

CHRONICLE INDEX.

The index to Volume 103 of the "Chronicle"—which volume ended with the issue of Dec. 30—is mailed with this issue. As has been the practice for some years the index is issued as a separate pamphlet for convenience in binding.

THE FINANCIAL SITUATION.

The returns of condition of the national banks now being published under the latest call of the Comptroller of the Currency reveal a change in the form of report, which cannot be considered in the nature of an improvement. Heretofore the national banks in making up returns for publication have always been obliged to give the details of their cash holdings—that is, to indicate how much coin they had on hand, how much legal tenders, and how much cash on deposit with the Federal Reserve banks. Now this has been changed and all the items referred to are lumped under the designation "lawful reserve in vault and net amount due from Federal Reserve Bank."

It will be readily perceived that under a blanket designation of this kind important facts are hidden which patrons of the banks and the general public are entitled to know. It may be said, too, that the departure made by the Comptroller's department in this respect does not meet with the approval of leading bank officials. Of course, the banks in publishing their reports for the purpose of complying with legal requirements are obliged to conform to the schedules laid down by the Comptroller, and therefore the returns are now appearing in the new way prescribed by that official. Many of the banks, however, have indicated their intention, in printing folders for distribution among their depositors and correspondents, to adhere to the old practice of listing separately the cash on hand, and the balance due from the Reserve banks.

The only reason that we can think of for the lumping process now adopted is that it is done with a view to aiding the Federal Reserve banks in carrying out certain plans which the Reserve Board is endeavoring to put into effect. The Federal Reserve authorities are now engaged in a campaign for getting the member banks to turn all their cash over to the custody of the Federal Reserve banks, keeping only till-money in their own vaults. Unfortunately, too, they succeeded in having the law amended so as to make the process legal. Under the amendatory Act, approved by the President on Sept. 7 1916, a new clause has been added at the end of Section 11 of the Federal Reserve Act providing that "upon the affirmative vote of not less than five of its members, the Federal Reserve Board shall have power, from time to time, by general ruling covering all districts alike, to permit member banks to carry in the Federal Reserve banks of their respective districts, any portion of their reserves now required by Section 19 of this Act to be held in their own vaults."

The Reserve Board was prompt to avail of this authority, and which, indeed, it had been seeking for a long time, and on Sept. 11 (four days after the amendatory Act became a law), issued a ruling that

member banks might carry all or any part of their vault reserves in the Federal Reserve bank of their respective districts. Since then nearly all the different Federal Reserve banks have been engaged in endeavoring to persuade member banks that the wise thing to do is for the member banks to transfer all their cash to the keeping of the Reserve banks. Thus, the Federal Reserve Bank of New York in its circular, under date of Nov. 20, made the following plea in seeking to get the member banks to fall in with the idea:

"The permission thus given offers an opportunity to all member banks both to be relieved of the responsibility for unused funds held in individual vaults, and to strengthen their reserves with their Federal Reserve banks. It should also tend to encourage the concentrating of the reserves of each district with the Federal Reserve bank, where they will serve as a proper basis for elasticity when demands for currency are made and will, of course, be immediately available in case of emergency."

For ourselves we have no hesitancy in saying the practice here advocated is one not to be encouraged at all, and the authority to pursue it should never have been granted. It is one thing to give the Reserve banks a certain portion of the reserves of the member banks for use as a basis for note issues, and it is quite a different thing to give them the entire reserves of the member banks for the same purpose. No member bank, guided by conservative instincts, will allow its vault reserves to be trenced upon in any way, for the fact should never be forgotten that when these vault reserves are within the keeping of the member banks themselves, there is at least absolute assurance that they will remain intact. That assurance does not exist when such vault reserves are placed with the Reserve banks, for these latter under the law are required to keep no more than 35% of the same on hand, that being the amount of gold reserve required to be held against deposits.

The thought seems to have occurred to the Governor of one of these Federal Reserve banks that in the public eye it might be considered an element of weakness for a member bank to show how little of its required reserves it actually had on hand, so he naively conveyed the intimation that banks need not display their weakness in that respect. This he did in ingenious fashion by adding a sentence at the end of his circular, saying: "Member banks will notice that the form of report to the Comptroller now provides that lawful reserve in vault and in Federal Reserve banks be combined in one item in their published reports."

But, if it is objectionable and harmful for member banks to transfer to the Reserve banks that portion of their reserve which should be kept in vault, it is still more objectionable and still more harmful to endeavor by commingling of details to make it impossible to know the extent to which the practice is being indulged in. We cannot imagine anything that can be urged in justification of the procedure of withholding the information. If parting with vault reserves is meritorious and to be encouraged, as the Federal Reserve authorities are endeavoring to persuade the member banks into thinking it is, why should there be any disposition to keep the public in the dark as to how the banks are measuring up to the standard? Or are we to suppose that the

Reserve authorities are conscious that the operation has a weak element in it and therefore they are anxious to suppress all information bearing on the same?

Whatever the explanation, occult proceedings of this character are not for a moment to be tolerated. The Comptroller gets the details of the cash holdings anyway for his own use in supplementary schedules which the banks are required to fill in. Why, therefore, should not these details be given out to the public? The strongest point about the Federal Reserve system is that it so generally commands the confidence of the public. This confidence it will forfeit if once the impression gains ground that there is a studied purpose to withhold knowledge regarding essential facts. If at the inauguration of the Federal Reserve system any one had ventured to intimate that one incident in its development would be the suppression of information regarding the cash holdings of the member banks, he would have been regarded as actuated by feelings of the deepest animosity, and if the intimation had been carried further and accompanied by the suggestion that Comptroller Williams, with his penchant for scattering broadcast facts and figures regarding the most intimate details of banking affairs, would be a party to the proceeding, its author would have been looked upon as bereft of reason and common sense.

Even with the fact staring one in the face it seems incredible that in this day and at this stage of the world's development any official or any public body should have taken it upon itself to proceed in this fashion, for a bank return without details of the cash holdings is like the play of Hamlet with the part of Hamlet left out. We are therefore not exaggerating when we say that the action in that respect is a step backward towards the darkness of the Middle Ages.

How one wrong step leads invariably to another is well illustrated by an announcement which has come this week from the Reserve Board at Washington, with reference to an alteration made in the form of the weekly bank return of the Boston Clearing House. It appears that the Reserve authorities have prevailed upon the Boston Clearing House in reporting the totals of reserve not to show the excess, or deficiency, of vault reserve separate from the excess or deficiency of reserve in the Federal Reserve Bank, but to combine the two and give them as one item, just as the new form of report of the Comptroller of the Currency calls for the lumping of cash in vault with deposits in the Federal Reserve bank. Here is the announcement of the Board concerning the matter:

Since the adoption of the ruling making it optional with member banks to keep reserves in vault or in the Federal Reserve Bank, the Boston banks have shown a deficiency in their vault cash, and an excess with the Federal Reserve Bank. It has been felt that these items might properly be consolidated, just as similar figures are combined in English bank statements, and that such consolidation would be a final recognition on the part of the Clearing House that deposits with the Federal Reserve Bank are practically interchangeable (so far as reserve availability is concerned) with cash in vault. When the matter was recently called to the attention of the Clearing House Committee in Boston, the members acquiesced in the suggested change.

The new practice of the Boston Clearing House has been in force for two weeks. The last two times the old form was in vogue was Dec. 16 and Dec. 23, and on those two dates, vault reserves of the Boston Clearing House institutions were short, \$2,780,000 and \$2,658,000, respectively. It is this that the Reserve authorities want to conceal, namely that [their vault reserves are not up to full former figures. But if the plan of keeping vault reserves with the Federal Reserve Bank is a good one, why should the Reserve authorities want to cover it up. The statement quoted speaks of recognizing that "deposits with the Federal Reserve Bank are practically interchangeable with cash in vault." We do not think re-deposits with the Federal Reserve Bank are any more "interchangeable" than existing re-deposits with correspondent banks in the Reserve and Central Reserve cities, which the Reserve Board finds so objectionable. To us it seems bad banking practice, and lacking in conservatism, for member institutions to deposit with the Reserve banks the portion of a bank's reserve which should be kept in vault, and still worse practice to endeavor to suppress information regarding the working of the scheme.

An incident of the week that has attracted wide attention at home and abroad is an address before the American Association of Commerce and Trade in Berlin on Saturday last by James W. Gerard, the American Ambassador to Germany. Mr. Gerard, it will be recalled, had just returned to the German capital from the United States and the American Association gave a banquet in his honor. The guests included three Ministers, two former Ministers, the Vice-President of the Reichstag, the heads of a number of Germany's large financial institutions and other leaders in German public life. David Wolf, President of the American Association, presided. On his either side were Ambassador Gerard, Reinhold Sydow, Prussian Minister of Commerce; Dr. Karl Helfferich, the Imperial Vice Chancellor; Arthur von Gwinner, a Director of the Deutsche Bank; Dr. Bernard Dernburg, formerly Secretary for the Colonies, and Dr. Hermann Paasche, Vice-President of the Reichstag. In all there were 175 guests about equally divided between Americans and Germans. In the course of his response to the complimentary introduction by Director von Gwinner who spoke of the Ambassador as "the Peace Dove of Noah's Ark," Ambassador Gerard is quoted as saying that "never since the beginning of the war have relations between Germany and the United States been so cordial" and that he had "brought back an olive branch" from President Wilson. Mr. Gerard also declared that he personally was convinced that as long as Germany's fate is directed by such men as "my friend, the Chancellor and Dr. Helfferich and Dr. Wolf, by Admirals von Capelle (Minister of the Navy), Holtzendorff (head of the Naval General Staff) and von Mueller (naval adviser to the Emperor); by Generals von Hindenburg (chief of the General Staff) and Ludendorff (First Quartermaster General) and last but not least by my friend Zimmermann, the relations between the two countries are running no risk."

These sentiments not unnaturally have attracted wide attention and some criticism at the Entenej

capitals. There has so far as we have seen been no statement in official circles in Washington condemning the sentiments that the Ambassador expressed. It seems significant, however, that an inquiry was on Monday cabled by the Department of State to Mr. Gerard asking him to forward the full text of his remarks at the dinner in question. In the Entente countries one interpretation that has been given the Ambassador's remarks is that it was an intimation to the German Government that the retention of the Bethmann-Hollweg government in power was considered necessary for the continuance of friendly relations between the United States and Germany. There has been no intimation or denial that the Ambassador's remarks had been approved in advance by Washington.

Evidence of the strain in political circles abroad is contained in the numerous Cabinet changes that are taking place in Europe. This week's developments include among others the resignation on Tuesday of the Spanish Cabinet, Count Romanones, who has been Premier since December 1915, tendering it on Tuesday. The Russian Premier, Alexander Trepoff also resigned on Tuesday and Count Ignatieff, Russian Minister of Public Instruction, likewise resigned. Prince Golitzine, a Senator and member of the Council of the Empire, succeeds Trepoff. The latest change in Premiers after a lapse of only six weeks seems to be significant of a reactionary tendency in Russia. The new Premier is a member of the extreme Conservative group. He is known as a Bureaucrat and holds himself responsible to the Czar alone. In a statement for publication the new Premier said that he was a firm believer in the responsibility of ministers only to the will of the Emperor and that in this principle the Government must be united. This, however, he continued, does not exclude the legislative chambers from taking an interest in the affairs of the Government. There was, he added, no reason to believe that the work of these chambers will be postponed beyond the date already set for reconvening.

A new Cabinet crisis seems to be imminent in Austria. This appears to have arisen as a result of the refusal of the Government to grant home rule to Galicia as promised by the late Emperor, Francis Joseph. Dr. J. Sylvester, President of the Austrian Chamber of Deputies, already has resigned. The Government also finds itself confronted with doubts about the wisdom of the Ausgleich (trade agreement) with Hungary as already framed. The Czech parties have suddenly ceased to demonstrate the conciliatory and obliging attitude of confidence which had been expected of them and which was counted upon materially to help in settling many problems. The Christian Socialists also are said to be holding absolutely aloof, refusing to commit themselves to the Government.

Advices by way of Berlin announce that the Prelate Knight von Gerlach (Mgr. Gerlach) first acting private Chamberlain to the Pope has been forced to leave Rome and has arrived at Lugano, Switzerland. He was the only German Prelate in the Pope's retinue. The Entente through the intermediary of the Italian Government urgently insisted upon his leaving. The implied charge is that he was concerned in the destruction of Italian warships.

King Constantine of Greece has continued his policy of delay in carrying out the previous agreement forced upon him by the Entente Powers. Accordingly a new ultimatum was handed to the Greek Government by ministers of the Entente Powers on Tuesday, giving Greece 48 hours to comply with the demand contained in the note drawn up by France, Great Britain and Russia on Dec. 31. Constantine's delay and formal rejection of part of the demands was regarded as merely a move to gain time. Latest reports indicate that the Greek Government has agreed to at once comply unconditionally with the latest demands of the Entente.

A conference in Rome began on Jan. 6 and included leading Entente statesmen, among others, David Lloyd George, Premier of Great Britain, M. Briand, Premier of France, and the Italian Premier Boselli, besides representatives of Russia and some of the other smaller Entente countries. There has been no formal statement of the decision reached, though a good general idea of the work accomplished was given by Lloyd George in his speech at the Guildhall in London on Thursday. The English Premier said that the grim resolution of the Entente countries at the recent conference in Rome was that at all costs they must achieve the high aim which was before them when they accepted the challenge of the "Prussian military caste" to rid the world "for ever of its menace and save Europe from unspeakable despotism." Lloyd George added that the Rome conference was under no delusions as to the magnitude of the task of the Allies, but they had no doubts as to the results. The whole situation had been probed, the difficulties have been faced and arrangements had been made to deal with them. All the Allies felt, he declared, that if victory was difficult, defeat was impossible.

The reply of the Entente Powers, which was cabled to President Wilson by our Ambassador at Paris on Wednesday and published in this country yesterday, had been quite accurately forecast in unofficial reports. For that matter it presented what is virtually a reiteration of previous statements, so far as the general terms on which peace will be accepted. The objects in the war of the Allies, to quote the note, "will not be made known in detail with all the equitable compensations and indemnities for damages suffered until the hour of negotiations, but the civilized world knows that they imply in all necessity and in the first instance" [then follows an enumeration of the leading demands].

The text of the note appears on a following page in this issue of the "Chronicle." Coincidental with the publication of the Entente reply to President Wilson, Germany handed to representatives of neutral governments at Berlin a note concerning the reply of the Allies to the German peace proposals outlined in the German note of Dec. 12, which, it will be recalled, contained the proposal to enter at once into peace negotiations. In brief this German note was a reiteration of former statements of Germany's position. Whether Germany will attempt further peace negotiations through neutral countries remains to be seen—no one can tell. There has in some circles been a disposition to look for a reply to the Allies' refusal of peace negotiations to take the form of a renewal of submarine "frightfulness." The German Embassy in a semi-official statement yesterday declared that the people of the United States need

have no fear that Germany would throw overboard her pledges to the United States regarding submarine warfare.

The Teutonic troops have continued their forward movement in Rumania. The capture of Laureta was reported yesterday and there has been further progress from Braila to Calatz by the Kaiser's forces, the Russians having been pushed back toward the Sereth in fighting which took place in swampy lowlands between the two cities. Otherwise any active campaigning, especially in the West, seems to have been almost completely checked by unfavorable weather, though hard fighting is reported in the region of Riga in Russia. The situation in this territory, however, is not clear, owing to divergent reports of the Russian and German War Offices. Admission is made by Petrograd that the Russian and Rumanian forces in Moldavia have retired in Oituz, Kassina and Suchitza regions, but it is asserted that the Teutonic allies who crossed the Putna River north of Kokshani have been driven back suffering heavy casualties.

The markets for securities in London this week have been without other feature than distinct listlessness awaiting the announcement of the terms of the new long term war loan, the proceeds of which are to be used to take up the temporary obligations and as far as possible to provide in a fixed form definite funds for continuing the war. A summary of the terms was given by A. Bonar Law, the British Chancellor of the Exchequer at a mass meeting at Guildhall on Thursday, this meeting having been called as a first step in a campaign for inaugurating a wave of enthusiastic investment throughout the United Kingdom. In brief the Chancellor explained that the issue was to be unlimited in amount, that the bonds were to be offered at 95 and bear interest at the rate of 5%. While the final maturity is placed at 30 years the Government is to reserve the option of redemption at any time after 12 years. In order to facilitate subscriptions only 5% of the amount subscribed will be payable on application, the remainder being acceptable in equal proportions, with the final installment payable on May 30. There will be two forms of the bonds, one of these being exempt from income taxation. The latter will bear only 4%, will be issued at par, have a final maturity of 25 years but as in the case of 5% the State will reserve a right of redemption at the end of 12 years. Foreign holders of the 4% bonds will not be liable to the income tax, but the cabled dispatches do not seem quite clear as to the position of the 5% in this respect.

The prospectus of the loan was issued yesterday (Friday). A significant indication of the nationwide effort that is to be made to make the new offering a popular success is contained in the announcement that the orders for the paper required for the prospectuses and subscription forms aggregate nearly 300 tons. The Bank of England has opened special offices for receiving the applications and has greatly increased its clerical staff. It seems to be agreed that the conversion of all of the old loans if all holders take advantage of the privilege, will amount to close to £2,500,000,000. The right to convert is enjoyed by holders of £900,000,000 of the old war loans and about £1,600,000,000 short-term obligations. Holders of Treasury bills will be permitted to offer their

bills as subscriptions to the loan, the value of the bills being reckoned at a 5% discount, while the same privilege is granted holders of war expenditure certificates which will be calculated at a 5½% discount. It is not believed, however, that the full amount of conversion will take place; relatively few Treasury bills and war expenditure certificates or Exchequer sixes are likely to be converted. These will be permitted by their holders to run to maturity. Some estimates are that total conversions will not exceed £1,080,000,000. Bonar Law, at the Guildhall meeting made the significant remark that there is no intention of paying a higher rate for home borrowing than that provided in the new loan and that as long as there is money in the country, the "war won't be hindered for its want." Another remark to which significance is attached was that if the loan failed, "which it won't" other measures were left.

The annual meetings of the London banks are now being held. All these institutions are writing off large amounts for depreciation of securities. The London City & Midland Bank's deposits now amount to £174,000,000, an increase for the year of £27,000,000, which probably is an average ratio of increase. The revenue of the United Kingdom last week was £19,872,000 and expenditures £32,858,000. Supply bills to the amount of £48,603,000 were sold. About £22,812,000 of Treasury bills were paid off. A total of £8,000,000 6% French Treasury bills were renewed on Wednesday. The London "Statist" on Saturday last presented a compilation showing the capital issues in London for last year as follows: British war securities, £699,511,000; loans to Allies and colonies, £573,000,000; other capital issues, £36,100,000; total for 1916, £1,308,611,000. Total for 1915, £1,242,030,000; total for 1914, £391,000,000.

Complete returns of British foreign trade for the calendar year 1916 showed a marked improvement over the preceding year. The British Board of Trade reports increases in imports for the twelve month period of £97,259,000 from the 1915 figures, while the expansion of exports amounted to £121,677,000. The chief advances in imports were in food and raw material including £129,000,000 in cotton. In the export line the principal increases were in manufactured articles including a gain of £32,000,000 in cotton textiles. For December there was an increase of £5,079,000 in all imports and of £5,098,000 in exports. Cotton goods exported during the year totaled 5,255,504,000 yards, against 4,748,453,000 yards in 1915. The export of woolen goods to the United States aggregated 4,609,000 yards which compares with 4,149,000 yards in 1916. Following are the figures in detail of imports and exports of all merchandise of the United Kingdom for the month of December and for the full year 1916 with comparisons with corresponding figures for the year previous:

December—	1916.		1915.		—Jan. 1 to Dec. 31 (12 mos.)	
	1916.	1915.	1916.	1915.	1916.	1915.
Imports.....	£75,406,000	£76,326,915	£949,152,000	£851,893,350		
Exports.....	39,045,000	33,947,519	506,545,000	384,868,448		
Excess of imports.....	£36,361,000	£36,379,396	£442,607,000	£467,024,902		

In Paris as in other important financial centres there has been a noticeable easing up in the money situation. New Year disbursements are again becoming available and are seeking re-employment, a feature that has favored the security market's price level. Some buying of French rail and shipping

shares has been reported and there has been renewal of activity in diamond securities. Receipts of French railways in 1916 are estimated at two billion francs, an increase of 300,000,000 francs over 1915. A Paris correspondent reflecting the French economic view as to the effects that will follow peace, cables the belief that there probably will be a rise in prices of all stocks except those of munition companies, and there also will be a rise in prices of all raw materials and manufactured articles. These movements, he argues, have followed all modern wars, and have been followed by a reaction. After the war of 1870 there was an increase in prices until 1873. That year saw financial crises in New York and Vienna and a consequent fall in prices. "All over Europe after this war," he continues, "railroads will have to be built and rebuilt and they will absorb millions in capital. Concessions to the French railroads expire in 1952, and if they are going to get money for rebuilding either the concessions will have to be extended or the State will have to take charge of the amortization of the bonds that have been issued that run beyond the date of the concession. A rise in the price of money is foreseen in Europe, but probably the price will be kept down to some extent by the money coming from America to seek investment."

Official rates at the leading European centres continue to be quoted at 5% in Paris, Vienna and Copenhagen; 5½% in Italy, Portugal and Norway; 6% in London and Petrograd, and 4½% in Switzerland, Holland and Spain. In London the private bank rate has declined to 5% for sixty-day and ninety-day bills, against 5@5½% last week. Cables from Berlin give as heretofore the nominal private bank rate at that centre as 4½%. No reports have been received by cable of open market rates at other European centres as far as we have been able to learn. Money on call in London is now quoted at 4%, comparing with 4½% a week ago.

The Bank of France this week recorded a further gain in its gold holdings of 13,235,550 francs. The increase was all in the amount held by the Bank itself, the balance held abroad remaining unchanged at 1,693,088,525 francs. The total gold holdings (both at home and abroad) now amount to 5,099,018,375 francs, as compared with 4,997,738,672 francs in 1916 (all in vault) and 4,158,460,879 francs as of Dec. 24 1914 (no nearer comparison with the corresponding date in Jan. 1915 is possible, the publication of weekly returns having been discontinued with the outbreak of the war and not resumed until Feb. 4 1915. The figures for Dec. 24 1914 are taken from the annual report of the Bank for that year.) The silver item shows a further reduction for the week of 3,639,000 francs. Silver on hand totals 287,397,000 francs, against 352,146,620 francs a year ago and 355,951,992 francs in Dec. 1914. Note circulation expanded 103,750,000 francs. General deposits decreased, namely 95,714,000 francs, as did also bills discounted, which were reduced 48,822,000 francs. Treasury deposits decreased 8,222,000 francs, although the Bank's advances showed an increase of 10,766,000 francs. Note circulation is now 17,105,089,000 francs. This compares with 13,634,720,440 francs in 1916 and 10,042,899,720 francs in Dec. 1914. General deposits total 2,218,171,000 francs, against 2,055,131,581 francs a year ago and 2,650,596,234 francs in

Dec. 1914. Bills discounted amount to 696,749,000 francs, which compares with 393,784,096 francs last year and 258,305,468 francs in Dec. 1914. Advances aggregate 1,308,032,000 francs. In 1916 the total was 1,142,205,506 francs and in Dec. 1914, 745,378,221 francs. Treasury deposits are 34,298,000 francs, against 121,259,341 francs and 450,466,780 francs in 1916 and Dec. 1914, respectively.

The Bank of England in its weekly statement again announced a substantial increase in its gold item, namely, £507,098. Note circulation decreased £879,000, and as a result the total reserve registered an increase of £1,386,000. The proportion of reserves to liabilities, however, declined to 19.40%, against 19.76% last week and 22.46% at this date a year ago. Public deposits were decreased £3,618,000, although other deposits showed an expansion of £13,860,000, Government securities were increased heavily, £58,068,000. Loans (other securities) showed the notable reduction of £49,205,000. The Bank's holdings of gold aggregate £55,464,562, compared with £51,301,834 a year ago and £69,360,894 in 1915. Reserves now stand at £34,898,000, against £35,413,339 in 1916 and £52,636,269 the preceding year. The Bank reports as of Jan. 6, the amount of currency notes outstanding as £133,970,440, against £134,954,176 a week ago. The amount of gold held for the redemption of such notes remains at £28,500,000. Our special correspondent is no longer able to give details by cable of the gold movement into and out of the Bank for the Bank week, inasmuch as the Bank has discontinued such reports. We append a tabular statement of comparisons:

	BANK OF ENGLAND'S COMPARATIVE STATEMENT.				
	1917. Jan. 10.	1916. Jan. 12.	1915. Jan. 13.	1914. Jan. 14.	1913. Jan. 15.
Circulation.....	39,016,000	34,338,495	35,174,625	28,471,320	28,078,715
Public deposits....	49,529,000	53,553,033	44,832,895	7,647,913	10,688,542
Other deposits.....	130,248,000	104,076,263	116,055,097	46,065,873	41,484,817
Government secur's	120,273,000	32,839,377	18,068,460	12,148,974	13,035,483
Other securities....	42,584,000	107,360,566	108,220,545	29,723,622	31,577,071
Reserve notes & coin	34,898,000	35,413,339	52,636,269	29,869,547	25,644,895
Coin and bullion...	55,464,562	51,301,834	69,360,894	39,890,867	35,273,610
Proportion of reserve to liabilities.....	19.41%	22.46%	32.71%	55.63%	49.13%
Bank rate.....	6%	5%	5%	4½%	5%

The Imperial Bank of Germany in its weekly statement, issued as of Jan. 6, shows the following changes: total coin and bullion increased 648,000 mks.; gold increased 429,000 mks.; Treasury notes decreased 148,671,000 mks.; notes of other banks were expanded 6,100,000 mks.; bills discounted showed the large decline of 862,089,000 mks.; advances decreased 782,000 mks.; investments gained 1,627,000 mks.; other securities increased 54,842,000 mks., notes in circulation were reduced 68,771,000 mks.; deposits registered the substantial reduction of 795,136,000 mks.; other liabilities decreased 84,408,000 mks. The Imperial Bank's holdings of gold aggregate 2,520,901,000 mks., which compares with 2,447,550,000 mks. in 1916, and 2,129,710,000 mks. the year previous.

The money situation at home here has shown progressive ease. It is obvious that, barring important new demands upon the capital market on foreign account, a season of protracted low rates is at hand. Nevertheless, there is some degree of artificiality in the situation. Regular January disbursements are returning and seeking new employ-

ment. This is a condition that was to be expected, and is entirely seasonal. Last Saturday's Clearing House reserves showed a total of \$140,441,440 above requirements. An additional movement of funds from the interior to our own centre may at this season be expected. Meanwhile, two importations of gold have reached New York from Canada, aggregating in round numbers \$50,000,000 since the turn of the year—a movement that it seems fair to assume has as its main purpose the creation of an easier money condition in New York during the period of distribution of the new British loan, which was offered for public subscription at the British centres yesterday (Friday). There had been some expectation in international banking circles here that the Bank of England would reduce its minimum discount rate below the 6% basis which has ruled since July 12. This reduction was not ordered, however, at the weekly meeting of the Bank's Court on Thursday, though private bank rates in Lombard Street have gradually been reduced until they now are 1% at least below the official figure. These developments in the money situation are quite in line with remarks that we have several times made in these columns, namely that the British Treasury when offering its new long-term war loan will find it necessary to create a comfortable money situation in the English centres and that this would constitute a distinct source of complication in the sterling exchanges if there should not at the same time be a corresponding degree of ease in the American money position. Any other condition would mean the withdrawal of the large amount of American funds deposited in English banks in response to more remunerative rental rates abroad. The importations of gold at New York and the release of funds accumulated for the New Year payments have, however, been successful in creating an easy situation, preventing the sterling exchanges from being jeopardized. In addition there is excellent basis for the statement that deposits of American funds in English banks have shown a substantial and steady growth during the last fortnight or so. There still is a complete absence of definite negotiations for new foreign loans at this centre, the warning given by the Federal Reserve Board in November having proven entirely effective in checking transactions of this character. Our exports are, it is true, keeping well up to the capacity of the ocean transportation facilities that are available. This movement, however, may be considered as representing old orders from which deliveries are being made. As to the volume of new orders there is no tangible yardstick by which to measure them. Some cancellations it is known have taken place and there has been a transfer of some business by the British Government from American to Canadian manufacturers. If credits are not made available to purchasers, the latter must necessarily limit their purchases to meet their financial exigencies. But beyond this is the undoubted fact that the Entente Powers have so mobilized their own munitions industries that they are much less dependent on American supplies than has heretofore been the case. Thus through two avenues can be seen a less urgent demand for war materials of American manufacture. There have recently been heavy arrivals of securities from England, some estimates, that are not entirely mere guesses, placing the market value as high as \$400,000,000. This movement of securities is undoubtedly in connection with arrangements for a new British collateral loan that is being dis-

cussed, but has not yet reached the stage of definite negotiations. In any event an immediate issue would not be considered a wise move for two reasons: first, it would be an appeal to the capital market here at a time all efforts, as already noted, are being centered upon keeping American interest rates at low level; second, it would provide competition with the new British war loan, some of which may be expected to be placed on this side of the Atlantic without formal public offering. Suggestion of this expectation of distribution is contained in the fact the one of the two classes of the new long-term British bonds in the hands of foreign holders is specifically made exempt from income taxation.

The weekly statement of New York Clearing House banks and trust companies, issued last Saturday, was a strong one and reserves again showed a notable increase, which may be said to reflect the liberal return to the banks of January dividend and interest payments. Loans increased \$5,328,000. Net demand deposits registered an expansion of \$37,456,000, and net time deposits of \$1,492,000. Reserves in "own vaults" increased \$39,934,000, to \$482,544,000, of which \$413,824,000 is specie. At this date a year ago the total of reserves in own vaults was \$503,679,000, including \$425,257,000 in specie. Reserves on deposit with Federal Reserve Bank, however, declined \$9,851,000, to \$183,847,000, against \$169,108,000 last year. Reserves in other depositories also decreased, \$39,000, to \$55,495,000, compared with \$54,641,000 in 1916. Note circulation is \$28,870,000, a decrease of \$85,000. The aggregate reserve showed a gain of \$30,044,000, and now stands at \$721,886,000, against \$727,428,000 a year ago. Reserve requirements were increased by \$6,938,250, and consequently, there was an expansion of \$23,105,750 in the surplus reserve, thus bringing the total excess reserve up to \$140,441,440, which compares with \$153,822,260 the year preceding. The bank statement will be found in fuller detail in a subsequent section of this issue.

Referring to money rates in detail, loans on call touched the lowest point reached since June 1916, having ranged this week at $1\frac{1}{2}\%$ to $2\frac{1}{2}\%$, against 2% to $2\frac{3}{4}\%$ a week ago. On Monday the high and ruling quotation was $2\frac{1}{4}\%$ and 2% low. Tuesday $2\frac{1}{2}\%$ was the maximum and 2% the low and renewal rate. On Wednesday the minimum receded to $1\frac{1}{2}\%$, renewals to $1\frac{3}{4}\%$ and 2% high. Thursday's range was $1\frac{3}{4}\%$ to $2\frac{1}{2}\%$, and 2% the renewal basis. On Friday 2% was the high, with $1\frac{3}{4}\%$ the low and ruling figure. In time money, the publication of another highly favorable bank statement served to bring about increased ease and recessions were recorded for all maturities. Sixty and ninety days are now quoted at 3% to $3\frac{1}{4}\%$, against $3\frac{1}{2}\%$ to $3\frac{3}{4}\%$; four and five months at $3\frac{1}{4}\%$, against $3\frac{1}{2}\%$ to $3\frac{3}{4}\%$, and six months at $3\frac{1}{4}\%$ to $3\frac{1}{2}\%$, against $3\frac{1}{2}\%$ to $3\frac{3}{4}\%$ a week ago. Last year sixty days ruled at $2\frac{1}{2}\%$ to $2\frac{3}{4}\%$, ninety days at $2\frac{3}{4}\%$, four months at $2\frac{3}{4}\%$ to 3% and four and five months at 3% . Commercial paper rates were also easier and sixty and ninety days' endorsed bills receivable and six months' names of choice character may now be negotiated at $3\frac{1}{4}\%$ to $3\frac{3}{4}\%$ (the lowest figure being for prime New England mill paper), comparing with $3\frac{3}{4}\%$ to $4\frac{1}{4}\%$ last week, while names less well known now require 4% , against $4\frac{1}{4}\%$ to $4\frac{1}{2}\%$, the previous range. A fair amount of business is passing, but offerings continue below the

demand. Banks' and bankers' acceptances are quoted as follows:

	Spot Delivery			Delivery within 30 Days.
	Ninety Days.	Sixty Days.	Thirty Days.	
Eligible member banks.....	3 3/4 @ 2 3/4	3 3/4 @ 2 3/4	3 3/4 @ 2 3/4	3 3/4 @ 3
Eligible non-member bills.....	3 3/4 @ 3	3 3/4 @ 2 3/4	3 3/4 @ 2 3/4	3 3/4 @ 3 1/4
Ineligible bills.....	3 1/2 @ 3	3 3/4 @ 3	3 1/4 @ 3	3 3/4 @ 3 1/4

Prevailing rates for various classes of paper are shown in the following:

DISCOUNT RATES OF FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS.

CLASSES OF DISCOUNTS AND LOANS	Boston.	New York.	Philadelphia.	Cleveland.	Richmond.	Atlanta.	Chicago.	St. Louis.	Minneapolis.	Kansas City.	Dallas.	San Francisco.
	Commercial Paper—											
1 to 10 days maturity.....	3 3/4	---	3 3/4	3 3/4	4	4	3 3/4	3	4	4	4	3
1 to 15 " " " " " " " " " "	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
11 to 30 " " " " " " " " " "	4	---	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4 1/2	4	3 1/2
15 to 30 " " " " " " " " " "	---	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4 1/2	4	---
31 to 60 " " " " " " " " " "	4	4	4	4 1/2	4	4	4	4	4	4 1/2	4	4
61 to 90 " " " " " " " " " "	4	4	4	4 1/2	4	4	4 1/2	4	4 1/2	4 1/2	4	4 1/2
Agricultural and Live-Stock Paper—												
91 days to 6 months maturity	5	5	4 1/2	5	4 1/2	5	5	4 1/2	5	5	4 1/2	5 1/2
Promissory Notes of Member Banks—												
1 to 15 days maturity.....	4	3	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	4	4	3 1/2	4
Trade Acceptances—												
1 to 30 days maturity.....	3 1/2	3 1/4	3 1/2	3	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	4	3 1/2	3
31 to 60 " " " " " " " " " "	3 1/2	3 1/4	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	4	3 1/2	3
61 to 90 " " " " " " " " " "	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	4	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	4	3 1/2	3 1/2
Commodity Paper—												
1 to 30 days maturity.....	4	---	3 1/2	---	3 1/2	3	---	3 1/2	3 1/2	4	3	3 1/2
31 to 60 " " " " " " " " " "	4	---	3 1/2	---	3 1/2	3	---	3 1/2	3 1/2	4	3	4
61 to 90 " " " " " " " " " "	4	---	3 1/2	---	3 1/2	3	---	3 1/2	3 1/2	4	3	4 1/2
91 days to 6 months maturity	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	5

OPEN MARKET DISCOUNT AND PURCHASE RATES OF FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS.

Bankers Acceptances.—Authorized discount rate for all Federal Reserve banks; minimum, 2%; maximum, 4%.
 Trade Acceptances.—Bills with maturities of 90 days or less, purchased in open market without member bank endorsement, by New Orleans branch of Atlanta Federal Reserve Bank; 3 1/4 to 4%.
 Commercial Paper.—Bills purchased in open market by Dallas Federal Reserve Bank; 3 to 5%.
 Bills of Exchange.—Bills purchased in open market by Atlanta Federal Reserve Bank; 3 1/2 to 5 1/2%.
 Bills With or Without Member Bank Endorsement.—Bills with maturities of 90 days or less purchased in open market by St. Louis Federal Reserve Bank; 2 to 4%.

Sterling exchange continues firm although still in an entirely arbitrary position. Gold importations from Canada have reached a total of \$49,400,000 and it is understood that transportation for additional amounts has been arranged, something like \$50,000,000 being expected to arrive before the close of the month. Instead of coming from Ottawa most of this week's gold is reported to have come direct from Halifax, thus suggesting direct shipments of the precious metal from either London or Paris. We have discussed in our remarks on the money situation in a preceding paragraph the motive for bringing this large quantity of gold at a time when seasonal ease in the local money situation was naturally to be expected. If, as seems quite probable, a substantial amount of the new long-term British war loan is to be placed with American investors, this fact should furnish a distinct aid in maintaining exchange rates on London in this market. It now is hardly considered probable that the new British collateral loan proposed to be issued in New York will be brought out until the closing of the subscription books to the long-term war loan in London. Gold exports to the amount of \$620,000 have taken place this week, all to Spain.

Comparing with Friday of the week preceding, sterling exchange on Saturday was quiet, but firm, with demand still quoted at 4 75 11-16 @ 4 75 3/4, cable transfers at 4 76 7-16 @ 4 76 1/2 and sixty days at 4 71 15-16 @ 4 72. Monday's market, while not especially active, showed a still firmer tone; demand bills were advanced fractionally to 4 75 70 @ 4 75 3/4, reflecting the receipt of a large consignment of gold from Canada; cable transfers and sixty days, however, continued at 4 76 7-16 @ 4 76 1/2 and 4 71 15-16 @ 4 72, respectively. Active buying for investment

purposes, increased ease in the local money situation and talk of negotiations for a new British loan to be placed here in the not distant future, were the features of Tuesday's operations, which served to bring about a further slight advance in rates; sixty days moved up to 4 72 1/8 @ 4 72 3-16, while demand ruled at Tuesday's highest figure, namely, 4 75 3/4; cable transfers remained at 4 76 7-16 @ 4 76 1/2. On Wednesday sterling was again firmly held, though not quotably changed, and all business transacted was put through at the preceding day's levels; investment buying of long bills against various commodity shipments constituted the market's principal activity. The arrival of more gold from Canada induced increasing firmness on Thursday and demand moved up to 4 75 3/4 @ 4 75 85 and sixty days to 4 72 1/8 @ 4 72 1/4; cable transfers were still quoted at 4 76 7-16 @ 4 76 1/2. On Friday the market ruled strong with demand at 4 85 80 @ 4 85 85, cable transfers at 4 76 45 @ 4 76 1/2 and sixty days at 4 72 1/4. Closing quotations were 4 76 45 for cable transfers, 4 75 80 for demand and 4 72 1/4 for sixty days. Commercial sight finished at 4 75 11-16; sixty days at 4 71 3/8, ninety days at 4 69 1/4; documents for payment (sixty days) at 4 71 1/8 and seven-day grain bills at 4 74 15-16. Cotton and grain for payment closed at 4 74 7/8 @ 4 74 15-16.

The Continental exchanges this week have exhibited a tendency to await developments, and trading has been dull and featureless. A further sharp decline in German exchange took place, and sight bills sold as low as 69 3/8 at one time, chiefly on the assumption that the attempted peace overtures are a failure with the duration of the war for a considerable period still a matter of comparative certainty. During the latter part of the week some support was tendered by important banking interests, which resulted in a partial recovery. Kronen, as usual, moved in sympathy and here also sudden and erratic fluctuations were noted. Exchange on Petrograd was adversely affected by the reverses of Russian and Rumanian troops on the Eastern front, and rubles broke to 29.20, a new low record. Italian lire were again heavy and severe declines were recorded as a result of moderate offerings appearing on a market almost destitute of buying power. Francs which, as in the case of sterling, are under governmental control, continue to be well maintained, at practically unchanged figures. The sterling check rate on Paris has not been changed from 27.81 1/2, the previous close. In New York sight bills on the French centre finished at 5 84 1/4, against 5 84 1/4; cables at 5 83 1/4, against 5 83 1/4; commercial sight at 5 84 3/4, against 5 85, and commercial sixty days at 5 89, against 5 89 1/4 a week ago. Demand bills on Berlin closed at 69 3/8 and cables at 69 3/4, compared with 71 1/8 and 71 3-16 on Friday of last week. Kronen finished at 11.54, against 11.70 the previous week. Rubles closed at 29.45, which compares with 29.45 last week. Lire finished at 6 90 for bankers' sight and 6 92 1/4 for cables. A week ago the close was 6 89 1/4 and 6 88 3/4, respectively.

The neutral exchanges, while evincing no pronounced trend in either direction, showed a steady undertone, although a hesitation to enter upon important commitments seems to have been the rule. Pesetas were firm and higher. Swiss exchange ruled strong, while rates for Scandinavian ex-

change showed fractional net advances. Guilders continue at previous pegged rates. Bankers' sight on Amsterdam closed at 40 13-16, against 40 13-16; cables at 40 7/8, against 40 7/8; commercial sight at 40 5/8, against 40 5/8, and commercial sixty days at 40 1/2, against 40 1/2 last week. Swiss exchange finished at 5 03 for bankers' sight, and 5 02 for cables. This compares with 5 04 and 5 03 on the preceding week. Greek exchange (which may still be looked upon as neutral) closed at 4 98 3/4 for bankers' sight, against 5 07 1/2 last week. Copenhagen checks closed at 27.40, comparing with 27.25. Checks on Norway finished at 27.90, against 27.90 and checks on Sweden closed at 29.45, against 29.45 on Friday of a week ago. Spanish pesetas closed at 21.25, in comparison with 21.10 last week.

The New York Clearing House banks, in their operations with interior banking institutions, have gained \$13,735,000 net in cash as a result of the currency movements for the week ending Jan. 12. Their receipts from the interior have aggregated \$18,929,000, while the shipments have reached \$5,194,000. Adding the Sub-Treasury and Federal Reserve operations and the gold imports, which together occasioned a gain of \$39,728,000, 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 \$53,463,000, as follows:

Week ending Jan. 12.	Into Banks.	Out of Banks.	Net Change in Bank Holdings.
Banks interior movement.....	\$18,929,000	\$5,194,000	Gain \$13,735,000
Sub Treasury and Federal Reserve operations and gold imports.....	114,013,000	74,285,000	Gain 39,728,000
Total.....	\$132,942,000	\$79,479,000	Gain \$53,463,000

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

Banks of	January 11 1917.			January 13 1916.		
	Gold.	Silver.	Total.	Gold.	Silver.	Total.
England..	55,464,562	-----	55,464,562	51,301,834	-----	51,301,834
France..	136,237,194	11,495,880	147,733,074	199,909,560	14,085,880	213,995,440
Germany..	126,045,050	825,950	126,871,000	122,386,750	1,750,850	124,137,600
Russia *	147,149,000	11,251,000	158,400,000	161,132,000	3,526,000	164,658,000
Aus Hun.c	51,578,000	12,140,000	63,718,000	51,578,000	12,140,000	63,718,000
Spain....	59,036,000	29,742,000	88,778,000	34,890,000	30,113,000	64,903,000
Italy....	35,973,000	2,903,000	38,876,000	43,904,000	4,304,000	48,208,000
Netherl.d	48,967,000	682,100	49,649,100	35,655,000	530,300	36,185,300
Nat. Bel. b	15,380,000	600,000	15,980,000	15,380,000	600,000	15,980,000
Switz land	13,799,900	-----	13,799,900	9,952,800	-----	9,952,800
Sweden..	10,140,000	-----	10,140,000	6,594,000	-----	6,594,000
Denmark.	8,076,000	107,000	8,183,000	5,931,000	228,000	6,159,000
Norway..	6,840,000	-----	6,840,000	3,644,000	-----	3,644,000
Tot. week.	705,691,706	69,546,930	775,238,636	742,058,944	67,278,030	809,336,974
Prev. week.	703,747,286	69,783,790	773,531,076	741,365,210	67,117,710	808,482,920

a Gold holdings of the Bank of France this year are exclusive of £67,723,541 held abroad.

* The gold holdings of the Bank of Russia for both years in the above statement have been revised by eliminating the so-called gold balance held abroad.

c July 30 1914 in both years. b Aug. 6 1914 in both years.

THE REPLY TO THE PRESIDENT'S NOTE.

The general attitude of the Allies, regarding the peace overtures of the Teutonic Powers, had been made so plain by their answer to that proposal on Dec. 30, and by the public comments of English, French and Russian statesmen, that little doubt was left as to the probable purport of their answer to Mr. Wilson. Such interest and curiosity as converged on this later document—and there was plenty of each—had to do with the questions, in what spirit the Allies would take the President's move, and how far they would go into details in outlining, as Mr. Wilson had suggested, their own terms of peace.

The note was given out on Thursday. Its text showed that the Allied Governments, officially at any rate, entertained no resentment at the President's manner of intervening. The language on this point is extremely tactful; the note begins with reference to

the "sincere friendship which attaches" the Allies "to the American people," and declares that they "pay tribute to the elevation of sentiment with which the American note is inspired." Regarding the President's ill-expressed and unfortunate reference to the "objects which the statesmen of the belligerents on both sides have in mind in this war" being "virtually the same," the Allies merely protest "in the most friendly but in the most specific manner" against the inference conveyed, as being "in direct opposition to the evidence."

Taking up next the President's suggestion that the belligerents "openly affirm the objects which they seek in continuing the war," the Allies answer that they "experience no difficulty in replying." Their purposes "imply in all necessity and in the first instance":

"The restoration of Belgium, of Serbia and of Montenegro and the indemnities which are due them.

"The evacuation of the invaded territories of France, of Russia and of Rumania, with just reparation.

"The reorganization of Europe, guaranteed by a stable regime and founded as much upon respect of nationalities and full security and liberty of economic development, which all nations, great or small, possess, as upon territorial conventions and international agreements suitable to guarantee territorial and maritime frontiers against unjustified attacks.

"The restitution of provinces or territories wrested in the past from the Allies by force or against the will of their populations.

"The liberation of Italians, of Slavs, of Rumanians and of Tcheco-Slovaques from foreign domination.

"The enfranchisement of populations subject to the bloody tyranny of the Turks.

"The expulsion from Europe of the Ottoman Empire, which has proved itself so radically alien to Western civilization."

It is further added that "the intentions of his Majesty the Emperor of Russia regarding Poland have been clearly indicated in the proclamation which he has just addressed to his armies."

These are, at any rate, clear proposals. Whatever view may be taken of the terms themselves, they place the Entente Powers in a position of controversial advantage, because Germany and Austria, in their replies of a fortnight ago to Mr. Wilson's request for a statement of their terms, had evaded compliance, merely stating that "an exchange of views shows the most appropriate road." What step the Teutonic Powers now will take, remains to be seen. The logic of the situation would appear to indicate that they too must now show their hand.

If they do so, nothing is more evident than the fact that the proposals of the opposing coalitions will be very far apart. Previous peace negotiations of history have usually begun with seemingly hopeless divergence in such views; this was so, even in the Portsmouth conference to settle the Manchurian War. Mutual concession, then as on other similar occasions, brought about the eventual agreement. Whether such agreement would be possible in the present case and at the present time, is another matter.

Of the Allies' terms, the evacuation of the invaded districts, with due reparation by Germany, would naturally be a sine qua non of negotiation. The stipulation regarding "reorganization of Europe" under guarantees would probably be accepted in

principle by the Teutonic Powers. But the German attitude towards the third proposal, which undoubtedly means surrender of Alsace and Lorraine, is bound to be very different; while "the liberation of Italians, Slavs," and others "from foreign domination" evidently infers partial dismemberment of the Austrian Empire, and the stipulations regarding Turkey assume the total downfall of the Ottoman Empire in Europe. These Governments are Germany's allies; the terms imposed would necessitate their consent to their own partial political immolation. It is hardly conceivable that the terms would be even considered at the present moment. Finally, the Allies make no reference to the captured German colonies. As to these, it may be that the captors mean in any case to retain them, or that their retention will be proposed in lieu of money indemnity, or that some or all of them would be offered in exchange for cession of Alsace-Lorraine to France.

All this is still in the realm of high conjecture. The next few days or weeks will show whether the present situation makes inevitable the continuance of war, perhaps on a still greater scale of energy, or whether the mere fact of counter-proposals may slowly lead towards actual negotiations. To assume that both sides will have asked originally for more than they expect to get, is merely to recognize the teaching of history. That each side should now be asserting emphatically its expectation of continued war and its willingness to accept it, is equally in line with diplomatic precedent. Even France in 1871, and our South in 1864, made similar professions while discussing peace.

Very little light has been thrown on the probabilities, in this present case, by that indicator which often points out coming results—the Stock Exchange. The movement of that market has been as erratic, confused and often unintelligible, as the views of the "peace talk" by the ordinary man in the street. This is doubtless partly due to the unusual uncertainty surrounding the diplomatic situation; but it also, and perhaps even more directly, results from perplexity as to just what the financial sequel to return of peace would be.

Regarded from one point of view, the attitude of the business community in general and of the Stock Exchange in particular, which has so often appeared to assume the ending of the war as something like a financial and industrial calamity, might be classified as most anomalous. If one were to take as precedent the action of neutral markets, on the termination of the wars of the past forty and fifty years, one might assume an exactly contrary result. The general outburst of confidence and reassurance after the close of the Manchurian War in 1905, of the Transvaal War in 1902, of our own Spanish War in 1898 and of the Franco-Prussian War in 1871, certainly testify to the belief of all neutral communities, at the time, that the war itself had been a financial menace and calamity, and that its termination removed a formidable obstacle to prosperity and paved the way to world-wide industrial revival.

The reason for the different view, widely entertained at this present time, is obvious enough. The wars referred to were all brief conflicts, and each limited to two belligerents. Their main bearing on financial sentiment, therefore, was, first, their partial interference with the ordinary movements of

commerce, but, second and chiefly, the apprehension as to whether other States might not be drawn into the struggle, with disastrous results on international finance. In none of these wars had the world's whole economic structure been shifted to a radically altered basis of operations; in none of them had any such change in the world's trade and the position of powerful neutrals occurred as has occurred in the past three years. The same contrast appears in the international position brought about even by our own immensely costly War of Secession; whose chief economic effect, so far as concerned neutral Powers, was its embargo on the raw material of the cotton trade with disastrous effect on Europe's textile industry.

In the curious series of reversals of financial opinion during the successive stages of this present war, there was one period in which assertion that great wars were always followed by a "financial boom" had considerable vogue. That idea was doubtless based on experience after the wars above referred to; even in the case of our Civil War, the immense development of the country through use of Europe's unimpaired supplies of capital, and the speculative influence of Government paper money, had paramount bearing on results. But it was recognized, early in the pending war, that the character of the conflict differed radically from all the others named, in view not only of the wholly unprecedented waste of capital and dislocation of commercial relations, but also because of the very great number of belligerents involved—which made our Civil War precedent fail entirely—and because of the possible great duration of this conflict itself. In these regards, history had provided no precedent since the ending of Napoleonic wars a century ago, and even that episode, whether during or after the war itself, exhibited economic phenomena on no such scale of magnitude as the present war. Hence the remarkable situation, plainly reflected in the financial community's present mood, of a necessarily impending financial future which must involve great and world-wide changes, and yet with the nature and scope of such changes largely a matter of pure conjecture. It is not so strange, this being so, that our own markets should have paused in much uncertainty and some apprehension whenever the possibility of early return of peace seemed to appear on the diplomatic horizon.

Prediction is hazardous and of little value under such circumstances. Perhaps all that can be said with any assurance is, first, that the economic history of the war itself to date has shown that forecasts of the effect of war itself, based on the ultra-pessimistic view, have in most cases proved erroneous; but second, that even in predicting the longer future, some distinction must be drawn between what is commonly called the "era of readjustment" from war conditions and the ultimate economic outcome. It can now, indeed, be said that much the same distinction ought to have been drawn in 1914 between the immediate and the longer financial consequences of the state of war itself. Certainly the financial events, from August to December inclusive in that year, realized closely the alarmist predictions of July; yet they were followed by an absolutely different economic period the world over. It is not inconceivable that the period immediately following actual termination of the war, and the subsequent longer sequel to return of peace, will in the end present similar divergencies.

CANADA'S IMMENSE MUNITIONS PRODUCTION.

Ottawa, Can., Jan. 11 1917.

If signs of peace are in the air, there is a curious lack of confirmation in the plans of the Imperial Munitions Board of Canada. This organization is successor to the "Shell Committee" of the Dominion Government, but is operating now under the sole authority of the British Minister of Munitions, without responsibility of any kind to the Canadian Government. Mr. J. W. Flavell is Chairman and the statistical references given here are his.

Far from suggesting the slackening of any arrangements for Canadian munitions production, the British Government has provided for the expenditure of scores of millions on new munitions plants which cannot possibly be ready, in many cases, for months. These new plants will have to be manned and one of the main objects of the manhood registration now in progress is to mobilize willing artisans and transport them where they can be of maximum use.

Orders for steel for the Imperial Munitions Board are also being increased. At present the Board undertakes to handle 80,000 tons of steel supplies monthly for 200 of the factories working on its orders. There are 600 munitions factories all told. The immensity of the Board's operations may be gauged by its employment of more than six hundred people in the head office at Ottawa, and over 4,000 inspectors from coast to coast. Munitions factories are located in every province except Prince Edward Island and the component parts of shells come from as far south as Florida. It is an interesting fact, too, that Canada is now manufacturing more munitions than any other country in the world, except Germany prior to the war. The exact quantities being produced to-day are not matters for publication, the Chairman contenting himself with this generalism: "the total percentage of shells produced in Canada in relation to all the shells used at the British front is so large that I would amaze you if I were at liberty to express the figures."

Of the billion dollars worth of war orders placed in Canada since the beginning of the war, fully \$600,000,000 represent shell and similar orders. The Minister of Finance said a few days ago that Canada could expect another \$500,000,000 in general war orders during 1917, but that depended very largely upon Canada's power to provide the credits here from which the British Government would pay. By increased production and economy, said the Minister, not only could the interest on foreign indebtedness be borne without hardship, but generous subscriptions to future loans would automatically draw fresh war orders from Britain and her allies.

THE COUNTRY BANK: THE INDESTRUCTIBLE UNIT OF A SYSTEM OF FREE BANKS.

A union is possible only through the indestructibility of its parts. Co-operation and co-ordination can only exist between separate, free and equal units or sovereignties. But to accomplish and perfect any union the sovereignty must surrender some of its power and privilege to the new organism. This, in turn, is compelled, by its nature, to respect and protect those independent entities which brought it into being.

Looking at the country bank as a community institution, its preservation is vital to the self-express-

sion of the people who toil and trade, who buy and sell, borrow and loan, in the business activities that cluster about its doors. Now, the law of reasonable profit for the services performed applies to every industrial, commercial and financial institution in the land, without regard to character or size. This is the means of life. And this profit, in its schedule of charges, depends first upon what patrons are willing to pay under a competitive system. The value is thereby estimated by those for whom the service is performed, and cannot be arbitrarily fixed at an extortionate figure, against the ability of the patrons to pay, and in contradiction to their freedom to organize another institution in their midst with like powers.

In other words, the country bank lives in harmony with its environment, or it induces competition by overcharges which reacts upon profits. And the obvious truth herein stated uncovers another, which is, that when charges for a country bank's services are fixed by a power outside the bank they are fastened upon the community as well as the bank and by so much subvert the power of the community to create and control its own credit.

In the present Federal Reserve Law there is provision for the exercising of the individuality and sovereignty of the country bank by giving to it voting power in the selection of officers of the regional bank, but by the Act the will of the Federal Reserve Board is imposed upon it, to which it must submit or be penalized, as witness the provisions for the keeping of its reserves. There arises, therefore, at the very outset of the administration of this Federal Reserve Law the vital importance of preserving the balance of power between the indestructible unit of the banking system and the system itself; and between the country bank as a typical member bank and the city institution, with which it should be in harmony in the interest of the connecting commerce which they both jointly serve.

This is the immediate and pressing question in all matters concerning the disposition of reserves and the equalizing of exchange. Neither the large bank nor the small bank should dominate the personnel or practice, or the policy or the ruling of the Regional Bank or the Reserve Board. Nor should the latter discriminate between them. The country banks exceed in numbers; the city banks in the totals of capital stock. But neither of these factors is in antagonism to a close and profitable union between the two which shall preserve to each its independence and its control over its own earnings and profits. With equally favorable access to the regional bank, for the purpose of securing emergency currency, the general business of each bank would go on as before, subject only to loss of earning power represented in the capital stock surrendered to the regional bank and the interest on reserves necessarily withdrawn from the correspondent bank.

Is there not now a manifest tendency to interfere with the profits of both city and country banks? When and in so far as the regional bank enters the open marts to do that business which was and is done by the great city institution, does it not deprive the latter of a legitimate part of its profits, deprive it of a part of that nourishment which is its sustenance and life? And when the Federal Reserve Board, peremptorily, by a par clearance plan, or otherwise, deprives the country bank of a source of revenue heretofore existent, if it does, in fact, do

so by the proposed plan, does it not invade the rights of these banks to live by their own efforts, and hinder and confine the free expression of the credit power of the communities they serve? And therefore it may be repeated again and again that in the working out of this new banking system, the paramount question is the preservation of the pristine power and significance of our free and independent banks.

The individual citizen and business man is very close to the management of the country bank. He contributes to its success; he benefits by its power. The value of his account is heightened by the value of his goodwill, which has a direct influence upon the conduct of the institution. For this reason the charges exacted for services will naturally vary in locations as widely divergent as those in the United States. To reconcile these is a far different question and duty than their total abolition, whatever they may be. With the correspondent or city institution, because it is a correspondent bank of great magnitude, the power to protect itself is greater proportionally than with the country bank. And a severance of the relations hitherto existing between the two must necessarily fall heavier upon the latter than the former. A country bank with a smaller proportion of deposits to capital must charge higher rates than the city bank. It must function completely; live out its full life. It is, therefore, less able than the city bank to stand an enforced deprivation of any of its legitimate sources of profit.

The individual transactions of business are infinite. The lines of commerce extend, contract, interlace, according to production and population. And credit threads its way throughout the whole. The deposits in the country bank, based upon credit arising out of crossroads trades, congest in those populous centres where the lines of endeavor cross and recross and where the culminating exchanges of production and manufacture are made.

In so far as regional banks for the emission of emergency currency are consonant with the conditions under which credit issues and congests, they may serve this purpose well. But they should leave these sources of credit, expressed first in the country bank, free to live by the intimate services they render and return to the community which calls them into being. Collection charges and the disposition of surplus reserves should be left as far as possible to follow the natural laws of use and locality.

JAPANESE FOREIGN TRADE.

Japan is figuring large in the foreign trade news of the day. The opportunities afforded by the war to extend outward trade have been fully availed of. This latter is indicated by the fact that exports in 1916 have increased very largely, leaving a very important balance in favor of the Island Kingdom in its foreign trade. Specifically, the outflow of commodities for the nine months ended Sept. 30 1916 reached a value of no less than 765,511,738 yen (a yen equals \$0.4985) and registered an increase of 270,275,879 yen over the like period of 1915 and exceeded the outward movement for any earlier full year. Concurrently the imports for the seven months also increased materially, advancing from 410,787,621 yen in 1915 to 558,759,252 yen the current year, or a gain of 147,971,631 yen. But with expansion in exports much the greatest in magnitude the favorable, or export, balance for the period this year reached

206,752,486 yen, against only 84,448,238 yen a year ago, and balances on the import side in most all earlier years.

Among Japan's industries that have experienced a marked stimulus recently, cotton manufacturing stands out conspicuously. Reports during the latter part of 1915 denoted that as a result of a marked falling off in sales of yarn some mills stopped operations entirely and others reduced their working forces considerably. But conditions turned more favorable with the opening of the new year and advices in late September were to the effect that practically all factories were in operation on a 22-hour-per-day working basis with profits very largely augmented. This has quite naturally led to further extension of manufacturing facilities which has been encompassed by an increase of capital to the extent of 23,843,750 yen by ten companies and the issuing of 3,100,000 yen debentures by three other corporations. As indicating the increase in the use of raw material this year we note that the total consumption for the six months ended June 30 is stated as 451,093,322 pounds, or 65,584,444 pounds more than for the period in 1915, with the yarn production 399,581,337 pounds and 336,278,352 pounds, respectively. Quite recently, however, reports have been current that Japan's cotton goods trade with China has fallen off appreciably as a result of the great advance in yarn quotations in the Osaka market, an occurrence that has worked to the advantage of the cheaper Indian yarns. The "Japan Mail," referring to this subject recently, remarked that the Japanese cotton men will find it difficult to recover the loss, as they will have to depend largely upon the United States for their raw material, although it may be recouped to some extent by mixing Indian cotton with the American staple.

That Japanese interests, alive to the possibilities of trade development with South America, are perfecting plans for closer and more extensive relations with Brazil, has been indicated in recent communications from the United States Commercial Attache at Rio de Janeiro. The latest advice from that quarter is to the effect that plans are now being perfected for the establishment of a steamship line from Japan to Brazil, the service to be inaugurated in February with a vessel of 6,000 tons register, the route followed to be via Singapore, Ceylon, Madagascar and Cape of Good Hope, and eventually five boats of 7,500 tons each will be employed. A part of the scheme is to send 5,000 immigrants to Brazil each year, to be employed in the cultivation of rice, beans, potatoes, onions and coffee. With the new steamship line in operation it is expected, furthermore, that in addition to toys and fancy articles of Japanese make that already have obtained a foothold in Brazil, it will be possible to do considerable business in codfish, rice, cement, silk and other textiles and various cereals, &c.

CLEARINGS AND SPECULATION IN 1916.

The year 1916 will long be recalled, and is likely not to be forgotten, as one in which, due largely to the misfortunes of other nations, there was written into the history of the United States a story of unexampled activity in the business of the country as a whole. An activity, in fact, so great that in many lines of manufacture machinery was taxed to its utmost to meet orders in hand and that, too, after

in many instances extensive additions to plants had been made. Furthermore, it will be remembered as an era of extremely high prices not alone for manufactured articles, the demand for which has been insatiable, but for many of the prime necessities of life, such as flour, potatoes, meat, &c. It would be a fallacy, however, to credit either the big business, in great measure, or the high prices entirely to conditions existing here. On the contrary, both to a very important extent found their cause in the very comprehensive and calamitous war in Europe.

At the breaking out of the hostilities in Europe the situation of affairs here was far from satisfactory, and, although not very long thereafter certain lines began to feel the stimulus of urgent orders from that quarter for supplies of various kinds, general business experienced no noticeable impetus. But before 1915 had far advanced the demand upon us for practically everything we could supply became very urgent, and this, assisted by an excellent crop outlook as the year advanced, was reflected in a marked increase in the volume of trade which found substantiation in the total of bank clearings for the period—a new high record. Now that we have the results for 1916 before us we find that notwithstanding the drawbacks of a Presidential campaign and comparatively poor crops, the totals of clearings completely eclipse those for the previous year, which by contrast seem of dwarfed proportions. Our foreign export trade has risen to an almost inconceivable total, reaching an aggregate 2,000 millions in excess of 1915 and much more than double that of 1914. An outcome due in greatest measure to the immense shipments of munitions and supplies to the Entente Powers, but ascribable in some degree to higher prices for many commodities. Railroad earnings have been much heavier than ever before and unprecedented activity is reported in building operations and various lines of manufacture. This being the case, it is not surprising that bank clearings, the unfailing business barometer, month by month during the year and now for the full period should make such a remarkably favorable exhibit.

The total of clearings at New York for 1916 at \$159,580,648,590 is by a very large amount a new high record, exhibiting a gain of 44.4% over the 1915 aggregate, an augmentation of 92.3% over 1914 and an increase of 52.4% over 1906, the year when dealings on the Stock Exchange reached a level far above that of the present day and when there was also decided activity in other financial operations. Outside of New York, also, the volume of clearings is the largest in our history, the total at \$101,372,586,422 contrasting with \$77,253,171,911 last year and \$75,181,418,616 in 1913. Every section of the country, moreover, presents a much heavier aggregate than a year ago. All of the 13 cities grouped under New England register larger totals than a year earlier, and collectively the gain is 29.5%, with Springfield, Worcester and Waterbury, cities benefiting greatly by war orders, standing out conspicuously in the matter of percentage. In the Middle division (New York City excluded) 27 cities out of 28 show gains and in the aggregate of all the excess over 1915 is 36.2%, Philadelphia, Wilmington, Wheeling, Chester and Franklin contributing thereto in greatest ratio. The Middle Western section covering 38 municipalities includes 36 with heavier clearings than a year ago, and the combined total records an augmentation of 31.6%, Cleveland,

Detroit, Akron, Dayton, Youngstown, Lansing, Flint and Gary exhibiting the heaviest percentages of gain—all over 49%.

On the Pacific Slope a very gratifying increase is reported in the total for 21 cities (27.5%, in fact), gains being universal but most notable at San Francisco, Salt Lake City, Seattle, Spokane, Stockton, Fresno, Reno, Ogden and Bakersfield. At the South 33 cities furnish an average augmentation of 32.0%. In this section the larger movement of cotton, and at much higher prices, has been effective in adding materially to the volume of clearings, all cities showing more or less increase, with very important gains to be noted at Tulsa, Richmond, Oklahoma, Muskogee, Meridian, Macon, Jackson, New Orleans, Atlanta, Memphis, Little Rock and El Paso. In the "Other Western" division—the territory lying west of the Mississippi River, but not including the States bordering immediately upon the Pacific Ocean, nor Nevada, Utah, Oklahoma and Texas—considerable activity is reported at most of the 28 cities, and the total for the year exceeds 1915 by 25.0%. The gains are conspicuous at Kansas City, Omaha, St. Joseph and Denver and at a number of the smaller municipalities as well.

Altogether 158 of the 161 cities outside of New York report aggregates greater than in 1915, and in 145 instances they are high records for the period, indicating how universal has been the phenomenal activity of the year no matter to what cause it may be ascribed. It is obvious, however, that in greatest degree our prosperity has been based upon the cataclysm abroad. For the whole country the total of bank clearings for 1916 reaches \$260,953,235,012, going beyond the previous year by 73 billion dollars (or 38.9%), and, therefore, by that amount establishing a new high record. It is a notable fact that notwithstanding the constant increase in the number of clearing houses, New York continues to be the preponderating factor in bank clearings; in 1890, with 49 cities reporting, the balance in favor of New York over all the others was 15 billion dollars; in 1900, with the number increased to 90, New York exceeded the sum of the others by 19 billions, and in 1910 (144 cities) by over 30 billions. Finally, in 1916 this one city shows clearings 58¼ billion greater than the other 161 combined. In the following compilation we give the aggregates for New York, for outside cities and the total of all annually for the sixteen years 1901 to 1916, inclusive:

Year.	New York Clearings.	Inc. or Dec.	Clearings Outside New York.	Inc. or Dec.	Total Clearings.	Inc. or Dec.
1916	\$159,580,648,590	+44.4	\$101,372,586,422	+31.2	\$260,953,235,012	+38.9
1915	110,564,392,634	+33.2	77,253,171,911	+7.0	187,817,564,545	+20.9
1914	83,018,580,016	-12.3	72,226,538,218	-3.9	155,245,118,234	-8.6
1913	94,634,281,984	-0.1	75,181,418,616	+2.7	169,815,700,600	-2.4
1912	100,743,967,262	+9.1	73,208,947,649	+7.9	173,952,914,911	+5.6
1911	92,372,812,735	-5.0	67,895,960,931	+1.6	160,268,773,666	-2.4
1910	97,374,500,093	-6.1	65,820,729,906	+7.3	163,195,229,999	-1.0
1909	103,588,788,321	+30.7	62,249,403,009	+17.2	165,838,191,330	+25.2
1908	79,275,850,256	-9.1	53,132,968,880	-8.4	132,408,819,136	-8.8
1907	87,182,168,281	-16.7	57,843,565,112	+4.8	145,025,733,393	-9.3
1906	104,675,828,656	+11.6	55,229,858,677	+10.1	159,905,717,333	+11.0
1905	93,822,060,202	+36.7	50,005,358,239	+13.0	143,827,448,441	+27.7
1904	68,649,418,673	+4.1	43,909,594,342	+1.3	112,559,013,015	+3.9
1903	65,970,337,955	-13.6	43,238,849,809	+3.8	109,209,187,764	-7.4
1902	76,328,189,165	-3.9	41,695,109,575	+6.7	118,023,298,740	-6.4
1901	79,427,685,842	+50.9	38,982,329,340	+16.6	118,410,015,182	+27.0

With our Retrospect for 1916, given on preceding pages, covering so completely and comprehensively the influences operative from month to month during the year, to advert to them here would be merely a matter of unnecessary repetition. Suffice it to say, therefore, that as indicated by the bank clearings, activity in commercial and industrial lines has been in evidence all the year, war orders serving to greatly swell the volume of merchandise moving. The ac-

The average price in the above, it is to be explained, is not per share without regard to the par thereof, which ranges all the way from \$5 to \$100, but is based upon a par of \$100. In other words, the actual sales for the year 1916 were 233,311,993 shares, equalling 201,207,395 shares of \$100 par (with the few properties with no stated par taken at \$100) of an approximate sale value of \$18,869,840,955, or an average of \$93.8. Passing any reference to the influences operating in the stock market during the year, as they are clearly detailed in our "Retrospect," we present below a table covering the dealings in shares, month by month, and quarter and quarter, for two years:

SALES OF STOCKS AT THE NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE.

Mth.	1916.			1915.		
	Number of Shares.	Values.		Number of Shares.	Values.	
		Par.	Actual.		Par.	Actual.
Jan	15,956,944	\$1,427,403,335	\$1,301,244,818	5,076,210	\$436,534,900	\$302,461,298
Feb	12,128,205	\$1,025,902,910	\$982,417,400	4,353,449	\$360,032,785	\$252,379,421
Mar	15,197,853	\$1,331,870,900	\$1,264,214,208	7,862,308	\$681,471,315	\$535,476,914
1st qr	43,280,734	\$3,785,177,145	\$3,527,876,433	17,321,967	\$1,497,039,009	\$1,100,310,633
Apr	12,523,507	\$1,118,284,050	\$1,051,472,487	21,022,930	\$1,799,436,335	\$1,619,407,302
May	16,427,576	\$1,421,290,750	\$1,322,476,934	12,581,040	\$1,037,762,960	\$958,264,713
June	12,823,833	\$1,071,814,645	\$1,014,902,417	11,004,042	\$912,619,430	\$832,467,913
2d qr	41,774,916	\$3,611,369,445	\$3,398,851,838	44,608,012	\$3,749,818,725	\$3,410,139,928
6 mos	85,055,650	\$7,396,546,590	\$6,926,728,271	61,929,979	\$5,246,857,725	\$4,510,450,561
July	9,187,868	\$92,059,015	\$754,216,004	14,371,633	\$1,288,908,620	\$958,643,288
Aug	14,636,982	\$1,266,413,175	\$1,118,942,473	20,432,350	\$1,791,656,825	\$1,434,978,418
Sept	29,992,582	\$2,500,892,725	\$2,404,488,976	18,399,280	\$1,644,499,805	\$1,400,247,096
3d qr	53,806,532	\$4,569,963,915	\$4,277,648,353	53,203,269	\$4,725,065,140	\$3,793,869,404
9 ms	138,862,182	\$11,965,510,505	\$11,204,376,624	116,133,248	\$9,971,922,865	\$8,304,319,966
Oct	28,161,277	\$2,499,772,225	\$2,352,948,447	26,678,953	\$2,239,956,655	\$1,942,416,213
Nov	34,552,860	\$2,888,279,470	\$2,712,098,475	17,634,270	\$1,468,445,970	\$1,325,407,208
Dec	31,735,674	\$2,765,177,300	\$2,600,417,409	13,698,732	\$1,196,316,655	\$1,089,242,610
4th qr	94,449,811	\$8,154,228,995	\$7,665,464,331	58,011,955	\$4,905,219,280	\$4,257,156,037
Year	233,311,993	\$20,120,739,500	\$18,869,840,955	173,145,203	\$14,877,142,145	\$12,661,476,002

At other centres of stock speculation of the country, also, greater activity is to be noted quite generally than in 1915, but not so decided an extent as at New York. Boston reported sales of 13,073,588 shares, against 12,603,768 shares in 1915 and only 3,522,187 shares in 1914, and Chicago's trading covered 1,611,317 shares, against 715,567 shares and 385,783 shares, respectively. Philadelphia's transactions aggregated 5,362,033 shares, against 6,232,464 shares and 2,016,319 shares one and two years ago; Pittsburgh, 4,685,092 shares, against 2,194,787 shares and 703,012 shares; Baltimore, 2,534,430 shares, against 600,206 shares and 256,309 shares.

Bank clearings in the Dominion of Canada, in common with those in the United States, make a very excellent exhibit, the same stimulating cause—war orders from Europe—having been operative there. Not only does the aggregate of clearings for the year largely exceed that for 1915 and run ahead of 1914 even more appreciably, but there is a very satisfactory gain over the high record total established in 1913. Of the twenty-five cities from which we have reports, comparison is possible at twenty-three, and for those the total of clearings for 1916 at \$10,506,598,572, records an excess of 34.7% over 1915, and 30.2% over 1914 and an increase of 13.7% over 1913. Gains over last year are general at the individual cities, with the exhibit most favorable as regards percentage at Montreal, Toronto, Calgary, Regina, Saskatoon, Lethbridge and Medicine Hat, where the increases are, in all cases, over 35%. A more satisfactory year was experienced in the centres of speculative activity in Canada. Montreal reports dealings in some 3,466,798 shares and \$14,357,645 bonds, against 1,536,573 shares and \$1,838,495 bonds in 1915 and 1,087,926 shares and \$2,778,860 bonds in

1914, and transactions at Toronto were 1,250,178 shares and \$2,804,735 bonds, against 592,024 shares and \$160,300 bonds last year and 709,162 shares and \$572,000 two years ago. The Canadian clearings summarized by quarters for six years, are as follows:

Clearings Reported, (000s omitted.)	First Quarter.	Second Quarter.	Third Quarter.	Fourth Quarter.	Total Year.
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
1916..	2,182,165	2,526,533	2,501,518	3,256,383	10,566,599
1915..	1,650,341	1,743,255	1,741,242	2,652,802	7,787,741
1914..	1,965,310	2,113,637	1,982,406	2,008,138	8,069,591
1913..	2,155,721	2,298,379	2,189,863	2,597,178	9,239,141
1912..	1,955,667	2,306,316	2,265,014	2,629,702	9,156,699
1911..	1,587,168	1,793,111	1,781,062	2,132,891	7,344,232

RAILROAD GROSS EARNINGS FOR DECEMBER.

Gains in railroad gross earnings are now (speaking of the roads collectively) becoming smaller and in special instances there are losses. This is not surprising, however, considering the reduced crop yields of the season of 1916 which are now beginning to count largely in railroad traffic and considering also that comparison of revenues is with a time in the preceding year when earnings had already begun to show greatly expanded totals.

Our remarks are based on our early compilation for the month of December and in presenting the early figures for December 1915 (with which comparison is now made) we took occasion to remark that these returns then afforded striking testimony to the revival of railroad business, and at the same time furnished a new illustration of the wonderful transformation in conditions which had occurred. All the roads then contributing returns to this early statement for December 1915—barring only one very minor line—participated in the increase, and the aggregate increase on the roads then reporting reached no less than \$20,778,954 or 32.81%. Naturally after this splendid showing in the previous year, the further increase in 1916 is rather limited, reaching no more than \$3,091,289 or only 4.11%.

Aside from the fact that comparison is with heavily augmented totals in the previous year, there have, however, been other drawbacks, and in that view the further increase now disclosed must be regarded as highly gratifying indeed. In the first place it should be noted that December 1916 had five Sundays, where December 1915 contained only four. There were, therefore, only 25 working days in the current period, allowing for the fact that Dec. 25 was Christmas Day, as against 26 in the previous year. And then also the Western grain movement underwent heavy contraction, while in the South the cotton movement fell considerably short of the small movement for December 1915, and far below that for December of any of the years preceding. The shrinkage in the Western grain movement followed, of course, directly as a result of the curtailed harvests of 1916. The shrinkage has really been of noteworthy extent and the contrast with 1915 is all the more striking inasmuch as the wheat movement in the latter period had been of unexampled dimensions. For the five weeks ending Dec. 30 in 1916, the wheat receipts at the Western primary market were only 34,282,000 bushels, against 79,049,000 bushels in the corresponding five weeks of 1915. The corn receipts as it happened ran a little heavier, being 28,138,000 bushels, as against 25,753,000 bushels, but the oats receipts were only 21,400,000 bushels, against 26,818,000 bushels, the barley receipts 10,214,000 bushels, as against 18,843,000 bushels, and the rye receipts 2,850,000 bushels, against 3,125,000 bushels

EARNINGS OF SOUTHERN GROUP.

Table with columns: December, 1916, 1915, 1914, 1913, 1912, 1911. Rows include Ala Gt South., Ala NO & T-P, N O & Nor E., etc.

d Includes the Louisville & Atlantic and the Frankfort & Cincinnati. e Includes Chesapeake & Ohio of Indiana.

EARNINGS OF SOUTHWESTERN GROUP.

Table with columns: December, 1916, 1915, 1914, 1913, 1912, 1911. Rows include Colorado & So Deny & Rio Gr, Mo Kan & T & C, etc.

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

We now add our detailed statement for the month comprising all the roads that have thus far submitted figures for December.

GROSS EARNINGS AND MILEAGE IN DECEMBER.

Table with columns: Name of Road, Gross Earnings (1916, 1915, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-)), Mileage (1916, 1915). Rows include Alabama Great Southern, Ala New Orleans & T P, etc.

a Includes Texas Central in both years. b These figures are for three weeks only.

RETROSPECT OF 1916.

In publishing last week our review of the calendar year 1916, we printed the monthly narratives only for the first two months. We add to-day the narratives for two months more.

MONTH OF MARCH.

Current Events.—Though Germany continued its submarine warfare with renewed vigor (attacks on merchant ships, both armed and unarmed, being reported with great frequency), the President gained a notable triumph in the threatened conflict with Congress, and as this left him free again to conduct negotiations with Germany in his own way, anxiety regarding the probable outcome of the negotiations was in large measure relieved, it being felt that, however great the provocation, Mr. Wilson would act as he had in the past, with due caution before taking any measures that might lead to a rupture in the relations between this country and Germany. As it happened, troubles on the Mexican border took a very serious turn, necessitating the sending of United States troops into Mexico, and this served to divert attention for the time being from Germany's undersea warfare, giving the President a chance to mature plans for dealing with the submarine situation free from outside pressure.

In the controversy with Congress a sensational incident occurred in the Senate on March 2 while that body was considering Senator Gore's resolution asking American citizens to forbear from traveling on armed merchant ships. In the course of the debate, Senator Gore made the declaration that his action "was based upon a report received which seemed to come from the highest and most responsible authority; that certain Senators and certain members of the House in a conference with the President of the United States received from the President the information, if not the declaration, that if Germany insisted upon her position, the United States would insist upon her position, and that it would result probably in a breach of diplomatic relations, and that a breach of diplomatic relations would probably be followed by a state of war, and that a state of war might not be of itself and of necessity an evil to this Republic, but that the United States by entering upon war now might be able to bring it to a conclusion by midsummer and thus render a great service to civilization." Senator Gore's assertion brought an immediate denial from the White House couched in the following words: "When the attention of the White House was called to certain statements in Senator Gore's speech this afternoon, the President authorized an unqualified denial of any utterance to which any such meaning could be attached." Before a vote was taken on the resolution Mr. Gore, as the author of it, by clever manoeuvring, succeeded in amending it so as to give it precisely the opposite meaning from that originally designed, and then voted against it himself. The amendment inserted by Mr. Gore provided that "the sinking by a German submarine without notice or warning of an armed merchant vessel of her public enemy, resulting in the death of a citizen of the United States, would constitute a just and sufficient cause of war between the United States and the German Empire." In this form the resolution was tabled on March 3 by a vote of 68 to 14, Mr. Gore, himself, as already stated, being registered in the affirmative.

In the House of Representatives the Administration leaders took pains to see that the meaning of the vote in that body should not be open to question—in other words, that there should be no doubt that it was the intention that the President should be free to pursue his own policies in the conduct of negotiations with Germany. On the day the Senate tabled the Gore resolution, namely March 3, the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, by a vote of 17 to 2, voted to report the McLeMure resolution (warning Americans against traveling on armed ships) with a recommendation that it be tabled. The Committee in its report said: "Under the practice and precedents in this country, the conduct of diplomatic negotiations has been left to the President, and with this practice the Committee does not feel it proper for the House of Representatives to interfere. We know that if the President reaches a point in any negotiations with foreign Governments where he has exhausted his power in the premises, he will, in the usual way, report all facts and circumstances to Congress for its consideration." When the House finally acted on the issue, on Mar. 7, three separate proposals were disposed of by large majorities. The first proposition, designed to open the McLeMure resolution to amendment and unlimited debate, was voted down by 256 to 160; on this question 192 Democrats, 63 Republicans and 1 Progressive supported the Administration. Action was then taken upon the special rule providing for four hours' debate on the McLeMure resolution; this was adopted by 272 to 137. The final action of the House consisted in the tabling, by 276 to 142, of the McLeMure resolution. The vote to table was cast by 182 Democrats, 93 Republicans and 1 Progressive. Those against tabling consisted of 33 Democrats, 102 Republicans, 5 Progressives, 1 Independent and 1 Socialist.

These votes showed that the House was overwhelmingly in favor of allowing the President to exercise his Constitutional prerogative and continue negotiations without interference from the legislative branch of the Government. Later, the Senate also showed that it was disposed to drop the whole matter. Senator McCumber had on Mar. 3 re-introduced his own resolution warning Americans against traveling on armed merchantmen, which the Senate had tabled at the same time it tabled the Gore resolution, but on Mar. 9 made an announcement that his resolution would be definitely withdrawn. The premises, however, on which the withdrawal was based proved false, Senator McCumber having given it as his understanding that a warning would be issued by Sec. of State Lansing fully as effectual as any that might have been put in force by the adoption of the Gore or McLeMure resolution. This statement Mr. Lansing took prompt and emphatic occasion to deny. A minor incident in connection with the action of Congress was the announcement by two Congressmen that they would not be candidates for re-election, since they found themselves out of sympathy with the President's policy. One of these was Robert N. Page, of North Carolina, and the announcement in his case attracted the more attention, since he was a brother of Walter H. Page, the American Ambassador to Great Britain. Mr. Page pointed out that the United States Constitution vests in the President all diplomatic questions, and said that he, for one, was willing that Mr. Wilson should exercise that prerogative. He did not believe, however, that an American citizen should insist upon the exercise of any abstract right that would jeopardize the peace of the United States, and he did not want to assume responsibility for the loss of a single American life or even indirectly stain his hands with blood by voting

against the resolution of warning which, if given, might serve to prevent such loss of life. Congressman Isaac R. Sherwood, of Ohio, took the same step. Mr. Sherwood was quoted as saying that so long as he remained in Congress he would vote to sustain the President, but he thought his district should be represented by some one who was in sympathy with the Administration's policy.

In the meantime Germany's new policy went into effect on March 1, in accordance with previous announcement. The German attacks, however, were not confined to armed merchantmen. Quite a good many British ships were sunk, and also some neutral vessels, either as the result of German submarine attacks or contact with floating mines. The disasters which attracted particular attention were those concerning three British vessels, carrying Americans, namely the *Sussex*, the *Englishman* and the *Manchester Engineer*. These disasters served to bring about again a tense situation in the official relations between the United States and Germany, though public interest became absorbed, as already stated, in Mexican affairs. The *Sussex* was a Channel steamer plying between Folkestone, England, and Dieppe, France, and was owned by the French State Railway, though managed by the London Brighton & South Coast Railway Co. Advice from London on Mar. 24 stated that the steamer had met with a mishap somewhere off Dieppe. The vessel was sailing under a French flag and had 386 passengers aboard, besides a crew of about 50. In the number were included 25 Americans. These were all saved. An official statement, issued by the Ministry of Marine at Paris, on Mar. 25, declared that the *Sussex* had been torpedoed by an enemy submarine. This was based on a statement of the captain that he had observed a torpedo about 100 meters from the side and had immediately maneuvered to avoid it, but the vessel was struck in the forward part, remaining, however, afloat. A French trawler managed to find the distressed vessel and brought back to Boulogne a majority of the passengers. The rest (about 50 of the passengers and crew) were taken to Dover, England, by the British torpedo boat destroyer *Afridi*. The *Englishman* was a Dominion Line steamer and also met with disaster on Mar. 24. She had transported horses to St. Lazaar, France, but on her westward voyage had left Avonmouth Mar. 21, and was bound for Portland, Me. She had a number of Americans aboard at the time of the disaster, of whom one, namely P. Buckley, was lost. The rescued comprised 60 or more, leaving a shortage of about 18. It was declared in this instance also that the steamer had been torpedoed. The concern over the attacks on the *Sussex* and *Englishman* was aggravated by reports of the sinking of the *Manchester Engineer* on Mar. 27 with two American citizens, negroes, on board. The *Manchester Engineer* had left Philadelphia for Manchester in Mar. 11 and was asserted to have been torpedoed without warning off Waterport and sunk. In this case there were no casualties. Still another British steamer having an American on board, namely the *Eagle Point*, was reported torpedoed without warning on Mar. 28, 100 miles from land, in a cable dispatch from Queenstown under date of Mar. 29. This dispatch stated that the vessel had been shelled and torpedoed. In this case all were saved. It was also stated that a cablegram had been received from U. S. Ambassador Page reporting that he had been informed by the British Admiralty that the *Sussex* had carried no guns. The State Department was furthermore said to have been advised that none of the Channel passenger liners had been carrying arms.

Earlier in the month a Norwegian vessel, the *Silius*, and a Dutch steamer, the *Tubantia*, both having Americans on board, were sunk. The bark *Silius* had left New York on Feb. 4 for Havre and met disaster on Mar. 9, when, according to reports, she was torpedoed without warning in Havre Roads. The bark had a cargo of grain but carried no passengers. The crew was said to have numbered 17, of whom seven were Americans; three of the crew were lost, but no Americans were among that number. Germany made prompt disclaimer of responsibility for the sinking of this ship, saying that an official investigation by the German navy established the fact that no German submarine had been concerned in the sinking of the *Silius*. The *Tubantia* was a Holland Lloyd passenger steamer and was sunk on Mar. 16 off the Noord Hinder lightship as the result of striking a mine or an attack by a submarine. The steamer carried between 80 and 90 passengers and a crew of 300. Three Americans were reported to have been on board the vessel. The *Tubantia* had left Amsterdam on Mar. 15 for the River Plate and was to stop at Falmouth for additional passengers and freight. Germany emphatically denied responsibility for the sinking of this ship also, the German Admiralty issuing two statements undertaking to show that no German submarine could have been involved in the sinking of the *Tubantia*. It was asserted that investigation proved the *Tubantia* had not been torpedoed by a German submarine nor by any other kind of ship attached to the German navy. The following day, however, a dispatch from Amsterdam to London asserted that pieces of metal found in the ship's boat had convinced the German Government that a German torpedo had sunk the steamer.

Much anxiety was manifested by our Government over this revival of undersea warfare against armed and unarmed ships, but the Administration at Washington decided to

exhaust all possible means of fixing responsibility for the disasters before determining the course to be pursued. On Mar. 25 reports came from Washington that all of the Entente Powers through their Embassies at Washington, had handed to Sec. Lansing formal responses rejecting the proposal of the State Department that they enter into a *modus vivendi* and disarm their merchant ships, with the understanding that the U. S. Government would endeavor to obtain a pledge from Germany not to attack any unarmed ships without warning. There were indications, too, that in Germany itself sharp conflicts of view existed among those in authority as to how far the policy of submarine warfare in disregard of the rights of neutrals should be, and safely could be, carried. One of the important events bearing upon this aspect of affairs was the retirement early in the month of Admiral von Tirpitz, the German Minister of Marine and commonly regarded as the builder and organizer of the German navy. His successor in the Ministry was Admiral von Capelle, known merely as an excellent administrative officer.

The retirement of von Tirpitz was regarded as a triumph for the Government element represented by Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg, the German Imperial Chancellor, who was known to be conciliatory in his attitude toward neutral countries, while von Tirpitz was understood to have been in favor of continuing submarine attacks without regard to consequences. Opinion in Germany was apparently divided as to which course it was best to pursue. Echoes of this appeared in the discussions which occurred in the Reichstag when it reassembled. Moreover, with a view to preventing Admiral von Tirpitz's resignation from becoming a prelude to a modification of Germany's submarine campaign, the National Liberal Party on Mar. 18 proposed a resolution for adoption by the Reichstag designed to restrain the Chancellor from entering into arrangements with other countries which would hinder Germany "in the unlimited use of the submarine weapon." Action, however, to prevent an open debate in the Reichstag on the unrestricted use of submarines was taken on Mar. 23, when the standing committee for regulation of Parliamentary business, composed of the senior members of the various parties, decided that the submarine resolutions should be tabled. The representatives of the Conservative and National Liberal parties, which brought forward the resolutions, were said to have given tentative acquiescence.

In Mexican affairs a serious crisis was suddenly precipitated through an unprovoked attack by Francisco Villa and 1,500 of his followers on Americans at Columbus, New Mexico, and on the camp of the 13th U. S. Cavalry at that place. This invasion of American territory occurred on Mar. 9. In the raid 18 or 19 Americans, 7 of whom were soldiers, were killed, while 5 soldiers were wounded. The U. S. Government took immediate cognizance of the murderous assault. On the 10th the following statement concerning the decision of the Administration was made: "An adequate force will be sent at once in pursuit of Villa, with the single object of capturing him and putting a stop to his forays. This can and will be done in entirely friendly aid of the constituted authorities in Mexico and with scrupulous respect for the sovereignty of that Republic." Through the Mexican Ambassador, Eliseo Arredondo, Secretary of State Lansing on Mar. 9 informed the de facto Government of Mexico of the action decided upon by the U. S. Government, Senor Arredondo indicating that he would advise Gen. Carranza not to interfere with the plans of the United States. A statement making it plain that there was no intention on the part of the United States to enter Mexico by force was also issued on Mar. 10 by Sec. of War Baker, the statement reading: "There is no intention of entering Mexico in force. A sufficient body of mobile troops will be sent in to locate and disperse or capture the band or bands that attacked Columbus, N. M. So soon as the forces of the de facto Government can take control of the situation, any forces of the United States then remaining in Mexico will, of course, be withdrawn. The forces of the United States now on the border will be immediately recruited, but only for the purpose of safeguarding the territory of the United States from further raids."

A communication from the Carranza Government, seeking permission for Mexican forces to cross into American territory in pursuit of the bandits, and a proclamation by Gen. Carranza declaring that the invasion of Mexican territory by U. S. forces would not be permitted without reciprocal rights being granted the Mexicans, were developments which were followed by the acquiescence on the part of the U. S. in the privilege requested. The note from Gen. Carranza was transmitted through U. S. Consul Silliman, by whom it was received from Gen. Carranza's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Jesus Acuna, under date of Mar. 10. In this note it was asserted (after an expression of regret by Gen. Carranza over Villa's deed) that this invasion of American territory was similar to the incursions into Mexico by American Indians in the year 1880, and again in the years between 1884 and 1886. It was pointed out that on those two occasions an agreement was entered into between the Government of the U. S. and that of Mexico under which the armed forces of one country were given permission freely to enter the territory of the other with the view to punishing the marauding bands. Accordingly, Carranza requested permission for Mexican forces to cross into American territory in pursuit of Villa and his band, in return for which "due reciprocity in regard to forces of the United States crossing into Mexican territory" would be authorized. The U. S. Government consented at once, and on March 13 addressed a letter to

Gen. Carranza saying the Government of the U. S. "readily grants permission for military forces of the de facto Government of Mexico to cross the international boundary in pursuit of lawless bands of armed men who have entered Mexico from the United States, committed outrages on Mexican soil and fled into the United States, on the understanding that the de facto Government of Mexico grants the reciprocal privilege that the military forces of the United States may pursue across the international boundary into Mexican territory lawless bands of armed men who have entered the United States from Mexico, committed outrages on American soil and fled into Mexico. The Government of the United States understands that, in view of its agreement to this reciprocal arrangement, proposed by the de facto Government, the arrangement is now complete and in force and the reciprocal privileges thereunder may accordingly be exercised by either Government without further interchange of views."

With the issuance of the above letter, Secretary of State Lansing made public a statement in the name of President Wilson, reiterating that every step taken by the Administration was based on the deliberate intention to preclude the possibility of armed intervention in Mexico. The statement said: "In order to remove any misapprehension that may exist either in the United States or in Mexico, the President has authorized me to give in his name the public assurance that the military operations now in contemplation by this Government will be scrupulously confined to the object already announced, and that in no circumstances will they be suffered to infringe in any degree upon the sovereignty of Mexico or develop into intervention of any kind in the internal affairs of our sister republic. On the contrary, what is now being done is deliberately intended to preclude the possibility of intervention." A resolution upholding the course of the President in sending troops into Mexico, and intended to reassure the de facto Government that the expedition would be limited to the pursuit and punishment of Villa, was also adopted by the U. S. Senate on Mar. 17. One or two formal clashes between the U. S. troops and those of Villa occurred, in which minor casualties to our soldiers resulted, with much more serious disasters to the Villa forces, and Carranza's troops also inflicted considerable injury on the bandit band, but Villa was never captured. Gen. Carranza gave permission for the use of the Mexican railways for the purpose of forwarding supplies to the American troops "on a commercial basis." On Mar. 28 both Houses of Congress passed a bill appropriating \$8,611,502 to pay the expenses of the punitive expedition and the recruiting of the army up to full strength. In the Senate the vote was unanimous, and in the House 373 to 1, the dissenting vote being cast by a New York Socialist. Through the recruiting 20,000 men were added, by bringing the regular army up to maximum strength.

One other disquieting event of the month was the presentation of the formal demand of the trainmen on all the roads in the country for an increase in pay. The organizations concerned were the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, the Order of Railway Conductors, the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen, and the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen. On Mar. 9 official announcement was made in Chicago that the referendum vote of the 400,000 engineers, firemen, conductors and trainmen involved in the movement had been overwhelmingly in favor of authorizing the representatives of these organizations to demand an eight-hour day with time and a half pay for overtime. The formal demand on the roads came March 30, and April 29 was fixed as the date by which answers would be expected. The demands were made simultaneously upon all the roads in the country, and the different roads were requested to "join with other railway managements in the United States and enter into a collective movement for the purpose of handling this proposition at one and the same time through a joint committee representing all railroads concerned." The men also made it a condition that nothing in any settlement that might be reached was to be construed to deprive the employees of any railroad from retaining their present rules and accepting any rates that may be agreed upon or retaining their present rates and accepting any rules that may be agreed upon. The railroads, on their part, while presenting no counter-proposals, insisted that in any consideration of the subject there must be an "open door." In other words, they insisted that, in any consideration of the question, proposals for alterations and readjustments of wage rates and wage schedules coming from the railroads must receive equal hearing with those from the men, instead of consideration being given alone to matters favorable to the employees. The movement for higher wages in railroad train service also extended to the switchmen. The Switchmen's Union of North America, with headquarters in Buffalo, served 30 days' notice on the General Managers' Association of Chicago, demanding that 8 hours or less should constitute a day and the prevailing pay for a 10-hour day be given for 8 hours, all time after 8 hours to be paid for at 1½ times the new hourly rate. The Switchmen's Union had contracts on quite a number of important systems throughout the country. The following August, the Union and the Conference Committee of Railway Managers agreed to submit the controversy to arbitration under the terms of the Newlands Act, and the award under this arbitration was filed in December and will be found recorded in our narrative for that month.

Peace rumors again gained wide currency and were supported by some plausible incidents and rumors. Alexandre

Ribot, the French Minister of Finance, speaking before the Chamber of Deputies on Friday night, Mar. 17, made a declaration that attracted attention all over the world when he said in unqualified fashion, "We have reached the decisive hour." "We can say without exaggeration, without illusion and without vain optimism, that we now see the end of this horrible war." M. Ribot's assertions apparently had reference to the military situation, reflecting perhaps more particularly French confidence in a favorable outcome of the gigantic military operations (then in progress) before Verdun. As it happened this French utterance was coincident with the revival of peace rumors and gained extra credence for the same. Very circumstantial reports were published saying that the U. S. Ambassador to Germany, James W. Gerard, had concluded to postpone his temporary departure for home after an important interview with the German Chancellor in which the latter had outlined with the utmost frankness the terms and conditions upon which Germany was prepared to enter upon peace negotiations. These terms had apparently been framed so as to meet English objections by providing for the restoration of Belgian independence, that being recognized as a paramount requirement before Great Britain would consider peace terms at all. The cable dispatches also stated that in concluding to remain at his post Mr. Gerard was acting on a direct hint from the German Government. The story was so circumstantial that it led to a severe break in the war stocks on the N. Y. Stock Exchange. Our State Department was prompt in denying the authenticity of the reports, saying there was no justification for the inference which had been drawn. The fact remained, however, that Mr. Gerard had suddenly changed his plans for coming home.

Of course none of the belligerent countries relaxed military operations in the least. On Mar. 27 and Mar. 28 very important conferences occurred at Paris among representatives of the Entente countries. The measures decided upon were not of course disclosed, but the text of the resolutions adopted just before adjournment was given out and these resolutions affirmed "the complete community of views and solidarity of the Allies. They confirm all the measures taken to realize unity of action and unity of front." It was declared that "They understand by that, at the same time, unity of military action, assured by the entente concluded between the general staffs; unity of economic action, the organization of which the present conferences has regulated, and unity of diplomatic action, which is guaranteed by their unshaken will to continue the struggle to victory for the common cause." It was also stated that "with a view to strengthen, co-ordinate and unify the diplomatic action to be exercised to prevent the re-equipping of the enemy the conference has decided to establish at Paris a permanent committee in which all the Allies will be represented." Apparently also Great Britain agreed to make her shipping facilities available for the benefit of all the different Entente powers, a point upon which France and Italy had been laying great stress. At all events it was announced that the conference had decided: "First to continue the organization, already begun at London, of an international central bureau of freights; second to proceed in common, and with the briefest delay, to seek practical means to apportion equitably among the Allied nations the charges for maritime transportation and check the rise in freight rates."

On Mar. 30 a new Order-in-Council was issued in London providing that "neither a vessel nor her cargo shall be immune from capture for a breach of blockade upon the sole ground that she at the moment is on her way to a non-blockaded port." The Order announced that subject to certain modifications and omissions the Government had put in force the Declaration of London respecting the capture of merchant craft during the war. Certain doubts had arisen concerning the right to effect "the capture of conditional contraband on board a vessel bound to a neutral port" which it was "expedient to put an end to" and it had been decided no longer to adopt article 19 of the Declaration which provided that "whatever may be the ultimate destination of a vessel or of her cargo, she cannot be captured for breach of blockade if at the moment she is on her way to a non-blockaded port." It was therefore ordered that the provisions of the Declaration of London "shall not be deemed to limit, or to have limited, in any way the right of his Majesty, in accordance with the law of nations, to capture goods upon the ground that they are conditional contraband, nor to affect, or have affected, the liability of conditional contraband to capture, whether the carriage of the goods to their destination be direct or entail trans-shipment or subsequent transport by land." This provision was also made applicable to absolute contraband. By another clause it was provided that enemy destination "may be presumed to exist if the goods are consigned to a person who, during the present hostilities, has forwarded imported contraband goods to territories belonging to, or occupied by, the enemy." The Order furthermore said that "it shall lie upon the owners of goods to prove that their destination was innocent." By another Order-in-Council in effect after Mar. 27 the importation into the United Kingdom of certain luxuries except under license from the Board of Trade was prohibited. The list included automobiles, motorcycles, musical instruments, including gramophones and pianolas, and spirits and strong waters of all kinds except brandy and rum.

An event of the month was the declaration by Germany on Mar. 9 of war on Portugal. The German declaration emphasized the fact that this step became necessary as a result of the recent illegal seizures of German ships in Portuguese ports. In addition the declaration enumerated a long series of alleged breaches of neutrality by the Portuguese Government, including, among others, the permission of free passage to English troops through the colony of Mozambique, the permission to English men-of-war to use Portuguese ports for a time exceeding that given to neutrals; the permission given the English navy to use Madeira as a naval base, actual engagements between Portuguese and German troops on the frontier of German Southwest Africa and of Angola, and frequent insults to the German nation by members of the Portuguese Parliament, who never were reprimanded. The declaration concluded: "The Portuguese Government by these acts openly gave evidence that Portugal considers herself England's vassal for whom England's interests and wishes are paramount in comparison with other considerations." The previous month (Feb. 29) the seizure by the Italian Government of 34 of 37 German steamers interned in Italian ports was announced in the British House of Commons.

In the theatre of war the Germans continued all through the month their furious attacks on the fortifications at Verdun. The artillery engagements were of the fiercest description and in the infantry attacks asphyxiating gases, burning liquids and every other device for overcoming resistance were used. The fighting was of the bloodiest description and the loss of life appalling. The Germans had to meet the searching fire of the French guns and were generally without the means of shelter until rising heaps of their own dead furnished barricades behind which a measure of protection from the French fire was obtained. The French on their part in trying to recapture important positions taken by the enemy were exposed to the decimating fire of the German artillery and as a consequence sustained equally dreadful losses. While the German Crown Prince, who was in charge, did not succeed in obtaining any decisive victories, the Germans slowly but surely succeeded in gaining ground. Along the British end of the French line active fighting was in progress between the British and the Germans. In order to prevent a further concentration of strength by the Germans in the battlefield on French soil, the Russians took the offensive against the Germans and the Austrians in the eastern theatre of the war and the Italians also renewed their activities, but apparently with no great measure of success, though at some points very slight inroads into the German lines were made by the Russians. The latter part of the month the German Foreign Office gave out a statement with reference to the Russian movement saying that "not even the smallest advantage against the unshaken German defense has been obtained anywhere in this great offensive." On the Galician front the Russians made some headway as against one or two Austrian positions. On the Black Sea coast, however, and in the Persian sector the Russians continued to press their advantage.

General Gallieni, the French Minister of War, resigned either as a result of ill health or because of differences with General Joffre and was succeeded by General Roques, formerly Commander of the Twelfth Army Corps, then a member of General Joffre's staff. The Russian War Minister, Gen. Polivanoff, who had held office for the previous nine months, was retired at his own request, being succeeded by General Shauvaieff. Lieut.-Gen. Ichinosuke Oka, Japanese Minister of War, resigned as a result of ill health and was succeeded by Lieut.-Gen. Ken-Ichi Oshima, previously Vice-Minister of War.

A fourth German war loan was brought out, subscriptions remaining open until Mar. 22. The loan was dual in form and in the shape of 5% bonds, not redeemable before 1924, and these were offered at 98½. The other part of the loan consisted of 4½% Imperial Treasury bonds divided into ten series and redeemable, one series at a time, by annual drawings from 1923 to 1932; these were offered for subscription at 95. New York bankers, on account of the decline in Berlin exchange, offered the 5 per cents at \$187.50 per 1,000 marks, and the 4½ per cents at \$180 per 1,000 marks. The loan proved a great success, the subscriptions aggregating 10,712,000,000 marks. Subscriptions to the third German war loan, offered the previous Sept., when the subscription price was 99, aggregated 12,100,100,000 marks. For the second war loan subscriptions were received in Mar. 1915 at 98½ and aggregated 9,060,000,000 marks. The first German war loan was brought out in Sept. 1914 at 97½ and also consisted of 5 per cents. The subscriptions then reached only 4,460,000,000 marks.

The French Treasury on Mar. 20 resumed the issue of 5% National Defense Obligations. The issue price was 96.80 with the bonds redeemable at par between 1920 and 1925. The credits required by the French Government for the second quarter of 1916 were put at 7,800,000,000 francs in a statement prepared by the reporter of the Budget Committee of the Chamber of Deputies. This was figured as equivalent to a daily expenditure of 87,000,000 francs (\$17,400,000). The figures showed that the cost of carrying on the war was steadily increasing, the total expenditure for 1915 having been 22,000,000,000 francs, whereas the requirements for the first half of 1916 were put at 15,500,000,000 francs. It was estimated that the total French national expenditure from the beginning of August 1914

to the end of June 1916 would be nearly 47,000,000,000 francs, of which 37,000,000,000 was for purely military purposes. Official announcement was made Mar. 27 that the maximum note issue of the Bank of France and its branches which had been fixed by the decree of May 11 1915 at 15,000,000,000 francs had been raised to 18,000,000,000 francs. On Mar. 18 a new moratorium decree was issued extending for another period of 90 days payments on ante-war debts. A new Russian war loan for 2,000,000,000 rubles in 5% bonds payable in ten years was also announced in cable advices from Petrograd.

The British Government continued to finance its war requirements largely through the issue of treasury bills, and rates on these the latter part of the month were marked down from 5% to 4½% for bills of three months maturity and to 4¾% for six and nine months. Yearlings were left at 5%. The Bank of England announced Mar. 11 that these treasury bills, principal and interest, would be free from all present or future taxation to holders not resident in the United Kingdom. The object of course was to induce foreign purchases of the bills. Minimum prices of 16 Colonial and railway issues on the London Stock Exchange were removed at the commencement of business Mar. 13, but agitation for the removal of such other minimum quotations as were still in force continued. It was announced from London on Mar. 4 that the British Treasury with a view to accelerating the mobilization of American securities had requested British banks to call in loans upon American railroad shares. Revised lists of American securities which the British Treasury was prepared to purchase under the mobilization plan were issued, and on Mar. 24 the Commissioners of the British Treasury made definite announcement that beginning Mar. 27 they would be prepared to receive American dollar securities on deposit as a basis for loans from those who were not in a position to sell but were able to assist the Government by lending their securities. The terms were similar to those set forth in the Treasury Memorandum, published in the London "Gazette" the previous Dec. 17 1915. Under the arrangement holders received from the Treasury all interest and dividends paid on the deposited securities and as consideration for the loan a payment of ½% per annum on the face value of the securities. The securities had to be transferred to the Treasury for a period of two years, the Government having the right to sell at any time on behalf of the lenders or to take them over at the then current market price plus 2½%. It was provided that British-owned (but not American-owned) securities in America might be deposited with J. P. Morgan & Co. The list of eligible securities which might be offered comprised 666 bonds and 112 stocks and shares.

Following the issuance by the British Government of regulations prohibiting speculative transactions in copper and all other metals required in the production of war materials the London Metal Exchange on Mar. 2 decided to suspend all dealings with the exception of those in tin. The Government order made it unlawful for any person to deal in any of the metals unless the metal was in the possession of the seller or in course of production for him and in the case of the buyer unless the purchase was made for the actual consumers. The metals named were copper, iron, steel, zinc, brass, antimony, nickel, tungsten, molybdenum, ferro-alloys, or any other metal specified by the Ministry of Munitions. As a result, however, of a visit from a delegation of important metal interests the prohibition order was modified and dealings in future contracts on the metal exchanges were resumed on Mar. 6. The Minister of Munitions, David Lloyd George, objected very strongly to the continued upward trend in metal prices which he ascribed to speculation and to meet this objection new restriction on future contracts that would eliminate all possibility of manipulative influence were agreed upon.

The Vienna Stock Exchange was reopened Mar. 16 for the first time since the outbreak of the war. Trading, however, was limited to one hour each day and dealings in futures and speculative sales of all kinds were strictly prohibited.

Arrangements were completed between the Argentine Government and the Guaranty Trust Co. of New York for a one-year loan of \$15,000,000, making a total of \$79,500,000 borrowed here by the South American Republic since the beginning of the war. The loan was non-interest-bearing, having been sold on a discount basis, and the Guaranty Trust Co. offered the notes on a 5% basis. The Government of Canada placed exclusively in this country \$75,000,000 5% gold bonds maturing \$25,000,000 each in 5, 10 and 15 years. The 5-year bonds maturing Apr. 1 1921 were offered at 99.56, yielding about 5.10%; the ten-year bonds were offered at 97.13, yielding about 5¾%, and the 15-year bonds at 94.94, yielding about 5½%. The loan was brought out by a syndicate headed by J. P. Morgan & Co. and proved an entire success, the 15-year bonds rising immediately to a large premium. The Canadian Government agreed not to offer another loan in this country during 1916.

Activity in the iron and steel trade continued unabated, with further advances in prices. The make of iron in the United States reached a new high figure at 3,337,691 tons, or at the rate of over 40,000,000 tons a year. The "Iron Age" of this city put the steel ingot production at even higher figures, or 43,000,000 tons to 44,000,000 tons per year. At the same time it was stated that mills had made no headway in March in overtaking orders, some of them even falling

farther behind. The "Iron Age" at the middle of the month said: "Any last vestige of doubt as to the runaway character of the steel market is being swept out of the way. Prices reach new danger levels with each week, but demand does not halt on that account; it rather grows. And all the time it is harder to locate the market, \$5 a ton difference in quotations on the same material being common. Here is one large steel producer—the largest of all—naming prices on some forms of finished steel for delivery through next year; another is out of the market entirely; a third is selling for the first half of this year but unwilling to quote for the second half; still another puts its price on plates, shapes and bars at 3.50c. for any delivery, thinking to reduce the pressure of new business." Steel billets further advanced, both Bessemer and open hearth at Pittsburgh jumping to \$45 a ton from \$37 and \$38, respectively. Steel bars at Pittsburgh advanced from 2.50c. per lb. to 2.75c.; tank plates at Pittsburgh from 2.75c. per lb. to 3.50c.; beams at Pittsburgh from 2.25c. to 2.50c. Copper was a little easier the early part of the month, with a recovery the latter part, Lake copper dropping from 27 $\frac{3}{4}$ c. to 27c. and then advancing to 27 $\frac{1}{2}$ c., while electrolytic copper, after declining from 27 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. to 26 $\frac{3}{4}$ c., recovered to 26 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. Spelter at St. Louis dropped from 20.50c. to 16.50c., but was 17.50c. at the close. Lead further rose at St. Louis from 6.30c. to 8c. The price of cotton improved and middling uplands in New York advanced from 11.35c. Feb. 29 to 12.15c. Mar. 29, with the price Mar. 31 12.10c. Grain prices fluctuated considerably. The May option for wheat in Chicago on Mar. 6 got up to \$1 16 $\frac{1}{4}$, but from this there was a drop to \$1 05 $\frac{3}{4}$ Mar. 18, with the close Mar. 31 \$1 13 $\frac{3}{4}$. The May option for corn in Chicago was up to 77 $\frac{3}{4}$ c. Mar. 16, but down again to 70 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. Mar. 24, with the close Mar. 31 74 $\frac{3}{4}$ c. May oats in Chicago were 45 $\frac{3}{4}$ c. Mar. 16 and 42c. Mar. 24, with the close Mar. 31 44 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.

Freight congestion on the railroads continued a feature in affairs and there was active co-operation on the part of the railroads, the Inter-State Commerce Commission and different bodies of shippers to furnish relief, various remedies to that end being employed. The result was considerable modification of prevailing embargoes by the end of the month and in some cases the entire lifting of the embargo. The statement of the American Railway Association for Apr. 1 showed a net surplus of 4,638 cars on the railways of the United States, as against a net shortage of 19,537 cars March 1. An adjustment of the differences between miners and operators in the soft coal fields of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Western Pennsylvania was effected. The miners had asked for an increase of 10% at the basing points, a 10% increase in all dead work and yardage, a 20% increase on all day labor and payment on a mine-run basis. Under the agreement increases of from 5 to 13% on tonnage, yardage and day wage rates were granted and the establishment of a universal run-of-mine system provided for. Day laborers and those engaged on yardage were allowed an increase of 5% and there was a scaling down of the demands for a 10% increase at the basing points. Under the agreement it was stated an increase of approximately \$8,000,000 in the wages of the soft coal miners would result.

The Hay Bill, reorganizing and increasing the army, was passed by the House of Representatives on Mar. 23 by a vote of 402 to 2, being the first of the Administration's preparedness measures to go through either branch of Congress. It provided for a regular army peace strength of 140,000 and for the building up of a force of 425,000 Federalized national guardsmen within five years. It also made provision for an officers' reserve corps of 50,000, for a complete industrial reserve, and for new recruiting systems for both the regular army and the national guard. The bill passed the Senate in greatly modified form in April and then went to a Conference Committee of the two Houses, where an agreement was reached in May. See narrative for that month. Newton D. Baker was confirmed by the U. S. Senate Mar. 7 as Secretary of War to succeed Lindley M. Garrison, who had resigned the previous month by reason of differences of view with President Wilson.

Gross revenues of the railroads in official classification territory in Oct. 1915 were augmented \$3,815,939, or 2.98%, as a result of the rate advances granted in Dec. 1914 in connection with the so-called 5% rate case, according to a statement issued by the Inter-State Commerce Commission. When the decision in that case was handed down the chief roads affected were requested to make an estimate of their increased revenues for May 1915 and an actual record of the increases for October 1915 and April 1916. The May 1915 "estimate" showed an increase in earnings on account of the rate award of 2.85%. The results of the October count were compiled from the returns of 43 roads and systems in the territory referred to, which includes practically all that part of the country east of the Mississippi and north of the Ohio and Potomac rivers. The calculation showed the excess in revenue received upon the actual business handled and covered advances in both passenger and freight revenues as well as in mails, express and minor items. To the total increase of \$3,815,939, freight contributed \$2,703,468 and passengers \$936,081, the ratio of gain in freight being 2.79% and in passengers 4.59%. On account of the great cost involved, the railroads were excused from compiling the figures for April 1916.

In the U. S. District Court at Chicago, Judge Landis held the Associated Bill Posters of the United States a combination in restraint of trade in an action for the dissolution of

the organization filed by the Government in Aug. 1912 under the Sherman Anti-Trust Law. The case was tried in Chicago in 1915 from May 17 to July 12. In sustaining the Government's charge, Judge Landis declared that "the rule of 'reasonable restraint' has no application here for the reason that this is not a case of mere restraint but of total exclusion."

Railroad Events and Stock Exchange Matters.—The stock market very naturally was decidedly unsettled as a result of the events above narrated, and yet was at no time deeply disturbed. As a matter of fact, the market seemed to be more sensitive to reports of a possible sudden termination of the war, rumors to that effect being again rife, than to influences of any other kind. One such rumor obtained wide credence on Saturday, March 18, it being then stated that Germany had actually made overtures with a view to opening peace negotiations, and plausibility was given to the report by very circumstantial statements that James W. Gerard, the U. S. Ambassador to Germany, had concluded to postpone his temporary departure for home, in view of the likelihood that he might be called upon to take part in the peace negotiations. The result was that the stock market on Monday, Mar. 20, became decidedly weak and a decline of from 3 to 7 points in a substantial list of shares dealt in on the Exchange ensued. The drop was heavy in all the munitions manufacturing stocks, with a sympathetic decline in the rest of the list. The market, of course, promptly recovered after it became manifest that there was no early prospect of peace. Activity throughout the month was largely confined to the war stocks, the fluctuations in which from day to day, and indeed from hour to hour, were wide. Some of them, too, made very substantial advances during the month, Crucible Steel com., Amer. Loco. com., Cuban-Am. Sugar com. and a few others of the same class being particularly noteworthy in that respect. In the railway list the net changes for the month were not as a rule great.

The Money Market.—In the money market there was no change from the previous condition of extreme ease. The month's range for call loans was 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ @2 $\frac{1}{2}$ %. Time loans Mar. 31 were 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ @2 $\frac{3}{4}$ for 60 days, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ @3 for 90 days and 3% for 4, 5 and 6 months. Commercial paper remained at 3@3 $\frac{1}{4}$ for double names and prime single names and 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ for names not so well known. Money holdings of the New York Clearing House banks decreased still further and Apr. 1 were \$474,742,000, against \$503,223,000 Feb. 26. Gold on deposit with the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, however, increased from \$166,754,000 Feb. 26 to \$176,317,000 Mar. 25, then falling off to \$171,833,000 Apr. 1. Surplus reserves after improving from \$134,998,790 Feb. 26 to \$137,520,440 Mar. 4, dropped to \$123,823,040 Apr. 1. Loans and investments after decreasing from \$3,388,963,000 Feb. 26 to \$3,343,715,000 Mar. 11, were \$3,370,348,000 Apr. 1. Deposits varied from week to week, but were only \$3,565,957,000 Apr. 1 against \$3,604,053,000 Feb. 26.

Foreign Exchange, Silver, &c.—In the foreign exchange market rates on London moved within a very narrow range and there were no striking incidents or developments. Merchandise exports continued heavy, particularly of war materials and other supplies for the Entente countries, but these did not figure in exchange operations, since they were settled for through drafts on the credits established here in favor of those countries through the Anglo-French loan and through other special arrangements. Exchange on Berlin and Vienna, however, again displayed weakness, new low levels being established in both instances. Reichsmarks Mar. 21 got down to 71 $\frac{1}{4}$ and the Austrian kronen on Mar. 30 touched 12.35c., the quotations Mar. 31 being respectively 72 $\frac{1}{2}$ and 12.41. French exchange also proved weak; in part, perhaps, because of the violence of the military operations before Verdun, though in addition France had to arrange for some maturing loans in both New York and London. As a general thing, it may be said that as far as all Continental points were concerned, exchange on the belligerent countries was weak, while that on neutral countries, like Holland (Amsterdam), Denmark, Sweden and Norway, was strong. In the case of sterling exchange, the rate for sight bills did not at any time vary greatly from 4 7/8, the range having been between 4 7/8 15-16@4 7/8 $\frac{1}{2}$ and 4 7/8 7-16@4 7/8 $\frac{1}{2}$, the latter the quotation both Mar. 1 and Mar. 31. French exchange was weak and was quoted 5.98 francs to the dollar Mar. 30 and 5.97 $\frac{1}{2}$ Mar. 31, this comparing with 5.87 $\frac{1}{2}$ Mar. 1. The gold movements to and from the United States were on the whole not very important, the imports having been \$9,776,439 (all ports) and the exports \$10,774,354. Open market discounts in London were reduced to 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ % for 60 and 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ % for 90-day bills. The private bank rate at Berlin moved up to 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ %. Silver in London advanced sharply so that the price Mar. 31 was 28 15-16d.

Stock Fluctuations.	March 1.	March 31.	Range for Month.	
Railroads—	Prices in doll.	are per share.	Lowest.	Highest.
Ach Top & Santa Fe	102 $\frac{1}{2}$	103 $\frac{1}{2}$	102	104 $\frac{1}{2}$ Mar. 14
Baltimore & Ohio	85 $\frac{1}{2}$	86 $\frac{1}{2}$	85	90 Mar. 17
Canadian Pacific	2164 $\frac{1}{4}$	167	162 $\frac{1}{2}$	169 $\frac{1}{4}$ Mar. 24
Chesapeake & Ohio	61	61 $\frac{1}{2}$	60 $\frac{1}{2}$	65 $\frac{1}{2}$ Mar. 18
Chic Mtlw & St Paul	93 $\frac{1}{2}$	93	92 $\frac{1}{2}$	96 $\frac{1}{2}$ Mar. 15
Erie	35 $\frac{1}{2}$	36 $\frac{1}{2}$	35 $\frac{1}{2}$	38 $\frac{1}{2}$ Mar. 15
Great Northern, pref.	120	121	119 $\frac{1}{2}$	123 $\frac{1}{2}$ Mar. 14
Louisville & Nashville	121 $\frac{1}{2}$	*122	121 $\frac{1}{2}$	125 Mar. 18
New York Central	103 $\frac{1}{2}$	103 $\frac{1}{2}$	102 $\frac{1}{2}$	107 Mar. 15
N Y N H & Hartford	67 $\frac{1}{2}$	68 $\frac{1}{2}$	64 $\frac{1}{2}$	68 Mar. 15
Norfolk & Western	114 $\frac{1}{2}$	120 $\frac{1}{2}$	114	124 $\frac{1}{2}$ Mar. 18
Northern Pacific	112	112 $\frac{1}{2}$	111 $\frac{1}{2}$	114 $\frac{1}{2}$ Mar. 16
Pennsylvania (par \$50)	56 $\frac{1}{2}$	56 $\frac{1}{2}$	56 $\frac{1}{2}$	58 Mar. 16
Reading Co (par \$50)	82 $\frac{1}{2}$	84 $\frac{1}{2}$	81	89 $\frac{1}{2}$ Mar. 16

Stock Fluctuations.	March 1.		March 31.		Range for Month.			
	Prices in dollars		Per share.		Lowest.		Highest.	
Railroads—								
Southern Pacific.....	97 1/4		97 1/4		96 1/4	Mar. 1	100 1/4	Mar. 15
Southern Railway.....	19 1/2		20 1/2		19 1/2	Mar. 1	21 1/2	Mar. 17
Union Pacific.....	131 1/4		132 1/4		130 1/4	Mar. 1	134 1/4	Mar. 14
Industrials—								
Alla-Chalm Mfg v t c.....	26 1/4		29		26 1/4	Mar. 1	33 1/2	Mar. 14
Preferred v t c.....	78 1/4		*275	67	78 1/4	Mar. 2	81	Mar. 13
Amer Agricul Chem.....	65 1/4		*267	69	65 1/4	Mar. 1	69 1/2	Mar. 15
American Beet Sugar.....	65 1/4		71 1/2		64 1/4	Mar. 1	67 1/2	Mar. 16
American Can.....	58		61 1/2		58 1/4	Mar. 1	65 1/2	Mar. 14
Amer Car & Foundry.....	65 1/4		68 1/2		64	Mar. 1	75 1/2	Mar. 16
Amer Coal Products.....	159		160		156 1/2	Mar. 3	168	Mar. 16
Am Hild & Lenth pref.....	47		*52 1/2	53 1/2	45	Mar. 1	54 1/2	Mar. 23
Amer Locomotive.....	88		79		66 1/4	Mar. 1	83 1/2	Mar. 14
Amer Smelt & Refining.....	97		100 1/4		95 1/4	Mar. 1	103 1/2	Mar. 16
Amer Steel Foundries.....	50 1/4		50 1/4		48 1/2	Mar. 8	56 1/4	Mar. 17
American Sugar.....	*109 1/4		109 1/4		107 3/4	Mar. 8	113 1/2	Mar. 17
Amer Telep & Teleg.....	127 1/4		127 1/4		127 1/4	Mar. 1	131	Mar. 27
Amer Woolen of Mass.....	52		50		45	Mar. 1	54 1/2	Mar. 14
Amer Writ Paper, pref.....	11 1/4		10 1/4		11	Mar. 1	21 1/2	Mar. 28
AmZinc, L'd&Sm (825).....	77 1/4		88 1/4		76	Mar. 1	91 1/2	Mar. 17
Anaconda Cop(par850).....	85 1/4		86 1/4		83 1/4	Mar. 1	88 1/4	Mar. 15
Baldwin Locomotive.....	102		104 1/4		99 1/4	Mar. 1	114 1/2	Mar. 17
Bethlehem Steel Corp.....	450		440 1/2		450	Mar. 1	550	Mar. 14
Central Leather.....	52		53 1/4		51 1/2	Mar. 1	56 1/2	Mar. 20
Chile Copper (par 825).....	23 1/4		22 1/4		20 1/4	Mar. 27	23 1/4	Mar. 9
China Cop (par 825).....	56 1/4		55 1/4		52 1/4	Mar. 27	58 1/4	Mar. 7
Colorado Fuel & Iron.....	40 1/4		44 1/4		39 1/4	Mar. 1	50 1/4	Mar. 17
Continental Can.....	79 1/4		*82 1/2	85	78 1/4	Mar. 1	88	Mar. 10
Cruisible Steel of Amer.....	73		92 1/4		70 1/4	Mar. 1	99 1/4	Mar. 16
Cuban-Amer Sugar.....	180 1/4		243 1/4		180 1/4	Mar. 1	245	Mar. 28
General Electric.....	168 1/4		167 1/4		165	Mar. 1	173 1/2	Mar. 14
General Motors v t c.....	400		*455	480	440	Mar. 22	486	Mar. 25
Goodrich (B F).....	69 1/4		76		68 1/4	Mar. 1	77 1/2	Mar. 28
Inspection Cons Cop.....	44		47 1/4		43 1/4	Mar. 1	49 1/4	Mar. 16
Int Agric Corp v t c.....	21		*19	20	18 1/4	Mar. 27	22 1/4	Mar. 9
Int Merc Mar tr etfs.....	15		17		14 1/4	Mar. 1	18	Mar. 17
Preferred tr etfs.....	64 1/4		69 1/4		61 1/4	Mar. 1	76	Mar. 22
Int Nickel v t c..... (825)	45 1/4		47		42	Mar. 1	49 1/2	Mar. 18
International Paper.....	9 1/4		*11 1/2	11 1/4	9 1/4	Mar. 1	12 1/2	Mar. 20
Laekawanna Steel.....	73		76 1/4		72 1/4	Mar. 1	83 1/4	Mar. 17
Maxwell Motor tr etfs.....	61 1/4		71		57 1/4	Mar. 3	74 1/4	Mar. 29
National Lead.....	65 1/4		67		65 1/4	Mar. 1	69 1/4	Mar. 9
Pittsburgh Coal.....	29 1/4		32		25 1/4	Mar. 21	30 1/4	Mar. 4
Pressed Steel Car.....	51 1/4		52		49	Mar. 3	58 1/4	Mar. 14
Railway Steel Spring.....	38 1/4		39 1/4		38 1/4	Mar. 8	44 1/4	Mar. 17
Republic Iron & Steel.....	49 1/4		50 1/4		48 1/4	Mar. 1	54 1/4	Mar. 17
Studebaker Corp(The).....	135 1/4		141 1/4		133	Mar. 1	151	Mar. 16
Texas Co (The).....	198 1/4		192 1/4		189	Mar. 30	208 1/4	Mar. 9
U S Indus Alcohol.....	144		153 1/4		142 1/4	Mar. 1	161 1/2	Mar. 20
U S Rubber.....	49 1/4		51 1/4		47 1/4	Mar. 1	54 1/4	Mar. 15
U S Sm Ref & M (850).....			68 1/4		67 1/4	Mar. 27	69 1/4	Mar. 28
United States Steel.....	281		84 1/2		279 1/2	Mar. 1	87 1/2	Mar. 16
Western Union Telep.....	87 1/4		91 1/4		87	Mar. 1	91 1/4	Mar. 31

/ Quoted ex-dividend during the month and prior to this date. x Ex-dividend.
* Bid and asked price; no sale.

MONTH OF APRIL.

Current Events.—The submarine controversy with Germany during April again became the overshadowing issue, and it took, moreover, a sensational and dramatic turn. There were also many other important developments growing out of the European conflict. Among these may be mentioned the rebellion and uprising in Ireland, and which was quickly quelled, the capture by the Russian land and naval forces on Apr. 18 of the Turkish stronghold of Trebizond on the Black Sea, and the arrival in France, to aid the French in their defense of Verdun, of several large contingents of Russian troops, the two events combined showing that the Russians had largely recovered from their serious reverses of the previous year. On the other hand, notable news of the opposite nature, going to show that the Turks still had to be reckoned with, came in the official announcement from London on Apr. 29 that the British Tigris army, under the command of Maj-Gen. Charles Townshend, which had been besieged at Kut-el-Amara, had been obliged to surrender to the Turkish foe because of the exhaustion of supplies, thus bringing the British Mesopotamia campaign to a disastrous close. The official announcement gave the particulars of the surrender in a few brief sentences, saying: "After a resistance protracted for 143 days and conducted with a gallantry and fortitude that will be forever memorable, General Townshend has been compelled by the final exhaustion of his supplies to surrender. Before doing so he destroyed his guns and munitions. The force under him consists of 2,970 British troops of all ranks and services, and some 6,000 Indian troops and their followers." Contrariwise, a Constantinople dispatch, received by way of Berlin, stated that the Vice-Chief Commander of the Turkish Army had announced that the British garrison which surrendered unconditionally consisted of 13,300 men. The ultimate surrender of General Townshend had been counted upon for some time previously owing to the failure of the forces under Lieutenant-General Goringe and General Keary to break through the Turkish position at Sannayat, about 20 miles below Kut-el-Amara on the Tigris River, and an unsuccessful attempt to send provisions by steamers to the beleaguered army. The object of the Tigris campaign had been the capture of Bagdad and on Nov. 22 1915 the British van had reached Ctesphon, 18 miles from Bagdad. There it was attacked by overwhelming forces, compelling retirement and eventually General Townshend made a stand again at Kut-el-Amara, which he had captured the previous June. This was Dec. 5 1915, and it soon became evident that he was so beset that he could not fight his way out. He made a number of unsuccessful sorties and repelled attacks by the Turks in which the loss of life was large on both sides, and the relief expedition also engaged in a number of bloody battles with the Turks—in one engagement alone in April the British loss, according to the Turkish version, having reached 4,000—but on account of floods all efforts to render assistance to General Townshend proved abortive.

The submarine controversy with Germany entered upon a momentous phase with the receipt of the German note regarding the sinking of the Sussex and other vessels which

had fallen victims to submarine attacks. The note was dated Berlin, Apr. 10, but the text of it as contained in cable dispatches was not made public by our State Department until Apr. 13. The German Government admitted as to the Sussex, which as related above had been crippled in the English Channel off Dieppe on Mar. 24, and which figured foremost among the vessels disabled or sunk the previous month, that a German submarine had attacked a vessel in the Channel in the region between Folkestone and Dieppe on the day of the Sussex disaster, in the shape of "a long, black craft without a flag, having a gray funnel, small gray forward works and two high masts," but said "the German commander reached the definite conclusion that it was a war vessel, and, indeed, a mine layer of the recently-built English Arabic class." The note also stated that a sketch of the vessel made by the German submarine commander and a published photograph of the Sussex indicated that they were not identical. The German Government, therefore, assumed "that the injury to the Sussex is attributable to another cause than an attack by a German submarine." To emphasize this conclusion the note added: "For an explanation of the case the fact may, perhaps, be serviceable that no less than twenty-six English mines were exploded by shots by German naval forces in the Channel on the 1st and 2nd of Apr. alone. The entire sea in that vicinity is, in fact, endangered by floating mines and by torpedoes that have not sunk. Off the English coast it is further endangered in an increasing degree through German mines which have been laid against enemy naval forces." Regarding the four other vessels which were the subject of inquiry by Ambassador Gerard, Germany stated that the Englishman and Eagle Point were called upon to halt by German submarines, and with their disregard of the signals were attacked. Concerning the Berwindvale, Germany asserted that the identity of a vessel which failed to heed an order to halt, and which was forthwith fired upon, might be assumed to have been the Berwindvale; it declared that it had been impossible to establish whether the attack on the Manchester Engineer was attributable to a German submarine, and suggested that it was desirable that it have a more definite statement concerning the circumstances of the attack. The note concluded with the statement: "In the event that differences of opinion should develop hereby between the two Governments, the German Government now declares itself ready to have the facts of the case established through mixed commissions of investigation in accordance with the third article of The Hague Agreement for the peaceful settlement of international conflicts, Nov. 18 1907."

This explanation was neither satisfactory nor convincing, particularly as regards the attack on the Sussex, and it soon became apparent that our Government was losing faith in the German professions, or at least in the ability of the German Government to control submarine warfare so that it would not conflict with the principles of international law for which the United States was contending. A sudden and dramatic turn to the situation was given when, on the evening of Apr. 18, announcement quite unexpectedly came from the White House that the President had requested that Congress meet in joint session the next day in order that he might place before the National Legislature the facts with regard to the controversy and the course he now intended to pursue. Congress duly convened in joint session at 1 o'clock Apr. 19, and the President, in personally addressing the members of the two Houses, announced that he had sent a note (the text of which was made public later in the afternoon) to the German Foreign Office, insisting that a breach of relations must occur unless existing methods of submarine warfare on passenger and freight ships should be discontinued at once. The President pointed out that when, in February 1915, "the Imperial German Government announced its intention to treat the waters surrounding Great Britain and Ireland as embraced within the seat of war and to destroy all merchant ships owned by its enemies that might be found within any part of that portion of the high seas, and warned all vessels, of neutral as well as belligerent ownership, to keep out of the waters thus proscribed or else enter them at their peril, the Government of the United States earnestly protested. It took the position that such a policy could not be pursued without the practical certainty of gross and palpable violations of the law of nations, particularly if submarine craft were to be employed as its instruments, inasmuch as the rules prescribed by that law, rules founded on principles of humanity and established for the protection of the lives of non-combatants at sea, could not in the nature of the case be observed by such vessels. It based its protest on the ground that persons of neutral nationality and vessels of neutral ownership would be exposed to extreme and intolerable risks, and that no right to close any part of the high seas against their use or to expose them to such risks could lawfully be asserted by any belligerent government." In pursuance of the policy of submarine warfare against the commerce of its adversaries thus announced and entered upon by the Imperial German Government despite the solemn protest of this Government, the commanders of German undersea vessels had attacked merchant ships with greater and greater activity, not only upon the high seas surrounding Great Britain and Ireland, but wherever they could encounter them, in a way that had grown more and more ruthless, more and more indis-

criminate, as the months had gone by; less and less observant of restraints of any kind; and had delivered their attacks without compunction against vessels of every nationality and bound upon every sort of errand. Vessels of neutral ownership, even vessels of neutral ownership bound from neutral port to neutral port, had been destroyed along with vessels of belligerent ownership in constantly increasing numbers. Sometimes the merchantman attacked had been warned and summoned to surrender before being fired on or torpedoed; sometimes passengers or crews had been vouchsafed the poor security of being allowed to take to the ship's boats before she was sent to the bottom. But again and again no warning had been given, no escape even to the ship's boats allowed to those on board. What this Government foresaw must happen had happened. Tragedy had followed tragedy on the seas in such fashion, with such attendant circumstances, as to make it grossly evident that warfare of such a sort, if warfare it be, could not be carried on without the most palpable violation of the dictates alike of right and of humanity. Whatever the disposition and intention of the Imperial German Government, it had manifestly proved impossible for it to keep such methods of attack upon the commerce of its enemies within the bounds set by either the reason or the heart of mankind.

The President declared that again and again the Imperial German Government had given this Government its solemn assurances that at least passenger ships would not be thus dealt with, and yet it had again and again permitted its undersea commanders to disregard those assurances with entire impunity. Great liners like the Lusitania and the Arabic and mere ferry boats like the Sussex had been attacked without a moment's warning, sometimes before they had even become aware that they were in the presence of an armed vessel of the enemy, and the lives of non-combatants, passengers and crew, had been sacrificed wholesale, in a manner which the Government of the United States could not but regard as wanton and without the slightest color of justification. No limit of any kind had, in fact, been set to the indiscriminate pursuit and destruction of merchantmen of all kinds and nationalities within the waters, constantly extending in area, where these operations had been carried on; and the roll of Americans who had lost their lives on ships thus attacked and destroyed had grown month by month, until the ominous toll had mounted into the hundreds. The President therefore deemed it his duty "to say to the Imperial German Government that if it is still its purpose to prosecute relentless and indiscriminate warfare against vessels of commerce by the use of submarines, notwithstanding the now demonstrated impossibility of conducting that warfare in accordance with what the Government of the United States must consider the sacred and indisputable rules of international law and the universally recognized dictates of humanity, the Government of the United States is at last forced to the conclusion that there is but one course it can pursue, and that unless the Imperial German Government should now immediately declare and effect an abandonment of its present methods of warfare against passenger and freight carrying vessels, this Government can have no choice but to sever diplomatic relations with the Government of the German Empire altogether."

Secretary Lansing's note to the German Secretary of Foreign Affairs was a close duplicate of the President's message to Congress, many of the passages being identical, and in fact whole paragraphs being the same in the two documents. The Secretary declared that "a careful, detailed and scrupulously impartial investigation by naval and military officers of the United States has conclusively established the fact that the Sussex was torpedoed without warning or summons to surrender, and that the torpedo by which she was struck was of German manufacture." The Sussex had never been armed; was a vessel known to be habitually used only for the conveyance of passengers across the English Channel, and was not following the route taken by troop ships or supply ships. About eighty of her passengers, non-combatants of all ages and sexes, including citizens of the United States, were killed or injured. The Government of the United States had been very patient. At every stage of this distressing experience of tragedy after tragedy it had sought to be governed by the most thoughtful consideration of the extraordinary circumstances of an unprecedented war and to be guided by sentiments of very genuine friendship for the people and Government of Germany. It had made every allowance for unprecedented conditions and had been willing to wait until the facts became unmistakable and were susceptible of only one interpretation. It now owed it to a just regard for its own rights to say to the Imperial Government that that time had come. The Secretary wound up with the declaration already quoted from the President's message, namely that unless the Imperial Government should now immediately declare and effect an abandonment of its present methods of submarine warfare against passenger and freight-carrying vessels, the Government of the United States could have no choice but to sever diplomatic relations with the German Empire altogether. The Secretary added that this action the Government of the United States contemplated with the greatest reluctance, but felt constrained to take in behalf of humanity and the rights of neutral nations. The note was intended as the last word of the United States on the submarine issue and the markets took a generally hopeful view of the outcome. As a matter of

fact, however, nothing definite or conclusive as to the probable course of the German Government became known the rest of the month.

None of the happenings, either here or abroad, served in any way to abate the activity of trade in the United States, and wonderfully favorable traffic returns came from the railroads. The industrial concerns, too, as a result of this activity, were able to present marvelous records of prosperity. The statement of the United States Steel Corporation for the March quarter, submitted after the close of business on Apr. 25, furnished a striking instance of this kind. For the three months of 1916 the net earnings, after deducting the cost of ordinary repairs and maintenance of plants and interest on the bonds of the subsidiary companies, reached no less than \$60,713,624, as against only \$12,457,809 in the same three months of 1915 and \$17,994,381 in the first three months of 1914 and as against no more than \$34,426,801 even in such a good period as the first three months of 1913. At \$60,713,624, the amount, as a matter of fact, was but little less than the total for the full twelve months of some poor years in the past—1914 for instance, when the net for the whole year was no more than \$71,663,615. Moreover, it appeared from the monthly figures that the amount of the net was still rising, month by month, having been \$18,794,912 for January, \$19,196,396 for February and \$22,722,316 for March. The steady expansion in the monthly yield of income had been a continuous feature ever since January of last year, when the amount of the net for that month was only \$1,687,150. The result of this wonderful transformation was that whereas in the first quarter of 1915 the Steel Corporation had fallen \$5,389,861 short of earning even the quarterly dividend on the pref. stock, for 1916 in the same three months it had a surplus of no less than \$32,-\$54,172, after providing for both the 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ % div. on the pref. and the 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ % on the common. Other steel companies had a similar story to tell, and the Pittsburgh Steel Co. for the nine months ending Mar. 31, reported net of \$3,-185,150, as against only \$291,484 in the corresponding nine months of the preceding year.

In the matter of prices one important event during the month was an advance in steel rails, being the first change in 15 years. Since May 1901 Bessemer rails had been kept unaltered at \$28 a ton, no deviation having been made from this figure, either in times of great depression in the steel trade or in times of great prosperity, though open hearth rails as they gradually came into use were quoted at \$30. But now prices for other steel products had reached such extreme figures—Bessemer steel ingots, for instance, being quoted at \$45 a ton, against only \$19 in January 1915—the steel concerns felt that the old policy as regards rail quotations must be abandoned. Advance notice of the intention to raise the price of rails was given in an announcement by the U. S. Steel Corporation at the beginning of April that its subsidiaries had "decided to maintain the present prices until May 1 1916 as to rails sold for delivery up to May 1 1917, but will make no commitments beyond that date." This prospect of higher prices led to the placing of large orders for rails in April, to get the benefit of the old price, and toward the close of the month definite announcement came that quotations would be raised to \$33 a ton for Bessemer and \$35 a ton for open hearth rails. There were some advances in other steel products, steel bars at Pittsburgh moving up further from 2.75c. per lb. to 3c., tank plates at Pittsburgh from 3.50c. to 3.75c., beams at Pittsburgh from 2.50c. to 2.60c., &c., &c. In the case of copper, the demand continued extremely active with large orders for foreign account and Lake copper and electrolytic at New York moved up to 29c. and 28 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. respectively. In lead and tin, however, there were sharp declines, lead at St. Louis dropping from 8c. to 7 $\frac{3}{8}$ c. and tin at New York after first advancing from 49 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. to 55c., declining to 49 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. with a recovery, however, to 50 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. Tin plate at Pittsburgh moved up from 4.25c. to 5.00c.

On Apr. 18 Chairman Elbert H. Gary of the Steel Corporation announced that in view of the continuance of prosperous conditions it had been decided to make advances in the wage rates of the iron and steel subsidiary companies of about 10%, to take effect May 1. This was the second increase during 1916. On Feb. 1 wages had been raised 10%, the increase representing an addition of \$15,000,000 to the yearly payroll, while the new increase was expected to add a further \$18,000,000 to the yearly total. In the cotton mills of New England there were also further wage advances. On Apr. 17 the Fall River Textile Council, representing the various organizations of operatives, voted unanimously to make a request for a 10% advance to begin May 1. The manufacturers, however, felt that the best they could do would be to restore the wage scale to the high point of 1907 (23.96 cts. per cut of 47 $\frac{1}{2}$ yards of 28-inch, 64x64 printing cloths) an advance of nearly 6%, and so advised the operatives. But the latter insisted upon the full 10% demanded and threatened to strike in the event of refusal. The manufacturers' associations finally yielded under protest. In this decision the Fall River Iron Works Co. (the Borden Mills) and the Charlton Mills, outside organizations, concurred. With this increase the wage scale in Fall River was brought to the highest figure in the history of the cotton manufacturing industry at that point and the same was true of New Bedford, where a like increase, effective on May 1, had also been accorded. With the addition of the latest 10%, wages at

Fall River were placed on the basis of 24.98 cts. per cut of 47½ yards of 28-inch, 64x64 printing cloths. The price of cloths at Fall River was advanced Apr. 19 from 4 to 4½ cts. and on Apr. 27 to 4¼ cts. per yard. Cotton during the month fluctuated within a narrow range, declining first (middling uplands at New York) from 12.10 cts. (Mar. 31) to 11.95 cts. and then advancing to 12.20 cts. the close April 29.

The winter wheat condition report of the Department of Agriculture for Apr. 1, made public Apr. 7, was unfavorable, the average being put at only 78 3-10, against 87 7-10 Dec. 1 1915, and there was the additional drawback that the area planted to wheat had been 11 3-10% less than in the fall of 1914, but wheat prices nevertheless tended towards a lower basis. At Chicago the May option for wheat advanced to \$1 21½ Apr. 5, but from this there was a drop to \$1 11¾ Apr. 24, with the close Apr. 29 \$1 13¾. The May option for corn at Chicago was at its lowest Apr. 14 at 74½¢, and from this there was an advance to 77¼¢ Apr. 26, with the close 76½¢. May oats at Chicago fluctuated between 44½¢. and 45¼¢., with the close Apr. 29 44¾¢.

Representatives of the soft coal operators and miners of the Central Pennsylvania District (District No. 2 of the United Mine Workers of America) on Apr. 14 reached an agreement covering two years from Apr. 1. The most important provisions of the agreement were those granting for the first time the right of a special assessment by the miners, a 5% increase in all-day labor, wages and yardage, and an improved check-off system. The agreement affected 50,000 workers. Agreements were also reached in several other soft coal districts—in District No. 5 of Pittsburgh for instance and in the Cabin Creek and Coal River districts of West Virginia.

As regards the demand made by the trainmen on all the railroads in the United States through the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, the Order of Railway Conductors, the Brotherhood of Locomotive Enginemen & Firemen and the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, for wage increases based on an eight-hour day and rate and a half for overtime, a development of great moment took place, with, however, scarcely anyone taking cognizance of its importance. There were two points involved in the movement, (1) whether the railroad should treat collectively with the four organizations in accordance with the request of the unions, the whole railroad system of the United States being considered a single unit, thus placing it within the power of the unions in the event of disagreement to call a general strike and tie up the entire transportation system of the country, or whether each road was to deal separately with the matter or at least in territorial groups (according to geographical divisions, namely Eastern territory, Southeastern and Western) as had been the practice in the recent past, and (2) whether the demands for changes in schedules and wages, which would add \$100,000,000 a year to the expenses of the roads, should be granted at all. The railroads yielded quietly and completely on the first point. The date by which the roads were to make reply to the representatives of the employees had been fixed for Apr. 29. On Apr. 28 news came from Chicago that at a conference held in that city on Apr. 27 between the heads of the four brotherhoods and representatives of the three territorial groups of railroads it had been decided to begin discussions in New York about June 1 on the demands of the trainmen for new wage conditions. The committee on the part of the railroads, it was announced, would consist of eighteen members, comprising six representatives each from the Western roads, the Eastern and the Southeastern.

One of the events of the month was an offering of \$55,000,000 New York City 4¼% corporate stock, of which \$40,000,000 consisted of long-term stock maturing Apr. 1 1966, while the remaining \$15,000,000 comprised bonds maturing annually from Apr. 1 1917 to Apr. 1 1931, inclusive. The rate of interest had been reduced to 4¼% from 4½% the previous year. The time for receiving had been fixed for Apr. 19, the very day, as it quite unexpectedly happened, that the President had chosen for addressing Congress in joint session on the submarine ultimatum which he had delivered to Germany. Conditions, therefore, were not the best for floating such a large loan. Nevertheless, the offering proved an entire success, and the long term issue was awarded at an average price of 102.618, an income basis of about 4.125%, and the one to fifteen year serial issue at an average of 101.432, a basis of about 4.03%. Nearly the whole of the long term stock went to a syndicate consisting of Kuhn, Loeb & Co., William A. Read & Co., and Kidder, Peabody & Co. at their bid of 102.617, while \$13,500,000 of the \$15,000,000 serial issue went to Salomon Bros. & Hutzler at their bid of 101.41711. At the sale in June 1915 \$46,000,000 50-year 4½s were sold on a basis of 4.437% and \$25,000,000 15-year serial 4½s on a basis of 4.297%.

The Chancellor of the British Exchequer, Reginald McKenna, on April 4 presented the annual Budget in the House of Commons and it made provision for the biggest disbursements in the world's history, namely £1,825,500,000 (\$9,127,500,000) and it was stated that it would be necessary in the event of the war continuing for the full fiscal year (to Apr. 1 1917) for the Government, aside from the revenue receipts, to borrow something over £1,125,000,000 during the new financial year. By imposing new taxes on amusements, railway tickets, matches and mineral waters and increasing

the income tax and raising a number of the old taxes, including those on sugar, cocoa, coffee, indigo and motor cars, the Chancellor estimated he would be able to raise an additional £65,000,000; of this £21,450,000 additional was expected from customs and excise and £43,500,000 additional from the income tax. The tax on war profits was increased from 50 to 60% and the effect of this increase, it was stated, in the case of rich men subject to the super tax would be that they would pay in taxation no less than 75% out of their excess profits. Instead of bringing out a new war loan, the British Government continued actively pushing the sale of its Treasury bills and in one week the sales reached as much as £100,000,000. The more general demand was for the distant maturities and followed a rumor that the Treasury might lower the rate on bills. The London Stock Exchange regulation prohibiting the sale of securities unless they had been in physical possession in the United Kingdom since Sept. 1914, was relaxed by the Treasury, so as to permit Colonial holders and holders in Allied and neutral countries to sell securities in London, even though they had not been in the United Kingdom, provided the proceeds were reinvested in British Government securities, and that certain precautions were taken that the sale was not in behalf of or benefiting the enemy. The British Treasury announced on Apr. 27 that thereafter it would offer daily a price for American bonds and other securities it was willing to purchase under the securities mobilization scheme.

The Merchants' Association of New York succeeded through our State Department at Washington in getting British permission for the shipment of gold from this country to Holland in order to make payment for purchases of diamonds and other precious stones. Permission was given on assurances that the gold would not pass into the territories of countries at war with Great Britain and provided that an American citizen should take charge of the shipments throughout the entire passage. Inability to make payments had brought about a heavy rate of exchange against this country in dealing with Holland and was seriously affecting the jewelry business.

In a speech in the Reichstag on Apr. 5 the German Chancellor, Dr. von Bethman-Hollweg, made the statement that Germany had as long ago as Dec. 9 (1915) announced her readiness to discuss peace, but added that Germany's enemies wished "to destroy united free Germany. They desire that Germany shall be again as weak as during past centuries, a prey to all lusts of domination of her neighbors and the scapegoat of Europe, beaten back forever in the dominion of economic evolution even after the war. That is what our enemies mean when they speak of definitive destruction of Prussia's military power." Answering his own question as to what was Germany's intention, the Chancellor said: "The sense and aim of this war is for us the creation of a Germany so firmly united, so strongly protected, that no one ever will feel the temptation to annihilate us; that every one in the world will concede to us the right of free exercise of our peaceful endeavors. This Germany, and not the destruction of other races, is what we wish. Our aim is the lasting rescue of the European Continent, which is now shaken to its very foundations. * * * Of all the nations in the war only Germany has been threatened by her enemies and by their responsible spokesmen with annihilation, with partition of her realm, with destruction of her essential political and economic forces, no matter whether they called them Prussianism or militarism or barbarism. The forces which before the war bound together the anti-German coalition were lust of conquest, lust of revenge, and jealousy against German competition in the world's markets. During the war they have remained powerful with the governments of our enemies in spite of all defeats. This is still the object and aim of the war alike in St. Petersburg, Paris and London. To this we oppose that Germany in this war had only one aim, namely to defend herself, to maintain her existence, to hold her enemies back from the German frontiers, and whenever their lust of destruction has shown itself, to drive them back as quickly as possible." This was before the ultimatum of our Government regarding the submarine controversy, and in this speech the Chancellor indicated that Germany was determined to keep up the undersea and aerial attacks, saying: "No serious-minded neutral, no matter whether he favors us or not, can doubt our right to defend ourselves against this war of starvation, which is contrary to international law. No one can ask us to permit our arms of defense to be wrested from our hands. We use them, and must use them. We respect legitimate rights of neutral trade and commerce, but we have a right to expect that this will be appreciated, and that our right and our duty be recognized—to use all means against this policy of starvation, which is a jeering insult not only to all laws of nations, but also to the plainest duties of humanity."

Zeppelins continued to make raids on the English and Scotch coasts without important results from a military standpoint. Both Lowestoft and Yarmouth, England, were bombarded by a German cruiser squadron which attacked the Eastern coast of England on Apr. 25. Four persons were killed and twelve wounded. Berlin reports claimed that in this raid the steamer King Stephen had been sunk and her crew captured, and also that a destroyer and a scout boat had been sunk, and a cruiser set on fire. The Germans apparently suffered no losses. Great Britain acknowledged that two cruisers and a destroyer had been

hit but said no vessel had been sunk. Reports from Berlin also said that there had been another engagement between British and German warcraft off the coast of Flanders on Apr. 25 in which a British destroyer had been damaged and an auxiliary steamer sunk, the crew of the latter being made prisoners. London, Colchester, Blackwater, and Ramsgate and other English towns, and the large British supply depot at Etaples, France, were also attacked by Zeppelins on the night of Apr. 25, according to Berlin. London asserted that 100 bombs had been dropped in this raid but that no casualties had been reported and that the damage had been slight. The British battleship Russell was sunk by a mine in the Mediterranean; Admiral Fremantle, commander, 24 officers and 676 men were saved, while 125 men were reported missing.

The Chicago meat-packers' cases involving the seizure of meat products shipped from the United States to neutral countries of North Europe were definitely settled on Apr. 14 and a check given for an amount previously agreed upon. The meat products had been condemned by the British Prize Court the previous Sept. 16 on the ground that the goods were contraband or conditional contraband to be sent to Great Britain's enemies. The protest of the United States to Great Britain against the application of the Trading with the Enemy Act to American trade brought from the British Government a reply describing the Act as "a piece of purely domestic legislation empowering them to restrict the activities and trade of persons under British jurisdiction," and assurances were offered the United States that every possible care would be exercised to avoid injury to neutral commerce. Although the reply of Great Britain bore date of Feb. 16, it was not made public until Apr. 13. In answer to the protest of the United States against interferences with neutral trade, Great Britain, in a note received at the State Department on Apr. 24, contended that the practices complained of were "juridically sound and valid," and that the relief which neutrals sought was rather to be obtained by the mitigation of necessary hardships than by "abrupt changes either in the theory or application of a policy based upon admitted principles of international law, carefully adjusted to the altered conditions of modern warfare." The note said that "an impartial and influential commission" had been appointed to find ways to minimize delays, and pledged the Allies to make their restraints on trade as little burdensome to neutrals as possible. The note, in which the French Government concurred, reiterated the military necessity of regulating commerce to neutrals contiguous to Germany and justified the effectiveness of the blockade, which had been challenged by the United States. The answer was about 13,000 words long. The note suggested that the American complaint was not so much that shipments intercepted really were intended for use in the European neutral countries to which they were dispatched as that the dispatch of goods to Great Britain's enemy had been frustrated by methods not hitherto employed by belligerents.

A reply to the protest made by the United States against the seizure, detention and censoring of mail between the United States and neutral countries, was presented to Secretary of State Lansing on Apr. 3 by Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, the British Ambassador, on behalf of the Allied Powers. It declared that no legitimate letter mail had been confiscated, nor any treaty rights violated, but emphatically asserted the Allies' intention to continue searching parcel-post packages for contraband "concealed under postal folders." In regard to "true correspondence," the note stated that the Allied Governments "will continue for the present to refrain from seizing and confiscating at sea these correspondences, letters and dispatches, and that they will insure the most rapid transition of them possible, as soon as the genuineness of their character is known." With regard to the seizure of securities forwarded to the United States Great Britain in a note received at Washington on Mar. 28 contended that she had as much right to seize securities as any other class of contraband; that the securities in question were in reality owned by Germans and that the latter were endeavoring to dispose of them in the United States and establish a large credit through which funds could be raised.

In Mexican affairs General Carranza made formal demand for the withdrawal of American troops on the ground that the forces of his government were now capable of handling the situation. Following this demand President Wilson Apr. 15 instructed Secretary of State Lansing to enter into an agreement with General Carranza for the placing of a limit both as to time and territory on the operations of the American punitive expedition.

Congress passed an act which was signed by President Wilson Apr. 27 repealing the clause of the Underwood Tariff Act of Oct. 3 1913 which would have placed sugar on the free list May 1 1916. As a substitute for the Hay Army Bill passed by the House on Mar. 23 the Senate on Apr. 18 passed the Chamberlain Army Reorganization Bill providing for army and reserve military forces in the United States aggregating 1,000,000 men. The matter then went to a conference committee which reached an agreement the next month (May)—see the narrative for that month. In this State a new inheritance tax law was enacted. This lowered the amounts at which the different rates of tax in the old law applied and also established a class intermediate between direct and collateral beneficiaries. Another

amending act embodied provisions intended to prevent the evasion of taxable transfers by alleged non-residents. A bill was also signed by Governor Whitman providing that in addition to judgment creditors the stock books of corporations may be inspected only by stockholders of six months standing, or by persons holding at least 5% of the outstanding stock. Corporations may refuse access to the stock books to any person who has "within two years sold or offered for sale any list of stockholders of such corporation, or of any other corporation, or has aided or abetted any person in procuring any stock list for any such purpose." In Massachusetts a bill intended to permit National banks in Massachusetts to avail of the provision in the Federal Reserve Act authorizing the exercise of trust functions was vetoed by Governor McCall. Section 100 of the Armstrong Insurance Law of New York was amended by extending for five years from Dec. 31 1916 the period within which domestic life insurance companies are required to divest themselves of their stock holdings. The life insurance companies were originally required to dispose of their corporate stock holdings within five years from Dec. 31 1906. The time was in 1911 extended to Dec. 31 1916.

The U. S. Treasury Department, basing its action on the decision the previous January of the U. S. Supreme Court sustaining the validity of the income tax law, in which the Court held that the income tax is not a direct tax, promulgated a ruling holding that "income accruing to non-resident aliens in the form of interest from the bonds and dividends on the stock of domestic corporations is subject to the income tax." This was a reversal of the previous ruling.

The Panama Canal was again opened for traffic on Apr. 15, with the passage through it of sixteen vessels, including the army transport Buford. The Canal had been virtually closed to traffic since the previous Sept. 18, when heavy slides at Gold Hill and in Gaillard Cut caused the interruption of traffic through the waterway.

Railroad Events and Stock Exchange Matters.—The stock market was under the influence of the submarine developments. In the first week the tone of the market was good and the trend upward. The German reply regarding the attack on the Sussex and other ships carrying Americans was made public Apr. 13, and proved a deep disappointment. It also showed that the relations between the United States and Germany were once more exceedingly tense, with the possibility of serious complications. The market became decidedly weak on the day mentioned. It gradually regained tone, however, and a substantial recovery had taken place when the news came that the President deemed the situation so critical that he had asked Congress to convene in joint session on Apr. 19 to listen to a personal address from him. This caused renewed depression on the day mentioned, but the market, on the whole, took the news well. Gradually, though, there developed a feeling that a rupture of relations might be imminent after all and that this might involve serious consequences. Under this feeling a severe and general break in prices occurred on Saturday, Apr. 22, the declines reaching large dimensions. The following Monday the tone was again better and under advices from Berlin, which tended to show that Germany would go far to prevent a break with the United States, confidence once more gradually returned. Railroad shares, too, gained special favor by reason of the very brilliant returns of earnings made by the roads. The result, altogether, was that on Apr. 29, the last business day of the month, the market enjoyed a sharp upward rise as noteworthy as had been the fall the previous Saturday. *Norfolk & West.* increased its quar. div. from 1½ to 1¾% and also declared 1% extra.

The Money Market.—In the local money market there was a slight hardening in rates, both in the case of demand loans and loans for definite maturities. The highest point however for call money was 3% with the lowest 1¾ and the quotation at the close 2¼@2½%. Time money Apr. 29 was 2½@3 for 60 days, 2¾@3 for 90 days, 3@3¼ for 4 mos. and 3½ for 5 and 6 mos., with the quotation for mercantile paper unchanged at 3@3¼ for choice double and prime single names and 3½ for paper not so favorably rated. Money holdings of the N. Y. Clearing House institutions continued to tend downward though not interruptedly and Apr. 29 were only \$455,039,000, against \$474,742,000 Apr. 1. Gold on deposit with the Federal Reserve Bank was reduced from \$171,833,000 to \$165,002,000. Surplus reserves were down to only \$98,247,110 Apr. 29, against \$123,823,040 Apr. 1. Loans after increasing from \$3,370,348,000 Apr. 1 to \$3,399,922,000 Apr. 8, fell to \$3,367,419,000 Apr. 29 and deposits after increasing from \$3,565,957,000 Apr. 1 to \$3,581,598,000 Apr. 8 were reduced to \$3,529,613,000 Apr. 29.

Stock Fluctuations.	April 1.	April 29.	Range for Month.	
Railroads—			<i>Lowest</i>	<i>Highest.</i>
Aton Top & Santa Fe.	\$102¼	\$103¼	109¼	104¼
Baltimore & Ohio.	87½	85½	82¼	88
Canadian Pacific.	166½	168½	162½	169½
Chesapeake & Ohio.	61¼	61¼	58	63¼
Chicago Milw & St P.	93¼	93¼	91	95¼
Eric.	36½	35½	32	37½
Great Northern, pref.	121¼	119¼	118¼	122¼
Louisville & Nashville.	*122	123	122½	126¼
New York Central.	104¼	103¼	100¼	105¼
N Y N H & Hartford.	66	66	67	65¼
Norfolk & Western.	121	123¼	119	124¼
Northern Pacific.	113	111½	109¼	114¼

Stock Fluctuations.	April 1.	April 29.	Range for Month.	
Railroads—	Prices in doll	ars per share.	Lowest.	Highest.
Pennsylvania (par \$50)	66 3/4	56 3/4	56	57 3/4 April 5
Reading Co (par \$50)	84 1/2	87	81 3/4	88 3/4 April 28
American Aerie Chem.	97 1/2	96 3/4	94 1/2	98 3/4 April 5
Southern Pacific	71 1/2	70 3/4	68	71 1/2 April 28
Southern Railway	*20 1/2	20 3/4	18	21 3/4 April 28
Union Pacific	132 1/2	133 3/4	129 3/4	134 3/4 April 28
Industrials—				
Allis-Chalmers Mfg v t e	29	27 1/2	23 1/2	30 1/2 April 3
Preferred v t e.	*76	77 1/2	73 1/2	78 April 3
American Beet Sugar.	68	67 3/4	63	68 April 1
American Can	71 1/2	70 3/4	66 3/4	71 1/2 April 5
American Car & Fdy	61 1/2	57	52 1/2	61 1/2 April 3
American Coal Prod.	69 1/2	60	55	61 1/2 April 3
Amer Hide & L. pref.	150	*153	140	163 1/4 April 4
American Locomotive.	*52	54	50 1/2	53 1/2 April 12
Amer Smelt & Refng.	79 1/2	73 1/2	63 1/2	72 1/2 April 12
Amer Steel Foundries.	102	97 1/2	88 1/2	98 1/2 April 5
American Sugar.	51	47 1/2	44	52 1/2 April 4
Amer Tel & Tel.	*109	111	105 1/2	111 April 11
Amer Woolen of Mass.	127 1/2	123	127	128 1/2 April 10
Amer Writ Ppr, prof.	50 1/2	45 3/4	43	51 April 1
Amer Zinc, Lead & Smelting (par \$25)	19 1/2	19 3/4	17	20 3/4 April 3
Anacanda Cop (par \$50)	88 1/2	92 1/2	86 1/2	97 1/2 April 10
Baldwin Locomotive.	87	*85 1/2	77 1/2	87 1/2 April 3
Bethlehem Steel Corp.	105 1/2	89	83 1/2	109 3/4 April 4
Central Leather.	48 1/2	*43 1/2	41 1/2	49 1/2 April 3
Chile Copper (par \$25)	54	53	49	55 April 3
Chino Copper (par \$5)	22 1/2	22 1/2	20 3/4	23 1/2 April 10
Colorado Fuel & Iron.	55 1/2	54 1/2	51	55 1/2 April 1
Continental Can.	45	42 1/2	38 1/2	46 April 3
Cruible Steel of Amer	*82	85	81	86 1/2 April 29
Cuban Amer Sugar.	92 1/2	82	75	90 1/2 April 3
General Electric.	241	*222	207 1/2	241 April 1
General Motors v t e.	*165	167 3/4	159	168 1/2 April 3
Goodrich (B F)	*450	485	405	480 April 6
Gulf States Steel tr cts	76 1/2	76 1/2	72 1/2	76 1/2 April 4
Insp Con Cop (par \$20)	—	*69	74	74 April 3
Int Agri Corp v t e.	48 1/2	48	42 1/2	49 1/2 April 3
Int Mere Mar tr cts.	19 1/2	19 1/2	15	19 1/2 April 4
Preferred tr cts.	17 1/2	24 1/2	16 1/2	25 1/2 April 25
Int Nickel v t e (par \$25)	70 3/4	70 3/4	69 1/2	71 April 1
Internat Paper.	47 1/2	49 1/2	45 1/2	50 1/2 April 10
Lackawanna Steel.	11 1/2	*10	10 1/2	11 1/2 April 3
Maxwell Motor tr ctf.	76 1/2	70 1/2	65	78 1/2 April 4
National Lead.	71 1/2	77	69 1/2	78 April 29
Pittsburgh Coal.	67	65 1/2	60 1/2	67 1/2 April 28
Pressed Steel Car.	27 1/2	28	22 1/2	28 1/2 April 28
Railway Steel Spring.	52 1/2	47	43 1/2	54 1/2 April 6
Republic Iron & Steel.	*39 1/2	41 1/2	32	44 1/2 April 3
Studebaker Corp (The)	51	47	43 1/2	52 1/2 April 4
Texas Co (The).	142	131	121 1/2	146 1/2 April 4
U S Indus Alcohol.	194	187 1/2	180	200 April 4
U S Rubber.	154 1/2	145 1/2	137	170 1/2 April 6
U S Sm Raf & M (850)	50 1/2	53	50	54 1/2 April 13
United States Steel.	83 1/2	75 1/2	65	78 April 11
Western Union Teleg.	84 1/2	83 1/2	80	86 April 4
	91 1/2	91	88 1/2	92 April 27

* Quoted ex-dividend during the month and prior to this date.
 † Bid and asked prices; no sale.

Foreign Exchange, Silver, &c.—In the foreign exchange market the course of sterling bills was extremely narrow, and quotations were almost nominal. In the case of bankers sight bills and cable transfers the spread between the high and low points for the month was only one-eighth—the range in the former case being between 4 7/8% and 4 7/16% and in the latter case between 4 7/16-15-16 and 4 7/16-1-16, and it was obvious that the sterling exchange situation was completely under the control of the British Treasury. As regards exchange on the Continental centres, matters were different. Rates on Paris were weak, with an improvement, however, the latter part of the month, as it appeared that the French Government was carrying on negotiations for establishing a new credit here and was also arranging to mobilize securities to use in rectifying the exchange situation the same as Great Britain had been doing. On Apr. 13 bankers' checks were quoted as low as 6.07 1/2 francs to the dollar, but from this there was an improvement to 5.93 1/2 francs by Apr. 29. In the case of Reichmarks the effect of the submarine developments was to cause a sharp advance, sight bills rising from 71 3/4¢, Apr. 3 to 76 3/4¢, Apr. 21 and the explanation given was that German capital or investments here was being realized on and transferred in the fear of war between the United States and Germany. By Apr. 29 the rate was down again to 74 13-16. Austrian kronen from 12.35 Apr. 4 moved up to 13.80 Apr. 21 and closed at 13.02 Apr. 29. Russian rubles declined from 31.54 Apr. 1 to 30.25 Apr. 15, then advanced to 31 3/4 Apr. 21 and closed Apr. 29 at 30 3/4. Open market rates at London continued to be quoted at 4 3/4% for 60-day and 4 3/4% for 90-day bills, while the private bank rate at Berlin remained at 4 3/4%. In this month there was a net gold export, the imports (all ports) being only \$6,121,788 and the exports \$11,502,999. Silver in London experienced a remarkable rise going up from 29d. to 35 1/2d. on an active demand for the metal largely for coinage purposes owing to the scarcity of gold.

The remaining months of this monthly narrative will be given next week.

E. H. GARY URGES PREPARATION FOR POSSIBLE UNFAVORABLE CHANGE IN ECONOMIC SITUATION.

In a statement bearing on business conditions and prospects Elbert H. Gary, Chairman of the United States Steel Corporation, while repeating that conditions have been and still are more favorable than ever before, warns that "it is apparent that, as a nation, we are to a certain extent up in the air; that we have no sure foundation for an uninterrupted continuance of the present volume and profit in some and perhaps many business lines; that in many respects conditions are influenced by circumstances which are unusual." "It is," he says, "obviously the better part of wisdom to prepare ourselves so far as practicable for unfavorable change in the economic situation. No harm can result

from this course, however, unnecessary it may hereafter prove to have been; and much benefit may come from the exercise of precaution." "With our wealth, our opportunities, our geographical situation," he says in conclusion, "if we are a united people, free from internal antagonisms and unnecessary troubles, friendly to each other and also to the people of all other nations alike, and with reasonable co-operation between the business interests and the Government, we are impregnable. We can and should continue to be the leading nation. Our future depends largely upon ourselves. Reason, prudence, caution, courage, justice, co-operation and conciliation are requisites to economic growth and strength. They have become prominent in our deliberations and practice. The foundations for optimism as to the long future of this country is solid. The business man has many reasons to be hopeful, but there are signs of future uncertainty." The necessity of harmony between all classes of people concerning the problems in which all have a direct and personal interest is dwelt upon by Mr. Gary. Incidentally, he has something to say respecting the income tax law, which he characterizes as "unreasonable, unfair and inimical to the best interests of the country, for the reason that it tends to create classes and to discriminate between them." There should be, Mr. Gary thinks, no objection to an income tax, but a law which makes a few people pay the total of a large tax, the amount and use of which may be determined by the remainder of the people, is he declares "inequitable and dangerous." Some of the other comments of Mr. Gary are as follows:

Whether satisfactory business will continue without interruption after the war closes, what rate or percentages of decreases, if any, in volume or profit will ensue, when, if at all, diminution may be expected, are mooted questions. There are differences in the opinions expressed. It would not be useful, for my purposes at this time, to present in detail the reasons given for either view.

It is obviously the better part of wisdom to prepare ourselves so far as practicable for unfavorable change in the economic situation. No harm can result from this course, however unnecessary it may hereafter prove to have been; and much benefit may come from the exercise of precaution.

Necessity is the mother of invention. It is the mother of economy, of industry, study, thought, organization, co-operation and honest and efficient administration. The war must be terminated sooner or later. All hope and pray peace will not be much longer delayed; and that a plan for the prevention of future prolonged wars may be developed and consummated. When it is ended the nations now actively engaged will be in great need and they will be possessed of all the essentials for success to which I have adverted. Thoroughly equipped for the contest they will re-enter the arena of international, financial, commercial and industrial rivalry with a grim determination to excel. This will be their right and their duty to themselves. We have no reason nor desire to question any lawful effort any of them may make to pass and outdistance us in the legitimate race for business success. It would not be an improper or unfriendly act. Equal opportunity on land and sea, throughout the world, is all that we or any others may properly demand. Less than this every nation should reject and denounce.

As for myself, I would advocate co-operation between all the countries of the world if it can be secured. The most economical practice, the greatest possible prevention of waste in material and transportation and methods of business, without detriment to the net and final benefit to any, should be the international, and indeed the national, aim and policy of all nations.

However, the problem for the people of this country to make most prominent in their considerations is how, in what way, by what policies and efforts, our rights and interests may be protected and promoted, whatever conditions may obtain. It is not enough that we have the most gold, the most currency, the highest credit, the largest productive capacity. For our own livelihood, our existence, these may be sufficient; but all civilized nations believe that the highest achievements, the most desirable results, are reached only by mutual communication between all nations. We desire to transact business with all others; to sell to them our surplus products and to buy from them what we need and they have for sale. All should have similar privileges and restrictions, and we should be able to demand this on the ground that we are always fair and reasonable ourselves. There should be no undue advantage taken or possessed by any.

It is deemed appropriate to refer to some of the things particularly applicable to our own welfare which bear upon the future economic position. In the first place, our large capital resources should be kept intact, so far as consistent with the principles of safe government, wise and economic administration, proper development and progress, absolute protection to the rights of all, and the transaction of business, public and private. We should not become over-extended financially. Our cash resources ought not to be so tied up as to become unavailable for our own demands. They should be kept in liquid form to a large extent, so as to permit realization of actual money or credit upon them if and when necessary. We should be prepared for emergencies, for adverse developments, even though unexpected.

However, we should not permit our riches to interfere with our progress. There is danger that great wealth will produce the opposite of necessity—extravagance, indolence, waste, indifference, retrogression, stupidity, failure. We must be on our guard against this danger.

Again, our country should be placed and kept on a parity with all other countries. I refer to the tariff question. I have said before and I now repeat, this question should not be considered or treated as a political or partisan one. The greatest good to the greatest number should in this, as in all public questions, be the sole inquiry and determination. Facts should be ascertained and honest, sensible, practical results secured. Prohibitive tariff rates, so-called, or schedules that are so high as to permit a producer to oppress the consumer should not be permitted; but tariff rates on luxuries we do not produce in this country should be reasonably high so as to produce revenues for the Government; and tariff rates on the things coming from foreign countries similar to those we produce, whether in the forest or in the fields, in the mines or in the manufactories, should be sufficiently high to protect our producers including the wage earners against cheap foreign labor and its results, and so as to put our country and its people on a fair and even basis with all other countries and peoples. Possibly this could be secured to a certain extent by anti-dumping provisions or by reciprocity conditions. At any rate, it is not reasonable or fair to our people to place them in a position of disadvantage. Nearly all foreign countries have tariff provisions in their laws which prevent our producers from selling there, and we should have like security.

RUSSIAN LOAN SYNDICATE DISSOLVED.

The dissolution of the syndicate (the life of which, as mentioned by us on Dec. 30, had been extended to Jan. 15 1917) headed by J. P. Morgan & Co., the National City Co., the Guaranty Trust Co., Lee, Higginson & Co. and Harris, Forbes & Co., underwriters of the Imperial Russian Government 5½% 5-year external loan offered in November last, was announced on Jan. 11.

Over \$20,000,000 of the issue were sold out of the commitment of the syndicate of \$25,000,000, the unsold balance of \$5,000,000 being distributed to syndicate participants. The syndicate had an option on the remainder of the loan (\$25,000,000), but this of course was not exercised.

The bonds, the particulars of which were given in our issue of Nov. 25 (page 1934), were offered at 94¾, netting the investor about 6¾%.

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO AUSTRIA'S WAR LOAN.

The London cables yesterday reported Vienna advices of the 11th as stating that incomplete returns from the fifth Austrian war loan show 4,412,800,000 crowns subscribed, with approximately 300,000,000 already subscribed, but still outstanding. The loan is thus, it is stated, the largest yet raised in Austria. The first levy was 2,217,000,000 crowns, the second 2,688,300,000, the third 4,202,600,000, the fourth 4,520,300,000. The new loan makes the total raised for war by Austria about 18,400,000,000 crowns. The Hungarian returns, it is reported, are still incomplete, but show about half of what Austria has raised. This sum, together with Hungary's past war loan, makes a total raised by the Dual Monarchy for war purposes of 26,000,000,000 crowns.

RESIGNATION OF FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSIONER HURLEY ACCEPTED BY PRESIDENT WILSON.

President Wilson on the 11th inst. accepted the resignation of Edward N. Hurley, of Chicago, as chairman of the Federal Trade Commission, to take effect Feb. 1, and sent him a letter in which he said:

I wish with all my heart that it might have been possible for you to stay, and I want you to know in what high esteem you have been held here by every one who has had dealings with you and what a very high value I, in common with the public, have upon your work for the commission.

Mr. Hurley's resignation was referred to in these columns last week.

BOSTON CLEARING HOUSE BANKS' NEW METHOD OF REPORTING RESERVE.

Announcement of a new method of reporting the reserve position of the Boston Clearing House banks, was made as follows in the "Journal of Commerce" of the 10th inst.:

Secretary Willis to-day (Jan. 9) announced on behalf of the Federal Reserve Board that the Boston Clearing House banks have added a new form designed to show the change in their reserve position from week to week, as given at the bottom of their usual clearing house bank statement. In the past they have announced the deficiency or excess of their vault cash and also their deficiency or excess with the Federal Reserve Bank. Since the adoption of the ruling making it optional with member banks to keep reserves in vault or in the Federal Reserve Bank, the Boston banks have shown a deficiency in their vault cash, and an excess with the Federal Reserve Bank.

It has been felt that these items might properly be consolidated just as similar figures are combined in English bank statements, and that such consolidation would be a final recognition on the part of the clearing house that deposits with the Federal Reserve Bank are practically interchangeable so far as reserve availability is concerned with cash in vault. When the matter was recently called to the attention of the Clearing House in Boston the members acquiesced in the suggested change. This is regarded as a further indication of the desire of the larger New England banks to co-operate with the Federal Reserve Bank in every way possible.

SENATE CONFIRMS REAPPOINTMENT OF INTER-STATE COMMERCE COMMISSIONER DANIELS.

The reappointment by President Wilson of Winthrop M. Daniels of New Jersey, as a member of the Inter-State Commerce Commission, was confirmed by the Senate on Jan. 10 by a vote of 42 to 15. Mr. Daniels, a former member of the faculty of Princeton University, has already served two years as a member of the Commission and was reappointed early in December by the President to serve a full seven year term. Opposition to his confirmation came from a number of Senators of the Progressive wing of the Republican Party and a few Democrats. The fifteen Senators recorded against the confirmation on the roll call were Chamberlain, Hollis, Husting, Lane and Lea, Democrats; and Borah, Cummins, Gronna, Jones, Kenyon, Norris, Poindexter, Sterling, Watson and Works, Republicans. Portions of the executive debate made public, include a speech by Senator Cummins, opposing Mr. Daniels, and one by Senator Newlands defending the Commissioner's record. Senator Cummins, it is said, opposed Mr. Daniels's reappointment on the ground that

he was reactionary in his economic views. He attacked the decision rendered by Mr. Daniels while a member of the New Jersey Public Utilities Commission, allowing the Public Service Gas Corporation to add, it is alleged, intangible values to the valuation on which its rates were based. Senator Cummins also based his attack on Mr. Daniels's decisions in the "5 per cent rate case" and is said to have declared that the Inter-State Commerce Commission, led by Mr. Daniels, in granting increases to the railroads in the advance rate case, "ignored the law and exercised an authority which never has been and never will be conferred on any commission." Senator Newlands in defending Mr. Daniels is quoted as having said that in the New Jersey gas case cited "the outcome was a reduction in the price to consumers," and that the Western advance decision was a "defeat" for the railroads and had resulted in no increases in commodities where any large amounts of revenue were involved.

AMENDMENTS TO FEDERAL RESERVE ACT SUGGESTED BY RESERVE BOARD.

The discussion and formulation of amendments to the Federal Reserve Act occupied considerable of the attention of the Federal Reserve Board during December, and in advance of the presentation of its annual report setting out its proposals with regard thereto the Board has already transmitted to the chairman of the Banking and Currency Committees of the Senate and House the amendments it suggests. The recommendations of the Board have to do principally with reserves, and are intended to aid in controlling the great inflow of gold into the United States. We quote as follows from the Bulletin what it has to say in the matter in indicating the nature of the amendments:

The whole situation as to reserves, interest rates and demands for accommodation has been such as to confirm the Board in the belief, previously expressed, that the time has come for the use not only of distinct caution on the part of our banks, but also of the adoption of a more adequate policy to control the dangers growing out of the continued shipment of gold to the United States. In the statement issued on Nov. 28 the Board used the following language:

"The Board does not share the view, frequently expressed of late, that further importations of large amounts of gold must of necessity prove a source of danger or disturbance to this country. That danger, the Board believes, will arise only in case the inflowing gold should remain uncontrolled and be permitted to become the basis of undesirable loan expansions and of inflation. There are means, however, of controlling accessions of gold by proper and voluntary co-operation of the banks or, if need be, by legislative enactment."

As a means of providing the control of the gold referred to in this statement, the Board suggested the advancing of the date on which balances with city banks should cease to count as reserves, from Nov. 1 1917 to February or March of the same year. This was recommended mainly because it would eliminate fictitious reserve balances, and tend to promote a better understanding of real reserve conditions.

A more positive program has, however, been felt to be necessary, and other amendments have in consequence been suggested by the Board to Congress.

Proposed Amendments.

Among the amendments thus transmitted to the appropriate committees of Congress are the following items:

- (1) An amendment designed to advance the date when reserve balances carried with city correspondents will no longer count as reserves, from Nov. 1 1917 to a date 60 days after the passage of the amendatory Act.
- (2) A provision authorizing the Federal Reserve Board to increase member bank reserves under carefully guarded conditions.
- (3) A revision of section 19 of the Act relating to reserves so far as to eliminate matter which has become obsolete by reason of the actual effecting of reserve transfers, while at the same time reserves carried with Federal Reserve banks are strengthened, and the amount and character of funds to be carried in vault are placed within the option of the member banks.
- (4) An amendment authorizing State banks to carry balances with Federal Reserve banks and to clear checks through them.
- (5) Sundry minor amendments intended to correct obvious defects or errors in existing law, or to improve the working of various phases of the legislation.

Controlling the Gold Supply.

It will be observed that the principal of the Board's proposed amendments are intended to work together toward the further application of the policy already mapped out in the statement regarding bank investments in foreign obligations issued by it on Nov. 28. As noted above, it was there suggested that the inflow of gold into the United States need not be considered a menace to the well-being of the community, provided that satisfactory provision was made for the control of its movement and accumulation. The question raised is how to obtain and exercise sufficient authority in connection with such control. This, as is now suggested by the Board, can be accomplished by wiping out the fictitious reserves carried in the form of reserve balances, vesting the Board itself with power to increase when necessary the percentage of member bank reserves carried with reserve banks, and rearranging the reserve requirements of the country so as to place all reserve funds, except needed till money, in the hands of the reserve banks themselves. The gold movement has continued and imports into the United States during the four weeks between Nov. 17 and Dec. 22 were \$109,655,000, while exports for the same period were \$36,202,000. Net imports of gold for the five weeks ending Dec. 22 were \$97,797,000, while net gold imports since Jan. 1 1916 were \$483,801,000, compared with \$409,050,000 for the corresponding period in 1915.

RESERVE BOARD LIMITS PURCHASE OF CIRCULATION BEARING BONDS BY RESERVE BANKS TO \$15,000,000.

Announcement that the Federal Reserve Board has decided to limit to \$15,000,000 the amount of bonds to be purchased this year by Federal Reserve banks from member

banks desiring to retire circulation, was made by Secretary H. Parker Willis on the 9th inst. The Board will require the Reserve banks to purchase on April 1 circulation-bearing bonds to the full amount of this \$15,000,000, or so much of it as may be offered for sale on or before March 21, the last day on which applications from member banks will be received by the Treasurer of the United States. The Reserve Board will allot the bonds thus purchased to each Federal Reserve bank in proportion that the capital and surplus of such banks bears to the aggregate capital and surplus of all the Reserve banks. The circulation outstanding against such bonds will be permanently retired when redeemed. Under the provisions of Section 18 of the Federal Reserve Act, Federal Reserve banks are not permitted to purchase from member banks through the Treasurer more than \$25,000,000 of bonds in any one year, less the amount of bonds bearing the circulation privilege acquired in the open market during that year. There is no limit imposed by law on the amount of bonds which may be purchased in the open market by Federal Reserve banks.

The Federal Reserve Bank of New York issued this week the following circular to member banks concerning applications of those desiring to retire the whole or any part of their circulating notes:

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF NEW YORK.
Relating to applications to Sell U. S. Bonds.
New York, January 11 1917.

To the Cashier:

Sir.—Section 18 of the Federal Reserve Act provides that any member bank desiring to retire the whole or any part of its circulating notes may file with the Treasurer of the United States an application to sell for its account at par and accrued interest United States bonds securing circulation to be retired.

It seems appropriate at this time to issue blank forms for the use of member banks of this district in making applications during the year 1917 together with suggestions concerning the procedure to be followed. In making application member banks should bear in mind the following points:

- 1st: The only bonds that are eligible for sale in this manner are U. S. bonds which at the time of application are actually securing circulation of national bank notes to be retired.
- 2nd: The applications should be forwarded directly to the Treasurer of the United States, Washington, D. C.
- 3rd: The applications must be received by the Treasurer of the United States at least ten days before the end of the quarterly period at which the sale is desired to be made. Therefore for the quarter ending March 31 1917 applications should be received by the Treasurer of the United States on or before March 21 1917.
- 4th: It is optional with the Federal Reserve Board whether or not to require the Federal Reserve banks to purchase the bonds offered for sale.
- 5th: If the Federal Reserve banks are required by the Federal Reserve Board to purchase the bonds the price will necessarily be par and accrued interest.
- 6th: The aggregate amount of such bonds which the Federal Reserve banks can be required or permitted to purchase is limited to \$25,000,000 in any one year but this aggregate amount may furthermore be reduced by the amount of bonds bearing the circulation privilege purchased during the same year by the Federal Reserve banks in the open market.

The Federal Reserve Board has announced that it will not require Federal Reserve banks to purchase during the year 1917 more than \$15,000,000 of bonds offered for sale by member banks through the Treasurer of the United States. It will, however, require Federal Reserve banks to purchase on April 1 1917 so much of that amount of bonds as may be offered for sale through the Treasurer on or before March 21 1917, provided such bonds, added to the amount of bonds bearing the circulation privilege, purchased by Federal Reserve banks in the open market during the first quarter, do not exceed \$25,000,000.

Although there is no legal limit on the amount of bonds which may be bought by Federal Reserve banks in the open market, in order that member banks may have an opportunity to sell the maximum amount of bonds under Section 18, the Federal Reserve banks will refrain from purchasing 2% bonds in the open market until after March 1 1917, but will thereafter feel at liberty to make such purchases in the open market. Therefore, it is suggested that member banks desiring to retire their circulation during the year 1917 under the provisions of Section 18 of the Act, file their applications with the Treasurer of the United States before March 1 1917, and at the same time advise the Federal Reserve bank of their district the amount of each application to the Treasurer in order that the Federal Reserve banks may have prompt knowledge of the total amount of bonds offered to the Treasurer of the United States and thus be enabled to arrange their open market purchases with regard to the best interests of member banks.

There is enclosed herewith an original form of application to the Treasurer of the United States which should be duly executed and forwarded direct to the Treasurer of the United States, Washington, D. C., also a duplicate of the same which should be executed and forwarded to this bank as advice to it of the application.

Respectfully,

R. H. TREMAN,
Deputy Governor.

RESOURCES OF N. Y. BANKING INSTITUTIONS INCREASE \$1,500,000,000 SINCE WAR.

An increase of approximately \$1,500,000,000 since the outbreak of the European war in 1914 is reported in the resources of the institutions under the supervision of the New York State Banking Department. Eugene Lamb Richards, State Superintendent of Banks, in his annual report to the Legislature on the 3d inst. pointed out that the total resources of such institutions Nov. 29 last were \$5,821,584,712, as

compared with \$4,380,417,973 on Sept. 30 1914. His report said:

The period since the close of the fiscal year ending Sept. 30 1915 has witnessed the most wonderful extension in the business and commerce of the State which history records. Although largely due to opportunities created by the European war, it has been accompanied and furthered by an almost equally remarkable growth in the resources of our financial institutions and the exercise of the additional powers conferred on them by the revised Banking Law of this State and the Federal Reserve Act.

On Sept. 25 1915 the total resources of the trust companies of this State were \$2,115,537,274. On Sept. 20 1916 these resources had increased to \$2,626,431,407, a gain of \$470,894,133. The capitalization of these institutions increased from \$79,100,000 to \$94,200,000, a gain of \$15,100,000. The number of trust companies has increased from eighty-one to eighty-nine.

During the same period the total resources of State banks increased from \$671,142,322 to \$840,704,210, an increase of \$169,561,888, while the total capitalization of these banks increased from \$34,238,000 to \$35,326,000, a gain of \$1,088,000. The aggregate surplus increased from \$52,396,967 to \$56,140,292, a gain of \$3,743,325. There are at present 202 State banks, as compared with 200 a year ago.

The total resources of trust companies have increased from \$2,155,537,274 on Sept. 25 1915 to \$2,744,317,081 on Nov. 29 1916, the date of the last call for 1916, a gain of \$588,779,807. During the same period the resources of the State banks increased from \$671,142,322 to \$901,845,248, a gain of \$230,702,926.

During the period from July 1 1915 to July 1 1916 the aggregate resources of the mutual savings banks of the State increased from \$1,030,596,230 13 to \$2,053,171,981 23, and the surplus of these corporations, upon estimated market values, increased from \$138,020,085 12 to \$168,986,926 06, although only one new savings bank was authorized during this period.

Nor have the opportunities afforded by the revised Banking Law of the State to organize co-operative financial institutions been neglected. Since Sept. 30 1915 four savings and loan associations and nineteen credit unions have been organized for the purpose of encouraging thrift among different classes of our people and enabling borrowers, whether living in urban or rural sections of the State, to obtain loans upon moderate terms by co-operative methods.

During this period of expansion and development it has been necessary, from time to time, for the more conservative bankers and for those charged with the supervision of financial institutions to call attention to the dangers attendant upon too rapid growth, if not based upon absolutely sound conditions, to restrain popular enthusiasm and to refer to the possible financial results of the establishment of peace.

While it is believed that these warnings have been heeded, that the foundations of our State financial system are firm and secure, and that even the new powers conferred upon our institutions have not been unwisely exercised, too great care cannot be exerted in preparing for that much desired event. The mere destruction of so large a part of the world's material wealth as has already occurred, without reference to the many readjustments that will be necessary at the close of the war, cannot but affect the business of the world and of this country as well for many years. But, while caution and foresight are necessary, I do not anticipate any general collapse of credit in this country, for I have faith in the wisdom and courage as well as in the genius of the American business man and the American banker, and there are times when courage is not the least essential.

There were under the supervision of this Department on Sept. 30 1916 1,064 institutions, with total resources of \$5,641,564,619, an increase over the previous year of \$770,299,693.

It is with considerable satisfaction I report that it was unnecessary for me to close any institution or private banker under my supervision during the past year.

SECRETARY McADOO URGES STATE LEGISLATION TO MAKE FARM LOAN BONDS LEGAL INVESTMENT.

The Governors of the various States have been urged to recommend to their legislatures the enactment of legislation which would make farm loan bonds lawful investments for trust funds and savings banks where such laws do not already exist. This recommendation has been made in a letter addressed to the Governors by Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo under date of Jan. 6 as follows:

Jan. 6 1917.

My dear Governor:

The Act of Congress known as the Federal Farm Loan Act, of July 17 1916, was passed "to provide capital for agricultural development, to create a standard form of investment based upon farm mortgages, to equalize rates of interest upon farm loans," &c. It provides for long-time amortized loans to farmers at a lower rate of interest than has hitherto prevailed in most sections of the country, and will meet the credit necessities of a vast number of farmers, particularly the owners of small farms whose lack of touch with financial centres, or the modesty of whose demands have hitherto prevented their securing loans at all, irrespective of the rate of interest.

In order to secure an adequate supply of money for farm mortgage purposes, the Federal Land banks will issue bonds secured by the deposit as collateral of first mortgages on farm lands. I enclose several copies of Circular No. 6, issued by the Federal Farm Loan Board, entitled "Farm Loan Bonds," describing fully the manner of issue and the character of these bonds.

The Federal Farm Loan Act provides that these bonds "shall be a lawful investment for all fiduciary and trust funds and may be accepted as security for all public deposits." This, of course, relates only to fiduciary and trust funds under the jurisdiction and control of the Federal Government. In order to make these bonds lawful investments for trust funds and savings banks in the different States, it is necessary that each State enact laws to that effect, unless such laws are already in existence. I shall be greatly obliged if you will advise me promptly whether or not, under the existing laws of your State, these bonds will be legal investments for trustees and guardians, and for savings banks and insurance companies. If they are not, may I beg that you will recommend to the Legislature at its present session the enactment of the necessary laws to make them legal investments.

Such legislation would accomplish the double benefit of putting within the reach of trustees and guardians an absolutely safe investment, yielding a satisfactory income for the beneficiaries under their trusts, and widen the opportunity for a safe investment of the savings of the masses, while at the same time it would prove of immense benefit to the farmers of your State in enlarging the market for farm loan bonds and farm mortgages, thereby assuring a larger amount of available credit for the needs of the farmers of your State and at lower rates of interest than those now prevailing.

In inclosing a copy of the above to the farm organizations, Mr. McAdoo said:

This is a matter of great importance to the farmers of the country, as the enactment of such laws by the different States will greatly enlarge the market for farm loan bonds, thereby assuring to the farmers of the United States a larger supply of farm credit at lower rates of interest than will be possible without such laws. The Federal Land banks, which are soon to be opened for business, will be able to render very much greater service to the farmers if the different States will pass the suggested laws than if they do not. As the matter is one of great importance, may I beg your co-operation?

In indicating that politics would play no part in the consideration of appointments of the sixty directors for the twelve Farm Loan banks, the Board issued a statement on the 7th inst. saying:

It may be stated without qualification that these jobs will not be handed out as political plums. The only consideration which will be taken into account is that of merit, efficiency and ability. There is no division of opinion among the members of the Board as to this principle.

ATTORNEY-GENERAL OF NEW YORK RULES AGAINST USE OF TERM "SAVINGS DEPARTMENT" BY NATIONAL BANKS.

National banks, according to an opinion handed down by E. E. Woodbury, Attorney-General of New York State, are not authorized under the Federal Reserve Act, to use the words "Savings Department" or similar terms to designate departments operated along the lines of savings banks. The Attorney-General, in his ruling, handed down on the 5th inst., holds that the use of the term "savings" would constitute an invasion of the province of the savings bank. To offset the loss sustained by the operation of the Federal Reserve Act under which they are compelled to deposit large reserves with the Federal Reserve banks, a number of national banks, particularly in New York City, have inaugurated savings account plans, paying interest upon deposits in excess of \$500. Special departments have been organized to handle this phase of their business, and some banks have adopted the term "savings" to designate these departments. In order to justify the use of this term they invoked the aid of the Federal Reserve Act, which, they contend, supersedes the prohibition in the State Banking Law against the use of the word "savings" by any institution other than a savings bank. Attorney-General Woodbury holds that the Federal Reserve Act does not supersede the State Banking Law in this particular. In his opinion he said:

We cannot deny the right of national banks to receive deposits in the form of "savings accounts," but we feel quite certain that the language employed in the Federal Reserve Act with reference to savings deposits does not empower such banks to do a "savings bank business," as that business has come to be generally understood throughout the country; and therefore we are of the opinion that the State Banking Law is still operative against the use of the word "savings" by any bank other than a savings bank.

The words "savings banks" have come to have a special meaning to small savers as denoting an increased protection of their deposits, and they would be deceived by its use by other banks. As the Congress did not, we believe, intend to authorize a national bank to do business as a "savings bank," so it did not intend to interfere with any safeguards for the small depositor which the State may have devised to protect him.

Attorney-General Woodbury has notified the State Banking Department that it is its duty to enforce the State Banking Law prohibiting the use of the term "savings" by any other than a savings bank.

M. C. Elliott, counsel for the Federal Reserve Board, in an opinion in 1915, in which he held that since the Federal Reserve Act empowers national banks to receive savings accounts, the right to advertise for such accounts would seem to be a necessary incident to its exercise, said:

While national banks should not be permitted to advertise themselves as "savings banks," since they are not so designated in the Act (Federal Reserve) power is specifically granted to member banks to receive interest-bearing accounts, including "savings accounts," and since they possess this power, the right to advertise for such accounts would seem to be a necessary incident to its exercise.

ASSESSMENT FOR EXPENSES OF FEDERAL RESERVE BOARD.

An assessment of one-tenth of one per cent. upon the capitalization of the Federal Reserve Banks to cover the estimated expenses of the Reserve Board from Jan. 1 to June 30 1917 was voted by the Board on Dec. 5. The assessment is the same as that levied for the first half of 1916, but is more than the assessment for the last six months of 1916, which amounted to 75-1000 of 1%. The Board's announcement of the present assessment is contained in the Federal Reserve Bulletin for January as follows:

Acting under the provisions of the Federal Reserve Act, the Federal Reserve Board on Dec. 5 voted an assessment of 1-10 of 1% upon the capitalization of Federal Reserve banks to cover estimated expenses of the Board from Jan. 1 to June 30 1917. The assessment is based upon the capitalization of Federal Reserve banks as of Dec. 1 1916, of \$111,474,000. The rate of assessment will yield \$111,474 and is slightly higher than that made for the last half of 1916, which was 75-1000 of 1%. The assessment at the lower rate for the latter half of 1916 was made possible by a considerable balance carried over.

The resolution of the Board and the figures upon which the assessment is based follow:

Whereas, under section 10 of the Act approved Dec. 23 1913, and known as the Federal Reserve Act, the Federal Reserve Board is empowered to levy semi-annually upon the Federal Reserve banks in proportion to their capital stock and surplus an assessment sufficient to pay its estimated expenses, including the salaries of its members, assistants, attorneys, experts and employees for the half year succeeding the levying of such assessment, together with any deficit carried forward from the preceding half-year; and whereas, it appears from estimates submitted and considered that it is necessary that a fund equal to 1-10 of 1% of the capital stock of the Federal Reserve banks be created for the purposes hereinbefore described, exclusive of the cost of engraving and printing Federal Reserve notes: Now, therefore,

Be it resolved, That pursuant to the authority vested in it by law, the Federal Reserve Board hereby levies an assessment upon the several Federal Reserve banks of an amount equal to 1-10 of 1% of the total capital stock of such banks, and the fiscal agent of the Board is hereby authorized to collect from said banks such assessment and execute, in the name of this Board, a receipt for payment made. Such assessment will be collected in two installments of one-half each; the first installment to be paid on Jan. 1 1917 and the second half on March 1 1917.

Estimate for January 1917 Assessment.

Average monthly encumbrance for period July 1 1916 to Dec. 31 1916.....	\$18,008 31
Estimated monthly requirements, January to June, inclusive, 1917.....	19,159 39
Estimated monthly increase.....	\$1,151 08
Estimated requirements, January to June, inclusive, 1917.....	\$114,956 34
Estimated unencumbered balance, Jan. 1 1917.....	10,099 36
	\$104,856 98

Total capitalization Federal Reserve banks, Dec. 1 1916.....\$111,474,000 00
Rate of assessment to produce \$111,474 (1-10 of 1%)......001

SHERMAN ALLEN, Fiscal Agent.
Approved: Committee on Organization, Expenditures and Staff.
F. A. DELANO. C. S. HAMLIN. A. C. MILLER.
December 5 1916.

PUBLICATION RENEWED OF QUOTATIONS ON GERMAN STOCK EXCHANGE.

Advices from Berlin by way of London under date of the 5th inst., announce that an official list of the quotations on all securities listed on German stock exchanges was published Monday the 1st, for the first time since the exchanges closed in 1914. The cables say:

The quotations, which have become necessary for taxation purposes, were mostly higher than before the war. Large gains appear especially in the securities of iron, machinery, chemical, arms, explosives and other companies working on war contracts. Some of these classes gained from 200 to 300 points, and very few lost ground.

Most of the steamship companies made gains—the North German Lloyd, 9 points; the Hansa Steamship Line, 10 points, and the Hamburg-South America, 35 points. Quotations on the Hamburg-American Line were unchanged. Government loans made a comparatively good showing. All war loans are quoted at 98.

W. S. KIES ON TRAINING FOR WORLD SERVICE.

"The biggest opportunity ever offered any people for world service has found this nation, because of lack of training and experience, unready to assume in a broadly comprehensive manner, the responsibilities and obligations which go with the opportunity." This statement was made by W. S. Kies, Vice-President of the National City Bank, of New York, addressing the annual meeting of the Association of American Colleges at Chicago yesterday, the 12th inst. Without desiring to detract from the credit which is due our financial and commercial leaders for their really exceptional skill in meeting and handling new problems, Mr. Kies observed, "it may not be amiss to point out that no definite, clean-cut commercial or financial policy seems as yet to have been formulated for the future." "Our country's position at present," he continued, "might well be compared to that of an individual who suddenly, by inheritance, had acquired great wealth, carrying with it control and management of large enterprises." Leading up to the necessity of trained intelligence and resourceful leadership, Mr. Kies said:

Having no previous training fitting him to assume the responsibilities of his new position in life, the future of his properties, for a time at least, will depend upon good luck and the chance that his mistakes and blunders will not be serious. It will be perfectly natural for this newly rich individual to think only in terms of the present, having little care for the future, to underestimate his responsibilities and obligations, to indulge in extravagant expenditures, and to do a great many foolish things without considering the consequences. It will take many years for him to get his bearings and to view his new estate in its proper perspective. Ultimately if he has brains and good sense, experience will teach him the needed lessons, give him the required training, and supply the breadth of vision necessary to the proper handling of his affairs. And thus it has been with our newly acquired foreign trade.

When the demands of new foreign markets began to make themselves felt in this country, our manufacturers, in large part, found themselves inexperienced in the matter of foreign trade. They sought help. There was no class of trained young men with a knowledge of the language of the countries with whom we sought to trade available for the development of the sales end of the business. There were few men qualified to supervise the handling of the export business at home. The result has been that our efforts to develop a market like South America have met with a great deal of justifiable criticism. Because of the failure of trained men at home to understand the requirements of a given market, goods have been improperly packed, careful directions have been unheeded, documents have not been properly made out, and so much dissatisfaction has resulted from the methods of some of our exporters that in the Argentine, for example, the most important body of business men in the nation held a special meeting and adopted resolutions in criticism of the business methods of American manufacturers. This action was perhaps due to the practices of a large minority of those exporting to the Argentine, but the good name

prestige of all American exporters has suffered as the result of the acts of a few. In most instances the practices complained of were not cases of premeditated bad faith or attempted trickery, but mistakes and blunders due to carelessness and a lack of education as to the needs of this foreign market.

Events are daily occurring in Europe fraught with gravest consequences for the future of this country. We see governments taking over private enterprises of all kinds. The State is supreme, and individual identity is fast being submerged. This spirit of nationalism will be felt in industry and in commerce. The rehabilitation of shattered gold reserves in the belligerent countries will necessitate production and exportation on a large scale after the war. These products will be sold in the markets of the world at any price that will make them sell because their sale will be a national necessity. Trade and commerce must rebuild Europe, and commerce and the industries which feed it will be the subject of nationalized effort. The war has taught lessons of economy, of discipline, of the importance of organization, and of centralized control. These lessons will not be forgotten when the war is over. For the United States this means keener competition hereafter, not alone in foreign markets, but in our domestic markets as well.

We have the capacity for almost unlimited production in this country, and the greatest resources of any nation in the world. Trained intelligence and resourceful leadership will enable us to hold our own against competition from any source. The future leaders of this country must come from the young men schooled in our colleges and universities; but their training must be broader, more comprehensive, and at the same time more practical than it has been in the past. They must be thoroughly grounded in the basic principles of industrial organization, of commerce, and of finance, and must be drilled in the application of economic theories to modern conditions. They must be taught to think clearly and soundly, and to plan with intelligent vision.

Our economic policies in this country, in general, have been of the hit-or-miss variety, not the result of intelligent planning and far-sighted vision, but inspired rather by the exigencies of a particular occasion or the need of creating an issue for a political campaign. We usually tread the easiest path trusting to luck and Providence to keep us out of trouble. To justify the truth of the statement, let us pass in quick review our course on but a few matters of gravest economic importance. First, consider our scheme of taxation. Can anyone say that it represents a conscious, thought-out plan for fairly distributing the burdens of the expense of running the Government? We tax ability, energy and good management, everything which tends to progress and development, and, by reason of the inherent weakness of our plan, encourage, through exemptions or small proportionate taxes, mediocrity, waste and inefficiency. There is no relation between our national or State incomes and our expenditures. We spend the money first and raise it after it has been spent. Appropriation bills, involving national expenditures running up into staggering figures, are passed without any clear idea of where the money is coming from. The result is further taxation along the lines of least resistance—that is, upon property which can be easily levied upon and which already bears more than its burden of taxes. How long could an individual or a business operate on these lines?

Consider the handling of our tariff problem. This is pre-eminently an economic question. The tariff presents itself in three aspects: first, as a revenue producer; second, as an equalizer of economic conditions between this country and its competitors; third, as an instrumentality for the purpose of developing reciprocal trade relations. But the tariff in all our history has been treated as purely a political issue, and no definite, continuous tariff policy has resulted. It has, therefore, been impossible for manufacturers to plan intelligently for the future beyond the life of a single political administration.

The day-to-day opportunist character of our economic thinking is nowhere better illustrated than in the handling of the problems connected with what has been termed big business. First, the encouragement of the development of manufacture and business in the broadest, most unrestricted way. With the vast resources at our command, and the rapid growth of the country, this resulted in the building up of large units of production. Bitter competition followed, resulting in economic loss and waste. Then came the period of combination in an endeavor to get away from the losses due to competitive warfare. The Government looked on encouragingly. We took a sort of national pride in the bigness of our combinations. Again there was no intelligent thought of the future. How easy it would have been at this period in the history of our industrial combinations to have developed some fair plan of governmental control and supervision which would have prevented abuses and harmful practices, and at the same time have encouraged efficient organization in the interest of economy of production. But again we traveled the circle, and after years, when billions of the savings of our people had been invested in our large industrial concerns, we came back to the starting point and adopted the policy of compulsory competition, and this at a time when all the world, led by Germany, the apostle of organized efficiency, had reached the conclusion that combination and co-operative effort were inevitable to success in industry and commerce.

One other example from the past. Look back upon the course we have traveled in the development of our currency and financial system. We started right, with the idea of a sound currency system and a great central bank modeled after that institution which has weathered the storms of centuries, the Bank of England, but we have wandered all over the lot, gone off at tangents, traveled in circles, and finally, after a century, are at last back on the main road. A sketch of the path we have traveled would look like the track of a drunken man in the snow.

In a way, our lack of a definite economic policy may be laid to the phenomenal growth of our country. Our problems have multiplied with our growth, and our leaders, wrestling with the difficulties of the present, have had little time to think or plan for the future. It is a fact that often the people of this country have been ahead of their leaders. Sound constructive leadership in the advocacy of definite policies has always commanded popular support. The political party with a clean-cut economic program has usually had the advantage. How vitally important, then, the training of a generation of clear thinkers. From the young men who are graduating yearly from your institutions must come the business, financial and political leaders of the future. Upon their ability to understand and solve the big problems of the future will depend our position in the community of nations.

We must have the leadership that will enable us to develop a comprehensive industrial and commercial policy in this country, a sound and forceful leadership that will create a public opinion which will compel the passage of constructive legislation in aid of the upbuilding of our national commerce.

The perpetual strife between capital and labor must be ended. Their interests are mutual. Neither can prosper if production costs are too high to permit a profitable marketing of output. Disastrous strikes must be done away with. The problem of unemployment should not be incapable of solution. There is probably no greater economic loss to this country than that which comes from the frequent discharge or the quitting of men

and the necessary training of new men in their jobs. The tremendous capital investment in manufacturing plants in this country may be made several times more productive and the cost of production reduced when that plant investment shall be made to pay twenty-four hours a day instead of eight to ten hours, as has been the custom. If we could use our plants during the whole twenty-four hours, it would be possible to shorten the hours of labor. In the whole field of production careers of greatest usefulness are open to men who have the vision to see what must be done, and the energy and courage to do it.

NEW LIST OF SECURITIES UNDER GREAT BRITAIN'S MOBILIZATION PLAN—SCHEME A WITHDRAWN.

An additional list of American and Canadian securities which the British Treasury is prepared to purchase under the mobilization plan, and which, if not loaned or sold to it is subject to the special tax of two shillings in the £ was published by the American Dollar Securities Committee on Dec. 19. In issuing the new list the committee points out that "exemption will be granted in respect of those securities which are lent to the Treasury under Deposit Scheme B (Scheme A having been withdrawn in accordance with the terms of the Treasury notice, dated Dec. 16 1916)." The following is the notice in question, withdrawing Scheme A:

REGULATION OF FOREIGN EXCHANGES.

Deposit Scheme B.

The Lords Commissioners of his Majesty's Treasury hereby give notice of the following amendment to the terms of scheme B in respect of the under-mentioned securities:

1. Securities included in any lists of securities which are stated to be subject to a special income tax, at present 2s. in the £ if not sold to or deposited with the Treasury.
2. Securities which are accepted on deposit by the Treasury, the principal and interest of which is payable only in United States dollars.
3. Any other securities which, on application to the National Debt Office, are stated in writing to be entitled to the benefit of this provision.

The terms of clause 4 of scheme A giving the depositor the right to have his deposited securities realized will also apply to any of the above-mentioned securities deposited under scheme B, subject to the reservation that the securities must first be offered to the Treasury on the terms specified in such clause, and provided that the power of sale conferred upon the Treasury by the terms of scheme B has not been exercised.

The Lords Commissioners of his Majesty's Treasury further give notice that from and after this date no deposit of securities under scheme A will be received, the acceptance of suitable securities being limited to scheme B. December 16 1916.

The term "Scheme A" was used to designate the American securities mobilized by the British Government, Scheme B comprising mobilized Canadian and certain neutral Government securities such as Argentina, Chili, Norway, etc. The London "Times" of Dec. 18 had the following to say with regard to the withdrawal of Scheme A:

It is officially announced that the Treasury has decided to withdraw scheme A, under which securities may be lent to the Government, and at the same time to increase the attractions of scheme B, which will remain in force. As we have frequently anticipated, the power of sale in respect of deposited securities which was given under scheme A only is to be extended to scheme B in respect of all securities subject to the penal tax, securities the principal and interest of which are payable in United States dollars, and any other securities which the Treasury may wish to purchase after application has been made to it. Scheme A, which related to the deposit of such securities as were marketable in the United States, came into force on March 27. A very large amount of securities was lent to the Government under the scheme, but when the second scheme was promulgated its generally superior merits made the ultimate withdrawal of the earlier plan a foregone conclusion. Now that the power of sale is to be extended to scheme B there is no reason why scheme A should be kept in existence any longer. There are distinct advantages in having only one deposit scheme, for it should facilitate the heavy labors of the Treasury Committee and prevent confusion in the minds of the public.

Advantages of Scheme B.

One of the great defects of scheme A was that in the event of sale of the deposited securities no guaranteed price would have been payable to the lender, while criticism of the terms of scheme B has been mainly directed against the absence of the power of sale. Under the new arrangement scheme B embodies both advantages for nearly all securities. Depositors under scheme A should, therefore, now transfer to scheme B, which they have the right to do. They will thus secure, in the event of sale, a guaranteed price, appreciably higher, it should be noted, in many cases than the current market quotation, together with a bonus of 5%, instead of 2½%. They will also receive the annual payment of ½% for a maximum period of five years instead of two, and at the same time they will retain their power of selling the securities if they should desire to do so. A new list of securities which will be subject to the penal tax of 2s. in the pound will be published in the London "Gazette" to-morrow night. It will contain, among other securities, Canadian Pacific Ry. common stock and also Alabama Great Southern RR. ordinary and preferred shares. Canadian Pacific common stock has not hitherto been subject to the penal tax, because the Treasury were not prepared to purchase it for special reasons.

On Dec. 19 the "Times" (London) commented further upon the Treasury's improved scheme as follows:

The question has arisen as to whether the power of sale which has just been extended to scheme B will apply to deposits of stock already made, or only to fresh deposits of securities. We are informed that the power will apply equally to old and new deposits. In connection with this new advantage of scheme B, it is necessary to point out that the power of sale is really a little wider than was that under scheme A, which has now been withdrawn. Under the old scheme the depositor was given the right to request the Treasury to sell his securities, or to release them, in consideration of payment in New York in dollars at the current price. Under scheme B, as now revised, similar power is given to the depositor, but the securities to be sold must first be offered to the Treasury. The object is, of course, to enable the Treasury to retain the control of securities, should it wish so to do, when the depositor desires to sell his holding. The depositor will certainly lose nothing by this reservation, for he will receive the market price in either case.

In another issue on the subject of mobilized securities it said:

It seems to have been assumed by some that American securities kept in New York by British investors cannot be sold or deposited with the Treasury owing to the physical possession regulation. This assumption is erroneous, for the terms of the declaration of physical possession in the case of transfers to the Treasury enable securities to be accepted, even if they have not been in physical possession in this country, provided they have been in the same ownership continuously since September 1914 and have not been in enemy ownership since the outbreak of war.

We give below the list of securities which the American Dollar Securities Company made known on Dec. 19 that it was prepared to purchase. It is the sixth list issued by it. In making public the same the committee said:

The prices set against the securities are the respective "deposit values" as defined in paragraph 6 of scheme B.

The "deposit value" of any security to which an asterisk is affixed will be quoted on application. In the case of registered bonds, the figures quoted must be reduced by one-quarter of one point in respect of such bonds as are convertible into bearer bonds, and by one point where not so convertible. The figures quoted are, except where otherwise stated, pounds sterling per \$500 in the case of bonds, and pounds sterling 5 shares in the case of stocks.

The list follows, the figures in parentheses being the numbers borne by the issues:

Table with 2 columns: Description of Security and Deposit Value. Lists various securities such as Alabama Great Southern RR, Alabama Great Southern RR, Albany Southern RR, etc., with their respective values.

Table with 2 columns: Description of Security (Continued) and Deposit Value. Continuation of the securities list from the previous page, including items like Minneapolis St. Paul & S. Ste. Marie Ry, Mississippi River Power Co, etc.

THE AMERICAN DOLLAR SECURITIES COMMITTEE, National Debt Office, 19 Old Jewry, London, E. C.

GREAT BRITAIN AND HER ALLIES REPLY TO PRESIDENT WILSON OUTLINING PEACE TERMS.

The text of the joint reply of Great Britain and her allies to the note of President Wilson of Dec. 18 suggesting an exchange of views with regard to peace terms was made public yesterday (Friday). It is said to be regarded in Washington as putting an early peace practically out of the question, but still leaving an open door for the President to make further efforts.

The restoration of Belgium, of Serbia and of Montenegro, and indemnities which are due them. The evacuation of the invaded territories of France, of Russia, and of Rumania, with just reparation. The reorganization of Europe, guaranteed by a stable regime and founded as much upon respect of nationalities and full security and liberty of economic development which all nations, great or small, possess, as upon territorial conventions and international agreements suitable to guarantee territorial and maritime frontiers against unjustified attacks.

The enfranchisement of populations subject to the bloody tyranny of the Turks.

The expulsion from Europe of the Ottoman Empire, decidedly alien to western civilization.

The communication also adds that "the intentions of His Majesty, the Emperor of Russia, regarding Poland have been clearly indicated in the proclamation which he has just addressed to his armies. The reply given out for publication in yesterday's papers is the translation of the French text of the note, as cabled by Ambassador Sharp at Paris. We print this translation below:

*American Embassy,
Paris, Jan. 10 1917.*

The Allied Governments have received the note which was delivered to them in the name of the Government of the United States on the 19th of December 1916. They have studied it with the care imposed upon them both by the exact realization which they have of the gravity of the hour and by the sincere friendship which attaches them to the American people.

In a general way they wish to declare that they pay tribute to the elevation of the sentiment with which the American note is inspired and that they associate themselves with all their hopes with the project for the creation of a league of nations to insure peace and justice throughout the world. They recognize all the advantages for the cause of humanity and civilization which the institution of international agreements, destined to avoid violent conflicts between nations would prevent—agreements which must imply the sanctions necessary to insure their execution and thus to prevent an apparent security from only facilitating new aggressions.

But a discussion of future arrangements destined to insure an enduring peace presupposes a satisfactory settlement of the actual conflict. The Allies have as profound a desire as the Government of the United States to terminate as soon as possible a war for which the Central Empires are responsible and which inflicts such cruel sufferings upon humanity. But they believe that it is impossible at the present moment to attain a peace which will assure them reparation, restitution and such guarantees to which they are entitled by the aggression for which the responsibility rests with the Central Powers and of which the principle itself tended to ruin the security of Europe—a peace which would, on the other hand, permit the establishment of the future of European nations on a solid basis. The Allied nations are conscious that they are not fighting for selfish interests, but above all to safeguard the independence of peoples, of right and of humanity.

The Allies are fully aware of the losses and suffering which the war causes to neutrals as well as to belligerents and they deplore them; but they do not hold themselves responsible for them, having in no way either willed or provoked this war, and they strive to reduce these damages in the measure compatible with the inexorable exigencies of their defense against the violence and the wiles of the enemy.

It is with satisfaction, therefore, that they take note of the declaration that the American communication is in nowise associated in its origin with that of the Central Powers transmitted on the 18th of December by the Government of the United States. They did not doubt, moreover, the resolution of that Government to avoid even the appearance of a support, even moral, of the authors responsible for the war.

The Allied Governments believe that they must protest in the most friendly but in the most specific manner against the assimilation established in the American note between the two groups of belligerents; this assimilation, based upon public declarations by the Central Powers, is in direct opposition to the evidence, both as regards responsibility for the past and as concerns guarantees for the future; President Wilson in mentioning it certainly had no intention of associating himself with it.

If there is an historical fact established at the present date, it is the willful aggression of Germany and Austria-Hungary to insure their hegemony over Europe and their economic domination over the world. Germany proved by her declaration of war, by the immediate violation of Belgium and Luxemburg and by her manner of conducting the war, her simulating contempt for all principles of humanity and all respect for smaller States. As the conflict developed the attitude of the Central Powers and their allies has been a continual defiance of humanity and civilization.

It is necessary to recall the horrors which accompanied the invasion of Belgium and of Serbia, the atrocious regime imposed upon the invaded countries, the massacre of hundreds of thousands of inoffensive Armenians, the barbarities perpetrated against the populations of Syria, the raids of Zeppelins on open towns, the destruction by submarines of passenger steamers and of merchantmen even under neutral flags, the cruel treatment inflicted upon prisoners of war, the juridical murders of Miss Cavell, of Captain Fryatt, the deportation and the reduction to slavery of civil populations, &c.? The execution of such a series of crimes perpetrated without any regard for universal reprobation fully explains to President Wilson the protest of the Allies.

They consider that the note which they sent to the United States in reply to the German note will be a response to the questions put by the American Government, and, according to the exact words of the latter, constitute a public declaration as to the conditions upon which the war could be terminated.

President Wilson desires more; he desires that the belligerent Powers openly affirm the objects which they seek by continuing the war. The Allies experience no difficulty in replying to this request. Their objects in the war are well known. They have been formulated on many occasions by the chiefs of their divers governments. Their objects in the war will not be made known in detail with all the equitable compensations and indemnities for damages suffered until the hour of negotiations. But the civilized world knows that they imply in all necessity and in the first instance the restoration of Belgium, of Serbia and of Montenegro and the indemnities which are due them; the evacuation of the invaded territories of France, of Russia and of Rumania with just reparation; the reorganization of Europe guaranteed by a stable regime and founded as much upon respect of nationalities and full security and liberty of economic development, which all nations, great or small, possess, as upon territorial conventions and international agreements suitable to guarantee territorial and maritime frontiers against unjustified attacks; the restitution of provinces or territories wrested in the past from the Allies by force or against the will of their populations, the liberation of Italians, of Slavs, of Rumanians and of Teheco-Slovaques from foreign domination; the enfranchisement of populations subject to the bloody tyranny of the Turks; the expulsion from Europe of the Ottoman Empire, decidedly alien to Western civilization.

The intentions of His Majesty, the Emperor of Russia, regarding Poland have been clearly indicated in the proclamation which he has just addressed to his armies.

It goes without saying that if the Allies wish to liberate Europe from the brutal covetousness of Prussian militarism, it never has been their design,

as has been alleged, to encompass the extermination of the German peoples and their political disappearance. That which they desire above all is to insure a peace upon the principles of liberty and justice, upon the inviolable fidelity to international obligations with which the Government of the United States has never ceased to be inspired.

United in the pursuits of this supreme object the Allies are determined, individually and collectively, to act with all their power and to consent to all sacrifices to bring to a victorious close the conflict upon which they are convinced not only their own safety and prosperity depends, but also the future of civilization itself.

SHARP.

Concerning the French translation and the text of the reply received direct from London by the Associated Press, the New York "Times" of yesterday said:

The text of the Entente's reply to President Wilson's peace note, as received direct from London by The Associated Press, contains certain variations from the text as received from Washington, the latter being the translation of the French version. Some of the variations are as follows:

About seventy words down: "In a general way they desire to declare their respect for the lofty sentiments inspiring the American note, and their whole-hearted agreement with the proposal to create a league of nations which shall assure peace and justice throughout the world."

About 125 words down: "They recognize all the benefits which will accrue to the cause of humanity and civilization from the institution of international arrangements designed to prevent violent conflicts between nations and so framed as to provide the sanctions necessary to their enforcement lest an illusory security should serve merely to facilitate fresh acts of aggression."

About 150 words down: "But a discussion of future arrangements for assuring a durable peace presupposes a satisfactory settlement of the present conflict."

About 200 words down: "But in their judgment it is impossible to obtain at this moment such a peace as will not only secure to them the reparation, the restitution, and the guarantees justly due them by reason of the act of aggression, the guilt of which is fixed upon the Central Powers, while the very principle from which it sprang was undermining the safety of Europe; and at the same time such a peace as will enable future European nations to be established upon a sure foundation."

About 460 words down: "The allied Governments feel it their duty to challenge in the most friendly, but also in the clearest, way the analogy drawn between the two groups of belligerents. This analogy, based on public declarations of the Central Powers, is in direct conflict with the evidence, both as regards responsibility for the past and guarantees for the future. President Wilson in alluding to this analogy did not, of course, intend to adopt it as his own."

About 600 words down: "By her declaration of war, by the instant violation of Belgium and Luxemburg, and by her methods of warfare, Germany has proved that she systematically scorns every principle of humanity and all respect due to small States. More and more, as the struggle has progressed, has the attitude of the Central Powers and their allies been a constant challenge to humanity and civilization. Is it necessary to recall the horrors that marked the invasion of Belgium," &c.

About 1,000 words down: "The reorganization of Europe, guaranteed by a stable settlement, based alike upon the principle of nationalities, on the right which all peoples, whether small or great, have to the enjoyment of full security and free economic development, and also upon territorial agreements and international arrangements so framed as to guarantee land sea frontiers against unjust attacks," &c.

Along with the joint reply of the Entente Allies, there was also transmitted by Ambassador Sharp a separate reply from Belgium, of which the following is a translation:

*American Embassy, Paris, Jan. 10 1917.
Copy of Belgian Note as follows:*

The Government of the King, which has associated itself with the answer handed by the President of the French Council to the American Ambassador on behalf of all, is particularly desirous of paying tribute to the sentiment of humanity which prompted the President of the United States to end his note to the belligerent Powers and it highly esteems the friendship expressed for Belgium through his kindly intermediation. It desires as much as Mr. Woodrow Wilson to see the present war ended as early as possible.

But the President seems to believe that the statesmen of the two opposing camps pursue the same objects of war. The example of Belgium unfortunately demonstrates that this is in nowise the fact. Belgium has never, like the Central Powers, aimed at conquests. The barbarous fashion in which the German Government has treated, and is still treating, the Belgian nation does not permit the supposition that Germany will preoccupy herself with guaranteeing in the future the rights of the weak nations, which she has not ceased to trample under foot since the war, let loose by her, began to desolate Europe.

On the other hand, the Government of the King has noted with pleasure and with confidence the assurances that the United States is impatient to cooperate in the measures which will be taken after the conclusion of peace to protect and guarantee the small nations against violence and oppression.

Previous to the German ultimatum Belgium only aspired to live upon good terms with all her neighbors; she practiced with scrupulous loyalty toward each one of them the duties imposed by her neutrality. In the same manner she has been rewarded by Germany for the confidence she placed in her, through which, from one day to the other, without any plausible reason, her neutrality was violated, and the Chancellor of the Empire when announcing to the Reichstag this violation of right and of treaties was obliged to recognize the iniquity of such an act and predetermine that it would be repaired.

But the Germans, after the occupation of Belgian territory, have displayed no better observance of the rules of international law or the stipulations of The Hague convention. They have, by taxation, as heavy as it is arbitrary, drained the resources of the country; they have intentionally ruined its industries, destroyed whole cities, put to death and imprisoned a considerable number of inhabitants. Even now, while they are loudly proclaiming their desire to put an end to the horrors of war, they increase the rigors of the occupation by deporting into servitude Belgian workers by the thousands.

If there is a country which has the right to say that it has taken up arms to defend its existence, it is assuredly Belgium. Compelled to fight or to submit to shame, she passionately desires that an end be brought to the unprecedented sufferings of her population. But she could only accept a peace which would assure her, as well as equitable reparation, security and guarantees for the future.

The American people, since the beginning of the war, has manifested for the oppressed Belgian nation its most ardent sympathy. It is an American committee, the Commission for Relief in Belgium, which, in close union with the Government of the King and the National Committee, displays an untiring devotion and marvelous activity in re-victualizing Belgium.

The Government of the King is happy to avail itself of this opportunity to express its profound gratitude to the Commission for Relief as well as

to the generous Americans eager to relieve the misery of the Belgian population. Finally, nowhere more than in the United States have the abductions and deportations of Belgian civilians provoked such a spontaneous movement of protestation and indignant reproof.

These facts, entirely to the honor of the American nation, allow the Government of the King to entertain the legitimate hope that at the time of the definitive settlement of this long war, the voice of the Entente Powers will find in the United States a unanimous echo to claim in favor of the Belgian nation, innocent victim of German ambition and covetousness, the rank and the place which its irreproachable past, the valor of its soldiers, its fidelity to honor and its remarkable faculties for work assign to it among the civilized nations.

SHARP.

President Wilson's note to the belligerents was published in our issue of Dec. 23. Last week we printed the communication of Great Britain and her allies rejecting the proposals of Germany for peace negotiations. A report on the 5th inst. that the President contemplated sending a second note on the subject of peace to the belligerents brought forth an announcement from Secretary of State Lansing on that day in which he said he had been authorized by the President to say that the Government had no other note in contemplation and that such information was being sent to all American diplomatic representatives abroad. Counsellor Polk gave out a formal statement in the matter as follows:

The report that the President is preparing to send a new note to the belligerent Powers is false and without any foundation. The President has no second note in contemplation.

GERMANY IN NOTE TO NEUTRALS REPLIES TO ALLIES' REJECTION OF PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.

Coincident with the publication of the Anglo-French Allies' reply to President Wilson's note relative to a discussion of peace terms, the Overseas News Agency made public on the 11th inst. a note handed to the neutral Governments by Germany concerning the reply of the Entente Governments. In this note to the neutrals Germany states that she and her allies "who had to take up arms for defense of their liberty and existence, consider this, their aim of war, as obtained." The note also sets out that "Germany and her allies have made an honest attempt to terminate the war and open the road for an understanding among the belligerents. The Imperial Government asserts the fact that it merely depended upon the decision of our adversaries whether the road toward peace should be entered upon or not. The hostile Governments declined to accept this road. Upon them falls the full responsibility for the continuance of the bloodshed." In making public the German note the News Agency reports that it states in the first place that the German Government has received the reply of the Entente to the note of Dec. 12 containing a proposition to enter at once into peace negotiations. The note then continues:

Our adversaries declined this proposition, giving as the reason that it is a proposition without sincerity and without importance. The form in which they clothe their communication excludes an answer to them, but the Imperial Government considers it important to point out to the Governments of neutral Powers its opinion regarding the situation.

The Central Powers have no reason to enter into any discussion regarding the origin of the world war. History will judge upon whom the immense guilt of the war shall fall. History's verdict will as little pass over the encircling policy of England, the revengeful policy of France and the endeavor of Russia to gain Constantinople as over the instigation of the Serbian assassination in Sarajevo and the complete mobilization of Russia, which meant war against Germany.

Germany and her allies, who had to take up arms for defense of their liberty and their existence, consider this, their aim of war, as obtained.

On the other hand, the hostile Powers always went further away from the realization of their plans which, according to the declarations of their responsible statesmen, were, among others, directed toward the conquest of Alsace-Lorraine and several Prussian provinces, the humiliation and diminution of the Austro-Hungarian monarchy, the partition of Turkey and the mutilation of Bulgaria.

In the face of such war aims, the demand for restitution, reparation and guarantee in the mouth of our adversaries produces a surprising effect.

Our adversaries call the proposal of the four allied (Teutonic) Powers a war manoeuvre. Germany and her allies must protest in the most energetic fashion against such a characterization of their motives, which were frankly explained. They were persuaded that a peace which was just and acceptable to all the belligerents was possible, that it could be brought about by an immediate, spoken exchange of views and that therefore the responsibility for further bloodshed could not be taken.

Their readiness was affirmed without reservation to make known their peace conditions when negotiations were entered into, which refutes every doubt as to their sincerity.

Our adversaries, who had it in their hands to examine the proposition as to its contents, neither attempted an examination nor made counter proposals. Instead, they declared that peace was impossible so long as the re-establishment of violated rights and liberties, the recognition of the principle of nationalities and the free existence of small States were not guaranteed.

The sincerity which our adversary denies to the proposals of the four allied Powers will not be conceded by the world to these demands if the world holds before its eyes the fate of the Irish people, the destruction of the liberty and independence of the Boer Republic, the subjugation of Northern Africa by England, France and Italy, the suppression of Russian alien nations, and also the violation of Greece, which is without precedent in history.

Against the pretended violations of the laws of nations by the four allies (Teutonic), those Powers are not entitled to complain, which from the

beginning of the war trampled on justice and tore to pieces the treaties upon which it is built. England already during the first weeks of the war repudiated the London Declaration, the contents of which had been recognized by its own delegates as a valid law of nations, and in the further course of the war violated in the most severe fashion also the Paris Declaration; so that, by her arbitrary measures for warfare, a condition of lawlessness has been created.

The war of starvation against Germany and the pressure exercised in England's interest against neutrals are not less scandalously conflicting with the rules of the laws of nations as with the commands of humanity.

Likewise, contrary to the laws of nations, and incompatible with the usages of civilization, are the use of colored troops in Europe and the extension of the war into Africa, which was done by a breach of existing treaties and which undermines the prestige of the white race on that continent. The barbarous treatment of prisoners, especially in Africa and Russia, and the deportation of the civilian population from Eastern Prussia, Alsace-Lorraine, Galicia and Bukowina, are further proof of how our adversaries respect justice and civilization.

At the end of their note of Dec. 30, our adversaries point out the special situation in Belgium. The Imperial Government is unable to acknowledge that the Belgian Government has always observed the duties which were enjoined upon her by her neutrality. Already before the war Belgium, under England's influence, sought support in military fashion from England and France and thus herself violated the spirit (of the treaty) which she had to guarantee her independence and neutrality.

Twice the Imperial Government declared to the Belgian Government that it did not come as an enemy to Belgium, and asked it to spare to the country the terrors of war. Germany offered to guarantee the integrity and independence of the kingdom to the full extent and compensate for all damages which might be caused by the passage of the German troops. It is known that the Royal British Government in 1887 was resolved not to oppose the use of the right of way through Belgium under those conditions.

The Belgian Government declined the repeated offer of the Imperial Government. Upon her and those Powers which instigated her to this attitude falls the responsibility for the fate which befell Belgium.

The accusations about the Germans' warfare in Belgium and the measures taken there in the interest of military safety have been repeatedly refuted by the Imperial Government as untrue. Germany again offers energetic protest against these calumnies.

Germany and her allies have made an honest attempt to terminate the war and open the road for an understanding among the belligerents. The Imperial Government asserts the fact that it merely depended upon the decision of our adversaries whether the road toward peace should be entered upon or not. The hostile Governments declined to accept this road. Upon them falls the full responsibility for the continuation of the bloodshed.

Our allied Powers, however, shall continue the struggle in quiet confidence and with firm trust in their right, until peace is gained which guarantees to their nations honor, existence and liberty of development, and which to all the nations of the European Continent gives the blessing to co-operate in mutual respect and under equal rights together for the solution of the great problems of civilization.

According to advices from Amsterdam via London on the 6th inst. a Berlin telegram reported the official publication of the following order of the German Emperor to the army and navy announcing that the war would be continued and that upon the enemy Governments alone would fall "the heavy responsibility for all the further terrible sacrifices from which I wished to save you."

Conjointly with the allied (Central Powers) rulers, I proposed to our enemies to enter forthwith into peace negotiations. Our enemies refused my offer. Their hunger for power desires Germany's destruction.

The war will be continued. Before God and humanity, I declare that on the Governments of our enemies alone falls the heavy responsibility for all the further terrible sacrifices from which I wished to save you.

With justified indignation at our enemies' arrogant crime and with determination to defend our holiest possessions and secure for the Fatherland a happy future, you will become as steel.

Our enemies did not want the understanding offered by me. With God's help our arms will enforce it. WILHELM, I. R.

SENATE INDORSES PRESIDENT WILSON'S REQUEST FOR PEACE TERMS.

By a vote of 48 to 17 the Senate on the 5th inst. approved Senator Hitchcock's resolution indorsing the request sent by President Wilson to the belligerent countries for an exchange of peace terms. The introduction of a resolution which would have approved the action of the President in forwarding the notes to the belligerent Powers occurred on Dec. 21, on the day the President's note was made public. As introduced at that time the resolution read:

Resolved, That the Senate strongly indorses and approves the action taken by the President in sending diplomatic notes under date of Dec. 18 to the nations now engaged in war, suggesting and recommending the first steps in possible negotiations to arrange the terms of peace;

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that this action of the President represents the overwhelming public sentiment and earnest desire of the people of the United States.

Senator Borah at that time blocked the movement for action on the resolution, objecting to immediate consideration of it on the ground that the matter was one upon which opportunity should be given for reflection. Senator Hitchcock admitted the force of Senator Borah's argument, and at the former's request the resolution was referred to the Committee on Foreign Resolutions. A substitute resolution was offered by Senator Hitchcock on Dec. 22, the day of the adjournment of Congress for the Christmas holidays, and with the objections for action on it, interposed by minority leader Gallinger, the resolution went over until after the Christmas recess. The substitute resolution made no mention of the public sentiment of the country; it read:

Resolved, That the Senate approves and strongly endorses the action taken by the President in sending the diplomatic notes of Dec. 18 to the nations now engaged in war, suggesting and recommending that those nations state the terms upon which peace might be discussed.

A determined move by Senator Hitchcock to secure immediate consideration of his resolution was made on Jan. 2 with the reassembling of Congress after the Christmas recess, but the Republicans again blocked his efforts. Both Senator Lodge and Senator Gallinger moved that the question be deferred, urging that the matter go to the Foreign Relations Committee for careful consideration. Senator Lodge in advising against hasty action pointed out that it involved our relations to all the world, adding "it ought not and cannot be rushed through as if it were a matter of no importance." With a view to stripping the Hitchcock resolution of its objectionable features a substitute was offered on the 3rd inst. by Senator Gallinger, the text of this being as follows:

Resolved, That the Senate of the United States, in the interests of humanity and civilization, expresses the sincere hope that peace between the warring nations of Europe may be consummated at an early day.

Like the Hitchcock resolution the Gallinger substitute was laid over for consideration. Senator Lodge in his further opposition to the Hitchcock resolution on the 3rd inst. insisted that it called upon the Senate to indorse all of the President's note, which he contended went far beyond any proposition merely to bring the belligerents together. It would project Congress, he declared, into European politics, overturning a policy of years standing, and, by involving the United States in European politics, necessarily would involve political interests of the Eastern hemisphere with the interests of the Western hemisphere in contravention of the spirit of the Monroe Doctrine. He said:

If misinterpretation of the note is general, then we are in danger, without abatement or modification of the resolution, of stating to the whole world that the Senate or Congress are ranging themselves on the side of one belligerent in an attempt to bring about peace.

Two hours of defense and attack on the Hitchcock resolution failed to bring a vote on it on the 4th., and it was not until the 5th inst. that the resolution was finally disposed of by the Senate. The Gallinger resolution, after a modified draft had been presented, was rejected on that day by a vote of 36 to 27, the resolution as modified and defeated reading as follows:

That the Senate of the United States, in the interests of humanity and civilization, expresses the sincere hope that just and permanent peace between the warring nations of Europe may be consummated at an early day, and approves all proper efforts to secure that end.

The Hitchcock resolution underwent modification before its approval by the Senate on the 5th, Senator Hitchcock having accepted an amendment thereto, proposed by Senator Jones of Washington, so as to record simply the approval of the Senate to the request for terms upon which peace might be discussed. The modified Hitchcock resolution as passed by the Senate read as follows:

Resolved, That the Senate approves and strongly indorses the request by the President in the diplomatic notes of Dec. 18, to the nations now engaged in war, that those nations state the terms upon which peace might be discussed.

Of the 48 votes cast in favor of the resolution, 38 were those of Democrats, 10 Republicans voting with them. The opposing votes were registered by 16 Democrats and 1 Republican.

During the discussion of the subject in the Senate on the 3rd Senator Lodge, in stating that there was widespread misunderstanding of the President's note, referred to the "unusual" statement made by the German Ambassador Count von Bernstorff, printed in the "New Yorker Staats Zeitung" as a Christmas message on Dec. 24.

Senator Lodge's open mention of the German envoy's name, which he said he knew was contrary to unwritten rules of Senate proceedings, was the climax of a speech in which he declared that, although he accepted in full faith President Wilson's statement that the note was in no way suggested by nor associated with the peace proposals of the German allies, nevertheless he believed such statements as the German Ambassador's had added to the opinion that the note was timed and designed to aid Germany in making the peace terms she desires.

Senator Lodge in his reference to the Ambassador's message, quoted from it the following:

Just as once the star of Bethlehem led the Kings from the East on their journey through the night in the fulfillment of their hopes, so there now gleams into the darkness of this useless slaughter in Europe out of the words of President Wilson the light of a new message of peace on earth. Germany stands ready to follow him. Confident of her strength, but not boastful, conscious that she drew the sword not through lust of conquest but only in defense of her national existence, she asks no foreign territory, but only assurances against future attack, and against alliances which threaten the peace of the world.

SUPREME COURT CONCLUDES HEARINGS ON ADAMSON EIGHT-HOUR LAW.

The final arguments in the action brought to test the constitutionality of the Adamson Eight-Hour Law were heard by the United States Supreme Court on Wednesday of this week. The case came up for hearing in the Supreme Court on Monday last; it was placed on the Court's docket on Nov. 28, following the decision holding the Act unconstitutional handed down by Judge William C. Hook of the U. S. District Court at Kansas City on Nov. 22. Judge Hook's decision was given in the suit of the Missouri Oklahoma & Gulf RR. At a conference held by Government and railroad attorneys in Kansas City on Nov. 24 this suit was selected to serve as the test case before the Supreme Court. A decision by the latter is expected within a few weeks, although summary action on the important issues is not deemed probable. The Court will reconvene on Feb. 26, after a recess of three weeks to prepare opinions, and that date has been mentioned as the possible one for the decision. Meanwhile, the effectiveness of the eight-hour standard day and all litigation is suspended by agreement between the railroads and Department of Justice, with accounts being kept of additional wages due under the new law. Voluminous briefs were filed on the 8th inst. by the Federal and railroad counsel before the beginning of the arguments on the constitutionality of the law. Numerous precedents, including Supreme Court decisions, were cited in the Department of Justice brief in support of the law's validity. The railroads' brief contended that the law is unworkable, experimental, incapable of application, interferes with liberty of contract, does not fall within Congress's authority to regulate inter-State commerce, and takes railroad property without "due process of law." As an "hours of service" Act and also as a wage law, the Federal brief contended the law is constitutional, within the power of Congress to enact, and workable. Inferentially the brief argued that compulsory arbitration legislation such as is under consideration also is constitutional in behalf of public interests to prevent tie-ups of transportation facilities. Practicability of obeying the law, the brief asserted, has been admitted again and again by railroad officials, particularly in hearings before Congressional committees last August and in conferences with President Wilson. "All assumed that the mere change from the established and well-understood ten-hour standard day to the proposed eight-hour standard was all that was necessary or intended," the brief stated, citing that 85% of employees affected are now employed on a ten-hour basis. Admitting that a rigid eight-hour day for train operation is not completely practicable, the Federal attorneys said the Adamson Law should be enforced at least so far as is possible. "Two co-ordinate branches of the Government have evidenced the opinion that the law is constitutional," the brief continued. "Certainly this Court will not strike down the law upon mere prophecies of its effect." Alleged infringement of the liberty of contract, it was contended, does not affect the Act's validity, nor "the assertion that Congress enacted this law from improper motives and upon insufficient information." In opening the defense of the law for the Department of Justice Solicitor-General Davis declared it regulates both hours of service and wages, and contended Congress has authority to regulate both. He asked annulment of the decision of Circuit Judge Hook in the test case of the Missouri Oklahoma & Gulf RR., holding the law void. He told the Court that it "reached the heights of imagination," to say that the primary object of Congress in passing the law was not to limit the hours of toil. He asserted that Elisha Lee, the railroads' spokesman throughout the strike controversy, often had admitted that fact, as well as that the law is workable, now denied by the railroads. When Mr. Davis cited Congress's disturbance of railroad contracts in passing the Federal Employers' Liability Act, upheld as valid, Judge Day put to him the question: "Do you claim the same power in fixing wages as in fixing rates?" Mr. Davis answered this in the affirmative. Chief Justice White rejoined:

I can't follow that argument. The subject is regulating hours of service. The Government has regulated commerce for ages, so to speak. It was held in the case of the Employers' Liability Act that that regulation was valid. That was no decision that the Government has the power to regulate wages.

Mr. Davis added that "that is what we contend for," arguing that if Congress can regulate the relation of master and servant, of railroad and employees, it can also regulate wages. That, he asserted, "is the most vital of all. If underpaid and discontented, safety of commerce in charge

of employees is affected. Also, wages have a direct relation to rates, investment and expense of service." Declaring that the Solicitor-General's proposition goes further than that, Chief Justice White cited as an example freight shipped by a grocer, and inquired whether "you intend that wages of all persons making these goods are subject to regulation?" Mr. Davis replied in the negative, saying, "we don't go that far," and pointed out that Congress had power to reduce railroad rates to prevent extortion. Putting to Mr. Davis the further question, "Has Congress the power to prescribe what railroads shall pay for various things—locomotives, land, &c., Justice McReynolds received from him the response: "I am not so sure that Congress hasn't that power—all authority is dependent upon its reasonable and not arbitrary use." Justice Day suggested that the power of Congress is limited by constitutional prohibition against confiscation. Mr. Davis continued: "Congress's power to regulate issue of railroad stocks and bonds and to say what price railroads shall pay for credit is being advanced in and outside of Congress." He added that under the decision in the Debs case Congress has authority to prevent railroad strikes and obstruction of inter-State commerce. He denied that penalties provided by the Adamson Law were excessive and upheld as reasonable the statute's exemption of short line and interurban electric roads. The contention that the law is unworkable, Mr. Davis said, was "a manifest after-thought induced by the necessities of this case." To the charge that the law is experimental, he said public clamor would have followed had Congress attempted to fix an arbitrary eight-hour day scale in perpetuity without possibility of change under future changed conditions. "It may be Congress did not please the railroads, the employees or the public," he concluded, "but the body that made the law should amend it and the judiciary must not usurp that function."

Lack by Congress of authority to enact what they termed railroad wage legislation was the principal line of attack pursued by the railroad attorneys, Walker D. Hines and John G. Johnson, at Tuesday's hearing before the Supreme Court. They contended also that the law is incapable of operation without judicial interpretation, that it takes property without due process of law and interferes with liberty of contract. Difficulty of definitely applying the Act was emphasized by Mr. Hines. He said that although the law fixed an eight-hour standard railroad day for train operatives nearly all such employees were employed on mileage, trip or monthly basis. Mr. Hines declared that:

The primary purpose of the Act was arbitrary regulation of private contracts. It sets aside legitimate methods, substituting an unworkable speculative arrangement. Its classifications give benefit only to the four brotherhoods who were demanding the changes—all for the benefit of a special, high-paid class. In all aspects it is of unconstitutional and bewildering unworkability, without relation to any substantial promotion of commerce.

Chief Justice White and other Justices frequently interrupted Mr. Hines. Justice White's questions were apparently designed to draw out argument regarding the comparative authority of Congress to prescribe wages as well as rates.

"Can Congress," Justice Day asked, "authorize the Inter-State Commerce Commission to fix railroad wages?" Mr. Hines replied that it was doubtful, unless wages were abnormally low and should interfere with transportation.

After asking if the brotherhoods' wage contracts were fixed prior to 1913, Justice Brandeis remarked:

Shouldn't this Court take judicial notice of the fact that there has been a great increase in the cost of living since these wages were fixed?

Mr. Hines answered that the fact "would not justify the Court in holding that evil existed which would justify Congress in exercising a power even if it had that power."

"If there is no power there can be no justification for its attempted exercise," the Chief Justice observed.

"Congress has no power to prescribe wages because they have no substantial relation to safety and efficiency in this case," replied Mr. Hines. "The direct object was for the benefit of particular cases. Any effect on public interest is incidental."

"Then you argue that this is a regulation of wages and of private relations between employers and employees remote from service?" asked Justice Pitney.

"It is a most remote regulation of commerce," Mr. Hines answered. He added that the law would undoubtedly cause increased rates.

When Mr. Hines said that the law did not limit service to an eight-hour day, but merely fixed a wage standard providing for overtime, Justice Brandeis asked:

Isn't it a historical fact that in the introduction of the legislative policy of reducing the hours of labor many of the States began in fixing what number of hours should be a standard day, and later, in the progress of legislation, there came an actual prohibition of more?

Mr. Hines replied that the Court had so construed the laws. "And isn't it a fact when the legislation was introduced there never was a suggestion that the purpose of the legislation was to fix wages and not to reduce hours?" continued Justice Brandeis.

"They did not increase wages much," replied Mr. Hines.

Chief Justice White referred to the Oregon Ten-Hour-Day Law, now before the Court awaiting decision. The Oregon law, Mr. Hines responded, prescribed an overtime penalty not in the Adamson Act.

In the closing address for the railroads on Tuesday Mr. Johnson assailed the hasty enactment of the legislation by Congress, as well as the conduct of the brotherhood leaders. He said the Act was against public and purely for private interest and "arbitrarily transfers between \$40,000,000 and \$50,000,000 from the pockets of the railroads to the pockets of the workmen." He insisted it is solely and purely a wage increase law, void and impracticable in attempting to establish an eight-hour day. To make the question of railroad wages political, to be settled by Congress from time to time, he said, would lead to unforeseen results. "There is nothing in the Adamson Act for protection of the public," he said. "The brotherhoods had the honesty not to pretend they were protecting the public, but stood upon their own selfish ends." Regarding the statement that the Act was passed to prevent a strike, he added:

Have we come to that? Have we reached the period when the men who threaten a strike shall be rewarded? I'm not comparing men, only methods, but we might as well buy off a gang of highwaymen with a bribe to prevent interference with commerce.

Half an hour before the Court adjourned on Tuesday Frank Hagerman, of Kansas City, special assistant to the Attorney-General, began the closing address of the hearings. He defended the law as being capable of operation by a mere change of railroad bookkeeping and said Congress enacted on it in the face of a "great emergency." "It wasn't a one-sided affair," he said. "There were railroad representatives who acted upon the assumption that the railroads owe nothing to the public."

"Assuming that Congress can raise wages for a limited period, can it do so for an unlimited period?" asked Justice Pitney. "Where do you draw the line between private operation and public management?"

"I don't draw the line," Mr. Hagerman answered.

"But it may be necessary for the purposes of this argument," Justice Pitney observed.

Chief Justice White then stated the following proposition:

Here's a question of a strike. More pay is asked. The other side says more pay means higher rates. Congress says, "We haven't had a chance to investigate this matter, but we'll put a temporary arrangement into effect and give an opportunity for full investigation, with a temporary increase of wages and also an increase of rates. Now that's your proposition, isn't it?"

"Yes," Mr. Hagerman answered. "The Court has held that if opportunity be given for a test, there should be one before the Court lays its hands on." Mr. Hagerman asserted that "no self-respecting man would have accepted the proposition the carriers made to the President. The carriers were pretending," he said, "that they wanted arbitration, but they refused to arbitrate the eight-hour-day demand unless all other questions were also arbitrated."

"What's this got to do with the law question?" Chief Justice White interrupted. "I don't want to interrupt you, but we have a question of law and you are discussing things we have no cognizance of."

"I didn't start it, your Honor," said Mr. Hagerman.

"I know that, but I suggest that you conclude it," the Chief Justice responded, and Mr. Hagerman concluded his remarks for the day.

The closing address in support of the law was made on Wednesday by Mr. Hagerman, who contended vigorously that Congress has authority to regulate railroad employees wages in exercising its constitutional power over inter-State commerce. Maintaining that Congress has power to pass the law Mr. Hagerman said it could be operated temporarily like the Inter-State Commerce Commission temporarily regulates rates.

Mr. Hagerman on Wednesday emphatically gave it as his individual opinion that Congress has power to enact compulsory arbitration legislation "if necessary for the movement of trains." Mr. Hagerman also contended that railroad workmen are just as much a part of transportation as cars or locomotives, saying:

If this Court can say that the wage of the man who makes possible the movement of trains has no real or substantial relation to commerce, then my words are without effect. The pay of men has a direct bearing on effectuality of transportation.

In the interest of efficient and safe transportation, the attorney argued, the public has an interest in employees receiving an adequate wage.

"The public has an interest in reducing expenses; hasn't it in an increase?" asked Justice Pitney. "Is it your view that Congress go so far as to appoint railroad officers and directors?"

"If a carrier abuses its trust," Mr. Hagerman answered, "and doesn't perform its public functions, the public is entitled to the use of the road, and could have a court take hold by receivers." Regarding the power of Congress to prevent strikes, Justice McReynolds asked:

Is there no limit in what Congress can do to stop a strike? In the Debs case, could Congress have ordered the railroads to pay Mr. Debs \$50,000 to stop a strike?

"That's putting it pretty fierce, but I believe Congress could," Mr. Hagerman answered.

"Oh, you don't mean that," Justice Vandevanter interjected. "That minimizes and detracts from every thing you've said."

"I think," suggested Justice Holmes to the attorney, "that you are very wise in dealing with this question to be precise and not consider the degree the matter can be pushed."

In arguing that the law was workable, Mr. Hagerman pointed out that the railroads had admitted it by agreeing to keep separate accounts after Jan. 1 to insure prompt payment if it were upheld.

DEVELOPMENTS IN HEARINGS REGARDING LEAKS IN PEACE PROPOSALS.

Following the week's hearings by the Rules Committee of the House of Representatives to inquire into the charges of Thomas W. Lawson of an alleged "leak" of news in connection with the giving out of President Wilson's note suggesting peace soundings, the Democratic members of the committee decided on Thursday to present to the House an unfavorable report on the proposal for a special inquiry, as provided for in the resolution of Representative Wood. This resolution, printed in our issue of Saturday last, was referred to the Rules Committee on the 3rd inst., with instructions to report in ten days. On the 11th inst., also, the majority declined to bring up for a final vote another Wood resolution for a general investigation of "leak" allegations, or one by Representative Campbell of Kansas, designed to empower a Congressional committee to inquire into every phase of the rumors, including Mr. Lawson's charges that high officials and a member of Congress were involved in systematic Stock Exchange deals. A sub-committee was appointed on the 10th to draft contempt charges against Mr. Lawson in the event of a decision to prosecute him for refusing to answer questions. This committee, Representative Henry, Chairman of the committee announced on Thursday, "still exists and is to make a report." Chairman Henry was also quoted as saying on Thursday:

Our action on this Wood privileged resolution amounts in its practical effect to an adverse report. We will submit it to the House at 2 o'clock tomorrow afternoon with the simple statement that not one particle of evidence was adduced to support the Lawson charges. Of course, there is another resolution, which is not privileged, which is before the committee. I don't know what will be done with that.

As soon as the House convened yesterday (Friday), Representative Henry submitted a privileged report from the committee recommending that the Wood resolution be laid upon the table, as no evidence was adduced to sustain the charges made in it. Discussing the report, Representative Henry said:

The committee sat for six days and during the entire time not one particle of evidence was adduced to sustain the charges. Not a scintilla of evidence was submitted to warrant this libel against the members of the House.

Representative Harrison of Mississippi, Democrat, also declared at yesterday's hearing that every witness examined by the committee had denied the charges involving them, and that the testimony had shown that there was not a scintilla of evidence that any one connected with the Government was guilty of a leak on the President's note or had profited by it. In warning the House that the tabling of the resolution would let Lawson go scot free, Representative Lenroot, Republican, held it to be the duty of the committee "to retain jurisdiction of this question and make him answer or have him indicted for contempt." Representative Wood, the author of the resolution, declared he had no apology to make to anyone for his share in inaugurating the inquiry. He reviewed the reports in the press and elsewhere regarding the leak, and declared that a further investigation should be had. He denied that he was actuated by partisan motives or that he desired to embarrass the President in his efforts to bring about peace. He added:

The fact remains that there was something wrong somewhere and it should be investigated. That there was a leak I think is believed by every Member of this House. Whether it was entirely innocent will not be known until a full inquiry is held. Therefore, I believe it is due to every member of the Cabinet and of Congress and to the President of the United States that this investigation should be made.

Upon motion of Representative Henry yesterday, the Wood resolution was recommitted to the Rules Committee with instructions to report back within five days. This action was taken as the result of a unanimous consent agreement to provide authority for the Rules Committee to re-summon Mr. Lawson and to compel him to reply to questions he refused to answer several days ago. Mr. Henry announced that the Rules Committee will meet at 10 o'clock this morning (Saturday) to begin the work of drafting the resolution which will be presented in the House for the purpose of compelling Mr. Lawson to give the information he declined to give.

On the 6th inst. subpoenas were issued by the Rules Committee for seven newspaper men, representing in Washington the "Wall Street Journal," "Financial America," the "Central News of America," and the New York "Evening Sun," and they were ordered to bring their records with them. Representative Gardner of Massachusetts, who on the floor of the House on Jan. 3 said that he knew there was a leak and that the whole Stock Exchange transactions showed it, in testifying on the 6th inst. said he was convinced there had been a "leak" because at 2:05 Dec. 20, ten hours before the peace note was released for publication and four hours before it had been placed in the hands of the news agencies, the following dispatch was sent out over the Dow, Jones & Co. ticker:

The renewed selling of the market is due to reports received by brokers' private wires from Washington to the effect that the Administration will, in the near future, address to the belligerents some suggestions or proposals in regard to peace. Nothing definite is obtainable in Administration circles.

In claiming this as proof of a leak, Representative Gardner said: "Miracles don't go on the Stock Exchange, and Dow, Jones & Co. don't deal in prophecies." While convinced of a leak, Representative Gardner is said to have told the committee that he had no evidence involving anybody in official life. In testifying he referred to reports and hints in the New York "Evening Sun" of Dec. 20 concerning the sending of a peace note: Representative Campbell, Republican, on the 6th said there was no disposition on the part of the Republican minority to make political capital in the matter, but that he considered it deplorable that there was an apparent attempt to "shield" any one in the executive departments of the Government. Representative Harrison objected to the suggestion that any "leak" came from the Government departments, and insisted the leak was through representatives of the "Wall Street Journal" and "Financial America." He related how Secretary Lansing, conferring with newspaper correspondents on Dec. 20, had told them in confidence that a note, to be published later, had been sent to Europe, and that the majority had respected the confidence.

On the 8th inst., after several hours' cross examination of Mr. Lawson, the committee failed to obtain any definite information to substantiate the stories of a leak, and when the committee adjourned on that day a motion to cite him before the bar of the House for contempt because he refused to give names had been considered in executive session and taken under advisement. Earlier in the day Joseph P. Tumulty, Secretary to President Wilson, whose name was mentioned by Representative Wood in the rumors he laid before the committee last week, appeared to give an emphatic statement, endorsed by the President, that he had no knowledge of the peace note before it was given to the press. He also denied the report repeated by Representative Wood that Mr. Tumulty and Bernard M. Baruch, a New York broker, had conferred in a New York hotel a few days before the note was made public. Secretary Lansing of the State Department also took the stand to assert that he had no knowledge whatever of advance information having been circulated regarding the peace note. Mr. Tumulty's statement to the committee follows:

I appear before this Committee to resent the unjust intimation that I gave information to Mr. B. M. Baruch in regard to the so-called peace note sent to the European belligerents last month by the Secretary of State. This intimation was contained in a statement made to this Committee by Representative Wood, of Indiana, a man whom I do not know. To the best of my knowledge I have never met Mr. Wood. Certainly he made no effort to find out the truth from me before dragging my name into this affair.

I wish to deny generally and specifically that I gave advance information to Mr. Baruch or to anybody else in regard to the peace note. I did not know of the existence of this note or that this Government contemplated the dispatch of such a note until after printed copies of the note had been given to representatives of the press by the State Department.

I was not consulted in the preparation of the note by the President or by anybody else. The conferences and communications relating to the drafting of the note and its dispatch were confidential between the President and the Secretary of State. I knew nothing of them whatever, nor did any other person employed in the Executive Office.

I have had no correspondence, written or telegraphic, with Mr. Baruch or anybody representing him, regarding this matter. I have had no telephone talks with Mr. Baruch or anybody representing him regarding this matter. I have never talked with him or anybody representing him or with any one else, publicly or privately, with regard to this matter.

Apparently the only insinuations made against me are that I lunched with or met Mr. Baruch at the Biltmore Hotel at or about the time of the preparation of the President's suggestion that the European belligerents state their peace terms. I have never breakfasted, lunched, dined or taken any meals with Mr. Baruch. I have met him only at several banquets and large dinners, when many other persons were present. I have never discussed any peace or other note, either when it was in prospect or afterward, with Mr. Baruch or any other person engaged in the purchase or sale of securities of any kind in the stock market.

While this is a complete denial of the only insinuations which have been made, I wish to go further and say that I have never engaged in stock market sales or purchases myself nor through brokers, friends or agents.

I discussed the President's note with no one; first, because my oath of service requires that I make no private use of official information, and secondly and specifically because, as I have stated, I had not seen the President's note and did not know that it was in preparation or even contemplated.

As I have already said in a public statement, I have frequently requested the President to keep me free from any knowledge of impending international moves, so that I might not be embarrassed by requests for information from the newspaper correspondents who appeal to me in my office constantly for such information. The insinuations which have been made, whether conceived in political malice or merely through misinformation, are wholly false and without even the flimsiest basis.

I have not at any time since acting as Mr. Wilson's Secretary, first when he was Governor of New Jersey, and later when he became President, been interested in any stock transactions of any kind or given any information to any other person upon which purchases or sales might be made. I wish to make this statement as sweeping and complete as I know how. I am still waiting for Mr. Wood's public apology.

I am authorized by the President to quote him as follows:

"I wish in justice to Mr. Tumulty to say that he has stated the exact fact. He had no knowledge of the note whatever until it was given out for publication."

Secretary Lansing, in his statement to the Committee on the 8th inst., said:

Possibly I had better start by stating that I assume that confidential communications between the President and myself are not a part of the inquiry. I can give you a physical history of the note. The draft of the note was received by me from the White House at 4 o'clock Monday afternoon. I called Mr. Polk, Counsellor for the Department, and Mr. Woolsey, law adviser, attached to my office, and discussed the three forms in which the note had to be prepared and sent forth. I then handed it to Mr. Woolsey, enjoining him to the strictest secrecy, that he might take it to the three confidential stenographers. There it was to be prepared and delivered to Mr. Salmon, Chief of the Index Bureau.

The index clerk was to encipher the note, and he said that it would take so long to cipher the three notes that he would have to have an assistant. I directed that he engage his most confidential man for the work. He did so and was given the copies and the two men locked themselves in the room. They were given the copies at 8 o'clock, and at 2:30 Tuesday morning (Dec. 19) the notes were enciphered, delivered to the telegraph room and sent.

On Tuesday afternoon I discussed with the President the time when the note should be made public. The reason for secrecy was the courtesy due to the nations which were to receive the note that it should not be published here before they received it. We decided it would take at least two days for it to reach Austria and Rumania, and we decided it should be made public on Thursday morning. Tuesday evening, about 6 o'clock, a copy of the note was handed to Mr. James, Chief of the Information Bureau. He at once took it up with the printing office. It was read by one man and then sent to the printing office.

At about 11 o'clock (Wednesday) I received the newspaper correspondents and told them that I would have an important communication for them at 5 o'clock, to be released the next morning. I told them in confidence, as I was afraid its contents might come back from Europe in garbled form. Further, I thought it courteous not to make it public until it had been received by the countries to which it was addressed. I told them it did not contain any proposal of peace nor offer of mediation.

That evening at my house Ambassador Willard (of Spain) told me he had been advised of the contents of the note by the President and we discussed the advisability of his addressing Spain on the subject. The next morning the note was made public in the press.

Mr. Lansing said he could not recall the name of any newspaper man who was present at the conference, nor did he know any details of who handled the note at the Government Printing Office.

"When was the first intimation you had that there had been a disclosure of the contents of the note?" asked Representative Campbell.

"I had none until it was stated in the newspapers." Mr. Lansing added he had made inquiries around his department for a leak, but failed to locate one. Mr. Lansing said that on the morning of this conference with the newspaper men three other men were present waiting to see him, but that he did not know they were in the room until after he had talked to the newspaper men. "Who were these men?" asked Representative Lenroot.

"A. E. Snowden, of New York; E. N. Gaylor, a civil engineer of the navy, and Dr. N. T. McLean, of the navy," said Mr. Lansing. "The two naval officers were about to proceed to Haiti for the Government."

Mr. Bennet recalled that Secretary Lansing had stated he never speculated in the market, and added:

For that reason isn't it possible that you gave little thought to the effect some statement made by you might have on the stock market?

"I never gave it a thought," said the Secretary. "It never entered my mind. I was merely anxious to preserve the courtesy due to foreign nations in the matter."

Questioned further about his Wednesday conference with the newspaper men, Secretary Lansing said:

My statements regarding the note were entirely negative. I said nothing whatever about a request for terms having been made. I gave no details. I stated that at 5 o'clock they would be able to get an important communication sent to belligerent Governments. I said that it was not a proposal of peace or an offer of mediation. Then I explained the reason I wished them to preserve confidence. I knew the note was in the hands of the printer and wanted to guard against any mere rumors that might get out.

Representative Chipfield asked Secretary Lansing about his two statements explaining the note after it had been made public. "Were these statements made entirely on your own initiative?" asked Chipfield. "See here," Secretary Lansing declared with emphasis, "that is way beyond the scope of this investigation."

Representative Garrett interjected: "Such a matter has not the slightest pertinence to this inquiry on the effect of a leak on the stock market."

"Not perhaps any connection with the leaks on the note and its effect on the market," said Representative Chipfield, "but it has been stated that the Secretary's statements did, in fact, affect the stock market." Democrats of the Committee objected that such a line of questioning was improper and the chair ruled that the Secretary need not answer. Resuming his testimony, Secretary Lansing said that he did not know if representatives of Wall Street papers were present at the conference of the newspaper men, and he did not know their duties.

During Monday's examination of Mr. Lawson, after declaring that he had evidence of a "leak," and asserting that he had information from a member of Congress that a Cabinet official had been a beneficiary, he (Lawson) flatly refused to give the names to the Committee. He announced defiantly that he would give no names, regardless of consequences, and declared:

You may punish me if you wish, but I will not besmirch the names of men in high position at this preliminary inquiry. My only business here is to give information that would warrant you in ordering a full investigation. This I think I have done.

Charles H. Sabin, President of the Guaranty Trust Co., of New York, who was on the stand on Tuesday, testified that he was in no way connected with the Stock Exchange and said he did not know in what connection he was called.

"It has been said," Representative Chipfield told him, "that you called the financial writers of New York to your bank and outlined to them that you felt it your duty to suggest to the country that there were to be negotiations for peace and that you felt they would affect the price of stocks. If there was anything of that kind suggested, please outline it." "I shall be glad to," said Mr. Sabin. "In October I said to newspaper men that I had information that the German Government had instructed the President to approach the Allies on the subject of peace." "Did you make any statement in this connection as to the effect that it might have on stocks?" he was asked. "I talked to only one man on that. He asked me what effect it would have. I did not venture any opinion." "Evidently you were in possession of some information not generally known." "I think I was." He added the source of his information was in no way connected with the United States Government. "Would you object to stating for what purpose you made this statement?" "Purely my personal judgment that it should be known," Sabin replied. "Then you had no idea in giving out this information of the effect it might have on the market or of preventing a possible effect on securities," Chipfield continued. "Never thought of it," said Sabin. "I gave out the news for no such purpose." He added that he had no knowledge of stock trading between Dec. 10 and 21. He also said he had no information about the President's note until he read it in the newspapers.

Mr. Sabin was excused from telling the source of his information about the German peace proposal, because he said it had been given to him in confidence by someone absolutely without connection with the Government of the United States. He was released by the Committee from further attendance.

Bernard M. Baruch, called to the stand on Tuesday, said:

I had no information of any nature from anyone connected directly or indirectly with the Administration from any other source in connection with the President's peace note or von Bethmann-Hollweg's speech until I read of them in the newspapers.

Mr. Baruch was named by the mysterious "A. Curtis" in a letter to Representative Wood of Indiana, as having profited largely by "leak" information on the note by selling

"short" on United States Steel. Mr. Baruch said he first learned of the President's peace note on the morning that it was issued. At the time of market flurry, he said, he had been buying United States Steel. Mr. Baruch added:

The thing that affected the market was first von Bethmann-Hollweg's peace note from Germany. That was followed by Lloyd George's speech in Parliament which at the very outset tended to strengthen the market on Dec. 19. The first cable bulletins said that Lloyd George refused to consider peace at all. Later as the full speech came through Lloyd George went on to say "but," and left the door open to possible peace negotiations. That caused a decline on the market. It was a notice to the world that there was no final bar to peace, and whether it was coming at once or not we had to turn our minds to its effect on the market. Seeing this situation before me I sold the market short on Tuesday before the speech and during the speech, particularly when Lloyd George uttered the word "but."

The next day I bought a little over one-third of the stocks I was short on, or more than one-half of the stocks I had sold on the Lloyd George speech. On Dec. 20, the day after the Lloyd George speech, I bought a large amount, continuing to buy to cover my shorts and I also bought some long. I knew nothing of the President's note until it was published on the morning of Dec. 21.

Baruch's quiet announcement that his contribution to the Democratic National campaign fund last year totaled \$50,000 instead of \$35,000, as has been currently reported, aroused some interest in the committee.

Mr. Baruch denied as absolutely false the charge that he conferred with Secretary Tumulty at the Biltmore Hotel in New York, and also denied that he was registered there. He said he knew no broker by the name of "A. Curtis." Baruch also denied that either Otto Kahn, or "a man named Reich," or any one connected with the Government was associated with him in his short sales about the time of the peace note.

Otto H. Kahn of Kuhn, Loeb & Co., New York, followed and read into the record a statement denying all connection with any "leak." He was excused.

Allan Curtis of Boston followed Mr. Kahn and denied authorship of the "A. Curtis" letter upon which Representative Wood chiefly based his charges. He wrote his name for the committee to show it was not the signature on the letter. John Boyle and Henry E. Eland, representatives of the "Wall Street Journal" and also Dow, Jones & Co., were witnesses of the day. Mr. Eland said he learned from Secretary Lansing in the newspapermen's conference with the Secretary on Dec. 20 that there was to be a statement at 5 o'clock that afternoon and that it was not "a peace proposal or an offer of mediation." He telephoned this information to Mr. Boyle in the "Journal's" downtown office, he said, and heard no more about it until two hours and a half later, perhaps, when he was advised by other newspaper men that the Dow, Jones Co. ticker was carrying the statement that the President would issue a peace note. Mr. Boyle testified that he sent the information given him by Mr. Eland to the "Journal" in a confidential telegram shortly before noon. At 12:24 p. m., he said, he received a message from Dow, Jones & Co. saying it was reported that the President would issue a peace note about the end of the week. Mr. Boyle is also said to have testified that when his newspaper telegraphed, at 12:24 o'clock, that there were rumors in Wall Street of a peace manifesto he was unable to confirm these rumors and so advised the New York office.

A new version of the "leak" to Wall Street was given to the Rules Committee on the 11th inst. by James R. Reilly, Managing Editor of the "Wall Street Journal." A tip picked up, he said, by a Dow-Jones reporter in Wall Street that brokers' private wires from Washington were saying the President was about to send a peace note was solely responsible for the dispatch forecasting the note, which appeared on the company's ticker at 2:05 p. m., Dec. 20, 10 hours before the note was published. Asked by Representative Patten if there had been any advance information in Wall Street that Secretary Lansing on Dec. 21 would issue a statement asserting that the United States was being drawn near the verge of war, Reilly said he never heard of it. "I do not think that is so," said Reilly. "That is news to me."

Mr. Lawson continued on Tuesday to defy the committee, refusing over and over again to give the names of the men he had been told profited by the leak, after suggesting that he could name an official higher up than any yet mentioned. Four motions to cite him before the bar of the House for contempt pending when he left the witness stand early in the day were considered by the committee in executive session.

In answer to a question by Representative Cantrill if, in case an investigation of the leak were ordered by the House, he would agree to give the new committee the name of the member of Congress he had in mind who he claimed to have been his informant regarding the leak and of the Cabinet official who he said had been a beneficiary of the leak, Lawson said emphatically: "I will."

R. W. Bolling, a brother-in-law of President Wilson and a member of F. A. Connolly & Co., brokers, of Washington, was questioned at yesterday's hearing. He denied he had anything to do with a "leak." "I have nothing to say," he said, "except that whoever is responsible for bringing my name into this, Representative Wood, I believe, might send me an apology at the same time that he sends one to Secretary Tumulty." "When did you receive your first information regarding the President's note?" Representative Henry asked. "When I read it in the newspapers."

Neither he nor any other member of his firm had received any intimation concerning the peace note, and he had no knowledge of any official of the Government or Administration who had profited by stock transactions as a result of the peace note, Mr. Bolling said.

W. A. Crawford, head of the Washington bureau of the Central News of America, which supplies news to "Financial America," read a confidential message he said he sent to his New York office Dec. 20 saying that a note was coming but that, according to Secretary Lansing, it was not a peace note nor a move for mediation. "There was absolutely no leak in our service nor from any of its clients," said he.

Representative Harrison said he had examined the Central News' tapes for Dec. 20 and found nothing indicating that the confidence of Secretary Lansing had been violated. Archibald Jamieson, also of Central News, told of the conference in Secretary Lansing's office on the morning of Dec. 20 with the newspaper men, at which they were informed that a note would be ready at 5 P. M. for release in morning papers. Jamieson said he telephoned his office including in his message the statement that the President and Secretary of State Lansing were particularly anxious that the matter be held in strict confidence, because they wished no "leak" to get out that might affect the stock market. "On what did you base that statement regarding the injunction against a 'leak' to the stock market?" asked Representative Harrison. "My impression is that Secretary Lansing said that," said Jamieson. "Of course, I have no transcript of the conversation."

Cornelius Ford, the Public Printer, testified that he obtained his first information regarding the note from the newspapers and did not know when it was being printed in the Government plant. W. J. McEvoy, assistant superintendent of work at the plant, described every step taken in the printing of the note and said he was certain there was no "leak" in the Government office.

FRANK TRUMBULL ON FALLACY OF GOVERNMENT OWNERSHIP.

A statement in which he undertakes to demolish the fallacy that in Government ownership all the problems of the railroad would be solved, has been issued this week by Frank Trumbull, Chairman of the Railway Executives' Advisory Committee. Mr. Trumbull's contentions are submitted in reply to an editorial styled "Need of Public Ownership of Railroads Again Shown," appearing in the New York "Evening Journal" of Jan. 6, presenting "an argument based on assumed facts" (to quote Mr. Trumbull), "that are so far from the truth that it seems proper that a statement should be made in reply to it." We quote Mr. Trumbull's reply as follows:

President Lee, of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, is quoted as accusing the railroad managers of "deliberately trying to make the expenses of administering the eight-hour law unnecessarily high." The assumption is then made that this assumed action is either "for the purpose of accomplishing the repudiation of the eight-hour law," or of boosting the apparent increase in the cost of operation in order to make further extortions from the public by means of increased freights and passenger fares." As the major premise in this argument is untrue the conclusion is necessarily false. The railroads have not been deliberately trying to increase their operating expenses, but on the contrary have as a whole been making every possible effort constantly to decrease operating expenses and with a very considerable degree of success as any analysis of the facts would reveal. Any charge made to the contrary is utterly unfounded and unfair, as anyone who cares to investigate the facts can discover.

Other conclusions equally unsound are reached in this editorial, the chief of which is that referring to the prosperity of the railroads this year "is beyond anything ever heard of on earth." The bald fact is that while the year 1916 showed the largest net earnings of any year in the history of American railroads, even these earnings showed a return of less than 6% upon the railroad property devoted to the use of the public, and in comparison with the earnings enjoyed by other branches of industrial and commercial activity they were absurdly low. The attractions offered capital in almost every other line of business have been so great that railroad expansion to meet the needs of the country on the present basis has been limited. Along with this increased earning has come a constantly rising cost of labor and materials, with the reasonable assurance in the immediate future of greater expense and less income. Not only is there no business basis for reducing rates as is suggested, but the obvious fact is that railroad earnings to-day are not adequate to enable the roads to meet the existing needs of commerce.

The suggestion that without a reduction of rates we shall see "a new orgy of stockwatering" is equally ill-founded. The railroads are to-day asking that the Federal Government shall assume supervision of the issuance of railroad securities and have pledged themselves absolutely to the principle of Federal regulation and operation on their part in the public interest. Any other assumption is simply built on ignorance of the attitude of railway executives and owners. A reflection made on the personal integrity of railroad executives is also unwarranted. I think it cannot be shown that they are any different from other men or their word any more untrustworthy. Nor can it be shown that they cannot be trusted under oath.

The final fallacy of this unsound argument is the suggestion that in Government ownership all the problems of the railroads would be solved. American railroads to-day have the lowest capitalization per mile, charge the lowest freight rates and pay the highest wages of any railroad in the whole world. Their operating efficiency is the greatest and the character of their service the best. In Germany, to which the writer refers, freight rates are nearly double those charged in this country, and such efficiency as they have attained is made possible only through their autocratic, highly centralized plan of government. That even such results might be approximated in our unco-ordinated democracy is unbelievable. One need only to read the reports of the United States Post Office Department recently submitted to Congress to gain a suggestion of the evils which would attend any such procedure. They openly complain of impracticable and archaic methods, inefficiency, political interference and difficulty in dealing with employees, all of which would be highly intensified in Government operation of railroads. The evils of the "Pork Barrel" would be increased to an alarming degree if this great interest should be subjected to such control. The whole experience of this country has been to prove that private ownership and operation are vastly more efficient than public ownership. An argument in favor of Government ownership of railroads can only stand if based upon such false assumptions and incorrect statements of fact as appear in the article referred to. The real cure for this Government ownership idea would be Government ownership, but the disasters which would inevitably follow in its trail would be serious.

U. S. SENATE APPROVES BILL PROVIDING FOR PROHIBITION IN DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

On the 9th inst. the U. S. Senate by a vote of 55 to 32, passed the bill introduced by Senator Sheppard of Texas, providing for prohibition in the District of Columbia after Nov. 1 1917. This action followed the rejection by the Senate of the Underwood referendum amendment proposing to submit the question to a vote of the people of the District. The vote by the Senate in this case resulted in a tie (43 to 43) and as Vice-President Marshall was not present to cast the deciding ballot, the proposed amendment was lost under a rule of the Senate.

The Sheppard bill just approved says that after Nov. 1 1917:

No person or persons, or any house, company, association, club or corporation, his, its or their agents, officers, clerks or servants, directly or indirectly, shall, in the District of Columbia, manufacture for sale, or gift, import for sale, offer for sale, keep for sale, traffic in, barter, export, ship out of the District of Columbia or exchange for goods or merchandise, or solicit or receive orders for the purchase of any alcoholic liquors for beverage purposes or for any other than scientific, medicinal, pharmaceutical, mechanical, sacramental or other non-beverage purposes.

In another section of the measure it states that the new law cannot be construed to prevent the manufacture, importation, exportation or sale of denatured methyl alcohol or of ethyl alcohol for scientific, medical, and like purposes, but their manufacture and sale are limited to licensed druggists or manufacturers. The measure is now before the House.

LIQUOR ADVERTISEMENTS BARRED FROM MAILS BY BILL PASSED IN U. S. SENATE.

Following the decision of the U. S. Supreme Court on Jan. 8 in favor of the constitutionality of the Webb-Kenyon law, governing the shipment of liquor in inter-State Commerce, referred to in these columns this week, the U. S. Senate on the 11th passed a bill, introduced by Senator Bankhead of Alabama, prohibiting transmission in the mails of liquor advertisements in newspapers, circulars or other printed matter into States whose laws forbid such advertising. The bill provides as a penalty for violation of the law a fine of not more than \$1,000 or imprisonment for not more than two years, or both.

BANKING, LEGISLATIVE AND FINANCIAL NEWS.

Only five shares of bank stock were sold at the Stock Exchange this week. Ten shares of trust company stock and no bank stocks were sold at auction.

Shares.	BANK—New York.	Low.	High.	Close.	Last previous sale.
*5	Commerce, Nat. Bank of	192	192	192	Jan. 1917— 190
TRUST COMPANY—Brooklyn.					
10	Hamilton Trust Co.	270	270	270	Sept. 1913— 270

*Sold at the Stock Exchange.

The outcome of the efforts of the syndicate formed last September to secure control of the Merchants National Bank of this city was revealed at this week's annual meeting, when new interests were named to manage the affairs of the institution. The success of the syndicate's movements had not previously been divulged, although it had been intimated more than a month ago that it had secured a majority of the

40,000 shares of the bank. The bank has a capital of \$2,000,000 in \$50 shares; under the offer of last September the purchase price of the stock was 205%, equivalent to \$102 50 per share. The syndicate represented by Glidden, Lyon & Co., was headed by George Coffing Warner. Mr. Warner is said to have later issued a letter saying that he is authorized to bid \$150 per share for all or any part of 600 shares of the bank stock. At Tuesday's annual meeting, at which the syndicate is said to have voted approximately 21,500 shares, Theodore E. Burton, formerly U. S. Senator from Ohio, was elected to the presidency of the institution. Owen E. Paynter, heretofore Assistant Cashier, was made Cashier and an advisory council was created consisting of:

George C. Van Tuyl, Jr., Chairman, President Metropolitan Trust Co.; Dean Sage, Zabriskie, Murray, Sage & Kerr; Frank G. Crowell, Hall-Baker Grain Co., Kansas City, Mo.; Joseph W. Harriman, President Harriman National Bank; Anthony R. Kuser, Newark; Waldo Newcomer, President National Exchange Bank, Baltimore, Md.

Ex-Senator Burton succeeds as President Robert M. Gallaway, who had served in the presidency for twenty-three years. Mr. Gallaway and Edward Holbrook, President of the Gorham Manufacturing Co., who retired as Vice-President of the Merchants National at this week's meeting, have been elected directors of the Hanover National Bank. Joseph Byrne, until Tuesday Vice-President and Cashier of the Merchants, has been elected a Vice-President of the Hanover. Besides Messrs. Burton and Paynter, President and Cashier, respectively, of the Merchants National, there are three Assistant Cashiers, viz.: Frank L. Hilton, George S. Talbot and Irving S. Gregory. The directorate is made up of entirely new members and is composed of:

Theodore E. Burton, President; Raymond E. Jones, Agent, Royal Bank of Canada; F. S. Whitten, Laird & Co., Wilmington, Del.; Charles E. Potts, President, J. B. Locke & Potts; W. Ross Proctor, New York; William F. Wall, President, Wall Rope Works; Walter S. Eddy, C. K. Eddy & Sons, Saginaw, Mich.; William P. Neu, Vice-Pres., Steel Rail Supply Co.; Arthur G. Meyer, Dry Goods Commission; Eberhard Faber, Manufacturer; Carl F. Sturhahn, U. S. Agent Rossia Ins. Co.; R. H. Rucker, New York.

Senator Burton served the House and Senate for twenty-two years, and held memberships in many committees and commissions, including the Interparliamentary Union, the National Monetary Commission and the Committee on Foreign Relations. He is a graduate of Oberlin College, a member of the Ohio bar, and an authority on economic questions of both public and corporate interest. He is the author of a number of works, including "Financial Crises and Periods of Industrial and Commercial Depression," "Corporations and the State," and "The Life of John Sherman." Senator Burton is now at work on a comprehensive volume on "High Prieses." He was at one time offered the Treasury portfolio.

The capital of the Harriman National Bank of this city was increased at the annual meeting on the 9th inst. from \$500,000 to \$1,000,000, to which the shareholders of record at the close of business are entitled to subscribe to the extent of their holdings, pro rata, at par, or \$100 per share. The shareholders must exercise their rights on or before Feb. 15 1917. At the meeting of the directors on the 11th inst., a dividend of 100% was declared, payable in cash, representing a handsome melon for the stockholders. The election of directors resulted in the addition of the following to the board: Francis G. Lloyd, President of Brooks Bros.; William Bayne, Jr., senior partner of Wm. Bayne & Co., Coffee Merchants and Charles Thorley, these elections conforming to the policy of the bank in selecting its governing body from the more important mercantile and financial interests of the community. Since its organization as a national bank, March 20 1911, when the deposits were \$4,100,000, the Harriman National Bank has septupled its deposits, showing \$27,700,000 on the latest call of the Comptroller at the close of business Dec. 27 1916. The board of directors of the Harriman National Bank as not constituted stands as follows: Julius Kruttschnitt, Joseph W. Harriman, President; Harrison K. Bird, Bryan L. Kennelly, Charles C. Tegethoff, Ancell H. Ball, Ogden Mills Reid, W. Averell Harriman, Parnely W. Herriek, Adam L. Mohler, Michael Dreicer, Thomas B. Clarke, Jr., John A. Noble, Frederick Phillips, Henry B. Wesselman, H. B. Rosen, John McB. Bowman, Francis G. Lloyd, William Bayne, Jr. and Charles Thorley.

Waldo H. Marshall, who recently resigned from the Presidency of the American Locomotive Co., has become associated with J. P. Morgan & Co.; he will assist E. R. Stettinius in the management of the firm's export department.

The National City Bank of New York has announced, that it will formally open its Russian branch in Petrograd on next Monday Jan. 15. The branch will be situated in the quarters formerly occupied by the Turkish Embassy, and will be under the management of R. R. Stevens and H. Fessenden Meserve, the bank's general representative in Russia. The Petrograd branch, as heretofore noted, will have a capital of 5,000,000 rubles. The new branch, it is said, will conduct a commercial credit business, and will aim to supply credit information to Americans exporting goods to Russia.

The Metropolitan Trust Co., of this city, has moved from its old address at 49 Wall Street, to new offices at 60 Wall Street. The removal of over \$172,000,000 of securities and \$7,000,000 in cash took place last Sunday, when the deserted conditions of the financial district proved best for such an undertaking. The valuable papers were shipped in large sealed metal cases, and the cash, because of its great weight, in smaller cases and leather bags. Each load, guarded by a number of special officers who were locked in with the gold before the wagon started, was escorted by police and plain clothes men to its destination. The opening day of the new offices on Monday was the occasion of a large informal reception. From the time the doors opened in the morning until late in the evening, the officers' quarters and banking rooms were thronged. The brilliantly lighted rooms had more the aspect of a botanical exhibition than that of an active business institution for nearly every financial institution in town had sent its compliments and good wishes in the form of a large vase of American Beauties. The rapid growth of this trust company during the last year in which time it almost doubled its deposits, made necessary a change to larger accommodations. The new offices occupy more than three times the floor space of the old and the main banking room takes up an entire floor from Wall Street through to Pine Street. The trust company, which has as its President former State Banking Commissioner George C. Van Tuyl Jr., had been located at its old address at 49 Wall Street for thirteen years. The institution has a capital of \$2,000,000, surplus and profits of \$5,484,400, and deposits, as of Nov. 29, \$64,291,620. Last February the trust company opened a branch office at 716 Fifth Avenue, under the management of Roger P. Kavanagh, former State Bank Examiner.

The stockholders of the Farmers Loan & Trust Co., of this city, at a special meeting on the 10th inst., voted in favor of the proposal to increase the capital of the institution from \$1,000,000 to \$5,000,000, and the offering of the \$4,000,000 of new stock to present shareholders at \$200 for each share of \$100 par value. The stockholders, as noted in our issue of Dec. 9, have voted to reduce the number of shares of the capital stock of the company from 40,000 shares of the par value of \$25 each, to 10,000 shares of the par value of \$100 each.

At a meeting of the directors of the National Park Bank of this city on Jan. 12, Maurice H. Ewer, formerly Cashier of the bank, George H. Kretz, Manager of the Foreign Department, and Sylvester W. Labrot were elected Vice-Presidents. Ernest V. Connolly, heretofore Assistant Cashier, was appointed to the cashiership to succeed Mr. Ewer, and Byron P. Robbins and Percy J. Ebbott were appointed Assistant Cashiers. At the annual meeting on the 9th inst., John Jay Pierrepont and Lewis Cass Ledyard, Jr., were elected to the board, and Vice-President John C. Van Cleef retired from the board.

Several important changes were made in the executive staff of the National City Bank of New York at the annual meeting of the directors on the 9th inst. John H. Fulton, formerly President of the Commercial National Bank, of New Orleans, La., and George Edwin Gregory, formerly Cashier of the National City Bank, were elected Vice-Presidents. The vacancy caused by the promotion of Mr. Gregory was filled by the election to the Cashiership of Thomas A. Reynolds, heretofore an Assistant Cashier of the bank, who has been serving as Secretary of the National City Company, the bank's bonds selling organization. Andrew Mills, Jr., Manager of the bond department of the National City Bank since 1914, has been appointed an Assistant Cashier. Mr. Gregory, the new Vice-President, has been identified with the National City Bank for the past 26 years. He was active in the organization of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, serving as temporary

Cashier during its early days. Edward P. Currier, who was chosen to the office of Assistant to the President of the National City Bank some time ago, was formally elected to that office at the annual meeting on the 9th inst. He had been for several years Mr. Vanderlip's secretary, and in 1914 was elected to the office of Secretary to the President. At the annual meeting one new director was elected, he is Earl D. Babst, President of the American Sugar Refining Co.

Charles S. Wall has been chosen Secretary of the National City Co., of this city, to succeed Thomas A. Reynolds, who as elsewhere noted has been elected Cashier of the National City Bank.

The Lincoln National Bank of this city announces in addition to the re-election of Chas. Elliot Warren, President, and Wm. A. Simonson, Vice-President, that David C. Grant, formerly Cashier, was elected a Vice-President; John S. Sammis, Assistant Cashier, was appointed Cashier; Thomas Kenworthy and Edward A. Bishop were appointed Assistant Cashiers. Edward W. Brown, Vice-President of the Sterling Salt Co., and William F. Hawk were elected directors to fill vacancies, succeeding Henry Carnegie Phipps, who declined re-election, and the late General Thomas L. James, formerly Chairman of the board.

At the annual meeting of the board of trustees of the Franklin Trust Co. of New York and Brooklyn, held January 11th, the by-laws were amended to provide for a new executive officer to be known as chairman of the board, and Arthur King Wood, who has been President of the company since 1908, was elected to that office. The board elected as President, Edward C. Delafield, who has been Vice-President for the last two years and is one of a group of bankers and business men who acquired a large interest in the company a few years ago. Thornton Gerrish, who has been the Franklin's trust officer for many years, was elected Vice-President. The above changes were found necessary owing to the Company's largely increased business since the establishment of its New York office at 46 Wall Street. The Franklin's deposits have more than doubled in the past two years and are now over \$25,000,000, while its surplus and undivided profits show a corresponding increase. Owing to its rapid growth, the company has been obliged to take additional space at 46 Wall Street for its transfer and registration departments, while the expansion of its trust business in Brooklyn has compelled the institution to use for part of its clerical staff the house which it owns at the corner of Clinton and Remsen streets in the rear of the Franklin Trust Building. The Franklin Trust Co. was organized by the late Abiel Abbot Low and a group of other prominent Brooklyn men, and commenced business at 186 Remsen St., Brooklyn, on August 1 1888, with a capital of \$500,000, increased a year later to \$1,000,000. In 1892 the company moved to the building which it had erected at the corner of Montague and Clinton sts., and also established the Franklin Safe Deposit Co., which it controls. Besides the main office at 166 Montague St. and the New York office at 46 Wall St., the trust company now maintains three Brooklyn branches, one at 569 Fulton St., near Flatbush Ave., one in the Wallabout Market, and one in the Navy Y. M. C. A. Building on Sands St., the last having been opened for the convenience of sailors in the United States navy. In 1911 the company was elected to full membership in the New York Clearing House Association. The company has a large individual trust business in Brooklyn and has acted as executor and trustee for many of Brooklyn's prominent citizens. Edwin Paekard was the first President, serving until 1891, when he was succeeded by George H. Southard. In 1908 Arthur King Wood was elected. Two new directors have recently been added to the board—Herbert L. Pratt, Vice-President of the Standard Oil Co. of New York and Robert G. Hutchins Jr., Vice-President of the National Bank of Commerce. William G. Low Jr. is Chairman of the Executive Committee and the other trustees, besides Mr. Wood and Mr. Delafield, are Charles K. Beekman, Henry Bruere, William Allen Butler, Allen Curtis, R. Bayard Cutting, Charles B. Donny, Murray W. Dodge, Crowell Hadden, Henry R. Hayes, George Hewlett, James Imbrie, John H. Iselin, Martin Joost, A. Ludlow Kramer, R. Walter Leigh, William G. Low, Charles J. Peabody, R. Stuyvesant Pierrepont, James H. Post, William M. Ramsay, Griswold A. Thompson, Frank Day Tuttle.

At the stockholders' meeting of the Chase National Bank on the 9th inst. all the retiring directors were re-elected and Henry B. Endicott of Boston, of Endicott, Johnson & Co., and Edward T. Nichols of New York, Vice-President of the Great Northern Ry. Co., were added to the board. At a meeting of the board of directors of the Chase National Bank held the same day Gerhard M. Dahl, formerly Vice-President of the Electric Bond & Share Co., was elected a Vice-President, and S. Fred Telleen, Robert I. Barr and Sewall S. Shaw, for many years in the employ of the bank, were appointed Assistant Cashiers.

Francis Crave, heretofore Cashier of the Broadway Central Bank, of this city, was chosen Vice-President and Cashier at the annual meeting on the 9th inst., and J. M. Lotsch was appointed an Assistant Cashier to fill a vacancy. Charles B. Toole, of Toole, Henry & Co., was elected a director of the Broadway Central Bank to succeed David W. Armstrong, resigned.

Waldemar Eitingon, a director of the Sherman National Bank, of this city, was elected a Vice-President of the institution at the annual meeting last Tuesday, Jan. 9.

The annual banquet of Group VIII., New York State Bankers' Association, will be held next Monday evening at the Waldorf-Astoria. A large attendance of bankers is expected and an interesting program has been planned. Theodore Hetzler, President of the Fifth Avenue Bank, as Secretary of the group, is in charge of the seating arrangements and speakers.

At the annual meeting of the stockholders of The International Bank, of this city, on the 9th inst. John E. Gardin was elected a director, and the following members of the board were re-elected:

Guy Cary, R. L. Farnham, Edward W. Harden, Lawrence M. Jacobs, Arthur Kavanagh, William S. Kies, Willard Straight.

The stockholders elected the following officers:

Lawrence M. Jacobs, President; H. T. S. Green, Vice-President; William Reed, Vice-President; Alfred J. McGrath, Cashier; Charles S. Lippincott, Assistant Cashier; Byrce Metcalf, Assistant Cashier.

At the annual meeting of the stockholders of the New York Trust Co. of this city, held on the 9th inst., the following trustees were re-elected to serve for a term of three years, expiring in 1920:

Otto T. Bannard, S. Reading Bertron, F. N. Hoffstot, Frederic B. Jennings, James Parmelee, Henry C. Phipps, Norman P. Ream, B. Aymar Sands, Joseph J. Sloeum, John W. Sterling.

Frederick Strauss, of J. & W. Seligman & Co., and Clarence Dillon, of William A. Read & Co., were elected trustees of the Central Trust Co. of this city at the annual meeting on the 11th inst.

F. Egerton Webb, of the firm of Webb & Prall, has been elected President of the Lincoln Safe Deposit Co. of this city.

Thomas C. Fry has been elected a Vice-President and director of the Gotham National Bank, of this city, to succeed Frederick Fowler.

In addition to the changes noted elsewhere in these columns, the following are among the local board changes made at the annual meetings this week:

Battery Park National Bank.—Frank A. Dillingham was elected a director. *Chatham & Phenix National Bank.*—John J. Raskob, Treasurer of the Du Pont Powder Co., was elected a director.

Coal & Iron National Bank.—John F. Birmingham, President of the Delaware Lackawanna & Western Coal Co.; William M. Hager and Stanley P. Jadwin were elected directors to succeed E. E. Loomis, W. H. Woodin and Samuel Well, who retired.

First National Bank.—John R. Morron, President of the Atlas Portland Cement Co., was elected a director of the First National Bank and the First Security Co.

Garfield National Bank.—The board was increased from 10 to 12 members by the election of Joseph W. Emery and William N. McIlvay.

Germania Bank.—Frank Guldon was elected a director to succeed his father, the late Charles Gulden.

Liberty National Bank.—Charles D. Hillis and R. H. Dunham were chosen directors, succeeding Thomas Cochran and Newcomb Carlton.

Market & Fulton National Bank.—William B. Franklin, President of the American Malting Co., and Frank C. Jennings of Bruce & Cook, were elected directors.

Mechanics & Metals National Bank.—William E. S. Griswold was elected a director.

National Bank of Commerce.—Charles E. Dunlap of the Berwind-White Coal Mining Co. was elected a director.

New York County National Bank.—Frank R. Leland was elected a director to succeed Dr. Timothy M. Chessman, resigned; and George L. Shearer was elected a director to fill a vacancy.

Public Bank.—William D. Walker, President of the American Thermos Bottle Co., was chosen a director.

Second National Bank.—Thomas Howell of B. H. Howell, Son & Co., and F. Colt Johnson of J. H. Lane & Co. were chosen directors to succeed Frank A. Munsey and J. J. Sinclair.

Sherman National Bank.—James M. Dixon, Vice-President of the Tobacco Products Co., was chosen a director to fill a vacancy.

Union Exchange National Bank.—Louis J. Robertson was elected to the directorate, succeeding Albert H. Wiggin, resigned.

First National Bank of Brooklyn.—The directorate was increased from 12 to 15 members by the election of Herman A. Metz, John T. Barry and William S. Irish, Vice-President and Cashier of the bank.

National City Bank of Brooklyn.—Walter W. Spadone was elected a director to succeed the late William C. Phillips.

The report of the Transatlantic Trust Co., of this city, shows continued growth in deposits and earnings. During the past year deposits have risen to \$6,241,000, an increase of \$1,150,000, while surplus and reserves now stand at \$700,000, an increase of \$150,000. Taking into consideration the 8% dividend paid, the company's net 1916 earnings totaled \$206,000.

The Pacific Bank, of this city, has prepared for its friends and customers a short and interesting account of its history in an attractive booklet. The bank began business in October 1850, shortly after the discovery of gold in California. It now has four independent offices conveniently located throughout New York City. It has a capital of \$500,000 and surplus and profits, as of Dec. 15 last, of \$998,957. Deposits on that date were \$9,577,622. O. H. Cheney is President of the bank. Other officers are William Skinner, Vice-President; J. C. Lawrence, Assistant Cashier, and E. R. Lawrence, Assistant Cashier.

The Scandinavian Trust Co., a new banking institution of this city, has filed notice of intention to organize with the State Superintendent of Banks. The new company, as noted in our issue of Dec. 30, is to have a capital of \$1,000,000 and a surplus of \$1,500,000. The purpose of the organization of the institution, it is said, is to facilitate financial transactions in aid of trade and commerce between the United States and Scandinavian countries, especially Norway. The Scandinavian Trust Co., as heretofore stated, is to have as its President A. V. Ostrom, now Vice-President of the Northwestern National Bank, of Minneapolis, Minn. Leading foreign bankers who are in sympathy with the Norwegian Government are said to be interested in the proposed new trust company. The incorporators include John E. Berwind, Samuel L. Fuller, Edwin O. Halter and E. A. Cap-pelen Smith, of New York City; William R. Coe, Oyster Bay; Edward F. Geer, Westhampton Beach, L. I.; Frederick W. Hvovlef, Brooklyn.

"United States Bonds, Historical and Descriptive," is the title of a 74-page pamphlet which has recently been issued by the well-known Government bond house of Harvey Fisk & Sons, New York. This book contains an historical sketch tracing the fluctuations in the Government's debt from about \$75,000,000 in 1791 when, following the War of Independence, upon the advice of Alexander Hamilton, the general government assumed the debts of the States up to a maximum of \$2,844,649,626 at the close of the Civil War, down to the present time when the debt amounts to less than a billion dollars, about the same as the debt of the City of New York. There are fac-simile productions of popular circulars offering Government bonds issued during the Civil War period. The different outstanding issues of United States Government bonds are described. The portions of the Federal Reserve Act dealing with the refunding of United States bonds are analyzed and all rulings in regard thereto of the Federal Reserve Board and of the United States Treasury Department are printed. Existing provisions of law for new issues of United States bonds are also set out. The publication of this book is opportune just now when additional issues of United States bonds are being discussed to provide for part of the cost of the preparedness program, for shipbuilding and to reimburse the Treasury for expenditures heretofore made in connection with the construction of the Panama Canal.

The December issue of the "Trade and Crop Bulletin," which is published by the Seattle National Bank of Seattle, Wash., contains an interesting and instructive analysis of conditions in the Pacific Northwest. According to the "Bulletin," the city of Seattle and the Pacific Northwest are in better condition than for a great many years, even

though the largest industry, the lumber business, continues to lag behind as a result of the war. The importance of Seattle in transacting our international trade is referred to in the publication. The foreign business of the Puget Sound district for the twelve months ending Nov. 30 1916 has been \$349,000,000, as compared with \$167,000,000 for the twelve months ending Nov. 30 1915. Seattle's chief competitor on the Pacific Coast is the district of San Francisco, which did a foreign business, it is stated, of \$161,000,000 for the year ending Nov. 30 1915, and \$236,000,000 for the year ending Nov. 30 1916. The main cause for the Port of Seattle taking precedence over the old and favorite port of San Francisco, says the "Bulletin," is the same fundamental cause which has made and will always continue to promote Seattle's growth—a strategic position on the world's trade route. The "Bulletin" also contains a resume of crop conditions in the various sections of the State of Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana. The publication is gotten out in June and December every year by the Seattle National Bank, and is edited by William S. Peachy, Cashier.

At the annual meeting of the stockholders of the Savings Investment & Trust Co. of East Orange on the 9th inst. Harry H. Thomas, the Vice-President, was elected to the Board of Directors. Mr. Thomas has also been elected to the Board of Directors of the Watsessing Bank of Bloomfield, N. J.

Edwin H. Hatch, Vice-President of the defunct Mutual Trust Co., of Orange, N. J., was sentenced on Jan. 6 by Chief Justice Gummere in the Supreme Court at Newark, to serve a minimum of seven years and a maximum of fourteen years in State's prison, on his non vult plea to seven indictments for falsification of the bank's books. Upon the first of the seven indictments Justice Gummere based a sentence of not less than three and a half years and not more than seven years in State's prison. On the second he imposed a similar term, to begin after the first sentence shall have been served, and on the other five indictments similar sentences, but to run concurrently with the first two. Thomas S. Byrne, Secretary-Treasurer of the Mutual Trust, who was charged with over-certification of deposits, done at the direction of Hatch, was granted clemency by the Chief Justice, who suspended sentence on all seven charges to which he had pleaded non-vult. In suspending sentence in Byrne's case, the Chief Justice, according to the "Newark News," announced that he had taken into consideration representations that had been made in his behalf, particularly a letter signed by twenty members of the grand jury and accompanying the indictments, in which it was said that the inquest, while realizing that indictments must be found were convinced that Byrne had acted only after his power of resistance had been overcome by a stronger mind. The operations of Hatch, which resulted in the institutions closing on July 24 last caused a deficit on the bank's books totaling \$306,000.

The State Trust Co. of Plainfield, N. J., has prepared in booklet form its statement of condition at the close of business Dec. 30 1916. The company began business on Sept. 16 1910 and since then has "established itself in the confidence of its community." "This result," it is pointed out, "has not been brought about by passive methods, but by an aggressive policy of publicity and an active campaign for new business on one hand and by a carefully studied effort to faithfully serve our customers on the other." Total resources on Dec. 30 last stood at \$1,396,016. Deposits were \$1,219,517 on that date, as compared with \$1,086,566 on Dec. 31 the previous year, and \$854,060 on Dec. 31 1914. The State Trust Co. has a capital of \$100,000, and surplus and profits of \$75,420. Its President is R. Henry Depew. The Vice-Presidents are E. F. Feickert and M. C. Van Arsdale; H. C. Nash is Secretary and Treasurer.

A charter has been granted by the Comptroller of the Currency for the organization of a new banking institution to be known as the Merchants National Bank, of Asbury Park, N. J., with a capital of \$100,000.

At the annual meeting of the Burlington City Loan & Trust Co., of Burlington, N. J., on Jan. 9 William D'Olier, President of the institution since Jan. 8 1907, being in his seventy-fourth year felt he was entitled to lighten his labors

and responsibilities, and therefore refused to be re-elected. Walter E. Robb, who has served for a number of years as Vice-President, was promoted to the Presidency, and Hugh H. Hilson, formerly Second Vice-President and Trust Officer, was made Vice-President and Trust Officer; the other officers remained the same. James H. Birch, Jr., who has been a member of the Board for a number of years declined re-election, due to the additional pressure of his personal affairs, and Frank W. Thacher of Edgewater Park, N. J., President of the Florence Thread Works and President of the Beverly Underwear Co., was elected a member of the Board in his place, other members of the Board being re-elected.

At the meeting the Board declared an extra dividend of 2% out of earnings for the six months ending Dec. 31 last, in addition to the regular semi-annual dividend of 5%. The company during 1916 enjoyed one of the most prosperous years in its history. The annual report for the year ending Dec. 31 1916 showed an increase in deposits for the year of \$212,723; they are reported at \$1,091,846. Undivided profits, after deducting all expenses and taxes, stood at \$134,632, an increase of \$18,880 for the twelve months.

William Pelouze Cutler, heretofore connected with the bond department of the Harris Trust & Savings Bank, of Chicago, Ill., has been chosen Manager of the bond department of the Syracuse Trust Co., of Syracuse, N. Y. Mr. Cutler has been connected with the Harris Trust & Savings Bank since 1906, and will assume his new duties with the Syracuse Trust Co. as soon as he can close his affairs in Chicago.

The Marine National Bank, of Buffalo, N. Y., has announced that its surplus fund has been increased from \$4,000,000 to \$5,000,000. The Marine National has a capital of \$5,000,000, and had undivided profits, as of Dec. 27 last, of \$1,282,427. Deposits on that date amounted to \$60,687,188. It is headed by George F. Rand, as President.

The directors of the Salt Springs National Bank, of Syracuse, N. Y., at their annual meeting on Jan. 8, voted in favor of increasing the bank's capital from \$200,000 to \$500,000. A meeting of the stockholders, it is said, will be held in the near future to vote upon the proposed increase. The 3,000 shares of new stock (par value \$100), if authorized, will be offered pro rata to present shareholders. The price at which the new stock will be sold is to be announced later. The Salt Springs National is headed by Francis W. Gates, as President.

Henry C. Brewster, for the past nineteen years President of the Traders National Bank of Rochester, N. Y., was elected to the Chairmanship of the board at the annual meeting of the bank on the 9th inst. He was succeeded in the Presidency by Henry F. Marks, heretofore Vice-President, who has been connected with the bank since 1880. Mr. Brewster, the retiring President, and new Chairman of the board, began his career with the Traders Bank, the predecessor of the Traders National, on Sept. 7 1863 as a messenger. He advanced by progressive stages until in 1871, forty-five years ago, he was elected Cashier. He served as Cashier for 26 years, and 19 years ago was elected President of the bank.

The stockholders of the National Bank of Commerce of Providence, R. I., at their annual meeting on the 9th inst. made the following changes in the executive staff of the institution. Henry L. Wilcox, formerly Vice-President and Cashier of the bank, was relieved of his duties as Cashier, and Walter C. Nye, formerly Cashier of the United National Bank of Providence, was elected to succeed Mr. Wilcox as Cashier of the National Bank of Commerce. Frank W. Gale, formerly President of the United National Bank was chosen a Vice-President of the National Bank of Commerce. C. Prescott Knight was re-elected President of the Commerce. Dutee Wilcox was re-elected Vice-President, and Edward B. Fessenden was re-elected Assistant Cashier. The United National Bank, it will be remembered, was consolidated with the Industrial Trust Co. of Providence, in Jan. 1916.

The stockholders of the International Trust Co., of Boston, Mass., at their annual meeting on Jan. 8, voted to increase the capital of the institution from \$1,000,000 to \$1,500,000. Stockholders of record Jan. 15 1917 will be offered the right

to subscribe to the new stock for an amount equal to 50% of their holdings, at the rate of \$200 per share to be paid for March 1 1917. Any stock, it is stated, for which subscriptions have not been filed by stockholders on or before Feb. 1, will be sold by the executive committee at not less than \$200 a share.

The stockholders of the First National Bank, of Boston, Mass., at their annual meeting on Jan. 9, voted to increase the capital from \$5,000,000 to \$7,500,000 by the issuance of 25,000 shares of a par value of \$100 each. Each shareholder of record is allowed to subscribe for the new stock at \$300 per share, at the ratio of one new share for each two now held. Charles F. Weed, President of the Boston Chamber of Commerce, has been chosen a Vice-President of the First National, and will retire from practice, and from the firm of C. F. & A. H. Weed, in order to give all his attention to the bank. He will, it is said, retain the Presidency of the Chamber of Commerce until the coming May when his term of office expires. He will succeed in the Vice-Presidency of the First National, Downie D. Muir, who has resigned. Eugene W. Owen, for many years connected with the First National Bank, has been made an Assistant Cashier. The other officers and directors of the bank have been re-elected.

The directors of the National Shawmut Bank, of Boston, Mass., at their annual meeting last Tuesday elected two new directors. They were Benjamin Joy, Cashier of the bank, and Bayard Tuckerman, Jr.

Frank L. Howes and Edward H. Gleason, of Boston, and Douglas Crocker, of Pitchburg, were chosen directors of the Merchants National Bank, of Boston, Mass., at the annual meeting on the 9th inst. The other members of the board were re-elected.

On Jan. 8 E. F. Shanbaeker, President of the Fourth Street National Bank, was elected chairman of the Philadelphia Clearing House Association, succeeding J. R. McAllister, Jr., who retired under the seniority rule. Levi L. Rue, President of the Philadelphia National Bank, has been re-elected President of the association, and John C. Boyd was re-elected Secretary. Members of the Clearing House Committee elected at the annual meeting on the 10th inst., were E. F. Shanbaeker, Chairman; William T. Elliott, Charles S. Calwell, Joseph Wayne, Jr., William J. Montgomery, C. S. W. Packard and William A. Law.

William P. Sinnett, Cashier of the Market Street National, of Philadelphia, Pa., has been elected a Vice-President, and William H. Trappe has been appointed an Assistant Cashier. Ralph Earle and Gustavus W. Cook have been chosen directors of the Market Street National.

Joseph M. Harlan, President of the West Philadelphia Stock Yards, has been added to the directorate of the Centennial National Bank of Philadelphia, Pa.

William D. Oelbermann has been elected a director of the Union National Bank of Philadelphia, Pa., to succeed the late Charles S. Walton.

The directorate of the Tradesmens National Bank of Philadelphia, Pa., was increased from 13 to 15 members at the annual meeting on Jan. 9th by the election of F. W. Bacon and Edmund Williams to the board.

John D. Williamson Jr., Vice-President of the American Engineering Co., has been chosen a director of the Industrial Trust, Title & Savings Co. of Philadelphia, Pa., to fill the vacancy caused by the death of his father, the late William C. Williamson.

William H. Margerison, has been elected a director of the Ninth National Bank of Philadelphia, to fill a vacancy.

The incorporators of the Metropolitan Trust Co. of Atlantic City, N. J., who, as noted in our issue of Dec. 23, have been refused a charter by the New Jersey State Superintendent of Banking, have obtained a writ of certiorari from Justice Black in the Supreme Court at Trenton, to review the refusal to permit incorporation. The writ was obtained by Theodore W. Schimpf, one of the incorporators, repre-

senting himself and former Mayor William Riddle. The refusal of Banking Commissioner La Monte, as heretofore stated, was based on a report made by Alvin L. Fowler, an examiner of the State Banking Department, who recommended that the charter be denied on the ground that there were four trust companies and five national banks in Atlantic City, which were, in his opinion, sufficient to supply the demands of the community. It is alleged that the power attempted to be exercised by the Commissioner in refusing to approve the certificate of incorporation contravenes the constitution. It is also charged that the Commissioner had no right to deny the application for a public hearing which was requested by the applicants for the charter.

At the quarterly meeting of the directors of the Union Trust Co. of Baltimore on Jan. 8 A. W. Calloway, President of the Davis Coal & Coke Co., was elected a Director. Mr. Calloway is widely known in the coal trade and has been the head of the Davis Coal & Coke Co. for several years, with headquarters in Baltimore. The Trust Company closed the most successful quarter in its history; earnings for the past three months were the greatest of the company, being at the rate of 25% per annum. At the present time 10% dividends are being paid by the company. When the present management took charge of the Union Trust Co. in December 1914 deposits were, Dec. 1, \$582,000; on Dec. 31 1914 they advanced to \$922,816; at the end of December 1915 they amounted to \$3,417,058, while on Dec. 31 1916 they stood at \$5,245,082. The officers of the company are John M. Dennis, President; Maurice H. Grape, Vice-President; Joshua S. Dew, Secretary, and William O. Peirson, Treasurer.

A. Merriman Casey, Louis H. Windholz and Matthew W. Adams were elected to the directorate of the National Marine Bank, of Baltimore, Md., at the annual meeting of the directors on the 10th inst. They succeed the late George R. Vickers, Henry C. Matthews and Townsend Scott.

The directors of the Baltimore Trust Co. of Baltimore, Md., have created the office of Assistant Secretary and have appointed thereto Robert L. Grafflin, who has been with the company for many years.

At a recent meeting of the stockholders of the First National Bank of Sheraden, Pittsburgh, Pa., the bank was converted from a national to a State institution, and the name was changed to the Sheraden Bank of Pittsburgh.

W. M. Neel has been chosen Assistant Secretary of the South Side Trust Co. of Pittsburgh, Pa.

The First Trust & Savings Co. of Cleveland has announced that during the year 1916 it opened an account every five minutes of the banking hours of the year—nearly 21,000 accounts in all. Though this institution is only three years old, its growth during the past twelve months has been noteworthy, its resources showing a gain of more than \$10,000,000, while \$500,000 was added to the surplus. In the same period the First National Bank of Cleveland, with which the First Trust & Savings Co. is affiliated, increased its resources more than \$15,000,000, easily retaining its position as Ohio's largest national bank. The annual letter from President John Sherwin of the First National Bank and the First Trust & Savings Co. to the stockholders shows that the combined resources of the banks on the last day of 1916 totaled \$92,728,578, as compared with \$67,656,986 on Dec. 31 1915. Stock of the First National Bank endorsed and carrying an interest in the First Trust & Savings Co. earned more than \$1,000,000, or 42.4%. During the past year \$500,000 was added to the surplus of each bank.

The directors of the Guardian Savings & Trust Co. of Cleveland, Ohio, have decided to increase the capital of the institution from \$2,000,000 to \$3,000,000, and a meeting of the stockholders will be held on February 5 to vote upon the matter. At a meeting of the directors to be held shortly the price will be set at which the stock will be offered to present shareholders; the price, it is said, will not be less than \$200 a share. At that figure, it is pointed out, the new stock would keep the surplus equal to the capital stock; they now stand at \$2,000,000 each.

The directors of the Woodland Avenue Savings & Trust Co. of Cleveland, Ohio, have directed that \$50,000 be added to the surplus account, thus making that item \$500,000. The Woodland Avenue Savings & Trust Co. has a capital of \$350,000, and at the beginning of the year gave to all of its employees a bonus equivalent to 5% of their 1916 salaries.

In the annual statement presented to the stockholders of the First National Bank and the First Trust & Savings Bank of Chicago by Chairman of the Board James B. Forgan on Dec. 31 the combined profits of the affiliated banks show net earnings for the year of 7¼%, against 8% last year, on the average aggregate capital employed. In describing the year just closed as even more unsatisfactory than 1915 from the standpoint of earnings, Chairman Forgan says in explanation:

Comment was made in the report of Dec. 31 1915 on the unsatisfactory bank earnings during that year, caused by the surplus of loanable funds created through the reduced reserve requirements under the Federal Reserve Act, and by gold imports. The latter feature has continued throughout the year 1916 to even a greater extent. Gold sent to this country with systematic regularity for the purpose of maintaining stability in the sterling exchange market has caused interest rates to continue at an abnormally low level and has created a basis for a further huge expansion in credits in the United States.

Between the dates of Sept. 2 1915 and Sept. 12 1916 (covering approximately one year and the figures at the latter date being the latest available), the loans of the national banks of the United States have expanded \$1,500,000,000 and deposits have increased \$1,700,000,000, while cash in vaults and with Federal Reserve banks have increased \$142,000,000, or barely 10% when compared to the increase in deposits. As a result of these changes, the percentage of cash reserve to net deposits decreased from 16.14 on Sept. 2 1915 to 14.70 on Sept. 12 1916. Although this change seems small, yet it is an important one as measured by past experience, indicating as it does that, notwithstanding our heavy imports of gold, credit is expanding in greater ratio.

With this situation existing in the financial world; with most of our commercial and manufacturing concerns being operated at their maximum capacity; with constantly increasing prices on all commodities; with current profits in many lines larger than ever thought possible by the most optimistic, it behooves us to give careful consideration to the future, and to have in mind that this most unusual condition and unexpected prosperity, resting as it does on the insecure foundation of the distressing situation in Europe, may come to a sudden end. We should therefore make the most liberal provisions and take extraordinary precautions for the reaction which must follow.

The combined net profits of the First National and the First Trust & Savings Bank for the year just ended, after making provisions for depreciation and losses, both actual and anticipated, amounted to \$2,381,140; out of this dividends aggregating \$2,200,000 were paid, leaving a surplus above dividends of \$181,140. In the case of the First National the net profits were \$1,301,921, the dividend payments of 12% absorbing \$1,200,000, leaving \$101,921 to be added to the balance of \$2,350,211 brought forward from the previous year, and creating a new balance of \$2,452,132. The profit and loss account of the First Trust & Savings Bank shows net profits of \$1,079,218; after applying \$1,000,000 in dividends (12% and 8% special) \$79,218 was added to the amount standing to the credit of profit and loss on Jan. 1 1916, namely \$363,468, making a total of \$442,686 brought forward on Jan. 1 1917. The First National reports deposits of \$176,051,040 on Jan. 2 1917 and total assets of \$204,983,099. The deposits of the First Trust & Savings Bank on the same date were \$77,813,760, while its assets were \$88,532,878. The stock of the First National is held by 315 women, 441 men, 16 firms and corporations and 94 trusteeships and estates. The stock of the First Trust & Savings Bank is owned by the directors of the First National, and the directors of the two institutions are identical.

Craig B. Hazlewood, formerly Assistant to the President of the Union Trust Co. of Chicago, Ill., was promoted to a Vice-Presidency at the annual meeting this week. H. Lindsay Wheeler and Albert Seckel have been appointed Assistant Cashiers of the Union Trust, and Charles K. Foster and W. R. Abbott have been elected to the directorate.

William C. Cummings, President of the Drivers' Trust & Savings Bank, of Chicago, Ill., was elected to the Presidency of the Drivers' National Bank on the 9th inst., succeeding Owen T. Reeves Jr., who, as noted in our issue of Dec. 30, has become a Vice-President of the Corn Exchange National Bank.

George H. Wilson, heretofore Cashier of the Fort Dearborn National Bank of Chicago, Ill., has been elected to a Vice-Presidency, and is succeeded as Cashier by E. C. Tubbs.

The directors of North West State Bank, of Chicago, on the 10th inst. re-elected the old officers and conferred the additional title of Vice-President upon Frank W. Hausmann. James T. Perkins was promoted to the position of Assistant

Cashier, and Victor A. Libretti, Chief Clerk. The complete list of officers for the ensuing year is as follows:

President, Joseph R. Noel; Vice-President, James Davis; Vice-President and Cashier, Frank W. Hausmann; Assistant Cashier, Herman Schwerdtfeger and James T. Perkins; Chief Clerk, Victor A. Libretti; Manager Mortgage and Bond Department, N. J. Reuland.

At the annual stockholders' meeting on Jan. 8 all the previous directors were re-elected, and Fred Zimmerman, Vice-President of the Monon Railway, was added to the list. The net profits for the year 1916 were \$39,551, being 13.18% on the capital of \$300,000. During the year dividends of 8% were paid and \$15,000 was added to surplus, increasing that fund to \$75,000. The fourth annual distribution of 1% of the previous year's net profits to employees of the bank resulted in the proportion to the amounts of salary they had received during the previous year, and also according to their length of service with the bank. The highest amount received by any one employee was \$32 25.

Three new directors were added to the board of the Continental & Commercial National Bank of Chicago, Ill., at the annual meeting on the 9th inst. They are Louis Eckstein, Milton S. Florsheim and Dennis F. Kelly.

Melvin A. Traylor, President of the Live Stock Exchange National Bank of Chicago, Ill., has been elected to the Presidency of the Central Manufacturing District Bank of Chicago, to succeed Edward E. Payne, who, as reported in these columns last week, has resigned after four years' service. Mr. Traylor had been a director of the Central Manufacturing District Bank for some time, and will continue as President of the Live Stock Exchange National. The other officers of the Central Manufacturing District Bank have been re-elected.

The directors of the Illinois Trust & Savings Bank of Chicago, at a meeting on Jan. 5, transferred from undivided profits to surplus account \$1,000,000, bringing the capital and surplus up to \$16,000,000 and leaving undivided profits \$400,000. James C. Hutchins, general counsel of the institution, has been elected a Vice-President, and all other officers have been re-elected.

The Stock Yards National Bank of South St. Paul, Minn., has received authority from the Comptroller of the Currency to increase its capital from \$300,000 to \$350,000.

The directors of the First and Security National Bank, of Minneapolis, Minn., at their annual meeting last Tuesday elected C. T. Jaffray, heretofore First Vice-President, to the Presidency, to succeed F. A. Chamberlain, who was chosen Chairman of the Board. F. M. Prince, heretofore Chairman of the Board, was made Chairman of the Executive Committee. Paul J. Leeman, formerly an Assistant Cashier, was elected Vice-President, and C. B. Brombach, Chief Clerk, and K. M. Morrison, Auditor, were appointed Assistant Cashiers. E. E. Blackley was made Manager of the bank's credit department. W. O. Winston and Isaac Hazlett resigned from the board, and L. J. Bardwell was elected a director. Re-elected officers were: A. A. Crane, J. S. Pomeroy, D. Mackerehar, Fred Spofford and H. A. Willoughby, Vice Presidents; George A. Lyon, Cashier; Stanley H. Bezoier, J. G. Maclean, J. C. Byam and W. A. Meacham, Assistant Cashiers.

A charter has been issued for the organization of the Montana National Bank, of Billings, Mont., with a capital of \$100,000. The new institution is a conversion of the Bank of Montana, of Billings.

John D. Abbitt on Jan. 1 assumed the duties of the Presidency of the Mercantile Bank of Norfolk, Va., to which he had been elected on Oct. 14. Mr. Abbitt, as noted in our issue of Oct. 21 last, had been President of the Farmers' & Merchants' Bank of Franklin, Va., for the past three years, and from 1903 to 1914 served as Cashier of that institution. Mr. Abbitt succeeds J. G. McNeal as President of the Mercantile Bank. Mr. McNeal has become Chairman of the board of directors.

E. W. Rose has resigned as Vice-President of the First State Bank of Dallas, Texas, to become Vice-President of the City National Bank of Dallas. As stated in our issue of Dec. 30 Mr. Rose was Vice-President of the First State Bank for the past ten years, and is also Treasurer of the City of Dallas. At a special meeting of the directors of the First

State Bank on Jan. 2, W. F. Skillman, heretofore Cashier, was promoted to the Vice-Presidency, and Herbert D. Ardrey was selected to succeed him as Cashier. Mr. Skillman became Cashier of the First State Bank last August. Prior to that he had been Cashier of the Citizens' State Bank of Sulphur Springs.

Authority has been granted by the Comptroller of the Currency to the American National Bank of Fort Worth, Texas, to increase its capital from \$150,000 to \$200,000.

The Comptroller of the Currency has approved the plans to increase the capital of the Peninsular National Bank of Portland, Ore., from \$50,000 to \$100,000.

William A. Marcus who as noted in these columns last week has been elected Assistant Cashier of the Savings Union Bank & Trust Company, of San Francisco, has held many offices in San Francisco Chapter, A. I. B., was Chairman of the Educational Committee, and President. He has served on various committees in the American Institute of Banking and has always taken an active part in its convention proceedings.

We print to-day on another page a report of the proceedings of the annual meeting of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, held at Toronto on the 9th inst. In his address as President, Sir Edmund Walker, in referring to the cost of the war, said in part:

At the end of October the war had cost us a little over 350 millions, and at our present rate of spending 300 millions more may be added during the coming year. From the excess of revenue over expenditure we may at the end of the fiscal year have 50 millions, or even more, to apply on war charges. To provide for so great a proportion of the total cost of the war in this manner reflects great credit on those who are responsible for Dominion finance. We have managed to finance the remainder of the cost thus far partly by an account with the Imperial Government for overseas and other disbursements, and partly by loans floated in Canada. Over 100 millions of the amount due the Imperial Government has been funded permanently, and most of the balance is offset by payments on Great Britain's account. Some loans for ordinary capital expenditures which could not be deferred were made in New York in 1915. In March 1916 a second loan was placed in New York amounting to 75 millions, of which 25 millions was used to take up a corresponding amount of the 45 millions borrowed in July 1915. In September a second loan in Canada was offered. This time the Finance Minister asked for 100 millions, and the subscriptions exceeded 200 millions, the banks receiving nothing on their underwriting of a portion of the loan. These are such notable achievements that I am sure they cannot have escaped the memory of any Canadian, but I mention them for the benefit of the very large number of people outside Canada who read our annual reports.

The figures of the annual statement of the bank were referred to at length in our issue of Dec. 30.

THE ENGLISH GOLD AND SILVER MARKETS.

We reprint the following from the weekly circular of Samuel Montagu & Co. of London, written under date of Dec. 14 1916:

GOLD.

The Bank of England gold reserve against its note issues shows a decrease of £771,455 as compared with last week's return. During the week gold to the value of \$35,100,000 has been received in New York from Canada. The Transvaal gold output for November 1916 amounted to £3,326,253, as compared with £3,317,534 in November 1915 and £3,365,642 in October 1916.

SILVER.

After a setback to 35 1-16 on the 8th inst., an advance recommenced which carried the price to 36 3/4 without a check. The market owes its strength primarily to the fall of 218 lacs in the silver holding of the Indian Treasury—details of which will be found below—but there are other causes which, in the present condition of the market, are also of importance. They may be enumerated as the greater role which silver is called upon to play in the scheme of local currency, now that gold is earmarked by many governments for reserves or for external payments. The near approach of the Chinese New Year, which falls on the 23d of next month, is also material, for it not only renders sales of silver impracticable from that quarter, but it makes occasional purchases in America possible on account of China. The fact that heavy withdrawals of silver from Chinese currency have been made during the present year does not encourage the hope that supplies will be forthcoming from that quarter, after the customary settlements connected with the Chinese New Year have been completed. Further, there is little reason to believe that the world's production is increasing, notwithstanding the high level of prices. Indeed, the contrary is possibly the case, for the position of mines in Mexico is being aggravated by fresh difficulties. We hear from New York that "there exists an embargo on all freight both on the Mexican and Inter-oceanic railways, and that they are therefore unable to ship goods for the present to Mexico."

In modification of previous announcements, the Secretary of State for India in Council has given notice that intermediate sales by him of bills of exchange and telegraphic transfers on India are suspended for the present. On Dec. 20 1916 tenders will be received for 80 lacs of rupees. No allotments will be made at lower rates than 1/4 @ 1/4d. per rupee for bills and deferred telegraphic transfers and 1/2 @ 7-32d. for immediate telegraphic transfers.

The last three Indian currency returns received by cable give details in lacs of rupees as follow:

Table with 4 columns: Item, Nov. 22, Nov. 30, Dec. 7. Rows include Notes in circulation, Reserve in silver coin and bullion, Gold coin and bullion, Gold in England.

The stock in Bombay consists of 5,500 bars, as compared with 5,600 bars last week. The stock in Shanghai on Dec. 9 consisted of about 21,900,000

oz. in sycee and 16,100,000 dollars, as compared with about 21,700,000 oz. in sycee and 16,300,000 dollars on Dec. 2 1916. A shipment was made from San Francisco to China of 1,400,000 ounces.

Quotations for bar silver per ounce standard:

Table with 4 columns: Date, Cash, No quotation, Bank rate. Rows for Dec. 8-35, 9-36, 11-36 1/2, 12-36 3/4, 13-36 1/2, 14-36 1/2.

The quotation to-day for cash delivery is 1/2d. above that fixed a week ago.

We have also received this week the circular written under date of Dec. 21 1916:

GOLD.

The Bank of England gold reserve against its note issues shows a decrease of £608,260, as compared with last week's return.

During the week gold to the value of \$24,700,000 has been received in New York from Canada.

SILVER.

The market has been quiet throughout the week. The price rose 1/4d. to 37 on the 15th inst.—shed 3-16d. next day, and remained at that figure. Supplies have been rather scanty, although a certain amount of profit taking has been effected by the Indian Bazaars and other holders of silver.

Each day there was some general demand—more or less active—and acquisitions for the mintage have not, therefore, assumed large proportions. However, this is not of much consequence in view of the fact that the Indian Government has just secured 3,600 bars on the Bombay market worth £622,000 at present London price and capable of supplying about 116 lacs of coined rupees.

As customary at this season of the year, the near approach of holidays tends to restrict local business.

It will be noted by the figures below that the holding of silver by the Indian Treasury has been reduced by a further lacs 167, whilst the total of the notes in circulation has increased by 140 lacs.

The last three Indian Currency returns received by cable give details in lacs of rupees as follow:

Table with 4 columns: Item, Nov. 30, Dec. 7, Dec. 15. Rows include Notes in circulation, Reserve in silver coin and bullion, Gold coin and bullion, Gold in England.

The Indian Council had given notice as to the allotments on Wednesday last, that no more than 10 lacs should be allotted to one applicant. Next week 120 lacs will be offered instead of 80, and the maximum allotment to be made to one applicant will be raised to 15 lacs.

The stock in Bombay consists of 1,800 bars, as compared with 5,500 bars last week.

The stock in Shanghai on Dec. 16 consisted of about 22,800,000 ounces in sycee and 16,400,000 dollars, as compared with about 21,900,000 ounces in sycee and 16,100,000 dollars on Dec. 9 1916.

Quotations for bar silver per ounce standard:

Table with 4 columns: Date, Cash, No quotation, Bank rate. Rows for Dec. 15-37, 16-36 13-16, 18-36 13-16, 19-36 13-16, 20-36 13-16, 21-36 13-16.

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

ENGLISH FINANCIAL MARKETS—PER CABLE.

The daily closing quotations for securities, &c., at London, as reported by cable, have been as follows the past week:

Table with 7 columns: London, Jan. 5, Jan. 8, Jan. 9, Jan. 10, Jan. 11, Jan. 12. Rows include Silver, Consols, British, French Rentes, French War Loan.

The price of silver in New York on the same days has been: Silver in N. Y., per oz., 75 3/4, 75 1/4, 75, 75, 74 1/2, 74 1/2.

New York City Banks and Trust Companies

Large 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. ‡ New stock. † Ex-Rights.

New York City Realty and Surety Companies

Table with columns: Name of Company, Bid, Ask, Bids, Asks, Realty Assoc (Brooklyn), U S Casualty, U S Title & G & I, West & Bronx Title & M G Co.

TRADE AND TRAFFIC MOVEMENTS.

UNFILLED ORDERS OF STEEL CORPORATION.—The United States Steel Corporation on Wednesday, Jan. 10, issued its regular monthly statement, showing the unfilled orders on the books of the subsidiary corporations at the close of December.

In the following we give the comparisons with the previous months:

Table comparing steel orders in tons for Dec 1916 vs Dec 1915, and various months of 1916 vs 1915. Columns include month/year and tons.

The figures prior to July 31 1916 were issued quarterly only. These, extending back to 1901, were given in the "Chronicle" of March 13 1915, page 876.

ANTHRACITE COAL SHIPMENTS.—The shipments of anthracite coal in December 1916, as reported to the Anthracite Bureau of Information at Wilkes-Barre, amounted to 5,582,747 tons, as compared with 6,149,387 tons in December 1915 and 5,992,997 tons in November 1916.

Table showing anthracite coal shipments by destination: Philadelphia & Reading, Lehigh Valley, Central Railroad of New Jersey, Delaware Lackawanna & Western, Delaware & Hudson, Pennsylvania, Erie, New York Ontario & Western, Lehigh & New England.

* After deducting (to avoid duplication) tonnage delivered to the Central RR. of N. J. at Hantio by the Lehigh & New England RR. and included as part of the tonnage of the latter.

Commercial and Miscellaneous News

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 of dividends with columns: Name of Company, Per Cent, When Payable, Books Closed, Days Inclusive.

Large table of dividends with columns: Name of Company, Per Cent, When Payable, Books Closed, Days Inclusive. Includes categories like Railroads (Steam), Banks, Trust Companies, Fire Insurance, etc.

LIQUIDATIONS.

Table listing liquidations of various banks and companies, including The First National Bank of Cuthbert, Ga., and The Home National Bank of Holyoke, Mass.

Total capital \$605,000

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

Table of auction sales listing items like Hamilton Trust Co. of Bklyn., Terry, Teach & Proctor Milling, and various stocks and bonds.

By Messrs. Francis Henshaw & Co., Boston:

Table listing securities sold by Francis Henshaw & Co., including Merchants Nat. Bank, Arlington Mills, and Nonquitt Spinning Co.

By Messrs. R. L. Day & Co., Boston:

Table listing securities sold by R. L. Day & Co., including Boylston Nat. Bank, Framlingham Nat. Bank, and Dartmouth Mfg.

By Messrs. Barnes & Lofland, Philadelphia:

Table listing securities sold by Barnes & Lofland, including El Favor Mining Co. of Mexico, Taylor-Wharton Iron & Steel, and Belmont Driving Club.

Imports and Exports for the Week.—The following are the reported imports of merchandise at New York for the week ending Jan. 6 and since the first week of January:

FOREIGN IMPORTS AT NEW YORK.

Table showing foreign imports at New York for 1917, 1916, 1915, and 1914.

EXPORTS FROM NEW YORK FOR THE WEEK.

Table showing exports from New York for 1917, 1916, 1915, and 1914.

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS OF SPECIE AT NEW YORK.

Table showing exports and imports of specie at New York, categorized by Gold and Silver, with weekly and since Jan. 1 data.

The Federal Reserve Banks.—Following is the weekly statement issued by the Federal Reserve Board on Jan. 6:

The statement contains certain changes of presentation, several items having been added, while others, shown heretofore, have been eliminated. For the first time the statement specifies the amounts of uncollected or transit items on the asset side, and of similar items on the liability side.

The figures of the consolidated statement for the system as a whole are given in the following table, and in addition we present the results for each of the eight preceding weeks, thus furnishing a useful comparison.

COMBINED RESOURCES AND LIABILITIES OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS AT THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS JAN. 5 1917.

Large table showing combined resources and liabilities of Federal Reserve Banks, with columns for Jan. 5 1917, Dec. 29 1916, Dec. 22 1916, Dec. 15 1916, Dec. 8 1916, Dec. 1 1916, Nov. 24 1916, Nov. 17 1916, and Nov. 10 1916.

Banking and Financial.

CANADA'S FINANCIAL PROGRESS.

Address of the President and General Manager of The Canadian Bank of Commerce at the Annual Meeting of the Bank.

Sir Edmund Walker is an international authority on banking, and his review of Canadian affairs at the Annual Meeting of The Canadian Bank of Commerce, of which he is President, has come to attract wide spread interest from the accuracy of its information and the comprehensive way in which it deals with the affairs of the nation. His address contained the following passages of general interest.

I shall not apologize as I did a year ago for asking you to devote your attention to the material affairs of Canada at a time when the Empire and its Allies are fighting for the greatest of all causes—the liberty of the world. Canada has in that short time so enlarged her sphere of action that only the blind could fail to see that every detail of our national life which aids or hinders our power to serve in the great conflict is of supreme importance. In the terrible winter of 1914-15 we did not realize that our aid was to count for much in the struggle, greatly as we desired to help. We did not really believe, despite the warning of Kitchener, that the war would still be raging in 1917 with the end not nearly in sight. Now we do not talk of any definite time for the end; we only know that the last man, the last gun, the last dollar, may be needed, but that we shall win beyond any peradventure if the people in all the Allied countries can be made to understand what is required of them.

EXPORTS EXCEED IMPORTS.

Turning at once to our trade with other countries, that being the best indication of the tendency of affairs at the moment, we find that, leaving out the shipments of gold and bullion, both inwards and outwards, our exports for the fiscal year ending 31st March, 1916, exceeded our imports by \$249,088,274, and that for the six months ending 30th September, 1916, the excess was \$141,100,898. We cannot keep in mind too clearly what has happened since the end of our period of expansion in 1913, and a repetition of the figures given last year will aid us to do so.

Fiscal Year—	Imports.	Exports.	Excess Imports.	Excess Exports.
1912-13	\$686,515,536	\$377,068,355	\$309,447,181	-----
1913-14	635,383,222	455,437,224	179,945,998	-----
1914-15	497,376,961	461,442,599	35,934,452	-----
1915-16	530,211,796	779,300,070	-----	\$249,088,274
6 mos. ending Sept.	405,901,765	547,002,663	-----	141,100,898

The improvement from year to year is as follows:	
1913 to 1914	\$120,501,183
1914 to 1915	144,011,546
1915 to 1916	285,022,726

1913 to 1916.....\$558,535,455

For the six months of the present year the gain over the astonishing figures for the first half of last year is nearly another 100 millions.

The gain of 285 millions in our foreign trade as compared with March, 1915, is almost all due to the increase in the value of the exports, the increase in the imports being only 32 millions.

AN ENLARGED MARKET.

The sales of Canadian bond issues for the eleven months of 1916 are of peculiar interest, showing how completely our reliance for the placing of our securities is now transferred from Great Britain to the United States and to our own greatly enlarged market. The following statement has been prepared for us by the Dominion Securities Corporation:

Securities—	Total.	Sold in Canada.	Sold in United States.	Sold in Great Britain.
Municipal	\$49,100,575	\$13,567,055	\$35,533,520	-----
Railway	15,920,000	-----	15,920,000	-----
Governments	200,545,300	83,350,000	117,195,300	-----
Miscellaneous Corporations	24,750,000	6,050,000	10,700,000	\$8,000,000
Public Service Corporations	5,900,000	-----	5,900,000	-----
Canadian Co.'s operating in Foreign Countries	7,500,000	-----	7,500,000	-----
Total	\$303,715,875	\$102,967,055	\$192,748,820	\$8,000,000

It will be seen that the actual sales in Canada of Government bonds are considerably less than the amounts offered to the public in Canada. To the extent thus shown buyers in the United States have eventually become the owners of these issues. Since August, 1914, Canadian securities to the extent of about 50 millions of dollars which had been sold in Great Britain or elsewhere in Europe have been returned. These have been either directly resold or the nature of the issues rearranged and about one-half has found a new market in the United States, the remainder being absorbed in Canada. The figures of such transactions are not included in the statement of new issues.

UNITED STATES GOLD STOCK.

The affairs of the United States are necessarily always of great interest to us, but never more so than at the present time, and I hope that every shareholder will read attentively the carefully prepared report of our New York Agent. During the past year the United States has added to her gold stock, after deducting exports, about 400 millions in gold and is now estimated to possess this huge sum of about \$2,750,000,000 in that metal. From information obtained in the United States, we learn that the imports of gold from Canada for the ten months ending October were 385 millions of dollars. This was, of course, almost entirely on Imperial Government account. With the enormous volume of war business, the increase of credit made possible by the new Federal Reserve Bank Act, and this influx of gold, trade has so increased that in many lines of business each month establishes a new record. An estimate of the foreign trade of the United States, given by our New York Agent, places the excess of exports over imports from August, 1914, to September, 1916, at \$4,158,000,000. This is said to be almost equivalent to the amount of United States securities held abroad

before the war, and it is estimated that by the end of September securities of all kinds had been returned to the value of \$2,400,000,000, so roughly about \$1,600,000,000 remained abroad. Of this remainder the proportion which can be made available for British war finance is too uncertain to form a basis for an opinion of any value. Great Britain, however, holds a vast amount in the securities of countries other than the United States. I have seen the statement that about ninety per cent of the present exports from the United States arise from war requirements. If this is even approximately correct, we can imagine the vast additional increase in wealth if the war continues much longer, and the extent of the collapse in trade if it does not.

UNITED STATES WAR TRADE.

The receipts of gold, therefore, have been huge, notwithstanding the acquiring of so large an amount of United States securities. Coincident with this there has been such an expansion of credit that bank reserves are not as comfortable as they were a year ago, and the Federal Reserve Board has sounded a note of warning which takes the form of a caution against the purchase of British and French Treasury bills. This was immediately followed by the withdrawal of an issue at that moment about to be offered to the public. The United States has benefited more by the sale of war supplies of all kinds than any other nation, and because of this they ought to be the main source of credit for such supplies. Where merchandise is produced, credit as a rule must be extended, otherwise trade will decline. Great Britain, because of the enormous production of gold within the Empire, is the only country that can buy largely for cash, although she also must have liberal credit extended to her while the war lasts. The United States for the time being, however, will sell goods to the Allied countries for cash or will lend against collateral, but will not grant credit in the ordinary sense. What they fear is a sudden collapse of the trade in war supplies, but such a collapse would be the natural result if the advice of the Federal Reserve Board is literally followed.

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION.

The only direction in which the tide of prosperity in the United States is not at the full is in agricultural production. In a year when the world is facing the highest prices of recent times, the great decrease in the wheat crop, the moderate yields of corn and oats, the small yields of minor products and the adverse effect of high priced feed on the live stock situation, are matters of deep concern. The individual producer may be compensated at least partially for the low yield by the higher price, but no comfort for the consumer, weary of high prices, can be found in a world short of food and of almost every commodity that enters into his daily needs.

A matter of supreme importance to Canada, and for the frequent reference to which no excuse is needed, is that we must as far as possible provide the cost of the war at home.

COST OF THE WAR.

At the end of October the war had cost us a little over 350 millions and at our present rate of spending 300 millions more may be added during the coming year. From the excess of revenue over expenditure we may at the end of the fiscal year have 50 millions, or even more, to apply on war charges. To provide for so great a proportion of the total cost of the war in this manner reflects great credit on those who are responsible for Dominion Finance. We have managed to finance the remainder of the cost thus far partly by an account with the Imperial Government for overseas and other disbursements, and partly by loans floated in Canada. Over 100 millions of the amount due the Imperial Government has been funded permanently, and most of the balance is offset by payments on Great Britain's account. Some loans for ordinary capital expenditures which could not be deferred were made in New York in 1915. In March, 1916, a second loan was placed in New York, amounting to 75 millions, of which 25 millions was used to take up a corresponding amount of the 45 millions borrowed in July, 1915. In September a second loan in Canada was offered. This time the Finance Minister asked for 100 millions and the subscriptions exceeded 200 millions, the banks receiving nothing on their underwriting of a portion of the loan. These are such notable achievements that I am sure they cannot have escaped the memory of any Canadian, but I mention them for the benefit of the very large number of people outside Canada who read our annual reports.

FINANCING MUNITIONS.

Next in importance to the question of our own war finance is the aid which has been extended to Great Britain by the placing in Canada of British Treasury obligations or of Canadian obligations given on account of the British Treasury. The Canadian manufacturer of munitions has not been asked thus far to take pay for his goods in the form of Treasury obligations—he has received cash—but some one had to take these obligations, because, clearly, Great Britain could not place orders for war supplies to the extent of hundreds of millions of dollars and immediately find the cash with which to pay for them. The help given by our Government in this way was apparently at least 100 millions, doubtless partially offset by the expenditures incurred by the Imperial Government on behalf of our troops, but as to this we have no precise knowledge. The banks have been the only other source of assistance as far as we know, and they have already lent on these Imperial obligations 100 millions and have undertaken to lend an additional 100 millions during 1917. If, however, we are to execute the orders for war supplies which will be offered to us, and which it is our duty to undertake in order to aid in ensuring victory, we must be prepared to do very much more than heretofore. This is what gives to this forthcoming campaign of thrift its fullest meaning.

BANK DEPOSITS.

The total of the deposits of Canadian banks at 30th November last was \$1,521,349,000, as compared with \$1,288,985,000 at the same date in 1914, an increase of \$232,364,000. Our deposits will, we trust, continue to increase, but the extent of the increase will depend on the results of the campaign of thrift, and only to a proportionate extent shall we be able to help in the way which we believe most vital in winning the war. We must of course bear in mind that the war securities held by the banks are only a part of the resources which are being used for war purposes, and that the loans made to every manufacturer of war supplies have to be included to indicate the total extent to which their resources are so used.

PROSPERITY GENERAL.

The Review of Business Conditions which accompanies our annual report records prosperity beyond anything we have ever known in almost every part of Canada. This results from the existence of a market which needs almost everything we produce and which must pay almost anything the seller asks. If it is true that ninety per cent of the exports of the United States are a result of the war, much the same must be true of Canada, and in addition a large part of our home consumption is due to the requirements of the Canadian army. As individuals, almost all are gaining by the war except those with more or less fixed incomes and without power to adjust the same when prices are high, and those who are engaged in business not connected

with war supplies. The money made by the individual, however, has, so far as the nation is concerned, to be provided by a war debt incurred partly by Canada and partly by Great Britain. We do not like, the United States, receive gold in exchange for a large part of our products, we even borrow from the United States part of the cost of the war.

MAKING MUNITIONS.

A year ago we were able to make a few not very well-connected remarks regarding the manufacture of munitions in Canada. We sought, however, to convey at least some idea of the scale on which we were working, and to indicate that there are very few of our industries that cannot aid in the cause. Although very many goods are being shipped, and contracts carried out which do not come within the operations of the Imperial Munitions Board, the War Purchasing Commission, the Department of Agriculture, or the British War Office Purchasing Department at Montreal, such information as can be gathered as to the operations of these bodies is useful. The shipments through the Imperial Munitions Board comprise empty, fixed and complete shells, also fuses, brass cartridge cases, steel forgings, cordite, tri-nitro-toluol, &c. During 1916 the total disbursements were about 320 millions of dollars, and while we have no information on which to hazard an opinion as to the scope of operations for 1917, it is at least suggestive that the actual business completed during the year amounted to about a million dollars a day and that many manufacturers are only now ready to deliver certain kinds of shells to the full capacity of the plants established for the purpose.

WOMEN EMPLOYED.

A year ago women were but little employed in making munitions, now they are working by thousands in munition factories, and while much delay was caused by the necessity of creating new shop conditions for them, this has been accomplished in many factories, and we can but hope that thousands more of our women will come forward for this work and thus release many men for the front. When we consider that there are 600 factories in Canada and Newfoundland from the Atlantic to the Pacific, all making munitions night and day, three shifts of eight hours, or for the women in some cases four shifts of six hours daily, we can get some sense of the scale of operations. The supervision of all this requires between 3,000 and 4,000 inspectors and 600 other employees.

OUR SOLDIERS' EQUIPMENT.

This is all on Imperial account, but we find that the work of the War Purchasing Commission appointed by the Dominion Government is on a similar scale. For the first year or more practically everything required for the upkeep of our army in England and France was supplied by Great Britain on our account. Since then we have tried to supply its requirements direct from Canada, although this is possible only in the case of some articles.

We have no knowledge as to the total amount expended by the Commission, but the following items will be interesting:

Clothing, boots, &c.....	\$35,000,000
Motor trucks and other vehicles.....	3,000,000
Accoutrements.....	3,000,000
Arsenal supplies, cartridges, rifles, machine guns and revolvers.....	17,000,000
Drugs and surgical instruments.....	1,000,000
Furniture, hospital supplies and stores.....	6,000,000
Transportation of troops to seaboard and to England, over.....	10,000,000
Maintenance of men while in Canada, not including pay, about.....	35,000,000

The Commission has purchased about 3 million pounds of fresh fish, about half on Canadian and half on Imperial account.

WAR PURCHASES.

The purchases on Imperial account by the Department of Agriculture for the year to 23rd December amount to 186,000 long tons of hay, 450,000 tons of oats, equalling nearly 30,000,000 bushels, and 187,000 tons of flour, the amount expended in this way being over \$37,500,000.

Among the purchases of the British War Office Purchasing Department at Montreal for the past year, are the following items:

Cottons and woollens.....	\$1,000,000
Foodstuffs—cheese, canned meats and vegetables, &c.....	20,000,000
Miscellaneous merchandise of iron and steel.....	1,500,000
Other miscellaneous merchandise.....	1,500,000
	\$24,000,000

There are, of course, thousands of articles not mentioned here which are made in Canada, the cost of which represents many millions; indeed, it is a most gratifying fact that Canada has been able to produce nearly everything required by our army, the exceptions being binoculars, machine guns, revolvers, motor trucks, and some less important articles.

Since the war began we have learned much in the workshop, in the chemical and physical laboratory, in the refinery, in the counting house, in finance, indeed, in every walk of life. We have been able to form some estimate of our value among the forces of the Allies, from the boy in the trenches to the father at home who is backing his son in so many ways, but do we realize that what we do, or do not do, may turn the scale on which depends victory or defeat. Our responsibility for the future of the Empire and of Canada is so great that there is no room for slackness. We must do, not many things, but everything that will help to win the war.

GENERAL MANAGER'S ADDRESS.

The great Canadian banks, with their nation-wide system of branches, touch the life of the community so closely and at so many points that the remarks of Mr. John Aird, the General Manager, in reviewing the year's progress of the great institution under his charge, cannot fail to be of interest and of importance:

The shadow of the great European war has been the dominating influence in business affairs during the year through which we have just passed. No important new transaction could be undertaken without considering the effect of the war, and in the conduct of the affairs of a great fiduciary institution such as a bank it has been necessary to give more consideration to the factor of safety than to the factor of profit. Under these circumstances we feel that you will be well content with the results which we lay before you to-day.

The Bank's profits for the year under review were \$2,439,415, an increase of \$87,380 over the figures of the preceding year, a trifling sum when you consider the increased amount of business on which it has been earned, and the great activity which has prevailed throughout the year. We have felt it our duty to render a large amount of assistance in their financing to both the Imperial Government and the Dominion Government, and as rates of interest on this class of business are naturally low, our profits have been reduced correspondingly.

GROWTH IN DEPOSITS.

Our deposits show a satisfactory growth, the increase being \$35,373,000, of which over \$25,000,000 is in deposits bearing interest; these include the savings of the people and are therefore less subject to fluctuation than demand deposits not bearing interest. Through the medium of our Monthly Commercial Letter, we have endeavored to impress upon the public mind the necessity for the exercise of economy to a degree never before known in Canada, and we should like to think that some part of the increase to which we have just referred has been due to the advice thus given. Canadians cannot too often be reminded that only by the universal exercise of economy and thrift to an extent to which they have in the past been strangers, and by the setting aside of what is thus saved for investment in Government loans or as bank deposits, can we do our share to provide the wherewithal necessary to carry the war to a victorious conclusion.

STRONG CASH RESERVES.

Our total holdings of coin and legal tender are \$46,291,000, an increase of \$6,389,000 over the figures of a year ago, but of this sum \$6,000,000 is represented by a deposit in the Central Gold Reserves to cover the issue of note circulation in excess of our paid-up capital, already referred to. These holdings of cash represent 18.5% of the total of our deposits and circulation and 17.9% of our total liabilities to the public, and in view of the uncertainties of war conditions we are sure that you will approve our policy of keeping strong in this respect. Our immediate available assets total \$129,341,000, equal to fifty-six per cent of our deposits and fifty per cent of our total liabilities to the public. The largest increase in any one item composing this amount is in British, foreign and colonial securities, &c., which show an increase of over \$15,500,000 and include the securities purchased and held for the advances which we have made to the Imperial Government to finance their purchases in the Dominion. There has been a slight increase of \$858,000 in our holdings of Dominion and Provincial securities and a decrease of \$1,802,000 in our holdings of railway and other bonds, debentures and stocks. We have thought it desirable, in view of the exigencies of the war and of the requirements of the Governments of Great Britain and Canada, to realize on these securities as opportunity offered. This has seemed the more advisable because of the doubtful outlook as to the future trend in the value of such securities.

THEIR SUPREME SACRIFICE.

Since our last annual meeting an additional fifty-nine brave and promising young men of our staff have laid down their lives on the field of battle. Our complete casualty list as at December 31st is as follows:

Killed.....	84
Wounded.....	176
Missing.....	8
Prisoners.....	9
Ill.....	20
	296

We have received many indications that our men are measuring well up to what is required of them and are capable of taking their full share in the wonderful operations at the front which are thrilling the world. Six of our officers have been awarded the Military Cross and three more have been recommended for it.

STAFF AT HOME.

We do not think it would be fair thus to express our pride in our banker soldiers without adding a further word in commendation of the staff at home. While we still have to expect that some of them will take up military duty, we are satisfied that those who have remained at home thus far have been actuated by the highest motives; indeed, the work of the Bank could not be efficiently carried on without retaining the services of many men who in other respects would be available for military service.

TRADE WITH ITALY.

A year ago you were advised that we had placed the facilities of this Bank at the disposal of our Italian Allies for the purpose of receiving from their citizens in this country subscriptions to a war loan. The situation in Italy to-day is a very interesting one. The foreign trade of that country has grown very largely during recent years. The trade of Germany with Italy gradually overtook and then surpassed that of Great Britain, which was formerly the largest. The war, so far as Italy is concerned, has brought with it a serious dislocation of commercial intercourse, and the necessity of finding fresh sources of supply in allied and neutral countries is very pressing. With the active support and financial assistance of the British Government, there was formed during the year, in London, a company called The British Italian Corporation, Limited, which is intended, in collaboration with its Italian counterpart, The Compagnia Italo-Britannica, to work for the furtherance of commercial intercourse between the British Empire and Italy. Among its objects will be financial participation in enterprises which are likely to result in an exchange of products between the two countries and generally to facilitate the growth of British trade with Italy. The project has the support of an important Italian bank, the Credito Italiano, and of two large English banks, the London County & Westminster Bank, Ltd., and Lloyds Bank, Limited, and in view of the prospects of an increase in trade between Italy and Canada we have subscribed for a certain amount of stock. We shall watch the development of this enterprise with great interest and in the hope that it may lead to mutually profitable commercial relations.

BUILD DOMINION TRADE.

Similar projects with others of our allies are also under discussion, and if the opportunity is given us we shall probably avail ourselves of it to a reasonable degree. It is by such international arrangements that we are hopeful of helping to build up after the cessation of hostilities the foreign trade of the Dominion.

AFTER THE WAR.

As to the future, it is obvious, we think, that after the war finance will be more liquid, inasmuch as the warring Powers are not likely to attempt to float any more new loans for many years to come. They will naturally, we believe, content themselves with funding at long dates their floating and short dated debts. Before the war money was gradually increasing in value, and there will be within the Empire many new enterprises as well as others held up temporarily which will require financing. How soon these will come into the market to borrow will depend upon the willingness of the public and of financial houses to encourage bona fide enterprises by reasonable rates for money. It will be natural for a Britisher to invest his savings in our own securities, particularly at the rates of interest which are likely to prevail. We shall, therefore, watch this situation with increasing interest, as future development at home and abroad may depend upon the willingness of capitalists and others to accept a lower return from such investments than they can obtain under present conditions by simply investing their surplus funds in Government and similar securities.

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

Table with columns: HIGH AND LOW SALE PRICES—PER SHARE, NOT PER CENT. (Saturday Jan. 6 to Friday Jan. 12), Sales for the Week Shares, STOCKS NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE, PER SHARE Range for Year 1916 (Lowest, Highest), PER SHARE Range for Previous Year 1915 (Lowest, Highest). Rows list various stocks like Industrial & Misc. (Con.) Par, Butte & Superior Copper, California Petroleum, etc.

* Bid and asked prices; no sales on this day. † Less than 100 shares. ‡ Ex-rights. § Ex-div. and rights. ¶ New stock. * Par \$25 per share. † Ex-stock div. dividend. ‡ Ex-dividend. § Par \$100 per share.

New York Stock Exchange—Bond Record, Friday, Weekly and Yearly 149

In Jan. 1909 the Exchange method of quoting bonds was changed, and prices are now all—"and interest"—except for income and defaulted bonds.

Main table containing bond records for U.S. Government, Foreign Government, U.S. STOCK EXCHANGE, and BOND RECORD, Friday, Weekly and Yearly. Includes columns for price, week's range, and year's range.

* No price Friday; latest this week. d Due April. e Due May. f Due June. g Due July. h Due Aug. i Due Oct. p Due Nov. q Due Dec. r Option sale.

Main table with columns: N. Y. STOCK EXCHANGE Week Ending Jan. 12., Price Friday, Week's Range or Last Sale, Bonds Sold, Range Year 1916, and detailed bond listings including Union Pacific (Cons), Wash Term, West Maryland, etc.

*No price Friday; latest bid and asked. a Due Jan. 4 Due April. g Due May. g Due June. h Due July. i Due Aug. j Due Oct. p Due Nov. q Due Dec. r Option Sale.

SHARE PRICES—NOT PER CENTUM PRICES.

Table with columns for days of the week (Saturday to Friday) and stock prices. Includes sub-headers for 'Saturday Jan. 6.', 'Monday Jan. 8.', 'Tuesday Jan. 9.', 'Wednesday Jan. 10.', 'Thursday Jan. 11.', and 'Friday Jan. 12.'.

Main table of stock prices with columns for 'Sales of the Week Shares', 'STOCKS BOSTON STOCK EXCHANGE', 'Range for Year 1916' (Lowest, Highest), and 'Range for Previous Year 1915' (Lowest, Highest). Lists various stocks like Railroads, Miscellaneous, and Mining.

*Bid and asked prices. † Ex-dividend and rights. ‡ Ex-stock dividend. § Assessment paid. ¶ Ex-rights. †† Ex-dividend. ‡‡ Ex-Tamara stock. §§ Half-paid.

Outside Stock Exchanges

Boston Bond Record.—Transactions in bonds at Boston Stock Exchange Jan. 6 to Jan. 12, both inclusive:

Table of Boston Bond Record with columns for Bonds, Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices, Sales for Week, and Range for Year 1916.

Philadelphia Stock Exchange.—The complete record of transactions at the Philadelphia Stock Exchange from Jan. 6 to Jan. 12, both inclusive, compiled from the official sales lists, is given below.

Table of Philadelphia Stock Exchange with columns for Stocks, Par, Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices, Sales for Week, and Range for Year 1916.

share, not per cent. For bonds the quotations are per cent of par value.

Table of Pittsburgh Stock Exchange with columns for Stocks, Par, Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices, Sales for Week, and Range for Year 1916.

Baltimore Stock Exchange.—Complete record of the transactions at the Baltimore Stock Exchange from Jan. 6 to Jan. 12, both inclusive, compiled from the official sales lists, is given below.

Table of Baltimore Stock Exchange with columns for Stocks, Par, Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices, Sales for Week, and Range for Year 1916.

Chicago Stock Exchange.—Complete record of transactions at Chicago Stock Exchange from Jan. 6 to Jan. 12, both inclusive, compiled from the official sales lists, is as follows:

Table with columns: Stocks—, Par., Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week Shares, Range for Year 1916 (Low, High). Lists various stocks like American Radiator, Amer Shipbuilding, etc.

Ex-dividend 2%, stock dividend 40%. Ex-div. 20%, ex-rights.

Volume of Business at Stock Exchanges

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

Table showing transactions at the New York Stock Exchange daily, weekly, and yearly. Columns include Week ending Jan. 12 1917, Stocks (Shares, Par Value), Railroad, State, Mun. & Foreign Bonds, U. S. Bonds.

Table showing sales at the New York Stock Exchange. Columns include Week ending Jan. 12, 1916, 1917, 1916, 1917. Rows include Stocks—No. shares, Par value, Bank shares, Bonds, Government bonds, State, mun. & misc. bonds, IR, and Total bonds.

DAILY TRANSACTIONS AT THE BOSTON, PHILADELPHIA AND BALTIMORE EXCHANGES.

Table showing daily transactions at the Boston, Philadelphia, and Baltimore exchanges. Columns include Week ending Jan. 12 1917, Boston (Shares, Bond Sales), Philadelphia (Shares, Bond Sales), Baltimore (Shares, Bond Sales).

New York "Curb" Market.—Below we give a record of the transactions in the outside security market from Jan. 6 to Jan. 12, both inclusive. It covers the week ending Friday afternoon:

Large table with columns: Week ending Jan. 12, Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week Shares, Range for Year 1916 (Low, High). Lists various stocks like Aetna Explos., Amer Druggists Synd., Amer Inta Corp, etc.

Latest Gross Earnings by Weeks.—In the table which follows we sum up separately the earnings for the fourth week of December. The table covers 34 roads and shows 1.55% decrease in the aggregate under the same week last year.

Table with 5 columns: Fourth Week of December, 1916, 1915, Increase, Decrease. Lists 34 railroad companies and their earnings.

Net Earnings Monthly to Latest Dates.—The table following shows the gross and net earnings with charges and surplus of STEAM railroads and industrial companies reported this week:

Table with 5 columns: Roads, Gross Earnings (Current, Previous Year), Net Earnings (Current, Previous Year). Lists various railroads and their monthly earnings.

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

Table with 4 columns: Gross Earnings, Net Earnings, Fixed Chgs. & Taxes, Balance, Surplus. Data for Bellefonte Central.

Table with 4 columns: Gross Earnings, Net, after Taxes, Fixed Charges, Balance, Surplus. Data for Louisiana & Arkan.

Table with 4 columns: Gross Earnings, 30% of Gross Earnings, Fixed Charges, Balance, Surplus. Data for Rio Grande Junc.

Table with 5 columns: Gross Earnings, Net Earnings, Other Income, Total Income, Charges & Taxes, Balance, Surplus. Data for Bangor & Aroostook.

Table with 5 columns: Gross Earnings, Net, after Taxes, Other Income, Total Income, Fixed Charges, Balance, Surplus. Data for Toledo Peoria & Western.

Table with 5 columns: Gross Earnings, Net, after Taxes, Other Income, Total Income, Fixed Charges, Balance, Surplus. Data for Cuba RR.

Table with 5 columns: Gross Earnings, Net, after Taxes, Other Income, Total Income, Fixed Charges, Balance, Surplus. Data for Rio Grande Southern.

Large table with multiple columns: Operating Revenue, Op. Exp. & Taxes, Operating Income, Other Income, Net Income. Lists many railroad companies and their financial data.

INDUSTRIAL COMPANIES. Table with 4 columns: Gross Earnings, Net, after Taxes, Fixed Charges, Balance, Surplus. Lists St. Louis & North Western.

ELECTRIC RAILWAY AND PUBLIC UTILITY COS. Table with 5 columns: Name of Road or Company, Latest Gross Earnings, Jan. 1 to latest date. Lists various utility companies.

Table with columns: Name of Road or Company, Latest Gross Earnings, Jan. 1 to latest date, Gross Earnings, Net, after Taxes, Fixed Charges, Balance, Surplus. Includes companies like g Federal Lt & Trac., Galv-Hous Elec Co., Grand Rapids Ry Co, etc.

Table with columns: Name of Road or Company, Gross Earnings, Net, after Taxes, Fixed Charges, Balance, Surplus. Includes companies like Intermountain Ry, L & P., Keystones Telep., Lake Shore El Ry System, etc.

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

Electric Railway and Other Public Utility Net Earnings.—The following table gives the returns of ELECTRIC railway and other public utility gross and net earnings with charges and surplus reported this week:

Table with columns: Companies, Gross Earnings, Net Earnings, Balance, Surplus. Lists various utility companies and their financial performance over different periods.

z After allowing for other income received.

ANNUAL REPORTS

Canadian Northern Railway System.

(2nd Annual Report—Year ending June 30 1916.)

Pres. Sir William Mackenzie, Toronto, says in substance: Mileage.—The system had under operation an average of 8,048 miles in 1916, an increase of 779 miles, or 10.72% over 1915.

Operating Revenue.—The total operating revenues amount to \$35,475,275. An increase of \$9,564,169, or 36.91%, over 1915. The increases in revenue were derived as follows: Passenger traffic, \$7,174,246, or 13.25%; freight traffic, \$8,352,413, or 45.87%; mails, \$12,878, or 6.05%; express, \$195,065, or 30.27%; and miscellaneous traffic, \$26,547, or 9.0%.

While a portion of this increased earnings is due to an increased mileage, a substantial improvement has been made in this system's business, the earnings per mile of road being \$4.408, as compared with \$3.565 for the previous year, an increase of 23.66%.

The system's new mileage on the Pacific Coast and the Northern Ontario divisions have not yet come into their full earning power, as operation on these divisions was only commenced in the late autumn of last year. It will be realized that time is required for the creation of industries to develop the natural resources of these newly opened-up sections of the country.

The British Columbia section, from the commencement, produced each month substantial increases in revenue; and, before the close of the fiscal year, yielded most encouraging revenues. The colonization of Northern Ontario has been retarded by the war; but, peculiarly enough, there is a compensating feature in the immediate demand for paper.

The system carried 131,978,809 bushels of grain in 1916, as compared with 58,575,520 bushels in 1915, an increase of 73,403,289 bushels, or 125.31%. To the preponderance of grain traffic—this commodity being carried at a low rate—is due the decrease in the revenue per ton per mile from .331 cents to .679 cents, or 15.29%.

It is expected that the tunnel under Mt. Royal and a station for the system's business in the heart of Montreal, will be ready for operation in the spring of 1917. The Vancouver terminal is under construction and, it is expected, will be available for the system's business in the summer of 1917.

The station at Toronto, which the system will occupy with the Canadian Pacific Ry., has been completed.

The system has also been handicapped by not having a line from Toronto to the Niagara Peninsula, connecting with the railway systems of the United States converging at the Niagara Falls.

Lands.—During the year only 1,243 immigrants came into Canada. Of the system's lands, 19,443 acres were sold (for \$318,248), less cancellation, 8,870, net, 14,573 acres. Land grant bonds of 1909 retired, \$272,533, leaving outstanding \$2,217,740.

Ocean Steamship Services.—An agreement of great importance in the development of the system's freight and passenger traffic was made during the year with the Cunard S.S. Co. Under the terms of the arrangement, the Canadian Northern Ry., and a close working alliance is in effect between the two companies, the various Canadian services of the Cunard line and the Canadian Northern having become, in effect, a single transportation unit between Europe and Canada.

Grain.—According to figures compiled by our Grain Information Bureau, the grain crop of the three Prairie Provinces will be less than the 1915 crop by about 250 million bushels; but it is necessary to remember in this connection, that: (a) They remained over from the 1915 crop, in the territory probably will be marketed this year; (b) the prices realized by the farmers for the 1916 crop, and the unmarketed part of the 1915 crop, are much better than they were a year ago, which should make for general tonnage.

Outlook.—For the four months ended Oct. 30 1916 the gross earnings were \$14,423,800; an increase of \$4,043,000, there being an increase of \$35,300 in October in spite of the heavy grain movement in Oct. 1915. The general trade prospects for the next fiscal year are good. For the 12 months ending Sept. 30 1916, the total export and import trade of Canada, according to Government returns, amounted to \$803 million dollars in excess of the corresponding period last year; and, fortunately for the country, the balance of trade is on the right side, exports having exceeded imports by 367 million dollars. The exports for this period were 534 million dollars in excess of the exports for the same period the previous year.

While your directors hesitate to express their views on this matter, they feel assured that the industrial disarrangement through peace will be less serious and of shorter duration than the disarrangement which occurred in 1914 as a result of the war. It must not be forgotten that Canada is essentially a country of the future. Her stock of natural resources, mineral, timber, agricultural, remain only in the initial stages of development.

STATISTICS FOR YEARS ENDING JUNE 30.

Table with 4 columns: 1915-16, 1914-15, 1913-14, (Not stated). Rows include Average miles operated, Passengers carried, Freight (tons) carried, etc.

INCOME ACCOUNT FOR YEARS ENDING JUNE 30.

Table with 4 columns: 1913-14, 1914-15, 1915-16. Rows include Operating Revenues, Passenger, Freight, Mail, Express, Miscellaneous, Total operating revenues, Operating Expenses, etc.

Table with 4 columns: 1915-16, 1914-15, 1913-14, 1912-13. Rows include Bal. transferred to debit of profit and loss June 30, Previous accumulated surplus brought forward, Balance, Deduct, etc.

BALANCE SHEET AS AT JUNE 30.

Table with 4 columns: 1916, 1915. Rows include Assets: Property invest., Acquired securities, National Trust Co., etc.; Liabilities: Common stock, Income Charge Convertible Debenture stock, etc.

Table with 4 columns: 1916, 1915. Rows include ACQUIRED SECURITIES, STOCKS AND BONDS (Cost to Railway Co. \$46,269,302), Company: Minnesota & Ontario Bridge Co., etc.

Table with 4 columns: 1916, 1915. Rows include Total (see above), * Represented by Canadian Northern Quebec Ry. capital stock amounting to \$5,144,600.—V. 104, p. 71.

Mortgage-Bond Company, N. Y. City.

(Report for Fiscal Year ending Dec. 31 1916.)

The company's financial statement will be found in our advertising department.

COMPARATIVE RESULTS FOR CALENDAR YEARS.

Table with 4 columns: 1915-16, 1914-15, 1913-14, 1912-13. Rows include Gross income, Operating expenses, Net earnings, Interest on bonds, Dividends.

Balance, surplus \$73,964 \$71,492 \$82,440 \$76,807. The amount of guaranteed mortgages outstanding Dec. 31 1916 is \$21,202,210.

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES JANUARY 1.

Table with 4 columns: 1917, 1916. Rows include Assets: Mortgages, Bonds, Real estate, Interest receiv'g, Cash; Liabilities: Capital, Surplus, Undivided profits, Mlge. bonds, Mlge. certificates, Interest payable.

American Ice Company.

(Report for Fiscal Year ending Oct. 31 1916.)

CONSOL. EARNINGS FOR YEARS ENDING OCT. 31, INCL. SUB. COS.

Table with 4 columns: 1915-16, 1914-15, 1913-14, 1912-13. Rows include Gross receipts, Income from invest. &c., Total, Less cost of merchandise, Less operating expenses.

Table with 4 columns: 1916, 1915. Rows include Balance, Bond interest &c., Rents, Taxes, Insurance, Maintenance & improv't., Total, Net gain, Preferred dividends.

CONSOL. BALANCE SHEET OCT. 31 (INCLUDING SUBSIDIARY COS.)

Table with 4 columns: 1916, 1915. Rows include Assets: Land & buildings, machinery, Good-will, water & patent rights, Invest' securities, Cash, Notes receivable, Bonds and mortgages, Insur. premiums, Inv. of indus., &c., Accts. receivable, Fire insur. fund, Workman's compensation fund; Liabilities: Preferred stock, Common stock, Underlying bonds, Collat. trust bonds, Amer. Ice Co., Real est. 1st & gen. mlge. fs, Real-estate mltes., Accounts payable, Acct. bond int., &c., Fire insur. reserve, Workman's compensation res'v, Profit & loss (sur.).

a Consists of \$383,000 (par) American Ice Co. real estate 1st & Gen. Ml. bonds; and loan \$66,420. b Consists of N. Y. City bonds \$31,134, par value \$35,000. American Ice Co. real estate 1st & Gen. Ml. bonds, \$73,000 cash with commission, \$2,616, and loans, \$2,897. c After crediting \$38,849 profit on real estate sold; net of adjustments of other plant values, and \$7,246 difference between cash cost and par value of collateral trust bonds purchased; and deducting \$50,000 additional res. for accts. receiv. Note.—Accrued divs. unpaid on the cumulative pref. stock amount to \$10,077,135, of which 96.2% applies to stock owned by Amer. Ice Sec. Co. See also news item on a following page.—V. 102, p. 977, 64.

Union Oil Co. of California.

(Preliminary Report for Fiscal Year ending Dec. 31 1916.)

A preliminary statement signed by President W. L. Stewart and Comptroller R. D. Matthews at Los Angeles, January 5 1917 says in substance:

Profits.—The profits earned from all operations, less general expense, taxes, interest charges, and employes' share of profits, were about \$9,600,000, an increase of \$4,630,000 over 1915, and equivalent to 28% on the issued capital stock, while the net profit after making full provision for depreciation was about \$7,200,000, an increase of \$4,380,000, or 155% over 1915, and equivalent to 21% p. a. on the issued capital stock. Our principal subsidiaries, the Producers Transportation Co., Union Tool Co. and So. Cal. Iron & Steel Co., show marked increases in earnings. Production.—The production of crude oil by the company and controlled companies combined approximates 6,675,000 net bbls., an increase over 1915 of 1,374,000 bbls., or 26%. This production, together with regular purchases and agency deliveries, aggregates 19,600,000 net bbls., or a control of 22% of the 90,000,000 net bbls. produced in the State in 1916. Sales.—The sales for the year approximate \$27,750,000, an increase of \$8,500,000, or 44% over 1915. Fuel business increased 38%, and refined and lubricating business 56%. Better prices for our products prevailed during the year and are steadily increasing as the consumption continues to exceed production. Deliveries of fuel oil have been large, and heavy drafts were made on the State stocks, but our increased production and purchases enabled us to go into 1917 with more crude oil in storage than was carried at the commencement of the year 1916. Additions to Properties.—These approximate \$2,900,000, which includes the purchase price of the 260 acre site for the new refinery on the inner harbor near San Pedro, Southern California. The production of light oil from our properties in the Fullerton fields, which is rapidly increasing, will be refined at this modern plant. The plant will have an initial capacity of 10,000 bbls. of crude per day, and will be added to as the business demands. The remaining outlay consists principally of the cost of new drilling, and the installments on the purchase price of the steamships La Brea and Los Angeles, both in service for the greater part of 1916. Current Assets.—Consist of oil inventories (included at or below cost), materials and supplies, accounts and bills receivable and cash at Dec. 31 1916 approximate \$15,150,000, an increase over Dec. 31 1915 of \$4,390,000. Current assets are over 7 to 1 of current liabilities and are more than all indebtedness of every character combined. The quantity of crude oil in storage, owned by the company on Dec. 31 1916 was about 11,000,000 net bbls., and including stocks controlled through the agency about 13,500,000 net bbls., the State storage being about 44,000,000 bbls., this quantity being the lowest reserve carried since the year 1911. Cash balances are about 100% of current liabilities, and about 15% of the total indebtedness. Current Liabilities.—At Dec. 31 1916 includes share of profits payable to employes, about \$2,000,000, about \$120,000 less than at the end of 1915. Bills payable, \$1,200,000, have been paid off, leaving no commercial paper obligations at this date. During the year first mortgage bonds in the hands of the public increased \$609,000 collateral trust notes decreased \$681,000, while purchase money obligations increased \$619,000, consisting

principally of a long term note given on account of balance of purchase price of the San Pedro property...

Surplus—The surplus and operating reserves on Dec. 31 1916 will approximate \$16,600,000, and the book value of the company's stock was about \$149 per share...

General—The oil industry has recovered from the long depression prevailing up to the fall of 1915, when the increasing demand and diminished available supply forced prices upwards...

INCOME ACC. FOR CALENDAR YEARS (1916 ESTIMATED) table with columns for 1916, 1915, 1914.

Balance surplus \$5,665,500. The net profits as above are shown after deducting general expense, taxes, interest charges and employees' share of profits.

Houston Oil Co. of Texas (Houston, Texas).

Production.—The total oil produced by the company during the past year was 48,623 barrels, an increase of say 1%...

Land Sales.—Proceeds from the sale of lands, including vendor's lien notes, amounted to \$13,104, an increase of 17.1%...

Suits.—The judgment in favor of your company against the Thompson-Ford Lumber Co. for over 14,000 acres of land and about \$92,000 and interest, damages for timber cut, was finally decided in favor of the Houston Oil Co. of Texas...

Sales.—On Nov. 9 1915 the directors were authorized to negotiate and consummate a sale of the complete of the lands owned by the company...

The consideration for the sale, payable out of the proceeds of the development and marketing of lands, is \$6,739,563, being about equal to the book value at which the property and assets sold were carried by our company...

Your company could not itself obtain powers essential to the proper development, improvement and sale of these lands, other than the oil and gas values and, moreover the Texas statute was considered as possibly applicable to our continued ownership of the same...

On Nov. 14 1916 our shareholders ratified a transaction for the acquisition by the Federal Petroleum Co. and the Republic Production Co. corporations controlled by J. S. Chaffin, Esq., of Houston, Texas...

Kirby Lumber Co. Contract.—The payments due us were promptly met. REALIZATION ACCOUNT FOR YEARS ENDING SEPT. 30.

REALIZATION ACCOUNT FOR YEARS ENDING SEPT. 30. Table with columns for 1915-16, 1914-15, 1913-14.

Being installments received from Kirby Lumber Co. under stamper contract of July 1 1901, as modified by decree of court July 28 1908.

BALANCE SHEET SEPTEMBER 30. Table with columns for 1916, 1915.

The following certificates have been deposited with trustee to secure new series certs. 1st issue timber certs., \$1,845,000; 2d issue timber certs., \$3,496,403; int., special int. & expense certs., \$988,100; total, \$6,329,503.

Includes amount due in respect of assets sold Aug. 4 1916 \$6,738,016, and current account, \$1,843.

Includes investment in timber, oil lands and oil and gas rights with book value as shown as of Sept. 30 1915, \$23,468,963, and \$300,000 transferred from investment in Corsicana oil fields and \$50,000 in Sabine properties...

Investment in oil and other properties include (1) Higgins Oil & Fuel Co. stock, 2,833 1/4 shares of \$100 each, \$283,375...

Certificates of beneficial interest in company's securities held in trust, viz.: (1) Certificates of beneficial interest in common stock, par value \$33,600, approximate market value \$4,704...

British-American Tobacco Co., Ltd., London, Eng.

(Report for Fiscal Year ending Sept. 30 1916.)

Directors Joseph Hood and A. G. Jeffress, with A. M. Rickards, Secretary, London, Dec. 21, report in substance:

Results.—The net profits for the year, after deducting all charges and expenses for management, &c., and providing for income tax, are £2,733,362. Deducting preference dividend for the year of 5%, £225,000, and adding amount brought forward per last balance sheet, £1,617,231...

The earnings justify a larger final dividend, but rather than pay the whole amount in cash, the directors, with a view to conserving the liquid resources, recommend out of the holding of the company of the ordinary shares of Imperial Tobacco Co. of Canada, Ltd., (see report of that company below) a bonus distribution of one ordinary share of \$5 of the Canadian Co. in respect of every four ordinary shares of £1 each of the company...

After paying the final dividend of 5%, and writing off the said sum of £37,059, representing the book value of the shares to be distributed as a bonus, the carry forward, as compared with last year, will be increased by £595,007 to £1,743,164, less amount (not yet ascertained) required to pay the excess profits duty.

Vice-Chairman Hugo Cunliffe-Owen was quoted Dec. 30 as saying to a reporter: A few days ago we declared a final dividend of 5% free of British income tax, upon ordinary shares. This made, with interim dividends, 30% for year ended Sept. 30, against 22 1/2% for year ended Sept. 30 1915.

When the war started we laid aside £1,500,000 for paying losses incurred through the war. So far we have not had in touch it. Our plant is shut down in Belgium, but our investment there is comparatively small.

Imperial Tobacco Co. of Canada has always been a subsidiary of British-American. Even with a distribution of the 1,563,580 shares of Imperial to British-American stockholders we still retain control of the Canadian Co.

INCOME ACCOUNT SEPTEMBER 30. Table with columns for 1915-16, 1914-15, 1913-14.

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BALANCE SHEET. Table with columns for 1916, 1915.

The dividends on the ordinary shares in 1915-16 include the four interim payments of 5% on Jan. 18, 2 1/2% on March 31, 7 1/2% on June 30 and 10% on Sept. 30 1916, and the final payment of (5%) £312,716 to be made Jan. 31 1917, reducing the amount to be carried forward from £2,092,938, as shown in the balance sheet below, to £1,780,222, as given above.

There is a contingent liability on shares not fully paid, £170,590, and also for premiums payable on redemption of shares in associated companies allocated to employees.—V. 104, p. 75.

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BALANCE SHEET. Table with columns for 1916, 1915.

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Imperial Tobacco Co. of Canada, Ltd.

(Fifth Annual Report Year ending Sept. 30 1916.)

Table with 4 columns for years 1915-16, 1914-15, 1913-14, and 1912-13. Rows include Net profits, Preference shares (6%), Ordinary shares, Balance, surplus, and a note about undivided profits.

BALANCE SHEET SEPTEMBER 30.

Balance sheet with columns for 1916 and 1915. Rows include Assets (Real est., Plant, Good-will, Shares, Cash, Stock, Sundry debtors) and Liabilities (Preference shares, Ordinary shares, Premium on pref. shares, Sundry credit, Capital surplus, Reserve funds, General reserve, Profit and loss).

The profit and loss surplus Sept. 30 1916, \$1,245,455, is shown before deducting the final ordinary dividend of 1% (\$270,025, included in the 6% in foregoing earnings statement). Allowance for this dividend leaves the surplus to be carried forward \$975,430.—V. 103, p. 2240.

Childs Company, New York.

(Report for Fiscal Year ending Nov. 30 1916.)

Table with 4 columns for years 1915-16, 1914-15, 1913-14, and 1912-13. Rows include Gross profits, Preferred dividends (7%), Common dividends, Surplus for year, Previous surplus, and Total surplus.

*After amounts transferred to reserve and depreciation accounts and also, in 1911-12, common stock dividends of 33 1-3%.

Dividend Record (Per Cent) of Common Stock—Calendar Years. 1902 1903-04 1905 1906 1907 1908 1909 1910 1911-13 1914 1915 1916. Also 33 1-3% paid in stock Dec. 1911. V. 93, p. 1728, 1791.

BALANCE SHEET NOVEMBER 30.

Balance sheet with columns for 1916, 1915, 1914, and 1913. Rows include Assets (Establishments, leaseholds, Reserve fund, Cash, Stocks owned, Notes, Merchandise, Real estate) and Liabilities (Common stock, Pref. stock, Notes, Reserve account, Surplus).

x After deducting depreciation, \$1,813,898.—V. 103, p. 1983.

Union Stock Yds. Co. of Omaha, Ltd. (So. Omaha, Neb.)

(Report for Fiscal Year ending Nov. 30 1916.)

EARNINGS, &C., FOR YEAR ENDING NOV. 30.

Table with 4 columns for years 1915-16, 1914-15, 1913-14, and 1912-13. Rows include Receipts of stock (Cattle, Hogs, Sheep, Horses and mules, Shipments, Hogs, Sheep, Horses and mules), Gross earnings, Gross expenses, Net earnings, Depreciation, Reserve for future construction, Dividends, Total deductions, and Surplus.

BALANCE SHEET NOV. 30. 1

Balance sheet with columns for 1916 and 1915. Rows include Assets (Real est., plant, &c., Accounts receivable, Supplies, Prepaid insur. & int., Cash) and Liabilities (Capital stock, Bonds, Depreciation reserve, Contingent reserve, Surplus).

Acme White Lead & Color Works, Detroit.

(Report for Fiscal Year ending Nov. 30 1916.)

Pres. Wm. L. Davies, Detroit, Dec. 30 1916, wrote in sub.:

While our volume of business has been considerably in excess of the preceding year, a very large percentage of the increase has been due to higher selling prices. Our inventories are somewhat larger in pounds and gallons than a year ago, but owing to unusual costs and market conditions, they are abnormally high in money value. Sooner or later conditions must return to normal. We may face a serious shrinkage of inventory values, together with loss in volume of business, and accompanying loss on operations. Reasonable provision for this has been made by setting up a reserve of \$760,432, which amount will reduce our inventories to approximately a pre-war basis.

During the year the company retired \$75,000 of its bonds, which matured on July 1 1916. It purchased \$25,000 more, which leaves outstanding a bonded debt of \$1,324,800, against which the reserve established by the directors stands at \$236,625. The only other obligations are for current liabilities not due for payment, and a note obligation amounting to \$7,200, to employees and others. The company does not settle accounts by note, but discounts its bills, and at present is not borrowing from banks.

The preferred stock matures on Dec. 1 1927, when it must be renewed or retired. While we have no doubt that the condition of the company, at that time, will make a renewal entirely satisfactory to the then holders, it seems wise to commence making some provision for its possible retirement. Accordingly we have set up a reserve for this purpose and appropriated thereto, from surplus, the sum of \$75,000.

We anticipate a good volume of business during the spring of 1917, possibly larger than during the corresponding period in 1916. Our financial

burden is greatest between Feb. 1 and April 30 of each year, when the company may need to resort to seasonal borrowing from banks. If the war should terminate during the next six or eight months, a financial stringency might occur, and we would then need every cash resource which we could command. On the other hand, if conditions continue favorable, we hope to strengthen our cash position by summer, or during the year, so as to warrant the resumption of common stock divs. at least in a small way.

RESULTS FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING NOV. 30.

Table with 4 columns for years 1912-13, 1913-14, 1914-15, and 1915-16. Rows include Net, after depreciation, Other income, Total income, Deduct, Bond, &c., interest, Pref. divs. (6%), Common dividends.

Table with 4 columns for years 1912-13, 1913-14, 1914-15, and 1915-16. Rows include Balance, sur. or def., Surplus carried forward from previous year, Add—Cost of bonds purch. & retired transferred from reserve, Total, Reserves—For redemption of bonds, stock, \$75,900; for general purposes, \$72,150.

Total surplus (see balance sheet below) \$500,000

* In 1913 the company deducted the common dividend from the accumulated surplus, but it is shown above for the sake of simplicity.

Balance Sheet November 30.

Balance sheet with columns for 1916 and 1915. Rows include Assets (Real est., bldgs., machin., y. trade, marks, &c., Invest. ta., Cash, Acc'ts & notes rec., Inventories, Deferred charges) and Liabilities (6% cum. pf. stock, Common stock, 1st M. 6% bonds, Accts pay., Notes payable, Acc'd liabilities, Reserves, Surplus).

a On pre-war basis in 1916. x Includes in 1916 reserve for bad debts, \$30,000; for depreciation, \$267,834; for general purposes, \$275,000; to retire prof. stock, \$75,900; redemption of bonds, \$236,625.—V. 101, p. 526.

GENERAL INVESTMENT NEWS

RAILROADS, INCLUDING ELECTRIC ROADS.

Adamson (Wage) Law.—Arguments Concluded.— See editorial columns in this issue.—V. 103, p. 1980.

Arkansas Valley Interurban Ry., Wichita, Kan.—

The company has received authority from the Kansas P. U. Commission to issue \$1,000,000 1st M. 5½% gold bonds; \$600,000 preferred stock and \$1,500,000 common stock. The company is to retire \$1,305,000 of bonds authorized by the RR. Commission in 1910, using for such retirement the proceeds of \$900,000 new bonds and \$500,000 of the preferred stock, while the proceeds of the other issues are to go for improvements. The company is also reported to have asked permission to issue a further \$2,000,000 bonds and \$900,000 stock for the purpose of building extensions. The company now has above 60 miles of track, extending from Wichita to Hutchinson. President, George Theis Jr., Wichita.—V. 79, p. 901.

Atlanta Birmingham & Atlantic Ry.—Protest Against Valuation.

The company has filed with the I. S. C. Commission a protest against the latter's tentative valuation placed on the property late in October, showing the cost of reproduction new of road and equipment as \$24,154,989, as against \$39,079,261 in the valuation by the company's engineers. The "Railway Age Gazette" in its issue of Dec. 15 has a three-page article reciting the various particulars, in which the company contends the Commission's valuation is faulty and contrary to law.—V. 103, p. 1887, 1683.

Bahia (Brazil) Tramway, Light & Power Co.—Alleged Bad Faith by Municipality.

At a recent meeting of the debenture holder in London, the treatment of the company by the city of Bahia was pronounced a "disgrace to any civilized community."

Digest of Authoritative Statement.

At the instigation of the municipality the property was transferred to the city on March 19 1914 for a provisional 6% sinking fund bond of \$7,605,000, but the interest and sinking fund payments due in July 1914 and January 1915 were not met and the Municipal Council attempted to reduce the provisional bond to \$6,746,000.

On March 29 1915, as a result of sequestrating some of the municipal funds, the company secured from a new municipal leader an authorization for the delivery of definitive bonds in exchange for the full sum (\$7,605,000) of the provisional bond, and \$200,000 cash and \$210,000 in one-year promissory notes was paid to cover the interest and sinking fund charges up to Jan. 1915. Late in 1915 another new municipal head tried to secure a cancellation of the bonds in exchange for a renewed concession, but this was refused because there was no guaranty that a new concession would be any more respected by the municipality than the old one had been. Moreover, the property since the transfer to the city had fallen into such a state of neglect that \$700,000 would have been required to insure its proper working.

The municipality then offered \$1,500,000 in cash for the bonds and in final settlement of everything, but this was refused. In July 1916 the municipality issued a formal protest against carrying out the contract, stating that according to Brazilian law "contracts that cause enormous injury to one of the parties can be canceled." Later the \$210,000 of promissory notes were returned dishonored by Brazilian banks, while not a penny of the \$750,000 of fixed charges due since Jan. 1915 has been paid.

At present, therefore, matters have come to a deadlock, and the London debenture holders believe that the situation should be explained in Great Britain and the United States. It is felt that the Brazilian Government should look into the matter and prevent the city from repudiating its contract.—V. 97, p. 1897.

Brooklyn Heights RR.—Notice—To Guarantee Bonds.

Brooklyn Union Elevated 4-5% bonds and Kings County Elev. 4% bonds will be guaranteed on two days each month in 1917 by Brooklyn Heights RR. at 85 Clinton St., Brooklyn, between 9 a. m. and 12 m., viz.: Jan. 15 and 30 April 16 and 30 July 16 and 30 Oct. 15 and 30 Feb. 15 and 28 May 15 and 31 Aug. 15 and 30 Nov. 15 and 30 Mar. 15 and 30 June 15 and 29 Sept. 14 and 28 Dec. 14 and 28 —V. 102, p. 975.

Canadian Pacific Ry.—Officer.

E. Alexander, formerly Assistant Secretary, has been elected Secretary, with office at Montreal.—V. 103, p. 2340.

Capital Traction Co., Washington, D. C.—Earnings.

Table with 4 columns for years 1915, 1916, Dec. 31 Years: 1916, 1915. Rows include Gross earnings, Net earnings, Other income, Gross income.

Chicago & Eastern Illinois RR.—Bonds Listed.—

The N. Y. Stock Exchange has listed an additional \$176,000 4% Ref. & Improvement bonds due 1955, with authority to add \$1,847,000 on notice

of sale, making the total amount authorized to be listed \$18,019,000. The entire \$2,023,000 of additional bonds was pledged with certain bankers from Feb. 1 to May 1913 as security for obligations incurred to reimburse it for expenditures made to retire equipment trusts and for other capital outlays.—V. 103, p. 1792, 1505.

Chicago Railways.—Dividends Resumed in Series 2.—

A dividend of 2% has been declared on the Series 2 certificates, payable Feb. 1 to holders of record Jan. 12. This is the first payment since June 1915.—V. 104, p. 74.

Chicago Rock Island & Pacific Ry.—Proposed Settlement.—

Former Directors Daniel G. Reid and William H. Moore, who were sued on account of losses incurred by the road from the Frisco and other transactions entered into while they were active in the management, formally offered through their attorneys at Chicago on Jan. 9 to compromise the claim, on the terms below stated, including the purchase at par of \$5,000,000 of the proposed 6% pref. stock, \$500,000 cash, &c. There was no opposition to the offer, but as about 10% of the stock has not yet assented to the reorganization plan Judge Carpenter deferred final action on the matter until Jan. 29 to complete legal formalities.

The settlement will end both the suit of the Amster committee filed Feb. 2 1916 and that brought by Receiver Dickinson in April 1915 against the directors named and their associates. Messrs. Reid and Moore in effect assume all responsibility for the actions complained of and hence the loss of perhaps \$2,000,000 involved in the settlement.

Terms of Settlement in Brief as Stated in Petitioners' Advertisement.

[Samuel Undermyer, Sol. M. Stroock, Jacob Newman, counsel for petitioners.] If the Railway Company and its receiver will release the individual defendants from all claims in favor of the Railway Company and of the receiver against them or any of them, the said individual defendants (a) will purchase from the joint reorganization committee of the company, or from any other person or body, corporate or otherwise, entitled to dispose of the same on behalf of the Railway Company, \$5,000,000 pref. stock of the Railway Co., or of a new company which may succeed to the assets of the Railway Co. (or income debentures if the same shall be issued in lieu of said 6% preferred stock) and will pay therefor \$5,000,000 in cash. (b) Will in addition pay the sum of \$500,000 in cash and the fees, expenses and disbursements of the said action so pending in the New York Supreme Court.

The action referred to was brought to recover from the said individual defendants approximately \$6,100,000 claimed to have been diverted from the Railway Co. while the individual defendants were directors thereof. The proposition of settlement has been approved by the joint reorganization committee, by the present board of directors of the Railway Co., by the debenture committee and by the Hayden stockholders' committee, and by the Amster stockholders' committee.

90% Deposited.—The Secretary of the Reorganization Committee announces that, including stock on hand and stock pledged, there have now been deposited under the plan some 90% of the stock and over 90% of the debentures.

Further deposits are being received subject to approval without extension of the privilege, which expired on Jan. 5. Depositories, Bankers Trust Co., N. Y., and First Trust & Savings Bank, Chicago.—V. 104, p. 72.

Cities Service Co., N. Y.—Sub. Co. Bon. Offering.—

See United Water, Gas & Electric Co., Hutchinson, Kan., under "Industrials" below.—V. 103, p. 2428, 2340.

Cleveland & Mahoning Valley Ry.—New Lease—Stock Increase.—

The shareholders will vote Feb. 15 on (a) the proposed increase of the capital stock from \$3,259,200 to \$6,111,000, the amount of such increase to consist of \$2,851,800 preferred stock, such increase being required in the opinion of the directors; (b) a proposed lease of the property for 999 years from Jan. 2 1917 and thereafter, so far as may be legal, during the corporate existence of the company, and all extensions and renewals thereof, to the Nypano RR. Co., a subsidiary of the Erie RR. Co., and confirming and continuing, as modified in said proposed lease, the leases now existing between said parties.

In case the shareholders ratify the foregoing measures, it is proposed to expend a large sum on grade-elimination in Youngstown and for sundry improvements on the line.—V. 63, p. 968.

Cleveland Painesville & Ashtabula Ry.—No Funds.—

The Cleveland Trust Co., trustee of the First Mtge. 5% bonds, has notified holders of the bonds that no funds were deposited to pay the coupons maturing Jan. 1. A protective committee for the holders of the \$1,000,000 of these bonds is being formed in Cleveland.—V. 100, p. 473.

Commonwealth Power Co. of Nebraska.—Bonds Offered.

—Liggett, Highborn & Co., Inc., are offering at 100 and interest, to yield about 6.18%, \$750,000 First Mortgage 6% gold bonds, dated March 1 1914, due March 1 1944 (at 105).

Authorized, \$2,000,000; issued, \$750,000. Payable at maturity at 105 or callable at any time at 105. Int. M. & S., at the Empire Trust Co., N. Y. (trustee), or Lloyd's Bank, Ltd., London. Denom. \$1,000, \$500, \$100 c. The Lincoln (Neb.) Traction Co., the power company's chief customer, by agreement, references to which is endorsed upon each bond, obligates itself to pay from the amounts due the power company, the interest charges of the latter, thereby making the same and the sinking fund a part of its own and a prior charge to all bond interest.

Data from Letter of Pres. W. E. Sharp, Lincoln, Neb., Dec. 1 1916.

Organization.—Incorp. in 1912 to deliver electric power to points in Kan. and Neb., particularly Lincoln, a prosperous city of 65,000 population. The Lincoln Traction Co., the power company's principal customer serves the city and suburbs, having a population of about 75,000 or 80,000, with street railway service and also light and power. Exhaust steam is used for heating in the business district. The Traction Co. has contracted for the purchase of all its electrical energy from the Power Co. for 49 years on a sliding scale basis of 1 1/2 to 1 c. per k. w., thus insuring the stability of the Power Co.'s income. Total output of the Traction Co.'s power plant for 1916 will approximate 13,000,000 k. w. h.'s, or \$78,000 net for the Power Co. under the contract (see below).

Capitalization of the Commonwealth Power Co. of Nebraska.

Capitalization—Authorized, Outstanding
First Mortgage 6% 30-year gold bonds.....\$2,000,000 \$750,000
7% First Preferred.....600,000 600,000
Second Preferred.....1,900,000 1,900,000

The Bonds.—Escrow bonds can be issued for only 80% of the cash cost of improvements and extensions and then only when net earnings are at least twice interest charges on all bonds, together with those proposed. A sinking fund beginning March 1 1917 will retire 1% of the outstanding bonds annually up to March 1 1927, 2% to March 1 1935, and 3% thereafter until maturity.

Contract.—The Traction Co. has not been able to deliver energy at less than 1.71c. per k. w. h. at the switchboard, but with the installation of a water-power development and oil-burning Diesel engines, the cost, we believe, can be materially reduced. In the capitalization of the Traction Co., no provision was made for such development and the closed mortgage at \$1,500,000 made it seem advisable to contract with the Power Co. to furnish the necessary capital and equipment to supply and sell the electrical power to the company. The power plant of the Traction Co. leased by the Power Co. consists of 4,000 h. p. of boilers and about the same amount of engines. Other engines are being built.

The Power Co. has acquired properties and filed for water rights on the Loup and Blue rivers in Neb., and has contracted with the Traction Co. to lease its present steam power plant and install the necessary oil-burning engines. The immediate project is to complete the Diesel engine equip-

ment with a view to superseding the steam plant formerly exclusively used by the Traction Co., and the development of one or more hydro-electric properties on the Blue River. When this has been done, current will be generated at about 1/2 c. per k. w. Developments will furnish about 20,000 h. p. Proposed connections with other cities will increase market.

Earnings of The Lincoln Traction Co. for the Year Ending Oct. 31 1916.
Gross earnings.....\$948,221 Bond interest charges.....\$73,449
Net, after operating exp.....\$276,635 Balance.....\$203,186
Upon completion of equipment now being installed, net earnings should be about \$100,000 per annum.

Commonwealth Power Ry. & Light Co.—

Notice was given (in an advertisement in last week's "Chronicle" on page XX) that the holders of 5-year 6% convertible bonds of this company intending to convert are required by the terms of the bonds to give ten days' notice of such intention, either to the Bankers Trust Co., N. Y. City, or Jacob Helms, Secretary, at 14 Wall St.—V. 103, p. 1687, 490.

Dallas (Tex.) Electric Corporation.—Franchise Ordinance.—

The Board of City Commissioners on Jan. 9 approved the new 70,000-word railway and lighting franchise ordinance. Upon recommendation of the Mayor, these ordinances are to be submitted to popular vote at the election April 3.

A legal contest is pending over the validity of the amendments to the city charter under which these franchises are based. The decision in the lower court upheld the amendments. Compare V. 103, p. 2235.

Denver & Rio Grande RR.—Restraining Order.—

In the foreclosure proceedings under the 1st M. bonds of the old Western Pacific RR., as to which it has been claimed the D. & R. G. is liable to some amount as guarantor, Judge Learned Hand in the Federal District Court in N. Y. on Jan. 6 signed an order restraining the company from withdrawing from the jurisdiction of the Court any property or cash on deposit in this city without the sanction of the Court. Subsequently the company was given permission to withdraw \$100,000 of the \$2,000,000 on deposit.—V. 104, p. 72.

Detroit United Ry.—New Stock.—

The shareholders will vote Feb. 6 on increasing the authorized capital stock from \$12,500,000 to \$25,000,000 to provide from time to time for improvements and extensions. To finance the 1917 program the directors propose to offer to shareholders of record the privilege of subscribing for \$2,500,000 of the new stock at par, \$100 a share, to the extent of one share for every five shares of their respective holdings.—V. 103, p. 2428.

El Paso (Tex.) Electric Co.—Sub. Co's Stock.—

The El Paso (Tex.) Electric Ry., a subsidiary of the above company, has filed a certificate increasing its authorized capital stock from \$2,500,000 to \$3,500,000.—V. 98, p. 839.

Erie Railroad.—New Lease, &c.—

See Cleveland & Mahoning Valley Ry. above.—V. 103, p. 2078, 1412.

Grafton & Upton RR.—Bonds.—

Regarding the \$250,000 bonds authorized by the Mass. P. S. Commission, we are informed that this is simply a refunding arrangement, the bonds to be exchanged for short-term notes now outstanding, a transaction in which the public is not believed to be interested.—V. 104, p. 73.

Gulf Mobile & Northern RR.—Successor Company.—

This company as of Jan. 1 last took over the property of the New Orleans Mobile & Chicago RR. (foreclosed) per plan in V. 100, p. 1078.—V. 103, p. 2235.

Hagerstown & Frederick Ry.—Bonds Offered.—

Nelson, Cook & Co., Baltimore, are offering at par and interest a block of First & Refunding 6% 30-year sinking fund gold bonds of 1914; outstanding, \$1,224,000.

Data from Letter of Pres. Emory L. Coblentz, Frederick, Md., Dec. 12. Organization.—A consolidation in April 1913, all operating in thriving communities in Central and Western Maryland. Also controls (see below), through ownership of a majority of the stock, the Potomac Light & Power Co. of Martinsburg, W. Va. The electric railway mileage operated aggregates 87.5 miles and serves a population estimated to be about 65,000.

Capitalization—

Stock (\$2,000,000 ls com., all issued, bal. preferred)	Authorized	Issued
Underlying bonds	\$4,200,000	\$2,635,000
First & Ref. 6s (\$850,000 reserved to retire prior liens, \$7,928,000 res. for 80% cost of add'ns, &c.)	10,000,000	1,224,000
Adjustment Mortgage 5s due May 1 1954		1,225,000

These bonds are a first mortgage on practically the entire street railway system in Frederick, on almost the entire line from Frederick to Thurmont on the new modern power plant, and high-tension transmission lines and sub-stations, upon the entire trackage in Hagerstown, the branch line from Hagerstown to Williamsport, and the line from Hagerstown to Funkstown. They are also a direct mortgage on the remaining properties subject to \$850,000 prior lien bonds. In 1914 the properties were appraised at over \$3,500,000, exclusive of good-will and franchises; since then about \$230,000 has been expended for extensions, &c., in addition to depreciation, &c.

Acquisition.—The company recently obtained control of the Potomac Light & Power Co. through the acquisition of \$130,100 of the preferred stock and about 75% of the \$250,000 common stock, the latter having the entire voting power. This company owns two water power plants on the Potomac River and a steam generating plant and the electric distribution system in Martinsburg, W. Va. A transmission line will be built from the high-tension lines of the H. & F. Ry. at Williamsport to connect with the lines of the recently acquired company, about seven miles, so that the H. & F. Ry. will furnish auxiliary power to the Potomac company from its steam plant at Security, and in turn will receive such surplus power as is available from the water power plants owned by it.

Earns for 12 Mos. end, Dec. 31 1914 and 1915 and 10 Mos. end, Oct. 31 1916.

	1914.	1915.	1916.
Gross from all sources	\$418,858	\$442,958	\$434,130
*Net after taxes	\$156,599	\$179,478	\$174,234
Interest on underlying bonds	54,500	42,500	35,417
Interest on 1st and Refunding 6s	51,000	63,000	53,370

Surplus.....\$51,000 \$73,978 \$85,448
* Charges are included on the \$174,000 bonds recently issued in the acquisition of the Potomac Light & Power Co. from which, however, no earnings are as yet included.

Growth of Earnings—

	Jan.	Mar.	May.	July.	Sept.	Oct.
Gross revenue	\$36,543	\$37,445	\$42,075	\$46,230	\$49,259	\$54,593
Applicable to interest	14,415	13,765	16,410	18,751	22,363	23,281

The company has ample cash for improvements, &c., and no floating debt. A majority of the junior securities are held by strong local interests and represent a large cash investment.—V. 102, p. 1811, 1346.

Halifax Electric Tramway Co., Ltd.—Sale.—

See Nova Scotia Tramways & Power Co. below.—V. 102, p. 885.

Harrisburg Portsmouth Mt. Joy & Lanc. Ry.—Merger.

See Pennsylvania RR. below.—V. 103, p. 239.

Midland Valley RR.—Purchase Denied.—

See Sapulpa (Okla.) & Interurban Ry. below.—V. 103, p. 1788, 1032.

Missouri Pacific Ry.—Sale Feb. 21.—

The foreclosure sale is advertised for Feb. 21 at St. Louis, under terms of First & Refunding Mortgage of 1909, subject to the lien of the several undisturbed bond issues of the Missouri Pacific Ry. Co. proper and its predecessor companies. See plan V. 101, p. 130; V. 103, p. 406, and p. 85 of "Ry. & Indus. Section."

Upset Prices Fixed for Various Parcels.

(a) \$10 for the property pledged under and subject to the lien of the Trust Indenture securing the 40-Year 4% gold bonds. (b) \$2,000,000 for the property pledged under and subject to the lien of the Trust Indenture securing the 3-Year 5% Secured gold notes of the company and the property subject to the lien created by said Order No. 95, as further security for the payment of certain of said Gold Notes. (c) \$10 for property pledged to secure a certain note to the Board of Hospital Service Managers. (d) \$750,000 for all other property adjudged by said decrees not to be subject to the lien of the said First and Refunding Mortgage. (e) \$13,400,000 for the property subject to the lien of said First & Refunding Mortgage. (f) \$16,150,020 for all the property described in Article VII and in Article XII of said decrees and in Articles I and II of the descriptive clauses hereof, as an entirety.—V. 103, p. 2156, 2079.

Mount Royal Tunnel & Term. Co., Ltd.—Modifications. The meeting of holders of the 1st M. Rent Charge debentures of 1914, called to modify the trust deed, was postponed until Jan. 23 1917. For proposed modifications, see V. 103, p. 1889.

New Orleans & Northeastern RR.—President—Plan. Fairfax Harrison, President of the Southern Railway, has been elected President of this company to succeed Larz A. Jones, who resigned. The company, it is announced, is arranging to make a new mortgage to refund the existing bonded debt in connection with a new financial plan under which additional capital will be provided for the improvement of the lines and equipment of the company.—V. 104, p. 73.

New York New Haven & Hartford RR.—Permanent Engraved Certificates for Equipment Trusts.—

The engraved certificates for the \$1,300,000 Equipment Trust 4 1/2s, Series "CC," which the Bankers Trust Co. and Evans, Stillman & Co., N. Y., offered for sale some time ago, are now ready to be exchanged for the temporary certificates, either through the Commercial Trust Co., Philadelphia, the trustee, or at the office of Evans, Stillman & Co. in N. Y.—V. 103, p. 2156, 1981.

Nova Scotia Tramways & Power Co., Ltd.—Bonds Offered.—Lee, Higginson & Co. and Potter, Choate & Prentice are offering, by advertisement on another page, at 95 1/2 and interest, to yield about 5.30%, \$2,500,000 First Mortgage 5% gold bonds dated Dec. 1 1916, due Dec. 1 1946. The bankers say:

The bonds are callable, all or part, for sinking fund, at 105 and interest on any interest date on 60 days' notice. Int. J. & D. in N. Y., Montreal and London, without deduction for Canadian taxes or United States Federal taxes. Fixed exchange rate, \$4 86 2/3 per £ sterling. Denoms. \$1,000 & \$500 etc. Trustees, Union Trust Co. of N. Y. and Royal Trust Co., Montreal.

The company owns and operates all the street railway, commercial electric light and power and gas properties in Halifax, serving a population of about 65,000. Halifax, the capital of Nova Scotia, and the most important British naval station in North America, has one of the finest harbors in the world. It has increased steadily in population and commercial importance. The Government has undertaken extensive dock improvements there to cost about \$30,000,000, of which about \$10,000,000 has already been expended or contracted for.

Data from Letter of Pres. E. A. Robert, Halifax, Jan. 10 1917.
Organization.—Incorporated in Nova Scotia in 1914 with authority, among other special powers, to purchase the properties and franchises of the Halifax Electric Tramway Co., Ltd., comprising all street railways, commercial electric light and power and gas properties in Halifax, and to acquire water powers, lands, &c., on the Gaspeaux River, 55 miles from Halifax, capable of a hydro-electric development of approximately 12,000 h. p.

Authorized Outstanding
1st Mtge. 5% gold bonds (this issue) \$10,000,000 \$2,250,000
Preferred stock, 6% cumulative (par \$100) 2,500,000 1,500,000
Common stock (par \$100) 3,500,000 2,500,000

Purpose of Issue.—The proceeds from the stocks and bonds now outstanding will provide for the acquisition of the properties of the Tramway Co. and the water power rights, lands, &c., on the Gaspeaux River; also adequate working capital. The Nova Scotia P. U. Commission has approved altogether the issue of \$3,000,000 bonds, \$2,500,000 pref. stock and \$2,500,000 common stock for these specific purposes, and for the construction of a hydro-electric plant utilizing the Gaspeaux lands.

The remaining bonds may be issued up to 75% of the cost of physical properties or improvements constructed or acquired after June 15 1915, to be subjected to this mortgage (except that no bonds may be issued against the cost of the new gas plant), and only when net earnings are double the 1st M. interest charges, provided to be issued.

The mortgage will provide (beginning Dec. 1 1917) for an annual sinking or improvement fund of 1% of the total bonds issued, to be used for additional properties or improvements, or else to purchase or call bonds of this issue at not exceeding 105 and interest.

Properties.—(a) Street railway system with 21.2 miles of track, mostly double track, 62 passenger cars, &c.; (b) a central power house with 7,300 h. p. capacity, including a new 4,000 h. p. turbo-generator now being installed; (c) a lighting and power distribution system; (d) a modern gas plant with about 42 miles of pipe in the distributing system, &c. The P. U. Commission in Feb. 1916 decided that the fair value of the properties of the Tramway Co. as of June 15 1915 was \$3,450,000, and of the Gaspeaux lands, &c., \$300,000, a total of \$3,750,000, on which these \$2,500,000 bonds are a first mortgage. Since June 1915 substantial additions have been made, including a 4,000 h. p. increase in power station capacity and an entirely new gas plant.

Earnings for Five Calendar Years and Year Ended Oct. 31 1916.
1906. 1909. 1912. 1914. 1915. 1915-16.
Gross earnings \$387,517 \$447,579 \$539,953 \$645,241 \$718,840 \$759,513
Net after taxes 171,808 207,073 253,393 269,818 331,753 342,897
Interest on these bonds calls annually for 112,500
The gross earnings are now about equally divided between the street railway and the light and power business.

Station's Year—
Receipts Pass. Elet. & Gas Receipts Passengers Incand. Arc Lamps, h. p. Motors, h. p.
1906 --- 118,781 162,158 586,578 733,301 42,877 362 520
1912 --- 228,654 228,654 61,085 5,688,114 66,325 380 1,274
1915 --- 347,965 303,528 67,346 8,061,025 84,723 503 1,658

Franchises.—These, in opinion of counsel, are without limit of time.
Stock Offered.—Potter, Choate & Prentice and Stone & Webster (also offering the bonds) are offering also the preferred and common stock in "blocks" of 10 shares 6% cumulative preferred stock (divs. J. & J. 2) and 3 shares common stock for \$1,000.—V. 103, p. 1593.

Pacific Gas & Electric Co., San Francisco.—Exchange of Preferred Stock—Acquisition.—

The Cal. RR. Commission has authorized this company to exchange before July 1 all its outstanding original pref. stock for the new 6% pref. stock on the basis of 102 1/2 shares of the latter for 100 shares of the former. The new stock is tax-free and non-assessable.

Regarding the recent application to issue \$2,500,000 5% Gen. & Ref. bonds, the proceeds of which are to be used in connection with the acquisition of the property of the Oro Electric Corp. Pres. Hockenbamer, of the purchasing company, is quoted as saying: "The present value of the Oro properties was \$2,981,740. The net income to be expected, including the savings to be made by Pacific company management, was \$143,552, and that there would be left, after deducting annual charges, a balance of \$17,756." Compare V. 103, p. 2429, 2079.

Pennsylvania Railroad.—Bonds Listed.—The New York and Philadelphia stock exchanges have listed \$65,000,000 4 1/2% General Mtge. bonds, series "A."

To Authorize Bonds and Merger.—At the annual meeting on March 13 the stockholders will be asked to approve an

increase of the authorized indebtedness of the company to the extent of \$75,000,000. "This will enable the board of directors to issue from time to time such amounts, either of General Mtge. bonds or of capital stock that has heretofore been authorized by the stockholders, as may be necessary to provide for the company's capital requirements in the near future, including maturing obligations.

The stockholders will also be asked to approve the agreement for the acquisition of the property and franchises of the Harrisburg Portsmouth Mt. Joy & Lancaster RR. The railroad of that company constitutes that portion of the main line of the Pennsylvania RR. between Lancaster and Harrisburg. The Pennsylvania RR. Co. owns over 80% of its capital stock.—V. 104, p. 73.

Pere Marquette RR.—Payment of \$12.50 on Each Guaranteed Ref. Mtge. Bond for Release of U. H. & D. Guaranty.—The Reorganization Managers announce by adv. on another page the cancellation of the guaranty of the Cincinnati Hamilton & Dayton borne by the Guaranteed Refunding Mtge. bonds of 1905, deposited under the plan of reorganization against the net cash payment of the sum of \$12.50 in respect of each \$1,000 face or principal amount of said deposited Guaranteed Refunding Mtge. bonds, pursuant to the arrangement referred to in said plan (V. 103, p. 1697).

Holders of certificates of deposit above mentioned, upon presentation thereof to Bankers Trust Co., 16 Wall St., the depository thereof under the plan, for appropriate stamping, are entitled to receive the sum of \$12.50 in cash in respect of each \$1,000 principal amount of the said guaranteed Refunding Mtge. bonds represented by such certificates of deposit. There are outstanding \$13,914,000 Ref. Mtge. ds of 1905 (of which \$9,207,000 bore the aforesaid guaranty), and the accrued interest thereon as of July 1 1916 amounted to \$1,447,056, or 10.4%; total, \$15,361,056, in exchange for which the plan offered 110.4% or \$15,361,056, in new common stock v. t. c.—V. 103, p. 2429, 2342.

Philadelphia Rapid Transit Co.—Listing.—The Philadelphia Stock Exchange has listed \$2,663,650 additional extended voting trust certificates, making the total of those outstanding \$23,299,750.—V. 103, p. 2342, 1981.

St. Louis-San Francisco Ry.—New President.—W. B. Biddle, former Vice-President of this company, has been elected President to succeed W. C. Nixon, deceased. E. D. Levey has been elected a director to fill the vacancy made by the death of Mr. Nixon.—V. 104, p. 73.

San Francisco-Oakland Term. Rys.—Overdue Coupons. The "San Francisco News Bureau" Jan. 4 1917 said: "Although the banks are buying all January coupons of the company's bonds that are offered, in accordance with the recent notice, it is learned that the purchase of July coupons on the same bonds is being refused. The reason for this action is explained by a member of the banking committee as follows: 'We offered to buy these July coupons originally, and kept extending the time for their purchase until October last. Some were not turned in by that date. Such coupons as were not thus purchased can only be liquidated when the company is in funds.'" Compare V. 104, p. 74.

Sapulpa (Okla.) & Interurban Ry.—Status—Sold.—The "Electric Railway Journal" of Jan. 6 1917 says:

The recent newspaper report that the Midland Valley RR., a steam line, has purchased the Sapulpa & Interurban Ry., is declared to be erroneous. The property of this 12-mile electric railway was foreclosed and bought in by the bondholders on Sept. 9 and the receivership was discharged. The former receiver, R. V. Miller, however, is still in charge of the property for the new owners. There will probably be a reorganization soon, but as yet nothing has been done. As far as is known, there is no probability that the Midland Valley RR. will acquire the property.—V. 103, p. 1033.

Stuebenville (O.) & East Liverpool Ry. & Light Co.—The Ohio P. U. Commission has been asked to approve a lease of that portion of the property which is being used in connection with the business of the Ohio River Power Co. to that company until Oct. 1 1919, at a rental of \$90,000 a year, with privilege of purchase for \$1,500,000 (another report says \$1,875,000).—V. 84, p. 1368.

Texas Midland RR.—Protest Against Revaluation.—See "Railway Age Gazette" of Dec. 15 on page 1092.—V. 88, p. 232.

Third Avenue Ry. (N. Y.).—Death of President.—Frederick W. Whitridge, President of this railway, died on Dec. 30 following an operation.—V. 103, p. 2079, 1889.

Tidewater Southern (Elec.) Ry., Cal.—New Stock, &c.—The "San Fran. Comm. News" on Dec. 16 said in substance:

The Cal. RR. Commission has sanctioned the issue of \$600,000 common stock, par \$1 a share, to net not less than 80%. The proceeds are to pay for improvements, including \$109,700 for a proposed 8-mile extension from Hatch, Stanislaus Co., to Irwin City, Merced Co., 8 miles; \$68,250 for an electric line from Modesto to Turlock, 16 miles, and the remainder for various improvements and additions.

The original application was for an issuance of 850,000 shares, but 250,000 of these to Pres. Byron A. Bearce in return for properties sold by him, and for the surrender by him of a certificate for \$2,000,000 held for voting purposes only, are held in abeyance. Bearce must impound in a manner suitable to the Commission \$125,000 of the stock.

The company owns and operates a standard gauge railway from Stockton to Turlock, and to Hatch in the San Joaquin Valley, 50 miles.

The company has 145,703 shares of stock of a par value of \$1 a share, of which 50,000 shares are pref. Its obligations consist of \$466,500 5% bonds, due in 1942; \$88,000 of notes payable, and \$40,000 of accounts payable, a total of \$594,500. The Commission has previously set a "present value" on the property as of June 30 1914 of \$713,493. Pres. Bearce testified that capital additions had been made which would bring the total value to \$1,128,910. He estimates that the railway will earn \$150,000 in the next fiscal year, with a net profit of \$30,000 after the payment of fixed charges. He estimates that the gross receipts from the fiscal year 1917-18 will be \$300,000, with a net profit of \$100,000. These estimates are based on the unusually large shipments of beets, cantaloupes, watermelons and sweet potatoes from those sections of Stanislaus and Merced counties which it is proposed to tap. The company has made traffic connections with the Southern Pacific Co., the Atchison Topeka & Santa Fe Ry. Co. and the Western Pacific Railway Co.

The company has petitioned for authority to abandon tracks near Stockton, as it has in prospect an arrangement which will admit it into Stockton over the Western Pacific Ry. Co.'s tracks, and thus to the Western Pacific terminal facilities.—V. 103, p. 1793.

Tonopah & Goldfield RR.—First Mortgage Bonds Paid.—One hundred (\$100,000) 1st M. 6% bonds of 1906 were paid at 102 1/2 on Jan. 2 1917 at Land Title & Trust Co., Philadelphia.—V. 103, p. 1882.

United Railways & Electric Co., Baltimore.—President Voted an Indefinite Leave—To Consider Development Plans.—An official statement says in substance:

William A. House, at his request made to the directors, has been granted a leave of absence in order that he may secure, first, complete rest for an entire month, after which he will engage in an investigation of the operation of a number of street railways in other cities. During his absence Mr. House will continue as President, but his duties will be performed by the Vice-President, Thomas A. Cross.

The directors realize that with the rapid industrial expansion of our city the company will be confronted with many serious problems of operation, and it is the desire of the directors to be in a position not merely to meet requirements, but to lead in an intelligent policy of development.

In order that they may have before them a thorough and competent study of what has been done elsewhere in the intelligent development of facilities to meet similar situations, the directors have decided to have made a report which will embrace the work done in most of the other large centers in this country. The man pre-eminently fitted to make such a report is William A. House. With the assistance of his report the directors expect to develop comprehensive plans looking to meeting the future requirements of the local railway situation.—V. 103, p. 143, 146.

United Railroads of San Francisco.—Opposition to Plan.—The committee named below is calling for deposits of the 4% Sinking Fund Gold Bonds due 1927, with a view to a reorganization, but in opposition to the plan outlined in V. 103, p. 1303. The committee (see adv. on another page) says in brief:

Since the announcement of the plan of Sept. 22 1916 (V. 103, p. 1303), members of the undersigned committee have carefully studied the San Francisco Railroads situation, as well as the plan referred to. While fully appreciating the sincere desire of the Reorganization Committee to make a fair readjustment, it has been our judgment that the plan involves sacrifices by the 4% bondholders much greater than either the condition of the company or the position of the 4% bonds justifies, and that the assent of sufficient bonds to the plan heretofore announced could not be secured. The statement made by the Reorganization Committee in their circular dated Dec. 30 1916, that the deposit or assent of the necessary amount of bonds had not been secured, and that it was the intention of the committee to abandon the plan and retire unless more than a majority of the bonds were deposited on or before Jan. 31 1917, confirms the correctness of our earlier judgment. This statement, together with the pending default on the 4% bonds and the institution of foreclosure proceedings on one of the smaller underlying issues (Market St. Cable Ry. bonds), makes it imperative that the holders of bonds co-operate for mutual protection.

Notwithstanding our failure to approve the plan dated Sept. 22 1916, we believe it is important that a readjustment of the capitalization of the company be made, and if possible, through friendly negotiation and co-operation with the existing Reorganization Committee. It is therefore imperative that deposits be immediately made with one of the depositories named below. All bonds so deposited must be in negotiable form and must bear the Oct. 1 1916 and subsequent coupons. Before any depositor will become bound by the terms of any plan made or approved by this committee, he will have an opportunity to withdraw without penalty other than the payment of a pro-rata share of the expenses, not exceeding \$10 per bond.

Bondholders' Committee.—John Henry Hammond, Brown Brothers & Co., Chairman; Donald G. Geddes, Clark, Dodge & Co., New York; B. Howell Griswold Jr., Alexander Brown & Sons, Baltimore; A. H. S. Post, President Mercantile Trust & Deposit Co., of Baltimore; and Edward B. Smith, Edward B. Smith & Co., Phila. Secretary, Morrell W. Gaines, 59 Wall St., N. Y. Counsel, E. G. Baetjer and Charles K. Beckman. **Depositories.**—Union Trust Co., 80 Broadway, N. Y.; Girard Trust Co., Philadelphia; Mercantile Trust & Deposit Co., Baltimore.

Statement by Reorganization Committee, Frank B. Anderson, Chairman, Dec. 30.

The committee has extended the time for the deposit of bonds under the proposed plan to and including Jan. 31 1917, and unless more than a majority of the bonds shall have been deposited on or before the date mentioned will feel compelled to abandon the plan and retire from further connection with the matter. Up to date, over 900 bondholders owning \$9,500,000 of bonds have approved the plan, but the number still outstanding would indicate either lack of interest or a desire to follow some other course.

The proposed plan was adopted by the committee after several months of investigation and consideration of all the facts, and we are convinced that, under existing conditions, a more favorable plan for the bondholders cannot be made, and that if the plan be abandoned, foreclosure suits will follow.

Suit was commenced on the 26th inst. to foreclose the mortgage on the underlying \$1,800,000 of Market Street Cable Ry. Co. 6% bonds, and we are informed that another foreclosure suit will shortly be brought on behalf of the holders of the \$100,000 of Ferris & Cliff House Ry. Co. bonds, which become payable Dec. 31 1916.

We consented to act as a committee, believing that, because of our knowledge of local affairs, we might be of more service to the bondholders than non-residents who were out of touch and unfamiliar with the conditions prevailing in San Francisco, and also because we felt that a receivership and protracted litigation would involve great expense and be disastrous to the interests of the investors. We are more than willing to render every service to help the matter along, but unless the bondholders co-operate, the committee cannot proceed further.

Depositories.—Union Trust Co. of San Francisco, or the Guaranty Trust Co. of N. Y., or Equitable Trust Co. of N. Y.—V. 104, p. 74.

Western Pacific RR.—Guaranty.—See Denver & Rio Grande RR. above.—V. 103, p. 2239, 2156.

Wheeling & Lake Erie RR.—Reorganization Notice.—Kuhn, Loeb & Co. and Blair & Co., reorganization managers for the new Railroad Company, announce to the holders of certificates of deposit for the three classes of stock who have subscribed for the Prior Lien stock that they must make final payment on account of such subscriptions on or before Feb. 1 next to the Central Trust Co. The amount of the payment is \$91.75 a share, \$90 representing the par value of the issue and \$1.75 the dividend accrued at the rate of 7% a year from Nov. 1 1916 to Feb. 1 1917. (Compare Wheeling & Lake Erie Ry. (new co.) below.—V. 103, p. 2429.)

Wheeling and Lake Erie Railway.—Officers and Directors of New Company.—L. F. Lorce, Chairman of the board, 26 Liberty St., N. Y., announces (in substance):

The Wheeling and Lake Erie Ry. Co., a corporation organized under the laws of Ohio per plan V. 103, p. 1211, 1659, took possession on Jan. 1 of the property of The Wheeling and Lake Erie RR., formerly operated by a receiver or receivers.

Directors of the New Company, with Their Affiliations.
For Three Years.—Johnston de Forest, de Forest Brothers, N. Y. City.
 W. M. Duncan, Squire, Sanders & Dempsey, attorneys, Cleveland.
 F. H. Ecker, Treasurer and director Metropolitan Life Ins. Co., N. Y.
 L. F. Lorce, President Delaware & Hudson Co. and Chairman of Board, Kansas City Southern Ry. Co., N. Y. City.
 N. S. Meldrum, Blair & Co., N. Y. City.

For Two Years.—Warren Bicknell, consulting engineer, Havana Electric Ry., Light & Power Co., Cleveland, O.
 James A. Campbell, President Youngstown Sheet & Tube Co.
 Arthur H. First, V.-Pres. Guardian Savings & Trust Co., Cleveland.
 J. H. McClelland, Chairman of board, Allie Chalmers Mfg. Co., N. Y. C.
 H. Hobart Porter, Sanderson & Porter, construction engineers, N. Y. C.
For One Year.—W. R. Begg, Ilyrne, Catehoun & Taylor, attorneys, N. Y. C.
 Thomas S. Grassell, President Grassell Chemical Co., Cleveland, O.
 E. A. Lagenbach, Chairman of board, United Alloy Steel Co. and President Berrier Mfg. Co., Canton, O.
 P. A. Selberling, President Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co., Akron, O.

Executive Committee (Until Next Annual Election).
 F. H. Ecker, L. F. Lorce, N. S. Meldrum, H. Hobart Porter, W. M. Duncan.
Executive Officers (Principal Offices Cleveland, O.; Chairman, New York City).
 Chairman of the Board, L. F. Lorce, 26 Liberty St., New York City.
 President, W. M. Duncan, Cleveland, Ohio.
 Vice-President and General Manager, H. W. McMaster, Cleveland, Ohio.
 Secretary and Treasurer, John G. Sledge, Cleveland, Ohio.
 Asst. Sec. and Sec. of Executive Committee, F. W. Leamy, N. Y. City.
 Auditor, Charles H. Holmes, Cleveland, Ohio.

All of the executive officers have been associated with the property during the receivership, and are familiar with its requirements. As will be observed, the board of directors is composed of men accustomed to handling large affairs, a majority of whom are engaged in business in Ohio and are familiar with business and transportation conditions in the territory served by the railway company. Under such circumstances, it is but reasonable to suppose that the operation of the property will be attended by efficient management and control.—V. 103, p. 2429, 2239.

York (Pa.) Railways.—Earnings.—For Nov. 30 years:

Year	Gross	Net (after	Int. &	Depre-	Prof. Div.	Balance,
		Taxes)	Disc.	ciation,	(5%.)	Surplus
1915-16	\$967,496	\$470,788	\$259,075	\$40,541	\$80,000	\$91,172
1914-15	828,290	370,842	239,474	20,657	80,000	30,711

A dividend of 2 1/2% has been declared on the pref. stock on account of accumulations, along with the regular quarterly 1 1/2%, both payable Jan. 30 to holders of record Jan. 20. This clears up all accumulations on this stock.—V. 103, p. 2429.

INDUSTRIAL AND MISCELLANEOUS.

Acme Tea Co., Philadelphia.—Sales.
 1916—December—1915. Increase. 1916-6 Mo. to Dec. 31—1915. Increase.
 \$1,706,766 \$1,248,786 \$457,980 \$9,497,521 \$7,876,754 \$1,620,767
 —V. 103, p. 2157, 1793.

Acme White Lead & Color Works.—Status—Report.—Allerton, Greene & King of Chicago, who are offering a block of 1st M. 6s at 101, report (compare "Ann. Reports" above):

The earnings for the year ending Nov. 30 1916 were \$1,148,365 after a liberal allowance for depreciation. During the year the company retired \$99,000 1st M. 6s, leaving outstanding \$1,324,800. The company has adopted a policy which is an innovation in accounting methods and one that is likely to be copied by other large industries. It is a well known fact that industrial earnings for 1916 have been abnormal and the management therefore in order to safeguard the future and conserve the resources of the company has set up practically the entire amount of earnings in reserves for contingencies. The inventory account is the novel feature, and it is entitled "Inventories on pre-war basis—\$1,427,514;" this amount being figured at prices prevailing before July 1914, which the company has written off to the extent of \$760,432 and the total of these two amounts will be the prices prevailing at the present time.—V. 101, p. 526.

American Hawaiian Steamship Co.—Dividends.—The "Boston News Bureau" reports as follows:

This company has just paid another \$50 in dividends on 50,000 outstanding shares (par \$100 each), now quoted at over \$1,100. This latest payment brings the past year's dividends to \$250. The company is wholly a 20th century proposition, and its 21 boats of 212,000 capacity tonnage are therefore, all modern vessels. They are all, moreover, of the best build and type for freight service.

Dividends were inaugurated in 1903 and maintained at 6% per annum till 1911. From 1912 to 1914 8% was paid, and in 1915 10%. From the start a large part of earnings was put back into new boats and 5% of their cost written off each year. Those first built now stand at less than 25% of their cost. There is no preferred stock or bonds.

Of \$16,000,000 securities and money now in the treasury, over \$6,000,000 is understood to be cash. From charters running throughout 1917, earnings will be between \$20,000,000 and \$25,000,000, and it is expected that during the year the company will pay at least \$400 per share in dividends, reserving the rest for new construction when ship-building gets back on a less expensive basis.—V. 103, p. 1414.

American Ice Co., N. Y.—Plan—Sale of New Pref. Stock.—See American Ice Securities Co. below and "Annual Reports" on a preceding page.—V. 102, p. 977.

American Ice Securities Co.—Plan to Wind up Holding Co.—Debentures to Be Called—Financing.—The shareholders will vote Jan. 19 on the plan outlined below, for liquidating this holding company. The plan involves:

Retirement of Stock and Debentures of American Ice Securities Company.
 Stock (par \$100) \$9,147,300 48% (\$9,142,700) new pref. stk. Am. Ice Co.
 To be exchanged for— 25% (\$4,761,825) common stock Am. Ice Co.
 Debentures \$2,972,650 Out of proceeds of sale to stockholders or syndicate of \$5,715,600 new pref. stock of Am. Ice Co. at 66%, with 40% bonus (\$2,286,240) in common.

Share Capital of American Ice Co. and Proposed Disposition of Same.

Par 100—	Author.	Total Issued.	Total Owined by	Treatment under Plan
Com. stock	\$7,500,000	\$7,101,330	\$7,061,670	None
Prof. stock	15,000,000	14,920,300	14,858,300	To be exchanged (or paid at par) 6% non-cum. 15,000,000
				None
				\$5,715,600 9,142,700

Director of Circular Signed by Secy. Henry C. Harrison, N. Y., Jan. 8.
 The company has limited its operations to those of a holding company, and its entire assets, aside from current funds, consist of shares of preferred and common stock of the American Ice Co. The directors are now of the opinion that to save the increasing burdens of taxation, and for general purposes of economy, the existence of the Securities Co. should no longer be continued, and that its charter should be surrendered and its assets distributed among its stockholders so that they may participate directly in the profits of the American Ice Co.

The American Ice Securities Co. has obligations now outstanding consisting of an issue of 6% debentures, \$2,972,650, which must be redeemed before dissolution. To provide for this and for the discharge of all other indebtedness of the company, it is proposed to offer for sale to stockholders at \$66 per share a sufficient number of shares of a new issue of American Ice Co. 6% non-cumulative pref. stock to be issued in place of the present preferred stock, the sale to carry with it a portion of the common stock as a bonus. A syndicate has been formed and has agreed to underwrite this sale for a commission of 5 1/2%. The managers of the syndicate are Harris, Winthrop & Co. and Charles D. Barney & Co., and among those who will be subscribers of the syndicate are Robert M. Thompson, Charles A. Kittle, Dave H. Morris, Walter Lee and Henry H. Head, who are members of the board of directors of the company.

After the redemption of the debentures and the payment of all other indebtedness, it is then proposed to dissolve the company and distribute its remaining assets among its stockholders. In the distribution each stockholder will receive American Ice Co. non-cumulative 6% pref. stock to the extent of 48% and American Ice Co. common stock to the extent of 25% of his present holdings in the Securities Company.

In addition to the great advantages of singleness and simplicity of management, there will be saved to the stockholders the payment of the annual Federal tax upon the \$20,000,000 capital of the corporation, aside from the tax upon any net income, the State taxation and other expenses incident to the administration of a separate corporation, and an annual outlay of \$178,359, being 6% interest on the debentures, whether dividends be received by the company or not. Furthermore, the company would otherwise be confronted with the fact that said debentures mature in 1925.

Information Obtained from Underwriters Agreement Signed by President Henry H. Head Jan. 3.

1. The American Ice Co. will retire its present preferred stock by payment at par and accrued interest or exchange the same, share for share, for new preferred (the Securities Co. agreeing to accept such exchange), and also create a new authorized issue of preferred stock, to consist of 50,000 shares of the par value of \$100 each, in place of the present cumulative pref. stock, the new stock to be entitled to receive a non-cumulative dividend at 6% per annum before any dividends are paid on the common stock, and also to payment in full upon any distribution of the assets before anything shall be paid on the common stock.

2. The Securities Co. will call for payment upon March 31 1917 (or at the earliest possible date thereafter, in case of legal delays), such portion of its said debentures as may then be outstanding.

3. There shall be reserved for final distribution to the stockholders of the Securities Co. in liquidation 91,427 shares of preferred and 47,618.25 shares of common stock of the American Ice Co. so that upon liquidation the stockholders will receive 48-100ths share of the new pref. stock and one-fourth share of common stock of the American Ice Co. for each share of stock of the Securities Co. held by them. [The Securities Co. owns 148,583 shares of the 6% cum. pref. shares and 70,616.7 shares of the com. stock of American Ice Co.]

4. Upon such action being taken, the Securities Co. will sell to the syndicate managers 57,156 shares of said new pref. stock of the American Ice Co., or any less number of shares they may desire to purchase, at the price of \$66 per share for the preferred stock, with common stock as a bonus in the amount of 40% of the preferred stock so purchased, less a commission to the syndicate managers of 5 1/2% upon the total amount to be paid for all of the preferred stock sold as aforesaid.

5. Such sale shall be subject, however, to the prior right to be exercised by American Ice Securities Co. to offer, not later than Feb. 1 1917, for sale

to its stockholders of record Feb. 1 (or their assignees), the privilege of purchasing, on or before March 1 1917, at the price of \$66 per share, an amount of the new preferred stock of the American Ice Co. equal to 30% of the par value of their respective holdings of stock in the Securities Co. (payment for allotments being at the rate of \$19.80 on each share of Securities Co. stock), and such sale shall carry with it as a bonus common stock of the American Ice Co. to the extent of 40% of the par value of the preferred stock purchased by such stockholder of the Securities Co.

Final settlement shall be made between the Securities Co. and the syndicate managers before March 25 1917, so that the American Ice Securities Co. will be in funds to pay its debentures and other obligations upon April 1 1917.

7. All debent. bonds having been retired, the company shall be dissolved.

8. This agreement to be binding only when approved by stockholders.

[The plan will result in a saving of about \$193,000 a year in interest charges, taxes, expenses, &c., while the American Ice Co. will have outstanding about \$7,147,725 common stock out of \$7,500,000 authorized and \$14,920,000 7% non-cumulative pref. stock of an authorized \$15,000,000. See also "Annual Reports" above, and compare V. 102, p. 1247.]

American Pipe Mfg. Co.—Certificates Redeemed.—Fifty-five (\$50,000) 5% collateral trust certificates series "B," due Feb. 1 1929, have been drawn for redemption at 102½ and int. on Feb. 1 1917, at Girard Trust Co., Phila.

American Telephone & Telegraph Co.—Bonds Listed.—The New York Stock Exchange has listed the \$80,000,000 (temporary) 30-year 5% collateral trust bonds due 1946, with authority to substitute permanent engraved bonds. Compare V. 103, p. 2081, 2157, 2344.

Armour & Co., Chicago.—Annual Report.—

Year ending—	Oct. 28 '16.	Oct. 30 '15.	Oct. 31 '14.	Nov. 1 '13.
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Gross business (over)	525,000,000	425,000,000	375,000,000	350,000,000
Total net income	27,162,164	18,048,694	13,707,631	11,356,933
Expenses				
Int. on borrowed money	1,925,424	2,608,069	2,213,066	1,538,747
Interest on bonds	1,809,783	1,346,301	1,346,301	1,346,301
Expenses, taxes, &c.	3,226,957	3,094,323	2,638,357	2,442,849
Dividends paid	(2%) 2,000,000	(10) 2,000,000	(10) 2,000,000	(10) 2,000,000

Surplus for the years. 18,100,000 9,000,000 5,509,907 4,028,196

The capital stock was increased in December last through the distribution of a portion of the accumulated surplus from \$20,000,000 to \$100,000,000, but notwithstanding that the earnings aggregated 20% on the enlarged stock, the directors have thought it wise not to increase the amount distributed by way of dividends, which remained at \$2,000,000, and equalled, therefore, only 2% on the stock as increased. President Armour stated that the earnings promised to be as great or greater during the next few years, but profits being based "on a very high plane of values," a cautious procedure is necessary to avoid a recurrence of the conditions of 1911. "We will, therefore, maintain," he said, "our former policy of putting back our surplus profits into our business."—V. 104, p. 75.

Babcock & Wilcox Co.—Munitions Contracts.—See American Brake Shoe & Foundry Co. (of Del.) above.—V. 87, p. 1665.

Bollinger-Andrews Construction Co., Pittsb.—Called.—The company has called for redemption at 102½ and int. on Feb. 1 1917 at the Safe Deposit & Trust Co., Pittsburgh, all the 1st M. 6s of 1914 maturing subsequent to that date. In 1915 the company was reported to have sold its foundry at Josephine, Pa., for \$400,000, out of which it was to pay its bonded debt, including the aforesaid issue originally \$200,000.—V. 100, p. 1754.

Braden Copper Mines Co.—Copper Production.—

	6 Mos. to 3 Mos. to	Months of	Total.
(In lbs.)	June 30.	Sept. 30.	October.
1916	23,110,000	8,346,000	4,048,000
1915	15,238,000	8,970,000	3,726,000
1914	2,239,1414		

British-American Tobacco Co.—Divs.—Report.—The resolution of the board proposing a distribution to the holders of ordinary shares of certain shares of the Imperial Tobacco Co. of Canada, Ltd. (see "Annual Reports" on a preceding page), has been withdrawn. The New York office of the company is advised that since the issue of the report the directors have had certain difficulties brought to their attention and that, in the opinion of counsel, it would be inadvisable to distribute this bonus without alteration of the articles of association. The management hope the delay thus entailed will merely delay the transfer of the shares for a few weeks more, and that there will not be any disappointment in consequence.

The meeting on Jan. 12 approved the payment of the final cash dividend of 5%, which will be paid in London, together with the interim dividend of 6%, on the 31st inst. See "Annual Reports" above.—V. 104, p. 75.

Bulk Oil Transports, Inc.—Bonds Offered.—The Baltimore Trust Co. and Robert Garrett & Sons, Balto., are offering, at prices to yield 5½%, 5¾% and 6%, according to maturities, \$400,000 (closed) 6% Serial First Mortgage Gold Marine Equipment bonds, guaranteed prin. and int. by Christoffer Hannevig. A circular shows:

Bonds.—Dated Jan. 1 1917 and due \$200,000 Jan. 1 1918; \$100,000 July 1 1918; \$100,000 Jan. 1 1919. Denom. \$1,000 c red. on any interest date at 101 and int. Interest J. & J. Trustee Baltimore Trust Co. Sinking fund from June 1 1917 to Dec. 1 1917, \$15,000 monthly.

Organization.—Incorporated in Del. in July 1916, with an authorized and outstanding capital stock of \$1,000,000 to acquire oil "tanker" vessels.

Security.—A first mortgage on the vessel Holden Evans, of steel construction and about 5,000 tons d. w. costing over \$525,000. Sister ship, Pennant, built at the same cost, was recently sold for \$1,150,000. Class 100 A-1 British Lloyd's. Insurance equal 125% of outstanding bonds.

Earnings.—The company expects to charter this boat upon completion, shortly, to net over \$720,000 per annum or for the first year, after meeting interest and retiring \$200,000 bonds, about \$500,000.

Calumet & Hecla Mining Co.—To Pay All Coup. Notes.—In Aug. 1916 the company offered to redeem (at par and int.) the remaining \$400,000 (approximately) 4% coupon notes series "B," due Feb. 1919 of an issue of \$5,519,000.

Notice is now given that all the aforementioned notes will be paid and redeemed by Feb. 18 1917 at par and accrued interest, at the Old Colony Trust Co., Boston.—V. 103, p. 2344, 1890.

Canadian Car & Foundry Co.—N. J. Plant Wrecked.—Fire in the Kingsland (N. J.) plant of this company destroyed property involving a loss of upwards of \$5,000,000 and the destruction of some 400,000 shells being prepared for shipment to the Russian Government as the last of the \$100,000,000 contract taken two years ago. The company, it is stated, had filed a bond for \$1,000,000 to protect the municipality from damage in case of such accident. The loss is covered by insurance.

The "Financial Post" of Canada states that orders on hand as of Jan. 1 in Canadian plants alone amount to \$22,000,000.—V. 103, p. 1982.

Carbon Steel Co., Pittsburgh.—Plan.—The stockholders will vote Jan. 15 on reincorporating the company under the laws of Pennsylvania with capital stock (to be exchanged on basis stated in text below) as follows:

Stock Auth. and Outstanding (par \$100) —	At Present	Proposed.
Common stock	\$3,000,000	\$3,000,000
Pref. stock, 7% non-cumulative, non-participating	none	2,000,000
1st pref. stock 8% non-cumulative	500,000	none
2nd pref. stock 6% non-cumulative	1,500,000	none

By April 1 1917 all of the Carbon Iron Co. bonds will have been redeemed leaving as the only funded debt \$342,000 Carbon Steel Co. 5s and \$160,000 mortgage on Hill properties. The collateral notes were paid off in 1915-16.—Ed.

Digest of Statement by Pres. Chas. McKnight, Pitts., Pa., Jan. 2 1917.

At the recent annual meeting you were advised fully as to the financial condition of the company and of the intention of the board to pay quarterly dividends upon the common stock. An investigation by our attorneys shows that both preferred stocks share ratably with the common stock in case of a dissolution of the company, and that, owing to the provisions of the preferred issues no dividend could be paid on the common stock before Sept. 30 1917. In addition to this, there are many unnecessary complications due to the fact that the company was originally incorporated in New Jersey and then sold its assets to the Carbon Steel Co. of West Virginia, as a result of which the rights of the stockholders are not definitely defined.

The directors therefore recommend the transfer of all the assets of the company to a company of the same name organized under the laws of Pennsylvania, with a capital stock of the same amount, namely \$5,000,000 in shares of \$100 each, of which \$3,000,000 will be common stock and \$2,000,000 7% non-cumulative pref. stock, the latter to be non-participating (as to dividends beyond its 7%) but entitled to share ratably with the common in the distribution of any assets on sale or dissolution, as is true of the present pref. stocks.

In view of the fact that the first preferred stock is entitled to 8% non-cumulative dividends, payable semi-annually, and the second preferred stock is entitled to 6% non-cumulative dividends, payable annually, the proposed plan of reorganization contemplates the distribution of the new 7% non-cumulative, non-participating pref. stock to the holders of the present first and second pref. stock in such ratios as will give them at least the same return in dividends to which they are now entitled; the common stock to be distributed share for share. Under such a plan the book value of the stock, both preferred and common, is not altered, and provision will be made whereby divs. on both pref. and com. stock can be paid quarterly.

The company would then have one preferred stock and one common stock, both in engraved certificates, so that the shares may, if desired, be listed upon the New York and Pittsburgh Stock Exchanges. We shall also, by this means, avoid double taxation (in West Virginia as well as in Pennsylvania). Moreover, stock in a West Virginia corporation is subject to an inheritance tax, whereas there is no such provision in Pennsylvania, and manufacturing corporations in Pennsylvania are exempt from State taxation. (Gilbert Elliott & Co., N. Y., are specialists in these stocks.) Compare annual report, V. 103, p. 1885, 1689.

Carwen Steel Co.—Initial Dividend.—An initial dividend of 2% and an extra dividend of ¼ of 1% has been declared on the stock, payable Feb. 10 to holders of record Feb. 1. The Carbon-venstrom Mfg. Co. has declared a dividend of 25%, payable Feb. 10. All the stock of this company is owned by the above company. See V. 103, p. 1689.

Central & South American Telegraph Co.—Partly Estimated Earnings.—For 3 & 12 months ending Dec. 31:

3 Mos.—	Tot. Inc.	Net Inc.	Dividends.	Bal., Sur.	Total Sur.
1916	\$913,240	\$724,075	(1½) \$143,565	\$580,510	\$7,323,988
1915	775,000	610,667	(1½) 430,695	179,972	5,378,876
12 Mos.—	\$3,213,240	\$2,457,575	(6%) \$574,260	\$1,883,315	\$7,323,988
1915	2,752,000	2,110,167	(9%) 861,390	1,248,777	5,378,876

Dividends for the 3 and 12 months ending Dec. 31 1915 (and not in 1916) include the regular 1½% quarterly dividend amounting to \$143,565, and an extra 3% dividend, \$287,130.—V. 103, p. 1414.

Cerro de Pasco Copper Corp.—Copper Production.—

(In 1916)	October.	November.	December.	Total (3 mos.)
Production (in lbs.)	6,000,000	5,700,000	5,500,000	17,200,000

—V. 103, p. 581.

Chandler Motor Car Co.—New Directors.—John Sherwin, Pres. of the First National Bank, Cleveland, and Charles A. Otis, of Otis & Co., Cleveland, have been elected directors to succeed James B. Bell and James S. Dunstan, who resigned.—V. 103, p. 2157, 940.

Chile Copper Co.—Copper Production.—

	6 mos. to 3 mos. to	Months of	Total
(In lbs.)	June 30.	Sept. 30.	October.
1916	19,724,385	10,632,000	4,542,000
1915	10,329,000	4,099,000	6,118,000

—V. 103, p. 2431, 2158.

Citizens Gas Co. of Indianapolis.—\$250,000 New Stock.—In circular of Jan. 4 J. D. Forrest, Sec.-Gen. Mgr., says: We beg to call attention to the enclosed copy of an advertisement offering to the public 10,000 shares (\$250,000—par \$25 a share) of our capital stock at auction, Feb. 5 1917. Under our franchise and articles of association all issues of stock must be sold to the highest bidder. In order to assist stockholders in bidding on this stock, the undersigned will act as the agent of any who can not be present and will submit bids for them up to the limits which they may designate. Your request to have a bid submitted must be accompanied by bank draft, money order or certified check for 25% of the par value of the number of shares desired.

This stock is offered to cover the cost of improvements and extensions of the manufacturing plant and distribution system, which were made during the year 1916 or which are now in progress. The increase in our manufacturing business has been large and the demands for main extensions are constantly increasing.

On Jan. 27 1913 8,000 shares were sold at public auction at a premium of 51% above par. The company is in much stronger position now than it was then, and it is now paying dividends at the rate of 10% per annum.

[Under the franchise the company is authorized to pay 10% per annum on its stock from date of issue of the same. Such 10% dividends are therefore cumulative and such accumulation on the new stock now offered for sale will run from Jan. 1 1917. On Jan. 1 1916, the outstanding stock was \$1,250,000.—V. 103, p. 1394, 403.]

Cleveland-Cliffs Iron Co.—Stock Dividend.—A stock dividend of 35% has been declared on the stock, along with the regular quarterly cash payment of 2¼%, both payable to holders of record Jan. 15, the cash to be distributed on Jan. 25 and the stock on Feb. 1. In Jan. 1916 a stock dividend of 50% was paid.—V. 102, p. 253.

Cleveland Metal Products Co.—Stock—Merger.—The Maynard H. Murch Co. and the Guardian Savings & Trust Co., Cleveland, are offering a limited amount of 7% cum. pref. stock and report as follows:

The present issue of \$300,000 of pref. stock will be retired on April 2 1917, or earlier, and it is proposed to increase the capitalization to \$5,000,000 common stock and \$5,000,000 pref. stock, of which \$4,000,000 of each issue will now be issued to purchase the property of the Cleveland Foundry Co. and the Cleveland Factory Co., allied corporations.

The present pref. stockholders of the Cleveland Metal Products Co. may accept cash at \$110 per share and dividends, or new pref. stock at 105 and dividend, in exchange for their old pref. stock at 110 and dividend, receiving the difference of \$5 per share in cash. Holders of the old pref. stock may hold their stock for redemption at \$110 and divs in cash on April 2 1917.

The management and control will remain as at present, and the new issue of pref. stock will be represented by about 140% of net tangible assets and an earning power of over three times the preferred dividend charges. The new issue will be properly safeguarded with restrictions, and will be redeemable at \$115 per share.

The stock is preferred as to assets and dividends. Div. Q-M. Red. at 115 and divs. Pac \$100. Tax-free in Ohio.

Capitalization —	Authorized.	To be issued.
7% cumulative preferred stock	\$5,000,000	\$4,000,000
Common stock	5,000,000	4,000,000
Bonds (due \$100,000 July 1 1917-18-19, incl.)		300,000

All of the common and preferred stocks to be issued will go to the present stockholders of the three companies except about \$1,000,000 of the preferred stock, which will be sold for cash. [New stock constitutes an increase in the authorized amount from \$1,000,000 to \$10,000,000.]

Preferred Stock.—There shall be no increase in the authorized preferred stock, and no obligations having a longer maturity than one year may be created, except for the purchase of real property, without the written consent of 75% of the outstanding preferred stock. The company must maintain net current assets of not less than \$1,250,000. Violation of any of the restrictions continuing for 30 days gives the preferred stockholders the right to vote 51% of all votes cast.—V. 103, p. 2431.

The Commercial Times.

COMMERCIAL EPITOME

Friday Night, Jan. 12 1917.

"Opportunities in Reorganized Railroads," a brochure written by some one thoroughly familiar with his subject, presents the facts necessary for a survey of past and present railroad organizations. The writer points out that "far less attention has been given to the work of rehabilitating the bankrupt railways than the matter deserves" because "the financial community has been so deeply concerned of late with the great activity in industrial issues and war specialties on the Stock Exchange." Undeterred by the glamor of speculative performances, however, this task, which is of the highest importance to the investing public and in fact to the whole country, has been progressing steadily, and it has advanced far enough now to enable the observer to form a basis of comparison between the present undertakings and those of a like nature in the past. Reorganizations past and present are sketched, the elements of successful rehabilitation discussed and the financial operations and plans which make for present success are outlined. The brochure declares that there can be little or no doubt of the outcome of the new reorganizations and some of them bid fair to be as successful as those of twenty years ago. If experience counts for anything, it would appear that discriminating investors will find excellent opportunity for a safe employment of money in the bonds and stocks of the readjusted properties. As a group they seem destined to enhance in value." The brochure has been issued by A. A. Housman & Co., members of the New York Stock Exchange, of this city, and copies will, we believe, be supplied to interested inquirers upon request.

—W. S. Barstow & Co., Inc., New York, managers of General Gas & Electric Co. and other public utility corporations have established a Publicity Department in charge of E. Burt Fenton and purpose to issue a Weekly News Letter, designed to disseminate information regarding the activities of their various interests. The first issue of this news letter is now at hand, closely resembling the bulletins for some time past issued by H. M. Bylesby & Co. and H. L. Doherty & Co. for their respective properties the Standard Gas & Electric Co. and the Cities Service Co. and subsidiaries. As bearing on the output of electricity and the high cost of living Barstow & Co. note the following: "On the theory that there is a close relation between 'daylight' and egg production, G. A. Lowther of Sandusky, Ohio, lighted his hen coop with electricity, mornings and evenings, beginning Dec. 15, 1916. The lights were on from 5 to 7 A. M. and 4 to 6 P. M. each day. During the first 14 days of the month (before the lights were installed) Mr. Lowther's 39 hens produced 49 eggs. During the next 14 days they laid 118 of the precious food units. Hens work longer hours when they have light," says Lowther."

—The public utility firm of John Nickerson Jr., New York, St. Louis and Boston, affirm in their regular weekly advertisement to-day that vision and foresight by investors in the selection of securities will attain the most profitable results. In the firm's opinion public utility investments hold the future for the most productive outcome. A list of bonds which measure up to these requirements are detailed in the advertisement, and also a selection of public utility preferred stocks.

—Salomon Bros. & Hutzler of New York and the Mellon National Bank of Pittsburgh are offering at 101.57 and interest, to yield 3.65%, \$4,973,000 City of Philadelphia five-year 4% bonds, which were recently awarded to them. This security is exempt from the Federal Income Tax and all taxes in Pennsylvania, and is a legal investment for executors, administrators and guardians of trust funds. They are also acceptable for postal savings funds at 90% of their par value.

—The Franklin Trust Co. has been appointed trustee under an Indenture, securing an issue of \$400,000 Knoxville Railway & Light 6% Two-Year Gold Debentures; also trustee under a mortgage, securing an issue of \$300,000 Atlantic Paper & Pulp Corporation First Mortgage 6% Serial Gold Bonds. The Franklin is also distributing a Tax Almanac for 1917, giving in compact form for ready reference the principal New York State and Federal tax dates.

—A new loan of \$6,800,000 City of Philadelphia, Pa., improvement 4% bonds is jointly advertised for investment on another page by the National City Co., Montgomery, Clothier & Tyler, Kountze Brothers and Kean, Taylor & Co. Both maturities are offered at prices to yield 3.80%. These bonds are tax-free in Pennsylvania and legal investments for savings banks and trust funds in New York, Mass., Conn., Penn. and other States.

—"Burnham's Manual of Chicago Securities" is the title of the first annual edition of an attractive and useful little book of financial facts concerning the principal securities brought and sold in Chicago and the Middle West, published and issued by John Burnham & Co., Monroe and La Salle streets, Chicago, Ill. The firm are specialists in Chicago bank stocks. New York City office, 115 Broadway.

—Lee, Higginson & Co., and Potter, Choate & Prentice jointly offer \$2,250,000 Nova Scotia Tramways & Power Co., Ltd., first mortgage 5% bonds, due Dec. 1 1946, at 95½ and interest, to net the investor an income return of 5.30%. A full description of the investment features of this property are outlined in the advertisement on the page opposite our weekly statement of clearings.

—Wm. R. Compton Co., 14 Wall St., this city, is offering, by advertisement on another page, \$200,000 City of El Paso, Texas (direct obligation), 5% municipal improvement bonds, the various maturities yielding 4.20%. It is stated that they are legal investments for savings banks and trustees in New York and Connecticut. Descriptive circular upon request.

—John F. O'Hara, Sidney E. Ferriss and Cameron Currie have formed a partnership under the firm name of O'Hara, Ferriss & Co. The new concern has offices in the Dime Bank Building, Detroit, and will deal in stocks, bonds and investment securities. This firm succeeds that of A. W. Wallace & Co. and occupies the same quarters.

—Messrs. Hambleton & Co., 43 Exchange Place, New York, and 10 So. Calvert St., Baltimore, are offering by advertisement on another page, \$1,750,000 New York New Haven & Hartford RR. Co. Debenture 4% bonds at 94 and interest to yield about 5.30%. The firm will be glad to furnish descriptive circular on request.

—At 96 and interest, to yield about 5.30%, Hornblower & Weeks, 42 Broadway, this city, are advertising and offering in this issue, \$972,000 United Water, Gas & Electric Co. (Hutchinson, Kan.) 5% first and refunding mortgage bonds, due Sept. 1 1941. See to-day's advertisement for full particulars.

—Kean, Taylor & Co., of New York and Chicago, are offering \$1,250,000 Sefton Manufacturing Corporation 7% cumulative preferred stock at \$101 and accrued dividend, yielding 6.93%. Full details of this investment appear in the advertisement on another page. Descriptive circular will be sent on request.

—Ervin & Co., investment bankers, Drexel Building, Philadelphia, announced last week that George Dallas Dixon Jr. had been admitted to membership in the firm. Announcement was also made that New York offices have been opened in the Trinity Building, 111 Broadway.

—Messrs. Dirdrjhsen & Co., 34 Pine St., New York, have opened a Foreign Exchange Department under the management of Leonard S. Church.

Conservatism is becoming more and more the word of order. The trade of the country is soberly considering the possible effects of peace and is beginning to feel its way where once it rushed ahead. This in spite of the tenor of the Allied note to President Wilson, which some think may possibly mean that peace is some distance off. The feeling in many quarters, however, is that the door is not absolutely shut to peace negotiations, and of course in any case so vast and costly a struggle cannot go on indefinitely. In the meanwhile it is plain that there is more conservatism in the buying, lest the buyer find himself, on the declaration of peace, loaded up with high-priced commodities. Building operations are handicapped by high costs, both for labor and material. A shortage of cars still interferes seriously with trade, notably in iron, steel, coal, coke and lumber, while the business in grain is also hampered. Many iron furnaces are still banked for lack of fuel. In the East, mild weather for a time restricted retail trade, though it is now favored by a cold wave. In some directions a feeling of uncertainty as to the duration of the war tends to keep trade within restricted bounds. Many are looking on, awaiting further developments. There is an idea that a duty on coffee, perhaps on sugar, may have to be levied, owing to a big deficit in the national finances. But on the other hand, Europe is still buying considerable steel and iron, and there are some signs of a rather better demand than recently for dry goods. Grain has advanced on a steady demand from Europe, which evidently needs large quantities of our wheat, corn and oats. A significant incident apparently pointing to imperative buying by Europe is that the British Government has suppressed the sending of cable quotations of wheat and corn to American markets.

LARD higher; prime Western, 16.35c.; refined to the Continent, 17.10c.; South America, 17.50c.; Brazil, 18.50c. Futures advanced, partly owing to reports that the Belgium Relief Commission was in the market for lard and meats. A rise in hogs and corn also counted. Hog packing in the West last week was 733,000, against 1,095,000 in the same week last year. To-day prices advanced. The Belgium Relief Commission bought on a fair scale. Hogs were 10 to 15 cents higher.

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF LARD FUTURES IN CHICAGO.

	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.
January delivery	15.60	15.70	15.65	15.62	15.45	15.57
May delivery	16.05	16.17	16.12	16.07	15.92	16.02
July delivery	16.15	16.30	16.22	---	16.05	16.20

PORK firm; mess, \$32@33 50; clear, \$31@32. Beef products steady, mess, \$23@23 50; extra India mess, \$40@42. Cut meats quiet; pickled hams, 10 to 20 lbs., 16¼@16½c.; pickled bellies, 15@15½c. Butter, creamery, 32½@41½c. Cheese, State, 20@25c. Eggs, fresh, 34½@54c.

COFFEE firm, but quiet; No. 7 Rio, 10c.; No. 4 Santos, 11@11½c.; fair to good Cuetu, 12½@12½c. Futures advanced early in the week, and then declined. Europe was buying distant months at one time and Wall Street also bought. Peace talk and predictions of a duty counted in the rise. So did trade buying. Brazilian offerings moreover, were small with ocean freights scarce. But later on the dullness of spot trade, contradictory rumors about peace, the Allied note and a disposition to await developments about a duty, caused selling and a reaction. To-day prices closed 17 to 21 points lower, attributed largely to lessened hopes of peace. Sales were stated at 96,500 bags. Prices show a decline for the week. Closing prices were as follows:

January	cts. 8.58@8.60	May	cts. 8.72@8.73	Sept.	cts. 9.18@9.22
February	8.63@8.65	June	8.78@8.79	October	9.63@9.68
March	8.68@8.70	July	8.83@8.84	November	9.01@9.03
April	8.70@8.71	August	8.88@8.89	December	9.06@9.08

SUGAR quiet; centrifugal, 96-degrees test, 5.27@5.29c.; molasses, 89-degrees test, 4.50@4.62c.; granulated, 6.75c. Futures declined, with grinding making rapid progress. Receipts are therefore expected to increase shortly, so that refiners have not been eager purchasers. There are 132 centrals grinding. Yet Atlantic port receipts, though increasing, have still been light. The total for the week was 17,879 tons, against 13,906 in the previous week and 22,702 a year ago. Meltings were 21,000 tons, against 37,000 in 1916. Atlantic stocks are only 50,034 tons, against 61,086 in 1916 and 116,747 in 1915. To-day prices closed unchanged to 5 points lower, with sales stated at 4,800 tons. Final prices show a decline for the week. Closing prices were as follows:

January	cts. 4.35@4.38	May	cts. 4.07@4.08	September	cts. 4.16@4.18
February	4.14@4.15	June	4.10@4.12	October	4.13@4.15
March	4.05@4.06	July	4.12@4.13	November	4.08@4.10
April	4.06@4.07	August	4.14@4.16	December	3.95@4.00

OILS.—Linseed quiet; city, raw, American seed, 93@96c.; city, boiled, American seed, 94@97c.; Calcutta, \$1 15. Lard, prime, \$1 30@1 35. Coconut, Cochin, 18c.; Ceylon

The exports from the several seaboard ports for the week ending Jan. 6 are shown in the annexed statement:

Exports from—	Wheat, bushels.	Corn, bushels.	Flour, barrels.	Oats, bushels.	Rye, bushels.	Barley, bushels.	Peas, bushels.
New York	1,528,073	193,929	62,787	54,187	65,410	168,501	3,261
Boston	99,271	42,857	1,350				
Philadelphia	793,000	52,000		468,000			
Baltimore	1,165,553	327,433	15,712		48,000		
Newport News					83,000		
Mobile		11,000	3,000				
New Orleans	1,314,000	81,000	66,000	11,000		150,000	
Galveston	595,000		300				
Total week	5,494,897	713,224	151,849	1,363,167	113,410	318,501	3,261
Week 1916	8,075,509	501,693	400,155	1,130,053	740,267	1058480	7,575

The destination of these exports for the week and since July 1 1916 is as below:

Exports for Week and Since July 1 to—	Flour,		Wheat,		Corn.	
	Week Jan. 6 1917.	Since July 1 1916.	Week Jan. 6 1917.	Since July 1 1916.	Week Jan. 6 1917.	Since July 1 1916.
United Kingdom	17,866	3,555,466	3,455,849	66,829,538	263,107	12,318,715
Continent	49,020	3,121,211	2,038,048	56,980,465	407,233	7,618,255
So. & Cent. Amer.	42,311	893,441	1,000	140,039	16,535	567,745
West Indies	40,958	1,131,222			6,888	1,387,629
Brit. No. Am. Colonies		8,192				1,810
Other countries	1,594	125,559		5,660	1,993	17,535
Total	151,849	7,835,091	5,494,897	153,962,500	713,224	22,409,689
Total 1915-16	460,183	7,168,035	8,075,509	170,226,209	501,693	7,168,035

The world's shipments of wheat and corn for the week ending Jan. 6 1917 and since July 1 1916 and 1915 are shown in the following:

Exports.	Wheat.		Corn.	
	1916-17.	1915-16.	1916-17.	1915-16.
	Week Jan. 6.	Since July 1.	Week Jan. 6.	Since July 1.
North Amer*	7,792,000	20,375,000	225,934,000	548,000
Russia		6,262,000	3,608,000	22,609,000
Danube				281,000
Argentina	1,696,000	38,047,000	7,592,000	74,336,000
Australia	1,609,000	21,228,000	2,056,000	112,995,000
India	132,000	20,272,000	8,234,000	
Oth. countys	24,000	3,875,000	4,776,000	111,000
Total	11,174,000	294,059,000	252,530,000	160,274,000

*North America.—The Canadian Government has officially prohibited the issuance of both manifests and exports until after ten days. This is effective during the continuance of the war. a Revised.

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

	Wheat.			Corn.		
	United Kingdom.	Continent.	Total.	United Kingdom.	Continent.	Total.
Jan. 6 1917.						
Dec. 30 1916.			40,904,000			19,574,000
Jan. 8 1916.			38,296,000			16,329,000
Jan. 9 1915.			38,736,000			27,022,000

The visible supply of grain, comprising the stocks in granary at principal points of accumulation at lake and seaboard ports Jan. 6 1917 was as follows:

	GRAIN STOCKS.				
	Wheat, bush.	Corn, bush.	Oats, bush.	Rye, bush.	Barley, bush.
United States—					
New York	3,335,000	728,000	1,211,000	182,000	731,000
Boston	208,000	202,000	1,061,000	7,000	11,000
Philadelphia	1,781,000	19,000	576,000	33,000	11,000
Baltimore	1,550,000	392,000	1,079,000	420,000	303,000
Newport News	41,000		425,000		3,000
New Orleans	2,663,000	510,000			
Galveston	1,953,000	16,000	157,000		131,000
Buffalo	3,650,000	26,000	2,334,000	28,000	1,063,000
afloat	2,325,000		1,849,000	100,000	149,000
Toledo	1,472,000	194,000	485,000	5,000	
Detroit	502,000	205,000	280,000	48,000	
Chicago	4,734,000	2,355,000	20,337,000	338,000	468,000
afloat			1,456,000		
Milwaukee	1,099,000	52,000	1,620,000	150,000	546,000
Duluth	5,509,000		1,254,000	274,000	239,000
Minneapolis	12,721,000	87,000	7,118,000	619,000	812,000
St. Louis	1,909,000	201,000	791,000	13,000	22,000
Kansas City	10,174,000	421,000	3,683,000	62,000	
Pearia	15,500	172,000	830,000		
Indianapolis	203,000	404,000	788,000		
Omaha	1,169,000	789,000	1,463,000	229,000	18,000
Total Jan. 6 1917	59,885,000	6,759,000	48,797,000	2,511,000	4,504,000
Total Dec. 30 1916	59,483,000	5,828,000	48,823,000	2,568,000	4,290,000
Total Jan. 8 1916	59,826,000	10,495,000	20,703,000	2,864,000	4,132,000
Total Jan. 9 1915	70,184,000	22,752,000	32,529,000	1,305,000	5,024,000
Note.—Bonded grain not included above: Wheat, 2,500,000 bushels at New York, 40,000 Baltimore, 101,000 Philadelphia, 183,000 Boston, 3,806,000 Buffalo, 14,241,000 Buffalo afloat, 904,000 Duluth; total, 21,896,000 bushels, against 20,292,000 bushels in 1916. Oats, 331,000 New York, 42,000 Boston, 131,000 Baltimore, 64,000 Duluth, 1,011,000 Buffalo; total, 2,179,000 bushels, against 1,561,000 in 1916; and barley, 88,000 New York, 45,000 Duluth, 203,000 Buffalo, 595,000 Buffalo afloat; total, 1,133,000, against 238,000 in 1916.					
Canadian—					
Montreal	812,000	13,000	5,210,000	7,000	136,000
Ft. William and Pt. Arthur	16,341,000		9,952,000		
afloat	89,000		101,000		
Other Canadian	13,888,000		10,077,000		
Total Jan. 6 1917	32,830,000	13,000	25,340,000	7,000	136,000
Total Dec. 30 1916	31,906,000	13,000	24,397,000	5,000	134,000
Total Jan. 8 1916	23,772,000	8,000	15,781,000	23,000	54,000
Total Jan. 9 1915	19,163,000	115,000	6,850,000	9,000	297,000
Summary—					
American	55,885,000	6,759,000	48,797,000	2,511,000	4,504,000
Canadian	32,830,000	13,000	25,340,000	7,000	136,000
Total Jan. 6 1917	89,715,000	6,772,000	74,137,000	2,518,000	4,640,000
Total Dec. 30 1916	91,146,000	5,841,000	73,230,000	2,573,000	4,424,000
Total Jan. 8 1916	95,598,000	10,503,000	39,484,000	2,887,000	4,136,000
Total Jan. 9 1915	85,347,000	22,867,000	39,379,000	1,314,000	5,321,000

*Including Canadian at Buffalo and Duluth.

THE DRY GOODS TRADE

New York, Friday Night, Jan. 12 1917.

While business in dry goods markets is far from being active, confidence is gradually returning and improvement in demand is taking place in a quiet way. Buyers, however, continue to exercise conservatism and are confining purchases to pressing needs. Although the unsettled international situation has had but little effect in the dry goods trade, it has resulted in considerable confusion in the markets for raw material, where prices have declined sharply. Consequently merchants are no longer confident that raw material prices are stable, and are curtailing their purchases of deferred deliveries as much as possible. The fact that merchants are restricting purchases so far has had no effect on manufacturers, who maintain their firm attitude, and there have been no indications of quotations for dry goods being reduced. The small volume of forward business being placed, however, is creating an impression that prices have reached a level which will check consumption. While the activity in retail markets and heavy distribution throughout the country fail to confirm any such impression, it is claimed that prices at which retailers are selling goods across the counters are not commensurate with prices they will have to pay when they find it necessary to replenish their stocks. The usual annual sales which are taking place in the large department stores are said to be exceeding expectations, but it is claimed that the prices realized on many lines of goods are below the cost of replenishment and that consumers are taking advantage of the fact. Merchants are still complaining about the backwardness of deliveries, but only in a few cases are there reports of cancellations of orders. Yarns have ruled less active as in view of the high prices consumers are confining purchases to immediate needs. There has been some improvement in the inquiry for export account although the high prices asked continue to restrict business. While trade with Canada is rather slow at present increased activity is looked forward to, as goods sold to that country have proved to be satisfactory and repeat orders are being received.

DOMESTIC COTTON GOODS.—Although there has been some improvement in demand for staple cottons during the past week, business continues along conservative lines. Despite the easiness displayed in markets for raw material, prices for dry goods are firmly maintained, and there is little heard of selling at concessions by second hands. What few lots are offered for sale are readily absorbed. A very good demand has developed for prompt deliveries of dress gingham, and according to some reports jobbers have oversold this class of goods and are experiencing difficulty in making deliveries. Sheetings are again being purchased by bagging manufacturers, and the heavy weights are very firmly held. Makers of print cloths are having labor troubles to contend with and as a result their production is being curtailed. A number of mills have placed fall dress goods on the market, and, owing to the high cost of woolsens, these goods are meeting with a good demand. Heavy duck is being well taken both for army and other uses. Sharp advances have been named in prices for new lines of napped goods. Gray goods, 38-inch standard, are quoted at 8c.

WOOLEN GOODS.—As there is no prospect of early relief in the raw material situation, woolsens and worsteds continue firm with the demand active. Domestic wools are being steadily advanced in price, and foreign grades are virtually unobtainable. According to rumors German interests have been heavy buyers of South American wools and have been shipping the wool to this country where it is being stored. The raw material situation, however, is not the only trouble manufacturers have to contend with, as labor difficulties are again interfering with production of goods and many mills are unable to accept the large orders merchants have been endeavoring to place. In the men's wear division of the market attention is being devoted to the fall openings, and business already booked has been very satisfactory. While opening prices are understood to be much higher than those of a year ago, it is generally believed that they will be the lowest of the season. There has also been considerable quiet booking of orders for dress goods for next fall.

FOREIGN DRY GOODS.—Trade in linens continues quiet with prices firm. Merchants are giving attention to the coming selling season, which will be under way within a few weeks. In retail centres the usual January sales are taking place and the goods offered are selling well. Arrivals from abroad fail to show any material increase, and buyers are finding it difficult to place new orders. Considerable concern has been expressed over the report that the British Government had requisitioned all stocks of linen yarns. Other reports also claimed that foreign manufacturers of household lines would not accept further orders unless buyers were satisfied with very remote deliveries. Domestic demand for household goods continues very active. There has been some improvement in the demand for burlaps with the inquiry largely for light weights. Light weights are quoted at 8.40c. and heavy weights at 9.75c.

STATE AND CITY DEPARTMENT.

News Items.

Colorado (State of).—Result of Vote on Constitutional Amendments and Measures Submitted at General Election.—At the Nov. 7 election the voters adopted the following proposed laws:

- Law providing for care and treatment for all the insane.
- Law relating to the investment of the public school funds.
- Law relating to the practice of medicine in the State of Colorado.

The following laws were defeated, as were the two proposed constitutional amendments also given below:

- Proposed law to abolish the Colorado Tax Commission and transferring its powers and duties to the State Board of Equalization.
- Proposed law relating to the running of stock at large.
- Amendment to the constitution to be known as Section 13, Article XII, providing for the application of the merit system to appointments in the civil service of the State.
- Amendment to the constitution to be known as Section 3, Article XXII, relating to the manufacture and sale of beer.

For description of all propositions submitted in November see V. 103, p. 1442.

New York City.—*New Committee on City Affairs Announced by Senate.*—The new "Committee on Affairs of the City of New York," the members of which were announced at the Senate session on the 10th, has for its Chairman, Senator Ogden L. Mills of New York City. Other Senators, members of the Committee, are: George Cromwell of Richmond, Alvah W. Burlingame, Jr., of Kings, Charles C. Lockwood of Kings, Charles E. Murphy of Kings, Robert R. Lawson of Kings, Alfred J. Gilchrist of Kings and Albert Ottinger of New York, Republicans; Robert F. Wagner and James Foley of New York, and John V. Sheridan of the Bronx, Democrats. There are three up-State members: Senators Elon R. Brown of Jefferson Co., Theodore Douglas Robinson of Herkimer Co. and Charles W. Walton of Ulster County.

New York State.—*Governor Whitman Issues Statement Explaining Budget Estimates.*—On account of continued criticism of the tentative budget estimates which accompanied his annual message to the Legislature on Jan. 3 (V. 104, p. 85), and of the reports that an error or duplication of over \$3,000,000 had been made in estimating what the receipts from indirect sources would amount to for the next fiscal year ending July 1 1917, Governor Whitman on the 11th issued a statement pointing out that the deficit in State finances for the next fiscal year will be \$9,273,091 13, or if the Legislature approves his recommendations for the pay of troops and service at the border and other items, it will be \$11,731,091 13. In any event, he said, the deficit would not amount to \$19,000,000, as his critics had stated.

The Governor's statement is as follows:

If the persons who are attempting to analyze my budget estimate will take the pains to read it, they will find that Exhibit "A" of that estimate gives the statement of estimated revenues, the correctness of which is not disputed and contains the official figures with respect to revenues. In the text which preceded the estimate figures, a compilation made at the moment of going to press was incorrect, but it did not in any way affect the estimate or its conclusions. The figures, as shown by the statement "A" of the estimate together with my estimate of appropriations required and my estimate of appropriation lapses are as follows:

Cash balance, July 1 1916.....	\$6,536,295 12
Estimated treasury income to June 30 1917.....	56,528,601 41
Estimated treasury income to June 30 1918.....	49,433,555 00
Estimated appropriation lapses to June 30 1917.....	2,000,000 00
Estimated appropriation lapses to June 30 1918.....	1,250,000 00
Total.....	\$115,748,451 53
Less appropriations in force June 1 1916.....	\$59,634,001 68
Difference available for liquidation of appropriations of the Legislature of 1917.....	56,214,449 85

The appropriation for acts of the Legislature equals the total of my tentative appropriation bill of \$65,487,540 98. The deficit will be the difference between \$56,214,449 85, and that figure, or \$9,273,091 13. If, in addition, the Legislature approves of my further recommendations for pay of troops and service at the border, and for other items aggregating \$2,458,000, the deficit will be \$11,731,091 13, and not \$19,000,000.

North Carolina (State of).—*Republic of Cuba Withdraws Proposed Suit to Force Payment of Old Special Tax Bonds.*—President Menocal of Cuba, by decree on Jan. 8 stopped all proceedings in connection with the proposed suit recently instituted in the U. S. Supreme Court by the Republic of Cuba against the State of North Carolina to force payment of issues of 6% special tax bonds floated several years ago. As previously stated by us, the Republic of Cuba holds \$985,000 of these bonds which were donated to it, and had set up a claim (with accumulated interest) for \$2,186,130 and costs. Arguments in the case were to have been heard by the Court on Jan. 8. See V. 103, p. 1808 and 1910, and also "State & City Section" for May 27 1916, page 188.

North Dakota.—*Proposed Amendment to Constitution Providing for Equal Suffrage Passed by State Senate.*—On Jan. 11 the State Senate passed a measure providing for a constitutional amendment granting full suffrage to women and another providing for limited suffrage. If the House approves the measures, the limited suffrage amendment, it is said, would be voted upon by the electorate in 1918 and the full suffrage measure in 1920.

Russia.—*Loan Syndicate Dissolved.*—In our editorial columns on a preceding page of this week's issue we refer to dissolution of the syndicate which handled the Imperial Russian Government 5½% 5-year external loan.

San Juan, Porto Rico.—*Bond Offering.*—Sealed proposals will be received until 9 a. m. March 9 by R. H. Todd, Mayor, at the Municipal Theater of San Juan, for \$915,000 5% gold coupon refunding and improvement bonds, author-

ized by an ordinance adopted Oct. 8 1915, and approved by the Mayor on Oct. 9 1915, and by an ordinance adopted on Oct. 28 1916, and approved by the Mayor on Oct. 30 1916.

Denom. \$1,000. Date Jan. 1 1916. Principal and semi-annual int. (J. & J.) payable at Muller, Schall & Co., 45 William St., N. Y. City. Due on Jan. 1 as follows: \$50,000 1922; 1923, 1924 and 1925; \$52,000 1926; \$55,000 1927; \$58,000 1928; \$61,000 1929; \$64,000 1930; \$67,000 1931; \$70,000 1932; \$74,000 1933; \$67,000 1934; \$72,000 1935, and \$75,000 1936.

The bonds which mature after Jan. 1 1933 will be subject to redemption at the option of the municipality at 105% of their par value on said date or on any interest payment date thereafter. In case of such redemption notice thereof stating the numbers of the bonds to be redeemed and the date of redemption shall be published at least once a week during a period of sixty (60) days prior to the date fixed for redemption in the "Chronicle," and in addition sixty (60) days' notice of such redemption in writing will be given to Muller, Schall & Co. Certified check (or cash) on some national bank in the U. S. or upon any bank doing business in Porto Rico, for \$20,000, payable to the Mayor, required. The bonds will be delivered at such banking house in Washington, D. C., or in N. Y. City, as the purchaser may designate in his bid. Purchaser to pay accrued interest and make payment within 24 hours, of the purchase price of bonds awarded to him at the time and place at which such bonds are offered to him. The legality of these bonds is to be passed upon by Hawkins, Delafield & Longfellow, N. Y. City, and the successful bidder will be furnished with their opinion that the bonds are binding and legal obligations of the municipality. These bonds are not subject to the Federal income tax and they are apparently exempted from taxation by the States. *Farmers & Mechanics Saving Bank of Minneapolis v. State of Minnesota*, 232 U. S. 516 (1914). The Government of Porto Rico may accept these bonds for deposits of funds of that Government or as security required by any of the laws of Porto Rico to be deposited with the Treasurer of Porto Rico.

Official notice of this bond offering will be found among the advertisements elsewhere in this Department.

United States.—*Webb-Kenyon Liquor Bill Upheld by U. S. Supreme Court.*—See reference this week in our editorial columns.

Liquor Advertisements Barred From Mails by Bill Passed in U. S. Senate.—Reference is also made this week in our editorial columns to the bill passed by the U. S. Senate on the 11th to prevent the mailing of liquor advertisements into "dry" States.

Utah (State).—*Proposed Constitutional Amendments Defeated.*—The two proposed amendments to the constitution submitted to a vote at the general election on Nov. 7 (V. 103, p. 863), were defeated. The vote was as follows:

Amendment to Section 17, Article 7, relating to the duties of the Auditor and of the Treasurer, 18,103 "for" and 42,416 "against."
Amendment to Article 13, relating to revenue and taxation, 14,957 "for" and 55,133 "against."

Virginia.—*Sixth Circuit Court Upholds Limited Assessment Act Passed by 1916 Legislature.*—Judge Barksdale of the Sixth State Circuit Court rendered a decision on the 9th, it is stated, upholding the constitutionality of the "limited assessment" Act passed by the Legislature in 1916 (Chapter 491, Laws of 1916), in so far as it provides that "no municipal, county or district tax shall be levied or collected on any assessment of intangible personal property, money or incomes for taxes alleged to have been omitted from the assessments for the years prior to 1912. The Richmond "Dispatch" of Jan. 10 publishes the following concerning the Court's decision:

The decision was handed down in the case of the United Cigarette Machine Co. against the Commonwealth, in which the company sought relief from heavy back assessments made against it by Campbell Co. Counsel for the county claimed that the limited assessment Act was unconstitutional in that it undertook to legalize the remission of taxes by the localities, a principle recognized as unconstitutional from the standpoint of the State.

Judge Barksdale decided for the machine company holding the limited assessment Act to be constitutional and binding upon the localities in so far as it forbids the localities from assessing omitted intangible property for years prior to 1912. The case will be appealed by the Commonwealth and will come to the State Supreme Court for final decision.

According to the "Dispatch" this is the second decision that has been handed down by the State circuit courts upholding this section of the law. The first case is now before the Virginia Supreme Court, a writ of error to the lower Court's decision having been granted this week. It is further stated that if the Supreme Court should hold that localities have the same constitutional right as the State to go back to 1903 in assessing omitted intangible property for taxation, and throw out the 1912 limitation in the present law, many wealthy individuals and corporations will have to pay over large sums.

Washington.—*Propositions Submitted at General Election Defeated.*—All the proposed Acts which were submitted to the voters on Nov. 7 were defeated. A full description of the propositions voted upon was given by us in the "Chronicle" of Sept. 16, page 1055.

Washington, D. C.—*U. S. Senate Approves Bill Providing for Prohibition in District of Columbia.*—In our editorial columns this week reference is made to the bill passed by the U. S. Senate on the 9th inst., providing for prohibition in the District of Columbia.

Bond Calls and Redemptions.

Birmingham, Ala.—*Bond Call.*—During the month of December City Improvement Bond No. 48 of Series of Jan. 1 1912, bonds Nos. 1 and 2 of Series 798 and bond No. 1 of Series 839 were called for payment.

California.—*Bonds Drawn for Redemption.*—On Nov. 9 125 San Francisco Sea Wall bonds, dated Jan. 2 1905, of the par value of \$1,000 each, were drawn by lot for redemption upon presentation at the office of the State Treasurer,

Reports state that the Board of City Commissioners has been petitioned to call an election to vote on the question of issuing \$100,000 bonds for the purpose of buying stock in the Gulf Mobile & Northern Ry.

JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP RURAL SCHOOL DISTRICT, Scioto County, Ohio.—BOND OFFERING.—Proposals will be received until 12 m. Jan. 22 by W. W. Sherborne, Clerk and Treas. (P. O. Lucasville, R. F. D.), for the \$2,000 5% coup. school bonds voted Dec. 4—V. 103, p. 2259. Auth. Secs. 7625, 7626 and 7627, Gen. Code. Denom. 2 for \$200, 4 for \$300, 1 for \$400. Date Dec. 18 1916. Int. J. & D. at First Nat. Bank, Portsmouth. Due \$200 Dec. 18 1918, \$300 Dec. 18 1919, 1920 and 1921, \$400 Dec. 18 1922, \$300 Dec. 18 1923 and \$200 Dec. 18 1924. Certified check on an Ohio bank for \$100 required, with bids for total issue and for 5% of bonds bid for required with bids for par of the issue. Checks must be made payable to the above Clerk-Treasurer. Purchaser to pay accrued interest. Bonded debt Dec. 22 1916, \$400; floating debt, \$400; assessed valuation, \$211,000; total tax rate (per \$1,000), \$13 30.

JOHNSON COUNTY (P. O. Iowa City), Iowa.—BOND SALE.—Local papers state that Chas. S. Kidder & Co. of Chicago were recently awarded \$17,000 funding bonds.

JOHNSTOWN, Fulton County, N. Y.—BOND OFFERING.—Proposals will be received until 11 a. m. Jan. 27 (time extended from Jan. 20) by W. J. Eldridge, City Chamberlain, for an issue of \$7,800 5% coupon or registered payment bonds—V. 103, p. 2358. Denom. \$100. Date Jan. 15 1917. Principal and semi-annual interest—J. & J.—payable at the Johnstown Bank, Johnstown, in N. Y. exchange. Due \$2,600 Jan. 1 1918, \$2,200 Jan. 15 1919, \$2,000 Jan. 15 1920 and \$1,000 Jan. 15 1921. No deposit required. Purchaser to pay accrued interest. Net bonded debt Dec. 12 1916, \$251,185; assessed valuation, real, \$3,525,150; special franchise, \$176,149; personal, \$377,800; total value, \$4,079,099.

KANAWHA COUNTY (P. O. Charleston), W. Va.—BOND OFFERING.—Sealed bids will be received until 2 p. m. Jan. 31 by L. C. Massey, Co. Clerk, for \$90,000 5% coupon Loudon Dist. road-impr. bonds authorized by vote of 643 to 32 at an election held Sept. 7 1916. Denom. \$1,000. Date Sept. 1 1916. Int. semi-ann. (M. & S.) at the office of the County Court. Due \$2,000 yearly Sept. 1 from 1917 to 1926 incl., \$3,000 yearly Sept. 1 from 1927 to 1936 incl., and \$1,000 yearly Sept. 1 from 1937 to 1946 incl. Cert. check for 5% of the amount of the bid, payable to Bonner H. Hill, Sheriff, required. Bonded debt of District, including this issue, \$175,000. Assess. val. of District, 1916, \$6,150,136.

KANKAKEE COUNTY (P. O. Kankakee), Ill.—BOND ELECTION PROPOSED.—This county proposes to hold an election about March to vote on the question of issuing bonds for road improvements, it is stated.

KANSAS CITY, Mo.—BOND SALE.—On Jan. 4 the \$40,000 comfortablement, \$250,000 bridge and viaduct and \$250,000 levee and drainage 4 1/2% 20-year bonds (V. 103, p. 2259), were awarded to William R. Compton Co. of St. Louis for \$582,820 (107,929), a basis of about 3.925%.

Table with columns: Name, Amount, Purpose, Date, Int., Maturity, Purched. Lists various bidders like Roric & Co., Kinsell & Co., etc.

KENDALL COUNTY (P. O. Boerne), Tex.—BOND ELECTION PROPOSED.—Reports state that petitions have been circulated calling for an election in Precincts Nos. 2, 3 and 4 to vote on the proposition to issue \$120,000 road bonds.

KENMORE, Summit County, Ohio.—BOND SALE.—On Dec. 29 the two issues of 5% bonds, aggregating \$14,000 (V. 103, p. 2259), were awarded to Seasongood & Mayer of Cincinnati for \$14,550 (103,928) and interest. The other bidders were:

KOSCIUSKO COUNTY (P. O. Warsaw), Ind.—BOND OFFERING.—Proposals will be received until 2 p. m. Jan. 18 (and from day to day thereafter until sold) by Andrew J. Logan, County Treas., for \$36,000 4 1/2% 6-year avor. coup. Andrew A. Orr et al. road bonds in Van Buren Twp. Date Dec. 28 1916. Int. M. & N. Due one bond each six months from May 15 1918 to Nov. 15 1927 incl.

LACEY TOWNSHIP, Ocean County, N. J.—BOND AWARD PENDING.—The Security Trust Co. of Camden writes us that they have been awarded an issue of \$2,000 5% school bonds, but that the sale has not yet been consummated.

LAKE COUNTY (P. O. Crown Point), Ind.—BOND OFFERING.—M. J. Brown, Co. Treas., will receive bids until 10 a. m. Jan. 15 for the following 4 1/2% road bonds:

18,000 John Kaiser et al. road bonds in Ross Twp. Denom. \$500. Date Nov. 15 1916. Int. M. & N. Transcript with approved opinion of Matson, Kane & Ross, will accompany the bonds and no bids will be received except for immediate cash.

Proposals will be received until 10 a. m. Jan. 15 by Edward Simon, Co. Aud., for \$7,800 5% Marble-Powers ditch bonds. Denom. \$780. Date Aug. 1 1916. Int. J. & D. Due beginning June 1 1917.

LAKEFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT (P. O. Lakefield), Jackson County, Minn.—BONDS VOTED.—By a vote of 175 to 156 the question of issuing to the State of Minnesota \$60,000 4% building bonds carried, it is stated, at an election held Jan. 2.

LAKE MILLS, Winnebago County, Iowa.—BOND SALE.—Geo. M. Bechtel & Co., of Davenport, were awarded on Nov. 1 1916 \$25,000 4 1/2% 20-year water-works-improvement bonds. Denom. \$1,000. Date Nov. 1 1916. Int. M. & N.

LAKEWOOD, Cuyahoga County, Ohio.—BOND OFFERING.—Proposals will be received until 12 m. Jan. 29 by B. M. Cook, Director of Finance, for \$45,000 4 1/2% park bonds. Denom. \$1,000. Date, day of sale. Principal and semi-annual interest—A. & O.—payable at Cleveland Trust Co., Cleveland. Due \$1,000 Oct. 1 1922 and \$2,000 yearly on Oct. 1 from 1923 to 1944, inclusive. Certified check for 5% of amount of bonds required. Purchaser to pay accrued interest. Official circular states that there is no litigation pending or threatened and that the city has never defaulted. Total bonded debt, including this issue, \$2,055,060; assessment (debt included) \$927,942; no floating debt. Cash value of sinking fund, \$65,462; assessed value 1916, \$45,300,570; actual value estimated, \$54,000,000; tax rate (per \$1,000) 1916, \$14 80.

LAKE WORTH, Palm Beach County, Fla.—BOND ELECTION PROPOSED.—Reports state that an election will be held at an early date to vote on the question of issuing \$25,000 sea-wall-construction bonds.

LANCASTER SCHOOL DISTRICT (P. O. Lancaster), Fairfield County, Ohio.—BOND OFFERING.—Proposals will be received until 12 m. March 15, reports state, for the \$250,000 4 1/2% school bonds voted Nov. 7 last—V. 103, p. 1911. Denom. \$1,000. Due from 1918 to 1942, inclusive.

LAPWAI VALLEY HIGHWAY DISTRICT, Idaho.—BOND OFFERING.—Proposals will be received, it is stated, by the Board of Commissioners (P. O. Lewiston) until Jan. 16 for the \$150,000 10-19-year serial road bonds at not exceeding 6% int.—V. 103, p. 2359.

LAWRENCE COUNTY (P. O. Monticello), Miss.—BOND SALE.—On Jan. 4 the \$50,000 coupon tax-free Super's Dist. No. 1 road construction bonds (V. 103, p. 2447) were awarded to the Capital National Bank of Jackson, Miss., at par and int. for 5 1/2%.

LEIPSI, Putnam County, Ohio.—BOND OFFERING.—Bids will be received until 12 m. Jan. 22 by G. J. Ericson, Village Clerk, for an issue of \$1,000 6% 3-year average street bonds. Denom. \$200. Date Nov. 1 1916. Int. M. & N. Due \$200 yearly on Nov. 1 from 1917 to 1921, incl. Certified check for 10% of bonds bid for, payable to the Village Treasurer, required. Bonds to be delivered and paid for within ten days from time of award. Purchaser to pay accrued interest.

LITCHFIELD, Sherman County, Neb.—BOND ELECTION.—Reports state that an election will be held Jan. 23 to vote on the question of issuing \$7,000 electric-light plant erection bonds.

LOGAN COUNTY (P. O. Bellefontaine), Ohio.—BOND OFFERING.—O. W. Lofes, County Auditor, will receive bids until 1 p. m. Jan. 15 for \$15,500 6% 2 1/2-year average ditch bonds. Auth. Secs. 4459 and 6490, Gen. Code. Denom. \$500. Date Jan. 15 1917. Principal and semi-annual interest—J. & J.—payable at County Treasurer's office. Due \$1,500 each six months from July 1 1917 to July 1 1921, inclusive, and \$2,000 Jan. 1 1922. Certified check or cash for \$200, payable to the County Treasurer, required. Bonds to be delivered and paid for within 20 days after date of sale. Bidders must satisfy themselves as to legality of bonds.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY (P. O. Los Angeles), Calif.—BOND ELECTION.—Local papers state that an election will be held in the Flood Control District on Feb. 2 to vote on the question of issuing \$4,450,000 flood-control bonds.

LUCAS COUNTY (P. O. Chariton), Iowa.—BONDS PROPOSED.—According to reports, this county will issue \$50,000 bridge-constr. bonds.

LYNCHBURG, Campbell County, Va.—BONDS PROPOSED.—Reports state that this city is contemplating the issuance of bonds to improve the water-works system.

McCONNELLSVILLE, Morgan County, Ohio.—BOND SALE.—On Jan. 5 the \$7,000 4 1/2% 23 1/2-year average street bonds (V. 103, p. 2359) were awarded to Weil, Roth & Co. of Cincinnati for \$7,145 (102,071) and interest. Other bidders were:

MADISON COUNTY (P. O. Richmond), Ky.—NO ACTION YET TAKEN.—The County Clerk advises us that no action has yet been taken towards the offering of the \$35,000 bridge-construction bonds voted Dec. 7 last (V. 103, p. 2359).

MANCHESTER, Hillsborough County, N. H.—BONDS AND LOANS ISSUED DURING YEAR 1916.—Below we give a list of the bonds, notes and temporary loans sold by this city during the calendar year ending Dec. 31 1916, a majority of which were previously reported by us in these columns:

Table with columns: Amount, Purpose, Bonds, Date, Int., Maturity, Purched. Lists \$100,000 Street & Sewer, \$23,000 Highway (notes), etc.

Table with columns: Amount, Date, Price (Disc%), Temporary Loans, Purchaser. Lists \$200,000 Feb. 26 1916, \$100,000 June 30 1916, etc.

MAPLE GROVE DRAINAGE DISTRICT (P. O. Lawrence), Kan.—BONDS VOTED.—The question of issuing drainage system impt. bonds carried, it is stated, at the election held Dec. 27 by a vote of 28 to 13.

MARION COUNTY (P. O. Fairmont), W. Va.—BOND ELECTION PROPOSED.—Reports state that an election will be held in Paw Paw District some time in January to vote on the question of issuing \$330,000 road bonds.

MASON CITY, Mason County, Ill.—BOND ELECTION PROPOSED.—Reports state that an election will be held in the near future to decide whether or not sewer-system bonds shall be issued.

MAUSTON, Juneau County, Wis.—BOND SALE.—On Jan. 2 \$5,000 water-works, \$12,000 sewer and \$8,000 street-impr. 4 1/2% bonds were awarded to Kalman, Matteson & Wood of St. Paul at 102.92 and interest. Other bidders were:

MELROSE SCHOOL DISTRICT (P. O. Melrose), Jackson County, Wis.—BOND SALE.—We are advised that an issue of \$10,000 high-school bldg. bonds has been sold to the State of Wisconsin.

MEMPHIS, Hall County, Texas.—BOND ELECTION.—The question of issuing from \$20,000 to \$30,000 5% 10-40-year (opt.) paving bonds will be submitted to a vote on April 1. D. L. C. Kinard is City Secretary.

MERIDIAN, Lauderdale County, Miss.—BOND ELECTION.—Local papers state that the question of issuing \$25,000 railroad-terminal property purchase bonds will be submitted to a vote at an election to be held Feb. 6.

MILLS MILL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 8-C, Greenville County, So. Caro.—BOND SALE.—On Jan. 6 the \$25,000 20-year building bonds (V. 103, p. 2447) were awarded to J. H. Hillsman & Co. of Atlanta at 100.845 and interest for 4 1/2%.

MINERAL COUNTY (P. O. Superior), Mont.—BOND OFFERING.—Proposals will be received until Feb. 19 (changed from Feb. 5) by J. D. Dwyer, County Clerk, for \$79,000 5 1/2% 10-20-year (opt.) road and bridge bonds authorized by vote of 675 to 425 at the election held Nov. 7. Interest semi-annual.

MINERAL WELLS, Palo Pinto County, Texas.—BOND SALE.—We are advised that the \$23,000 sewer-extension bonds voted May 23 1916—V. 102, p. 2185—have been disposed of.

MISSOULA COUNTY (P. O. Missoula), Mont.—BOND OFFERING.—Local papers state that the Board of County Commissioners instructed the County Clerk to advertise for bids on the \$75,000 18-26-year (opt.) coupon county high-school bldg. and equipment bonds voted Nov. 7 1916 (V. 103, p. 2094).

MITCHELLVILLE, Polk County, Iowa.—BOND ELECTION.—An election will be held Feb. 1 to vote on the question of issuing not more than \$5,000 water-works bonds.

MONDOVI, Buffalo County, Wis.—BONDS VOTED.—By a vote of 174 to 102 the question of issuing the \$40,000 road-construction bonds carried at the election held Dec. 28. H. B. Face is City Clerk.

MONROVIA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT, Los Angeles County, Calif.—BOND OFFERING.—Proposals will be received until 2 p. m. Jan. 22 by J. H. Leland, ex-officio Clerk Board of Supervisors (P. O. Los Angeles), for \$30,000 5% 15 1/2-year average construction and equipment bonds voted Nov. 29 1916. Denom. \$1,000. Date Jan. 1 1917. Principal and semi-annual interest at County Treasury. Due \$1,000 yearly Jan. 1 from 1918 to 1947 incl. Cert. or cashier's check for 3% of bonds bid for, payable to Chairman Board of Supervisors, required. Purchaser to pay accrued interest. Bonded debt, including this issue, \$83,510. Assess. value 1916, \$3,801,745.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY (P. O. Conroe), Tex.—BOND SALE.—Hogan, Walker & Co. of Houston, have purchased, it is stated, \$25,000 5 1/2% road bonds at 102.05.

MORRISON COUNTY (P. O. Little Falls), Minn.—BOND OFFERING.—Sealed bids will be received until 2 p. m. Feb. 6 by B. Y. McNairy, County Auditor, for \$70,000 20-year funding bonds. Denom. to suit purchaser. Certified check for \$700 required.

The official notice of this bond offering will be found among the advertisements elsewhere in this Department.

WHITE COUNTY (P. O. Monticello), Ind.—BOND OFFERING.—O. C. Middlestadt, Co. Treas., will receive bids until 10 a. m. Feb. 3, it is stated, for an issue of \$7,500 4½% highway-impt. bonds.

WHITLEY COUNTY (P. O. Columbia City), Ind.—BOND OFFERING.—Bids will be received until 1 p. m. Jan. 20 by Forrest S. Deeter, Co. Treas., for \$5,366, \$4,507 80, \$12,820, \$9,000, \$8,140 and \$12,156 4¼% highway-impt. bonds, reports state.

WILKINSBURG, Allegheny County, Pa.—BOND SALE.—On Jan. 8 the \$150,000 4¼% tax-free bonds—V. 103, p. 2449—were awarded to the Mellon Nat. Bank of Pittsburgh for \$156,595 57, equal to 104.397.

WILLOUGHBY, Lake County, Ohio.—BOND OFFERING.—Proposals will be opened at 12 m. Jan. 29 by C. C. Jenkins, VII. Clerk, for an issue of \$4,000 5% 10-year coup. water-works-plant-impt. bonds. Auth. Sec. 3939 Gen. Code, Denom. \$500. Date Sept. 1 1916. Prin. and semi-ann. int.—M. & S.—payable at office of VII. Treas. Cert. check on a Lake County bank for \$200, payable to the VII. Treas., required. Bonds to be delivered and paid for within 10 days from time of award. Purchaser to pay accrued interest. Bonded debt Jan. 10, 1917, excl. this issue \$118,500; sinking fund \$5,718; assess. val. 1916, \$2,775,160; total tax rate (per \$1,000) \$14.90.

WILSON, Wilson County, No. Caro.—BOND SALE.—On Dec. 29 the \$250,000 5% street-impt. bonds (V. 103, p. 2361) were awarded, it is stated, to Robert Garrett & Sons and the Mercantile Trust & Deposit Co. of Baltimore for \$256,798, equal to 102.707.

WINNEBAGO, Thurston County, Neb.—BOND OFFERING.—Sealed bids will be received until 8 p. m., Jan. 15 by A. M. Smith, Village Clerk, for \$3,000 10-20-yr. (opt.) registered water extension bonds at not exceeding 5% int. Denom. to suit purchaser. Date "when issued." Int. payable at the State Treasurer's office. No deposit required. Bonded debt, including this issue, \$15,000. No floating debt.

WINSIDE, Wayne County, Neb.—BOND SALE.—On Jan. 5 the \$7,500 5½% 5-20-yr. (opt.) electric-light-plant bonds (V. 103, p. 2450) were awarded to J. N. Cassidy, of Council Bluffs, for \$7,700, equal to 102.666. Denom. \$500. Date Jan. 1 1917. Int. J. & J.

WINTHROP, Suffolk County, Mass.—TEMPORARY LOAN.—On Jan. 5 a loan of \$30,000 dated Jan. 6 and maturing April 10 1917, was negotiated with H. C. Grafton, Jr., of Boston, at 3% discount, plus 50 cents premium. The other bidders were:

Coffin & Burr	Discount	S. N. Bond & Co.	Discount
R. L. Day & Co.	3.04%		3.62½%
			3.41%

WOODBURY, Gloucester County, N. J.—BOND SALE.—On Jan. 10 the issue of 4¼% 8-year aver. street bonds—V. 104, p. 91—was awarded to Wm. R. Compton Co. at 102.57 and int. for \$15,000 bonds. The other bidders were:

Frazier & Co. (informal)	\$15,390 00	John D. Eyratt & Co.	\$15,326 00
Geo. S. Fox & Sons	15,369 08	Bloren & Co.	15,307 50
H. L. Crawford & Co.	15,363 00	M. M. Freeman & Co.	15,287 50
Ludwig & Crane	15,341 29	Geo. B. Gibbons & Co.	15,258 51
Hornblower & Weeks	15,331 95	First National Bank	15,150 00

WOODBURY COUNTY (P. O. Sioux City), Iowa.—BOND OFFERING.—Proposals will be received until 2 p. m. Jan. 22 by E. E. Hosmer, County Auditor, for \$100,000 4¼% 20-year-coupon county-home-erection bonds. Denom. \$1,000. Date March 1 1917. Int. M. & S. at the County Treasurer's office. Certified check for \$5,000, payable to the County Auditor, required. Bonded debt, including this issue, \$900,000. Assessed valuation 1916, \$23,150,588. State and county tax rate per \$1,000, \$25.

WOOSTER SCHOOL DISTRICT (P. O. Wooster), Wayne County, Ohio.—BOND ELECTION.—The question of whether or not this district shall issue \$50,000 building bonds will be submitted to the voters at an election to be held Jan. 31, it is stated.

WYOMING COUNTY (P. O. Warsaw), N. Y.—BOND OFFERING.—Bids will be received until 2 p. m. Jan. 29, it is stated, by Chas. B. Smallwood, County Treasurer, for \$55,000 4½% 15-year road bonds. Interest semi-annual. Certified check for \$6,000 required.

YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio.—BOND OFFERING.—Proposals will be received until 12 m. Jan. 22 by J. R. Edwards, City Aud., for the following coupon or registered purchaser's option bonds:

\$20,000 5% Demick Ave. sewer bonds.	Due \$4,000 yrly. on Oct. 1 from 1918 to 1922 inclusive.
10,700 5% street (city's portion) bonds.	Due \$2,000 yrly. on Oct. 1 from 1919 to 1922 incl. and \$2,700 Oct. 1 1923.
120,000 4½% Cedar St. bridge bonds.	Due \$10,000 yrly. on Oct. 1 from 1923 to 1934 inclusive.

NEW LOANS

NOTICE OF SALE

of
\$915,000 5% Refunding and Improvement Bonds
 of the
Municipality of San Juan, Porto Rico

Sealed proposals will be received by the Mayor of the Municipality of San Juan, at his office in said City, until 9 a. m. on MARCH 9TH, 1917, the reception of bids being closed at that time and date, the same to be opened one hour later at the Municipal Theater of San Juan, and considered by the Board of Award of the Municipality, consisting of the Mayor, the President of the Municipal Council and the Municipal Secretary, for the purchase of \$915,000 Refunding and Improvement Bonds of said City, bearing interest at the rate of five per cent per annum, payable semi-annually, on the first day of January and July. Said bonds will be dated January 1st, 1916, and will mature on January 1st in the years and in the amounts as follows:

1922	50,000	1930	\$64,000
1923	50,000	1931	67,000
1924	50,000	1932	70,000
1925	50,000	1933	74,000
1926	52,000	1934	67,000
1927	55,000	1935	72,000
1928	58,000	1936	75,000
1929	61,000		

Such of said bonds as mature after January 1st, 1933, will be subject to redemption at the option of the Municipality at 105 per cent of their par value on said date or on any interest payment date thereafter. In case of such redemption notice thereof stating the numbers of the bonds to be redeemed and the date of redemption shall be published at least once a week during a period of sixty (60) days prior to the date fixed for redemption in the "Commercial and Financial Chronicle," a newspaper published in the City of New York and in addition sixty (60) days notice of such redemption in writing will be given to Muller, Schall & Co., 45 William St., New York City.

Said bonds will be issued in coupon form of the denomination of \$1,000 each. Both principal and interest will be payable in gold coin of the United States of America at the banking firm of Muller, Schall & Co., 45 William St., New York City.

The bonds will be delivered at such banking house in Washington, D. C., or

in New York City, as the purchaser may designate in his bid. The purchaser must pay in addition to the amount bid by him accrued interest to the date of delivery of the bonds.

The legality of these bonds are to be passed upon by Messrs. Hawkins, Delafield & Longfellow, New York City, and the successful bidder will be furnished with their opinion that the bonds are binding and legal obligations of the Municipality.

These bonds are not subject to the Federal Income Tax and they are apparently exempted from taxation by the States. *Farmers & Mechanics Saving Bank of Minneapolis v. State of Minnesota*, 232 U. S. 516 (1914).

The Municipality of San Juan is obligated by law to provide in its yearly budget an amount sufficient to pay the interest and principal upon these bonds, and in case the special tax provided for by said Municipality and the budgetary appropriations are not sufficient to pay such principal and interest, the municipality is obligated to levy an additional tax, for the purpose, upon all taxable real and personal property of the municipality; the Treasurer of Porto Rico is directed by law to withhold sufficient funds from the revenues of the municipality to provide for the payment of principal and interest on these bonds; and by ordinance, duly enacted, of the Municipal Council of San Juan, of October 28, 1916, a sinking fund is established under the control of the Treasurer of Porto Rico, out of which the payment of interest and principal shall be made as they become due.

These bonds may be accepted by the Government of Porto Rico for deposits of funds of that government or as security required by any of the laws of Porto Rico to be deposited with the Treasurer of Porto Rico.

Proposals for the purchase of said bonds must be accompanied by a certified check for Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000) upon some National Bank in the United States or upon any one of the Banks doing business in Porto Rico, payable to the Mayor of the City of San Juan or by cash in said amount, as a guarantee of good faith. If the terms and conditions of the proposal of the successful bidder are not complied with he shall forfeit his deposit; otherwise the deposit shall be returned upon the completion of the contract. The deposits of unsuccessful bidders will be immediately returned after the awarding of the bonds.

Any bidder may be present at the opening of the proposals either in person or by agent or attorney. Bids must be enclosed in sealed envelopes addressed to the "Mayor of San Juan, San Juan, Porto Rico," and such envelope must be plainly marked "Proposal for the purchase of bonds of the City of San Juan, Porto Rico."

Proposals may be submitted for the whole issue or for a part thereof, but preference will be given to proposals for the whole issue, if the same is beneficial to the Municipality of San Juan.

In case two or more proposals are equally beneficial, verbal bidding will be carried on for one half hour after the bids are opened. Only those persons who have offered the said best bids may take part in such verbal bidding; if they are not present in order to do so, then the award will be made to the one of the said highest bidders whose bid shows the lowest number in order of presentation.

The Board of Award reserves the right to reject any and all bids, and its decision in this and in all matters pertaining to the bids, in order to be valid and binding, must be confirmed by the Municipal Council at a meeting called and held for the purpose on the same day on which the said meeting of the Board of Award is held.

Any bidder failing to make payment within twenty-four hours, of the purchase price of bonds awarded to him at the time and at the place at which such bonds are offered to him, shall forfeit all right to such bonds and to the deposit accompanying his bid.

These bonds are issued in accordance with authority of the Act of Congress of April 12, 1900, entitled "An Act temporarily to provide revenues and a civil government for Porto Rico, and for other purposes," and of the Statutes of Porto Rico now in force and of ordinances of the Municipal Council of San Juan adopted in compliance with law.


Dated at San Juan, Porto Rico, December 20, 1916.

R. H. TODD,
 Mayor of the Municipality
 of San Juan

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Public Utility Securities

Date Feb. 1 1917. Principal and semi-annual interest (F. & A.) payable at office of Sinking Fund Trustees. City reserves right to issue a lesser amount of bonds than herein advertised. Certified check for 2% of each lock of bonds bid for, payable to City Auditor, required. Separate bids must be made for each issue. Purchaser must be prepared to take bonds not later than Feb. 1.

Canada, its Provinces and Municipalities.

COCHRANE, Ont.—DEBENTURES VOTED.—The question of issuing \$40,000 debentures carried, it is stated, at the election held Jan. 1.

DURHAM, Ont.—DEBENTURES VOTED.—The proposition to issue \$1,000 school debentures carried, it is stated, at the election held Jan. 1.

HAMILTON, Ont.—RESULT OF DEBENTURE ELECTION.—At the election held Jan. 1 the propositions to issue \$25,000 Sherman Inlet and \$50,000 hospital debentures carried, it is stated, while the questions of issuing the \$61,000 sewer and \$362,000 water works debentures were defeated.

HARRISTON, Ont.—DEBENTURES VOTED.—Newspaper reports state that a favorable vote was cast at the election held Jan. 1 in favor of the question of issuing \$8,500 municipal hall debentures.

LISTOWEL, Ont.—DEBENTURES DEFEATED.—The proposition to issue \$15,000 pavement debentures failed to carry at the election held Jan. 1, reports state.

MARKHAM, Ont.—DEBENTURES VOTED.—The question of issuing \$6,000 water-works debentures carried, reports state, at the election held Jan. 1.

MIMICO, Ont.—DEBENTURES VOTED.—According to reports the election held Jan. 1 resulted in favor of the proposition to issue \$40,000 park debentures.

OSHAWA, Ont.—DEBENTURES VOTED.—At the Jan. 1 election the proposition to issue the \$6,000 site-purchase debentures carried, it is reported.—V. 103, p. 2450.

OWEN SOUND, Ont.—LOAN VOTED.—At the Jan. 1 election the question of granting a loan of \$20,000 to the Keenan Woodware Manufacturing Co. carried, it is said.

ST. MARYS, Ont.—DEBENTURE SALE.—During December local investors purchased an issue of \$1,500 local-impt. debentures, it is said.

SASKATCHEWAN.—DEBENTURE SALES.—The Local Government Board sold the following three issues of debentures aggregating \$72,800 from Dec. 26 to Dec. 29, it is reported:

\$3,000 Cut Knife School District debentures to Nay & James of Regina.
68,000 Town of Assiniboia debentures to the Bond & Debenture Corp. of Winnipeg.

1,800 Village of Bruno debentures to P. A. Schwinger of Bruno.
SAULT STE. MARIE, Ont.—DEBENTURES VOTED.—The question of issuing the \$34,500 Elgin St. storm sewer debentures—V. 103, p. 2450—carried at the election held Jan. 1 by a vote of 468 to 274.

NEW LOANS

\$130,000.00

Road District No. 2, Parish of East Baton Rouge, Louisiana

5% ROAD BONDS.

Sealed bids will be received by the President of the Board of Supervisors of Road District Number Two (2) of the Parish of East Baton Rouge, State of Louisiana, up to the 15th day of FEBRUARY, 1917, for \$130,000.00 five per cent thirty (30) years Good Roads Serial Bonds, Series "C" of Road District Number Two (2) of the Parish of East Baton Rouge, State of Louisiana, embracing the entire Third Ward as now constituted, issued by said Road District No. 2 upon unanimous vote of the legally qualified property tax payers, under provisions of Article 281 of the Constitution of Louisiana of 1898, and amendments thereto, and Act No. 199 of the Louisiana Legislature of 1916. Issued solely for construction, improvement and maintenance of Gravel Roads in said Road District under supervision of the Louisiana State Highway Department.

Denomination of bonds, \$1,000.00, maturing serially from December 31, 1917, to December 31, 1946. Interest payable semi-annually, December 31, and June 30.

Principal and interest payable at the Office of the Treasurer of said Road District in the City of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, or at the National City Bank of New York, New York City, N. Y., at the option of the holder.

Full faith and credit of Road District Number Two pledged to payment.

Tax will be levied by Police Jury to meet payment due in 1917.

Purchaser or purchasers of bonds may designate depository of funds, provided it meets with approval of Board and ample security be given for their safe keeping.

Certified check for \$5,000.00 required with each bid, as evidence of good faith.

Any bid predated upon the favorable opinion of any Attorney to be rendered after the bid has been made will be rejected, all investigations as to legality to be made before date of sale of bonds, and necessary data will be furnished for that purpose.

For further information address R. T. Gibbens, President Board of Supervisors, Baker, La., or F. A. Woods, Secretary, Police Jury, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

NEW LOANS.

\$70,000

Morrison County, Minnesota REFUNDING BONDS

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be received by the board of county commissioners of Morrison County, Minnesota, up to the hour of 2 o'clock p. m., FEBRUARY 6, 1917, for a bond issue in the sum of \$70,000.00 to be used in refunding outstanding warrants drawn on the road and bridge fund of said county, said bonds to mature in twenty years. Denomination of said bonds to suit the purchaser. The said board of county commissioners will meet in the commissioners' room in the court house in the city of Little Falls in the County of Morrison, State of Minnesota, on the 6th day of February, A. D. 1917, at the hour of two o'clock in the afternoon of said day for the purpose of opening and considering said bids. A certified check in a sum equal to one per cent of \$70,000.00 must accompany each bid as a guaranty of good faith. The said board of county commissioners reserve the right to reject any or all bids. All bids should be addressed and delivered to the undersigned county auditor, court house, Little Falls, Minnesota, and must be marked bid for bonds.

Dated at Little Falls, Minnesota, this 4th day of January, 1917.

B. Y. McNAIRY,
County Auditor,
Morrison County, Minnesota.

NEW LOANS.

\$750,000

City of New Orleans, La. PAVING CERTIFICATES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC FINANCES,
ACCOUNTING DIVISION,
NEW ORLEANS, LA.

City Hall, February 5th, 1917.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of New Orleans will sell by alternate sealed proposals at 11 o'clock A. M., Monday, FEBRUARY 5TH, 1917, seven hundred and fifty thousand (\$750,000.00) dollars of Paving Certificates.

All particulars and information will be furnished upon application to A. G. Ricks, Commissioner of Public Finances, Room 1, City Hall, New Orleans, La.

A. G. RICKS,
Commissioner of Public Finances.

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Liquidation

NOTICE.

The National Bank of Walden, located at Walden, in the State of New York, is closing up its affairs, its corporate existence having expired at close of business on the 25th day of November, 1916. All note holders and others, creditors of said Association, are therefore hereby notified to present the notes and other claims against the Association for payment.

R. A. DEMAREST, Cashier.
Dated November 27, 1916.

NOTICE

The Second National Bank of Bangor, located at Bangor, in the State of Maine, is closing its affairs. All note holders and other creditors of the association are therefore hereby notified to present the notes and other claims for payment.

GEO. A. CROSBY, Cashier.
Dated, January 12, 1917.

Acts as
Executor,
Trustee,
Administrator,
Guardian,
Receiver
Registrar and
Transfer Agent.

Interest allowed
on deposits.

Girard Trust Company

PHILADELPHIA

Chartered 1836

CAPITAL and SURPLUS, \$10,000,000

E. B. Morris, President.

Insurance

ATLANTIC MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY

New York, January 26th, 1916.
 The Trustees, in conformity with the Charter of the Company, submit the following statement of its affairs on the 31st of December, 1915.

The Company's business has been confined to marine and inland transportation insurance.
 Premiums on such risks from the 1st January, 1915, to the 31st December, 1915.....\$6,153,866 43
 Premiums on Policies not marked off 1st January, 1915.....993,965 13

Total Premiums.....\$7,147,831 56
 Premiums marked off from January 1st, 1915, to December 31st, 1915.....\$6,244,127 90

Interest on the investments of the Company received during the year \$328,970 78
 Interest on Deposits in Banks and Trust Companies, etc.....75,237 08
 Rent received less Taxes and Expenses.....97,835 23 \$502,043 09

Losses paid during the year.....\$2,333,703 62
 Less: Salvages.....\$205,247 59
 Re-insurances.....448,602 85\$ 653,850 44
 \$1,679,853 18

Re-insurance Premiums and Returns of Premiums.....\$1,076,516 36
 Expenses, including compensation of officers and clerks, taxes, stationery, advertisements, etc.....\$ 717,114 89

A dividend of interest of six per cent on the outstanding certificates of profits will be paid to the holders thereof, or their legal representatives, on and after Tuesday the first of February next.
 The outstanding certificates of the issue of 1910 will be redeemed and paid to the holders thereof, or their legal representatives, on and after Tuesday the first of February next, from which date all interest thereon will cease. The certificates to be produced at the time of payment, and canceled.

A dividend of forty per cent is declared on the earned premiums of the Company for the year ending 31st December, 1915, which are entitled to participate in dividend, for which, upon application, certificates will be issued on and after Tuesday the second of March next.
 By order of the Board, G. STANTON FLOYD-JONES, Secretary.

- TRUSTEES.**
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A. A. RAVEN, Chairman of the Board.
 CORNELIUS ELBERT, President
 WALTER WOOD PARSONS, Vice-President.
 CHARLES E. FAY, 2d Vice-President.

ASSETS.		LIABILITIES.	
United States and State of New York Bonds.....	\$ 670,000 00	Estimated Losses, and Losses Unsettled in process of Adjustment.....	\$ 3,117,101 00
New York City, New York Trust Companies and Bank Stocks.....	1,783,700 00	Premiums on Unterminated Risks.....	993,703 68
Stocks and Bonds of Railroads.....	2,832,463 65	Certificates of Profits and Interest Unpaid.....	273,130 05
Other Securities.....	386,185 00	Return Premiums Unpaid.....	108,696 58
Special Deposits in Banks and Trust Companies.....	2,000,000 00	Reserve for Taxes.....	76,949 12
Real Estate cor. Wall and William Streets and Exchange Place, containing offices.....	4,209,426 04	Re-insurance Premiums on Terminated Risks.....	216,595 72
Real Estate on Staten Island (held under provisions of Chapter 481, Laws of 1887).....	75,000 00	Claims not Settled, including Compensation, etc.....	113,375 72
Premium Notes.....	660,314 60	Certificates of Profits Ordered Re-issued, Withheld for Unpaid Premiums.....	22,557 84
Bills Receivable.....	788,575 31	Income Tax Withheld at the Source.....	1,230 34
Cash in hands of European Bankers to pay losses under policies payable in foreign countries.....	256,610 85	Suspense Account.....	5,899 75
Cash in Bank.....	1,693,488 03	Certificates of Profits Outstanding.....	7,187,370 00
Loans.....	135,000 00		
	\$15,582,763 48		\$12,025,609 80

Thus leaving a balance of.....\$3,557,153 68
 Accrued Interest on the 31st day of December, 1915, amounted to.....\$ 40 528 08
 Rents due and accrued on the 31st day of December, 1915, amounted to.....\$ 25,563 11
 Re-insurance due or accrued, in companies authorized in New York, on the 31st day of December, 1915, amounted to.....\$ 172,389 50
 Note: The Insurance Department has estimated the value of the Real Estate corner Wall and William Streets and Exchange Place in excess of the Book Value given above at.....\$ 450,573 96
 And the property at Staten Island in excess of the Book Value, at.....\$ 63,700 00
 The Insurance Department's valuation of Stocks, Bonds and other Securities exceeds the Company's valuation by.....\$1,727,337 26
 On the basis of these increased valuations the balance would be.....\$6,037,250 59

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 STATEMENT OF CONDITION AT THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS DEC. 27, 1916

RESOURCES		LIABILITIES	
Loans, Bonds and Investment Securities.....	\$79,250,289 80	Capital.....	\$6,000,000 00
Overdrafts.....	11 88	Surplus and Undivided Profits.....	3,753,693 56
Cash.....	7,394,685 58	Reserved for Depreciation, &c.....	467,106 16
Due from Banks.....	16,605,824 22	Circulating Notes.....	3,446,600 00
	\$103,250,811 48	Deposits.....	89,583,411 76
			\$103,250,811 48

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Russian 4s
Russian 5½s

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