Pref. stock outstanding, \$16,000,000; common stock outstanding, \$18,000,000; common stock deliverable on conversion of bonds May 1 1916, \$3,000,000.

\* Of the amounts standing to credit of surplus accounts of subsidiary cos. there are accruing to the Commonwealth Power, Railway & Light Co. to June 30 1915 undistributed earnings amounting to \$2,695,673.—V. 100, p. 1592, 471.



Lehigh Valley Coal Company.

(Report for Fiscal Year ending June 30 1915.)

F. M. Chase, V.-Pres. and Gen. Man., Philadelphia, Aug. 2, wrote in substance:

Results.—The conditions in the anthracite trade have not been very satisfactory because of the mild weather which has prevailed during the past several winters. While the tonnage mined shows a slight increase over the preceding year, all of the increase was made in the first six months. The second half of the year shows a decrease as compared with the same period a year ago. Our total net income from all sources, after deducting charges for royalties, sinking funds, depreciation and interest on funded debt, amounted to \$1,022,815, an increase of \$457,955.

Coal Output.—The production of anthracite coal from the lands owned and leased by Lehigh Valley Coal Co., including that mined by tenants, was 8,088,901 gross tons, an increase of 211,511 tons. The percentage of sizes above pea produced by the mining operations of the company was 65.41%, a decrease of 1.05%. The bituminous coal mined from the Snow Shoe lands, located in Centre County, Pa., amounted to 258,205 gross tons, an increase of 5,474 tons.

Additions, etc.—The property was fully maintained and \$517,542 was expended for additions and betterments. The steel fireproof breaker at Packer No. 5 colliery was completed and is now in successful operation. At Packer No. 4 colliery the alterations to the breaker and the concentration of the underground pumping are well under way. To reduce still further danger by fire, a complete spray system was introduced at each of the frame breakers, effecting a substantial reduction in the premiums paid for fire insurance.

Prospect for the Broadwell lands in Lackawanna County is now in progress with a view to commencing mining operations thereon and taking the coal to Heidelberg colliery for preparation.

The operations on the bituminous coal lands at Snow Shoe are being steadily developed to permit of greater efficiency. As soon as the power line, now under construction, is completed, electric haulage will be substituted for mules and electric coal cutting machinery will be introduced in place of pick mining.

The properties at West Harrison St., Chicago, and Fillmore Ave., Buffalo, were sold during the year.

Surplus.—Included in the cash on hand is the sum of \$678,085, representing an amount set aside on account of the special Pennsylvania tax of 2 1/2% of the value of the coal mined. The constitutionality of this law has not as yet been decided by the courts. [As to favorable decision in Dec. 1914 by U. S. Dist. Court in anti-trust suit against Lehigh Valley RR., see V. 99, p. 1910.]

Sinking Funds, etc.—By the sinking fund, \$104,000 Delano Land Co. 1st M. 5% bonds were purchased and canceled, reducing the fixed charges by \$20,200 p. a. "Deferred real estate payments," representing short-term notes given for property in prior years, have been reduced by \$100,000. Payments amounting to \$112,504 were made to the sinking funds of our various mortgages.

Current Assets.—These are \$3,521,901 in excess of current liabilities.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR YEARS ENDING JUNE 30.

Table with 5 columns: 1914-15, 1913-14, 1912-13, 1911-12. Rows include Total surp. begin. year, Net income for year, Deprec'n of impts., Total, Deduct, Deprec'n of impts., Apprs for insur. fund, Miscell. adjustments, Adjust. of Pa. Statetaxes, Int. on cts. of indebt. accr. prior to June 30 '11, Total, Total surp. end year.

CONDENSED GENERAL BALANCE SHEET JUNE 30.

Table with 4 columns: 1915, 1914, 1915, 1914. Rows include Assets (Property & plant, Securities owned, Sink. fd. with trus, Advances for coal, mining rights, Insurance fund, Cash, Mat'ls & supplies, Notes receivable, Due from indiv's and companies, Insurance & other deferred assets) and Liabilities (Capital stock, Funded debt, Audited vouchers, Wages due, Due indiv's & com., Royalties on coal mined, Int. on funded debt due & accrued, Def. real est. pay'ts, Miscellaneous, Depr. & oth. res'v'e, Profit & loss).

Assets Realization Co., New York and Chicago.

(Report for Fiscal Year ending Dec. 31 1914.)

Pres. Ira M. Cobe, N. Y., Mar. 17, wrote in substance:

[The officers are now: President, Grayson M. P. Murphy; Vice-Pres., Edwin A. Potter Jr., John W. McKinnon and Charles A. Marshall; Sec., William S. Hood.—Ed.]

Liquidation.—During the year our efforts were practically all directed toward realizing upon the assets and in placing them in a favorable position for conversion into cash. (See full statement in V. 99, p. 1298.)

United States Worsted Co. In this company our investment is \$1,314,700. During 1914 the earnings were \$241,219 (see V. 100, p. 1166), which was insufficient to pay the first pref. dividend of 7% or \$350,000, which was of first pref. stock is \$873,000. Operations were unfavorably affected by the present tariff and the European war. The plants are modern, and under proper conditions should do a profitable business. There is no market, however, for such securities until the earning capacity is demonstrated.

Breakwater Company.—As a result of the reorganization, we own a substantial block of the stock of the successor company. The latter showed a profit on operations for 1914. Our investment of about \$1,000,000 has been written down to \$133,022. Reorganized under plan of March 23 1914 as the Coast & Lakes Contracting Co., with \$2,500,000 cap. stock in 1000 shares (\$1,500,000 7% cum. pref. and \$800,000 6% 2-year gold notes, these last to be sold at 93 with 10% in common stock. Of the new stock there was reserved for future use \$450,000 pref. and \$262,000 common. Holders of the \$1,000,000 old 1st M. bonds received 100% in pref. with 5% additional pref. for interest from July 1 1913 to April 30 1914, and holders of floating debt 50% or \$700,000 in common stock. The pref. stock is callable as a whole or in part for sinking fund at 107 1/2 and divs.—Ed.]

United Copper Co. Syndicate.—As a result of the advantageous sale of a portion of the collateral, a considerable part of the company's investment has been returned to it, and this also resulted in a large reduction in the Assets Co.'s contingent indebtedness. While legal complications and the present market conditions are such as to prevent a ready sale at advantageous prices of the remaining collateral, there seems to be no reason to believe that the company's entire investment will not be realized. (V. 101, p. 202.)

Simms Magnet Co.—Our investment of \$252,000 is represented by \$245,000 pref. and \$379,000 common stock. Operations for 1914 show a handsome profit. Prospects for 1915 are good. If this record continues, when ordinary conditions return our interest should bring more than it cost.

Art Metal Construction Co.—Our investment of \$195,175 of the stock, carried on our books at \$29,829. The business has been greatly curtailed, owing to business conditions, and dividends have been temporarily discontinued. The stock, however, has an excellent record as a dividend payer, and under normal conditions should command a substantial price.

Bitter Root Valley Irrigation Co.—Our largest individual investment is in this property, and is subject to a bond issue of \$976,000, covering the major portion of the property. The outcome is largely dependent upon the sale of land and the collection of the amounts due on the mortgages and contracts owned by the company. Conditions in 1914 were unfavorable; the lands have been largely used in apple culture, and the war has practically destroyed apple exports. The \$100,000 bonds which matured Jan. 1 1915 were duly paid, with an advance of only \$20,000 by the Assets Company. While existing conditions are not favorable, the current year, under the new management, may permit an estimate of the ultimate recovery.

Gage Park Realty Trust.—Our optimistic predictions appear to be justified. Although there was, naturally, a sharp falling off in sales during the last half of 1914, the unsold property is now being marketed more rapidly and what remains will probably be sold during 1915 at profitable prices.

British & Foreign Trust, Ltd.—A tentative offer for our 236,866 from foreign interests was rejected, as reflecting the fall in values incident to war.

New South Farm & Home Co.—Owing to a large falling off in the receipts, it has not been able to meet the maturing bonds, and a receiver has recently been appointed. Outcome uncertain.

Monarch Lumber Co.—Our interest, about \$300,000, is secured by a lien on a large lumber mill on the Pacific Coast. We have not yet complete title to the mill, which it is hoped shortly to close. While the Pacific lumber business has been in great stagnation for a year, we should finally realize our full investment.

Morris Park Estates.—Our investment is still about \$475,000. The mortgages taken for sold lots have been promptly paid as to interest and more than \$100,000 anticipated as to principal. Only about 1% are in default. Our contingent indebtedness of \$1,500,000 has been eliminated.

Contingent Liabilities.—The Gage Park Realty Trust note issue of \$1,000,000 has been reduced to about \$775,000, [now \$753,000, Ed.] and it is hardly conceivable that we should be called upon on our guaranty.

The liability of the \$1,500,000 Morris Park note issue and on United Copper Co. Syndicate loan of \$500,000 has been eliminated during the year. The total contingent indebtedness, as far as can be seen, has been reduced from \$3,750,000 to a possible liability of probably not exceeding \$340,000.

Reorganization.—Early in 1914 considerable time was devoted to a reorganization plan, but it was not pressed, owing to market conditions. Upon resumption of normal conditions, reorganization probably will again be considered. In the meantime, for the purpose of eliminating as far as possible the interest charges, a plan has been formulated for the exchange of assets for the indebtedness of the company, and consents thereto are now being obtained. If this plan is successful, it should eliminate a large part of the expense of conducting the business and will largely decrease carrying charges. (See a subsequent page of this issue and Vol. 100, page 311.)

Reduction in Certain Liabilities.—There has been a reduction of \$3,780,412 in certain liabilities existing at Dec. 1 1913, as compared with the same liabilities as of Dec. 31 1914, without including the increase of liabilities by reason of the notes issued to stockholders during the year, as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Description, Amount. Rows include Notes paid, cash; 5% distribution to noteholders Oct. 30; Accounts payable; Notes paid or reduced by sale and realization of collateral; Obligation in connection with Gage Park note issue, paid; Swenson Land Co., claims settled; Gage Park Realty Trust 6% gold notes paid from sale of lots; Contingent liabilities; Claims not on books Dec. 11 1913, settled.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR 1914.

Table with 2 columns: Description, Amount. Rows include Losses sustained and amounts written off; Profits realized; Deficit; Deduct—Int. received, \$121,246; real estate income, &c., \$16,297; Add—Interest allowed, \$321,182; discount allowed, \$8,217; Expenses year 1914, notably: Executive salaries, \$58,215; office salaries, \$37,343; office rent, \$4,067; examinations and reports on properties, \$4,314; audits, \$3,637; telephones, telegrams and cables, \$4,438; traveling expenses, \$7,492; legal expense, \$33,044; taxes on real estate, \$19,283; corp'n taxes, \$4,285, &c.; Extraordinary disbursements contracted prior to Jan. 1 1914: Chicago office rent, \$14,054; creditors' committee, \$10,000; legal expense, \$42,021; taxes, corporation, \$3,168; etc.; Net loss for year 1914.

BAL. SHEET DEC. 31 1914 (Assets as Stated in books, not actual value).

Table with 2 columns: Description, Amount. Rows include Assets (\$15,018,207): Real estate, Cash, Notes & accts receivable, Claims, Advances to agents & others, Master certificates, Mortgages, Contracts, Stocks, Bonds, Certificates of indebtedness, Syndicates, Magnesia Products Co., U. S. Worsted Co., Bitter Root Valley Irr. Co., Gage Park, net equity; Morris Park Estates, Miscellaneous, Deficit Jan. 1 1914, \$2,123,498; loss 1914, \$729,544; Liabilities (\$15,018,207): Capital stock, Notes payable, secured, 6% gold notes, Collateral gold notes, Subordinated notes, Accounts payable, United Copper Co., Magnesia Products Co., Reserve for losses, etc., (Contingent liabilities).

X Gage Park Realty Trust, exclusive of bonds and accrued int., \$2,497,527; deduct bonds and accrued interest, guaranteed by Assets Realization Co. (V. 95, p. 1475), \$945,360; net equity, \$1,552,167.—V. 100, p. 1439.

United Cigar Manufacturers Co., New York.

(Report for Six Months ending June 30 1915.)

Table with 4 columns: 6 Months 1915, 6 Months 1914, Calendar Years 1913, 1912. Rows include Gross profits, Admin. & selling exp., Profit from oper, Misc. profits, int., &c., Total profit, Int. on loans & deposits, Divs. on pref. stock, Divs. on com. stock, Balance, surplus, "Interest on loans, &c." includes in 1914 and for the 6 months ending June 30 1915, in addition to interest on mortgages, loans, deposits, losses on investments and dividends on preferred stock of the M. A. Gunst & Co., Inc.

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET.

Table with 4 columns: June 30 '15 Dec. 31 '14, June 30 '15 Dec. 31 '14. Rows include Assets (Cost of property, Insurance, &c., pre-paid, Supplies, &c., Bills receivable, Accounts receivable, Cash) and Liabilities (Common stock, Preferred stock, Accounts payable, Bills payable, Mtg. of Phil. plant, Pref. stock M. A. Gunst Co., Inc., Spec. capital reserve, Surplus).

Total 30,403,512 30,235,042 Total 30,403,512 30,235,042 \* Good-will, trade-marks, patent rights, as of Jan. 1 1915, \$19,104,000; real estate, machinery, equipment and furniture and fixtures, \$1,186,661, and investments in affiliated companies, \$438,249, less excess of depreciation over additions during the 6 months, \$52,602.—V. 100, p. 551.

Western Power Co. (of N. J.), San Francisco, Cal.

(Report for Fiscal Year ending Dec. 31 1914.)

Pres. F. Lothrop Ames, April 16, wrote in substance:

Since Dec. 31 1914 the company has sold an issue of \$1,000,000 2-year 6% collateral trust gold notes, dated March 1 1915, maturing March 1 1917; and \$533,000 City Electric Co. 1st M. 5% 30-year gold bonds (V. 100, 1354, 1440). The proceeds from the sale of these securities will be devoted: first, to the retirement of our \$1,250,000 of 2-year notes, due July 15 1915; and for general corporate purposes, including additions, extensions, etc. Your company is the owner of the entire capital stock (less qualifying directors' shares) of Great Western Power Co., a California corporation designated as the "Operating Co.," and that company, in turn, controls the City Electric Co. of San Francisco and the California Electric Generating Co., which latter company owns the steam station in Oakland. [See separate report of Great Western Power Co. below.]

COMBINED INCOME ACCT. FOR CAL. YEARS (INCL. GT. WEST. P. CO.)

(Inter-company accounts eliminated except as below stated—See "Note")

Table with columns for 1914, 1913, 1912, and 1911. Rows include Earnings (Light, Power, Railway companies, Miscellaneous), Expenses (Generating, Distributing, Steam service, General expenses, Taxes), Total, Net earnings, Other income, Gross income, Int. on fund. dt., Sinking funds, Pr. div., Balance, surplus.

\* Includes the City Electric Co. operations from July 1 1911. Note.—The item "Interest on funded debt" represents the total interest payable by the several companies upon their entire funded debt, including \$840,000 Great Western Power Co. 1st M. 5% owned by Western Power Co. The item "Dividends on California Elec. Gen. Co. pref. stock" covers accrued divs. at 6% per annum upon the entire issue of \$2,500,000, including California Elec. Gen. Co. pref. stock owned by Western Power Co. "Other income" includes interest charged to construction. The amounts so credited being for the year 1914, \$245,844, and for year 1913, \$224,190. The surplus for the several years above shown were further increased by "miscellaneous additions" and again decreased by "miscellaneous deductions," with the result that the unappropriated surplus for 1911 was \$219,425, for 1912 \$422,317, for 1913 \$559,582, and for 1914 \$349,610, and the total unappropriated surplus Dec. 31 1914, \$1,905,567. The "Miscellaneous Deductions from Surplus" of \$227,070 during the year 1914 cover extraordinary appropriations, largely applicable to other years, as follows: Replacement charges and cost of plant dismantled and written off, \$123,049; reserve for income invested since Dec. 31 1912 in fixed capital, per instruction of Cal. RR. Comm., \$20,880; Calif. Elec. Generating Co. pref. stock disposed of to subscribers of Great Western Power Co. bonds, \$83,141. Misc. additions to surp. in 1914 aggregate \$7,253.

Assets (Total \$51,686,432) and Liabilities (Concluded) table. Assets include Coal of property, Miscellaneous investments, Materials and supplies, Notes and accounts receivable, Cash, Special deposits, Interest & dividends receivable, Sinking funds, Unamortized bond disc. & exp., Prepaid expenses. Liabilities include Gr. West. Pow. Co. 1st M. 5% sinking fund bonds, Cal. El. Gen. Co. 1st Ser. A, City El. Co. 1st 5%, West. Pow. Co. 2-yr. 6% notes, Notes payable, Accounts payable, Accrued interest and taxes, Insurance, &c., reserves, Sinking fund reserve, Income invested since Dec. 31 1912 in fixed capital, Surplus.

a Includes \$721,000 pledged with trustee of the California Electric Generating Co. bonds (not bearing interest).—V. 100, p. 2015, 1354.

Great Western Power Co. of Cal., San Francisco, Cal.

(Report for Fiscal Year ending Dec. 31 1914.)

Pres. Mortimer Fleishhacker, San Francisco, Jan. 31 1915, wrote in substance:

Organization.—Incorporated in California Sept. 18 1906, and in Dec. 1908 the initial hydro-electric development at Big Bend, of 55,000 h. p., was placed in operation, together with a steel tower transmission line, carrying duplicate circuits. In 1909 the California Electric Generating Co. (V. 88, p. 689; V. 92, p. 1438; V. 93, p. 668), a subsidiary company, completed an auxiliary steam plant in Oakland. Control of the City Electric Co. of San Francisco was acquired June 30 1911, by purchase of its entire capital stock. This property consists of a 28,000 h. p. steam plant and an extensive distribution system in the city of San Francisco. The Western Power Co. of N. J. is at present a holding company of the Great Western Power Co., the latter being the operating company, and, with its subsidiaries, constituting the Great Western Power System.

Physical Properties Developed and Operative (as of Dec. 31 1914) (a) Generating stations (total gen. cap., 113,000 h. p.) and reservoir: Big Bend hydro-el. plant, h. p., 70,000 Oakland steam pl. (C. E. G. Co.), 15,000 San Fr. steam pl. (City El. Co.) 28,000 Big Bend Res., cap., acre ft 250,000 (b) Transmission system: 154 miles of steel tower line—two 3-phase circuits—operating at 100,000 volts, extending from the Big Bend hydro-electric plant in Plumas County to Oakland, viz the Sacramento Valley; also 2 submarine cables (each 4 miles in length) operating at 11,000 volts, connecting the San Francisco steam plant with the hydro-electric station and the Oakland steam plant. (c) Substations: 6 primary and 7 secondary. Total installed transformer capacity, 135,000 h. p. (d) Distributing system: miles of distributing lines: overhead, 750; underground, 20; total, 800.

Recent Additions to Plant, 1913-14.—The Cal. RR. Comm. authorized the sale of the following securities: (a) On March 11 1913 \$4,411,000 of our 1st M. 5% bonds, to provide for general additions and improvements to the transmission and distributing system, the purchase of additional lands for the Big Meadows reservoir, and for the completion of the Big Meadows dam and the Big Bend Extension. (b) On Feb. 24 1913 \$33,000 1st M. 5% of City Electric Co. on account of previous plant extension. The Big Meadows Dam was completed early in 1914 to a height of 80 ft., and by March 1 the reservoir was filled with water. The structure is a very massive one of an hydraulic-fill type, 600 ft. long and 100 ft. thick at its crest and over 600 ft. thick at its base. The reservoir contains at the present time 250,000 acre feet of water, insuring the continuous full load output from this station even through the driest years.

During the past two years work has been in progress for the extension of the Big Bend Power House to the extent of four additional generator units duplicating the original installation. The power-house has been extended and one of the two now generators has already been installed, making the present capacity of the station 70,000 h. p. The accomplishment of this additional hydro-electric plant facility relieves both steam plants of the major portion of their load.

Early in 1912 a 12,000-volt submarine cable was laid across San Francisco Bay from Oakland to San Francisco, a distance of 4 miles, and has been operating very successfully. A second similar cable having a capacity of 5,000 k. w., was laid in 1914, resulting in a material saving in our San Francisco expenses.

During the past three years constructed 450 miles of distributing lines. Earnings, &c.—The gross earnings for the calendar year aggregated \$2,681,099, and the net income, after paying bond interest, amounted to \$772,722. The general business depression during 1914 has, no doubt, had its effect and it is reasonable to expect a more favorable showing for 1915.

Number of consumers served, Connected load served—horses-power, Statistics for Year 1914: Kilowatt hours sold, 1248,470,000, maximum demand on generating plant, 75,500 h. p., annual load factor, 64% demand factor (ratio of peak demand to connected load), 45%. The territory served includes the following cities or towns having an aggregate population (1910 Census) of 897,474, viz.: Albany, Berkeley, Concord, Emeryville, Fruitvale, Martinez, Napa, Oakland, Petaluma, Pittsburg, Richmond, Rio Vista, Sacramento, San Francisco, Santa Rosa, San Leandro and Rocklin; and is located in the following counties, the approximate area served aggregating 3,400 sq. miles, viz.: Alameda, Contra Costa, El Dorado, Napa, Placer, Sacramento, San Francisco, San Joaquin, Solano, Sonoma and Yolo.

Outlook.—The company owns a large acreage of land and controls water rights on the north fork of the Feather River, which afford hydro-electric power possibilities aggregating over 550,000 h. p., located directly on the Western Pacific Ry., only 160 miles from the San Francisco terminal and but 40 miles from navigable water of the Sacramento River, affording transportation for seagoing vessels. The Big Bend Plant, of an installed capacity of 70,000 h. p., on the North Fork, therefore, represents only one-eighth of the available power that will eventually be developed on the stream named. Within service distance of our properties there exists at the present time isolated fuel-burning plants producing a total of some 135,000 h. p., and as the cost of fuel alone in many instances is greater than the cost of our electric energy, the gradual change to electric drive is inevitable. Within service distance of this company there are also some 3,000 miles of steam railroad main line. A large portion of this must eventually be electrified. Bases for water in Central California for irrigation range from \$2 to \$6 per acre per annum. The present storage of Big Meadows Reservoir, at the now ruling irrigation rates, represents a potential earning capacity of over \$500,000 per annum, and the ultimate storage will suffice to irrigate a much larger acreage eventually returning an annual revenue of several times the present potential earning capacity.

The completion of the Panama Canal will, no doubt, induce the growth of new industries and stimulate those existing at the present time. In fact, this is already apparent through increasing inquiries by industrial plants.

As to earnings and balance sheet, see report of Western Power Co. above, and for proposed guaranty of bonds of Consolidated Electric Co. see United Light & Power Co. under "Industrials" below.—V. 100, p. 2013.

Maple Leaf Milling Co., Ltd., Toronto.

(Report for Fiscal Year ending March 31 1915.)

Managing Director Hedley Shaw, Toronto, May 28, wrote in substance:

Results.—In spite of the outbreak of the war, our report shows net earnings for the year amounting to \$1,048,998. We have been entrusted by British, Canadian, Ontario and other governments with some very large flour contracts and received many compliments for the manner in which we handled these large orders. As an interesting example, we were the successful tenderers for 75 car loads of flour for the South African Government. We received shipping instructions on Thursday, and on Saturday the shipment was on the way, and in New York with us within three days.

Addition.—In our last report we advised you that we had added, even in a year of financial depression, and also adding to our storage capacity for wheat at 9,000 barrels daily, and also adding to our storage capacity for wheat at our elevator there. Our action has been more than justified, as we have been able to run our Port Colborne plant to full capacity for several months. We have also opened an office in New York. Properties.—These include mills at Port Colborne, Kenora, Brandon, St. Catharines, Thorold and Welland; total daily capacity, 15,000 barrels; also 50 grain elevators in the Canadian West.

INCOME ACCOUNT FOR YEARS ENDING MARCH 31.

Table with columns for 1914-15, 1913-14, 1912-13, 1911-12. Rows include Net earnings, Bank interest, Pr. divs. (7%), Balance, surplus.

BALANCE SHEET MARCH 31.

Table with columns for 1915, 1914. Rows include Assets (Real est., bldgs., &c., Office, stable, &c., Good-will and trade-marks, Investments, Cash, Bills & acct. receiv., Inventories, Miscellaneous) and Liabilities (Prof. (p. & d.) stock, Common stock, Bankers' advances, Accounts payable, Div. payable Apr. 18, Contingent account, Profit and loss).

Total 7,901,982 8,734,933 (Par of all shares \$100 each. Pref. elects only two directors unless its dividends are 2 years in arrears, but then has equal voting power with common shares. Redeemable, it is said, at 145.) Directors.—Pres., Sir D. C. Cameron, K. C. M. G.; Vice-Pres., Cawthra Mulock; Managing Director, Hedley Shaw; J. S. Barker, Robert Cooper, Gordon Perry, John I. A. Hunt, C. W. Band; Sec., John Carrick.—V. 100, p. 1923.

Mexican Petroleum Co., Ltd. (Delaware).

(Report for Fiscal Year ending Dec. 31 1914.)

Pres. E. L. Doheny, Los Angeles, June 10, wrote in brief:

Earnings.—The report for 1913 showed a profit on operations of over \$4,250,000. For 1914 the earnings have been about \$2,750,000. Notwithstanding this great decrease, there can be no doubt that the developments since the beginning of 1914, both on your oil lands and in the market conditions as they relate to the future, must add greatly to any appraisal which might be made of your properties (V. 99, p. 125). Production.—Notwithstanding the increased capacity of the wells, resulting from the developments made at Chilol, on the Mexican Petroleum Co.'s property; and at Cerro Azul, on the lands of the Huasteca Petroleum Co., the conserved yield for the year 1914 was 8,711,455 bbls., as compared with 9,624,764 bbls. conserved in 1913. This decrease is almost wholly accounted for by the shutting in of a large number of the Ebano wells, because of the inability either to deliver the oil to customers or move it to the storage tanks in the vicinity of Tampico.

There is no noticeable decrease in the flow of oil of the wells which were completed and producing during and prior to 1914. The available yield from these wells is approximately 7,000 bbls. a day from the property of the Mexican Petroleum Co., and an actual taking of 23,000 bbls. per day from Casiano No. 7 of the Huasteca Petroleum Co. The daily potential production of Casiano No. 7, together with that of No. 6 on the same property at Casiano, is estimated at over 75,000 bbls.

We feel reasonably certain that when market conditions permit the opening of all of our now completed wells to their fullest capacity, they will yield more than 200,000 bbls. daily.

Sales.—Sales during 1914 amounted to 8,231,348 bbls., as compared with 12,325,288 bbls. sold during 1913—a decrease of over 4,000,000 bbls. This difference was caused by a large falling off in the amount of oil taken by customers for use in Mexico, especially by the National Railways of Mexico, whose contracts with your companies called for the delivery of more than 3,500,000 bbls. annually, of which amount only 422,515 bbls. were taken during 1914. The sales for domestic use in Mexico in 1914 were 2,297,864 bbls., a decrease of nearly 2,500,000 bbls.

Exports for 1913 were 7,602,058 bbls.; for 1914, 5,933,488 bbls., a decrease of more than 1,600,000 bbls., attributable, to some extent, to the disturbed political conditions in Mexico, which caused the management to refrain from extensive contract undertakings during last year.

Market Facilities in U. S.—Twenty-two miles above New Orleans the company has acquired the Old Destrehan Plantation of 1,012 acres, which has a frontage of 6,000 ft. on the Mississippi River, and extends back to the Illinois Central RR. A pipe line connects the wharf with steel tanks, having a capacity of 440,000 bbls. Our modern refinery here has a capacity of 6,000 bbls. daily. Total expenditures on this property to Dec. 31 1914, \$399,279. About 200,000 bbls. of oil were moved into storage at Destrehan during last year.

Adjoining New York Harbor, at Cartaret, N. J., the company has purchased 334 acres of land favorably situated both for the storage and refining of oil. Contracts for a wharf, dredging and the building of 10 steel tanks have been let. There has been expended on this tract up to June 1 1915, including cost of land, \$547,500, and about \$200,000 more will be expended for wharfare, pipe lines, storage tanks, &c., by Dec. 31 1915. The company has leased land at the harbor, in Providence, R. I., for 87 years, and will expend about \$90,000 in extending the wharf, erection of tanks, &c. At Boston work will shortly begin on a wharf, steel tanks, railroad sidings, &c., making a total investment at this port of more than \$200,000. Work now in progress at Portland, Me., on a wharf, dredging, railroad sidings and tanks will cost substantially \$150,000.

New Steamers—The Petroleum Transport Co. has just contracted for the building of three additional tank steamers of 55,000-bbl., 70,000-bbl., and 90,000-bbl. carrying capacity, respectively.

Contracts.—Within the last 30 days contracts have been definitely closed with two large consumers for the sale of 7,500,000 bbls. of oil. Both of these contracts require the transportation of this oil by or through your cos. British-Mexican Petroleum Co.—During April 1915 negotiations which had been pending for nearly a year ripened into a signed agreement with a number of gentlemen of high business standing who are well known internationally. The agreement provides for the formation of a company whose purpose it is to purchase the oil of your companies and deliver it for consumption abroad. It is agreed that one-half of the stock of this new corporation, which is to be called the "British-Mexican Petroleum Co.," will be owned by the Mexican Petroleum Co., Ltd., and one-half by the gentlemen with whom the aforesaid agreement has been made. The manufacturing plants, railway and steamship lines in which these gentlemen are interested are consumers of enormous quantities of coal, the source of which is ample; but the cost and regularity of the supply have proven uncertain. They therefore desire a reliable supply of the better class of oil fuel. Our new associates, who own the patent rights for the construction of the most successful internal-combustion engine for maritime uses, and who are also interested in freight-carrying vessels which ply on the seven seas, have agreed to construct all their new boats as oil-burners.

COMBINED INCOME ACCOUNT CAL. YEAR 1914.

Table with 4 columns: Description, 1911, 1912, 1913, 1914. Rows include Oil sales to customers, Deduct—Oil purchased, Operating expenses, Balance, surplus, Operating profit, Miscellaneous interest, Bond Interest, Balance for dividends, Profit on sale of Petroleum Transport Co. stock, Preferred dividends, Common dividends, and Balance, surplus.

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET DECEMBER 31.

Table with 4 columns: Description, 1914, 1913, 1914, 1913. Rows include Assets (oil lands, cash, investments, etc.), Liabilities (M. P. Co. stock, common stock, etc.), and Total.

A Bonded debt, \$1,681,700, as above in 1914, includes Mexican Pet. Co., Ltd. (Del.), 1st lien and ref. sinking fund gold bonds, \$3,654,200; Mexican Pet. Co. (Cal.) sinking fund 6% gold bonds of 1910, \$82,600; Huasteca Petroleum Co. and Mexican Pet. Co., Ltd. (Del.) joint 6% gold bonds, \$269,400; Huasteca Pet. Co. Const Pipe Line 1st M. gold 6s, \$675,500 b After deducting \$45,035 expenses in connection with steamships sold in 1913.—V. 101, p. 291.

Asbestos Corporation of Canada, Ltd.

(Third Annual Report—Year ending Dec. 31 1914.)

Pres. W. G. Ross in Feb. 1915 wrote in substance: The year shows a gross profit, before providing for interest on the bonds and provision for renewals and betterments, &c., of \$343,236, as compared with \$270,932 for 1913. The tonnage produced was the same as last year. The unfilled orders on hand amount to \$99,214.

Additions and betterments amounted to \$85,053, and \$40,000 has been provided in a special reserve account for doubtful accounts.

The properties were operated throughout the year, except the British-Canadian property at Black Lake, which was closed during the winter. The production of this property has not been satisfactory, owing to the small percentage yield of asbestos, and we have decided to drive a tunnel that will not only prospect your Black Lake property, but will prove the value of the Manhattan pit.

The change in the hoisting and handling facilities at Kings pit are to be carried out during 1915 in order that the new plant may be put in operation early in 1916. The change involves an expenditure of about \$200,000. In the property immediately adjacent, two holes were drilled to a depth of 400 ft. below the present bottom and showed material as good as that extracted. Based on this depth, the territory prospected, which is only a comparatively small part of our property, has a tonnage sufficient for over 40 years' operation.

Our office at Hamburg was closed at the outbreak of hostilities and this unsettled our business, over one-half of which was done in Germany and Austria. We hope, however, for increased demand from England, and with the orders on hand from the United States, the results for 1915, in spite of the unsettled conditions, should be fairly good under the circumstances.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR YEARS ENDING DEC. 31.

Table with 4 columns: Description, 1914, 1913, 1914, 1913. Rows include Net profit, Bond Interest, Special reserve, Renewals & betterments, Balance, surplus.

BALANCE SHEET DEC. 31.

Table with 4 columns: Description, 1914, 1913, 1914, 1913. Rows include Assets (Property account, cash, etc.), Liabilities (Preferred stock, common stock, etc.), and Total.

Total—10,288,078 10,216,503 —V. 100, p. 735.

Central District (Bell) Telephone Co., Pittsburgh.

(Report for Fiscal Year ending Dec. 31 1914.)

Table with 4 columns: Description, 1914, 1913, 1914, 1913. Rows include Gross earnings, Operg expenses, Maint. & replace, Taxes, Net earnings, Interest, Dividends, Total deduction, Balance, surplus.

Stations owned in 1914, 173,575, against 165,416 in 1913. Connecting and miscellaneous stations in 1914, 43,802, and number of miles of wire 445,393, against 44,902 and 414,589, respectively, in 1913.

BALANCE SHEET DEC. 31.

Table with 4 columns: Description, 1914, 1913, 1914, 1913. Rows include Assets (Real estate, Telephone plant, etc.), Liabilities (Capital stock, funded debt, etc.), and Total.

Total—30,632,236 24,506,179 —V. 100, p. 736.

GENERAL INVESTMENT NEWS

RAILROADS, INCLUDING ELECTRIC ROADS.

Artesian Belt RR.—Receiver Discharged.

Press dispatches state that the Court of Civil Appeals of San Antonio, Tex., has issued a writ of mandamus taking the property out of the hands of J. O. Terrell, receiver, into whose hands it had been placed by District Judge P. G. Chambliss of Floresville, and restoring it to the custody of the West Texas Bank & Trust Co. of San Antonio, executor of the will of Dr. C. F. Simmons. Receiver Terrell was recently quoted as saying that the proposed extension to Crowther, Tex., on which 15 or 16 miles have been graded, may be built within 3 or 4 months.—V. 95, p. 418.

Boston & Maine RR.—Bill.—

The bill approved by the reorganization committee of the leased lines was presented on Aug. 4 to Gov. Spaulding of New Hampshire, who, it is thought, will recommend its passage by the State Legislature at its next session.

The bill, it is said, is practically the same as the one passed by the Massachusetts and Maine legislatures, except that it is more far-reaching. A recent draft was stated to provide for but one class of pref. stock, for a \$50 assessment on each share of B. & M. common stock, and for an option to the B. & M. to release or purchase the lines hereafter under lease.

The precise terms of the measure have yet to be made public, but Chairman Knowlton of the B. & M. stated on Aug. 4 that there were "very grave differences of opinion among the trustees with regard to an assessment, and that he personally hopes nothing like a \$50 assessment will be considered necessary." C. W. Crocker, counsel for the minority B. & M. stockholders, also said: "We do not intend to allow this bill as proposed by the conference committee to go through the New Hampshire Legislature without a fight. We shall protest as hard as we can against the \$50 assessment on the common stock." It is thought unlikely that payment of the \$17,000,000 notes through such assessment is made a pre-requisite to a deal with the leased lines.

It is understood that neither the Governor nor the members of the committee believe that there is sufficient time between now and Sept. 2, when the \$17,000,000 notes become due, to pass the necessary legislation, "but the idea is that if the Legislature is called and the note holders are convinced that it is to be for their benefit, that another extension of the notes will be made."—V. 101, p. 287.

Brooklyn Rapid Transit Co.—Coney Isl. Term'l Lease.

The P. S. Commission has approved an agreement between the New York Consolidated RR. and the Nassau Electric RR. by which the former leases for 999 years the terminal of the latter at Coney Island. The consideration is \$247,000, which the New York Municipal Railway Corp. is authorized to charge against the cost of construction under the dual system contracts. Under the agreement between the Consolidated Co. and the Nassau Co. the city and the New York Municipal Ry. Corp. will agree to a modification of the dual system contract whereby the city will obtain a right-of-way for two tracks into the Coney Island terminal between Avenue Y and Surf Ave. for the use of the trains to be operated over the New Utrecht Ave. elevated railroad. The Sea Beach RR. has already obtained the right-of-way into the terminal for its trains, so that by the new agreements, trains to Coney Island through the Fourth Ave. subway will enter the same terminal, whether operated over the Sea Beach or New Utrecht Ave. route.—V. 101, p. 366, 376.

Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad.—Organization of Separate Committee for General Consolidated & First Mortgage 5% Bonds.

The committee named below, Henry Evans, Chairman, is urging the holders of these bonds to deposit the same with the Guaranty Trust Co., N. Y., as depository under protective agreement dated Aug. 3 1915, as they believe that action in the interest of the depositors should be taken at once. The committee (see adv. and V. 101, p. 129) says: The properties securing these bonds are in the hands of a receiver, operating them with other properties; default has been made under said mortgage by non-payment of interest on said bonds; action affecting the rights of holders of said bonds has already been taken in said receivership cause and otherwise, and it is believed that affirmative measures to protect their rights and interests should be taken by the holders of said bonds, acting together. Accordingly, the undersigned, at the request of the holders of a large amount thereof, have consented to act as a committee for the protection of the rights of holders of said bonds—assuming no responsibility to holders of any other issue involved in said receivership.

The protective agreement provides that depositors may withdraw, if dissatisfied with the plan to be formulated or approved by the committee, and limits all charges to which a depositor may be subjected, until after opportunity to withdraw, to 1% of the principal of the bonds deposited. Committee: Henry Evans, Chairman, Pres. Continental Insurance Co., N. Y.; J. Howard Boardman, Sec. & Treas. Stamford Savings Bank, Stamford, Conn.; Herbert H. Dean, Edward B. Smith & Co., N. Y., and Phila.; Samuel R. Sessig, H. J. Curry & Co., N. Y.; Frank B. Weeks, Vice-Pres. Middletown Savings Bank, Middletown, Conn.; with Simpson, Tischer & Bartlett as counsel and A. F. Halsted as Secretary, 62 Cedar St., N. Y.

Deposits—Time Extended.

The bond holders' committee, John W. Platten, Chairman, representing the various bonds of the company and its affiliated properties (except purchase-money coal, Chicago & Ind. Coal, Evansville & Ind. and equipment bonds) announce that a majority of the total amount of bonds of the various issues represented by the committee, has been deposited with the United States Mortgage & Trust Co., as depository, under the deposit agreements dated March 25 1914 and March 15 1915, and that this majority includes over 50% of the outstanding Chicago & Eastern Illinois General Consolidated and First Mortgage 5% Bonds.

Application has been made to list on the N. Y. Stock Exchange the deposit certificates issued by the U. S. Mtge. & Trust Co. of N. Y., the

committee's depository, representing Chicago & Eastern Illinois Refunding & Impt. 4% bonds of 1935 and Cons. 1st Mtgs. 5% bonds of 1937. The time for deposits has been extended by the committee to and including Sept. 15 1915, after which date deposits will be accepted, if at all, upon such terms as it may approve. John E. Blunt Jr. is now a member of the committee. As agents, the depository has the First Trust & Savings Bank of Chicago and Glyn, Mills, Currie & Co., London.—V. 101, p. 369, 212.

**Chicago Elevated Railways.—Agreement.**—Chicago papers say that the conference between the employees and President Budd, which has been in session for several weeks, has resulted in a satisfactory agreement and an advance in the wages of the men, the exact amount of which is not to be made public until the matter has been submitted to the men and passed upon by them. The increase is unofficially estimated at \$200,000 to \$250,000 annually.—V. 100, p. 228.

**Chicago & Western Indiana RR.—Sale of Two-Year 5% Collateral Trust Gold Notes.**—The company has sold to J. P. Morgan & Co. a closed issue of \$12,935,000 2-year 5% Collateral Trust gold notes, due Sept. 1 1917, callable at 101 and int. on 60 days' notice. Denom. \$1,000, \$5,000 and \$10,000. Int. payable M. & S. at office of J. P. Morgan & Co.

These notes are to be secured by pledge with Bankers Trust Co. of N. Y., as trustee, of \$17,247,000 of the 5% bonds issued under the First and Refunding M. of 1912, which provides for retiring all existing prior debt and for the issue of bonds for additions and improvements to the property covered by the mortgage. The \$17,247,000 of pledged bonds are part of \$18,497,000 bonds outstanding under the First and Refunding M., which has, in addition to a blanket lien on the company's entire property, a direct first lien on the "clearing yard" recently constructed to simplify the interchange of freight at Chicago and to reduce the operating cost of the railroads entering that city. The balance of the bonds, \$1,250,000, are held in the interest of the Belt Railway Co., in connection with expenditures made on the Belt Railway division. The clearing yard includes 1,810 acres of land located just outside the city limits of Chicago, having thereon extensive clearing yard tracks and structures (150.57 miles of yard tracks) and represents, it is stated, cash expenditures by the railroad company of approximately \$8,000,000.—V. 100, p. 1751.

**Cincinnati Bluffton & Chicago RR.—Reorg. Plan.**—See Huntington Bluffton & Portland RR. below.—V. 100, p. 732, 641.

**Cincinnati Dayton & Toledo Traction Co.—Settlement.** The company on June 24 made a settlement of two judgments obtained in the U. S. District Court on Dec. 24 1914 for \$5,479 each, representing the principal and interest of five debenture bonds of the subsidiary Dayton Traction Co. The company arranged to pay \$5,125 on each claim at once and the remainder on Dec. 24 when an installment of rental is to be received from the Ohio Electric Co. The Dayton Traction Co. has \$250,000 1st M. 5% gold bonds, due July 1 1916. There is no connection between the debentures and the bonds.—V. 99, p. 159.

**Cincinnati Indianapolis & Western Ry.—Plan Operative.—Assessment Called.**—The bondholders' protective committee, Frederick H. Ecker, Chairman, on July 29 announced that the plan of reorganization outlined in V. 100, p. 2084; V. 101, p. 47 has been declared operative.

The assessment of \$300 for each \$1,000 bond deposited has been called, payable on or before Sept. 1 at the Equitable Trust Co., 37 Wall St., but 50% thereof may be paid Sept. 1 and the remainder Oct. 1 1915, with interest at 5% on the deferred payment. The assessment must be paid by holders of certificates of deposit issued under the bondholders' agreement, dated July 9 1914, for Cincinnati Indianapolis & Western Ry. Co. 1st M. 5% and the holders of such certificates stamped as assented to the plan dated June 4 1915. Such payment will entitle the depositor of each \$1,000 bond to receive, when the plan has been consummated: \$300 new 1st M. bonds, \$800 pref. stock and \$600 common stock of the new company (or voting trust certificates). A larger amount than is required by the bondholders' agreement, and as provided therein, of each class of bondholders above mentioned have assented to the plan.—V. 101, p. 369, 129.

**Cincinnati Newport & Covington Light & Traction Co.—Refunding, &c.**—The shareholders on July 28 voted to approve the plan for refunding the \$2,000,000 4% bonds due May 1 1918 of the Union Light, Heat & Power Co., as proposed by the Columbia Gas & Electric Co., which leases the property from the C. N. & C. Co. The Cincinnati "Enquirer" says: "Under the plan the present bonded debt, which matures in 1918, will be refunded by a new bond issue of \$5,000,000 50-year 5% bonds. This issue will be used to take up the present issue of \$2,000,000 [\$1,608,000 outstanding] and the balance held for issue as betterments are needed to the properties. The Columbia Company will provide a sinking fund for the new bonds under the agreement."—V. 100, p. 397, 139.

**Cleveland & Ohio Central Electric Ry.—New Route.**—The amended articles of incorporation as referred to last week, changing the name from the Cleveland Barberton Coshocton & Zanesville Ry. to Cleveland & Ohio Central Electric Ry. Co., provided also for changing the route authorized under the charter from Cleveland, O., to Zanesville, O., through Barberton and Coshocton, to a line running from Celveland to Wooster, Ohio, through Brooklyn, Parma and Royalton townships in Cuyahoga County, and Hincley, Granger, Sharon and Wadsworth townships in Medina County, and Milton, Chippewa, Green, Wayne and Wooster townships in Wayne County, Sharon, Wadsworth, Bittman and Zanesville into the town of Wooster, O. The amendments will take effect Aug. 14 1915.—V. 101, p. 369.

**Cleveland & Pittsburgh RR.—Stock.**—The Ohio P. U. Commission on Aug. 16 will hold a hearing on the company's application for authority to issue \$1,222,050 special guaranteed 4% betterment stock, which is to be turned over to the Pennsylvania RR. at par for improvements made in 1914. Amount outstanding, including said amount, will be \$16,965,000.—V. 100, p. 1348.

**Costa Rica Ry., Ltd.—Status.**—Cable advices from London state that the continued heavy falling off in earnings has created in the minds of some of the shareholders the fear that the Northern Ry. of Costa Rica might be unable to continue the lease. The Chairman at the meeting held last month stated that the directors had every reason to believe that in spite of the bad times, the working of the lease was likely to continue with its customary regularity. Moreover, the position of the railway is such that even if the lease were given up and the company had to work the railway itself, it would probably yield a profit equal in amount to the rental now received under the lease. This indicates that the 2% dividend now being paid will be maintained even in the bad times through which Costa Rica is passing. The financial position of the company is, it is stated, also very strong. The reserve fund now reaches \$182,263, and including this the total investments of all kinds amount to \$230,000.

**Crooked Creek RR. & Coal Co.—Receivership.**—Homer Loring, President of the Fort Dodge Des Moines & Southern, has relinquished his control of the stock and given up the idea of electrifying the line.

The First Savings & Trust Co. of Milwaukee on July 22 filed a petition for a receiver of the road, which extends from Lehigh to Webster, Ia., 17.6 m. Mr. Loring has, it is stated, not abandoned the project for an electric line from Fort Dodge to Webster City. The contract for new \$70,000 terminal buildings at Fort Dodge has been awarded and work is now in progress. Work has been begun on a new \$50,000 warehouse at Ft. Dodge.

**Detroit (Mich.) United Ry.—Ratified.**—The stockholders at a special meeting on Aug. 2 approved the proposed

sale of the lines in the one-fare zone to the city.—V. 101, p. 370, 212.

**Empire United Railways, Syracuse, N. Y.—Equip. 6a.** The company has made an issue of \$42,400 gold 6% equipment trust certificates, Series A, to pay in part for 12 new pay-enter cars to cost \$52,980, remaining \$10,580 met in cash. Trustee, Guaranty Trust Co., N. Y. Paid up \$10,600 yearly on June 1 1916 to 1919, both incl. Denom. \$1,000, \$500 and \$100. Interest J. & D.—V. 100, p. 900.

**Fort Dodge Des Moines & Southern RR.—Plans.**—See Crooked Creek RR. & Coal Co. above.—V. 98, p. 1766.

**Georgia Coast & Piedmont RR.—New Securities.**—The Georgia Railroad Commission will on Aug. 11, at Atlanta, hold a hearing on the application of the company for authority to issue \$82,750 Income Debentures, \$250,000 1st pref. stock, \$827,500 2d pref. stock and \$494,500 com. stock. See adv. on another page.—V. 98, p. 839.

**Hocking Valley Ry.—Decisions.**—The U. S. District Court at Columbus has handed down two decisions:

1. Holding that the ownership of the stock of the Buckeye Coal & Ry. and Ohio Land & Ry. was not changed when J. L. Jones purchased the assets of the Sunday Creek Co. Mr. Jones had brought suit to compel the delivery to him of the stocks, claiming that it was included in the sale.
2. Denying the motion filed July 27 for permission to the Hocking Valley Ry. to sell the stocks of the two companies to E. M. Poston of Columbus. This decision is not final, but Oct. 9 was set as the date for the final decree in the matter. Compare V. 101, p. 370.

**Hudson & Manhattan RR.—Income Interest.**—The directors have declared an interest payment of \$10 (or 1%) on each \$1,000 Adjustment Income bond for the 6 months ending June 30 1915, payable Oct. 1 at the office of Harvey Fisk & Sons. The same amount was disbursed on April 1 1915 and Oct. 1 and April 1 1914 for the half-years ending Dec. 31 1914, June 30 1914 and Dec. 31 1913. The first payment of \$8 34 for the 5 months ending June 30 1913 was made Oct. 1 1913, being also at rate of 2% per ann.—V. 100, p. 1340, 1358.

**Huntington Bluffton & Portland RR.—Plan—Debentures Offered.**—Trustee Fred A. Dolph, Tribune Bldg., Chicago, on July 30 wrote to creditors and investors in Cincinnati Bluffton & Chicago RR. (V. 100, p. 732, 641, 396) in subst:

The reorganization has been definitely decided upon (under title of the above-named company, incorporated in Indiana). When I bid in the property last October, I announced that old creditors would be given 30 days in which to participate by putting up their share of forfeit money and reorganization expenses. A great number responded favorably and all such will eventually receive par for their claims. Many did not accept the offer because of financial conditions.

We are financing the first payment on the property with a 3-year 6% gold debenture bond issue, limited to \$150,000 (dated Aug. 1 1915; callable after one year on any semi-annual interest date at par plus a premium of 1% per annum for the unexpired term). Subscribers to these debentures receive, upon full payment, a participation receipt calling for 26% of their subscription in full-paid pref. stock. Upon the refunding of the debentures, the holder may elect to take permanent bonds in lieu of stock. In that case, he will get an additional 26%, making 52% in all. These debentures I am first offering to creditors and investors of the C. B. & C. for subscription at par on or before Aug. 15. Subscriptions are payable one-third down, one-third Sept. 1 and the remainder Oct. 1.

The road earned over \$46,000 net the year before the receivership, eight years ago. The population is larger now than it was then, and the agricultural interests are more highly developed. Other roads in less desirable territory are earning upwards of \$5,000 per mile gross per annum. The new company is capitalized for only 40% of the original C. B. & C.

**Digest of Prospectus of Huntington Bluffton & Port. RR. Aug. 1915.** The road is now operated as a steam railroad and the J. G. White Engineering Corporation on June 22 1915 placed a present valuation on the netting Corporation of \$901,964. It is operated in ideal interurban territory and the best return can be obtained by converting this railroad into an electric interurban. The betterments, electrification and equipment will cost in the neighborhood of \$300,000, bringing the value of the property up to \$1,200,000. The organization will ultimately be carried out with the following capitalization: Common stock, \$278,000; pref. stock, \$222,000; 1st M. bonds, \$700,000; total, \$1,200,000 and 8 miles of branch and spur lines, so that the bond issue will be less than \$14,000 per mile and the stock issue including both common and preferred, will be less than \$10,000 per mile.

The average earnings of interurbans in Indiana is \$7.69 per capita of population per year. Figuring on the population reported by J. G. White Engineering Corporation, gives this road a potential gross earning, when electrified, of \$296,319, or, with operating expenses at 66% of the gross, net earning of \$100,748, which, after allowing 6% on the 1st M. bonds when issued, 6% on pref. and 6% on common stock, leaves a surplus of \$28,748.

I purchased this property for \$357,000 and \$113,000 is payable Sept. 6 1915. On that date a deed for the property is to be delivered and possession is given, the receiver reserving only a vendor's lien for the balance of the purchase price, payable one-half in 6 months and one-half in 9 months. In purchasing this property, I bid only the amount of receiver's certificates and pref. claims, which were superior liens to a bond issue of \$1,500,000, first in plan of reorganization I am requiring the bondholders whom I represented to take common stock for their underlying interests. The property, therefore, costs the creditors' committee which I represented the purchase price, \$357,000, plus bond interests \$278,000; making total \$635,000.

In order to finance the first payment on the purchase price, we are bringing out an issue of debenture bonds of \$150,000, which is to be used for making this first payment and for capital account. This debenture issue is secured by all of the capital stock of the railroad (deposited for that purpose by the owners with the Chicago Title & Trust Co., as trustee under the trust agreement dated Aug. 1 1915), and there will be no other indebtedness or bond issue outstanding except the balance of the purchase price as stated, during the life of these debentures.

It is our plan, as soon as the deed to the property and possession has been obtained, to bring out a first mortgage bond issue to refund these debentures and to pay the second and third installments on the purchase price and to provide for the electrification of the road. This issue will be \$700,000, and the purchasers of these bonds will likewise be entitled to 26% of the bonds purchased in preferred stock.

**Data from Appraisal by J. G. White Engineering Corp., N. Y., June 22. District Served.**—Exceedingly fertile, producing corn, wheat and garden vegetables. Horses, cattle and hogs are raised for shipment. Diversified manufacturing plants exist in Huntington, Bluffton and Portland; smaller towns have creameries, cold storage plants, grain elevators, etc. Estimated population directly tributary to the road: Main terminal (Huntington), 1,272; Huntington suburbs, 1,500; other towns, 15,137; rural, 11,520; tot. 38,429. Huntington is on the Wabash RR., Chicago & Erie RR. and Ft. Wayne & Northern Traction Co. line. Bluffton and Portland are other important towns with transportation connections.

**Operation.**—Three gasoline electric cars have now replaced steam for passenger service. Freight still handled with steam. Pass. rate 2 cts. p. m.

**Properties.**—Line from Huntington to Portland, Ind., 48.60 miles; yard tracks, sidings and spurs, 9.65 miles. From Huntington to Portland, 15 miles, closely parallels the Chicago & Erie RR. Has recently constructed 4,000 ft. of track, for entrance into Huntington, close to business section. Grades and curvatures moderate. Rail, 80-lb., 15 miles; 70-lb., 3 miles; 60-lb., 30.6 miles; total, 48.6 miles. Fairly well ballasted with gravel. Ties average 2,600 per mile, renewals understood as 20,000 per year for last two years. Now preparing to replace a number of wooden trestles with tile culverts. Right-of-way 66 feet. Rolling stock: 4 steam locomotives; 3 Barber gasoline-electric cars; 9 box cars; 60,000 lbs. capacity; 25 air dump cars; 1 60-ton Bucyrus steam shovel.

**Estimated Present Valuation.**—Total, \$901,964, viz.: Track and switches in place, \$276,500; right of way, \$90,000; ballasting, \$61,200; earth and rock excavation, \$76,600; terminals, stations, roundhouse, shop, &c.,

\$74,200; trestles and culverts, \$24,400; fencing, &c., \$21,600; miscellaneous, \$19,800; rolling stock, \$68,600; overhead percentages, 22%, \$156,900; changing right-of-way and tracks, 3.59 miles &c., \$31,844. Principal expenditures required for ballast, rebuilding Washburn River Bridge, overhauling equipment, aggregate \$18,000. (Cin. B. & O., V.100, p.732, 641.)

Lake Erie & Eastern RR.—Description of Road.—

The "Railway Review" of Chicago on July 31 had a 5 1/2-page illustrated article, including a map, regarding this 84-mile road, extending from Struthers, Ohio, through Youngstown, to a connection with the Pennsylvania Lines at Glead, Ohio. The line was opened for traffic Jan. 18 1915 and is owned jointly by the Mahoning Coal RR. (leased to the N. Y. Central RR.) and the Pittsburgh & Lake Erie, which see in V. 100, p. 399; V. 99, p. 1911.

Macon & Birmingham Ry.—Electric Passenger Service.—

The new electric passenger train service was put into operation on Aug. 3 between Sofkee and La Grange, 97 miles. Besides passengers, mail, baggage and express will also be handled. The 200 h.p. gas-electric engine can pull the train at 60 miles per hour, but no attempt at great speed will be made, the train operating on the same schedule that the steam trains formerly had.—V. 91, p. 945.

Midland Ry.—Reported Acquisition.—

President George M. Brinson of Savannah, Ga., whose proposed line will extend from Savannah to Milledgeville, Ga., about 150 miles, has, it is reported, purchased the Savannah Augusta & Northern RR., extending from Statesboro to Stevens Crossing, Ga., 39 miles. The latter would form part of the proposed line of the Midland Ry. Possession will, it is stated, be taken Aug. 31.

The Savannah Augusta & Northern Ry. was owned by W. J. Oliver, the contractor who built the road, and it has been operated until recently under an arrangement with Mr. Oliver by the Savannah & Statesboro Ry.

Minneapolis Anoka & Cayuna Range RR.—Mortgage.

This company (successor of the Minneapolis & Northern Ry., see V. 100, p. 308) on July 28 filed for record a mortgage for \$2,500,000 to the American Trust Co. and Charles H. Bowen of Boston, as trustees.

President F. H. Stevens is quoted as saying in substance: "This means the prompt completion of the plan for through passenger service from Anoka to the corner of Marquette Ave. and 6th St., Minneapolis. Arrangements were made some time ago with the Twin City Rapid Transit Co. to use its lines by way of Marshall St., down Central Ave. and on Marquette Ave. to 6th St. We are now making the Marshall St. extension. When the big downtown terminal is completed we expect to enter it. The way things look now we shall have electric cars of the type used by the Twin City Rapid Transit Co. running between Anoka and Marquette Ave. and 6th St. by Sept. 1.

Under new mortgage \$250,000 is already available and of this amount \$125,000 will be applied on the purchase of the railway property from Charles P. Bratton and others, who came into possession by foreclosing bonds for labor and material. The other \$125,000 will be used to complete the connection with the street railway line at Marshall St. N. E., and electrification of the service. The extension of the line north of Anoka, a by-way of St. Francis, will not be undertaken until next spring. Pledges for quick acquisition of most of the right of way have been made, according to Mr. Stevens."

Mississippi Valley Ry. & Power Co.—New Company.—

See Rock Island Southern Ry. below.

Missouri Oklahoma & Gulf Ry.—Trackage Arrangements by Texas Co.—

General Attorney Miller July 29 writes: The receivers of M. O. & G. Ry. Co. have not as yet reported in the newspapers—Ed.] entered into any contracts for trackage over the Houston & Texas Central and the St. Louis & South Western roads between Denison and Ft. Worth and Dallas, and have no intention of entering into any such contracts, or applying to the court for confirmation of any trackage agreements. The M. O. & G. Ry. Co. of Texas is contemplating making arrangements with the H. & T. Co. and the St. L. & S. W. roads for trackage from Denison, Tex., to Dallas and Ft. Worth. These arrangements, however, are only in contemplation and have not been definitely closed, and cannot be closed probably for several days. The M. O. & G. Ry. Co. of Texas is not in the hands of receivers, and the receivers of M. O. & G. Ry. Co. will not be parties to any agreements which may be entered into by the M. O. & G. Ry. Co. of Texas with either of the above roads.—V. 100, p. 1257.

Missouri Pacific Ry.—Readjustment.—

In the advertising department will be found a notice to the security holders regarding the readjustment plan outlined in "Chronicle" of July 10, p. 130, 288.

Monongahela Ry.—Mortgage.—

The company has filed in the office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth of Penna. notice of authority granted on July 1 to issue \$15,000,000 bonds.—V. 101, p. 213.

New York Connecting RR.—Progress of Construction.—

The "Engineering News" of N. Y. on July 29 contained an illustrated account of this new enterprise, including the great bridge and viaduct over Hell Gate and Randall's Island. Under favorable conditions it is expected that the bridge will be completed by the beginning of 1917.—Compare V. 98, p. 1993; 1316.

Norton & Taunton Street Ry.—Receiver.—

Judge De Courcy in the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court on July 6 appointed Amos E. Hill of Lowell as receiver of the property pending foreclosure proceedings by the American Trust Co., trustee under mortgage of 1900, in connection on \$296,000 bonds secured thereby having been long in default.—V. 69, p. 334; V. 70, p. 1049.

Pacific Gas & Electric Co.—Injunction.—

Judge Van Fleet in the U. S. District Court has issued an order restraining the city from enforcing the gas rate of 75 cents per 1,000 cu. ft. fixed by the Board of Supervisors for the coming fiscal year. The company announces the following gas rates, effective from July 1 1915: \$5 cts. per 1,000 cu. ft. for the first 16,500 cu. ft. per month; 70 cts. for the next 33,000 cu. ft.; 65 cts. for the next 100,000 cu. ft.; 60 cts. for the next 200,000 cu. ft. and 55 cts. per 1,000 cu. ft. for all over 350,000 cu. ft. per month.—V. 101, p. 283.

Palm Beach & Everglades RR.—New Road—Mortgage.

A gold spike binding the first rail in the proposed road was driven on June 17.

The proposed steam road will extend from West Palm Beach, Fla., westerly 50 miles across the reclaimed Upper Everglades, termed "The richest land in the world," to Moorehaven on Lake Okechobee, and Hicochee on Three-Mile Canal and Lake Okechobee, its western terminus, where connection will be made with boat service down the Caloosahatchee River to the west coast at Fort Myers on the Gulf of Mexico. The company has concessions from the State of Florida and other large landowners, owning 9,820 acres of Everglades land.

Incorporated in Florida April 1915. Stock, authorized, \$1,500,000, all of one class and all to be presently outstanding, par of shares, \$100. Bonds authorized, \$3,000,000 25-year gold 1st M. sinking fund 6%, dated June 1 1915, of which \$1,500,000 to be issued at present, to be secured on the road and land owned, and remainder to be reserved for additional mileage, buildings, &c.; interest payable June 1 and Dec. 1 at American Trust Co., Jacksonville, Fla., trustee; denominations \$500 and \$1,000 each. Subject to call at 105 and int. on 30 days' notice. Sinking fund, 5% after 10 years. President, Charles H. Baker; Vice-Pres., James A. Moore; Treas., T. T. Reese; Secretary, George G. Currie; Gen. Counsel, Hon. Alton B. Parker, New York. Gen. office, West Palm Beach, Fla.; N. Y. office, 149 B'way.

Pittsburgh Shawmut & Northern RR.—Authorized.

The P. S. Commission has authorized Receiver Frank Sullivan Smith to issue \$1,700,000 2-year 6% certificates in exchange for certificates maturing Aug. 1 and Sept. 1. See full details in V. 101, p. 208, 213.

Richmond & Rappahannock River Ry.—Bonds.—

The company filed in Richmond, Va., on June 19 a mortgage securing \$500,000 1st M. bonds, due 1935; denom. \$1,000. Incorporated in Virginia on April 2 1912. Capital stock, \$300,000, including \$100,000 6% pref., \$200,000 common. Road projected to run from Richmond to Urbana in Middlesex County or Rappahannock, Essex County, Va., with branches to Warsaw, Nomini Bay, Lancaster Court House, Ocean, &c. Now operates between Richmond and Pamunkey, 16 miles. Expects, it is said, to extend its line to Urbana at some time in the near future. Officers: Thomas B. Love, President, and R. B. Campbell, Sec. and Treas., both of Richmond. (The Richmond Rappahannock & Northern Ry., incorporated July 30 1915, is an independent enterprise projected to run from West Point to Urbana, Va., 17 miles. Auth. capital stock \$300,000 common, \$200,000 pref. Warner Moore is Pres., H. L. Lewis, Vice-Pres.; R. H. Bruce, Treas.; James Mullin, Jr., Secretary; Charles L. Ruffin, until recently Vice-Pres. of the other company, is engineer of the new corporation.)—V. 95, p. 1404.

Rock Island Southern Railway Co.—Plan of Readjustment Adopted by Holders of a Majority of the Outstanding Bonds.—

The Mississippi Valley Ry. & Power Co. was incorporated in Delaware on July 2 with an authorized capitalization of \$4,500,000 stock, divided into \$2,000,000 preferred and \$2,500,000 common, and has authorized a present issue of \$1,397,200 bonds to bear 5% interest to be dated July 1 1915 and due July 1 1945. The new company will acquire all the stock (except qualifying shares of directors) of the Rock Island Southern Ry. Co., the Aledo Terminal Ry. Co., the Rock Island Alexis Ry. Co. and the Edwards River Power Co. (all now operated by the Rock Island Southern Ry. Co.) in accordance with plan of June 28, outlined as follows:

Digest of Plan Presented by Leading Bondholders June 28 1915. Need for Reorganization.—The undersigned, owners and distributors of the bonds of the two issues below mentioned, because convinced a few months ago that the earnings of the company were insufficient to warrant the present fixed charges and that money must be raised for betterments, extensions, equipment and repairs, and having recently learned that undoubtedly the company would be unable to pay the interest on its bonds due July 1, employed engineers, counsel and experts, and in conjunction with them have recently examined said railroad properties. The result of our examination confirmed the facts that the company is not now earning the full interest on its funded debt and that money is immediately needed to repair, equip and better the property of the company.

Believing that a readjustment is essential, and if consummated at this time would be to the decided advantage of the bondholders, we formulated a plan of readjustment of the securities of the companies, which has already been approved by the owners of more than one-half of all the outstanding bonds, and which we advise should be adopted and carried into effect with the least possible delay. The company operates the railway running from Rock Island to Monmouth, in Illinois, with branches to Alexis and Aledo; also the power house located at Edwards River.

Table with 4 columns: Description, Net Amount, Secured, Collateral. Rows include Rock Is. So. Ry. Co. 1st 5s, Aledo Term. Ry. Co. 1st 5s, Current liabilities, Preferred stock, Common stock, Accrued bond int., Deduct—Bonds deposited as collateral.

Total net liabilities, \$6,340,091. In preparing this plan we have borne in mind the unrealized hopes of the past as to the earnings of the property, and have carefully considered the advisability of a foreclosure of the present mortgage and the expenses attending thereto. As a result thereof we unanimously agree that a readjustment, which would not decrease the amount of principal of the bondholders or cause them to pay an assessment, would be decidedly preferable to a foreclosure. The plan not only holds the fixed interest charges to the minimum amount, consistent with safety, but also provides for sufficient securities upon which cash can be realized to protect the property and put it in a position where the present earnings can be materially increased.

Voting Trust.—We have assumed the management of the new company, and the operation of the railroad is entrusted to the bondholders by means of a voting trust covering the stock of the new company. The voting trust trustees, who will constitute the first board of directors of the new company and will control the election of the directors and the operation of the properties, are as follows: Albert M. Chambers, Buffalo; T. P. Gaylord, Pittsburgh, V.-Pres. Westinghouse Elec. & Mfg. Co.; W. W. Gurley, Chicago, counsel for street and elevated railways in Chicago; J. J. Fleming, Burlington, Iowa, V.-Pres. Burlington Savings Bank; J. A. Hanley, Davenport, Iowa, director Citizens' Trust & Savings Bank; M. A. Walsh, Clinton, Iowa, V.-Pres. Burlington Railway & Light Co.; H. Prentiss Taylor, Pittsburgh, Pres. H. P. Taylor & Co.; Henri C. Morand, N. Y. City, New York Manager H. P. Taylor & Co.

Estimated Earnings.—The reports of experts assure us that, with the changes and improvements recommended by them the earnings will be doubled within the next two years. A great saving will be effected by a change from steam to electric locomotives for the haulage of freight, and changes suggested for the power house will greatly decrease the cost of power. The reports further show that the expenditure of the amount of money to be raised by the plan should certainly result in an increase of earnings and a decrease in operating expenses, which with the present earnings will provide net earnings more than sufficient to equal the interest and dividends of the pref. stock of the new company. The fixed annual interest charges of the new company will be \$69,800, a decrease of \$67,290.

Capitalization of New Company—Proposed Present Issue.

First and Refunding Lien Bonds.—Said mortgage provides that \$1,397,200 bonds shall be immediately issued for the purpose of exchange for bonds of the Rock Island Southern Ry. Co. (\$2,282,000), the Aledo Terminal Ry. Co. (\$461,000) and for cash requirements (\$300,000). The \$360,000 bonds required for immediate improvements, repairs, &c., shall have a prior lien in the event of a foreclosure of the mortgage, and provision is made for their retirement out of the sinking fund or by the sale of other bonds as soon as possible, which will then make the bonds taken in exchange by the present bondholders an absolute first lien. The mortgage further provides that bonds in excess of \$1,397,200 shall only be issued for betterments, extensions, &c., under carefully guarded restrictions. Demom. \$100, &c. Present issue (including said \$300,000 prior lien bonds) to be... \$1,397,200 Pref. (p. & d.) stock—Auth., \$2,000,000; present issue to be... 1,782,950 Common stock.—Total auth., \$2,500,000; present issue to be... 2,394,100 Proposed Distribution of New Secur., Based on All Security Holders Assenting. [Bonds must be deposited with all unpaid coupons or notes given therefor.]

Table with 4 columns: Existing Securities, Divid'g, New Bonds, New Pref. s. t. c., New Com. s. t. c. Rows include Rock Is. So. Ry. 1st 5s, do acc. int., Preferred stock, Common stock, Aledo Ter. Ry. Co. 1st 5s, do acc. int., For improvements, &c., Total.

z Being the January and July 1915 coupons of present bonds. The plan has been prepared by those who have no interest whatever in the capital stock, either pref. or common, and who hold none of the obligations of any of the reorganized companies, except bonds and coupons. We believe it will put the railway upon a sound financial basis and insure the future credit of its securities. The adoption of the plan is already assured by the assent of over a majority of the said bonds and more than a majority of the pref. stock and over a majority of the common stock.





Kansas Gas & Electric Co.—Purchase.—

The company was on July 25 authorized by the Kansas P. U. Commission to take over the property of the Arkansas City Gas & Electric Light Co. A press report says it is understood this consideration was \$300,000. At last accounts \$100,000 stock was outstanding. No bonds.—V. 100, p. 1756.

Keystone Watch Case Co.—Appeal.—

The Government on Aug. 2 took an appeal to the U. S. Supreme Court from the decision of the U. S. District Court recently handed down, which was generally in favor of the company. The Government contends that sufficient evidence was introduced at the hearings before a special examiner to warrant the Court in ordering the dissolution of the company. The company also appealed on the ground that the Court had erred in granting an injunction restraining the defendant from using certain alleged boycotting methods and in retaining jurisdiction of the suit in order to prevent the same from being continued.—V. 101, p. 373.

Laclede Gas Light Co.—Earnings.—

Table with 6 columns: 6 Mos. ending, Gross, Net (after taxes), Depr., Interest, Prof., Balance. Rows for 1915 and 1914.

Lambertville Heat, Light & Power Co. (N. J.)—Sold.—

The property was sold at public auction on Aug. 2 to W. Scott Scammell of Trenton, as counsel for the bondholders' committee, for \$5,000 and the assumption of the 1st M. 30-year 5% due Oct. 1 1934 (but callable at 105 and int.). Auth. \$100,000, reported as now out \$50,000. Supplies Lambertville, N. J., and New Hope, Pa., owning all the stock of the New Hope Heat, Light & Power Co.

Lima Locomotive Corporation.—Status.—Shivers & Fay, 66 Broadway, N. Y. City, say in substance:

This company is one of the three principal concerns engaged in the manufacture of locomotives, the others being American Locomotive Co. and Baldwin Locomotive Co. Its plant, which is located at Lima, O., covers 52 acres of ground and employs 2,600 men. Since 1911 the plant has been enlarged and practically rebuilt. Its present capacity is 800 locomotives per annum. The company is understood to be doing its record business. Deliveries for the six months ending June 30 1915, it is stated, were at the rate of about \$800,000 per month, with sufficient orders on hand to keep the plant busy until Jan. 1 1916. Earnings of \$640,000 would pay the interest on the \$2,000,000 1st M. 6s, the pref. dividends (7% on \$2,000,000) and leave 10% for the \$4,000,000 common stock. To earn this sum requires a gross business of only \$7,000,000 per annum. The gross is at present reported to be exceeding this figure about 33 1-3%. Among the customers are New York Central, Great Northern, Illinois Central, Erie, &c.—V. 100, p. 1923.

Massachusetts Gas Companies.—New Plant.—

The company, it is reported, is building a new plant at Woburn, to cost about \$500,000, for the manufacture of picric acid for the Allied armies engaged in the European war. The ground is leased by the subsidiary New England Manufacturing Co. The output will, it is said, be about 200 tons of acid per month, at an est. profit of 75 cts. per lb.—V. 101, p. 374, 135.

Mercantile Stores Corporation, New York.—Sale.—

See Scruggs-Vandervoort-Barney Dry Goods Co. below.—V. 100, p. 905.

Nevada Consolidated Copper Co.—Earnings.—For 3 and 6 months ending June 30:

Table with 4 columns: 3 mos. end. June 30, 6 mos. end. June 30, 1915, 1914. Rows for Gross production, Total income, Deprec'n Steptoe plant, Ore extinguishment, Dividends, Balance, surplus.

The above earnings are computed upon the basis of 17,066 cents and 14,646 cents for the quarters ending June 30 and March 31 1915, against 14,049 cents and 14,431 cents for the respective quarters in 1914.—V. 100, p. 1911.

New England Telephone & Telegraph Co.—Stock.—

The stockholders on Aug. 5 authorized the increase in capital from \$50,000,000 to \$75,000,000. It is thought that none of the new stock will be issued until later in the year or early in 1916. See V. 101, p. 291.

Philadelphia Electric Co.—Notes.—

The company on or about July 30 sold to Drexel & Co. and Brown Bros. & Co., Philadelphia, \$3,500,000 of 5% 2-year notes at a price believed to be about 99 1/2. The entire issue was quickly re-sold to Philadelphia institutions, subject to approval by the Pennsylvania P. U. Commission. Dated Aug. 2 1915 and due Aug. 1 1917, but red. at par Aug. 1 1916 or Feb. 1 1917, on 30 days' notice. Int. F. & A. at office of Drexel & Co. Denom. \$1,000. "Philadelphia Press" July 31 said:

The directors took the view that it is better to borrow money in this way at 5% than to call in more capital and pay 7% dividends upon the money thus paid in by shareholders. There is paid in on Philadelphia Electric shares \$22.50 per share, and as the par value is \$25, the uncalled capital is \$2.50 per share, or approximately \$2,500,000. Thus the issue of notes exceeds the uncalled capital by \$1,000,000.

The company's business is expanding. Not only does it furnish power to the Phila. Rapid Transit Co. and has contracted to supply the Pennsylvania R.R. when a portion of its main line is electrified, but it is supplying current at Eddystone from its plant at Chester. The demand at Eddystone is growing, and it is said that a part of the proceeds of the sale of the notes will be used to meet the demands in Delaware Co. A part of the proceeds will also be used to take up floating debt. The last report showed that on Dec. 31 bills payable were \$821,000 and notes outstanding amounted to \$1,090,000. Compare V. 100, p. 1344, 1353.

Porto Rican American Tobacco Co.—Earnings.—

Table with 4 columns: Year, Deprec. &c., Income, Total Interest, Dividends, Balance. Rows for 1915 and 1914.

The dividends as above in 1914-15 include three quarterly payments of 5% in scrip and one of 4% in cash (V. 100, p. 1753). The total surplus June 30 1915 was \$1,498,738 against \$1,307,496 in 1914.—V. 100, p. 1758

Ray Consol. Copper Co.—Earnings:

Table with 4 columns: 3 Mos. end. June 30, 6 Mos. end. June 30, 1915, 1914. Rows for Gross production, Total income, Bond interest, Divs. (3 1/4 %).

Total income \$1,377,135 \$2,159,254 Net surplus \$793,851 \$1,535,390 The earnings for the June 30 quarter are computed on the basis of 18,635 cents per lb. for copper, against 14,324 cents for the quarter ending Mar. 31 1915.—V. 101, p. 286.

Scruggs-Vandervoort-Barney Dry Goods Co., St. Louis.—Control Now Held in St. Louis.—

This company, one of the leading dry goods houses in St. Louis, has passed into absolute control of St. Louis interests. The amount of stock transferred from the Mercantile Stores Corporation of New York (the Claffin interests) to the St. Louis company, employees and others, consisted of 21,000 shares of common and 1,870 shares of first preferred stock.

The company was incorporated in Missouri in 1850 and is capitalized at \$5,250,000, in \$100 shares, of which \$1,500,000 is outstanding, including all

the \$2,500,000 common and \$1,250,000 6% cum. 1st pref. and \$749,375 of the \$1,500,000 7% cum. 2d pref.. All shares have equal voting power. No bond or note issue has been proposed and no change in capitalization is contemplated. Pres. & Treas., M. L. Wilkinson; V.-Pres. & Sec., R. Johnston, G. H. Walker & Co. and Francis Bros. & Co., St. Louis are understood to be interested.—V. 99, p. 987.

Sears, Roebuck & Co.—Sales.—

Table with 4 columns: 1915-July-1914, Increase, 1915-7 Mos.-1914, Increase. Rows for \$7,935,930 and \$709,813.

Spanish River Pulp & Paper Mills, Ltd.—Postponement of Interest.—Secretary T. Gibson, Toronto, July 20, gave notice to holders of 1st M. 6s—

In accordance with the supplemental trust deed authorized by the bondholders Jan. 20 1915, bondholders are requested on or before Jan. 1 1916 to deliver up to Montreal Trust Co., either at Toronto or Montreal, the four coupons on their currency bonds which have fallen due or will fall due on Jan. 1 and July 1 in 1915 and 1916 in exchange for postponed interest coupons, as provided in the said supplemental trust deed. In return postponed interest coupons will be delivered on and after Aug. 9 1915, and the bonds, which must also be presented, will be marked and returned to the owners.—V. 100, p. 1173.

Street's Western Stable Car Line.—Readjustment.—

At a meeting of the stock and bondholders' committees on Monday, an agreement, it is reported, was reached on a plan of readjustment, but it was arranged that the chairman of the committees should call meetings of the security holders, to whom the proposition will be submitted for approval. It is understood that the proposition contemplates the formation of a new company. In exchange for the present \$1,600,000 bonds the new company is to issue \$800,000 5% bonds and \$800,000 stock. The total amount of the stock issue is to be \$1,000,000, the remaining \$200,000 to be put into a participation certificate arrangement, the shareholders of the old company to receive the new participation certificates pro rata. The stock of the new company will be of one class. No preferred shares will be issued. If the proposition goes through, the foreclosure sale, which has been a number of times adjourned, the last time to Aug. 16, will probably not take place.—V. 101, p. 375, 292.

Studebaker Corporation.—Second Common Dividend.—

A quarterly dividend of 1 1/4% has been declared on the \$27,931,600 common stock, payable Sept. 1 to holders of record Aug. 20. An initial payment of the same amount was made on June 1.—V. 101, p. 136.

Submarine Boat Corporation, N. Y.—Incorporated.—

This company was incorporated at Albany on Aug. 4 with 800,000 shares of capital stock with no par value, as successor of the Electric Boat Co. A circular regarding the exchange of stock will probably be issued next week.

The new company is empowered to build boats to operate both under and on the surface of the water, to manufacture ordnance, rifles, shells, shrapnel, projectiles, cartridges, powder and other war munitions.

If current gossip is correct, the stock of the Electric Boat Co. (49,996 shares of common and 26,875 shares of 8% cum. pref., par \$100) will be exchanged on the basis of ten of new for one of old, thus calling for the issue of 769,710 shares of the new stock, for which regular dividends, with possible extras, are suggested. See Electric Boat Co. in V. 101, p. 373.

Union Natural Gas Corporation, Pittsburgh, Pa.—

Semi-Annual Statement.—The company, for itself and its affiliated cos., reports as follows (inter-cos. accts. eliminated):

Table with 2 columns: Consolidated Statement of Income for Six Months Ending June 30 1915, and Consolidated Balance Sheet as of June 30 1915 and Dec. 31 1914. Rows include Gas sold, Electricity sold, Oil sold, Income from net earnings, Deduct interest, Dividends paid, Sundry adjustments, Net surplus.

Net surplus, \$903,476. Of the \$704,695 spent for gas purchased \$586,639 went to Reserve Gas Co. Consolidated Balance Sheet as of June 30 1915 and Dec. 31 1914.

Table with 4 columns: Assets (All \$), June 30 '15, Dec. 31 '14, Liabilities (All \$), June 30 '15, Dec. 31 '14. Rows include Investment, Warehouse material, Cash, Cash in escrow, Cash to pay bonds and coupons, Accts. receivable, Prep'd rent, ins. &c.

Total \$22,209,893 22,280,742 Total \$22,209,893 22,280,742

y After adding surplus, \$903,476, for the six months and deducting \$130,903 for contingent earnings of prior years.

Bonds are shown above as of June 30 1915, less amounts in the treasury, namely, Union Nat. Gas Corp., \$1,000,000; affiliated cos., \$277,500.—V. 100, p. 897.

Union Sugar Co., San Francisco.—Extra Dividend.—

An extra dividend of 5 cents a month has been declared on the \$2,530,000 stock (par \$25), in addition to the regular monthly distribution of 15 cents, (the rate in effect since Jan. 1915, when distributions were resumed after having been discontinued for a time in June 1913). The first dividend is payable Aug. 5 to holders of record July 25.

From 1908 to 1909 30 cents per share was paid monthly, with extra dividend of \$1.20 in Dec. 1909; from Jan. 1910 to May 1911, 40 cents monthly, and in April 1911, \$1 extra; beginning June 1911, 20 cents monthly on stock not increased (V. 92, p. 799), and from Dec. 1911 to May 1913, 25 cents monthly.—V. 96, p. 1633.

United Coal Mining Co., Illinois.—Notes Offered.—

The Chicago Savings Bank & Trust Co. is offering \$250,000 two-year 6% notes, due Aug. 1 1917 at par and int.

Property includes 4,000 acres of coal in Franklin County, Ill., with two coal mines in operation, one of which is reported to have the largest capacity in the State. Compare V. 90, p. 1558.

United States Metal Products Co.—Sold.—

The company's property was sold at receiver's sale on Aug. 2 for \$216,027. The creditors' committee bid \$204,000 for most of the parcels, the remainder going to outsiders. See V. 101, p. 292.

Utah Copper Co.—Earnings.—3 & 6 mos. end. June 30:

Table with 4 columns: 3 Mos. end. June 30, 6 Mos. end. June 30, 1915, 1914. Rows for Gross production, Net profits, Miscellaneous, Nevada Cons. dividends, Bingham & Garfield Ry. net, Total net profit, Dividends paid, Net surplus.

The above earnings are computed upon the basis of about 16.984 cents and 14.93 cents for copper in the quarters ending June 30 and March 31 1915, respectively, and 13.916 and 14.403 cents for the respective quarters in 1914.—V. 100, p. 1910.

For other investment news see page 456.



## Reports and Documents.

## LEHIGH VALLEY RAILROAD COMPANY

SIXTY-FIRST ANNUAL REPORT—FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30 1915.

Philadelphia, August 3 1915.

To the Stockholders of the Lehigh Valley Railroad Company:

The Board of Directors herewith submit the annual report of the business and condition of your Company for the fiscal year ended June 30 1915.

## MILEAGE.

The first-track mileage owned or controlled and operated by the Lehigh Valley Railroad Company, the main line of which is double track, extending from Jersey City, N. J., to Buffalo and Suspension Bridge, N. Y., is as follows:

	Miles.
Lehigh Valley Railroad Company	318.88
Controlled by ownership of entire capital stock	938.67
Controlled by ownership of majority of capital stock and lease	115.37
Operated under lease	27.73
Total mileage operated (owned or controlled)	1,398.65
Trackage rights over railroads owned by other companies	43.71
Total first-track mileage	1,442.36

In addition to the above, there are 594.86 miles, or 41.24 per cent, of second track, 99.51 miles of third track, 44.84 miles of fourth track and 1,215.76 miles of yard tracks and sidings, a total of 3,397.33 miles of track in operation at the close of the year. A detailed statement of track mileage is shown on pages 47 to 49 [pamphlet report]. The average number of miles of railway operated for the year was 1,443.52, upon which the mileage statistics in certain tables submitted in this report are based.

The total decrease of 1.38 track miles compared with the preceding year is due, in the main, to the deduction of 1.07 miles of trackage rights, the use of which was discontinued during the year.

## OPERATING REVENUES AND EXPENSES.

The following statement sets forth the total revenues and expenses and net revenue from operation for the fiscal year, compared with similar figures for the fiscal year 1914. The complete income account appears below.

The Inter-State Commerce Commission having ordered certain further changes in the classification of operating revenues, expenses and income, effective July 1 1914, it has been necessary for the purpose of a proper comparison, to re-state the figures for the preceding fiscal year; hence those figures will in many cases be at variance with similar items published in last year's annual report. The principal change is the elimination of Outside Operations, which represent the operations of certain of our water lines, &c., the revenue from which is now included in Operating Revenues and the expenses in Operating Expenses. Similar explanation applies with respect to the classification of various items on the balance sheet, which has been changed from the balance sheet published in previous years so as to conform with the accounting requirements of the Commission.

## OPERATING REVENUES.

From—	1915.	1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—).
Coal freight	\$19,195,755 50	\$18,528,246 44	+\$667,509 06
Merchandise freight	16,075,501 45	15,541,885 90	+463,615 55
Passenger	4,043,799 00	4,795,147 43	—751,348 43
Mail	195,124 81	195,052 87	+71 94
Express	449,622 82	443,971 75	+5,651 07
Other transportation	2,022,230 85	2,063,650 04	—41,419 19
Incidental	613,927 59	603,692 34	+11,235 25
Total operating revenues	\$42,525,962 02	\$42,170,646 78	+\$355,315 24

## OPERATING EXPENSES.

	1915.	1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—).
Maintenance of way and structures	\$4,483,924 72	\$4,674,725 37	—\$190,800 65
Maintenance of equipment	8,207,491 18	7,669,793 05	+537,698 13
Traffic expenses	959,830 08	1,040,594 15	—80,764 07
Transportation expenses	15,382,186 83	15,804,058 77	—421,871 94
General expenses	913,954 73	898,733 86	+15,220 87
Total operating expenses	\$29,947,387 54	\$30,087,905 20	—\$140,517 66
Net Operating Revenue	\$12,578,574 48	\$12,082,741 58	+\$495,832 90
Ratio of operating expenses to operating revenues	70.42%	71.35%	— .93%

## OPERATING REVENUES.

## COAL FREIGHT.

The revenue derived from the transportation of coal and coke amounted to \$19,195,755 50, an increase of \$667,509 06, or 3.60 per cent, as compared with the preceding twelve months.

The percentage of coal freight revenue to total operating revenues was 45.14 per cent., an increase of 1.20 per cent.

The coal and coke transported, excluding the Company's supply coal, was 16,894,930 tons, an increase of 429,982 tons, or 2.61 per cent.

This class of tonnage was 55.82 per cent of the total tonnage hauled during the year, an increase of .52 per cent.

## MERCHANDISE FREIGHT.

The transportation of merchandise freight produced a revenue of \$16,075,501 45, an increase of \$463,615 55, or 2.98 per cent, as compared with the preceding year.

The revenue derived from the transportation of merchandise freight was 37.64 per cent of the total operating revenues, an increase of .79 per cent.

The tonnage moved, excluding Company's material, was 13,373,771 tons, an increase of .49 per cent.

## GENERAL FREIGHT.

The total revenue derived from both coal and merchandise freight was \$35,201,256 95, an increase of \$1,131,124 61, or 3.32 per cent, as compared with the preceding twelve months.

The entire freight traffic amounted to 30,268,701 tons, an increase of 495,421 tons, or 1.66 per cent.

The number of tons carried one mile was 5,326,328,902, an increase of 140,128,336 ton miles, or 2.70 per cent.

The average haul was 175.97 miles, an increase of 1.78 miles, or 1.02 per cent.

The average revenue per ton was 116.30 cents, as compared with 114.43 cents last year, an increase of 1.87 cents, or 1.63 per cent.

Company's freight, not included in the above, amounted to 3,073,660 tons, a decrease of 62,095 tons, or 1.98 per cent.

The total freight train mileage was 8,580,867 miles, an increase of 244,295 miles, or 2.93 per cent.

The revenue received per freight train mile was \$4 10, an increase of \$0 01, or .24 per cent.

The average train-load of revenue freight was 620.72 tons, a decrease of 1.38 tons, or .22 per cent. Including Company's freight, the average train-load was 643.62 tons, a decrease of 1.57 tons, or .24 per cent.

## PASSENGER.

The earnings received from passenger traffic amounted to \$4,043,799 00, a decrease of \$751,348 44, or 15.67 per cent, compared with the preceding year.

The total number of passengers carried was 5,206,972, a decrease of 522,070, or 9.11 per cent.

The number of passengers carried one mile decreased 49,671,062, or 18.72 per cent.

The average revenue per passenger was 77.66 cents, a decrease of 6.04 cents, or 7.22 per cent.

The average revenue per passenger per mile was 1.875 cents, an increase of .068 cent, or 3.76 per cent.

The average distance traveled by each passenger was 41.42 miles, a decrease of 4.89 miles, or 10.56 per cent.

Passenger train mileage was 4,170,202, a decrease of 225,157 miles, or 5.12 per cent, as compared with a decrease in this revenue of 15.67 per cent.

The average revenue from passengers per passenger train mile was 96.97 cents, a decrease of 12.13 cents, or 11.12 per cent.

## MAIL.

The sum of \$195,124 81 was received from the Federal Government for the transportation of United States mail, an increase of \$71 94.

## EXPRESS.

The revenue from this class of business amounted to \$449,622 82, an increase of \$5,651 07.

## OTHER TRANSPORTATION.

The earnings derived from transportation other than shown under the preceding headings were \$2,022,230 85, a decrease of \$41,419 19.

## INCIDENTAL.

Incidental revenue amounted to \$613,927 59, an increase of \$11,235 25.

## OPERATING EXPENSES.

## MAINTENANCE OF WAY AND STRUCTURES.

The sum of \$4,483,924 72 was expended for the maintenance of way and structures, a decrease of \$190,800 65, or 4.08 per cent, as compared with the preceding year.

A new four-track steel bridge was constructed during the year to replace a double-track steel bridge. Three overhead steel street bridges were raised, in connection with Buffalo Terminal improvements, and additional spans with solid floors were erected. One steel bridge was built in connection with new track construction. Sixteen steel bridges and eleven concrete-steel bridges were placed in the track, replacing light iron or wooden bridges. Three iron and eight wooden bridges were replaced by pipe culverts, and four iron and two wooden bridges were abandoned and

the openings filled. One arch culvert was filled and abandoned and four wooden trestles were substantially shortened by filling.

5,535 tons of 110-pound rail, 30,549 tons of 100-pound rail and 45 tons of 90-pound rail, together with necessary frogs, switches, etc., were placed in the track.

1,118,810 tie plates and 193,934 anti-rail creepers were used.

1,001,577 cross ties, 2,842,100 feet B. M. switch ties, 637,471 feet B. M. bridge ties and lumber amounting to 3,511,267 feet B. M. were used.

647,981 of the cross ties, 2,495,412 feet B. M. of switch ties and 596,560 feet B. M. of bridge ties were treated with creosote.

65,612 cubic yards of crushed stone were used in ballasting track. 18,197 feet of drain tile were placed in the road-bed.

334.93 miles of copper and 54.50 miles of iron wire were used in extending and renewing the telephone, telegraph and signal wires on the system.

#### MAINTENANCE OF EQUIPMENT.

The expenditures for the maintenance of equipment amounted to \$8,207,491 18, an increase of \$537,698 13, or 7.01 per cent, as compared with the preceding twelve months. Included therein is a charge of \$1,426,831 06 for the depreciation of equipment, as required by the accounting rules of the Inter-State Commerce Commission.

Ten worn-out locomotives, one passenger car, three express cars, two fruit cars, 572 freight equipment cars and thirteen road service cars were condemned and either sold or destroyed during the year and their value written off the books by appropriate charges through operating expenses.

Four passenger cars, five express cars, four fruit cars and one combined baggage and mail car were converted into workmen's cars. Eighteen produce cars were converted into ice cars and fifty freight equipment cars were transferred to road service.

Twenty-eight locomotives have been equipped with additional air pumps and one hundred and fifty-nine with built-up lubricators, to meet the requirements of the Inter-State Commerce Commission.

Fifty-six locomotives had new fire boxes applied, one hundred and fifteen were equipped with new cylinders and nine with new boilers.

275 passenger equipment cars were painted and varnished and thirteen equipped with electric-lighting apparatus. Three dining cars and five milk cars were equipped with steel underframes.

Steel underframes were applied to 2,286 wooden freight and coal cars, making a total of 14,658 cars so equipped during the last seven years. Five eight-wheel cabooses were equipped with steel underframes. 12,855 freight equipment cars, one passenger equipment car and thirty-six road service cars were equipped with safety appliances to conform to the requirements of the Inter-State Commerce Commission.

The total number of locomotives on hand at the close of the year was 945, with a tractive power of 30,234,824 pounds. The total number of freight equipment cars was 45,459, with a capacity of 1,693,578 tons.

#### TRAFFIC EXPENSES.

The expenditures under this heading amounted to \$959,830 03, a decrease of \$80,764 07, as compared with the preceding twelve months.

#### TRANSPORTATION EXPENSES.

The cost of conducting transportation was \$15,382,186 83, a decrease of \$421,871 94, or 2.67 per cent, as compared with the preceding year, notwithstanding an increase of .84 per cent in the total operating revenues.

The ratio of transportation expenses to total operating revenues was 36.17 per cent, a decrease of 1.31 per cent, as compared with the preceding year.

#### GENERAL EXPENSES.

This class of expenses amounted to \$913,954 73, or 2.15 per cent of the total operating revenues.

#### TAXES.

The taxes accrued on your property, capital and business during the year amounted to \$1,797,379 16, an increase of \$36,967 58 over the preceding year.

#### ADDITIONS AND BETTERMENTS.

The sum of \$2,974,042 42 was expended during the year for the acquisition of new property and for the improvement and development of existing property, which amount has been charged to Additions and Betterments, as required by the Inter-State Commerce Commission. A classified statement of these expenditures appears on page 44 [pamphlet report]. Specific mention is made of the more important expenditures, viz.:

The new equipment purchased and added to the property during the year is as follows: Three passenger locomotives, five switching locomotives, two locomotive tenders, thirty steel passenger coaches, ten steel smoking cars, twenty-five steel baggage cars, two 150-ton steam derricks, two Russell snow plows, one caboose, one motor inspection car and one tank car. A portion of this equipment is covered by the Equipment Trust referred to in full under the heading "Financial."

In addition to the foregoing, orders have been placed for ten Pacific type passenger locomotives, five switching locomotives, three locomotive tenders and twenty steel-underframe milk cars.

During the past fiscal year, fifty-three heavy Consolidation type freight locomotives were rebuilt and equipped with superheaters, new cylinders and Walschaert valve gears. These changes have resulted in a reduced fuel consumption as well as increased efficiency of operation, due to the better-sustained steaming qualities of the engines.

Work in connection with the new passenger and freight terminals at Buffalo is progressing favorably. The plans for the buildings were approved, contracts awarded and work commenced on April 14 1915. It is expected that the freight terminal will be completed and ready for use by November next and the passenger terminal at a later date.

A new open pier 1,060 feet in length and 76 feet in width, equipped with modern ore-handling machinery, together with necessary yard tracks, is being constructed at tidewater near Constable Hook, and, when completed, will accommodate steamships of 35-foot draft. The furnaces in the Lehigh Valley region will utilize these facilities for the handling of foreign ores. It is expected that this improvement will be completed early in the spring of 1916.

During the year considerable improvements and additions have been made to the pier stations in the City of New York. A long-term lease was concluded with the City for the wharf property on the North River at the foot of Rector Street, and your Company is now constructing thereon a new pier 730 feet long and 75 feet wide, with suitable bulkheads on each side, which will be ready for operation about Jan. 1 1916. This will enable your Company to dispense with the station facilities at Pier 2, which are no longer adequate. The substructure of the new pier will be of concrete above the low-water line and the superstructure will be of steel, the pier section of which will be one-story and the bulkhead section two-stories. Pier 44, East River, located between Gouverneur and Jackson Streets, has also been acquired under a long-term lease from the City and will be equipped with a two-story steel shed, primarily intended for the handling of flour, the pier being advantageously located in the centre of distribution for that commodity. At the 149th Street station there is now in course of erection a steel building, equipped with automatic sprinkler, for the storage of hay, a commodity which is extensively handled in that locality. At Pier 5, Wallabout, Brooklyn, where your Company previously leased only about one-fourth of the pier, it acquired the entire pier, enlarged the steel shed and installed an automatic sprinkler system. The acquisition of these additional pier facilities will permit your Company to render improved service to its patrons.

A modern steel and concrete ground-level plant for handling coal from cars to boats, with a capacity of 500 cars in ten hours, is being installed at Tift Farm, Buffalo, and will be ready for service early in August. It will be operated by electricity and will consist of two rocking cradles for unloading box cars and four fixed hoppers for unloading open cars. The coal will be conveyed by apron flights to a telescopic chute in the boat. This installation will reduce breakage of coal to a minimum, will eliminate all fire risk now incident to the high wooden trestle, and also reduce the cost of maintenance.

66,422 feet, or 12.58 miles, of Company's sidings, and 15,787 feet, or 2.99 miles, of industrial sidings, were constructed during the year.

To avoid surface disturbances by reason of mine workings of one of the large anthracite mining companies, a change of line was completed between Espy Run and Newport, a distance of 1.2 miles. In making this change, 82 degrees of curvature were eliminated, including a double reverse curve of 6 and 8 degrees, respectively.

The car-repair yard at Coxtan is being relocated in order to provide additional room necessary for car repairs, and at the same time to permit of the use of the old car-repair tracks for the enlargement of the classification yard. About 8,000 feet of track have been constructed in this connection. The yards at South Plainfield, Perth Amboy and Oak Island were enlarged, resulting in increased capacities of 41, 174 and 32 cars, respectively.

A new fifty-stall fireproof engine house, together with a 100-foot electrically operated turntable, is in course of construction at Sayre.

A concrete freight house was erected at Leighton. Dwelling houses of hollow tile and stucco construction, for the accommodation of foremen and laborers, were constructed at Flemington Junction, Ashmore and Phelps. Extensive improvements were made to the Company dwelling houses at Delano and to the milk-shipping stations at West Portal, Tioga Centre and Wysox. A frame shelter was erected at Weequahic Park, Newark, for the accommodation of incoming passengers waiting for trolley cars. In the waiting rooms of the Wilkes-Barre passenger station a new marbleoid floor was laid and new seating accommodations and electric-light fixtures were installed.

A new 46-foot track scale was installed at South Plainfield.

Eleven gasoline motor cars were purchased for use of section, bridge, signal and telegraph gangs, making a total of 110 now in service.

The improvements in connection with the water supply at Leighton and Packerton, comprising the construction of a

reservoir of five million gallons capacity on Beaver Run and a dam across Mahoning Creek, together with electric pumping machinery and connecting pipe lines, which will afford an independent and ample supply of water for the locomotives and shops at those points, referred to in last year's report, are about one-half completed. A new water station with a 52,500-gallon steel standpipe supplied by gravity was established at Sheldrake Springs.

Automatic disc signals between Slatington and Penn Haven Junction, a distance of 21.3 miles, were replaced with three-position upper-quadrant signals, and the automatic disc signals between Laceyville and Wilkes-Barre, a distance of 49.1 miles, have been renewed with two-position lower-quadrant signals. Extensive improvements were made to the mechanical interlocking plant at Pine Junction.

Visible and audible crossing signals were installed at the following points: Morley's Crossing, east of Athens; Stanton; Clinton Avenue, South Plainfield; Colfax Avenue and Walnut Street, Roselle Park; Manville, and Lexington Avenue, Pieton.

During the year thirty-five portable telephones were installed on freight and passenger trains, making a total of 720 in service, which completes the work of equipping trains. The purpose of these telephones is to enable train crews to communicate immediately with the proper officers in case of accident or unusual delay.

New telegraph and telephone pole lines were erected for a distance of 4.50 miles on the Mahanoy and Hazleton Division, .83 of a mile on the Seneca Division and 2.50 miles on the Buffalo Division. Telegraph and telephone lines were rebuilt for a distance of 9.68 miles on the New Jersey and Lehigh Division, 2.10 miles on the Mahanoy and Hazleton Division, 23.85 miles on the Wyoming Division and 21 miles on the Buffalo Division. Poles were reset for a distance of 23.90 miles on the New Jersey and Lehigh Division, 19.70 miles on the Mahanoy and Hazleton Division and 6.60 miles on the Wyoming Division.

FINANCIAL.

No capital obligations have been issued and sold by your Company during the fiscal year.

The following obligations matured and were retired during the year:

Description.	Interest Rate.	Maturity.	Amount.
Collateral Trust Bonds	4%	Feb. & Aug.	\$1,000,000
Equipment Trust, Series I, Certificates	4%	September	400,000
Equipment Trust, Series J, Certificates	4 1/2%	Mar. & Sept.	500,000
Equipment Trust, Series K, Certificates	4%	Mar. & Sept.	300,000
Equipment Trust, Series L, Certificates	4 1/2%	Apr. & Oct.	400,000
Equipment Trust, Series M, Certificates	4 1/2%	March	200,000
Total			\$2,800,000

Thus far the improvements which have been made in connection with the new freight and passenger terminals at Buffalo, referred to elsewhere in the report, have been financed out of the current cash resources of the Company. It is proposed, however, at a later date to make a specific issue of bonds to cover the major portion of this expenditure. Accordingly, a new company has been incorporated, known as the Lehigh-Buffalo Terminal Railway Corporation, which will take title to the real estate and make all the improvements incident to the construction of the terminals. Application is now pending before the Public Service Commission of New York State for authority to have the terminal corporation issue to the Lehigh Valley Railroad Company Fifty-Year Five Per Cent Gold Debenture Bonds for such moneys as have been and will be advanced to it for this purpose. These bonds, when received, will be placed in the treasury of your Company. All of the real estate which was acquired by your Company and its subsidiaries is now being transferred to the new company.

The Equipment Trust, known as Series M, covering an issue of \$1,800,000 Four and One-half Per Cent Certificates, which was authorized last year, as mentioned in that annual report, has been completed and the certificates are now in the Company's treasury. The same mature in annual installments of \$200,000 on March 1 of each year, the last installment being due on March 1 1923. The \$200,000 which matured March 1 1915 were duly canceled. This trust is a lien upon one thousand self-clearing double hopper steel coal cars of 100,000 pounds capacity each, sixty-five steel passenger coaches, twenty-five steel baggage and express and ten steel smoking cars.

The advances made by the Lehigh Valley Railroad Company to subsidiary companies, of which it owns the entire capital stock, were reimbursed by the issuance of Fifty-Year Five Per Cent Gold Debenture Bonds as follows:

The Lehigh Valley Rail Way Company	\$380,000
Lehigh Valley Railroad Company of New Jersey	240,000
Pennsylvania and New York Canal & Railroad Company	145,000
National Storage Company	80,000

These securities have been deposited with the Trustee of the General Consolidated Mortgage, as required by the terms of that mortgage.

To reimburse your Company for advances made to it for capital expenditures, the Wyoming Valley Water Supply Company has issued \$80,000 First Mortgage Five Per Cent Bonds which have been received and placed in the treasury.

The book value of the capital stock of Coxo Brothers & Company, Incorporated, has been reduced by the sum of \$1,000,000, and Profit and Loss charged with that amount, as has been the practice in preceding years.

There has been a reduction in the book value of the capital stock of the Temple Iron Company, as a result of the liquidation of its anthracite business following the decree of the Supreme Court of the United States.

Material and Supplies on hand at the close of the year amounted to \$2,906,007 63, a decrease of \$467,253 15.

Current Assets are \$8,097,354 72 in excess of Current Liabilities.

Four quarterly dividends of two and one-half per cent each on the preferred and common capital stocks of the Company were declared and paid during the year.

The cash and security balances of the Company for the year have been verified by certified public accountants and a copy of their certificate as to the correctness of the same is given on page 19 [pamphlet report].

GENERAL REMARKS.

Your Company has pursued a fairly aggressive policy in the matter of expenditures for the development and improvement of its property. The appropriations for the year were also very liberal for the maintenance of the permanent way and equipment. In fact, it will be observed by reference to the statement of operating expenses, that the total maintenance appropriations have been somewhat in excess of the preceding year, noticeably so in the case of equipment. Your Board of Directors believed it to be for the best interests of the stockholders to pursue this policy of liberal maintenance and conservative development for the future, notwithstanding the fact that the revenues were somewhat affected during part of the fiscal year as a result of the disturbed business and financial condition of the country resulting from the European situation.

The attention of the stockholders is again called to the tax accruals which are steadily increasing, and at a rate out of all proportion to the increase in revenues. The total taxes now amount to 4.23 per cent of your Company's gross operating revenues. In the last ten years operating revenues have increased 29.69 per cent, while taxes have increased 154.21 per cent.

Five new covered barges were received during the year and added to the floating equipment of the Lehigh Valley Transportation Company, the entire capital stock of which is owned by your Company. One tug, fully covered by insurance, was lost at sea. One steam lighter, two cattle boats and six barges, which, on account of age and capacity, became undesirable for further service, were condemned and sold.

The Inter-State Commerce Commission rendered a decision in the month of May 1915 under the so-called Panama Canal Act, the effect of which, unless the decision can be modified, will be to compel the Lehigh Valley Railroad Company to cease the operation of six steamers owned by the Lehigh Valley Transportation Company and now operated upon the Great Lakes. These vessels have for years been operated in miscellaneous freight service and served as valuable feeders from Western points to your Company's lines which end at Buffalo. The decision of the Commission does not require the discontinuance of these operations until December 1 1915. The matter is one of grave concern to your Company and is now occupying the earnest attention of its officers.

Your company has seventeen men engaged in the preparation of data and collection of records in connection with the valuation of the Company's property, for use by the Inter-State Commerce Commission, as required by law, and this force will have to be increased as the work progresses.

The passenger stations at Waterloo and Seneca Falls and the passenger train service between Geneva and Seneca Falls were discontinued as of October 1 1914. This discontinuance was consented to by the Public Service Commission of New York State upon proof being furnished to it that the service was being rendered at a loss to your Company and that the communities interested were being well served otherwise.

Upon petition of the Board of Trade of Irvington the Board of Public Utility Commissioners of New Jersey ordered your Company, effective January 29 1915, to operate three passenger trains on the Irvington Branch in connection with three main line trains to and from Jersey City. The receipts from this service were so hopelessly inadequate in meeting the expense of operation that the Board of Public Utility Commissioners consented to the withdrawal of the service as of June 22 1915.

The operation of the Lehigh & New York Railroad for the year under review resulted in a loss of \$225,826 13. The property of that Company is leased and operated by your Company under an agreement made in 1895.

Sixty new industries were located on the system during the year, of which fifty have direct track connections with your Company's lines.

Total payments direct to labor for the year amounted to \$16,834,699 53, or 56.21 per cent of the total operating expenses, the same having been distributed among an average of 20,173 employees.

The contribution made by your Company to its Employees Relief Fund amounted to \$59,989 38.

The officers and employees are thanked for their loyal and faithful services rendered during the year.

E. B. THOMAS, President.

COMPARATIVE INCOME ACCOUNT FOR THE YEARS ENDED JUNE 30 1915 AND 1914.

Table with columns for 1915, 1914, and Increase (+) or Decrease (-). Rows include Operating Revenues, Operating Expenses, Railway Tax Accruals, Operating Income, Other Income, Deductions from Income, and Net Income.

± Debit balance. \* Includes dividend of \$685,030 on capital stock of Temple Iron Co.

STATEMENT OF FUNDED DEBT, JUNE 30 1915.

Table with columns: Description, Date of Maturity, Interest (Rate, Payable, Accrued During the Year), and Principal. Lists various bonds and mortgages with their respective terms and amounts.

Utah-Apex Mining Co.—First Dividend.

An initial quarterly dividend of 12½ cents per share (2½%) has been declared on the \$2,641,000 stock (par \$5), payable Oct. 1 to holders of record Sept. 10.—V. 84, p. 395.

Vulcan Detinning Co.—Earnings.

Table with columns: 3 Mos. ending June 30, Total Sales, Other Income, Inventories, Costs & Gen. Exp., Sur. or Def. Balances.

Six Months. 1915—\$369,696 \$463 —\$5,097 \$323,351 sur. \$41,716 1914—398,894 691 —29,262 453,234 def. 24,387

Pres. W. J. Buttfeld, Sewaren; N. J., Aug. 4, wrote in substance: During the past few months the metal markets generally have been undergoing a readjustment in value, due to the European War.

Wheeling (W. Va.) Steel & Iron Co.—New Bonds.

The new bonds offered last week are registerable as to principal only. For other particulars see V. 101, p. 375.

GENERAL BALANCE SHEET JUNE 30 1915.

Table with columns: Dr. (Assets), Cr. (Liabilities). Rows include Investment in Road and Equipment, Current Assets, Capital Stock, Funded Debt, Current Liabilities, Deferred Liabilities, Profit and Loss, and Total Liabilities.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30 1915.

Table with columns: Dr., Cr. Rows include Balance, July 1 1914, Net income for year ended June 30 1915, Adjustments account distribution of cost of sundry real estate purchased in prior years, Miscellaneous adjustments, Reduction of book value of capital stock of Cox Brothers & Co., Inc., Property abandoned, Dividends, Balance, June 30 1915.

(F. W.) Woolworth Co.—Earnings.

Table with columns: 1915—July—1914, Increase, 1915—7 mos.—1914, Increase. Values: \$5,873,374 vs \$5,111,919; \$761,455 vs \$33,075,480.

Wyandot Copper Co. (Michigan), Boston.—Assessm't. The directors July 6 voted to call an assessment (No. 12) of \$1 per share on the capital stock, payable July 23.

CURRENT NOTICE.

—William P. Bonbright & Co., Inc., 14 Wall St., this city, have issued a pamphlet on public utilities as investments for women who manage their affairs. The pamphlet, which is gotten up by the women's department of that concern, undertakes to show that securities of high grade public utility companies meet the requirements demanded by women in their investments better than any other form of security.

—The newly organized investment firm of M. C. Moch & Co., Cincinnati, Ohio, is now occupying offices on the second floor of the Union Trust Building in that city. The firm specializes in municipal and corporation bonds and local securities.

—Flint & Co. of this city announce the removal of their offices from 25 Broad St. to Equitable Building, 120 Broadway.

The Commercial Times.

COMMERCIAL EPITOME

Friday Night, Aug. 6 1915.

The feeling in the main is still cheerful. But sharp alternations of intense heat and violent storms have certainly not helped retail trade. Scarcity of German dyestuffs interferes seriously with the production of certain cotton fabrics. The grain crops are late and are therefore moving tardily. The quality of the first arrivals of new wheat is somewhat affected by protracted rains. A wet harvest is certainly a drawback. Great Britain sticks to its cotton embargo. Vague rumors are afloat that the Allies will soon declare cotton contraband. Wheat exports are running behind those of last season. Ocean freights are still scarce and high. But on the other hand failures during July turn out, contrary to the usual experience, to be smaller than in June. Commodities in general are higher than a month ago, and in fact for years past at this period. Production of pig iron is the largest for two years and prices have risen on larger sales. The demand for steel is increasing, premiums in some cases are being paid it is said for prompt delivery in filling war orders. Production is larger. The woolen industry is reviving. The labor situation is somewhat better. Export sales of cotton goods are augmenting. Boot and shoe factories are running at nearly their full capacity. Reports from the lumber trade are somewhat better though prices are still low. Unemployment is steadily decreasing. Shipbuilding is very active. Coal sales are larger. Even jewelry sells rather more readily. Collections are better. The stock market has expanded and time money has been firmer. Possibly there is to be an Italian loan offered here soon of \$50,000,000 judging partly by the sharp advance in Italian exchange. The United States Government in conjunction with those of Central and South America have instituted measures looking to the ultimate establishment of a stable government in Mexico, and it is certainly to be hoped that they will prove successful, with no great delay.

STOCKS OF MERCHANDISE IN NEW YORK.

	Aug. 1 1915.	July 1 1915.	Aug. 1 1914.
Coffee, Brazil	919,682	1,078,934	1,264,859
Coffee, Java	79,892	58,204	28,741
Coffee, other	472,780	443,701	264,155
Sugar	120,496	117,519	53,248
Hides	No. 16,300	104,700	18,760
Cotton	bales 220,829	228,174	96,103
Manila hemp	bales 518	1,000	2,930
Sisal hemp	bales 7,925	Nil	140
Flour	bbls. 54,300	42,300	23,100

LARD quiet; prime Western 8.45c.; refined for the Continent 8.90c.; South America 9.25c.; Brazil 10.25c. Futures have at times been firmer on higher prices for hogs, but there has been steady selling and "stop orders" have been caught. To-day prices were about steady. Packers sold but shorts covered.

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF LARD FUTURES IN CHICAGO.

	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.
September	8.10	8.12	8.07	7.92	7.77	7.75
October delivery	8.17	8.20	8.12	8.02	8.85	8.85

PORK unchanged; mess \$20@21; clear \$20@22; family \$21@23. Beef, mess \$18 50@19; packet \$17@18; family \$19@20; extra India mess \$29@30. Cut meats steady with a moderate demand; pickled hams, 10 to 20 lbs., 12 1/4@13 1/2c.; pickled bellies, 6 to 12 lbs., 14@14 1/2c. Butter, creamery extras, 25 1/4@25 1/2c. Cheese, State, whole milk fresh flats and twins colored specials 13 1/4@14 1/2c. Eggs, fresh gathered extras, 23@25c.

COFFEE slow; No. 7 Rio 7 3/4c., No. 4 Santos 9 1/2@9 3/4c., fair to good Cuzcuta 9 3/4@10 1/4c. Futures have declined on hedging sales, liberal receipts and lower Brazilian prices. Speculation has been light. Nothing new has been announced in regard to the valorization scheme. It seems to have been postponed. Cost and freight prices are down. To-day prices advanced somewhat.

Closing quotations were as follows:

August	cts 6.56@6.58	December	cts 6.53@6.55	April	cts 6.71@6.72
September	6.56@6.58	January	6.59@6.61	May	6.70@6.71
October	6.53@6.55	February	6.63@6.64	June	6.81@6.82
November	6.53@6.55	March	6.66@6.67	July	6.86@6.87

SUGAR quiet; centrifugal, 96-degrees test, 4.51c.; molasses, 89-degrees test, 3.74c.; granulated, 5.60@5.65c. The withdrawals of granulated have been moderate. Refiners are said to be pretty well supplied for a few weeks at least. Stocks are 488,500 tons, against 378,000 a year ago. The crop movement thus far is 2,419,982 tons, against 2,468,831 tons during the same time in 1914. Receipts last week were 66,177 tons at Atlantic ports, against 57,418 in the previous week, 50,224 in 1914 and 37,068 in 1913. Futures declined. To-day futures were active and higher. Large Cuban interests were covering in near months. There were reports of sales of granulated to Great Britain.

Closing quotations follow:

August	cts 3.47@3.49	December	cts 3.32@3.33	April	cts 3.15@3.17
September	3.50@3.51	January	3.14@3.16	May	3.16@3.19
October	3.46@3.55	February	3.14@3.16	June	3.19@3.21
November	3.47@3.48	March	3.15@3.17	July	3.23@3.25

OILS.—Linseed steady; city raw, American seed, 54c.; boiled 55c.; Calcutta 75c. Coconut oil firm; Cochin 9 1/2@10c.; Ceylon 8 3/4@9c. Palm easier at 6 1/2@7c. for Lagos. Corn steady at 5.66@5.71c. Cod, domestic steady at 45@46c. Cottonseed oil lower at 6@6.60c. for winter and summer white. Spirits of turpentine 42c. Common to good strained rosin \$3 25.

PETROLEUM has been moderately active and steady; refined in barrels 7.50@8.50c.; bulk 4@5c.; cases 9.75@

10.75c. Naphtha, 73 to 76 degrees, in 100-gallon drums, 23 1/2c.; drums \$8 50 extra. Gasoline, 89 degrees, 26c.; 74 to 76 degrees, 22@24c.; 67 to 70 degrees, 22c. Kansas and Oklahoma crude prices have been advanced 15 points. During July there was a marked increase in the number of wells completed, but a large decrease in new production as compared with June. Prices were unchanged and as follows:

Pennsylvania dark	\$1 35	Corning	83c.	Somerset, 32 deg.	80c.
Second sand	1 35	Woster	\$1 05	Rafland	62c.
Tiona	1 35	North Lima	86c.	Illinois, above 30	degress
Cabell	97	South Lima	83c.	degrees	84c.
Mercer black	97	Indiana	78c.	Kansas and Okla-	homa
New Castle	97	Princeton	84c.		55c.

TOBACCO has been generally steady and Western buyers have been looking around for Connecticut broadleaf. Cigar manufacturers are busier than they were and they are expected to re-enter the market shortly. They seem in no great hurry. Sumatra meets with a fair inquiry and Cuban is in moderate demand. The tobacco trade as a whole lacks snap.

COPPER is reported in better demand after some weeks of dulness. Lake 19@19 1/4c., electrolytic 18 1/4@18 1/2c. Rumor has it that inquiries during the week have been for something like 50,000,000 pounds, though nobody claims that any such amount has actually been sold. London at times, however, has been noticeably stronger. Spelter dropped to 16 1/2c. here, with London prices latterly off £7 10s. Lead dropped to 4.50@4.75c. on the spot here in some quarters, though a large company asks 5.25c. There is an idea that an effort is being made to depress the price here in order to buy. London was stronger for a time and then fell £1 3s. Tin here on the spot was down to 34 3/4c. In July the deliveries for consumption were 5,300 tons; the visible supply increased 157 tons and is now 16,084 tons. London was stronger and the tone became firmer here for awhile, but later on prices in London broke sharply. Pig iron has been reported active on speculation. Heavy sales took place at Birmingham and some business was done at Buffalo. No. 2 Eastern \$14@14 50; No. 2 Southern Birmingham \$10@10 50. Finished steel is stronger, with expectations of broadening business. Bars and bands are firm at 1.30c. plates 1.25@1.30c. Brisk sales of wire products are going on and barbed wire is selling heavily to Europe. Wire nails are \$1 60. Skeip is in brisk demand. Track materials are selling freely. Railroads are confining their purchases mainly to cars. Actual sales of steel generally are not so large as they were recently, but the trade is hopeful. Billets have risen to \$30 as against \$21 a few weeks ago. Pig iron in many districts is higher by 25 to 50 cents a ton; \$10 50 is generally asked for No. 2 Southern Birmingham.

COTTON

Friday Night, Aug. 6 1915.

THE MOVEMENT OF THE CROP, as indicated by our telegrams from the South to-night, is given below. For the week ending this evening the total receipts have reached 26,384 bales, against 31,958 bales last week and 27,303 bales the previous week, making the total receipts since Aug. 1 1915 17,164 bales, against 5,891 bales for the same period of 1914, showing an increase since Aug. 1 1915 of 11,273 bales.

	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Total.
Galveston	2,876	1,382	907	2,386	1,570	1,263	10,384
Texas City	363						363
Port Arthur							
Aran. Pass. &c.							
New Orleans	2,671		918	518	1,102	597	5,806
Gulfport							
Mobile	118	68	33	47	168	2	886
Pensacola	1,430						1,430
Jacksonville, &c.							
Savannah	420	469	148	260	400	147	1,844
Brunswick							250
Charleston	178	58	25	13	177	17	468
Georgetown							
Wilmington	255	546	449	509	353	354	2,466
Norfolk	29	533	194	168	372	256	1,552
N. port News, &c.	50						50
New York							
Boston	182			15			5
Baltimore	501						35
Philadelphia	147						147
Totals this week	9,220	3,056	2,674	3,916	4,592	2,926	26,384

The following shows the week's total receipts, the total since Aug. 1 1915 and the stocks to-night, compared with last year:

Receipts to August 6	1915.		1914.		Stock.	
	This Week.	Since Aug 1 1915.	This Week.	Since Aug 1 1914.	1915.	1914.
Galveston	10,384	7,508	1,044	1,644	113,234	27,172
Texas City	363		10	10	13,193	2,498
Port Arthur						
Aranas Pass. &c.					654	
New Orleans	5,806	3,135	2,099	2,089	136,561	36,159
Gulfport						
Mobile	886	768	56	56	12,362	4,725
Pensacola	1,403					
Jacksonville, &c.					115	
Savannah	1,844	1,424	765	765	59,066	10,924
Brunswick	250	250			817	
Charleston	468	290	224	224	43,163	1,178
Georgetown						
Wilmington	2,466	2,211	2	2	36,989	7,869
Norfolk	1,552	1,523	1,009	1,009	45,653	16,187
N. port News, &c.	50				243,597	102,141
New York						
Boston	202	20	10	10	13,908	5,731
Baltimore	536	85	102	102	1,325	3,408
Philadelphia	147				355	1,615
Totals	26,384	17,164	5,891	5,891	721,277	219,750





**Palestine, Tex.**—It has rained on one day of the week, the rainfall being sixty-eight hundredths of an inch. Average thermometer 81, highest 96 and lowest 66.

**Paris, Tex.**—There has been rain on one day during the past week, the precipitation reaching fourteen hundredths of an inch. The thermometer has averaged 83, the highest being 102 and the lowest 63.

**San Antonio, Tex.**—There has been no rain the past week. The thermometer has averaged 86, ranging from 72 to 100.

**Taylor, Tex.**—It has rained lightly on one day of the week, the precipitation reaching six hundredths of an inch. Minimum thermometer 64.

**Weatherford, Tex.**—We have had rain on two days the past week, the rainfall being sixty-five hundredths of an inch. Average thermometer 81, highest 100, lowest 61.

**Ardmore, Okla.**—There has been rain on two days during the week, the precipitation being fifty-seven hundredths of an inch. The thermometer has averaged 80, the highest being 100 and the lowest 60.

**Mangum, Okla.**—There has been no rain the past week. The thermometer has averaged 78, ranging from 58 to 98.

**Tulsa, Okla.**—It has rained on two days of the week, the precipitation being seventy-one hundredths of an inch. The thermometer has ranged from 60 to 98, averaging 79.

**Eldorado, Ark.**—We have had rain on three days during the past week, to the extent of twenty-six hundredths of an inch. Average thermometer 79, highest 99, lowest 59.

**Fort Smith, Ark.**—We have had rain on four days during the week, the rainfall being one inch and fifty-seven hundredths. The thermometer has averaged 79, the highest being 98 and the lowest 60.

**Little Rock, Ark.**—We have had rain on two days during the week, the precipitation being eighty-nine hundredths of an inch. Thermometer has averaged 81, ranging from 61 to 100.

**Alexandria, La.**—Rain has fallen on three days of the week, the precipitation being three inches and twenty-nine hundredths. The thermometer has ranged from 66 to 96, averaging 81.

**New Orleans, La.**—Rain has fallen on one day of the week, to the extent of two hundredths of an inch. Average thermometer 86, highest 96, lowest 76.

**Shreveport, La.**—There has been rain on one day during the week, the precipitation being ten hundredths of an inch. The thermometer has averaged 80, the highest being 97 and the lowest 64.

**Columbus, Miss.**—There has been no rain the past week. The thermometer has averaged 78, ranging from 56 to 100.

**Holly Springs, Miss.**—There has been no rain during the week. Thermometer has ranged from 57 to 98, averaging 78.

**Vicksburg, Miss.**—Rain has fallen on three days of the week, to the extent of twenty hundredths of an inch. Average thermometer 81, highest 95, lowest 68.

**Decatur, Ala.**—There has been rain on three days during the week, the precipitation being one inch and forty-eight hundredths. The thermometer has averaged 77, the highest being 96 and the lowest 57.

**Mobile, Ala.**—Scattered showers have given some relief in the interior, but rain is needed. Cotton is opening freely. Rain has fallen on five days of the week, the precipitation reaching two inches and forty-three hundredths. The thermometer has averaged 83, ranging from 72 to 97.

**Montgomery, Ala.**—We have had rain on one day during the week, the rainfall being seven hundredths of an inch. The thermometer has ranged from 67 to 99, averaging 83.

**Selma, Ala.**—Rain has fallen on one day of the week, to an inappreciable extent. Average thermometer 84, highest 97, lowest 67.

**Madison, Fla.**—There has been rain on three days during the past week, the precipitation reaching thirty-two hundredths of an inch. The thermometer has averaged 82, the highest being 96 and the lowest 74.

**Tallahassee, Fla.**—Rain has fallen on three days of the week, the precipitation reaching one inch and fifty-six hundredths. The thermometer has averaged 85, ranging from 71 to 98.

**Albany, Ga.**—We have had rain on two days of the week, the rainfall reaching ninety-three hundredths of an inch. The thermometer has ranged from 70 to 101, averaging 85.

**Athens, Ga.**—We have had rain on two days during the past week, to the extent of ninety-eight hundredths of an inch. Average thermometer 80, highest 102, lowest 58.

**Savannah, Ga.**—We have had rain on five days of the past week, the rainfall reaching one inch and thirty-seven hundredths. The thermometer has averaged 82, the highest being 93 and the lowest 68.

**Charleston, S. C.**—There has been rain on four days of the past week, the rainfall reaching one inch and twenty-one hundredths. The thermometer has averaged 82, ranging from 73 to 91.

**Cheraw, S. C.**—There has been rain on four days during the week, the precipitation being three inches and seventeen hundredths. Thermometer has ranged from 68 to 99, averaging 84.

**Spartanburg, S. C.**—Rain has fallen on four days of the week, the precipitation reaching one inch and forty-eight hundredths. Lowest thermometer 63, highest 103, average 83.

**Charlotte, N. C.**—The crop is making satisfactory progress. Rain has fallen on two days of the week, to the extent of twelve hundredths of an inch. Average thermometer 82, highest 100, lowest 65.

**Goldsboro, N. C.**—We have had rain on three days of the past week, the rainfall being one inch and seventy-four hundredths. The thermometer has averaged 86, ranging from 70 to 102.

**Weldon, N. C.**—We have had rain on two days of the past week, to the extent of four inches and thirty-two hundredths. The thermometer has ranged from 70 to 98, averaging 84.

**Dyersburg, Tenn.**—Rain has fallen on two days of the week, the precipitation reaching one inch and forty hundredths. Lowest thermometer 58, highest 101, average 80.

**Memphis, Tenn.**—Crops need moisture. The first bale was received Aug. 3 from Scott Bolivar County, Miss. There has been no rain locally the past week, but showers have fallen in the district. The thermometer has averaged 80, ranging from 62 to 97.

**Milan, Tenn.**—We have had rain on one day during the week, the rainfall being twenty-one hundredths of an inch. The thermometer has ranged from 55 to 98, averaging 77.

**WORLD SUPPLY AND TAKINGS OF COTTON.**

Cotton Takings. Week and Season.	1915.		1914.	
	Week.	Season.	Week.	Season.
Visible supply July 30	4,672,456	—	3,176,816	—
Visible supply Aug. 1	—	4,633,210	—	3,176,816
American in sight to Aug. 6	86,661	71,125	61,865	61,865
Bombay receipts to Aug. 5	620,000	18,000	10,000	10,000
Other shipments to Aug. 5	68,000	6,000	6,000	6,000
Alexandria receipts to Aug. 4	61,000	1,000	100	100
Other supply to Aug. 4*	83,000	2,000	5,000	5,000
Total supply	4,791,117	4,731,335	3,259,781	3,259,781
Deduct—				
Visible supply Aug. 6	4,553,242	4,553,242	3,054,406	3,654,406
Total takings to Aug. 6 a	237,875	178,093	205,375	205,375
Of which American	209,875	157,093	124,275	124,275
Of which other	28,000	21,000	81,100	81,100

\* Embraces receipts in Europe from Brazil, Smyrna, West Indies, &c.  
 a This total embraces the total estimated consumption since Aug. 1 by Southern mills, 55,000 bales in 1915 and 54,000 bales in 1914—takings not being available—and the aggregate amounts taken by Northern and foreign spinners, 123,093 bales in 1915 and 151,375 bales in 1914, of which 102,093 bales and 70,275 bales American.  
 b Estimated.

**THE AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT'S AUGUST REPORT.**—The following statement, showing the condition of cotton on July 25, was issued by the Department of Agriculture on Aug. 2

The crop reporting board of the Bureau of Crop Estimates of the United States Department of Agriculture estimates, from the reports of the correspondents and agents of the bureau, that the condition of cotton on July 25 was 75.3% of a normal as compared with 80.3% on July 25, 76.4% a year ago, 79.6% two years ago and 78.5% the average of July 25 of the past ten years:

Comparison of conditions by States follows:

States	July 25	June 25	July 25	July 25	10-year
	1915.	1915.	1914.	1913.	average
Virginia	79	78	89	81	82
North Carolina	78	79	86	77	79
South Carolina	72	76	79	75	78
Georgia	76	79	82	76	79
Florida	78	78	85	82	82
Alabama	71	78	81	79	78
Mississippi	75	83	76	79	75
Louisiana	76	82	71	81	79
Texas	80	85	72	87	79
Arkansas	85	87	73	90	81
Tennessee	83	86	75	86	82
Missouri	69	71	75	81	80
Oklahoma	96	90	100	100	99
California	75.3	80.3	76.4	79.6	78.5

\* 5-year.  
 For purposes of comparison the condition of the cotton crop in the United States monthly and the estimated yield per acre for the past ten years are given below:

Years—	May 25.	June 25.	July 25.	Aug. 25.	Sept. 25.	10-year
	1915.	1915.	1914.	1913.	1913.	average
1915	80.0	80.3	75.3	—	—	—
1914	74.3	79.6	76.4	78.0	73.5	209.2
1913	79.1	81.8	79.6	64.2	64.1	182.0
1912	78.9	80.4	76.5	74.8	69.6	190.9
1911	87.8	88.2	89.1	73.2	71.1	207.7
1910	82.0	80.7	75.5	72.1	65.9	170.7
1909	81.1	74.6	71.9	63.7	58.5	154.3
1908	78.7	81.2	83.0	76.1	69.7	194.9
1907	70.5	72.0	75.0	72.7	67.7	178.3
1906	84.6	83.3	82.9	77.3	71.6	202.5
1905	77.2	77.0	72.9	72.1	71.2	186.1
1904	79.5	79.9	78.5	72.8	63.3	187.7

**BOMBAY COTTON MOVEMENT.**

July 15. Receipts at—	1914-15.		1913-14.		1912-13.	
	Week.	Since Aug. 1.	Week.	Since Aug. 1.	Week.	Since Aug. 1.
Bombay	23,000	2,624,000	23,000	3,722,000	22,000	2,687,000

Exports from—	For the Week.				Since August 1.			
	Great Britain.	Continent.	Japan & China.	Total.	Great Britain.	Continent.	Japan & China.	Total.
Bombay—								
1914-15.	2,000	—	40,000	42,000	72,000	355,000	1,374,000	1,801,000
1913-14.	—	10,000	24,000	34,000	72,000	1,243,000	1,258,000	2,571,000
1912-13.	1,000	4,000	13,000	18,000	19,000	465,000	965,000	1,449,000

**ALEXANDRIA RECEIPTS AND SHIPMENTS.**

Alexandria, Egypt, July 14.	1914-15.		1913-14.		1912-13.	
	Receipts (cantars)—	Shipments—	Receipts (cantars)—	Shipments—	Receipts (cantars)—	Shipments—
This week.	9,652	—	2,500	—	800	—
Since Aug. 1.	6,332,923	—	7,635,396	—	7,465,886	—

  

Exports (bales)—	This Week.		Since Aug. 1.		This Week.		Since Aug. 1.	
	Week.	Since Aug. 1.	Week.	Since Aug. 1.	Week.	Since Aug. 1.	Week.	Since Aug. 1.
To Liverpool	—	207,234	—	213,640	—	205,038	—	205,038
To Manchester	—	149,429	—	4,500	—	225,665	—	207,362
To Continent and India.	1,698	279,477	5,000	457,664	4,000	411,164	—	411,164
To America	—	162,917	—	86,303	—	125,070	—	125,070
Total exports	1,698	799,057	5,000	980,272	4,000	950,634	—	950,634



**COTTON CROP CIRCULAR.**—Our Annual Cotton Crop Review will be ready in circular form about Thursday, Aug. 19. Parties desiring the circular in quantities, with their business card printed thereon, should send in their orders as soon as possible, to secure early delivery. Publication of this annual review has been deferred this year to a somewhat later date (after the close of the cotton season) than has been our practice heretofore in order to afford more time for the investigation of the situation abroad.

**MANCHESTER MARKET.**—Our report received by cable to-night from Manchester states that yarns are firm with a moderate trade. Coarse and medium cloths are depressed in the absence of Indian demand. We give prices for to-day below and leave those for previous weeks of this and last year for comparison:

	1915.			1914.		
	32s Cop	8 1/4 lbs. Shrt- tmt, common	Col'n Mtd. Upl's	32s Cop	8 1/4 lbs. Shrt- tmt, common	Col'n Mtd. Upl's
J'ned.	d	s. d.	s. d.	d	s. d.	s. d.
18 8	@	8 1/4	@ 7 5	5.35	10 5-16	@ 11 5-16
25 8 1/2	@	9	@ 7 4	5.20	10 1/4	@ 11 1/4
July 2	@	8 1/4	@ 7 0	5.20	10 1/4	@ 11 1/4
9 8 1/2	@	9	@ 7 0	5.17	10	@ 11
16 8 1/2	@	8 1/4	@ 7 0	5.15	10	@ 11
23 8 1/2	@	8 1/4	@ 7 0	5.13	9 15-16	@ 10 1/4
30 8 5-16	@	8 1/4	@ 7 0	5.31	9 11-16	@ 10 1/4
Aug. 6 8 1/4	@	9 1/4	@ 7 3	5.53		

**SHIPPING NEWS.**—As shown on a previous page, the exports of cotton from the United States the past week have reached 52,062 bales. The shipments in detail, as made up from mail and telegraphic returns, are as follows:

	Total bales.
NEW YORK—To Liverpool—Aug. 4—Adriatic, 233 Peruvian	233
To Bordeaux—July 30—Ben Nevis, 4,500	4,500
To Rotterdam—Aug. 3—Noordam, 1,706	1,706
To Genoa—July 30—Manin, 100 July 31—America, 345	4,047
Aug. 3—Giuseppe G., 3,602	4,500
To Vladivostok—July 30—Bolton Castle, 4,500	4,500
GALVESTON—To Barcelona—Aug. 2—Balmes, 2,039	2,039
PORT ARTHUR—To Liverpool—Aug. 2—Albanian, 163	163
NEW ORLEANS—To Liverpool—July 31—Nicosian, 1,029	1,029
Aug. 4—Defender, 4,000	5,029
To Rotterdam—July 30—Sloterdijk, 4,340	4,340
To Barcelona—Aug. 2—Valbanera, 1,500	1,500
To Genoa—July 31—Monviso, 9,276	9,276
MOBILE—To Liverpool—July 31—Nubian, 3,348 Aug. 4—Orubian, 157	3,535
PENSACOLA—To Liverpool—July 31—Vivina, 1,430	1,430
BOSTON—To Liverpool—July 30—Sachem, 17	17
To Yarmouth—July 26—Prince George, 172 Aug. 1—Prince George, 100	272
BALTIMORE—To Liverpool—July 30—Rowanmore, 4,718	4,718
SAN FRANCISCO—To Japan—July 31—Manchuria, 2,407	2,407
To China—July 31—Manchuria, 1,300	1,300
To Vladivostok—July 31—Manchuria, 700	700
To Manila—July 31—Manchuria, 350	350
<b>Total</b>	<b>52,062</b>

The particulars of the foregoing shipments for the week, arranged in our usual form, are as follows:

	Great Britain	French Ports	Germany	Oth. Europe	Vlad.	Japan	Total
New York	233	4,500	1,706	4,047	4,500		14,986
Galveston				2,039			2,039
Port Arthur							163
New Orleans			4,340	10,776			20,145
Mobile							5,335
Pensacola							1,430
Boston						272	272
Baltimore							4,718
San Francisco				2,350	2,407		4,757
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,125</b>	<b>4,500</b>	<b>6,046</b>	<b>16,862</b>	<b>7,122</b>	<b>2,407</b>	<b>52,062</b>

**COTTON FREIGHTS.**—Current rates for cotton from New York are as follows, quotations being in cents per pound: Liverpool, 1.00c. asked; Manchester, 1.00c. asked; Havre, 1.50c.; Rotterdam, 1.25c.; Genoa, 1.25c.; Naples, 1.25c.; Leghorn, 1.35c.; Barcelona, 1.25c. asked; Marseilles, 1.25c. asked; Piraeus, 1.25c.; Japan, 1.25c.; Shanghai, 1.25c.; Bombay, 1.25c.; Vladivostok, 1.50c.; Archangel, 2.00c.

**LIVERPOOL.**—By cable from Liverpool we have the following statement of the week's sales, stocks, &c., at that port:

	July 16.	July 23.	July 30.	Aug. 6.
Sales of the week	59,000	56,000	52,000	52,000
Of which speculators took	3,100	5,700	6,000	6,000
Of which exporters took	3,900	500	2,000	2,000
Sales, American	52,000	47,000	45,000	45,000
Actual export	27,000	16,000	13,000	3,000
Forwarded	78,000	89,000	63,000	60,000
Total stock	1,626,000	1,574,000	1,462,000	1,414,000
Of which American	1,358,000	1,309,000	1,198,000	1,155,000
Total imports of the week	37,000	52,000	15,000	15,000
Of which American	17,000	38,000	4,000	10,000
Amount afloat	78,000	59,000	63,000	63,000
Of which American	43,000	28,000	40,000	40,000

The tone of the Liverpool market for spots and futures each day of the past week and the daily closing prices of spot cotton have been as follows:

Spot.	Saturday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.
Market, 12:15 P. M.			Good demand.	Large business doing.	Good demand.	Moderate demand.
Mid. Upl'ds			5.34	5.35	5.48	5.53
Sales Spec. & exp.	HOLI-DAY	HOLI-DAY	10,000	18,000	14,000	8,000
Futures Market opened			Quiet at 1 1/4 @ 3 1/2 pas. dec.	Dull at 3 1/4 @ 1 1/2 pts. dec.	Steady at 4 @ 5 pts. advance.	Steady, 1 1/2 @ 1 1/4 pts. dec.
Market, 4 P. M.			Barely stry. at 4 @ 5 pts. decline.	Steady at 4 @ 8 pts. advance.	Steady at 7 @ 8 pts. advance.	Barely stry. at 1 1/2 @ 3 pts. advance.

The prices of futures at Liverpool for each day are given below. Prices are on the basis of upland, good ordinary clause, unless otherwise stated.

The prices are given in pence and 100ths. Thus: 5 22 means 5 22-100d.

Jan. 23 to Jan. 29.	Saturday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wed'day.	Thursday.	Friday.
	12 1/4 4 p.m.	12 1/4 4 p.m.	12 1/4 12 1/2 p.m.	12 1/4 4 p.m.	12 1/4 4 p.m.	12 1/4 4 p.m.
	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
August	5 22	4 19	23 1/2	27	35 1/2	35
Oct.-Nov.	5 39	35	37	39 1/2	47 1/2	46 1/2
Jan.-Feb.	5 52	49	50 1/2	53 1/2	61	60 1/2
Mar.-Apr.	5 60	57 1/2	58 1/2	61 1/2	69	68 1/2
May-June	5 67	64 1/2	65 1/2	68 1/2	76	75 1/2
July-Aug.	5 73	70	71 1/2	74 1/2	82	81 1/2

**BREADSTUFFS**

Friday Night, Aug. 6th 1915.

Flour has been quiet as buyers for the most part are still holding aloof awaiting further developments. They have not been purchasing new flour at all freely and they have been taking old flour only as their immediate needs require. At Chicago last week a fair business was done. Old flour has been commanding a premium. Northwestern mills have shown a disinclination to offer flour in Chicago in any large quantity owing to the scarcity of wheat. In such circumstances there has been considerable reselling of old flour. At Kansas City business in new flour has scarcely started, and old flour has commanded good prices. Taken as a whole the trade is still waiting further light on the general situation and presents no striking features. The total production last week at Minneapolis, Duluth and Milwaukee was 292,635 barrels against 273,400 in the previous week and 387,485 last year. Greece wants, it is said, 30,000 tons of American flour.

Wheat early in the week was more or less depressed, but later on became stronger, partly owing to wet weather at the Northwest and reports of black rust. Uncut winter wheat has been damaged by sprouting and moulding. The movement has been relatively small, particularly at the Southwest. Country offerings have been light. Dealers hesitate to offer wheat to arrive, owing to the prolonged wet weather over the winter-wheat belt, which has had the effect of lowering the grade. Moreover, the world's stocks are down to 69,910,000 bushels, against 114,250,000 a year ago and 111,745,000 at this time in 1913. The weather in Argentina has been bad, being dry and frosty and reports of damage of early planted wheat and of delay in planting are being received. Moreover, it is believed that the acreage in Argentina was reduced. High premiums have ruled for contract grades in this country. In Western Europe the weather has been unfavorable for harvesting also and it is already late. Heavy general rains were reported in that part of Europe. It is a rather curious fact that in a season when early harvests are needed both in America and Europe the season is late. In France new wheat is moving so slowly as to attract general attention, harvesting having been delayed. Moreover, the reserves in France are small and import requirements will be large. Hungary will also have to import heavily. Italy will have a short crop. On the Pacific Coast the weather has been bad for harvesting, owing to protracted rains. Growers are holding wheat firmly and are selling very little at the present quotations. The week shipments from North America were 4,669,000 bushels. The visible supply at American points is only 6,582,000 bushels as against 29,740,000 bushels a year ago. Frost was reported in the Canadian Northwest. It has not been taken seriously, but it simply shows what kind of freak weather the country has been having. The receipts at the principal primary points at the West in July were only 18,105,000 bushels against 49,507,000 in July last year. This year the receipts in July were only 3,454,000 bushels larger than those of June, whereas last year the July receipts were 39,008,000 bushels larger than they were in June. This rather strikingly shows the delay in marketing the crop this year. A dispatch from Lisbon said: "The Portuguese Government authorizes the importation of 200,000,000 kilos wheat (7,348,667 bushels)." But one statistician at the West estimates the total wheat crop of this country at close to 1,000,000,000 bushels. Unusually heavy yields are reported in Ohio, Indiana and Illinois, offsetting any decrease in Kansas, Missouri and Oklahoma. This estimate puts the winter wheat yield at 689,000,000 bushels. If a crop of 1,000,000,000 bushels is really raised, of course it will be much the largest ever known. Export sales of late, moreover, have not been heavy. Liverpool members of the trade in some cases take a rather bearish view of the situation, owing to the belief that the crop in this country and Canada is going to be very large. They also note some increase in the visible supply in America—929,000 bushels—and look for longer American receipts before long. This makes the English trade quite conservative at present prices. To-day prices declined on better weather over both the winter and spring wheat belts with larger offerings. Exporters took 600,000 bushels of new wheat partly via the Gulf of Mexico.





STATE AND CITY DEPARTMENT.

The Chronicle.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY.

Terms of Subscription—Payable in Advance

For One Year	\$10 00
For Six Months	6 00
European Subscription (including postage)	13 00
European Subscription six months (including postage)	7 50
Annual Subscription in London (including postage)	\$2 14s.
Six Months Subscription in London (including postage)	\$1 11s.
Canadian Subscription (including postage)	\$11 50

Subscription includes following Supplements—

BANK AND QUOTATION (monthly)	RAILWAY AND INDUSTRIAL (3 times yearly)
RAILWAY EARNINGS (monthly)	ELECTRIC RAILWAY (3 times yearly)
STATE AND CITY (semi-annually)	BANKERS' CONVENTION (yearly)

Terms of Advertising—Per Inch Space

Transient matter per inch space (14 agate lines)	\$4 20
Two Weeks (8 times)	22 00
Three Months (13 times)	25 00
Six Months (26 times)	50 00
Twelve Months (52 times)	87 00

CHICAGO OFFICE—39 South La Salle Street, Telephone Randolph 7396.  
LONDON OFFICE—Edwards & Smith, 1 Drapers' Gardens, E. C.

WILLIAM B. DANA COMPANY, Publishers,  
Front, Pine and Depeyster Sts., New York.

MUNICIPAL BOND SALES IN JULY.

Our records show that the total of long-term municipal bonds sold in July was \$27,598,868. The temporary or short-term loans negotiated last month reached a total of \$13,872,283, including \$8,250,000 revenue bonds and bills and corporate stock notes of New York City. In addition \$46,216,576 debentures were sold by places in Canada, including the \$45,000,000 one and two-year gold notes sold by the Dominion Government to a syndicate of New York bankers. In the table below we give a comparison of all the various forms of securities put out in July of the last five years.

	1915.	1914.	1913.	1912.	1911.
Permanent loans (U. S.)	\$27,598,868	\$26,776,973	\$23,477,284	\$30,479,130	\$42,231,297
*Temporary loans (U. S.)	\$13,872,283	\$15,470,751	\$2,320,414	\$13,439,445	\$17,903,367
Canadian loans (per cent)	\$46,216,576	\$15,743,832	\$10,495,843	\$5,527,971	\$1,227,241
Bonds of U.S. Possessions	None	None	None	None	\$1,500,000
Gen. fund bonds (N. Y. C.)	None	None	\$5,000,000	None	None
Total	\$87,687,727	\$57,991,556	\$41,293,541	\$60,446,546	\$63,761,905

\* Including temporary securities issued by New York City, \$8,250,000 in July 1915, \$9,202,953 in 1914, \$26,400,414 in 1913, \$8,095,093 in 1912 and \$13,198,367 in 1911. † Includes \$45,000,000 1 and 2-year notes of the Dominion of Canada.

The number of municipalities emitting long-term bonds and the number of separate issues during July 1915 were 482 and 646, respectively. This contrasts with 499 and 674 for June 1915 and with 551 and 757 for July 1914.

For comparative purposes we add the following table showing the aggregates for July and the seven months for a series of years. In these figures temporary loans, and also issues by Canadian municipalities, are excluded.

Month of July	For the Seven Mos.	Month of July	For the Seven Mos.
1915	\$27,598,868	1903	\$15,070,240
1914	\$26,776,973	1902	\$12,361,550
1913	\$23,477,284	1901	\$8,262,495
1912	\$30,479,130	1900	\$8,104,043
1911	\$42,231,297	1899	\$18,613,953
1910	\$35,832,750	1898	\$7,568,563
1909	\$20,120,647	1897	\$17,389,839
1908	\$21,108,678	1896	\$5,313,493
1907	\$16,352,457	1895	\$15,374,660
1906	\$25,442,095	1894	\$8,253,237
1905	\$10,878,302	1893	\$1,691,600
1904	\$33,333,254	1892	\$4,139,100

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.

**Erie, Pa.—Cloudburst Causes Loss of Life and Property.**—On Tuesday night (Aug. 3) this city was the scene of a cloudburst which resulted in the loss of a number of lives and the destruction of property estimated to be worth \$5,000,000, or more. About 300 homes and 50 store buildings were razed, it is said, by the waters of Mill Creek, sent out of its banks by the cloudburst, and the breaking of the Glenwood Dam. Twenty-six dead have been counted thus far, and it is believed that the wreckage, piled in places 100 feet high, conceals many more victims.

The storm which visited Erie later caused considerable damage and a further loss of life in other parts of Pennsylvania, in New Jersey and in New York. Press reports from various places in these three States also indicate serious injury to crops. In New York City the storm reached the height of its violence about 9 a. m. Wednesday, Aug. 4, when the wind blew 64 miles an hour and the rain fell in sheets. Between 7 and 10 a. m. the average wind velocity was 60 miles and the rainfall for the six hours ending with this period was 2.19 inches.

**Nashville, Tenn.—New Mayor and Commissioner Appointed.**—On Aug. 4 Judge Robert Ewing was elected Mayor of Nashville and J. O. Tankard City Commissioner, to succeed Mayor Howse and City Commissioner Robert Elliott,

who were recently suspended (see V. 101, p. 387). The election was made by the three present City Commissioners and was unanimous.

**New York State.—Revision of State's Budget System Recommended by Constitutional Convention Committee.**—The final report of the Committee on State Finances, which was submitted to the Constitutional Convention on Aug. 4, recommended among other changes that the duty of making up the State's budget be transferred from the Legislature to the Governor. The report and proposed amendment received the endorsement of every member of the committee with the exception of Senator Robert F. Wagner, who submitted a minority report. The committee finds that the annual expenditures of the State have increased from \$7,163,831 in 1885 to \$42,408,488 in 1914. This increase is attributed largely to loose financial methods and the present system of budget making, under which appropriations are initiated by the Legislature with the Governor exercising only a limited veto power. The report points out it is essential that the method should be reversed; that the Governor should take the initiative and the Legislature have the power to cut down but not to increase items in the appropriation bills submitted by the Governor.

The report notes that in the period from 1885 to 1914 the population of the State has increased only 82% and the assessed valuation of real and personal property, subject to taxation, from \$3,224,682,343 to \$12,070,340,000, due largely not to real increase in property values, but to new methods of taxation and an increase in the percentages of assessment. In New York City, for instance, the rate of real estate assessment has been raised from about 67% to about 90% of the market value.

The per capita cost of government in this State last year was \$5 41, as against \$2 47 in 1895. The growth of population in the same period was only 53% and the increase in assessed valuation, including fictitious increase, was 17%. For purposes of comparison, the fourfold growth in the cost of the Federal Government compared with an 84% growth in population in a period of thirty years is set forth in the report.

The new budget plan proposed by the Committee is set forth as follows in the proposal presented to the convention:

On or before the 15th day of November in the year 1916 and in each year thereafter the head of each department of the State Government, except the Legislature and the judiciary, shall submit to the Governor itemized estimates of appropriations to meet the financial needs of such departments, classified according to relative importance and in such form and with such explanation as the Governor may require. The Governor, after public hearing thereon, at which he may require the attendance of heads of departments and their subordinates, shall revise such estimates according to his judgment.

Itemized estimates of the financial needs of the Legislature, certified by the presiding officer of each house, and of the judiciary, certified by the Comptroller, shall be transmitted to the Governor before the 15th day of January next succeeding, for inclusion in the budget, without revision, but with such recommendation as he may think proper.

On or before the first day of February next succeeding, he shall submit to the Legislature a budget containing a complete plan of proposed expenditures and estimated revenues.

It shall contain all the estimates so revised or certified and shall be accompanied by a bill or bills for all proposed appropriations and re-appropriations, clearly itemized. It shall show the estimated revenues for the ensuing fiscal year and the estimated surplus of revenues at the end of the current fiscal year, together with the measures of taxation, if any, which the Governor may propose for the increase of the revenues. It shall be accompanied by a statement of the current assets, liabilities, reserves and surplus or deficit of the State; statements of the debts and funds of the State; an estimate of its financial condition as of the beginning and end of the ensuing fiscal year, and a statement of revenues and expenditures for the two fiscal years next preceding said years in form suitable for comparison. The Governor may before final action by the Legislature thereon amend or supplement the budget.

A copy of the budget and of any amendments or additions thereto shall be forthwith transmitted by the Governor to the Comptroller.

The Governor, the heads of such departments, and the Comptroller shall have the right, and it shall be their duty, when requested by either house of the Legislature, to appear and be heard in respect to the budget during the consideration thereof, and to answer inquiries relevant thereto. The procedure for such appearance and inquiries shall be provided by law.

The Legislature may not alter an appropriation bill submitted by the Governor except to strike out or reduce items therein, but this provision shall not apply to items for the Legislature or Judiciary. Such a bill, when passed by both houses, shall be a law immediately, without further action by the Governor, except that appropriations for the Legislature and Judiciary shall be subject to his approval, as provided in Section 9 of Article IV.

Neither house shall consider further appropriations until the appropriation bills proposed by the Governor shall have been finally acted on by both houses or shall such further appropriation be then made except by separate bills, each for a single work or object, which bills shall be subject to the Governor's approval, as provided in Section 9 of Article IV. Nothing herein contained shall be construed to prevent the Governor from recommending that one or more of his proposed bills be passed in advance of the others to supply the immediate needs of Government.

The committee also recommends an amendment to Section 21 or Article III, under which appropriations would lapse three months after the end of the fiscal year for which they have been made. Under the present system appropriations run for two years.

Another amendment to the same section and article would make all appropriations by the Legislature next year available for the period ending June 30 1917. After that day the amendment provides for a fiscal year beginning July 1 instead of Oct. 1 as at present.

**Proposed Home Rule Amendments to Constitution Grant New Powers to Cities.**—On Aug. 5 there was presented to the Constitutional Convention by its Committee on Cities proposed new home rule amendments providing among other things for an elective commission of sixteen members to revise the charter of the City of New York. A minority report was submitted by Senator James A. Foley of New York and Edward E. Franchot of Niagara. Of the members of the proposed charter commission, nine would be elected by the voters of the city at large, two by the electors in the Borough of Manhattan, two by the electors in the Borough of Brooklyn and one each by the electors of the Boroughs of Bronx, Queens and Richmond, respectively. The work of the commission would be subject to ratification of the voters in the

city and also to legislative veto. The new powers granted to cities under the proposed amendments are said to be as follows:

Exclusive power to manage, regulate and control its own property, business and local affairs, subject to the Constitution and to the general laws of the State, applying to all the inhabitants, or applying to all the cities or counties of the State without classification or distinction.

The power to organize and manage all departments, bureaus or other divisions of the city government, and to regulate the powers, duties, qualifications, mode of selection, number, term of office, compensation, and method of removal of all city officers and employees, and of all police and health officers and employees, and of all non-judicial officers and employees attached to courts not of record, and to regulate the compensation of all officers not chosen by the electors and of all employees of the offices situated wholly within a city, except assistants and employees of District Attorneys and except officers and employees of courts of record.

The power to amend its charter or any local or special law relating to its property, business, or local affairs, subject to ratification by the voters of such city and to legislative annulment.

Under the proposed amendments the legislative authorities of a city would have power to amend the charter of their city or any special or local laws affecting the property, business, or local affairs of the city, with the provision that any such amendment shall apply to one subject only and shall be subject to the approval of the Mayor and the Board of Estimate. If such a board enters into the city administration. Any such amendment, which does not change the framework of the city government or regulate bond issues or remove restrictions regarding taxation, shall take effect upon approval by the Mayor and the Board of Estimate. Other laws must be submitted to the Legislature in the first week of the next succeeding regular session and shall take effect within sixty days unless disapproved by the Legislature.

The methods to be followed in regard to general revisions of the charter are defined in the proposed amendments. Next year and every eight years thereafter the question, "Shall there be a commission to revise the charter of this city?" must be submitted to the voters. If answered in the affirmative, the commission must be elected either at the next general election or at a special election. In all cities except New York, the commission will be composed of seven members elected at large. The revised charter must be submitted for ratification either at the next general election or at a special election called for the purpose. If ratified it will be sent to the Legislature in the first week of its session in January, and if not annulled within sixty days becomes effective.

**Ex-Mayor Seth Low, Chairman of the Committee on Cities, in a statement made public on Aug. 4, said regarding the new plan:**

The bill gives home rule to cities as to their own local affairs, State rule to the State as to State affairs, and where the city acts as the agent of the State in matters of government, the present system with the local suspensory veto is retained.

Any one wishing to get a pretty accurate understanding of the powers granted to cities by the grant to them of exclusive power to manage and regulate their own property, business or local affairs, may do so by reading the grant of specific powers contained in Section 20 of Chapter 247 of the laws of 1913, popularly known as the Home Rule Law.

As to the field thus broadly indicated, it is as though one were to say: "Keep off the grass." This home rule law of 1913 has been thus far ineffective for two reasons. (1) Because there has been a doubt whether, under the existing Constitution, the Legislature had the authority to delegate so much legislative power to cities; and (2) because the law provides that all of these powers must be exercised by the precise agencies which have been created by existing city charters, and by the special and general laws which relate to the government of one city or another throughout the State. It is the belief that the proposed constitutional amendment would cure both of these defects, so that, in case of its adoption, this abortive measure would stand "upright on its feet."

**Pittsburgh, Pa.—Supreme Court Opinion in Bond Case.**—On July 3 the State Supreme Court handed down an opinion written by Justice Potter, modifying the decree of the Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas in the suit of Chas. A. Schuldie vs. the city and Mayor J. G. Armstrong. The questions in the case relate exclusively to the computation of debt subject to the 2% limit on "councilmanic" debt, that is, debt incurred by the City Council without a vote of the electors, as distinguished from "electoral" debt, which is not subject to the 2% limit.

In relation to \$1,100,000 funding bonds used for payment of floating indebtedness, Justice Potter holds it to be clear that the obligations which these bonds were intended to replace were created without the vote of the people and the authority afterwards granted by the people to fund this existing indebtedness, which had been incurred without their consent, could not be held to operate to transfer such indebtedness from the councilmanic class to the electoral class. The funding or refunding of a debt previously created and existing was not an increase of that indebtedness, but was merely a continuation thereof. The referee and the Court below were right, the higher Court holds, in the conclusion reached that these bonds represented indebtedness incurred without the vote of the people.

As to the bonds of the Monongahela Bridge Company, the stock of which is entirely owned by the City of Pittsburgh, Judge Potter holds that the referee was fully justified in holding that the bonds are to be regarded as debts of the city incurred without the assent of the electors.

In respect to the estimated damages caused by changes of street grade and the estimated cost of the uncompleted work under contract, the Court holds that such estimated amounts must be included in computing the city's debt. The Court also holds that the estimated amount of benefits to be assessed on account of such improvements is too uncertain and speculative to be accepted as a proper item of offset or deduction from the city's debt under the Act of April 20 1874, as an "outstanding solvent debt" owing to the city. Justice Potter said the referee did hold that certain special assessments against properties benefited could be deducted as outstanding solvent debts owing to the city, when their amount had been definitely fixed by an award of viewers from which no appeal had been taken or if taken had been determined to be in other cases, where the proceedings were accorded by the referee, where reports were not yet filed or had not been finally confirmed, or where appeals were pending, the referee refused to classify the assessment as solvent debts due to the city. He was justified in making this decision, the Court says, by the decisions of this Court in *Elliott vs. Philadelphia*, and *Maguire vs. Philadelphia*. Until the assessments were complete and their amount definitely fixed, they could not be regarded as debts absolutely due and payable to the city, and it was such only which were to be considered as assets.

Certain judgments obtained against the city for damages for personal injuries, as noted by the referee, were included when computing the city debt, the Court holds were rightly included.

The Court then refers to the referee's finding in relation to a proposed issue of \$2,760,000 of funding bonds. Counsel for plaintiff suggested that as no provision had been made for cancellation of items of floating indebtedness simultaneously with the issue of the new bonds, there would be some period in which both the new bonds and the old indebtedness would be in existence at the same time, thus constituting in that period an increase of debt. The Court says this suggestion is extremely refined and is without substantial merit. The proceeds of the new bonds must be invariably held for application to the purpose for which the bonds were authorized to be issued. If for any reason there should be delay in the surrender of the old items of indebtedness, the proceeds of the new bonds would remain as cash in the hands of the city, applicable only to the reduction of such indebtedness. Beyond question, this would constitute a complete offset. As was stated with reference to other funding bonds, under consideration, such bonds when issued to take the place of valid pre-existing indebtedness, neither create new debt, nor increase the old debt. They merely work a change in the form and terms of payment of the existing indebtedness.

In reference to the plaintiff's contention that a claim made by the Pittsburgh Board of Public Works against the city should have been regarded as a debt, Justice Potter said it appeared, however, from the record, that the claim of the Board was disputed and that all liability on that account is denied by the city. He could see no good reason for regarding unqualified and disputed claims pending against a municipality as part of its indebtedness where all liability upon such claims is denied.

On the allowance of the Court below of a deduction, in computing the city's indebtedness, of the amount of certain assessments levied for street improvements and construction of sewers, the higher Court thought these liens might fairly be regarded as solvent debts due and owing to the city, and as such they were to be considered as a proper offset to the floating debt incurred without the assent of the electors. The liens were presumably well secured and the property against which they were filed was liable to the extent of the lien and can be sold to enforce payment.

The more important question, the Court said, was as to the treatment of Pittsburgh city bonds and cash held in the city's sinking funds in ascertaining the net amount of councilmanic debt. It was contended by the plaintiff that only such councilmanic bonds as are held in the councilmanic sinking funds are properly to be regarded as an offset against the gross amount of councilmanic debt and that neither bonds authorized by the electors nor cash held in the councilmanic sinking fund should be deducted from such indebtedness. Counsel for the city maintained that all the reserves in the councilmanic sinking funds should be counted as offsets. The referee and the Court below accepted the latter view. In this Justice Potter thinks they went too far, for the payment of electoral bonds did not reduce councilmanic debt. In *Brooke vs. Philadelphia*, it was pointed out that what is called the sinking fund is the mere conduit through and by which money raised by annual taxation reaches its destination, and that the purchase of the city's own bonds by means of cash in the sinking fund constitutes payment of such bonds. It was also pointed out in that case that securities in the fund, other than city obligations, while they did constitute assets, and represented savings of the city, did not operate in reduction of the funded debt and could not be counted as an offset. Applying that principle to the present case, in estimating actual councilmanic debt, the Court says it may not deduct bonds in the councilmanic sinking funds which are not part of the indebtedness to be redeemed. The purchase of such bonds works no actual reduction of councilmanic indebtedness.

The proper rule in preparing a statement showing borrowing capacity of the city authorities, without a vote of the people, under the 2% limit, the Court says, is to take the gross councilmanic debt, and from it deduct the amount of all councilmanic bonds held in all sinking funds of the city. Deduct also the cash on hand which has been paid in to the sinking fund for the specific purpose of retiring the particular issue in question, and which cannot lawfully be diverted to any other purpose.

By agreement of counsel this case was considered and decided with respect to its financial situation on Sept. 30 1914. It would not, therefore, be affected by the Acts of May 6 1915, which were brought to the Court's attention. The effects of these Acts would seem to be to make a city, to which contiguous municipalities have been annexed, liable for the payment of not only its own debts, but also the debt of the annexed municipalities and to require a uniform tax to be levied upon all the territory included in the consolidated city. In other words, the entire debt is transferred to the 2% class, so far as the consolidated city is concerned. As it was unnecessary, so far as this case was concerned, to consider these Acts of Assembly, the Court declined to express an opinion as to their scope or effect at this time.

In plaintiff's appeal the first, second, third, fourth, eighth and ninth assignments of error are dismissed. The fifth assignment is sustained. The questions raised by the other assignments will depend for answer upon the result of the calculation to be made in accordance with the method of ascertaining the net councilmanic debt as indicated in the opinion.

It was therefore ordered that the record be returned to the Court below for further proceedings in accordance with the opinion.

The costs of the appeal and in the Court below are put upon the city of Pittsburgh.

**Power County (P. O. American Falls), Idaho.—Bond Issue Sustained.**—This county's bond issue of \$90,000 to take up its proportion of the debt of the counties from which it was formed and to pay expenses incidental to putting the county government in operation was sustained by the Supreme Court on July 16, according to the Boise "Idaho Statesman," in an opinion written by Justice Morgan and concurred in by Chief Justice Sullivan and Justice Budge.

As previously stated in these columns (V. 101, p. 60), the issue was attacked by J. R. Jones, a taxpayer of Power County, who contended that the proposed payment of interest falling due on July 1 1915, the proposed extension of the records and tax rolls, and the subsequent collection of taxes attempted to be levied for the payment of the principal and interest of the funding bonds, were illegal and in excess of the jurisdiction of the defendants.

It was also urged that the cost of the jail, which was a part of the indebtedness covered by the bond issue, was incurred, contrary to law, in excess of the income and revenue provided for it for such year without the assent of two-thirds of the electors of the county.

In respect to funding the expenses of putting the county into operation, the Court holds that the prohibitions which are referred to do not apply to the ordinary and necessary expenses authorized by the laws of the State. To hold otherwise, says the Court, would prevent the new county government from getting into operation until the question of meeting the necessary expenses was submitted to a vote of the electors.

As to the validity of the bonds issued to cover the cost of the jail, the Court says that as it is not contended that the amount expended for that purpose was extravagant or more than was really needed under the facts and circumstances in the case, it can see no reason why this amount should not be included in the amount covered by the bond issue.

As to the right of the Commissioners to issue bonds, the Court says that payment of any indebtedness which may be apportioned to a new county may be met by taxation, but this method is not exclusive, and the additional method was provided by the legislature of 1915.

As to the claim that this method is illegal because the law does not apply to all counties alike, but only to those which have been created since 1911, the Court says: "It is a part of the political history of Idaho that 14 of our 37 counties have been created by Acts of the Legislature since Jan. 1 1911, and many of them are financially weak and ill prepared to meet at once the burdensome expenses incident to organization, and to discharge as it falls due, their proportionate share of the warrant and bonded indebtedness of their parent counties. It seems to us probable that the Legislature, having in mind the difficulties with which these new counties were confronted, enacted said Chapter 20 as a means whereby the date of payment of their indebtedness might be deferred, and did not include therein the date of counties of the State because it was not considered the same necessity existed in their case."

**Roseburg, Ore.—Supreme Court Upholds Railroad-Aid Bonds.**—The Oregon Supreme Court on July 30 in an opinion by Justice McBride sustained the lower Court in holding valid the \$300,000 railroad-aid bonds voted June 3 (V. 101, p. 226). The bond issue is said to be for the purpose of entering into a contract with the Roseburg & Eastern RR. Co. for the construction of a road from the city to the intersection of the North Umpqua River with the western boundary of Umpqua National Forest.

The Supreme Court, according to the Portland "Oregonian" held that cities and towns are not subject to the Bingham Law, passed at the last session of the Legislature, which restricts tax levies so that they shall not exceed those of any two previous years by more than 6%. This was one of the questions raised in the Roseburg case, the Court declaring that the law was antagonistic to the home rule amendment, which was designed to prevent legislative interference with purely local and municipal affairs.

**Seattle, Wash.—City Abandons Plan to Take Over Seattle Renton & Southern Ry. by Condemnation.**—Corporation Counsel Bradford advises us that the following statement concerning the abandonment of plans to take over the Seattle Renton & Southern Ry. by condemnation is correct:

The City Council on July 7 abandoned plans to take over the physical property of the Seattle Renton & Southern Ry. within city limits by con-











MINNESOTA.—BONDS PURCHASED BY STATE.—During the month of July the State of Minnesota purchased at par the following 4% bonds, aggregating \$683,406:

Table with columns: County School District Bonds, Amount, and Amount. Lists various districts like Aitkin No. 26, Anoka No. 1, Beltrami No. 31, etc., with their respective bond amounts.

Table with columns: Bonds Issued for Municipal Purposes, Amount, and Amount. Lists various municipal bonds like Bemidji (V.), Brookston (V.), Cannon Falls (C.), etc.

Table with columns: County Judicial Ditch Bonds, Amount, and Amount. Lists various ditch bonds like Cass No. 1, Kanabec No. 10, etc.

MINNESOTA.—CERTIFICATE OFFERING.—The State Board of Control will receive sealed bids, it is stated, until 2 p. m. Aug. 9 at St. Paul for \$75,000 5% 2-year certificates of indebtedness. Int. semi-ann. Cert. check for 2% required.

MITCHELL, Davison County, So. Dak.—NO ACTION YET TAKEN.—The City Auditor advises us, under date of July 30, that no action has yet been taken towards the re-offering of the \$60,000 municipal telephone plant construction bonds mentioned in V. 100, p. 1611.

MONROE COUNTY (P. O. Bloomington), Ind.—BOND SALE.—On July 30 the following two issues of 4 1/2% 5 1/2-yr. average highway impt. bonds aggregating \$15,000 were awarded to the Merchants Nat. Bank of Muncie for \$15,020 50 (100-146) and int. \$9,000 John R. Mitchell et al highway impt. bonds in Perry Twp. Denom. \$450.

Other bidders were: Fletcher Amer. Nat. Bank, Indianapolis, \$15,005; Breed, Elliott & Harrison, Indianapolis, 15,000. Date July 6 1915. Int. M. & N. Due one bond of each issue each six months from May 15 1915 to Nov. 15 1925, incl.

MONTCLAIR, Essex County, N. J.—BOND SALE.—On Aug. 2 the \$150,000 4 1/2% 30-yr. gold coup. school bonds were awarded to J. S. Rippl of Newark and N. W. Halsey & Co. of New York jointly, at 101.80 and int. a basis of about 4.38%—V. 101, p. 231. Other bids were: Montclair Sav. Bank, Montcl., 101.65; J. D. Everitt & Co., and R. M. Grant & Co., N. Y., 101.17; A. B. Leach & Co., N. Y., 100.87; Colgate, Parker & Co., N. Y., 100.87; Montclair Tr. Co., Montcl., 100.31; Ludwig & Crane, N. Y., 100.87.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY (P. O. Dayton), Ohio.—BOND OFFERING.—Proposals will be received until 11 a. m. Aug. 10 (not Aug. 20 as first reported) for \$10,000 5% 15-year average coup. taxable Children's Home impt. bonds (V. 101, p. 391). Auth. Secs. 2434 and 2435. Gen. Code, Denom. \$1,000. Date Aug. 10 1915. Prin. and semi-ann. int.—M. & S.—payable at office of County Treasurer. Due \$1,000 yearly on Sept. 1 from 1916 to 1925 incl. Cert. check on a solvent bank or trust company for \$250, payable to County Auditor, required. Delivery of bonds to be on Aug. 10. Bids must be unconditional. Bonded debt, incl. this issue, \$1,000,365; no floating debt. Assess. val. 1914, \$226,234,310.

BONDS AUTHORIZED.—According to reports, the County Commissioners have authorized the issuance of \$690,000 road-impt. bonds.

MORROW COUNTY (P. O. Mt. Gilead), Ohio.—BOND OFFERING.—Bids will be received until 11 a. m. Aug. 20 by C. O. Higgins, County Auditor, for the following 5% coup. Marengo road-impt. No. 2 bonds: \$10,500 Twp.'s portion bonds. Denom. \$500. Due \$500 each six months from Sept. 1 1916 to Sept. 1 1922 incl., and \$1,000 on Mar. 1 and Sept. 1 1923 and 1924.

6,789 assess. portion bonds. Denom. 1 for \$389, 16 for \$400. Due \$359 Sept. 1 1916 and \$100 each six months from Mar. 1 1917 to Sept. 1 1924 incl.

Date Mar. 1 1915. Int. M. & S. Cert. check on a Morrow County bank for 10% of bonds bid for, payable to County Auditor, required. Bonds will be printed and ready for delivery on day of sale. Bids must be unconditional.

MT. VERNON (CITY), Westchester County, N. Y.—BOND OFFERING.—Proposals will be received until 8 p. m. Aug. 17 by Peter Collins, City Clerk, for the following 4 1/2% reg. bonds: \$20,000 highway impt. bonds. Due Aug. 1 1953.

\$1,000 drainage bonds. Due Aug. 1 1935. The city reserves the right to issue a lesser amount of bonds if full amount is not needed.

Denom. \$1,000. Date Aug. 2 1915. Int. F. & A. Cert. check for \$1,000, payable to City of Mt. Vernon, required. Bonds to be delivered and paid for at office of U. S. Mfg. & Trust Co., N. Y., at 11 p. m. Aug. 25, unless a subsequent date shall be mutually agreed upon. Bids must be made on forms furnished by the city. Purchaser to pay accrued interest. The above trust company 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 Caldwell, Masslich & Reed of N. Y. City, whose opinion will be furnished successful bidder without charge. Total bonded debt (not incl. these issues) \$4,197,050. Sinking funds \$282,394. Assess. val., real estate \$37,601,530; special franchise \$1,976,962; personal property \$57,300; total valuation \$39,635,792.

BOND SALE.—The bids received for the two issues of 4 1/2% reg. school bonds, aggregating \$148,000, offered on Aug. 2, follow.—V. 101, p. 312.

Table with columns: School, Amount, and Amount. Lists bids for A. B. Leach & Co., New York, Harris, Forbes & Co., New York, H. A. Kahler & Co., New York.

NEWARK, N. J.—TEMPORARY LOAN.—Reports state that a loan of \$350,000 maturing in six months was negotiated on July 30 with Goldman, Sachs & Co. of N. Y., at 2.95% int.

BOND SALE.—On July 30 an issue of \$50,000 4 1/2% long term water bonds was awarded to the Sinking Fund, it is reported.

NEWPORT, Campbell County, Ky.—BOND OFFERING.—Proposals will be received until 12 m. Aug. 10 by Charles D. McCrea, Commissioner of Finance, for the following 5% coupon sewerage bonds: \$1,350 District "C" bonds. Due \$500 in 4, 8 and 10 years. 600 District "D" bonds. Due \$500 in 9 years and \$100 in 10 years. 6,900 District "E" bonds. Due \$500 in 1, 2 and 3 years, \$1,000 in 4 years, \$500 in 5 and 6 years, \$1,000 in 7 years, \$500 in 8 years, \$1,000 in 9 years, \$500 in 10 years and \$400 in 11 years.

Date July 1 1915. Principal and semi-annual interest payable at the Commissioner of Finance's office or at the city depository in Newport. The bonds mature July 1 1936, or at option of city given above. Certified check for 3% of bonds bid for, payable to the "City of Newport," required.

NEWTON, Middlesex County, Mass.—BOND SALE.—On Aug. 2 the \$30,000 4 1/2% 15 1/2-year average sewer bonds were awarded to Adams & Co. of Boston at 101.632.—V. 101, p. 391.

Other bids were: W. L. Raymond & Co., Bost., 101.613; Merrill, Oldham & Co., Bost., 100.849; P. M. Chandler & Co., Bost., 100.57; Blodgett & Co., Boston, 100.685; P. M. Chandler & Co., Bost., 100.57; Jackson & Curtis, Boston, 100.819; Millett, Roe & Hagen, Bost., 101.26; R. L. Day & Co., Boston, 100.78; N. W. Harris & Co., Boston, 101.28; Newton Trust Co., Newton, 101.25; Estabrook & Co., Boston, 100.55; C. S. Butler, 100.52; Curtis & Sanger, Boston, 100.63; Crowley, McFarland & Co., Bos., 100.073.

Denom. \$1,000. Date Aug. 2 1915. Int. F. & A. Due from Aug. 1 1916 to 1945.

NEW YORK CITY.—BOND SALE.—The Sinking Fund of this city during the month of July purchased at par \$300,000 3% corporate bonds for various municipal purposes. The bonds mature Nov. 1 1924.

The following short-term securities, aggregating \$8,250,000, and consisting of revenue bonds for current expenses, special revenue bonds and corporate stock notes, were issued during July:

Table with columns: Revenue Bonds—1915, Int., Maturity, Amount. Lists various bonds like Current expenses, Total revenue bonds, Special, Rapid transit, etc.

Total corporate stock notes \$2,750,000

NILES, Trumbull County, Ohio.—BOND SALE.—On July 30 the two issues of 5% st. impt. bonds aggregating \$19,500 were awarded to J. C. Mayer & Co. of Cincinnati for \$19,659 58, equal to 100.818, it is reported.—V. 101, p. 231.

NOBLE SCHOOL TOWNSHIP (P. O. Union Mills), La Porte County, Ind.—WARRANT SALE.—On July 31 the \$15,000 1-15-yr. serial school warrants were awarded to the Laporte Savings Bank at par for 4 1/4%—V. 101, p. 232. Other bids were:

Table with columns: Name, Price, Rate. Lists bids from E. M. Campbells Sons & Co., Indianapolis, 102, 5%; Breed, Elliott & Harrison, Indianapolis, 100.833, 5%.

Denom. \$500. Int. semi-annually in Jan. and July.

NOME SCHOOL DISTRICT (P. O. Nome), Barnes County, N. Dak.—BONDS VOTED.—Reports state that a favorable vote was cast at a recent election on the question of issuing \$10,000 building bonds.

NORTH DAKOTA.—BONDS PURCHASED BY STATE.—During the month of July the following fourteen issues of 4% bonds, aggregating \$34,900, were purchased by the State of North Dakota at par:

Table with columns: Amount, Place, Purpose, Date, Due. Lists various school district bonds like Alice School Dist. No. 11, Dewey School Dist. No. 120, etc.

NORTHFIELD, Rice County, Minn.—BOND ELECTION.—An election will be held Aug. 12 to vote on the question of issuing to the State of Minnesota \$4,500 public-park-site-purchase, \$1,000 public-park-improvement and \$13,500 paving bonds.

OAKFIELD, Genesee County, N. Y.—BOND SALE.—On Aug. 2 the \$35,000 4 1/2% 17-year average coup. or reg. (option of purchaser) water-works bonds were awarded to the Security Trust Co. of Rochester for \$35,540 (101.542) and int., a basis of about 4.35%—V. 101, p. 391.

OAKVILLE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1 (P. O. Oakville), Live Oak County, Tex.—BONDS VOTED.—The question of issuing \$7,000 high-school-bldg. and equipment bonds carried, it is stated, at an election held July 21. The vote was 43 to 8.

OKMULGEE COUNTY (P. O. Okmulgee), Okla.—BOND ELECTION PROPOSED.—Reports state that petitions are being circulated calling for an election to vote on the proposition to issue \$125,000 court-house-bldg. bonds.

OLEAN, Cattaraugus County, N. Y.—BOND OFFERING.—F. L. Bartlett, Treasurer of the Flood Abatement Commission, will receive sealed bids, it is stated, until 2 p. m. Aug. 16 for \$150,000 4 1/2% 29 2-3-yr. (aver.) flood protection bonds. Int. semi-annual. A certified check for \$7,500 is required.

OMAHA SCHOOL DISTRICT (P. O. Omaha), Boone County, Ark.—BOND SALE.—Reports state that an issue of \$6,000 building bonds has been awarded to an investment company in Little Rock at par.

ORANGE COUNTY (P. O. Paoli), Ind.—BOND SALE.—On Aug. 2 the \$2,320 4 1/2% 5 1/2-year average highway-impt. bonds were awarded to the Orange County Bank for \$2,333, equal to 100.50, a basis of about 4.39%—V. 101, p. 391. Denom. \$216. Date Aug. 2 1915. Int. M. & N.

PALMETTO, Manatee County, Fla.—BOND OFFERING.—Proposals will be received on or before Aug. 21 by P. J. Hackney, Acting Pres. of City Council, for approximately \$75,000 6% 3-5-year (ser.) improvement bonds. Approximately \$18,000 bearing date as of July 1 1915 and the sub-bonds. An sequent part of the issue to be delivered as the work is completed. Int. semi-annual. Certified check for 10% of the amount of bid required.

PARKE COUNTY (P. O. Rockville), Ind.—BOND SALE.—The following bids were received for the \$16,600 4 1/2% 5 1/2-year average highway-improvement bonds offered on Aug. 2.—V. 101, p. 392:

Table with columns: Name, Amount. Lists bids from Merchants' National Bank, Muncie, \$16,625 35; Miller & Co., Indianapolis, 16,617 00; J. F. Wild & Co., Indianapolis, 16,612 00; Breed, Elliott & Harrison, Indianapolis, 16,610 00; Fletcher-American National Bank, Indianapolis, 16,610 00.

PARKERSBURG, Wood County, W. Va.—BOND OFFERING.—Proposals will be received until 3:30 p. m. Aug. 10 by the City Commissioners, W. A. Smith, Chairman, for \$200,000 5% 10-year street-improvement bonds. Denom. \$100, \$500 or \$1,000, as desired. Date July 1 1915.

Principal and semi-annual int. payable at the office of the Supt. of Dept. of Accounts and Finance. Bonds will be delivered at the U. S. Mfg. & Trust Co., N. Y., on Aug. 24, or as soon thereafter as they can be prepared. The legality of the bonds will be approved by Caldwell, Masslich & Reed, N. Y. City, whose favorable opinion will be furnished to the purchaser without charge. The bonds will be prepared under the supervision of the United States Mortgage & Trust Co., N. Y. City, who will certify as to the genuineness of signatures of the city officials and the seal impressed thereon. All bids must be upon blank forms which will be furnished by the city and must be accompanied by an unconditional certified check upon a reputable bank for \$4,000, payable to the order of the City of Parkersburg. Total bonded debt, excluding this issue, \$725,000. Other indebtedness, \$54,064 54. Assessed valuation, 1914, \$30,275,927 55.

PARSONS, Labette County, Kan.—BOND ELECTION.—Reports state that an election will be held Aug. 23 to vote on the question of issuing \$18,000 bonds for the acquiring of land and erection of suitable buildings for a farmers' feed yard.

PERRY SCHOOL TOWNSHIP (P. O. Cory), Clay County, Ind.—BOND SALE.—On July 20 the \$2,400 4 1/2% 1 1/2-yr. average coup. bldg. bonds were awarded to the Citizens Bank of Brazil.—V. 101, p. 153.



adopted by the Bd. of Ed. and delivered for proper execution. The approving opinion of Wood & Oakley of Chicago will be furnished purchaser. Total bonded debt \$130,000. Assess. val. equal. 1914 \$18,346.496.

**STRUTHERS, Mahoning County, Ohio.—BOND OFFERING.**—Bids will be received until 12 m. Sept. 1 by Jonah Richards, Vil. Clerk, for the following 6% st. impt. (village's portion) bonds: \$2,491 75 sewer bonds. Denom. \$498 35. Due \$498 35 yrly. on July 1 from 1916 to 1920, incl. 1,703 35 paving bonds. Denom. \$340 67. Due \$340 67 yrly. on July 1 from 1916 to 1920, incl. 416 35 paving bonds. Denom. \$83 27. Due \$83 27 yrly. on July 1 from 1916 to 1920, incl.

Date July 1 1915. Int. J. & J. Cert. check for \$200 payable to Vil. Treas., required with each issue. Bonds to be delivered and paid for within 10 days from time of award. Purchaser to pay accrued int.

**SWEDESORO, Gloucester County, N. J.—BOND ELECTION.**—An election will be held Aug. 12 to vote on the questions of issuing \$14,000 Borough Hall and \$6,500 auto-fire-engine 5% semi-ann. bonds. Due part yearly.

**TERMINUS SCHOOL DISTRICT, San Joaquin County, Cal.—BOND SALE.**—On July 6 an issue of \$1,500 6% school bonds was awarded to the Industrial Accident Commission of California at 102. There were no other bidders. This item was inadvertently reported in V. 101, p. 314, under the head of Terminus School District, Ohio.

**TROY, N. Y.—BOND OFFERING.**—Proposals will be received until 10 a. m. Aug. 12 by W. H. Dennin, City Comptroller, for \$100,000 5% tax-exempt certificates of indebtedness or revenue bonds. Denom. \$25,000. Date Aug. 12 1915. Due Oct. 18 1915. Certified check for not less than 1% of bonds, payable to "City of Troy," required. Bonds to be delivered and paid for within five days from time of award. Purchaser to pay accrued interest. Official circular states that the city has never defaulted on any of its obligations.

**TWO HARBORS SCHOOL DISTRICT (P. O. Two Harbors), Lake County, Minn.—BOND ELECTION.**—An election will be held Aug. 9, it is stated, to vote on the question of issuing to the State of Minnesota \$30,000 4% high school bldg. bonds.

**UEHLING, Dodge County, Neb.—BOND SALE.**—The Franklin Exchange Bank of Franklin, Neb., has purchased the \$4,000 6% 2-20-yr. (opt.) electric light bonds at par and int.—V. 100, p. 661. Denom. \$500. Date Aug. 1 1914. Int. ann. on Aug. 1.

**UNION COUNTY (P. O. Liberty), Ind.—BOND SALE.**—On Aug. 2 the \$20,742 4 1/2% 5 1/2-yr. average highway impt. bonds were awarded to the Farmers State Bank of College Corner for \$20,814 50 (100.349) and int.—V. 101, p. 314. Other bids were: Union Co Nat Bk, Liberty \$20,793 80; Fletcher Amer. Nat. Bank Merch. Nat. Bk, Muncie, 20,772 35; Indianapolis, \$20,757; Citizens Bank, Liberty, 20,759 50; Miller & Co., Indpls., 20,754

**UTICA, Oneida County, N. Y.—BIDS REJECTED—NEW OFFERING.**—We are advised that of the five bids received for the two issues of 4 1/2% reg. tax-free public impt. bonds aggregating \$27,000 offered on Aug. 4, three, including the two highest were declared irregular by the Law Dept. and therefore all proposals were rejected. New bids for these bonds will be received until Aug. 18.

**VACAVILLE, Solano County, Calif.—BOND SALE.**—On July 27 the \$18,000 5% 15 1/2-yr. (aver.) street impt. bonds were awarded to the First Nat'l Bank of Vacaville for \$18,010, equal to 100.055.—V. 101, p.

314. There were no other bidders. Denom. \$500. Date Aug. 1 1915. Int. A. & O. Due \$600 yrly. Aug. 1 from 1916 to 1945, incl.

**VANDERBURGH COUNTY (P. O. Evansville), Ind.—BOND SALE.**—On July 30 the two issues of 4 1/2% road bonds aggregating \$23,900 were awarded as follows.—V. 101, p. 233: \$9,400 to Teachers Retirement Fund of Evansville for \$9,421 (100.223) and int. 14,500 to City Nat. Bank of Evansville for \$14,532 (100.220) and int. There were three other bidders.

**VICTORIA, Victoria County, Tex.—BOND OFFERING.**—Proposals will be received until 5 p. m. Aug. 30 by C. A. Wertheimer, City Secy., for the \$30,000 10-40-yr. (opt.) fire station, \$30,000 10-40-yr. (opt.) bridge and street impt. and \$40,000 5-10-yr. (opt.) electric light plant 5% bonds, V. 100, p. 2103. Denom. \$500. Date July 1 1915. Int. A. & O. at the Farmers' Loan & Trust Co., New York, or at Austin at option of holder. Cert. check on either bank in Victoria, Tex. for \$1,000, payable to J. H. Fleming, Mayor, required. Bonded debt (including these bonds) \$1,275,000. No floating debt. Sinking fund \$4,086. Assess. val. 1914, \$4,725,830.

**VIGO COUNTY (P. O. Terre Haute), Ind.—BOND OFFERING.**—Thos. J. Dalley, Co. Treas., will receive bids until 10 a. m. Aug. 14 for an issue of \$2,800 4 1/2% 5 1/2-yr. average John Arbuckle et al highway bonds in Prairieton Twp. Denom. \$140. Date July 31 1915. Int. M. & N. Due \$140 each six months from May 15 1916 to Nov. 15 1925, incl.

**VISALIA, Tulare County, Calif.—BOND OFFERING.**—Reports state that I. Markham, City Clerk, will receive sealed bids until 8 p. m. Aug. 18 for the \$65,000 1-26-yr. serial sewer and \$50,000 1-25-yr. serial auditorium 6% bonds voted June 30 (V. 101, p. 155). A certified check for 5% is required.

**WAKE FOREST, Wake County, No. Caro.—BONDS VOTED.**—The question of issuing municipal electric light plant bonds carried, it is stated, by a vote of 75 to 2 at an election held July 27.

**WAKEMAN TOWNSHIP (P. O. Wakeman), Huron County, Ohio.—BOND OFFERING.**—Bids will be received until 12 m. Aug. 16 by W. G. Ferver, Twp. Clerk, for \$4,000 5 1/2% 6-yr. average town-hall-impt. bonds. Auth. Secs. 3205, 3939 and 3940, Gen. Code. Denom. \$500. Date Aug. 1 1915. Prin. and semi-ann. Int. (A. & O.) payable at Wakeman Bank Co., Wakeman. Due \$500 yearly on Oct. 1 from 1917 to 1924 incl. Cert. check on a bank other than the one making the bid for 5% of bonds bid for, payable to Twp. Clerk, required.

**WALL LAKE, Sac County, Iowa.—BOND ELECTION.**—A vote will be taken on Aug. 18, it is stated, on the question of issuing \$7,500 electric light-wire ext. bonds.

**WARREN, Worcester County, Mass.—BONDS DEFEATED.**—At the election held Aug. 4 the question of issuing the \$100,000 Water-system-construction bonds was defeated.—V. 101, p. 393.

**WARREN, Marshall County, Minn.—BOND OFFERING.**—Further details are at hand relative to the offering on Aug. 9 of the \$10,000 10-yr. coupon electric light and water plant bonds.—V. 101, p. 393. Proposals for these bonds will be received until 8 p. m. on that day by G. O. Cross, City Recorder. Denom. \$1,000. Date Aug. 1 1915. Int. (rate not to exceed 6%) payable ann. on Aug. 1. Cert. check on a State or National bank for \$200, payable to the City Recorder, required. Bonded debt excluding this issue \$37,000. No floating debt. No sinking fund. Assess. val. 1914, \$504,196.

**WARREN COUNTY (P. O. Front Royal), Va.—BOND OFFERING.**—J. M. Lake, Chairman Bd. of Co. Commrs. will sell at public auction at

NEW LOANS.

\$175,000

Corinne Drainage District,

Boxelder County, Utah,

6% BONDS

Corinne Drainage District, Boxelder County, Utah, offer bonds in the sum of \$175,000, bearing six per cent semi-annual interest, \$75,000 mature in ten years, balance in blocks of \$10,000 each year thereafter.

Bids received up to noon AUGUST 23, 1915, at office of

C. G. ADNEY, Clerk.

Corinne, Boxelder County, Utah.

\$73,500

TOWN OF KEARNY,

Hudson County, N. J.,

4 1/2% SCHOOL BONDS

Sealed proposals will be received by the Town Council of the Town of Kearny, Hudson County, New Jersey, at the Town Hall, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 11TH, 1915, at 8:30 p. m., for the purchase of \$73,500 4 1/2% 25-yr. School Bonds.

Said bonds will be dated August 1st, 1915. Each bid must be accompanied by a certified check for 5% of the amount of the bid.

The Town reserves the right to reject any or all bids as it may deem for the best interests of the Town.

For financial statement of the Town or any other information, address

BURTON E. CANFIELD, Town Treasurer

NEW LOANS.

\$150,000

CITY OF ENGLEWOOD, N. J.

SCHOOL BONDS

Sealed Proposals will be received by the Common Council of the City of Englewood, at the City Hall, in the City of Englewood, N. J., until SEPTEMBER 7TH, 1915,

at 8 o'clock p. m., for the purchase of \$150,000 School Bonds of said City. Said bonds will be of the denomination of \$1,000 each, dated September 1, 1915, payable September 1, 1945, bearing interest at the rate of four and one-half per centum per annum, payable semi-annually on the first days of March and September in each year, both principal and interest being payable in lawful money of the United States of America at the United States Mortgage & Trust Company, in the City of New York. Said bonds will be coupon bonds with the privilege of registration as to principal only, or of conversion into bonds registered as to both principal and interest.

All proposals must provide for the payment of accrued interest by the purchaser from the date of said bonds to the date of delivery thereof, and must be accompanied by a certified check upon an incorporated bank or trust company for 2% of the par value of the bonds bid for, payable to the order of the Treasurer of the City of Englewood, the amount of said check to be credited upon the bid, if accepted, and to be returned forthwith if the bid be not accepted.

Proposals should be addressed to Robert Jamieson, City Clerk of the City of Englewood, and enclosed in a sealed envelope marked "Proposal for City of Englewood School Bonds."

The legality of the issue has been examined by Messrs. Hawkins, DeLafield & Lonsfellow, whose favorable opinion will be furnished to the purchaser. The bonds will be prepared under the supervision of the United States Mortgage & Trust Company, who will certify as to genuineness of the signature of the city officials and the seal impressed thereon.

The right is reserved to reject any or all bids. Dated, July 24th, 1915.

By order of the Common Council, ROBERT JAMIESON, City Clerk.

NEW LOANS.

\$50,000

City of Wilmington, Delaware,

Sinking Fund 4 1/2% Loan

Sealed bids will be received until 12 o'clock, noon, AUGUST 12, A. D. 1915, for all or any part thereof of \$50,000 Wilmington, Delaware, Sinking Fund Four and One-half per cent Loan. Said bonds will date from August 1, A. D. 1915, and be issued in denominations of Fifty Dollars or multiples thereof, and bear interest at the rate of four and one-half per centum per annum, payable semi-annually on October 1 and April 1, and to mature as follows:

\$32,550 on April 1, 1939.  
\$17,450 on October 1, 1939.

These bonds are issued to provide funds for the use of the Board of Directors of the Street and Sewer Department, for the extension of the North Brandywine Intersecting sewer to the Hagley Yard of the E. I. du Pont de Nemours Powder Company, and are issued under authority of an Act of the General Assembly of the State of Delaware, approved March 4, A. D. 1907, and under authority of an Ordinance of the Council of Wilmington passed July 15, 1915, and approved by the Mayor, July 19th, 1915, and at the option of the purchaser may be coupon or registered bonds.

All proposals must be accompanied by a certified check payable to the order of "The Mayor and Council of Wilmington" for two per centum of the amount of bonds bid for, the same to be forfeited if the bidder fails to accept and pay for bonds awarded.

The successful bidder or bidders will be required to settle for the bonds awarded, with accrued interest from August 1, A. D. 1915, at or before 12 o'clock noon, September 1, A. D. 1915.

No bid of less than par will be accepted. The right is reserved to reject any or all bids. Bonds will be paid for and delivered to the purchaser at the office of the City Treasurer in Wilmington, Delaware, at the time hereinbefore mentioned.

All proposals must be enclosed in sealed envelopes addressed to WILLIAM J. HIGHFIELD, City Treasurer, and marked, "PROPOSALS FOR SINKING FUND LOAN."

OSCAR C. DRAPER.	Finance Committee of the Council.
JAMES KANE.	
CHARLES M. SMITH.	
ROBERT D. KEMP.	Commissioners of the Sinking Fund.
JOHN J. MCGOVERN.	
JOHN J. MONAGHAN.	

MINING ENGINEERS

H. M. CHANCE & CO.  
Mining Engineers and Geologists

COAL AND MINERAL PROPERTIES  
Examined, Managed, Appraised  
Drexel Bldg. PHILADELPHIA

Illinois Trust & Savings Bank

CHICAGO

Capital, Surplus and Undivided Profits \$15,700,000

Pays Interest on Time Deposits, Current and Reserve Accounts. Deals in Foreign Exchange. Has on hand at all times a variety of excellent Securities. Buys and sells Government, Municipal and Corporation Bonds. Transacts a General Trust Business.

12 m. Aug. 10 \$20,000 5% 20-30-yr. (opt.) coupon South River District road constr. bonds. Denom. \$500. Date May 1 1914. Int. M. & N. at the Co. Treas. office. No deposit required. Bonded debt \$65,000. Assess. val. 1914 \$2,500,000. State and county tax rate (per \$1,000) \$1.65.

**WATERVILLE, Albany County, N. Y.—BOND SALE.**—On Aug. 4 the \$55,000 4½% 10½-year average city-half-construction bonds were awarded to H. A. Kahler & Co. of New York at 100.113 and int.—a basis of about 4.45%.—V. 101, p. 393. Other bidders were: Doug. Fenwick & Co., N. Y.—100.31 I. W. Sherrill Co., Poughk.—100.12 Harris, Forbes & Co., N. Y.—100.203 Farson, Son & Co., N. Y.—100.023 Manufact. Nat. Bank, Troy, 100.19

**WAUSA, Knox County, Neb.—BOND ELECTION.**—The question of issuing sewer bonds will be submitted to a vote, it is stated, on Sept. 3.

**WAVERLY, Tioga County, N. Y.—BONDS TO BE OFFERED SHORTLY.**—Bids will be asked in the near future for \$7,000 water-works-plant-improvement bonds voted July 24.

**WAVERLY SCHOOL DISTRICT (P. O. Waverly), Morgan County, Ills.—BONDS VOTED.**—At the election held July 30 the proposition to issue \$40,000 bldg. bonds carried, it is stated, by a vote of 760 to 729.

**WAYNE COUNTY (P. O. Monticello), Ky.—BOND ELECTION REJECTED.**—The election which was to have been held July 24 to vote on the question of issuing \$200,000 pike impt. bonds was called off.

**WAYNE TOWNSHIP, Columbiana County, Ohio.—BOND OFFERING.**—Proposals will be received until 12 m. Sept. 1 by the Board of Trustees, M. O. Lutzlin, Clerk, care of Firestone Bank, Lisbon, for \$14,500 5½% 5½-year average Lisbon-Salineville road-improvement bonds. Auth. Secs. 7033 to 7052 incl., Gen. Code. Denom. \$500. Date Sept. 1 1915. Prin. and semi-ann. interest—M. & N.—payable at above bank. Due \$1,000 Sept. 1 1916 and \$1,500 yearly on Sept. 1 from 1917 to 1925 incl. Certified check on a bank other than the one making the bid, for \$500, payable to Township Treasurer, required. Bonds to be delivered and paid for on Sept. 1. Purchaser to pay accrued int. Bids must be unconditional and upon forms furnished by the Township Trustee.

**WELLSVILLE, Allegany County, N. Y.—BOND OFFERING.**—Bids will be received until 7:30 p. m. Aug. 9 by Frank M. Wall, VII, Clerk, for the following 4½% tax-free reg. bonds: \$75,000 bonds to acquire the existing water system of the Wellsville Water Co. Denom. \$1,000. Due \$3,000 yrly. on July 1 from 1919 to 1943, incl.

104,000 bonds to improve above plant. Denom. \$1,000. Due \$4,000 yrly. on July 1 from 1919 to 1944, incl.

37,500 bonds to acquire the existing system of the Wellsville Electric Light, Heat & Power Co. Denom. 25 for \$1,000, 25 for \$500. Due \$1,500 yrly. on July 1 from 1919 to 1943, incl.

25,000 bonds to improve above plant. Denom. \$1,000. Due \$1,000 yrly. on July 1 from 1919 to 1943, incl.

Date July 1 1915. Prin. and semi-ann. int. (J. & J.) payable at U. S. Mgt. & Tr. Co., N. Y. Cert. check on an incorporated bank or trust company for 2% of bonds bid for, payable to Geo. B. Rooth, Jr., VII, Treas., required. The U. S. Mgt. & Tr. Co., of N. Y. will certify as to the genuineness of the signatures of the village officials signing the bonds and the seal impressed thereon; and the legality of these bonds will be approved by Hawkins, DeLafield & Longfellow of N. Y. and F. B. O'Connor, VII, Atty., and a duplicate of their opinions will be furnished purchaser. Purchaser to pay accrued interest. Bids must be made on forms furnished by Village. Total bonded debt, incl. these issues, \$329,949; no floating debt. Assess. val. 1915, \$1,742,016.

**WESTHOBOKEN, Hudson County, N. J.—BONDS AUTHORIZED.**—An ordinance was passed by the Town Council July 28 providing for the issuance of 5% 15-yr. coup. (with priv. of res.) judgment bond in the amount of \$3,000. Date July 1 1915. Prin. and semi-ann. int. (J. & J.) payable at office of Town Treas. Due July 1 1930.

**WESTVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT, New Haven County, Conn.—BOND OFFERING.**—Bids will be received until 12 m. Aug. 17 by Geo. W. Craze, Treas., (P. O. 106 Orange St., New Haven) for the \$15,000 4½% 30-yr. coup. fire engine house bonds mentioned in V. 100, p. 2106. Denom. \$1,000 or multiple thereof. Date July 1 1915. Prin. and semi-ann. int. (J. & J.) payable at Nat. Tradesman Bank, New Haven. Cert. check for \$200 payable to above Treas. required. Bonds to be delivered and paid for within 10 days from time of award. Purchaser to pay accrued interest. Bonded debt \$80,000, floating debt \$26,000, grand list 1914 \$4,820,507.

**WHITMAN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 128, Wash.—BOND SALE.**—On July 26 the \$3,000 2-5-yr. (opt.) building and equipment bonds were awarded to the State of Washington at par for 5½% V. 101, p. 155. There were no other bids.

**WICHITA, Sedgwick County, Kans.—BOND SALE.**—An issue of \$15,000 4½% 10-yr. bridge bonds was awarded at par on April 10 as follows: \$14,000 to the Fourth Nat. Bank of Wichita and \$1,000 to C. L. Davis of Wichita. Denom. \$1,000. Date April 1 1915. Int. A. & O.

**WILKINSBURG, Allegheny County, Pa.—BONDS VOTED.**—By a vote of 640 to 458 the question of issuing the \$125,000 grade-crossing elimination and st. impt. bonds carried, it is stated, at the election held Aug. 3.—V. 101, p. 155.

**WILLIAMSTOWN SPECIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2, Ohio.—BOND ELECTION PROPOSED.**—A Cincinnati newspaper states that an election will shortly be held in this district to vote on the question of issuing \$1,250 school bonds.

**WILSON, Niagara County, N. Y.—BOND OFFERING.**—Bids will be received until 4 p. m. Aug. 10 by Arthur M. Housel, Village Treasurer, for \$3,500 5% street-improvement bonds. Denom. \$500. Due \$500 yearly on Aug. 1 from 1916 to 1922, inclusive.

**WINDSOR, Weld County, Colo.—BOND SALE.**—The \$11,000 refunding water bonds voted April 7 have been sold to Sweet, Causey, Foster & Co. of Denver.—V. 100, p. 1380.

**WINONA SCHOOL DISTRICT (P. O. Winona), Winona County, Minn.—BIDS REJECTED.**—All bids received for the \$115,000 5% building bonds offered on July 23 were rejected, awaiting the completion of the plans and specifications to ascertain the probable cost of the structure.—V. 101, p. 235.

**WITTENBERG, Shawano County, Wis.—BOND SALE.**—On July 5, \$12,000 4½% coupon water works bonds were awarded to the Hanchett Bond Co. of Chicago at 96.325 and blank bonds. N. W. Halsey & Co. of Chicago bid 95. Denom. \$500. Date July 1 1915. Principal and semi-ann. int. (J. & J.) payable at the First Natl. Bank of Chicago. Due \$500 yrly. July 1 from 1919 to 1926, incl. and \$1,000 yrly. July 1 from 1927 to 1934, incl.

**WOOD COUNTY (P. O. Bowling Green), Ohio.—BOND OFFERING.**—Bids will be received until 1 p. m. Aug. 20 by C. E. Stinebaugh, County Auditor, for \$8,000 6% coup. county-detention-home-improvement bonds. Auth. Sec. 2434, Gen. Code. Denom. \$500. Date Sept. 1 1915. Int. M. & S. at County Treasurer's office. Due \$1,000 each six months from March 1 1917 to Sept. 1 1920 incl. Certified check for \$200, on a Bowling Green bank, required. Purchaser to pay accrued interest.

NEW LOANS

\$26,000

CITY OF POLSON,  
Flathead County, Montana  
6% WATER BONDS

State of Montana,  
County of Flathead,  
City of Polson.

Pursuant to the authority of Ordinance No. 105 of the City of Polson, of the County of Flathead, State of Montana, passed and approved August 2nd, A. D., 1915, authorizing and directing the advertisement and sale of certain bonds of said city, namely:

Water bonds of the City of Polson, of the County of Flathead, State of Montana, to an amount aggregating the principal sum of \$26,000.00, comprised of twenty-six bonds numbered consecutively from one to twenty-six, both numbers inclusive, of the denomination of \$1,000.00 each, and all dated July 1st, A. D. 1915, absolutely due and payable July 1st, 1935, but redeemable at the option of the city as follows:

Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) of said bonds numbered from one to five, both numbers inclusive, on and after the first day of July, 1919; Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) of said bonds numbered from six to ten, both numbers inclusive, on and after the first day of July, 1923; Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) of said bonds numbered from eleven to fifteen, both numbers inclusive, on and after the first day of July, 1927; Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) of said bonds numbered from sixteen to twenty, both numbers inclusive, on and after the first day of July 1931; and Six Thousand Dollars (\$6,000.00) of said bonds numbered from twenty-one to twenty-six, both numbers inclusive, on and after the first day of July, 1935;

Bearing interest from their date until paid at the rate of six per centum per annum, payable semi-annually on the last days of January and July, respectively, in each year, both principal and interest thereon payable at the office of the City Treasurer of the City of Polson, State of Montana, or, at the option of the holder, at the National Bank of Commerce in the City and State of New York, U. S. A.

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the bonds aforesaid will, at the office of the undersigned Clerk, in said city, on THURSDAY, to-wit: THE NINTH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, A. D. 1915, at the hour of 10 o'clock A. M., at public auction, be sold to the bidder offering the highest price therefor.

At said public auction the successful bidder will be required to deposit with the undersigned Clerk a certified check payable to his order in the sum of Two Thousand (\$2,000.00) Dollars, which check shall be held by the City and forfeited to it should the purchaser fail to take up and pay for said bonds when presented to him.

By order of the Council of the City of Polson, of the County of Flathead, State of Montana, made this 2nd day of August, A. D. 1915.

J. W. CLARK, Mayor.  
est H. S. HANSON, City Clerk.

NEW LOANS.

\$400,000

City of Bridgeport, Conn.,  
4½% Stratford Ave. Bridge Bonds

Sealed proposals will be received by the undersigned, at the office of the Mayor, Room 30, City Hall, in said Bridgeport, until SATURDAY, AUGUST 14TH, 1915, at 11 o'clock A. M., for the purchase of \$400,000.00 4½% per cent Stratford Avenue Bridge Bonds, \$1,000.00 each, serial in form, and maturing as follows: \$8,000.00 each year commencing July 1st, 1916, and ending July 1st, 1965, inclusive. Interest payable on January 1st and July 1st each year. Principal and interest payable at the office of the Treasurer of said city, in gold coin of the United States, at the present standard of weight and fineness. The bonds are subject to full registration, or to registration of principal only, at holder's option, on presentation to City Treasurer.

The bonds will be prepared and certified by The First National Bank of Boston, Massachusetts. Legal opinion by Messrs. Ropes, Bray, Boyden & Perkins, of Boston, Mass., that the issue is a valid obligation of the City of Bridgeport.

Each proposal must be accompanied by a certified check on an incorporated bank or trust company, payable to the order of the Treasurer of the City of Bridgeport, for one per cent of the par value of the bonds bid for. The right is reserved to reject any or all proposals. The total gross debt, bonded and temporary, of the City of Bridgeport, this issue of bonds included, is \$3,750,600.00. The net debt, after deducting the sinking fund applicable, is \$3,145,926.06. The assessed value of property, as per last perfected grand list, is \$115,154,912.00. The legal debt limit is five per centum of the grand list, or, based on above grand list, \$5,757,745.60. The entire present tax rate is \$18 per thousand. CLIFFORD B. WILSON, Mayor. BERNARD KEATING, City Auditor. MOSES W. MANWARING, Treasurer.

Mountain States  
Telephone

BELL SYSTEM IN COLORADO,  
NEW MEXICO, ARIZONA, UTAH,  
WYOMING, IDAHO AND MONTANA

7% STOCK

No Bonds—No Preferred Shares

BOETTCHER, PORTER  
& COMPANY  
DENVER

John I Cole, Son & Co.  
EXPERT BANK EXAMINERS AND  
ACCOUNTANTS

Auditing, Examining, Systematizing  
701 BROADWAY NEW YORK CITY

NEW LOANS.

\$105,120.20

CITY OF MINNEAPOLIS,  
Special Street Improvement Bonds

Sealed bids will be received by the Committee on Ways and Means of the City Council of the City of Minneapolis, Minnesota, at the office of the undersigned, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 11TH, 1915, at 2:45 o'clock p. m., for the whole or any part of \$105,120.20 Special Street Improvement Bonds, of which there are three separate issues, all dated August 2nd, 1915, to become due and payable substantially one-twentieth on August 1, 1916, and one-twentieth each and every year thereafter to and including August 1, 1935.

No bids will be entertained for the above bonds for a sum less than the par value of the same and accrued interest to date of delivery, and rate of interest must be bid by the purchaser and must not be in excess of Five (5%) Per Cent per annum, payable annually or semi-annually.

The right to reject any or all bids is hereby reserved.

A certified check for Two (2%) Per Cent of the par value of the bonds bid for, made to C. A. Bloomquist, City Treasurer, must accompany each bid.

Circular containing full particulars will be mailed upon application.  
DAN C. BROWN, City Comptroller,  
Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Public Utilities  
in growing communities bought  
and financed.

¶ Their securities offered  
to investors.

Middle West  
Utilities Co.  
112 West Adam St.  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

