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INCLUDING

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CLEARING HOUSE RETURNS.

Returns of Bank Clearings heretofore given on this page now appear in a subsequent part of the paper. They will be found to-day on pages 2652 and 2653.

THE FINANCIAL SITUATION.

The President's address was delivered too late in the week to allow reference to it in our last issue, and any discussion of it, point by point, would now be belated; yet it cannot be quite dismissed without mention. In the antiquated phrasing of their day, and recognizing the scanty means of communication then available, the framers of our Government required the President to give to Congress, from time to time, "information on the State of the Union," which naturally included all foreign countries and our relations with them, and to "recommend to their consideration such measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient." In this day, when even the air throbs with the world's happenings and utterances, it is hard for him to tell anything, outside of official work, and he now recommends very few specific "measures." Mr. Harding does, however, discuss situations; and in a manner which has won admiration even from his party opponents, he urges getting together in a serious and patriotic effort to give some constructive aid to the problems of the time. It is creditable to him that he offers no curative specifics; there are none, and they who profess to have them are merely empirical. Civilization, he says, is itself on trial. It cannot merely drift. It must scan the horizon, interpret the signs, and attempt to aid itself. Congress should be serious, studious, broad-minded, above sectional or class interests, and should move

cautiously though firmly. This is about the keynote of an unusually earnest and thoughtful address.

Agriculture is the beginning of the long line of human subsistence and effort. The farmer is crying for relief, and his cry is not the faintest among the many plaints; yet the President refrains from accepting the wildest of the nostrums which have been offered. Agriculture, he says, needs more than increased credit facilities, and "permanent and deserved agricultural good fortune depends on better and cheaper transportation." This, he says, "has to do with more than agriculture," and demands "the most rigorous consideration." To it he devotes a large and earnest part of his address. In the last three decades, he says, our population increased less than 70%, while our freight movement increased over 250%; we built 40% of the world's new mileage, yet already find that inadequate; we have inadequacy to-day, we face greater inadequacy to-morrow, "and it is easy to believe that the next few decades will witness the paralysis of our transportation." Here is indeed a problem which needs combined and co-ordinated statesmanship and business wisdom. Forcing down rates—and we note at this point that a bill with such intent has already made its appearance—is not a solution of the problem. Last summer, says Mr. Harding, he sought informally to have the railway executives agree to a heavier cut on farm products and leave unchanged much of the schedules, but this was not done, and we had instead horizontal cuts which were too slight to be felt by higher-class cargoes and too slight, also, to help the heavy tonnage which was clamoring most loudly. That Government handling has been mishandling is perceived, for in these striking sentences Mr. Harding adopts the contention of the "Chronicle" that the seizure of the roads by the Government in 1917 was an unhappy mistake:

"Government operation does not afford the cure. It was Government operation which brought us to the very order of things against which we now rebel, and we are still liquidating the costs of that supreme folly."

He places a duty before us all in this added remark: "Railways are not to be expected to render the most essential service in our social organization without a fair return on capital invested, but the Government has gone so far in the regulation of rates and rules of operation that it has the responsibility of pointing the way to the reduced freight costs so essential to our national welfare." The "reduced freight costs"? Yes, but the immovable arithmetic conditions rate reductions upon expense reductions.

The President does not say so in just these words, but he suggests it. He points out the failure of "partisan membership" in the Labor Board; he perceives and says that wages and the employer's earning capacity, theoretically to be determined separately, "are inseparable" in railway service. He perceives the absurdity of having one body fix rates and another fix wages. He would apparently consolidate the two functions; at least, he thinks the Labor Board could do better in Washington, and if it is to continue at all "it ought to be in contact with" the rate-making body; he suggests a labor division in that body, made up from its membership, and with power to hear and decide labor disputes which proper committees of roads and men have failed to settle. Having gone so far in responsibility for necessary regulation, "we unconsciously have assumed responsibility for maintained service; therefore, the lawful power for enforcement of decisions" is necessary.

New economies and new efficiencies in co-operation must be found, says the President, and adds that although the consuming of 50 to 60 cents of each railroad dollar by labor makes the limitations of economy more difficult the demand for economy is not less insistent. Merging lines into systems, facilitating interchange of freight cars, better use of terminals, and "consolidation of facilities" are suggested as ways of economy and efficiency. These general suggestions are worth noting, and the more so because consolidating has been among the bugbears of the past. "Surely the genius of the railway builders has not become extinct among the railway managers," says Mr. Harding. Not wholly extinct yet, but greatly hampered and discouraged. The builders worked in a time when the country cried for rails and was eager to bid for them, but then came a time when they were imagined to be devourers and protection from them was demanded; we have not outgrown that delusion and *pasm*, and although the need of more rails and more efficiency in those we have is keen, the old attitude yields slowly. Read under the lines, this address recognizes the need of a change in the public attitude towards railroads, and that is an encouraging symptom. They are our vehicles of communication, our draught animals, our veins and arteries of circulation—take whatever simile you prefer, but our course of safety and progress is to appreciate and nourish them instead of hating and pounding them.

We cannot feel sure that this excellent address will be an effective challenge to the better part—still less, to the worse part—of Congress, but we may hope so. The spoils system and the habit of faction die hard, yet we are compelled to hope. Having done, all, *stand*, wrote Paul to the Ephesian Christians. The counsel is still good and timely, for to falter and shrink from difficulties and problems is to surrender to them before the clinch.

The Crop Reporting Board of the Department of Agriculture at Washington issued on Tuesday the final estimate of the yield of cotton from this year's growth. With the exception of last season this estimate of yield is the smallest of any year since 1901. The production is now placed by the Department at 9,964,000 bales. This contrasts with 10,135,000 bales, the October estimate, prepared on the basis of reports issued during the progress of the crop, a decrease since that time of 171,000 bales. Yet picking continued late, and there was more or less top crop in

many different localities where none at all had been expected. Besides this, high prices have prevailed and still are prevailing in the markets, affording an inducement for picking cotton to the very last bale. Throughout the past season there has been a constant tendency in the direction of depletion in the yield, owing to insect damage and in some sections serious drouth. The first estimate made by the Department in July, based on the report of acreage planted this year, and the early condition was 11,065,000 bales. This was more than 1,100,000 bales greater than that now reported as the final yield.

According to the report of the Census Bureau, as published by us last week, 9,318,144 bales had already been ginned out of the current crop up to Dec. 1. If, therefore, the estimate of the Agricultural Department is correct, only 646,000 bales remained to be ginned on that day. It may be that this will prove to be accurate, and yet, with the single exception of last year, a great deal more cotton than this has been ginned after December in each season during the last decade. The amount has run all the way from 1,000,000 to over 3,000,000 bales. Taking a crop as recent as that of 1920, no less than 3,129,677 bales were ginned subsequent to Dec. 1.

But taking the estimate just as it stands, a yield of close to 11,000,000 bales of cotton in one form or another is likely to be available to the trade out of the current crop. The fact seems to be generally overlooked that the estimate of the Agricultural Department covers only lint cotton and that linters form no part of the total. The Department lays emphasis on the fact, and yet it does not seem to have dawned upon any one that these linters, which we are told "are a product obtained at mills from the seed," constitute an important item in themselves. That in figuring supply and consumption these linters must be reckoned with and that they are for many manufacturing purposes the equivalent of lint cotton, becomes plain when we examine the census returns issued this week showing the consumption of cotton for November and the four weeks ending with November. From these returns we learn that the consuming establishments reporting to the Census show 238,186 bales of linters consumed in the four months this year and 239,910 bales in the corresponding four months last year. These linters, too, go into the export trade the same as cotton.

The question arises, therefore, how much will these linters add to the size of the current crop. The Agricultural Department furnishes the material for making an estimate in that regard. An explanatory remark tells us that "the production of linters is about 7.4% as much as the lint production (average 1916-20)." Applying this percentage to the estimated yield of roughly 10,000,000 bales, it readily becomes apparent that here we have a further addition of nearly three-quarters of a million bales, raising the product to (roughly) 10,750,000 bales. If now the estimate of 9,964,000 of lint cotton should prove too small by only 250,000 to 300,000 bales, the product would be brought up to a full 11,000,000 bales.

After giving due consideration to all the rumors afloat relative to European affairs the outstanding event the present week was the further sharp advance in the pound sterling to \$4 69 on Wednesday. Naturally, there has been a reaction of several cents, but in view of the rapidity and extent of the advance the sterling market was firm to the very close yester-

day. There were many guesses as to the principal cause of this movement. No official statement was forthcoming from any quarter. After the Cabinet meeting yesterday, however, word went out from the White House that the Administration would take an active part in the economic and financial rehabilitation of Europe, particularly Germany. All day there had been rumors that an international loan of \$1,500,000,000 for that country that would be guaranteed by the Allied nations of Europe and the United States, would be floated in this country. Regarding this rumor no official statement was forthcoming either in any of the Allied capitals abroad or at Washington. On the contrary, it was emphasized at the White House late yesterday afternoon that the President was firmly of the opinion that it would be unwise to discuss present plans at this time. The conference of Allied Premiers began a week ago this forenoon in London and adjourned last Monday evening at 6 o'clock, without having reached an agreement on German reparations and kindred subjects, to meet in Paris on Jan. 2. For a while the Russian and Turkish delegates at the Lausanne Conference preserved a more tractable and conciliatory policy. Then, again, they became hard to manage, but before the close of the week once more yielded. Announcement was made in Lausanne dispatches yesterday that the Turks had agreed to give guarantees to the Christian minorities in Turkey and that Turkey would join the League of Nations. The British trade statement for November was well received on both sides of the Atlantic.

The conference of Allied Premiers began last Saturday forenoon at No. 10 Downing Street, London, the official residence of Premier Andrew Bonar Law. Those who met with him were Raymond Poincare, Premier of France; Benito Mussolini, Premier of Italy, and Premier Theunys of Belgium. They were dinner guests of the British Prime Minister the evening before at the same place. On Saturday they "held two meetings lasting five hours." Plans for adjusting the troublesome reparations question to meet the financial position, particularly of Germany, France and Belgium, were presented by each of the Cabinet heads. The one that attracted the greatest attention was that of Bonar Law. At the afternoon session he asserted that "the Balfour note no longer existed for the British Government and that he was free to consider the whole question of remitting the war debt of France to his country." He added, "I am prepared to reconsider the question of cancellation of debts if such cancellation would insure a settlement satisfactory to the British Government." Thereupon "the British Prime Minister briefly outlined the kind of settlement he desired—a moratorium sufficient for Germany to re-establish her finances and credit and stabilize the mark, no military action of any character by the French, and a reduction of the indemnity to between 30,000,000,000 and 40,000,000,000 gold marks." Premier Poincare, according to the Associated Press correspondent, "although reserving his formal reply to the new suggestion until to-morrow, expressed deep pleasure at the British attitude."

Premier Theunys, on behalf of Belgium, presented a plan which "calls for a two-year moratorium for Germany and a loan to be participated in by all nations at the rate of 5,000,000,000 gold marks a year for seven years, making a total of 35,000,000,000.

This should represent the total reparations indemnity. The loan will be guaranteed by the wealth of the German republic." The correspondent further explained that, "according to this plan the German debt would be reduced to between 30,000,000,000 and 40,000,000,000 gold marks and France must abandon all idea of military or economic pressure on Germany. The Germans would be required to effect rigid financial reforms, including balancing the budget and stabilizing the mark. Part of this loan would be handed over to Germany for that purpose." Another feature of the Belgian plan was a postponement of the Brussels Conference until the end of January or the middle of February.

M. Poincare for France "offered acceptance of a two-year moratorium for Germany provided satisfactory guarantees were forthcoming. These guarantees embraced measures for economic control of the Rhineland industries and partial occupation of the Ruhr district with a division of soldiers to collect customs on the coal output. M. Poincare did not consider that this program would be regarded as military action against Germany." It was stated that Bonar Law's reply was "a surprise to the French and greatly encouraged M. Poincare, who early in the day had been extremely pessimistic as to the outcome of the conversations."

Premier Mussolini "followed M. Poincare with an explanation of Italy's point of view." He was said to have "expressed the opinion that any review of the circumstances of the case showed that Germany needed both a further moratorium and international loan, but that if these were granted to her she must agree to reform her economic policy and submit to some form of financial control." He then "passed on to consider the finances of other European countries and suggested that there should be a general review of inter-Allied debts and the entire financial condition of Europe."

Sunday forenoon the French, Italian and Belgian delegations were received by the King at Buckingham Palace. In the afternoon at 3 o'clock they gathered again at 10 Downing Street "and were in consultation for three and a half hours."

Dr. Bergmann presented the latest proposal of the German Government with regard to reparations at the British Office a week ago tonight. While it had not been published officially, the London correspondent of the New York "Times" cabled that "it is understood to propose the raising of both internal and external loans, the whole of the external and half of the internal loans being handed over to the Reparations Commission. Moreover, the German Government suggested giving the Reparations Commission bonds for another 3,000,000,000 gold marks." The "Times" representative added, "in return it asks that the moratorium should be extended for at least two years and for still longer if the amount handed over to the Reparations Commission as a result of the internal loan exceeds 1,500,000,000 gold marks, and asks that reparations in kind shall be suspended during the moratorium period." He also stated that "Signor Mussolini said definitely to-night that the Allied Premiers were unanimous in considering the proposal unsatisfactory and had decided to send to-morrow a reply refusing it." A similar assertion was received from other sources, and a little later an official communique was issued in which announcement was made that "the scheme of prelimin-

ary reparations settlement presented by the German Chancellor was examined, and was unanimously found to be unsatisfactory." According to a dispatch from Berlin on Dec. 14 the German Government had begun "working out new reparations proposals which it will present to the Allied Premiers when they reassemble in Paris Jan. 2."

Adjournment was taken Monday evening at 6 o'clock to that place and time. The Associated Press correspondent cabled that "the Conference adjourned after the British Prime Minister, Mr. Bonar Law, and the French Premier, M. Poincare, had failed to reach any common ground for agreement. The French insistence upon rigid guarantees before granting a moratorium to Germany was the principal reason for the collapse of the present negotiations." The French Premier, after the adjournment, was quoted as saying, "It is finished." According to the Associated Press representative "it was stated in an authoritative American quarter that the chief hope of bringing the British and French together during the period of adjournment, to which the Conference now seems doomed, lies with the United States." He added that "it was said by this authority that Britain will probably ask the American Government if it is willing to cancel the French debt to the United States provided Britain in turn cancels the French debt to Great Britain, and at the same time enters a definite agreement with the American Government ultimately to pay the British debt to America. This suggestion was made informally last evening to a certain important American now in London, and it will probably be presented directly to Mr. Hughes, the American Secretary of State, in the course of the present week. Great Britain is said to look favorably on the cancellation of the French debt due her, provided the United States cancels the French debt to America."

Casual readers of the London cable dispatches Monday evening and Tuesday morning were inclined to speak of the Conference of Premiers as a "failure." It was so characterized in the headlines of most of the New York newspapers. In the later advices an effort was made to convey the impression that some things of importance had been accomplished. Prominent among those mentioned were a better mutual understanding by the British and French of their respective positions: a rejection of the "suggestions put forward in the German note presented by Dr. Bergmann," and the reaching of "a more hopeful view as to the probability of continued united action by the Allies in the future." The New York "Times" London correspondent cabled that "Mr. Bonar Law's view, it is learned, is that, while the Conference failed to reach an agreement, mainly over the French attitude concerning the Ruhr, the atmosphere of the discussions was friendly and cordial throughout. He has hopes that the influence of what is taking place at Lausanne will have still more favorable reactions on Anglo-French relations." The official communique stated that "it has not been possible in the time available for the Allied Prime Ministers to arrive at definite conclusions on the momentous issues involved. In the circumstances it was decided to continue the conversations between the Allied Prime Ministers in Paris on Jan. 2, so as to allow of a plenary conference being assembled immediately afterward, in order to arrive, before Jan. 15, at definite decisions on all the questions discussed in Lon-

don." The New York "Times" representative added that "the British officials declined, as they have throughout this Conference, to add a single word to the communique, but it was learned from other sources that the reason for this adjournment was really as stated. The discussions showed that the Premiers were a long way from reaching an agreement on their policies, and there is not at the moment time for them to continue their exploration."

In reply to questions in the House of Commons on Tuesday, Premier Bonar Law indicated that at the week-end Conference of Premiers he had not gone as far as originally reported in his offer to remit the war debt of France to Great Britain. In the House he said that he told the other Premiers, "I said it would not be right that a settlement should be effected in such a way that we only, of all the Allied countries, would be virtually paying an indemnity. What did seem fair to me was to consider the whole amount that would be obtained from Germany, and say, 'as you are not getting all that you expected from Germany we must reduce our claims.' For that reason, and I think it is an important thing, I added that if we saw some chance of a complete settlement with the prospect of finality, we should be willing to run a certain risk in the end of not receiving as much from the Allies and Germany as we might have to pay America. But I added that it would be foolish to make such a concession if the whole question were to be reopened again."

According to the Associated Press correspondent in London, "in British official circles it was pointed out to-day [Tuesday] that Stanley Baldwin, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and the British Debt Funding Commission would leave for the United States Dec. 27 for discussion of the whole question of the Allied debts." It was suggested that "this consultation will be too late for the next Premiers' Conference, but the opinion was expressed that the problem was so broad that it could not be easily settled by telegraph before the meeting of the Premiers was reconvened." The correspondent added that "the British Financial Mission will include, besides Mr. Baldwin and his staff, M. C. Norman, Governor of the Bank of England, and his staff, and Rowe Dutton, Adviser to the Treasury."

Before any official word was received in Washington relative to international debts, it was indicated at the White House Tuesday afternoon, following a Cabinet meeting which lasted two and one-half hours, that "the United States Government might be willing to help in straightening out the chaotic European situation." The New York "Times" representative said that "while the American Government is understood to entertain no desire to become entangled in the reparations controversy, there is no doubt that its moral influence, which is now very great in European councils, is being used to the utmost in the direction of endeavoring to effect harmonization of the divided views of the Allies on the subject of reparations." The correspondent referred to what President Harding said in his annual message to Congress last week with respect to the Four-Power peace compact, and observed that "this statement, cautious as it was, gave rise to reports that the Government contemplated calling an international conference, or possibly seeking an agreement through diplomatic

exchanges, which would include concerted action by the United States and the principal European Powers looking to an agreement for the peaceable solution of questions affecting their interests other than those in the Pacific and the Far East covered by the Four-Power compact. There appeared to be some reason to believe that these reports had a foundation. Some Senators indicated that the statement in the President's address fitted in with reports they had heard." The "Times" representative explained that "at the White House, however, it was said that the President's designation of the Four-Power compact as a model for international agreements was a 'gesture,' although a wholly sincere gesture. He believed, it was explained, that so much good had come out of the understanding concerning the Pacific and the Far East that the principle might be applied elsewhere with excellent results without trespassing on the sensibilities of any nation. What the President said, according to the White House interpretation, was only the expression of a hope that additional understandings might result from the example of the Four-Power compact. All that could be learned to supplement these remarks tended to show that the Administration has no thought of seeking an application of the principle of the Four-Power compact to the mainland of Europe and America. While there was no authoritative expression, the attitude of the Administration was presumed to be that it could not enter into an arrangement affecting the mainland of Europe without bringing the United States into direct participation in European political affairs, and such a prospect has no place in present American international policy."

Commenting upon the rather persistent reports that the French would invade the Ruhr district, the New York "Times" correspondent in Paris said in a dispatch Wednesday morning that "there will be no separate seizure of the Ruhr by France for the present. If it has to be done it will be only after the meeting of the Allied Premiers here on Jan. 2, and only in the event of England agreeing, at least tacitly, to some such move by the French on condition that it will merely be a demonstration pending a general settlement. That much has been made clear in the situation since the return of Premier Poincare from London this evening [Tuesday]." As against rumors that the apparent failure of the London conference would result in the fall of Premier Poincare and his Cabinet, came the word from Paris Wednesday evening that "the French Cabinet this morning approved the attitude taken on the reparations question by Premier Poincare at the recent London Conference of Premiers, after hearing M. Poincare's report of the meeting. It also expressed agreement with him regarding the declarations to be made in the Chamber of Deputies on Friday, when it is expected the Government will be called upon to reply to an interpellation." The Associated Press correspondent added that "Premier Poincare, it is forecast, will ask the Chamber for a free hand in the reparations negotiations with the Allies and for like freedom regarding the seizure of such pledges as are permitted under the Treaty of Versailles, if a settlement is not reached by negotiation before the next installment of Germany's debt is due, on Jan. 15." At yesterday's session of the Chamber, Premier Poincare did make an extended report of the Premiers' Conference and was said to have stated that "he was

ready to withdraw 'gracefully' if the Chamber thought it had ready another Cabinet better qualified than his to work for France." According to an Associated Press dispatch yesterday afternoon he asked for a vote of confidence, but the latest advices received before going to press did not contain the result of the vote.

Dispatches from Berlin on Wednesday stated that "a wordy war between the Government and the industrialists has broken out following the rejection of Germany's reparation proposals by the Allies." It was asserted that "at the same time all parties are united in the determination that whatever concessions Germany makes to pay the Allied demands, the withdrawal of the armies of occupation will be asked as the first condition, and then a scaling down of the total will be insisted on." The New York "Herald" correspondent said that "Chancellor Cuno challenged the industrialists before the Imperial Council of Economics when, though not mentioning by name Hugo Stinnes, he said: 'The industrialists must remember that the Government is the leading factor and that they are only secondary in conducting the affairs of the nation. There is no faction or central force in economic circles that can take the reins out of the hands of the Government under any circumstances.' He said that the propositions submitted to London were not final, but the forerunners of what will lead to freeing the occupied territory."

While in some circles there has been a disposition to interpret recent reports from Washington regarding the attitude of the Administration toward European affairs as a radical change in a well defined policy that had been steadfastly maintained, it was asserted in dispatches from the National Capital Thursday morning that there was no ground for such an assumption. The New York "Herald" representative said that "President Harding's purpose not to hold aloof from the European crisis over reparations does not involve a departure of policy on the part of the Administration, it was explained in official quarters. The readiness of the Administration to give aid and advice to tide over the crisis and help solve the reparations tangle is consistent with the policy adopted since the matter became first acute in April 1921, it was stated. Neither the White House nor the State Department sees justification for interpreting the Administration's purpose as a change of policy." The New York "Times" correspondent at Washington in an account of a brief address made by President Harding at the annual meeting on Wednesday of the General Board of the American Red Cross said that "assertions that United States Government was not doing all it could to meet the human side of world appeals were challenged to-day by President Harding." The President was reported to have said that America in its attitude was heeding "a cry of the world." Various interpretations have been placed upon the call of President Harding at the State Department on Wednesday to see Secretary Hughes and the call there later in the day of J. P. Morgan. No official statement has been issued in explanation. The idea that the United States Government is about to take a decisive step in European affairs, particularly in helping Germany, seemed to be still further strengthened by reports from Washington yesterday morning that an international loan of \$1,500,000,000 to that coun-

try is under consideration, and by the announcement that Ambassador Harvey will leave for the United States soon and will be here when the British Mission, headed by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, arrives. Andrew Bonar Law, speaking in the House of Commons on Thursday, was quoted as saying that Great Britain could not pay her war debt to the United States, "if nothing were received from France, Italy or Germany." Yesterday a great number of rumors came from Washington, European capitals and from local financial circles relative to what the United States Government may have in mind in the way of remedial measures for Europe. No formal official statement was obtainable from any source. The Washington correspondent of "The Sun" asserted, however, that he had learned the following: "The United States Government may communicate within a reasonable time, either through a common note addressed to the Allied Governments or through representations of American diplomacy, the American plan for settling the reparations question ending the turmoil of Europe and for putting Germany in a position to meet her reparations payments."

As to the Lausanne Conference, announcement was made a week ago to-day that, at the session of the Conference the day before, "even George Tchitcherin, the Bolshevik Foreign Minister, abandoned his previously extremely hostile position on the Dardanelles question and expressed guarded approval of the Turkish proposals for regulation of the Straits, with the reservation that he must see the actual words of the sections covering the various points at issue before he could give full approval of them." The New York "Times" correspondent said that "Japan to-day spoke for the first time on the Straits problem. Baron Hayashi, the Japanese representative, said that Japan, as a power having great shipping interests in the Mediterranean, hoped for trade in the Black Sea and was vitally interested in the regulation of Near Eastern waters. He said that he was entirely in accord with the words of Richard Washburn Child, the American Ambassador, concerning the Straits and freedom of commerce in the Black Sea, and that he had listened with great delight to the statement of Ismet Pasha on behalf of Turkey, who had approached the difficult problems in a sympathetic and conciliatory manner. Baron Hayashi added that the address of Lord Curzon, the British Foreign Minister, had assured him that a solution of the Straits question was near." It was recorded that "in opening the afternoon session, Lord Curzon said he was glad the Turks had accepted the principle of demilitarized zones on the Straits, provided they received assurances of adequate protection; that the Turks had accepted the principle of the free passage of warships and merchantmen in times of peace or war, and also in principle an international commission to regulate commercial navigation. He added that the Turks had laid down the basis of the regime they desired to see applied to the Straits, and that it seemed possible to harmonize this with the Entente's views." The New York "Herald" correspondent presented the situation in part as follows: "The Allies, helped by the moral effect of the principles of America's declaration, have won the Turks away from the Russians. The Turks' counter proposal made to-day, far from supporting the Russian demand for closing the Dardanelles and the Bosphorus

to all warships, proposes that the waterway shall be open to vessels for commerce and to light warships for their protection, and in other respects furnishes a basis upon which a compromise may be reached. Tension is decreased, and a real peace in the Near East now seems assured, though requiring still a week's hard work of the peacemakers." The New York "Times" representative asserted the next day, however, that, "notwithstanding their conciliatory attitude at yesterday's session of the Conference, when they accepted the general terms of the Allied plan for the regulation of the Straits, the Turks took a more independent line to-day in the discussions by experts of the concrete application of the proposed rules. While there is little doubt that they intend finally to accept the Allied plan, it is apparent that they will bargain on every item." In a dispatch made public here Monday morning he suggested that "the results of the London Conference may have an important repercussion in Lausanne. Here there is a general attitude of waiting to see what comes of the conversations of the Allied Premiers. If the Allied Entente remain unaffected it is evident that England, France and Italy will continue to work side by side at Lausanne to carry out the common program. If France and England don't agree on reparations it is more than possible that their differences may be reflected here."

Apparently the Russian representatives gave the Allied leaders more trouble than did Ismet Pasha and his associates. George Tchitcherin demanded representation between the Allied and Turkish experts, but was flatly turned down by Lord Curzon. The New York "Times" correspondent asserted that "the Russians are doing all they can to stir up difficulties here. After the British had refused Tchitcherin's request for representation at the private conversations between the British and Turkish experts on the clauses of the Straits settlement, the Russian Chief Delegate sent another note to the Conference leaders last night asserting Russia's right to be represented at any and all conversations relative to the Straits, even if they were called private. The Allied leaders sent M. Tchitcherin a note telling him that the Russians would be heard when the matter came before the Conference committees, but they would ask in vain for admittance to the discussions of the private experts. The Russians say the Allies are thus running the risk of their refusing to sign the Straits agreement."

Considerable time was given at Tuesday's session to the discussion of guarantees for the Christian minorities still left in Turkey. Ambassador Child made a formal plea in which he said that "the United States and the whole world expect and may rightfully require tolerance and justice and concession on the part of the Turkish Government." In explaining the American position he said: "Humanitarian interest is as much our right and duty as the right and duty of every nation." He declared that it would be in the interest of Turkey to give protection to the minorities, and that it was "unthinkable that the aspirations of Turkey for independence and progress should not rely in part upon a generous policy of contribution to the safety and relief from suffering of mankind. The safety and relief from suffering of mankind is one of the principal concerns of Governments." He added that "the safety of many thou-

sands now in peril in the Near East has for the people of the United States a vital interest." Lord Curzon declared that "the Turks' failure to give any evidence of an intention of guaranteeing the safety of the minorities would cause bitter disappointment throughout the world. He assured the Turks that the Allies would not permit the concluding of peace terms which did not provide guarantees for the safety of the Greeks, Armenians and other minorities remaining under the Crescent banner. To prove the necessity for such guarantees he cited the eloquent fact that there were now in Turkey only 130,000 of the 3,000,000 Armenians who lived there a few years ago."

The New York "Times" correspondent added that "the Allied plan is in two parts: First, that there shall be written into the Turkish treaty the general guarantees for minorities contained in the Paris Peace Conference treaties with the various Central European nations and the Allies; second, that action be taken by which a general amnesty shall be granted by both Turkey and Greece, in accordance with which Christians in Turkey and Turks in other countries shall be allowed to purchase exemption from military service, all minorities shall have freedom of movement, and the League of Nations shall establish a board in Constantinople to watch over the welfare of the minorities." Apparently the British and American representatives did not have much confidence in the suggestions of the Turks on this question. Ismet Pasha, in their behalf, was said to have "offered two solutions of the problem of the minorities: First, that all minorities should quit Turkey; second, that they trust in 'the spirit of good-will and sense of justice which has always characterized the Turkish nation.'" According to the Associated Press correspondent Ismet Pasha outlined the attitude of the Turks still further, in part as follows: "Ismet Pasha, head of the Turkish delegation, dashed the hopes of the Near Eastern Conference for a speedy and satisfactory settlement for the protection of minorities in Turkey when, in an address at this [Tuesday] afternoon's session, he insisted upon an exchange of the Greek populations in Anatolia for the Turks in Macedonia. He demanded exclusion of all foreign interference in Turkey, which he said would protect the remaining minorities, as the Turks had always been able to get along with other nationals when they kept out of the politics and were not stirred up by outside influences. According to Ismet, there are now no minorities in Turkey which can claim the right to belong to any other nation, and this disposes of the Armenian claim for a national home in Turkey."

Toward the end of the week the attitude of the Turks became more unfavorable again for a time. According to a dispatch to the New York "Times," Lord Curzon, speaking for the Allies, threatened to break up the Lausanne Conference if the Turks did not agree to give more than paper guarantees for the safety of the decimated Christian minorities in Turkey." The correspondent added that "a break-up of the Conference under these conditions might lead to wars or massacres. It might lead to both." His assertions appeared to be substantiated by those of other American newspaper correspondents at the Lausanne Conference. In a dispatch Thursday afternoon the Central News representative there said that he understood that the Conference would be contin-

ued. In the dispatches from Lausanne yesterday morning announcement was made that at Thursday's session "Ismet Pasha declared that Turkey would join the League of Nations and give the minorities in her territory the same guarantees as those accorded by the Central European Powers to the minorities on their soil." In an Associated Press dispatch from Lausanne last evening it was said that "Turkey's delegates on the minorities sub-commission of the Near East Conference to-day again declared the establishment of a special Armenian homeland in Turkey impossible. Allied spokesmen suggested that, instead of abruptly rejecting any project framed to settle the Armenian problem, the Turks wait until the Allied proposition was fully framed. The sub-commission's deliberations to-day dealt with ten distinct points, and the Turks replied to all, making many reservations."

From the very beginning of the week the cable advices regarding the Moscow Disarmament Conference were encouraging. The New York "Times" representative at that centre said that it "bids fair to be a real success." He added that last Saturday's discussions "not only settled practically all the original clauses of the proposed treaty, but actually made good progress toward the additional Russian clause for immediate reduction of military forces and expenses." He added that "with regard to the additional Russian clause for immediate disarmament a commission was formed to-day to determine the following four points: First—Reduction of military forces; the border States did remark that the proposed Russian 75% cut seemed rather 'radical,' but accepted it in principle and seem willing to accomplish what reduction they can. Second—Reduction in military budgets. Third—Neutralization of frontier zones as already determined by the Russo-Finn treaty. Fourth—Naval reductions. As this was proposed by the Finns and as the Finns had no program ready for discussion, this point will be deferred until the Finns have communicated with Helsingfors." It was stated in a cablegram from Moscow Tuesday evening that "a joint declaration signed by Poland, Latvia, Esthonia and Finland, demanding the signing of a non-aggression pact before the technicalities of armament limitation are considered, has resulted in a critical situation in the Disarmament Conference, according to a statement issued by the Foreign Office. Russian officials have let it be known that Russia will not sign a non-aggression pact until an agreement has been reached on limitation of armaments."

Things have not been going smoothly in Ireland. They never have, and apparently, never will. There has been further taking of life and destruction of property by the Republicans as counter reprisals. On Dec. 11, however, the Free State Senate assembled in Dublin "for the first time for the swearing in of the members preparatory to the formal opening of the Free State Parliament to-morrow [last Tuesday] by Governor-General Healy." The accounts stated that "the Dowager Countess of Desart was the first to take her seat. Mr. W. B. Yeats, the poet, dropped into a seat apart from the rest. President Cosgrave welcomed the Senators and the oath was administered by the Deputy, E. J. Duggan, a signatory of the treaty, and Minister without portfolio. A committee was appointed to prepare standing orders, in-

cluding Sir Thomas Esmonde, Lord Dunraven and Mrs. Wise Power."

A joint session was held on Tuesday to hear Governor-General Healy make his first speech. After reading a message from the King he "outlined the legislative program which the Cabinet has prepared for the Irish Free State." The Dublin correspondent of the New York "Herald" said that "this program is one of wide scope and includes a reform of the judicial system, the question of land purchase and compensation for damages, regularizing the civil police and the national army, the electoral franchise and patent laws. It also mentions a bill conforming to a promise of the late Michael Collins about granting amnesty to British soldiers who took part in the fighting before the truce was signed."

The King in his message said: "It is my earnest hope that, by faithful observance by all sides of the pact so concluded, peace and prosperity in Ireland may be secured. In the spirit of that settlement I have chosen you to be the first representative of the Crown in the Irish Free State. With all my heart I pray that the blessing of God may rest upon you and the Ministers of the Irish Free State in the difficult task committed to your charge." According to the New York "Tribune" representative, the Free State Senate Tuesday evening "appointed a committee of five to consider ways and means of ending civil war in Ireland. This action was taken after Governor-General Timothy Healy, addressing the first meeting of the joint assembly of Dail and Senate, declared the Government's first care must be a speedy end of all disorder."

Announcement was made in a Belfast dispatch Tuesday evening that "the Duke of Abercorn, appointed by King George, was sworn in to-day. The ceremony took place in the court house here in the presence of Premier Craig and the other members of the Ulster Cabinet, the local members of the Privy Council, and the Judges of Northern Ireland. The oath was administered by Sir Denis Henry, the Lord Chief Justice."

Desmond Fitzgerald, Minister of External Affairs, in the course of a debate on appropriations for his department in the Dail Eireann on Wednesday, was quoted as saying that "the Free State intends to enter into direct diplomatic relations with the United States, besides having a special commissioner in London." He added that "Ireland already has industrial representatives in the United States, France, Belgium, Holland, Germany, Italy and Spain." Mr. Fitzgerald explained that "their chief function was to watch the Free State's legal interests and to conduct minor negotiations."

Most of the comment abroad and in this country on the British trade figures for November have been favorable. They disclosed a larger volume of business both in and out of the United Kingdom. Compared with October there was an increase in total exports of £6,054,006 and in imports of £10,585,471. Exports were £2,911,959 larger than for the corresponding month of 1921, while imports expanded £5,341,205. In each instance there was an increase in the excess of imports of considerably more than £3,000,000. Gradually this situation will be rectified. The returns for November and the first eleven months of this year compare as follows with those for the corresponding periods of last year:

BRITISH EXPORTS AND IMPORTS. *

	—Month of November—		—Jan. 1 to Nov. 30—	
	1922.	1921.	1922.	1921.
Imports.....	£95,600,000	£89,258,795	£909,156,825	£1,001,566,061
Exports.....	66,490,000	62,894,842	661,612,610	643,821,532
Re-exports.....	9,140,000	9,823,199	95,290,677	97,848,481
Total exports.....	£75,630,000	£72,718,041	£756,903,287	£741,670,013
Excess imports.....	£19,970,000	£16,540,754	£152,253,538	£259,896,048

According to a recent cablegram from London, the Imperial Bank of India has raised its discount rate from 5% to 6%. The 5% rate had been in effect since Oct. 26, prior to which the rate was 4%. On Dec. 15 the Bank of Bombay at Bombay and the Bank of Bengal at Calcutta advanced their discount rates from 5% to 6%. Aside from these changes, official discounts at leading European centres continue to be quoted at 10% in Berlin; 5½% in Madrid; 5% in France, Denmark and Norway; 4½% in Belgium and Sweden; 4% in Holland; 3½% in Switzerland and 3% in London. Open market discounts at the British centre were slightly firmer, there having been an advance to 2 9-16@2½% for sixty and ninety-day bills, as against 2 7-16@2½% last week. Call money in London, however, remained at 1¼%, unchanged. In Paris the open market discount rate has not been changed from 4½%, nor in Switzerland from 2%.

A nominal reduction in gold was shown by the Bank of England, in its weekly statement, namely £327, and there was a loss of £98,000 in total reserve, as a result of an increase in note circulation amounting to £97,000. However, heavy reductions were reported in the deposit items, so that the proportion of reserve to liabilities advanced from 16½% a week ago to 18¼%, which compares with 14½% last year and 9½% in the same week of 1920. Public deposits fell £1,030,000. "Other" deposits decreased £11,782,000, while loans on Government securities were reduced £12,965,000. In loans on other securities an increase of £292,000 was reported. The bank's stock of gold now stands at £127,446,441, as against £128,437,271 last year and £126,811,532 in 1920. Total reserve aggregates £22,731,000. This compares with £22,152,821 in 1921 and £14,025,142 a year earlier. Circulation is £123,160,000, as against £124,734,450 last year and £131,236,390 in 1920, with loans at £66,122,000, in comparison with £80,682,795 in 1921 and £72,206,889 the year prior to that. No change has been made in the Bank's minimum discount rate from 3%. Clearings through the London banks for the bank week totaled £592,289,000. A week ago they were £743,082,000 and last year £734,399,000. We append a statement of comparisons of the principal items of the Bank of England's returns for a series of years.

BANK OF ENGLAND'S COMPARATIVE STATEMENT.

	1922.	1921.	1920.	1919.	1918.
	Dec. 13.	Dec. 14.	Dec. 15.	Dec. 17.	Dec. 18.
Circulation.....	123,160,000	124,734,450	131,236,390	90,299,620	68,963,400
Public deposits.....	10,112,000	13,858,179	19,400,584	21,538,293	28,868,255
Other deposits.....	113,771,000	140,869,430	126,069,985	126,311,507	143,884,583
Government securities.....	53,927,000	69,796,630	77,122,702	68,188,552	89,255,515
Other securities.....	68,122,000	80,082,795	72,206,889	76,860,193	93,217,685
Reserve notes & coin.....	22,731,000	22,152,821	14,025,142	19,649,227	28,091,311
Coin and bullion.....	127,446,441	128,437,271	126,811,532	91,498,847	78,604,711
Proportion of reserve to liabilities.....	18¼%	14½%	9½%	13½%	16¼%
Bank rate.....	3%	5%	7%	6%	5%

The Bank of France in its statement this week reports a further small gain of 126,000 francs in the gold item. The "Chronicle's" special cable shows that while the stock of gold in hand was augmented by 33,726,006 francs, holdings abroad

were reduced 33,600,006 francs. The Bank's gold holdings are thus brought up to 5,534,530,825 francs, comparing with 5,524,121,895 francs at this time last year and with 5,499,044,859 francs the year previous; of the foregoing amounts 1,864,367,050 francs were held abroad in 1922 and 1,948,367,056 francs in both 1921 and 1920. During the week, silver gained 195,000 francs, bills discounted increased 2,571,000 francs, advances rose 39,303,000 francs and general deposits were augmented by 5,661,000 francs. Treasury deposits, on the other hand, fell off 11,178,000 francs. Note circulation took a favorable turn, a contraction of 313,932,000 francs being registered. The total of notes outstanding is now 36,070,029,000 francs, contrasting with 36,407,132,475 francs on the corresponding date last year and with 37,509,197,420 francs in 1920. Just prior to the outbreak of war, in 1914, the amount was only 6,683,184,785 francs. Comparisons of the various items in this week's return with the statement of last week and corresponding dates in both 1921 and 1920 are as follows:

BANK OF FRANCE'S COMPARATIVE STATEMENT.

	Changes for Week.	Status as of		
		Dec. 14 1922.	Dec. 15 1921.	Dec. 16 1920.
	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.
Gold Holdings—				
In France.....Inc.	33,726,006	3,670,163,775	3,575,754,838	3,560,677,803
Abroad.....Dec.	33,600,006	1,864,367,050	1,948,367,056	1,948,367,056
Total.....Inc.	126,000	5,534,530,825	5,524,121,895	5,499,044,859
Silver.....Inc.	195,000	288,837,000	279,448,665	264,468,350
Bills discounted.....Inc.	2,571,000	2,267,299,000	2,347,516,427	3,255,933,739
Advances.....Inc.	39,303,000	2,256,671,000	2,289,237,780	2,208,938,041
Note circulation.....Dec.	313,932,000	36,070,029,000	36,407,132,475	37,509,197,420
Treasury deposits.....Dec.	11,178,000	17,355,000	42,347,820	110,074,704
General deposits.....Inc.	5,661,000	2,124,288,000	2,446,282,737	3,542,463,820

The Imperial Bank of Germany has issued as of Dec. 7, another of the sensational statements which have become so frequent in recent months. The latest returns show increases running into billions of marks in nearly all of the principal items. The largest was an expansion in note circulation in the huge sum of 92,808,176,000 mks., which brings the total of outstanding notes up to the colossal figure of 846,313,038,000 mks. In the corresponding week of 1921 notes in circulation stood at 101,789,634,000 mks. and a year earlier at 64,684,655,000 mks. Treasury loan and association notes increased 61,511,180,000 mks., bills of exchange and checks 34,251,157,000 mks., discount and treasury bills 54,464,080,000 mks., advances 50,259,045,000 mks., other assets 10,837,499,000 mks. and deposits 16,359,328,000 mks. Only 3,904,000 mks. increase was reported in notes of other banks and with 1,627,787,000 mks. increase in other liabilities. Investments were reduced 13,758,000 mks. Total coin and bullion registered a gain of 274,000 mks., while gold fell off 1,000 mks. The Bank's stock of gold is reported as 1,004,847,000 mks., in comparison with 993,697,000 mks. a year ago and 1,091,561,000 mks. in 1920.

The Federal Reserve Bank statement, issued on Thursday, showed a recovery of part of the gold lost last week, and a contraction in rediscounts, thus indicating a falling off in commercial demands. For the system as a whole gold reserves expanded \$16,000,000. At the same time portfolios showed shrinkage, total bills on hand falling \$49,000,000, to \$922,330,000, which compares with last year's total of \$1,252,568,000. Earning assets and deposits were materially reduced, but Federal Reserve notes in circulation expanded \$18,000,000. At the New York institution gold remained about the same, but here also the total bills on hand declined, namely by \$31,000,000, to \$235,106,000, in com-

parison with \$258,515,000 a year ago. Reductions were reported in earning assets and deposits, with \$2,000,000 decrease in the volume of Reserve notes in circulation. Shrinkage was also shown in member banks' reserve account, which fell \$24,000,000, to \$680,828,000 at New York, and \$26,000,000, to \$1,817,744,000 for the system. As a result of these changes reserve ratios were strengthened, that of the twelve reporting banks being advanced 0.8%, to 75.1% and that of the local bank 2.3%, to 80.4%.

Saturday's statement of New York Clearing House banks and trust companies made a more favorable showing and the most noteworthy feature was the wiping out of the deficit in the required reserves and the restoration of a substantial surplus. Loans were reduced \$29,113,000, while demand deposits fell no less than \$66,562,000 to \$3,791,481,000, a total which is exclusive of \$57,029,000 in Government deposits. Time deposits were also smaller, declining \$1,776,000 to \$433,186,000. Cash in own vaults of members of the Federal Reserve Bank expanded \$2,271,000 to \$58,521,000 (not counted as reserve). Reserves in own vaults of State banks and trust companies were likewise increased, namely, \$103,000, but a decline of \$441,000 was shown in the reserve of these institutions kept in other depositories. Member banks again added to their reserve credits at the Reserve Bank, this time no less than \$22,260,000, and this in conjunction with the contraction in deposits brought about a gain in surplus of \$30,618,600, which after eliminating the existing deficit left excess reserve of \$23,146,410. The above figures for surplus are based on reserves above legal requirements of 13% for member banks of the Federal Reserve System, but do not include cash in vault amounting to \$58,521,000 held by these banks on Saturday last.

That call money at this centre was both quotably and actually easy could not be disputed. The supply appeared to be well in excess of the demand from all sources. This was best evidenced by renewals as low as 4% and by quotations on new loans below that level. Time money was $\frac{1}{4}$ % lower at 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ % on small and special loans, although 5% continued to be the prevailing rate. As a matter of fact, the market at that figure was largely nominal. These conditions were the more significant in the light of the fact that yesterday the Government withdrew \$67,000,000 from local institutions in preparation for the heavy disbursements of the Treasury. They totaled \$1,000,000,000, consisting of \$700,000,000 maturing Victory notes, \$200,000,000 maturing Treasury certificates, and approximately \$100,000,000 in interest on Liberty bonds and Victory notes. Of course, these payments were offset in part by tax receipts, present balances in banks and the proceeds from the recent short-term loan of \$700,000,000. December interest and dividend disbursements are estimated at \$322,245,904, against \$301,951,400 in December last year. The money market continues extremely puzzling. Although the statement has come from a seemingly authoritative source that brokers' loans here at the lowest level recently were only about \$150,000,000 below the peak, and although the volume of business throughout the country is reported to be on a large scale in most lines, money was extremely easy. Last week, with practically the same conditions, the tendency was in the

opposite direction. Because of the recent declines in bonds and the low rates for call money, nearly all departments of the bond market showed distinct improvement. Several new issues of good size were brought out and met with a ready market, according to definite statements in investment circles. Others are expected in the near future. Those who have had the \$50,000,000 Cuban loan in hand were quoted a few days ago as saying that all but a few "details" have been arranged. No announcement has been made of the filing of bids by the three or four groups of New York bankers that are said to have been in negotiation with the Cuban Government regarding this much discussed piece of financing, but it was stated in a Washington dispatch last evening that an American loan for the above amount had been approved by the United States Government.

Referring to money rates in detail, loans on call have ranged this week between $3\frac{3}{4}\%$ @ 5% , which compares with 4% @ $5\frac{1}{2}\%$ a week ago. Monday $4\frac{1}{2}\%$ was the highest quoted, with renewals at $4\frac{1}{4}\%$ and $4\frac{1}{4}\%$ the low. There was a drop to $3\frac{3}{4}\%$ on Tuesday, although the renewal basis was still $4\frac{1}{4}\%$, which was also the maximum. On Wednesday call funds did not get above 4% ; the low was $3\frac{3}{4}\%$ with 4% the ruling figure. A flat rate of 4% prevailed on Thursday all day, this being the high, the low and the renewal basis. Friday a firmer tone was noted, so that while renewals were again negotiated at 4% , the minimum, there was an advance to 5% late in the day. Offerings were fairly liberal but the inquiry was not particularly active. The above figures apply to mixed collateral and all-industrial loans alike. In time money also a slightly easier trend developed and early in the week fixed-date loans were quoted at a range of $4\frac{3}{4}\%$ @ 5% , as against 5% last week. The demand, however, was light; with the result that although offerings were in freer supply, no really important loans were put through and the market was a dull affair.

Commercial paper was not active, the supply of high grades being still inadequate to meet all requirements; hence transactions attained only moderate proportions. Sixty and ninety days' endorsed bills receivable and six months' names of choice character remain at $4\frac{1}{2}\%$ @ $4\frac{3}{4}\%$, unchanged. Names not so well known require $4\frac{3}{4}\%$ @ 5% , the same as heretofore.

Banks' and bankers' acceptances were dealt in to a moderate extent. Both local and out-of-town institutions continue in the market, but the supply of prime names was not large and this served to restrict trading. The undertone was slightly easier, though actual quotations remain without change. For call loans against bankers' acceptances the posted rate of the American Acceptance Council has been reduced to $3\frac{3}{4}\%$, against $4\frac{1}{2}\%$ a week ago. The Acceptance Council makes the discount rates on prime bankers' acceptances eligible for purchase by the Federal Reserve banks $4\frac{1}{8}\%$ bid and 4% asked for bills running 30, 60 and 90 days; $4\frac{1}{4}\%$ bid and 4% asked for bills running for 120 days and $4\frac{1}{2}\%$ bid and $4\frac{1}{4}\%$ asked for 150 days. Open market quotations were as follows:

SPOT DELIVERY.			
	90 Days.	60 Days.	30 Days.
Prime eligible bills.....	$4\frac{1}{8}\%$ @ 4	$4\frac{1}{8}\%$ @ 4	$4\frac{1}{8}\%$ @ 4
FOR DELIVERY WITHIN THIRTY DAYS.			
Eligible member banks.....	$4\frac{1}{8}\%$ bid		
Eligible non-member banks.....	$4\frac{1}{4}\%$ bid		

There have been no changes this week in Federal Reserve Bank rates. The following is the schedule of rates now in effect for the various classes of paper at the different Reserve Banks:

DISCOUNT RATES OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS IN EFFECT DECEMBER 15 1922.

Federal Reserve Bank of—	Discounted bills maturing within 90 days (incl. member banks' 15-day collateral notes) secured by—			Bankers' acceptances discounted for member banks	Trade acceptances maturing within 90 days	Agricultural and live-stock paper maturing 91 to 180 days
	Treasury notes and certificates of indebtedness	U. S. bonds and Victory notes	Otherwise secured and unsecured			
Boston.....	4	4	4	4	4	4
New York.....	4	4	4	4	4	4
Philadelphia.....	$4\frac{1}{8}$	$4\frac{1}{8}$	$4\frac{1}{8}$	$4\frac{1}{8}$	$4\frac{1}{8}$	$4\frac{1}{8}$
Cleveland.....	$4\frac{1}{8}$	$4\frac{1}{8}$	$4\frac{1}{8}$	$4\frac{1}{8}$	$4\frac{1}{8}$	$4\frac{1}{8}$
Richmond.....	$4\frac{1}{8}$	$4\frac{1}{8}$	$4\frac{1}{8}$	$4\frac{1}{8}$	$4\frac{1}{8}$	$4\frac{1}{8}$
Atlanta.....	$4\frac{1}{8}$	$4\frac{1}{8}$	$4\frac{1}{8}$	$4\frac{1}{8}$	$4\frac{1}{8}$	$4\frac{1}{8}$
Chicago.....	$4\frac{1}{8}$	$4\frac{1}{8}$	$4\frac{1}{8}$	$4\frac{1}{8}$	$4\frac{1}{8}$	$4\frac{1}{8}$
St. Louis.....	$4\frac{1}{8}$	$4\frac{1}{8}$	$4\frac{1}{8}$	$4\frac{1}{8}$	$4\frac{1}{8}$	$4\frac{1}{8}$
Minneapolis.....	$4\frac{1}{8}$	$4\frac{1}{8}$	$4\frac{1}{8}$	$4\frac{1}{8}$	$4\frac{1}{8}$	$4\frac{1}{8}$
Kansas City.....	$4\frac{1}{8}$	$4\frac{1}{8}$	$4\frac{1}{8}$	$4\frac{1}{8}$	$4\frac{1}{8}$	$4\frac{1}{8}$
Dallas.....	$4\frac{1}{8}$	$4\frac{1}{8}$	$4\frac{1}{8}$	$4\frac{1}{8}$	$4\frac{1}{8}$	$4\frac{1}{8}$
San Francisco.....	4	4	4	4	4	4

The sterling exchange market again attracted widespread attention by a further sensational advance of nearly 12 cents in the pound, which carried the quotation for demand this time up to 4 69—the highest level touched since the spring of 1919, and only 17 cents under par. It should, however, be noted that the extreme high point was maintained merely for a brief period, profit taking sales bringing about a swift reaction downward to 4 63 or thereabouts. Almost from the start price levels showed strength and, as was the case a week ago, new high levels were established on several successive days. On Tuesday and Wednesday the rate shot up with startling rapidity, gains of more than 5 cents at a time being recorded on both days. The same general tendencies were at work as in the preceding week, and the prime market influences were said to be light offerings of commercial bills, an active inquiry for sterling for making remittances abroad and the receipt of materially higher London cable quotations, which encouraged the belief that British interests were taking an optimistic view of exchange conditions and in turn made for substantial improvement in the local market. Trading was active for the most part, with total transactions on a larger scale than for quite some time. While speculative interests, at least in this market, took only a small part in the week's operations, it is understood that a number of dealers who had been heavily short of the market have again been badly "squeezed." In the latter part of the week the market followed the usual course after so spectacular a rise; that is, recession set in, induced by profit taking sales and the final range was at 4 63 3-16 @ 4 65 $\frac{3}{8}$.

As was to be expected, the remarkable strength displayed by sterling price levels constituted the chief topic of discussion in banking circles this week and interest seemed to centre upon the question as to whether the advance was likely to be permanent, and, if so, how much further it would go at the present time. A very considerable body of opinion inclines to the view that British currency is now definitely out of reach of European political developments and in a class by itself, and predictions are heard of a return to par in the very near future. Rumors that the advance is being engineered for political purposes are seemingly discredited as without foundation, but it is generally felt that the rise is in some measure the result of operations on the part of the British Government, which is now preparing in dead earnest to meet its wartime obligations and

pay off outstanding debts to the United States. Most of the buying of late has undoubtedly come from British sources and the claim is made that Great Britain is straining every nerve to lower the cost of this undertaking as much as possible. It is pointed out also that gold continues to flow to America, while the large reserve fund already accumulated here is being steadily augmented by the purchase of dollar credits. One of the theories advanced is that England plans to use this fund to maintain price levels with a view to restoring a free gold market as soon as practicable. While all this is of course largely conjectural, it nevertheless served to bring about a feeling of optimism which aided in advancing quotations. So marked a rise at a time when rates usually recede could not fail to excite curiosity, although it lends color to the views just outlined. On the other hand, the more conservative element draw attention to the fact that international affairs are still in an apparent state of flux, and that notwithstanding the improvement in Britain's trade position, there is still much to be done before normal conditions are actually restored; hence occasional reactions of more or less severity may be encountered. Much will depend, however, upon the progress made in adjusting the reparations question and the Turkish problem. An explanation put forth which received some credence was that the British Government was bringing pressure to bear on her debtors for the payment of interest on outstanding obligations and that this was bringing France and Italy into the market for the purpose of accumulating sterling. Toward the close of the week predictions became general that a resumption of old-time arbitrage transactions between London and New York might reasonably be expected early next year, in the event, of course, that continued progress is made in the direction of higher levels.

As regards the day-to-day rates, sterling on Saturday last was firm and fractionally higher, with demand at 4 56 13-16@4 57 1-16, cable transfers at 4 57 1-16@4 57 5-16 and sixty days at 4 54 11-16@4 54 15-16; trading was quiet. On Monday price levels again shot upward and a new high of 4 59 3-16 was established for demand; the low was 4 56 3/4, while cable transfers ranged at 4 57@4 59 7-16 and sixty days at 4 54 5/8@4 57 1-16; better foreign news was mainly responsible for the strength. A spectacular advance of nearly 5 cents took place on Tuesday, which carried demand up to 4 59 3/8@4 63 3/8, cable transfers to 4 59 7/8@4 63 3/8 and sixty days to 4 57 1/2@4 60 1/4; most of the buying emanated from abroad, while light offerings and short covering were featured in the rise. Wednesday's market witnessed a further sensational rise of more than 5 cents, with the range 4 63 1/4@4 69 for demand, 4 63 1/2@4 69 1/4 for cable transfers and 4 61 1/8@4 66 7/8 for sixty days. A reactionary tendency developed on Thursday, mainly on profit taking sales and rates declined to 4 63 1/2@4 66 1/4 for demand, 4 63 3/4@4 66 1/2 for cable transfers and 4 61 1-16@4 63 3/8 for sixty days. On Friday the market was a trifle easier but quotations were not materially changed, so that demand covered a range of 4 63 3-16@4 65 3/8, cable transfers 4 63 7-16@4 65 5/8 and sixty days 4 61 1-16@4 63 3/8. Closing quotations were 4 62 1-16 for sixty days, 4 64 3-16 for demand and 4 64 7-16 for cable transfers. Commercial sight bills finished at 4 63 15-16, sixty days at 4 61 3-16, ninety days at 4 60 13-16, documents for

payment (sixty days) 4 61 9-16, and seven-day grain bills 4 63 3-16. Cotton and grain for payment closed at 4 63 15-16.

Gold in large volume was received this week. The consignments included \$3,500,000 on the Majestic and \$1,450,000 on the Berengaria, both from England, mainly in gold bars, and \$850,000 on the Paris from Havre. The Berengaria also brought 4,000,000 francs in gold from Cherbourg. Gold coin valued at \$13,330 in the form of Turkish gold pounds and Russian gold rubles arrived from Constantinople on the SS. Ossa. From South America the Baracoa brought 21 gold bars and several small consignments of gold and platinum.

Continental exchange was more or less in neglect this week and while values to some extent benefited by the rise in sterling, trading was dull and featureless, and changes in rates confined to a few points in either direction. This was not unnatural in view of the uncertainty still existing as to the outcome of the reparations negotiations; also the Near East question. However, rumors became generally current later in the week that the European situation was clearing up and that prospects of an early adjustment of the Near East problem had greatly improved. Moreover, the belief is gaining ground that a compromise agreement will be reached whereby Germany will be granted not only a short moratorium but a reduction in the amount of indemnity payments still to be made, this consummation to be reached by means of a partial cancellation of war debts on the part of Great Britain. The conviction is growing that some such program is the only way out of the present impasse that has so long prevented a return to normal international trade conditions. At the extreme close prices firmed up and francs made a notable gain.

Owing to the failure to arrive at any definite conclusions at Lausanne, operators here continue to maintain an attitude of extreme caution. French and Belgian exchange moved within comparatively narrow limits until yesterday, when there were advances of 23 to 26 points on intimations from Washington that the United States intended to participate in war debt adjustments. The extremes for the week were 7.48 1/2, 7.00 and 6.88 1/2 and 6.41, respectively. Italian lire hovered between 5.05 1/2 and 4.99. German currency rallied late in the week and closed at 0.156. Greek exchange was steady and slightly higher, while exchange on the Central European countries remained at or near the levels of the previous week, with the exception of Polish marks, which registered another new low record.

The London check rate in Paris closed at 63.55, as compared with 64.40 a week ago. In New York sight bills on the French centre finished at 7.48 1/2, against 7.11 1/2; cable transfers at 7.49 1/2, against 7.12 1/2; commercial sight at 7.46 1/2, against 7.09 1/2, and commercial sixty days at 7.43 1/2, against 7.06 1/2 last week. Closing rates for Antwerp francs were 6.88 1/2 for checks and 6.89 1/2 for cable transfers. Last week the close was 6.55 1/2 and 6.56 1/2. Reichsmarks finished at 0.0156, for both checks and cable transfers as against 0.01 1/4 a week earlier. Austrian kronen closed at 0.00014 1/4 (one rate), against 0.00014 1/2. For lire the final quotation was 5.04 1/2 for bankers' sight bills and 5.05 1/2 for cable remittances, in comparison with 5.02 1/2 and 5.03 1/2 the preceding week. Exchange on Czechoslovakia finished

at 3.06, against 3.17½; on Bucharest at 0.62, against 0.62½; on Poland at 0.00057, against 0.00057½, and on Finland at 2.52, against 2.53. Greek drachma gained ground and advanced to 1.25 for checks and 1.29 for cable transfers, but receded and finished at 1.13 and 1.18, which compares with 1.18 and 1.23 last week.

Movements in the former neutral exchanges were more closely parallel to those in sterling than those at other Continental centres. This is especially true of guilders and of some of the Scandinavian exchanges, which scored substantial gains, bringing these currencies to very close to a normal parity. Fairly active buying was noted, though much of it was said to be speculative in character. Spanish pesetas were also strong and closed higher.

Bankers' sight on Amsterdam, after having touched 40.06, receded and closed at 39.93, against 39.77; cable transfers at 40.02, against 39.86; commercial sight at 39.88, against 39.72, and commercial sixty days at 39.57, against 39.41 a week ago. Swiss francs finished at 18.95½ for bankers' sight bills and 18.97½ for cable remittances, which compares with 18.83 and 18.85 last week. Copenhagen checks closed at 20.85 and cable transfers at 20.89, against 20.58 and 20.62. Checks on Sweden finished at 26.89 and cable transfers at 26.91, against 26.94 and 26.98, while checks on Norway closed at 19.08 and cable transfers at 19.21, against 19.01 and 19.05 a week earlier. Closing rates on Spanish pesetas were 15.72 for checks and 15.73 for cable remittances. This compares with 15.54 and 15.55 last week.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES CERTIFIED BY FEDERAL RESERVE BANK TO TREASURY UNDER TARIFF ACT OF 1922, DEC. 9 TO DEC. 15, INCLUSIVE.

Country and Monetary Unit.	Noon Buying Rate for Cable Transfers in New York. Value in United States Money.					
	Dec. 9.	Dec. 11.	Dec. 12.	Dec. 13.	Dec. 14.	Dec. 15.
EUROPE—						
Austria, krone.....	.000014	.000014	.000014	.000014	.000014	.000014
Belgium, franc.....	.0648	.0655	.0653	.0656	.0661	.0669
Bulgaria, lev.....	.000693	.000695	.00070	.000707	.000783	.000667
Czechoslovakia, krone.....	.031747	.031681	.031661	.031228	.030760	.030444
Denmark, krone.....	.2062	.2092	.2080	.2099	.2087	.2089
England, pound sterling.....	4.5706	4.5890	4.6217	4.6799	4.6526	4.6401
Finland, marka.....	.095238	.025188	.025169	.025175	.025075	.025175
France, franc.....	.0707	.0715	.0710	.0713	.0718	.0731
Germany, reichsmark.....	.000120	.000120	.000121	.000126	.000131	.000142
Greece, drachma.....	.011080	.012043	.013414	.013429	.012471	.011986
Holland, guilder.....	.3982	.3986	.4000	.4013	.4005	.4004
Hungary, krone.....	.000433	.000431	.000432	.000431	.000431	.000433
Italy, lire.....	.0602	.0504	.0499	.0502	.0503	.0504
Jugoslavia, krona.....	.003347	.003342	.003253	.003141	.003109	.002963
Norway, krone.....	.1909	.1891	.1900	.1924	.1900	.1906
Poland, mark.....	.000057	.000056	.000057	.000057	.000056	.000055
Portugal, escudo.....	.0454	.0425	.0435	.0435	.0436	.0432
Rumania, lei.....	.006238	.006228	.006216	.006188	.006169	.006141
Serbia, dinar.....	.013429	.0134	.013071	.012721	.012486	.011843
Spain, peseta.....	.1554	.1555	.1563	.1578	.1570	.1573
Sweden, krona.....	.2697	.2632	.2695	.2696	.2693	.2692
Switzerland, franc.....	.1884	.1882	.1894	.1900	.1899	.1898
ASIA—						
China, Chefoo tael.....	.7433	.7425	.7375	.7400	.7392	.7375
" Hankow tael.....	.7425	.7417	.7367	.7392	.7383	.7367
" Shanghai tael.....	.7157	.7155	.7127	.7146	.7123	.7084
" Tientsin tael.....	.7483	.7475	.7433	.7450	.7442	.7425
" Hongkong dollar.....	.5375	.5380	.5364	.5377	.5352	.5330
" Mexican dollar.....	.5229	.5256	.5235	.5254	.5225	.5221
" Tientsin or Pelyang dollar.....	.5353	.5450	.5442	.5442	.5392	.5433
" Yuan dollar.....	.5308	.5367	.5358	.5367	.5317	.5300
India, rupee.....	.3024	.3038	.3061	.3103	.3085	.3083
Japan, yen.....	.4871	.4873	.4878	.4895	.4896	.4893
Singapore (S. S.) dollar.....	.5300	.5300	.5317	.5325	.5300	.5325
NORTH AMERICA—						
Canada, dollar.....	.993881	.996507	.994201	.994139	.995694	.996055
Cuba, peso.....	.999188	.999609	.999063	.999188	.999373	.999125
Mexico, peso.....	.48475	.48425	.48325	.486525	.484792	.485875
Newfoundland, dollar.....	.995781	.993984	.991406	.991563	.993594	.993828
SOUTH AMERICA—						
Argentina, peso (gold).....	.8533	.8530	.8556	.8612	.8580	.8599
Brazil, milreis.....	.1224	.1205	.1195	.1202	.1209	.1209
Chile, peso (paper).....	.1204	.1218	.1221	.1245	.1238	.1261
Uruguay, peso.....	.8395	.8386	.8443	.8461	.8470	.8406

As to South American quotations the tendency was in sympathy with improvement elsewhere and the close was strong with Argentine currency up to 38½ for checks and 38¼ for cable transfers, with the close 37⅞ and 38, against 37.65 and 37.75 a week ago. Brazilian exchange, however, was a trifle easier, finishing at 12.25 for checks and 12.30 for cable transfers, in comparison with 12.40 and

12.45 the previous week. Chilean exchange opened unchanged, but turned strong and closed at 12.75, against 12.20, while Peru remains at 4 19, unchanged.

The Far Eastern exchanges were not materially altered, with the exception of rupees, which scored advances to new high records in sympathy with the strength in sterling. Hong Kong closed at 53⅞@54⅞, against 54¼@54¾; Shanghai, 72¼@72½, against 72@72¼; Yokohama, 48⅞@49, against 48⅞@49; Manila, 49⅞@49⅞ (unchanged); Singapore, 54⅞@54⅞, against 53½@53¾; Bombay, 30¾@31, against 30½@30¾, and Calcutta, 31½@31¾, against 30½@30⅞.

The New York Clearing House banks in their operations with interior banking institutions, have gained \$4,269,686 net in cash as a result of the currency movements for the week ending Dec. 14. Their receipts from the interior have aggregated \$5,789,786, while the shipments have reached \$1,520,100, as per the following table:

CURRENCY RECEIPTS AND SHIPMENTS BY NEW YORK BANKING INSTITUTIONS.			
Week ending Dec. 14.	Into Banks.	Out of Banks.	Gain or Loss to Banks.
Banks' interior movement.....	\$5,789,786	\$1,520,100	Gain \$4,269,686

As the Sub-Treasury was taken over by the Federal Reserve Bank on Dec. 6 1920, it is no longer possible to show the effect of Government operations on the Clearing House institutions. The Federal Reserve Bank of New York was creditor at the Clearing House each day as follows:

DAILY CREDIT BALANCES OF NEW YORK FEDERAL RESERVE BANK AT CLEARING HOUSE.

Saturday, Dec. 9.	Monday, Dec. 11.	Tuesday, Dec. 12.	Wednesday, Dec. 13.	Thursday, Dec. 14.	Friday, Dec. 15.	Aggregate for Week.
\$ 51,000,000	\$ 64,800,000	\$ 53,000,000	\$ 59,000,000	\$ 59,000,000	\$ 75,000,000	Cy. 391,000,000

Note.—The foregoing heavy credits reflect the huge mass of checks which come to the New York Reserve Bank from all parts of the country in the operation of the Federal Reserve System's par collection scheme. These large credit balances, however, show nothing as to the results of the Reserve Bank's operations with the Clearing House institutions. They represent only one side of the account, as checks drawn on the Reserve Bank itself are presented directly to the bank and never go through the Clearing House.

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

Banks of—	Dec. 14 1922.			Dec. 15 1921.		
	Gold.	Silver.	Total.	Gold.	Silver.	Total.
England.....	£ 127,446,441	£.....	£ 127,446,441	£ 123,437,371	£.....	£ 123,437,371
France, a.....	146,806,551	11,520,000	158,326,551	143,030,194	11,160,000	154,190,194
Germany.....	50,110,780	7,050,300	57,161,080	49,684,850	602,650	50,287,500
Aus.-Hun.....	10,944,000	2,369,000	13,313,000	10,944,000	2,369,000	13,313,000
Spain.....	100,927,000	25,928,000	126,855,000	100,383,000	25,121,000	125,504,000
Italy.....	35,039,000	3,024,000	38,063,000	33,769,000	2,969,000	36,738,000
Netherl'ds.....	48,483,000	722,000	49,205,000	50,497,000	679,000	51,176,000
Nat. Belg.....	10,757,000	2,094,000	12,851,000	10,665,000	1,813,000	12,478,000
Switzerland.....	21,277,000	4,839,000	26,116,000	15,274,000	4,800,000	20,074,000
Sweden.....	15,225,000	.....	15,225,000	15,274,000	.....	15,274,000
Denmark.....	12,682,000	252,000	12,934,000	12,685,000	217,000	12,902,000
Norway.....	8,183,000	.....	8,183,000	8,115,000	.....	8,115,000
Total week.....	587,880,772	57,483,300	645,374,072	585,287,313	49,330,650	634,617,963
Prev. week.....	586,398,109	57,407,950	643,806,058	583,253,870	49,419,750	634,673,620

A Gold Holdings of the Bank of France this year are exclusive of £74,674,682 held abroad.

HOW THE FEDERAL BUDGET FOR 1924 WAS PREPARED.

Sufficient documentary information has now been promulgated by the Government to show the intimate processes whereby the national Budget for 1924 was prepared and submitted to Congress. In view of the fact that the preparation of the Budget involves the ultimate expenditure of public moneys, which expenditures must, in turn, be met by the imposition of taxation upon every form of human endeavor, it may not be without interest to point out some of the salient features of the preparation of this Budget.

In the first place, the President of the United States, acting as head of the business organization of the Government, at the beginning of the fiscal year last July, called together in open meeting all of the officials of the Government (comprising about one thousand) having any connection with its financial operations. At this meeting the President made a general review of the financial operations for 1922 and 1923, and outlined the policies which would govern the preparation of the Budget for 1924, the chief feature of which was that the Budget would not contain estimates of appropriations the total of which would exceed the estimated receipts, which figure he there announced. He was followed by the Director of the Budget, General Lord, who explained the policy of the President in detail, and urged upon the officials the necessity for close co-operation in making retrenchments.

About this time the Bureau of the Budget sent out a call for the submission by all of the departments and establishments of tentative estimates of appropriations on or before Aug. 1 1922. These were not required in detail, but were to be group totals. In the meantime there had been organized in the Bureau of the Budget a Board of Estimates, composed of the Director of the Budget and four of his assistants. Operating under each member of the Board were groups of departmental investigators. These investigators are the field experts of the Bureau of the Budget, and they spend a large part of their time studying and investigating in the departments themselves the financial plans and procedure of the various bureaus and offices in the departments assigned to them. For example, a member of the Board of Estimate was assigned to the Department of Agriculture and the Department of the Interior. Under him were two investigators, each covering one of these departments.

When the tentative estimates were submitted on Aug. 1 it was found that the total requests for appropriations for the whole Government exceeded the estimated revenues by several hundred millions of dollars. Director Lord, with his Board of Estimates and the investigators, in order to carry out the announced policy of the President, went over each item of these estimates and cut them down somewhat below the total of the estimated receipts. These cuts were carefully and intelligently made. The figures were then laid before the President, who, upon the basis of the investigations of the Bureau of the Budget, ordered the prospective revenues to be tentatively apportioned to the several departments and establishments upon the basis of the provisional figures arrived at by the Director of the Budget. This was done and the departments so notified, but in order, however, to guard against unforeseen disastrous effects upon any Government service, the departments and establishments were permitted, upon the submission of their final estimates on Spt. 15, to submit also supplemental estimates with a view of providing for departmental activities not covered in the provisional allotment of funds. The allocation, as ordered by the President, was about \$300,000,000 less than the tentative estimates as first submitted by the departments.

With regard to these supplemental estimates, the departmental officials were put on the defensive, and the burden of proof was placed upon them to show that they could not operate without funds additional to those contained in the allotment. This reversed the

usual order. In the past the departments had to be shown that they did not need certain funds. This stroke of General Lord has brought into the financial administration of the Government a new element of financial control which no doubt will have a most salutary effect.

When the final revised estimates were submitted in September, the Board of Estimates called before them the various departmental officials and openly examined them with reference to the various items of proposed expenditure of public funds. These hearings were supplemented by further investigations and analyses. There were also numerous conferences with the Cabinet heads and with the President. These proceedings continued from Sept. 15 to about the middle of November before the final figures for each item of appropriation had been arrived at. The final revised total of the estimates of appropriations showed a further cut by the Bureau of the Budget, upon the approval of the President, of about \$180,000,000. The grand total of reductions in the estimates submitted by the departments was \$480,000,000. These are the figures made public by Mr. Madden on the floor of the House when he spoke on the Treasury Bill. Under the procedure before the adoption of the Budget system, all of these items would have gone to Congress for consideration and many more additional.

From Nov. 15 to Dec. 2 the Bureau of the Budget was engaged upon preparing the Budget for the printer for submission to Congress by the President on Dec. 4.

A simple recital of the steps by which the Budget was prepared shows in itself the commanding position of the President in the administration of national finance under the Budget system. The Bureau of the Budget is the only agency of the Federal Government that can take the point of view of the taxpayer and devote his whole energy towards holding down the expenditure of public moneys. As an instrumentality of the President, it speaks with the authority of the President himself. Under our system of government, however, with Congress in absolute control over every phase of financial policy, the future of the Budget system depends largely upon the proportion of respect which Congress will give to the decisions of the President, arrived at through the operations of the Bureau of the Budget.

The Budget once prepared as the financial policy of the Administration, and based upon a most careful analysis of the needs of the Government, should be considered by Congress in a different light from the old Book of Estimates, which was nothing more than a miscellaneous hodgepodge of gross departmental requests for funds. The chief danger to the Budget at the hands of Congress does not lie so much in possible increases in departmental requests (except as to public works, and rivers and harbors improvements, etc.), nor in decreases below the actual needs of departments (such reductions are met later by deficiency appropriations), but in enacting legislation requiring expenditures to be made which were not contemplated in the Budget at all, and which form no part of the financial program of the Administration at the time the Budget was submitted. The Budget, no matter how carefully prepared, can be destroyed by an improvident Congress. Such new appropriations upset the unity and equilibrium of the Budget and have a demoralizing effect upon the whole system of financial administration.

JOHN WANAMAKER.

Several good and timely lessons can be drawn from the career of this man who has just passed on, crowned with years and usefulness. The first is the old one: "honor and shame from no condition rise, act well your part"; here is more cumulative evidence that this is the country of equal natural opportunity and that grumbling at destiny and rancorous envy of others ought to be kept out of it. A brick-maker's son who loses his father when only 13 and has to exchange the common school for odd-jobbing about the brickyard is not born in the sunshine; this one sturdily plodded on, rose to a clerk's job at \$1 25 a week, saved up \$2,000 before he was 21 years old, and went into a modest retail clothing business with a partner, having a joint capital of \$3,500. He never had a "union" to boost him or hold him back; his union was of substantial qualities of personal character. Judged by magnitude of transactions, he was possibly not the greatest of American merchants, yet he won both wealth and eminence. His predecessor here, A. T. Stewart, who went from teaching to trading, was a prominent and successful merchant, but Mr. Wanamaker probably has the credit of developing the "department" idea in merchandising, and that may have led by a natural process into the fruitful "idea" which grew into the low-priced combination, whose great tower downtown, matched by the Metropolitan Life's great tower uptown, so constantly proclaims the value of service and the enlightened self-interest which helps itself to the fullest by striving always to give the most for the least, instead of following the labor union idea of giving the least for the most.

Mr. Wanamaker considered the buyer and thus made him friend and helper of the seller. He figuratively kept himself on both sides of the counter. "Money back" he adopted early, if he did not originate it. He was, at least, a pioneer in thinking and caring for employees; he adopted co-operation, he founded a savings scheme; he devised insurances and instruction classes; he was enthusiastic and active to the last in every philanthropic and Christian work.

We discover phenomena, although even the wisest cannot explain the least one of them; yet we are forced to have some theory of the universe, and must take the benevolent and progressive, or the malevolent and degenerative, or the mechanical and indifferent. Mr. Wanamaker never hesitated over his own choice. The little bits of homily, with their "Signed, John Wanamaker," which have so long had their regular place in the daily advertisements of his store, may have caused amusement to the cynic, but they were quaint, kindly, and soundly wise. There is no better tribute to the personality of the man than that those who knew him best loved him most; and that he went out of life here with a smile is both proof and result of his persistent optimism. An optimism which refuses to be shaken yet never omits to keep effort linked to faith was surely never more needed and never had more promise in it than just now.

Another lesson is that the place of "business" in the scheme of human life is illustrated and approved. The time has been when the learned professions, as they were called, were quite largely reckoned highest; yet man is body as well as soul, and can neither rise nor endure without attention to both. All life is consumption, reproduction, and not simply change but exchange. We are still discussing the just place

of what is called "liberal" or collegiate education, and whether that is not wasted rather than useful in a business career, also whether the youth (of either sex) to whom circumstances deny a "course" is or not our debtor for sympathy. Yet education of some sort is as certain as growth to maturity, and every course, of every kind, is only opportunity; what is in the youth will come out in the adult.

Another lesson is that business itself is growing and developing, and will keep doing so. Human wants increase in number and demand, discoveries constantly widen, more materials and processes yield new products. The "banker" of to-day is more than a lender of money and a broker in credits; he is constructive and initiative, or unworthy of the title. Similarly, the merchant is more than a mere trader; unless he is at least a helper of progress if not a leader in it, he is unequal to his place.

THE VETERANS AND THE BONUS.

Experience having proved that schemes for raids upon the public treasury have more lives than a dozen cats, probably nobody is surprised that the barely beaten bonus still has its partisans in the expiring Congress and that even the old form of it threatens to reappear. One might, however, suppose that Mr. McCumber and Mr. Fordney, both defeated men and defeated chiefly upon the bonus, would have had enough. The former is a lawyer, and if he advised his clients no better than he advises the Treasury his practice would surely dwindle; the latter is a lumber merchant, and successful as far as is known, yet if he assumed personal obligations as recklessly as he has striven to make the country assume them he would be in danger of a swift insolvency. That men can be careful in their private affairs and dismiss reason in their attempted handling of public trusts is one of the phenomena of the time.

Nothing new can be said upon this bonus raid, which the "Chronicle" has fought from the first and will fight to the last, and yet it cannot be quite dismissed. When Mr. McNider stormed away in asserting that he represented "millions" of ex-service men and women and that not merely all the veterans, but all the "people," wanted a bonus, he was obviously wrong in the nature of the case and was proven wrong by the sturdy and honorable opposition in the veteran ranks. That opposition is now renewed by the written protest made to Mr. Fordney by the head of the Ex-Service Men's Anti-Bonus League, which is incorporated and has headquarters at 19 West 44th Street. The letter to Mr. Fordney begins by admitting his sincerity and commending his desire to do something for ex-service men, and perhaps, in view of his singular persistence, he ought to be credited with sincerity and a desire to do good and debited only on the score of practical common sense. He, and other friends of the veteran in Congress, this letter tells him, "have been led to believe things that are not true."

Chief of those things, the writer of this protest believes, is the attitude of the proposed beneficiaries. Of the four millions of ex-service men only a few over 700,000 are American Legion members, "with an immense shrinkage in sight" for January 1, when next year's dues will become payable, this shrinkage being largely because of the Legion's effort for the bonus. So the letter affirms, and this is in line with figures of withdrawals and with published protests at various dates through the active campaign which

ended with the veto in September. Repeated efforts to get an individual poll of the Legion have been refused consideration by its leaders, proceeds Mr. Allen to Mr. Fordney, although more than a hundred "posts" in the country have gone on record in opposition. He confidently asserts that no bonus is wanted by the majority, but it is now proposed to put the matter to a straight test; the League intends to make a poll and to give every opportunity for a full and unbiased expression. Plans for this poll are now being perfected and will be pushed; meanwhile Mr. Fordney is asked to refrain from introducing any bill proposing gratuities to the uninjured, but is told that it would be to his "everlasting honor" if he would, instead, turn his efforts towards "relief of the disabled veteran as a class." To this reasonable and courteous letter Mr. Fordney has sent an insulting reply, of which, when he regains his composure, he may feel ashamed.

Once more we may be permitted to state, without expansion or argument, the reasons why any bonus to the uninjured is indefensible. First, it is a violation of good faith and moral obligation, since provision was made, by the insurance scheme of 1917, in lieu of all after-war compensation, and this was so accepted and understood. Second, over 132 millions in bonds have already been issued or are in course of issue, in a dozen States, for bonuses; a Federal bonus would to that extent be a duplication, and one falling unequally, for it is a ghastly jest to pretend that those who must pay a Federal levy are any other than the people in the several States. Third, a bonus is an injustice to the injured—for whom much has been done and more should be done, to the limit of reasonable practicability—and is a diversion of funds which some of them have repeatedly and unanswerably protested against as such. Fourth, the country is in no condition to assume a burden concerning whose magnitude and duration nobody has tried to do or can do more than guess. Fifth, such an undertaking would prolong and increase unemployment by darkening the outlook and discouraging business commitments. Sixth, the proposed beneficiaries, who unhappily seem incapable of seeing anything or thinking of anything except an imaginary largess of cash, would have to stand their share, with other earners and taxpayers, in bearing the inevitable tax load; moreover, this load would be inequitably distributed, falling upon not a few sufferers by the war who would not be able to thrust out a hat for some of the dole.

The raid has seized and tried to wear the concealing mask of "adjusted compensation"; on the contrary, is it not immovably true that the losses and sufferings and burdens of the struggle have not been and never can be equitably distributed in this mortal life and that a cash bonus to the unhurt would be so *unadjusted* as to be an offense against righteousness?

CHRISTMAS AND MEN OF GOOD WILL.

That there were "men of good will" on earth the first Christmas day is an easily forgotten fact.*

It is true the world was at peace and the temple of Janus was closed; but despite the prevalent wealth and luxury, the world was in an evil state. The Empire had arisen upon the Roman Republic dying of inward corruption and decay. The change of gov-

ernment wrought no moral reform. Rome had made the attempt to transfer the long moribund gods of Greece, but, elegant as was their art and easy as were their morals, they had no reforming value, and were already sunk in Rome's own grosser worship. This in turn was giving place to the assigning of divine honor to the Emperor, and what remnant of religion there was soon found its last asylum at the hearths of the rustics; hence the "heathen." The gods were gone.

"The Oracles were dumb. No voice or hideous hum ran through the arched roof in words deceiving. Apollo from his shrine could no more divine. Peor and Baalim forsook their Temples dim, with that twice battered god of Palestine. And sullen Moloch had left, in shadows dread, his burning idol. Nor is Osiris seen in Memphian grove or green. The brutish gods of Nile as fast. Isis and Orus, the Dog Anubis"—all were gone. This is the picture that has come down to us. The world's religions were worn out. Even the living faith of Israel was swallowed up in the accepted rule of force in the Roman world and the universal wallow of greed and wealth and pleasure and hopeless misery. And yet, when the angels were summoned to herald the new day for the world in the birth of Christ, this was the sudden word they found on their lips. "On earth peace to men of good will"; men in whom God shall find "good pleasure." This was echoed when Jesus's disciples were told to "Go and make disciples of all peoples"; as it had been in His saying, "Other sheep have I which are not of this fold"; and when He commanded them not to forbid the man who followed not with them; "for he that is not against you is with you." But the word was new, and has been much forgotten since then.

But if there were men of good will, for whom God had special thought, in that day, how many more there must be to-day! Calendars differ, but Christmas Day will come in all lands. Everywhere there are those who will greet it with gladness, not only His professed followers, but the unnumbered multitude who have been reached by His Gospel, and the still greater host of those, all unconscious of Him, among whom are many, known to God, looking for light, feeling their need, cherishing the deeper thoughts of their hearts, as they strive for such good as they know. "Men of good will," to whom Christmas Day brings a message and an appeal even though they have not heard of Him whose name it bears. The frivolous "Gaiety of Nations," here and there so lightly invoked, and such a bitter sarcasm when tossed from careless lips, gives place to the gladness of Christmas which returns each year with its promise of peace on earth, and a joy which the world cannot but sing.

So Christmas Day awakens good will in countless hearts and carries joy into thousands of happy homes. Many will seek to share their happiness with others who are less favored; and none care to forget the distress of the world. The evils everywhere seem too great for remedy, and in the face of conditions difficult to fathom and impossible to change, apathy is taking the place of care. In such circumstances Christmas comes diffusing good-will. Sir Walter Raleigh said long ago of the function of the poets, of whom in his time there were notable ones: "By establishing sentiments of admiration, love and hope they establish a tradition that bridges over the treacherous currents and quicksands of time and

*The English translators of the Bible were hesitant to say so, and they rendered the text in Luke's Gospel "Good will to men."

fashion." In an even more effective way Christmas establishes an atmosphere of pleasant memories, kindly thoughts and helpful impulses, which give courage for facing trouble. God is in His world; and there are men of good will who look to Him and seek to do His will. Man has an indestructible impulse to persist and to succeed. Life is full of promise and charm. God made us for it; how could it, then, not be so? The cheer of Christmas is for all, as well the sad, the sorrowing. Yes, the sinful and the sordid; even "Old Scrooge" found it to be. Christmas proclaims it. Good-will helps to doing good and being good; pleasure awakening in us answers to pleasure in the heart of God.

The committee appointed during the war to inquire into the state of religion in the British Army reported as one of its findings "a practically universal reverence for the beauty of Christ's character, coupled with an almost universal ignorance of any method of relating Him to the moral life." This indicates the line of need, if the gladness of Christmas is not to end with the day. In the one case as in the other an emotion, however pleasant, like an aesthetic possession, will prove powerless to direct the conscience or to secure any moral result, unless it is gathered up and directed to a definite purpose. As Pascal said: "All the good impulses are abroad in the world, we only fail to apply them."

The day after Christmas we shall face the same world that confronted us the day before. We alone have had an experience; we still have to learn its worth.

Speaking on Christmas Eve two years ago, the late Pope Benedict said that five plagues were affecting humanity. His successor, Pius XI, addressing his first conclave the other day, took occasion to refer to his predecessor's work. The "plagues" were, "The unprecedented challenge to authority." "An equally unprecedented hatred between man and man." "An abnormal aversion to work." "An excessive thirst for pleasure as the great aim of life." And, "A gross materialism which denies the reality of the spiritual in human life." In varying degree these will all be recognized as present to-day. Indeed, if the new Pope should on Christmas Eve feel the need of emphasizing any one of them it would be recognized as authoritative and needed.

What, then, are some of the Christmas thoughts which we can gather up for use? With the joy of the assembling of scattered children and friends, especially if it is in the home, there is the sense of security and peace. Here at least good-will abounds. Why should we not carry it away with us? Here is an atmosphere; it envelopes all. It irons out wrinkles and drives away care. Why should it not go with us? It is within; it is of ourself; no one has put it over; it is not talked about, but it permeates all; and surely, the world needs it. Aversions, hatreds, sinister distrust, antipathies, abound; they are keeping nations apart; they are making peace well-nigh impossible. And Christmas is everywhere, all will come under its influence, God has men of good will in all lands. What if they all should feel as we do? Some certainly will. We at least can do our part.

Here also are the springs of the National life. That depends on its moral strength; and that is the point of chief attack. Power, profit, pleasure, these beguile the nation as they do the people. The wrangling, the threats, the tricky diplomacy, the desire for

personal aggrandizement, these are the plagues which paralyze and defeat the Conferences. All men talk of naval and military disarmament, when moral disarmament is the supreme need. The rampant spirit that challenges any form of authority, whether concealed in mandate, in superior force, or even in organization or in knowledge, that, in its extreme form, invites anarchy, and, in its impatient independence, spells hatred and disorder. This finds no place at Christmas. Hatred, envy and all uncharitableness do not enter there. The family is the supreme organization; its source is in the bosom of God, its authority is parental, its bond is affection, its practice is mutual respect, its result is strength and freedom and service, for love prevails, and love leads up to God.

America has few ancestral homes, if they are to be sought in ancient buildings; but it has, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, thousands of homes in which Christmas once more will reopen the springs of the Nation's life.

It would be strange, then, if many do not find in Christmas new testimony to the real meaning of Life. In the war Death seemed to have the world under its heel. And we have not escaped the feeling, and life is little regarded.

To the world as it is to-day Christmas comes bringing a joy which the sacrificial death of which it was the prelude lifts at once out of the ruck of daily deaths and sorrows and wrong. It announces the transforming of human life from its earliest moment, through all its pains and labors, its fears and sorrows, its loves and joys and hopes, even through the darkness of its close, into a creation and transcendent gift of God. It returns whence it came. It is not to be destroyed by unresisted "plagues," or to be recklessly and hopelessly thrown away.

The first Christmas opened to earth, in the new life that was born in Bethlehem of Judea, the heart of God. Back to Him He seeks at last the return of the life He has entrusted to us. So far as Christmas helps us to fulfill this trust the joy of the day may well be extended to all and made abiding.

RAILROAD GROSS AND NET EARNINGS FOR OCTOBER.

The returns of the gross and net earnings of United States railroads for the month of October, as revealed by our compilations further below, are a distinct disappointment, particularly in the case of the net. The showing is a trifle less adverse than was that for the month of September, but with both the coal miners' strike and the strike of the railway shopmen out of the way a very decided turn for the better had been looked for. There is only a moderate increase in the gross revenues after a very noteworthy shrinkage in October last year as a consequence of the great depression in trade prevailing at that time, while on the other hand, augmented expenses are as pronounced a feature of the returns as they were before. It is plainly apparent that during October, at least, the carriers had not yet fully recovered from the effects of the shopmen's strike and that the cost of that strike to the great body of roads was very much heavier than anyone had supposed it would be, even among those in close touch with the state of affairs and supposed to be well informed in the matter.

Neither the showing as to gross earnings nor that as to expenses is up to expectations. The addition to

gross earnings is no more than \$13,074,292, or 2.45%. To be sure, freight rates were lower in 1922 than in 1921, the Inter-State Commerce Commission having ordered a horizontal cut of 10% last May, which has been in effect ever since July 1. In the case of grain, grain products and hay in Western territory a reduction of about 16½% has been in effect since Jan. 1 1922, by order of the Commission. But on the other hand, trade and business during October continued active, particularly in contrast with the extreme prostration prevailing 12 months before, and coal in large quantities was rushed to market, both from the bituminous and the anthracite fields, to make up for the scarcity created by the prolonged abstention from work at the mines during the summer. In addition, Western roads were favored by a larger grain and live stock traffic and Southern roads by a larger cotton movement. That all this should have yielded only a relatively slight addition to revenues would seem to show that the carriers continued, after all, to be more or less handicapped in their operations, either because the shop workers having in larger or smaller part been recruited by new men had not yet been brought up to the required state of efficiency or because, as undoubtedly happened, the carriers had to contend with rolling stock scarcity—that is, with insufficient equipment and motive power. This conclusion is further emphasized by the way expenses have continued to mount upward. The cut of 7@8% in the wages of the maintenance of way men and in that of the shop crafts employees would in normal circumstances have served to reduce expenses to that extent, but in the disorganization produced by the strike this was more than counterbalanced by heavy losses in other directions and operating efficiency generally must have been greatly impaired thereby, heavily increasing operating cost. At all events, with only \$13,074,292, or 2.45% increase in gross earnings, operating expenses moved up no less than \$30,758,244, or \$7.79%. The consequence is that net earnings have fallen off \$17,683,952, or 12.84%, as will be seen by the following:

Month of October— (190 Roads.)	1922.	1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-).	
	\$	\$	\$	%
Miles of road.....	233,872	232,882	+990	0.43
Gross earnings.....	\$545,759,206	\$532,684,914	+\$13,074,292	2.45
Operating expenses.....	425,542,910	394,784,666	+30,758,244	7.79
Net earnings.....	\$120,216,296	\$137,900,248	-\$17,683,952	12.84

As modifying unfavorable conclusions, it is important to bear in mind that last year in October a prodigious saving in expenses had been effected—dire need having forced the utmost economy and compelled the elimination of every item of outlay that could be spared or deferred for the time being, so that from that standpoint some increase again in the expenses does not appear very strange after all. Then, also, the great saving in expenses last year brought with it a substantial addition to the net in face of the enormous contraction in the gross revenues. It follows, therefore, that this year's decrease in the net marks merely the loss of a part of the recovery in the net in 1921. The really singular point is the circumstance that so small a part of the great loss in the gross revenues in 1921 has been recovered in 1922, as already pointed out. In brief, the decrease in the gross in October 1921 reached the huge sum of \$105,922,430, of which only \$13,074,292 has now been regained. On the other hand, this loss of \$105,922,430 in gross operating revenues in 1921 was attended by a saving in expenses in amount of no less than \$128,453,510, giving a gain in net of \$22,531,080, of which \$17,683,952 has now been yielded up again.

Lest doubt be created as to the permanency of the drastic cut in expenses effected last year and now in small part again lost in 1922, it is important to bear in mind that the real basis for the very substantial cut in the expense accounts last year existed in the huge antecedent increases in expenses that had been accruing for a long time, year after year. In addition, also, the carriers had the advantage of a 12% reduction in the wages of railroad employees made by the Railroad Labor Board effective July 1 1921. As indicating the extent of this antecedent rise in operating costs, it is only necessary to say here that expenses had been rising in very pronounced fashion for a number of successive years owing to repeated advances in wages and the growing cost of operations generally. So much was this the case that even the big advances in railroad rates—passenger and freight—did not suffice to absorb the constant additions to the expenses. The experience in that respect of the carriers in October 1920 furnishes a capital illustration of the truth of this remark. The roads had then just been favored with a new advance in rates, calculated to add \$125,000,000 a month to their gross earnings, and accordingly our tabulations then showed an increase in gross earnings in amount of \$130,570,938, or 25.94%; but unfortunately, \$115,634,417 of this was consumed by augmented expenses, leaving only \$14,936,521 gain in the net earnings, or 14.49%. We remarked at the time that there was nothing to boast of in such results, and unfortunately, the growth in the expenses assumed added significance in view of the huge rise in operating costs in preceding years. Thus in October 1919 our tables showed \$18,942,496 increase in gross, accompanied by \$21,136,161 increase in expenses, leaving actually \$2,193,665 loss in net. In October 1918, owing to the first great advance in passenger and freight rates made by the Director-General of Railroads under Government control, gross earnings registered a gain in the large sum of \$106,956,817, or 28.30%, but expenses moved up in still more striking fashion, increasing in amount of \$122,450,404, or 47.97%—involving a shrinkage in net, therefore, in October of that year, of \$15,493,587, or 12.63%. In October 1917 the situation was much the same. The gross at that time increased \$43,937,332, but expenses ran up in amount of \$50,267,176, leaving net smaller by \$6,329,844.

Carrying our comparisons of the figures further back, we find that even in 1916 and prior years rising operating expenses were a feature in railroad affairs. For October 1916 the comparisons were fairly good, our compilations then having recorded \$35,050,786 gain in gross earnings, or 11.28%, and \$11,798,124 gain in net, or 9.91%. In October of the year preceding (1915) we had a better exhibit than the average as regards both gross and net, the addition to the gross having been \$37,087,941, or 13.57%, and the addition to the net \$30,079,562, or 33.70%. These gains, though, at that time represented in considerable part recovery of previous losses, the totals of earnings having shown decreases in gross and net alike in both the two preceding years. Thus for October 1914 our compilations registered \$28,740,856 decrease in gross, or 9.64%, and \$8,014,020 decrease in net, or 8.38%, while in October 1913 our table showed a shrinkage in the gross of \$1,281,011 and in the net of \$13,110,853, or 11.85%. In the following we furnish a summary of the October comparisons of gross and net for each year back to 1906. For

1910, 1909 and 1908 we use the Inter-State Commerce totals, but for the preceding years we give the results just as registered by our own tables each year—a portion of the railroad mileage of the country having been unrepresented in the totals in those days because of the refusal at that time of some of the roads to report monthly figures for publication.

Year.	Gross Earnings.			Net Earnings.		
	Year Given.	Year Preceding.	Increase or Decrease.	Year Given.	Year Preceding.	Increase or Decrease.
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
1906	143,336,728	128,494,525	+14,842,203	51,685,220	46,826,357	+4,858,869
1907	154,309,199	141,032,238	+13,276,961	46,983,600	50,847,093	-3,864,297
1908	232,239,451	250,426,583	-18,186,132	88,534,455	83,358,002	+5,176,453
1909	261,117,144	232,556,223	+28,560,921	104,163,774	88,803,236	+15,360,538
1910	263,461,605	260,821,546	+2,640,059	93,612,224	104,101,228	-10,489,004
1911	260,482,221	259,111,859	+1,370,362	93,836,492	91,725,725	+2,110,767
1912	293,738,091	258,475,408	+35,262,683	108,046,804	93,224,726	+14,822,078
1913	299,195,000	300,476,017	-1,281,017	97,709,596	110,811,359	-13,111,833
1914	269,325,262	298,066,118	-28,740,856	87,669,694	95,674,714	-8,014,020
1915	311,179,375	274,091,434	+37,087,941	119,324,551	89,244,989	+30,079,562
1916	345,790,899	310,740,113	+35,050,786	130,861,148	119,063,023	+11,798,124
1917	389,017,309	345,079,977	+43,937,332	125,244,640	131,574,384	-6,329,744
1918	484,824,750	377,867,933	+106,956,817	107,088,318	122,581,905	-15,493,587
1919	508,023,854	489,081,358	+18,942,496	104,003,198	106,190,863	-2,187,665
1920	533,852,568	503,281,630	+30,570,938	117,998,825	103,062,304	+14,936,521
1921	534,332,833	640,255,263	-106,922,430	137,928,640	115,397,260	+22,531,380
1922	545,750,201	532,684,914	+13,075,287	120,216,290	137,960,245	-17,743,952

Note.—In 1906 the number of roads included for the month of October was 91; in 1907, 88; in 1908, the returns were based on 231,721 miles; in 1909 on 238,955 miles; in 1910 on 241,214 miles; in 1911 on 239,291 miles; in 1912 on 237,217 miles; in 1913 on 243,090 miles; in 1914 on 244,917 miles; in 1915 on 248,072 miles; in 1916 on 246,883 miles; in 1917 on 247,043 miles; in 1918 on 230,184 miles; in 1919 on 233,192 miles; in 1920, 231,429 miles; in 1921, 235,228 miles, and 232,872 miles in 1922.

The returns of the separate roads are a duplicate of the general results, the augmentation in expenses as a rule outstripping the additions to the gross receipts, leaving larger or smaller losses in the net. And yet there are marked exceptions to the rule—exceptions of roads that fared a great deal worse than the average, and also exceptions of roads that did remarkably well in face of all the obstacles and drawbacks referred to, and have been able to enlarge their net earnings in very notable degree. Southwestern and Northwestern roads have done poorly as a rule, heavy additions to expenses having frequently been coincident with decreased gross revenues, while on the other hand, some Southern roads are able to give a very good account of themselves, which latter is not strange, seeing that the South is enjoying quite general prosperity by reason of the high price ruling for cotton. The Southern Railway, the Atlantic Coast Line and the Seaboard Air Line are among those distinguished for better net, though contrariwise, the Louisville & Nashville and one or two other Southern carriers have fallen behind in net. The Illinois Central is also distinguished for improved net. Those two large bituminous-carrying roads, namely the Norfolk & Western and the Chesapeake & Ohio are both obliged to report heavy losses in the net.

The anthracite carriers, in view of the full resumption of mining in the anthracite fields, might be expected to present uniformly satisfactory results, but the exhibits display considerable irregularity. The Philadelphia & Reading and the Central Railroad of New Jersey show noteworthy additions to gross and net alike, but the Lehigh Valley, the Erie, the Lackawanna and the Delaware & Hudson report even more noteworthy losses in net. As far as the great East and West trunk lines are concerned, the Pennsylvania Railroad on the lines directly operated has added \$7,272,897 to gross, but falls \$451,734 behind in the net owing to the augmentation in expense accounts. For the entire Pennsylvania System, including all roads owned and controlled, the result is an increase of \$7,637,856 in gross, with a decrease of \$444,337 in the net. The New York Central has added \$5,347,757 to gross, but loses \$357,644 in the net. This is for the New York Central itself. Including the various auxiliary and controlled roads, the whole going to

form the New York Central Lines, the result is a gain of \$8,631,766 in gross and of \$1,045,088 in net. In the following we show all changes for the separate roads for amounts in excess of \$100,000, whether increases or decreases, and in both gross and net:

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN GROSS EARNINGS IN OCTOBER.

	Increase.	Decrease.
New York Central	\$5,347,757	
Pennsylvania	7,272,897	
Illinois Central	1,627,717	
Pittsburgh & Lake Erie	1,361,057	
Michigan Central	1,272,500	
Atchison Top & S Fe (3)	1,040,341	
Philadelphia & Reading	914,252	
Chicago Milw & St Paul	899,511	
N Y N H & Hartford	882,978	
Bessemer & Lake Erie	855,992	
Buffalo Rochester & Pitts	819,983	
Baltimore & Ohio	635,277	
Atlantic Coast Line	575,757	
Minn St Paul & S S M	491,585	
Cleveland O C & St L	484,190	
Elgin Joliet & Eastern	465,573	
Duluth Missabe & North	461,730	
Southern Railway	444,350	
N Y Chicago & St Louis	391,468	
Seaboard Air Line	325,496	
Duluth & Iron Range	317,678	
Western Ry of Alabama	304,043	
Toledo St Louis & West	285,166	
Union RR of Penna	282,044	
Central of New Jersey	275,896	
Tennessee Central	264,313	
Western Pacific	243,720	
Chicago & North West	233,730	
Internal Great North	218,638	
Indiana Harbor Belt	218,482	
Grand Trunk Western	213,178	
West Jersey & Sea Shore	193,961	
Richmond Fred & Potom	191,998	
Long Island	172,961	
Central of Georgia	169,044	
Boston & Maine	159,464	
Nashv Chatt & St Louis	152,033	
Detroit Toledo & Ironton	149,925	
Missouri & North Ark	128,802	
Chicago Ind & Louisville	123,013	
Central Vermont	120,752	
Chicago Burl & Quincy	\$100,153	
Representing 44 roads in our compilation	\$31,109,429	
Union Pacific (3)	\$1,939,001	
Missouri Pacific	1,503,125	
Lehigh Valley	1,423,160	
Chicago R I & Pac (2)	1,372,705	
St Louis-San Fran (3)	1,304,772	
Northern Pacific	1,021,899	
Erie (3)	917,855	
Chesapeake & Ohio	903,873	
Louisville & Nashville	604,883	
Great Northern	683,983	
Wabash Ry	620,603	
Southern Pacific (8)	524,197	
Chicago & Alton	518,570	
Wheeling & Lake Erie	426,994	
Pere Marquette	400,561	
Denver & Rio Grande	387,091	
Chicago St Paul M & Om	339,112	
Chicago & East Illinois	330,498	
Midland Valley	299,394	
Colorado Southern (2)	298,708	
Spokane Port & Seattle	272,352	
Texas & Pacific	221,624	
Maine Central	200,588	
Missouri Kan & Texas (2)	172,094	
Alabama Great North	168,277	
Monongahela	163,560	
Bangor & Arnoostook	160,974	
Hocking Valley	151,707	
Trinity & Brazos Valley	127,671	
Northwest Pacific	120,465	
Kansas City Southern	114,998	
Central New England	112,398	
Carolina Clinch & Ohio	101,330	
Representing 49 roads in our compilation	\$17,998,922	

Note.—All the figures in the above are on the basis of the returns filed with the Inter-State Commerce Commission. Where, however, these returns do not show the total for any system, we have combined the separate roads so as to make the results conform as nearly as possible to those given in the statements furnished by the companies themselves.

a This is the result for the Pennsylvania RR. (including the former Pennsylvania Company, Pittsburgh Cincinnati Chicago & St. Louis and Grand Rapids & Indiana), the Pennsylvania RR. reporting \$7,272,897 increase. For the entire Pennsylvania System, including all roads owned and controlled, the result is an increase in gross of \$7,637,856.

b These figures cover merely the operations of the New York Central itself. Including the various auxiliary and controlled roads, like the Michigan Central, the "Big Four," &c., the whole going to form the New York Central System, the result is a gain of \$8,631,766.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN NET EARNINGS IN OCTOBER.

	Increase.	Decrease.
Philadelphia & Reading	\$984,539	
Pittsburgh & Lake Erie	979,285	
Illinois Central	790,589	
Bessemer & Lake Erie	746,829	
Atlantic Coast Line	635,296	
Southern Railway	492,344	
Clev Cin Chic & St Louis	423,602	
Central RR of New Jersey	397,298	
Pittsburgh & W Virginia	372,789	
Duluth Missabe & North	221,765	
Buffalo Rochester & Pitts	214,796	
International & Gr North	199,953	
Western Pacific	175,667	
Cin New Or & Texas Pac	151,848	
West Jersey & Seashore	144,943	
Seaboard Air Line	143,021	
N Y N H & Hartford	140,487	
Central of Georgia	135,822	
Grand Trunk Western	125,331	
Richmond Frederick & Po	124,733	
Lehigh & New England	120,272	
Duluth & Iron Range	118,482	
Duluth Ry of Alabama	112,842	
Western Ry of Ala	107,160	
New Orleans Great North	105,165	
Cin Indianapolis & Western	102,060	
Union RR of Penna	100,139	
Montour	100,007	
St L Merch Bdge & Term	100,007	
Representing 28 roads in our compilation	\$ 6,670,277	
Norfolk & Western	\$1,935,755	
Northern Pacific	1,883,197	
Union Pacific (3)	1,683,611	
Lehigh Valley	1,621,025	
Chesapeake & Ohio	1,531,952	
Missouri Pacific	1,384,716	
Erie (3)	1,310,890	
Great Northern	\$1,243,740	
St Louis-San Fran (3)	980,815	
Del Lack & Western	814,853	
Chicago & Alton	763,872	
Wabash Railway	746,425	
Colorado Southern (2)	593,512	
Chic R I & Pacific (2)	590,665	
Delaware & Hud on	575,607	
Denver & Rio Grande	570,887	
Chicago & North Western	519,203	
Hocking Valley	504,716	
Atch Topeka & S Fe (3)	512,626	
Wheeling & Lake Erie	494,682	
Pennsylvania RR	451,734	
Baltimore & Ohio	446,803	
Texas & Pacific	384,881	
Southern Pacific (8)	371,984	
New York Central	345,644	
St Louis & South West (2)	328,526	
Chicago & Eastern Illinois	318,071	
Chic Milw & St Paul	305,860	
Chicago Great Western	271,336	
Chic St Paul Minn & Om	255,756	
Michigan Central	255,058	
Louisville & Nashville	244,007	
Spokane Port & Seattle	230,266	
Chic Burl & Quincy	228,116	
N Y Ontario & Western	209,330	
Bangor & Arnoostook	157,396	
Pere Marquette	155,594	
Monongahela	155,038	
Boston & Maine	114,995	
Carolina Clinchfield & O	110,968	
Mo Kansas & Texas (2)	110,195	
Detroit Tol & Ironton	106,690	
Virginian	100,390	
Representing 62 roads in our compilation	\$25,931,496	

a This is the result for the Pennsylvania RR. (including the former Pennsylvania Company, Pittsburgh Cincinnati Chicago & St. Louis and Grand Rapids & Indiana), the Pennsylvania RR. reporting \$451,734 decrease. For the entire Pennsylvania System, including all roads owned and controlled, the result is a decrease in net of \$444,337.

b These figures merely cover the operations of the New York Central itself. Including the various auxiliary and controlled roads, like the Michigan Central, the "Big Four," &c., the result is an increase of \$1,045,088.

What has already been said is emphasized when the roads are arranged in groups or geographical divisions, according to their location. In the gross the Southwestern group and the Pacific Coast group show decreases, while the Southern and the Northwestern groups register only nominal gains. On the other hand, the Eastern and Middle group and the Middle West show very substantial additions, while the New England group also has a fair average increase. Contrariwise in the matter of the net, the Middle Western group alone is able to record any improvement, all the remaining

groups being distinguished for losses. Our summary by groups is as follows:

SUMMARY BY GROUPS.

Section or Group—	Gross Earnings			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-)	%	
	1922.	1921.	1920.			
October—						
Group 1 (9 roads), New England	23,331,115	22,460,990	+870,125	3.88		
Group 2 (33 roads), East & Middle	171,410,807	158,239,408	+13,171,399	8.33		
Group 3 (26 roads), Middle West	46,012,877	42,239,009	+3,673,868	8.68		
Groups 4 & 5 (34 roads), Southern	67,602,080	67,085,704	+516,376	0.77		
Groups 6 & 7 (28 roads), Northwest	122,670,774	122,032,785	+646,989	0.52		
Groups 8 & 9 (49 roads), Southwest	101,340,321	103,399,758	-5,159,937	-4.84		
Group 10 (11 roads), Pacific Coast	19,375,732	14,929,260	+4,446,472	29.81		
Total (190 roads)	545,759,201	532,684,014	+13,075,187	2.45		
Net Earnings						
	1922.	1921.	1920.			
October—						
Group 1	7,462	7,523	4,571,655	4,750,611	-178,956	3.77
Group 2	33,825	33,708	28,339,174	32,558,715	-4,219,541	13.75
Group 3	15,569	15,589	11,185,007	10,348,881	+836,126	8.09
Groups 4 & 5	29,060	28,629	14,143,840	15,890,831	-1,746,991	10.99
Groups 6 & 7	66,811	66,805	30,431,601	36,023,681	-5,592,080	15.52
Groups 8 & 9	61,428	61,044	27,735,729	33,008,419	-5,272,690	17.47
Group 10	9,717	9,580	3,808,690	4,419,110	-610,420	13.81
Total	233,872	222,882	120,216,296	137,900,248	-17,683,952	12.84

NOTE.—Group I, includes all of the New England States.
 Group II, includes all of New York and Pennsylvania, except that portion west of Pittsburgh and Buffalo, also all of New Jersey, Delaware and Maryland, and the extreme northern portion of West Virginia.
 Group III, includes all of Ohio and Indiana, all of Michigan except the northern peninsula, and that portion of New York and Pennsylvania west of Buffalo and Pittsburgh.
 Groups IV, and V, combined include the Southern States south of the Ohio and east of the Mississippi River.
 Groups VI, and VII, combined include the northern peninsula of Michigan, all of Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa and Illinois, all of South Dakota and North Dakota and Missouri north of St. Louis and Kansas City, also all of Montana, Wyoming and Nebraska, together with Colorado north of a line parallel to the State line passing through Denver.
 Groups VIII, and IX, combined include all of Kansas, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Indian Territory, Missouri south of St. Louis and Kansas City, Colorado south of Denver, the whole of Texas and the bulk of Louisiana, and that portion of New Mexico north of a line running from the northwest corner of the State through Santa Fe and east of a line running from Santa Fe to El Paso.
 Group X, includes all of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, California, Nevada, Utah and Arizona, and the western part of New Mexico.

We have already noted that Western roads were favored with a large grain movement. At the Western primary markets, the receipts of wheat for the four weeks ending Oct. 28 1922 were 44,752,000 bushels, as against 38,951,000 bushels in the corresponding four weeks of last year; the receipts of oats 21,515,000 bushels, against 19,263,000; the receipts of barley 4,326,000 bushels, against 3,145,000, and the receipts of rye 7,261,000 bushels, against 1,936,000 bushels. Adding corn, in which there was a falling off, the receipts of the five cereals combined for the four weeks the present year aggregated 107,146,000 bushels, against 95,844,000 in 1921. The details of the Western grain movement in our usual form are set out in the table we now present.

4 Wks. end.	Flour.	Wheat.	Corn.	Oats.	Barley.	Rye.
Oct. 28.	(bbls.)	(bush.)	(bush.)	(bush.)	(bush.)	(bush.)
Chicago—						
1922	1,309,000	3,969,000	16,400,000	8,568,000	940,000	327,000
1921	912,000	1,796,000	19,925,000	5,406,000	537,000	90,000
Minneapolis—						
1922	—	15,607,000	475,000	3,100,000	1,438,000	1,726,000
1921	—	15,553,000	1,010,000	4,362,000	570,000	388,000
Duluth—						
1922	—	9,744,000	397,000	185,000	800,000	4,586,000
1921	—	8,288,000	1,224,000	515,000	952,000	1,260,000
Missoula—						
1922	272,000	406,000	1,651,000	2,068,000	1,027,000	301,000
1921	130,000	491,000	2,831,000	2,537,000	943,000	129,000
Toledo—						
1922	—	1,463,000	297,000	374,000	1,000	249,000
1921	—	576,000	182,000	190,000	—	2,000
Detroit—						
1922	—	170,000	108,000	230,000	—	—
1921	—	184,000	161,000	186,000	—	—
Omaha & Indianapolis—						
1922	—	2,443,000	4,057,000	2,055,000	—	—
1921	—	1,991,000	2,550,000	2,036,000	—	—
St. Louis—						
1922	392,000	3,278,000	2,267,000	2,430,000	50,000	54,000
1921	546,000	3,164,000	2,151,000	2,392,000	119,000	65,000
Peoria—						
1922	163,000	374,000	2,528,000	1,579,000	70,000	18,000
1921	230,000	82,000	1,595,000	1,121,000	24,000	2,000
Kansas City—						
1922	—	6,012,000	551,000	724,000	—	—
1921	—	6,821,000	920,000	608,000	—	—
St. Joseph—						
1922	—	1,286,000	561,000	124,000	—	—
1921	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total all—						
1922	2,136,000	44,752,000	29,292,000	21,515,000	4,326,000	7,261,000
1921	1,818,000	38,951,000	32,549,000	19,263,000	3,145,000	1,936,000

Western roads also had the advantage of a much heavier live stock movement. At Chicago the receipts of live stock for October 1922 comprised 25,411 carloads, against 23,190 in October 1921; the receipts at Kansas City 17,883 cars, against 14,677, and at Omaha 11,937, against 8,985 cars.

That the Southern cotton movement ran heavier than a year ago is evidenced by the fact that the receipts at the Southern outports in October 1922 aggregated 1,263,728 bales, against 1,098,830 bales in

October 1921 and 962,140 bales in October 1920, as will be seen from the following:

RECEIPTS OF COTTON AT SOUTHERN PORTS IN OCTOBER AND FROM JANUARY 1 TO OCTOBER 31 1922, 1921 AND 1920.

Ports.	October.			Since January 1.		
	1922.	1921.	1920.	1922.	1921.	1920.
Galveston	615,908	505,789	527,187	2,117,940	2,486,934	1,550,007
Texas City, Tex.	144,163	82,543	85,167	508,711	463,291	185,346
New Orleans	257,916	214,795	164,308	995,347	1,120,725	1,113,409
Mobile	29,736	24,880	8,322	121,118	116,879	109,546
Pensacola, Fla.	2,158	2,906	357	16,574	18,214	19,717
Savannah	74,802	147,964	107,612	554,877	670,829	1,016,193
Brunswick	5,131	7,405	5,200	39,095	13,609	176,030
Charleston	20,438	15,018	13,257	140,968	90,484	198,850
Wilmington	30,903	21,552	23,310	87,197	90,381	133,430
Norfolk	61,483	75,834	27,050	211,507	278,830	266,398
Newport News, Va.	—	140	170	—	1,512	2,160
Total	1,263,728	1,098,830	962,140	4,803,324	5,346,586	4,748,276

Current Events and Discussions

WEEKLY RETURNS OF FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS.

Aggregate gains of \$15,400,000 in gold reserves, as against a decrease of \$3,500,000 in other cash reserves, accompanied by a reduction of \$49,000,000 in deposit liabilities and an increase of \$18,000,000 in Federal Reserve note circulation, are shown in the Federal Reserve Board's weekly consolidated bank statement issued as at close of business on Dec. 13 1922, and which deals with the results for the twelve Federal Reserve banks combined. The reserve ratio shows a rise for the week from 74.3 to 75.1%.

All classes of earning assets show decreases for the week: bills discounted by \$45,200,000, bills bought in open market by \$4,200,000, and Government securities by \$4,600,000. Pittman certificates, held as cover for Federal Reserve Bank notes, show a further reduction of \$3,000,000, coupled with a decrease of \$2,800,000 in the Reserve Banks' aggregate net liability on Federal Reserve Bank notes in circulation. This liability has shown a practically steady reduction since the beginning of the year, the present total of \$16,500,000 being \$244,500,000 below the maximum shown on Dec. 26 1919. After noting these facts, the Federal Reserve Board proceeds as follows:

Gold reserves of the Chicago bank increased by \$17,200,000, those of San Francisco by \$9,800,000, while smaller increases totaling \$10,100,000 are shown for Philadelphia, Boston, Kansas City and New York Reserve banks. Minneapolis reports a decrease of \$7,700,000 in its gold reserves, followed by Richmond with a decrease of slightly over \$5,000,000, while smaller decreases totaling \$8,900,000 are shown for the four remaining banks. Holdings of paper secured by Government obligations decreased from \$374,400,000 to \$344,800,000. Of the total held last Wednesday, \$191,800,000, or 55.6%, were secured by U. S. bonds, \$4,700,000, or 1.4%, by Victory notes, \$139,800,000, or 40.6%, by Treasury notes and \$8,500,000, or 2.4%, by Treasury certificates, compared with \$203,000,000, \$5,200,000, \$156,200,000 and \$10,000,000 reported the week before.

The statement in full, in comparison with preceding weeks and with the corresponding date last year, will be found on subsequent pages—namely pages 2661 and 2662. A summary of changes in the principal assets and liabilities of the reserve banks on Dec. 13 1922, as compared with a week and a year ago, follows:

	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) Since	
	Dec. 6 1922.	Dec. 14 1921.
Total reserves	+ \$11,900,000	+ \$183,300,000
Gold reserves	+ 15,400,000	+ 192,100,000
Total earning assets	- 54,000,000	- 253,000,000
Discounted bills, total	- 45,200,000	- 493,100,000
Secured by U. S. Govt. obligations	- 29,500,000	- 114,800,000
Other bills discounted	- 15,600,000	- 378,300,000
Purchased bills	- 4,200,000	+ 162,800,000
United States securities, total	- 4,600,000	+ 77,500,000
Bonds and notes	+ 600,000	+ 126,500,000
Pittman certificates	- 3,000,000	- 101,000,000
Other Treasury certificates	- 2,200,000	+ 52,000,000
Total deposits	- 49,000,000	+ 118,400,000
Members' reserve deposits	- 25,900,000	+ 172,100,000
Government deposits	- 23,800,000	- 40,200,000
Other deposits	+ 700,000	- 7,500,000
Federal Reserve notes in circulation	+ 18,000,000	- 14,600,000
F. R. Bank notes in circulation, net liability	- 2,800,000	- 61,800,000

WEEKLY RETURN OF THE MEMBER BANKS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM.

Increases in loans secured by Government and corporate obligations, aggregating \$12,000,000 and \$16,000,000, respectively, as against net liquidation of \$4,000,000 of investments, are shown in the Federal Reserve Board's weekly consolidated statement of condition on Dec. 6 of 784 member banks in leading cities. It should be noted that the figures of these member banks are always a week behind those for the Reserve Banks themselves. Only a nominal change is shown in all other, i. e., largely commercial, loans and discounts. Member banks in New York City report a reduction of \$21,000,000 in loans against

corporate securities, as against an increase of about \$15,000,000 in other loans, and net liquidation of \$14,000,000 of investments, mainly of United States bonds. Loans and investments of all reporting institutions show an increase of \$24,000,000, while those of the New York City banks show a decline of about \$20,000,000 for the week under review.

Substantial withdrawals of bank balances from the New York member banks account for the reduction in net demand deposits, the New York City members reporting a decrease of \$90,000,000 under this head, as against a decrease of \$84,000,000 for all reporting banks. Government deposits show a reduction for the week of \$8,000,000, of which \$3,000,000 are shown for the New York City banks. Time deposits, on the other hand, show a gain for the week of \$47,000,000, largely outside of New York City. Since December of last year time deposits of the reporting institutions have increased by over \$700,000,000, or 24%, while demand deposits have increased by about \$800,000,000, or 8% only. The New York City members show for the same period an increase of \$260,000,000 in time deposits and an increase of only \$82,000,000 in demand deposits.

The New York City banks report an increase of their borrowings at the local Reserve bank from \$81,000,000 to \$158,000,000. Total borrowings of the reporting banks from the Reserve banks went up from \$382,000,000 to \$450,000,000, or from 2.4 to 2.9% of the banks' combined loans and investments.

Reserve balances show an increase for the week of \$36,000,000, while cash in vault, largely Federal Reserve notes, increased by \$22,000,000. Member banks in New York City report an increase of \$24,000,000 in Reserve balances and a nominal gain in cash. On a subsequent page—that is, on page 2662—we give the figures in full contained in this latest weekly return of the member banks of the Reserve System. In the following is furnished a summary of the changes in the principal items as compared with a week and a year ago:

	Increase (+) or Decrease (—) Since	
	Nov. 29 1922.	Dec. 7 1921.
Loans and discounts—total.....	+326,000,000	—866,000,000
Secured by U. S. Gov't obligations.....	+12,000,000	—198,000,000
Secured by stocks and bonds.....	+16,000,000	+607,000,000
All other.....	—	—475,000,000
Investments—total.....	—4,000,000	+1,093,000,000
United States bonds.....	—7,000,000	+574,000,000
Victory notes.....	—	—127,000,000
United States Treasury notes.....	+1,000,000	+532,000,000
Treasury certificates.....	—	—80,000,000
Other stocks and bonds.....	+2,000,000	+194,000,000
Reserve balances with F. R. banks.....	+36,000,000	+150,000,000
Cash in vault.....	+22,000,000	—6,000,000
Government deposits.....	—8,000,000	+47,000,000
Net demand deposits.....	—84,000,000	+802,000,000
Time deposits.....	+47,000,000	+705,000,000
Total accommodations at F. R. banks.....	+68,000,000	—232,000,000

POST OFFICE FIXES POUND STERLING AT \$4.70.

Because of the change in the market rate for bills of exchange on London since the order of Nov. 21 1922, the Post Office Department at Washington announced on Dec. 15 that on and after Dec. 15 1922, and until further notice, postmasters in issuing international money orders payable in Great Britain, Ireland, Commonwealth of Australia, New Zealand and the Union of South Africa, shall convert the money of the United States at the rate of £1 equals \$4.70.

WALL STREET SEES ARBITRAGE RETURN.

The following is from the "Wall Street Journal" of Dec. 14. Resumption of arbitrage operations between London and New York, in the opinion of Wall Street, is likely to take place in the early part of 1923. This view is based on the assumption that sterling will continue to make progress toward a return to parity, with perhaps occasional interruptions in the upward movement from time to time.

Well informed authorities in the financial district express the opinion that if London remittances get back to the neighborhood of par, and become stabilized, it will result in the re-establishment of an international market for American securities.

The London market for American stocks is bound to improve with the rise and stabilization in sterling, one experienced arbitrage man said yesterday. He predicted that there would be a resumption of active trading in American securities abroad early in the year and that by next July operations would be conducted on an extended scale. Good rails, he said, would be favorites in the trading, particularly such shares as Southern Pacific, Union Pacific and Atchison. Steel issues and other good dividend paying stocks would also be in demand, he believed, and the market would gradually broaden out to include other industrials.

Another stock market operator, however, expressed the opinion that exchange levels had nothing to do with arbitrage. "There could be arbitrage now if it was permitted," he said. "People who think exchanges have to be at a parity for arbitrage to take place are confusing cause and effect. Lack of funds for speculation probably has more to do with preventing arbitrage than difference in exchange."

If arbitrage operations are resumed leading stock market operators believe that the list of securities which would figure in the trading will be larger than at any time in the past.

DOLLAR DROPS TO PAR IN HOLLAND.

London press dispatches, Dec. 13, said that, for the first time in more than three and a half years, the dollar on that day had dropped to par on the Amsterdam Bourse, according to a dispatch to "The London Times" from Amsterdam.

INVESTMENT OF 100,000,000 MARKS IN GERMAN STOCKS REPORTED BY UNITED EUROPEAN INVESTORS, LIMITED.

The following is from "Financial America" of yesterday (Dec. 15):

The United European Investors, Ltd., announces through its President, Franklin D. Roosevelt, that the first 100,000,000 mark investment had been made by the corporation in a widely diversified list of 19 German stocks, all but one of which are quoted on the Bourse. The investment, in dollars, amounts to approximately \$15,000.

Intention of the new corporation is to invest marks in German tangible properties, through a committee of prominent German citizens. The idea is to save further loss to those in this country who purchased German marks, on the theory that if the mark depreciated further or even passed out of existence, proportionate interest in the corporations or property in which investments had been made would still belong to the purchasers.

The formation of the corporation, for the purpose of investing the millions of German marks held in the United States and Canada in real estate, mortgages, securities, and other physical assets in Germany, was noted in our issue of Sept. 16, page 1267.

\$50,000,000 LOAN TO CUBA AUTHORIZED.

Official announcement was made at Washington late yesterday (Dec. 15) that an American loan to the Cuban Government of \$50,000,000 had been officially authorized by the United States Government. It is stated that the loan will be financed by selling of Cuban Government bonds in the American market through J. P. Morgan & Co. and other large New York banking interests.

PERUVIAN STERLING LOAN OVERSUBSCRIBED.

Cable advices from London on Dec. 14 announced that the Peruvian Government 7½% loan offered that day by J. Henry Schroeder & Co. and Baring Brothers was an immediate success, subscriptions being four times in excess of the amount of the flotation. The following cablegram from London regarding the loan appeared in the "Wall Street Journal" of Dec. 14:

Peruvian Government 7½% £1,250,000 loan floated in London by J. Henry Schroeder & Co. on security of guano revenues, reported in these columns Dec. 5, will be redeemable at par on or before June 1 1948 by means of an accumulative sinking fund of 1½% a year, to be applied to purchase of bonds when price is at or below par, exclusive of accrued interest. When price is above par, exclusive of accrued interest, bonds will be drawn by lot and redeemed at par. Application of sinking fund conditions commences June 1924.

The Peruvian Government reserves the right to redeem any outstanding portion of bond issue at 105 on or after June 1 1933 by giving notice previously to any interest date.

Peruvian Government 7½% (Guano) loan has been fully subscribed and lists closed.

COLOMBIA WILL INVEST TREATY PAYMENTS IN UNITED STATES.

The following appeared in the "Wall Street Journal" of Dec. 13:

Colombia will purchase United States Government bonds with the \$5,000,000 paid by United States Secretary of State to Colombian Minister at Washington, Dec. 6, on account of 1921 Panama Treaty. These bonds, which will be left in care of a New York bank, will constitute gold reserve for paper emissions of the Bank of the Colombian Nation, in addition to gold provided by the other banks of Colombia and by merchants, in the same proportion as the Government contributions. This gold will also be invested in the United States.

Thus, gold reserve will total \$10,000,000 the first year, \$20,000,000 the second year, and \$50,000,000 in the fifth year. Bank note issue will be \$75,000,000 at the outset, and will not be increased for five years. Ratio of gold to paper will be 13.4% in the first year, 26.8% in the second year, and 66% in the fifth year.

Bank will earn interest on gold reserve and will lend currency at market rates. Control will be divided between the Government and other shareholders.

First treaty payment, due in July, was offered to the Colombian Government at that time. General Holguin, acting President, pending General Ospina's assumption of office on Aug. 7, asked that the payment be held at the disposal of Ospina. The latter completed his selection of cabinet early in November. Discussion of plans for investment of the treaty payments has been active since then. A decision having been arrived at, the Government notified Washington that it was ready to receive the first installment.

Remaining \$20,000,000 of treaty payment will be paid in yearly installments of \$5,000,000 each.

U. S. DISPOSAL TO ASSIST EUROPE THROUGH LOANS TO GERMANY—J. P. MORGAN'S CONFERENCE WITH SECRETARY HUGHES.

Indications that the United States was disposed to lend it said in adjusting European conditions have been features of the week's developments. Reports to this effect came from Washington on the 12th inst. "Financial America" in its account of developments following the Cabinet meeting that day, saying:

At the conclusion of the Cabinet meeting to-day it was said, President Harding and Secretary Hughes were in complete accord on the efforts of this Government to bring about the stabilization of Europe and the world. For two hours and a half the Cabinet was in conference, and it was acknowledged discussions of international affairs took up the entire time. No statement was forthcoming as the matter discussed nor as to what steps had been taken to accomplish the objective of the Government, or subjects discussed.

President Harding is said to be heartily in favor of joining in any proposal that may settle the uneasy situation in Europe. This inclination was said to extend even to the discussion of economic questions. The White House acknowledged the reparations question was "very acute" and said this would undoubtedly be taken up in a conference that might be held.

The attitude of France and the stand-off attitude of the smaller nations with regard to payment of their debts is said to be causing the Administration considerable concern. It was said discussion of this phase took up much of the time of the meeting.

The "Four-Power Pact," to which the President made reference in his recent speech in Congress and which had worked out so well in the Pacific, might well be followed in Europe, it was emphasized by the White House. This Government would be willing to enter into any arrangement whereby accord might be obtained, according to the White House spokesman, but it was adamant against "trespassing on certain grounds that were peculiar to Europe." This was interpreted to mean the Administration would not, under any circumstances, involve itself in political affairs there.

Secretary Hughes came early to the White House, loaded down with an imposing brief case filled with papers. It was reported he carried all the confidential dispatches received from London and Lausanne conference. That these were under discussion is known, but what decision was reached in connection with the questions was not made public.

It was said President Harding felt that this was not the time to make any public announcement as to the London meeting, and as to Lausanne he is understood to have been silent.

To-day's Cabinet meeting, in the opinion of those who saw the members afterwards, was undoubtedly the most important held in many months. Whether it adopted a program that will mean readjustment of world finance, or decided to "put the screws" on the settlement question, is unknown. It is probable, however, Secretary Hughes will begin at once a series of notes seeking to feel out the sentiment of the Old World governments.

From a special dispatch to the New York "Times" from Washington on the 12th inst. we take the following:

At the moment when the European Allied Premiers have been obliged to adjourn their London conference on account of failure to reach an agreement on the pressing problems growing out of the World War, word came from the White House to-day of a character to indicate that the United States Government might be willing to help in straightening out the chaotic European situation.

While the American Government is understood to entertain no desire to become entangled in the reparations controversy, there is no doubt that its moral influence, which is now very great in European councils, is being used to the utmost in the direction of endeavoring to effect harmonization of the divided views of the Allies on the subject of reparations.

What was said to-day was mainly a repetition of statements which have been made at the White House and in other Administration quarters from time to time, but there was a significant intimation that some practical step by the United States bearing on the European situation was either pending or in contemplation. The Government, it was said, had not been "inactive."

This information came after a disclosure from a White House spokesman that the Cabinet, at a meeting to-day, had discussed world affairs as well as domestic affairs. The Government, it was said, was doing all that it could to bring about an adjustment of economic conditions in Europe, but it would be manifestly improper for officials to tell the press what was being done. And to this, it was added, in response to an inquiry, that the reparation question was one of the acute questions in which the Government was taking an active interest.

A visit to Washington by J. P. Morgan on the 13th inst., when he conferred with Secretary of State Hughes, was believed to have a reference to the European situation, although no statement in the matter has been vouchsafed by either Mr. Morgan or Secretary Hughes. These developments have been followed by reports from Washington on Dec. 14 that the floating of an international loan of \$1,500,000,000 to Germany had been suggested to American banking interests. The "Journal of Commerce," Washington dispatches, in indicating this, also said in part:

The disclosure that the leading financial interests of the United States are being asked to come to the aid of Germany was accepted as directly related to the sudden conference here yesterday of J. P. Morgan with Secretary Hughes and Under Secretary of State Phillips, although regarding the subject of this meeting absolute silence was maintained by Government officials.

Official reports to the American Government reveal that Germany, with her finances paralyzed, is on the brink of an "economic and financial precipice," and that unless immediate steps are taken to restore confidence and bolster her credit, a collapse is inevitable. It is stated that Germany must have at least a billion and a half dollars with which to accomplish this purpose and to purchase 2,000,000 tons of grain before next spring.

Reparations Question.

Germany's prospects of floating a loan of such proportions, however, it is acknowledged, are predicated upon the final settlement of the reparations question, but Administration officials expressed the belief that the United States will bring pressure to bear to effect a reduction of the burden on Germany to a point where daylight can be seen ahead. France is conceded to be the stumbling block over which the efforts of this country to aid the recovery of Europe must step. So far the intentions of the United

States have been faced with what was described in high Administration circles as the stone-wall attitude of Premier Poincare.

While the Government refused to discuss in any way the visit of Mr. Morgan, some high Administration officials expressed the opinion that the foreign situation was the only matter of sufficient importance which could bring the banker to the State Department, and the coincident appearance of Elihu Root in Washington was frankly regarded as significant.

The conference of Mr. Morgan with Secretary Hughes continued to be treated with the same confidential respect which the Government accords what it regards as the interesting, delicate and difficult international foreign situation now obtaining. At the Treasury it was said that no information as to a German loan being offered for subscription in this country has been received, but the State Department carries out the function of supervising the foreign loan by private American interests and the official reports of the conditions requiring the \$1,500,000,000 loan have been detailed.

Would Float Part Here.

It was disclosed that an effort is being made to float a loan of "at least" this amount, to be subscribed partly in Germany and partly in the United States. The loan would be guaranteed by France, Germany and possibly Great Britain, if the present plans are carried out. It was made plain, however, that no part of the amount would be subscribed by the American Government.

The New York "Evening Sun" of last night (Dec. 15) in special Washington advices indicating that the United States would assist Europe through a credit loan to Germany, said:

The United States Government may communicate within a reasonable time, either through a common note addressed to the Allied Governments or through representations of American diplomacy, the American plan for settling the reparations question ending the turmoil of Europe and for putting Germany in a position to meet her reparations payments, the "Sun" learned to-day.

While delivery of the American plan to the Allies will be contingent somewhat on the attitude taken by the French Chamber of Deputies to-day when Premier Poincare reports on the London meeting, it is confirmed here to-day that the American Government is actually working out a concrete plan for settling Europe's immediate difficulties and has hopes that the plan, when completed, will prove acceptable.

This plan was gone over at to-day's meeting of the Cabinet after its general details had been submitted to President Harding by Secretary of State Hughes, Secretary of the Treasury Mellon and Secretary of Commerce Hoover. It is unlikely that any announcement will be made after to-day's Cabinet meeting because this Government does not want to make premature declaration and desires to see first the effect of Premier Poincare's statement to the French Chamber.

Depends on France.

If, however, the French attitude is anywhere near conciliation, and if the French do not immediately demand strict enforcement of the Versailles Treaty and the seizure of the Ruhr, then an announcement may be expected from this Government within a reasonable time.

The keystone of the American plan is the flotation of a credit by a syndicate of international bankers in favor of Germany. The credit would be in the neighborhood of \$1,500,000,000 and would be allocated to the bankers of the various nations according to a preconceived schedule. American bankers, it is understood, will take at least half the credits and possibly as much as \$1,000,000,000.

This credit should not be confused with a direct loan to Germany, "The Sun" was warned to-day by persons known to be familiar with the plan being evolved. Instead the credit would be on the same basis as nearly all American war credits for Europe; that is, Germany would be able to buy in the United States and other countries participating in the credit, foodstuffs and raw materials up to the total amount of the credit in each of the countries.

Seek Mortgage on Germany.

Security for this credit would be a mortgage on all German resources, including export and import duties which mortgage is now held by the Allied Governments under the Versailles Treaty. In other words the Allies would have to agree to surrender sufficient of their mortgage to give the international bankers security for their credit. Getting France and Belgium to agree to abate their first mortgage claims is one of the supreme, although not insuperable, difficulties of the whole scheme.

Contrary to reports circulated this morning no actual money would be paid France, Belgium or Great Britain on account of reparations, but Germany would be obligated to meet a scaled down annual payment of reparations, amounting at this time to somewhere between \$300,000,000 and \$500,000,000 in gold and possibly ascending slightly as Germany's ability to pay increases.

Credit on Long Time Basis.

The credit to Germany would be on a reasonably long time basis, possibly ten years, and Germany would be required during each of the years that the credit runs to pay into a sinking fund a sum sufficient to retire the whole credit at the end of the credit term. If the ten year term is provided Germany's sinking fund payment would be less than \$150,000,000 a year, taking into account the interest that would be earned by the money in the sinking fund.

The theory of the whole proposition is that Germany, in order to pay reparations, must build up an exportable surplus of goods. Since Germany has no surplus gold and practically no available holding of foreign securities, an exportable surplus by which she could pay her debts is regarded as essential. This must be done, too, in the face of the fact that up until the time of the war Germany actually had a surplus of imports over exports, amounting on an average to \$370,000,000 a year. However, France had a surplus of imports over exports when the Franco-Prussian war ended in 1870, but soon built up an exportable balance.

In return for the advantages gained, Germany would have to agree to balance her budget and lessen the printing of paper marks. How Germany could be compelled to adhere to such an agreement is not known here, and the presumptions is that this is one of the grave difficulties confronting the Cabinet in forming an American plan.

American investors in a German credit, it is pointed out, would want sufficient security from Germany. Although they would have a mortgage on German resources, they would have no way of collecting on the mortgage if the American Government did not step in and guarantee the credit.

International Action.

This Government could not leave its investors in the position of investing in a German credit recommended by the Government of which the Government would be unwilling to guarantee collection. On the other hand, the Administration is committed strongly against a policy of joining with other nations to enforce financial measures against Germany or any other nation, and how to reconcile the two viewpoints is giving much concern. It is

certain that investors of other nations would want their credit to Germany guaranteed by their respective Governments, and so an American guaranty would have to be in conjunction with the guarantees of the other nations.

Presumably some kind of committee would be set up by the international bankers participating in the syndicate which would work with the Reparations Commission in adjusting Germany payments into a sinking fund with which eventually to pay off the credit. Assuming, for instance, that Germany met sinking fund obligations but did not meet the scaled down schedule of reparations to France, Belgium and Great Britain, would the Allies be able to take steps to force Germany's payment of reparations?

Advantages of the scheme of a credit to Germany, as indicated here, lie in the fact that Germany would be able to use the money now diverted to payments for food bought from outside into productive channels with which an exportable surplus could be built up. Germany is now unable to buy raw materials on a sufficient scale so that the credit would enable her to start productivity at once, thus in turn creating wealth with which reparations and sinking fund obligations could be met.

Inasmuch as the whole problem is so complicated and intricate and inasmuch as the consent of every signatory to the Versailles Treaty would have to be given before the plan could be put in operation it is useless to expect fruition of the tentative American plan for some time. However, it is possible that this Government may be able to announce the plan in principle in a short time, leaving the details to be worked out later after the Allied Governments have agreed to the principle.

It is emphasized here to-day that no plan is under consideration for a Government loan to Germany, inasmuch as that would make necessary increased taxation, which would be intolerable. Furthermore, the formula for putting through a Government loan would require the consent of Congress, and that might be hard to obtain, even for an extremely worthy cause.

Harvey To Be Channeled.

It is regarded as possible that George Harvey, American Ambassador at London, who is looked on as more completely in the confidence of the President than any other American Ambassador, may be coming to the United States to get first-hand details of the proposed tentative American reparations plan.

Mr. Harvey's advice on the German situation is badly wanted by the President and Secretary of State Hughes, who, though they have been receiving every day long cable accounts of the reparations situation from the American Ambassador, undoubtedly feel that first-hand information on many points would be desirable.

Officials here feel encouraged in one respect over France's attitude. They feel that former Premier Clemenceau, the severity of whose attitude toward Germany has been only second to that of Premier Poincare, has been won over to American opposition to the seizure of the Ruhr. Inasmuch as Clemenceau came here for the express purpose of obtaining American co-operation with France, since he talked to hundreds of prominent Americans, including the principal members of the Cabinet and the President, his going back to advocate milder measures toward Germany is expected to have considerable effect on the French attitude.

It is regarded as very likely that France and Italy will attempt to bring up the question of inter-Allied debts if the United States advances a scheme for a German credit. From the outset, however, this Government will take the position that the debt question must be kept out of the controversy, inasmuch as this country is making no demands for immediate payment of war debts and does not intend to press the question for some time.

Armaments in the Way.

Opinion among the members of the Cabinet is general that such a loan as proposed could be floated if the proper guarantees were furnished by Germany. It is understood that to-day's discussion hinged around the proposition as to the way the money to be raised through a loan is to be expended. It was pointed out by one member of the Cabinet that Germany would reap no benefits from such financial assistance if she was compelled to turn a large share of the loan over to the Allied nations, particularly France and Italy, who would be disposed to use it in building up their armies and navies.

If assurances could be received by this Government that the money advanced to Germany was to be used in the main for internal improvement and a restoration of the financial and economic situation in that country, then the United States would give its sanction to any plan which private American bankers might outline for the raising of the billion and a half dollars for Germany's needs.

Incidentally the fact that Col. Harvey, the Ambassador to Great Britain, is returning to the United States for a short visit was made known in Associated Press cablegrams from London Dec 14, these advices also stating:

The reason ascribed for his visit is his anxiety about his wife's health, which has been unsatisfactory of late, and the Ambassador desires to give her a much-needed rest.

As the Ambassador's visit will coincide with the present in America of the British mission headed by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Stanley Baldwin, it is assumed that Mr. Harvey will take opportunity to confer with his Government on the European situation generally.

BONAR LAW SAYS GREAT BRITAIN CANNOT PAY UNITED STATES UNLESS EUROPEAN COUNTRIES PAY HER.

Warning of the inability of Great Britain to pay her war indebtedness to the United States if the British Government was to receive nothing from Germany, France or Italy was given by the British Prime Minister Bonar Law in the House of Commons on the 14th inst., in which he appealed to France to consider the disastrous consequences which would follow the threatened occupation of the Ruhr Valley, and besought the United States to co-operate in effecting an adjustment of the reparations and interallied indebtedness matters. Stating that the Premier frankly declared for the policy of the Balfour note of last August (given in our issue of Aug. 1, page 591), which advocated an adjustment of interallied debts by an all-round cancellation, England on her part surrendering her share of reparations to be paid by Germany, the Associated Press advices from London on the 14th inst. gave the following account of the Premier's speech:

Thus the Prime Minister indicated that the new Government, despite its first declaration that the Balfour note no longer existed so far as the present British Government was concerned and that it would not consider itself bound by it, feels impelled to the same policy as the previous Government.

The remainder of Mr. Bonar Law's speech was clearly addressed to both France and the United States—to France, a plea for moderation in dealing with Germany on the ground that that country is already on the verge of collapse; to America, a call for help and co-operation in settling the difficult problems of reparations and interallied debts.

Another important phase of his speech was the dark picture drawn of England's economic and industrial future, should the much hoped for improvement in trade not materialize.

The Prime Minister showed the utmost anxiety that there should be no misunderstanding British feelings toward both France and the United States, and said that it was only England's difficult position he was making clear. England was burdened with very heavy taxation, which was a clog on industrial enterprise, resulting in terrible unemployment—a problem that made it necessary first that there should be no military occupation of German territory, which would still further handicap European trade without producing results in cash, and, second, compelled him frankly to face the fact that England was unable to pay the American debt if she received nothing from Europe.

Strong points in the speech were the unfairness of the view that because England had made sacrifices to pay her way she should be expected to pay her debts, while others who had made no such sacrifices escaped, and the warning that too sudden deflation in Germany might produce there all the evils of unemployment from which other countries are already suffering.

In the subsequent debate Mr. Lloyd George expressed complete approval of Mr. Bonar Law's speech.

The most noteworthy contribution was by James Ramsay MacDonald, the Labor leader, who gave a complete elucidation of the policy of the Labor Party.

He maintained that the United States held the key and was the only country able to give Great Britain any help. He differed from the Prime Minister, however, in believing that it was inadvisable to mix together too much the questions of reparations and inter-Allied debts. He admitted that Germany possessed enormous industrial possibilities, yet she must be carefully handled, or she would follow Austria into bankruptcy. He feared that both France and England would need to lower their expectations from Germany very substantially.

Declaring that reparations were a curse to both those who paid and those who received, the Labor leader said the real question was not what Germany was able to pay, but what the Allies could afford to receive, and even if Germany could pay the full amount demanded, it would not be to the advantage of the Allies to receive it. France must remember that England had her own trade to consider, and while threats of military penalties were mixed up with economic measures peace would be impossible.

E. D. Morel maintained that it would be ridiculous to say that Germany had paid nothing, and declared that, including the cost of the armies of occupation, her actual cash payments, coal deliveries, surrendered mercantile marine and other payments, Germany had already paid the equivalent of £1,000,000,000, or quadruple the indemnity France paid in 1870.

Great unanimity was displayed in support of the Government throughout the whole debate. The submission of questions drafted by agreement between Mr. MacDonald, Mr. Asquith and Mr. Lloyd George was a complete novelty in parliamentary procedure, especially as the questions had been shown to the Prime Minister in advance. Similarly, after Mr. Bonar Law's speech, Mr. Asquith and Mr. Lloyd George had a consultation, and agreed that there was no occasion for them to speak, as they were in accord with the Prime Minister's pronouncement.

The opinion in the lobbies was that this unusual unanimity would not be without influence on the adjourned conference to be held in Paris Jan. 2.

The British Prime Minister said he did not wish to say a word in criticism of America, because he believed America to-day was the nearest to Great Britain in ideals and that the United States entered the late war without any motive of gain, but solely to help the world in its great struggle. He therefore could say nothing against America, but he could not forget the facts.

Great Britain had secured a strong budget position and financial organization because she had made the taxpayer poor, but, he asked, did any one imagine these enormous sums could have been taken from industry without seriously impeding the possibility of industrial expansion?

"Had we adopted different methods," he said, "we might have had to-day much less unemployment, and the world would have recognized through our less sound financial position that we were not in a position to pay these large sums. That is the unfairness of it."

"Public opinion abroad has assumed that we are able to meet our obligations and help our friends. In reality we are in no such position. We are paying £100,000,000 yearly to the unemployed."

The effect of the unemployment he described as terrible, declaring that, unless there was a trade improvement within a reasonable time, Britain would reach a position which, in his opinion, would be worse than almost any of the Allied countries.

In outlining the British policy toward Germany, he said that the Government was not thinking of past mistakes or of enmity, but only desired to find the best method of ascertaining the amount Germany could pay.

"If Germany ever does recover," he added, "she will be in a far better position to pay these indemnities than we should be to pay our debt to America. That is a fact."

ALLIED PREMIERS' CONFERENCE IN LONDON ON GERMAN REPARATIONS ADJOURNED UNTIL JANUARY 2.

This week has witnessed the adjournment without results of another of the many conferences which have been held to reach a solution on the German reparations question. The meeting the past week was participated in by the Allied Premiers (Bonar Law of Great Britain, M. Poincare of France, Premier Mussolini of Italy, and Premier Theunis of Belgium), the Finance Ministers of Great Britain, France and Belgium; the French Ambassador, Count de Sainte Aulaire; Foreign Minister Jasper of Belgium, and the Italian members of the Allied Reparations Commission. The conferences opened at London on the 9th inst. and adjourned on the 11th inst. until Jan. 2, when the Premiers

will again come together at Paris to once more take up the discussions. It is stated that the insistence of France that rigid guarantees be exacted before Germany's request for a moratorium is acceded to caused the failure of the present week's conferences. The endeavor to secure the co-operation of the United States before proceeding further in the working out of the reparations and attendant problems, would, it was indicated in the London cablegrams of the 11th inst., be made. In another item we refer to reports which have emanated from Washington during the week of a suggestion of a loan of \$1,500,000,000 in the United States for Germany, to prevent that country's economic collapse and a reparations crisis. The Associated Press advices from London Dec. 11 in reporting the adjournment of the Premiers' conferences, said:

The London conference on German reparations, generally described as the critical conference, ended to-day in agreement only on another conference. The next link in the long chain of the Allies' struggles to get together will be forged at Paris on Jan. 2. There will be a fortnight then left for the Allies to agree upon some program.

Nevertheless steadfastly she may stand aloof and protest her detachment from these European debates, the United States cannot prevent her name from being involved and the possibilities of her participation being made the subject of speculation. Continental politicians contend that reparations and the adjustment of war debts cannot be separated and that the United States cannot avoid becoming a party to the solution of these problems.

It was stated in an authoritative American quarter that the chief hope of bringing the British and French together, during the period of adjournment, lies with the United States.

It was said by this authority that England will probably ask the American Government if it is willing to cancel the French debt to the United States provided England in turn cancels the French debt to Great Britain and at the same time enters a definite agreement with the American Government ultimately to pay the British debt to America.

This suggestion was made informally last evening to an important American now in London, and it will probably be presented directly to Mr. Hughes, the American Secretary of State, in the course of the present week.

Great Britain is said to look favorably on the cancellation of the French debt due her, provided the United States cancels the French debt to America. It is the belief of British officials that the United States would be willing at least to attend a conference at which such a proposition could be thoroughly discussed.

It was also stated in American circles this morning that the definite agreement to pay the British debt to the United States could or might be accompanied by a proposal for a long-period, say fifty years, in which only interest would be paid. It was explained that this was on the theory that the United States was primarily interested in securing the ultimate payment of the British debt rather than an immediate settlement.

In conference quarters it was the general view that France has indicated her willingness to give up military penalties in return for the cancellation of debts by the United States and Great Britain, and would be ready also to give a long moratorium to Germany.

The conference adjourned after the British Prime Minister, Mr. Bonar Law, and the French Premier, M. Poincaré, had failed to reach any common ground for agreement.

The French insistence upon rigid guarantees before granting a moratorium to Germany was the principal reason for the collapse of the present negotiations.

The French demands included occupation of the Ruhr district with sufficient forces to insure collections of the customs, and the taking over by France of the administration of the Rhineland.

M. Poincaré refused to consider any proposals not including the occupation of the Ruhr, while Mr. Bonar Law throughout the conversations insisted that the majority of the British people opposed military sanctions.

The moratorium granted the Germans expires Jan. 15 and the next payment on account of reparations, which Germany protests she is unable to meet, will be due on that date.

As to the suggestions to be presented by M. Poincaré at the conferences (one of these calling for a loan of 100,000,000 gold marks to stabilize the mark,) we quote as follows the Associated Press cablegram (London) of Dec. 8,—the day before the start of the discussion:

Premier Poincaré has come to London to suggest a "reasonable and just" way out of the long-standing reparations problem, and he believes that Great Britain, in the interest of preservation of the Entente and fair play, should wholeheartedly endorse his suggestions.

Such is the view expressed by the French delegation this evening upon its arrival for what the French Government believes will be the most important meeting of Allied Premiers since the armistice was signed.

Reports have been heard here that the United States might unofficially intimate she would not ask for payments on the war debts for the duration of any moratorium decided upon, this being America's contribution to a settlement of the problem. Such a move, in the view of the French, would pave the way to a real settlement of the debts between England and France.

The French Premier is greatly interested in the presence in London of the American Ambassadors to Germany and Belgium, Alanson B. Houghton and Henry P. Fletcher. He made several inquiries during the course of his trip from Paris to find out the purpose behind their visits.

The suggestions of M. Poincaré form the basis of the much-heralded plan which the French Premier is said to be reserving for the proposed Brussels conference, and their adoption, in the opinion of the French, would insure the success of the poor parlors in the Belgian capital.

Briefly, they are: A two or three year moratorium for Germany in return for certain definite guarantees, such as the temporary taking over of the mines and forests of Germany and the collection of certain customs as a means of forcing Germany to carry out reforms.

A loan of 100,000,000 gold marks to be used to stabilize the mark, under the strict supervision of the Reparations Commission. There would be continuation of deliveries of coal and wood during the moratorium period.

Reduction of the German indemnity to about 40,000,000,000 gold marks if England canceled the French debt, or, failing this, an agreement to set aside for a long term of years all questions either of trying to collect this debt or the so-called "reparation bonds." The latter would, in effect, be a reduction of the indemnity to well under 50,000,000,000 gold marks.

The Brussels conference, according to the French plan, should be called as soon as possible, probably on Dec. 18, so that details of settlement could be worked out before Jan. 15.

M. Poincaré is described as frankly skeptical about the efficacy of his threatened independent military action in the Ruhr in event of failure to agree with Great Britain. He is said to be willing to forget about this military action if Premier Bonar Law consents to the imposition of economic guarantees in return for a moratorium, the guarantees to be imposed more as coercive measures than as revenue producing measures.

Premier Poincaré is not impressed with the unofficial accounts of the new reparations settlement proposed by Chancellor Cuno of Germany. The scheme, if actually offered to the Allies, would be viewed by the French, it is reported, as more of a manoeuvre than a real plan of settlement.

The Italian Premier, Mussolini, is expected to spring several surprises when the Premiers meet over the week end, such as a demand for a 25% share of the reparations.

On his arrival in London M. Poincaré was cordially received at the station by Premier Bonar Law. Both statesmen expressed hope that the conference would insure Franco-British co-operation for many years to come.

With the start of the conferences on the 9th inst. the Associated Press cablegrams from London gave the following account of the day's proceedings:

The clouds that overhung the reparations conference last night have been partly dispelled by to-day's proceedings.

The four Premiers, Bonar Law, Poincaré, Theunis and Mussolini, held two meetings lasting five hours. There was nothing approaching an agreement, nor had any agreement been expected from one day's deliberations. The chief result was something more nearly approaching an understanding in the positions of the two principal nations, Great Britain and France, than had existed at any time during the last few weeks.

M. Poincaré offered in behalf of France acceptance of a two-year moratorium for Germany provided satisfactory guarantees were forthcoming. These guarantees embraced measures for economic control of the Rhineland industries and partial occupation of the Ruhr district with a division of soldiers to collect customs on the coal output. M. Poincaré did not consider that this program would be regarded as military action against Germany.

Premier Bonar Law's reply, which came in the afternoon, was a surprise to the French and greatly encouraged M. Poincaré, who early in the day had been extremely pessimistic as to the outcome of the conversations.

Mr. Bonar Law at the morning session had intimated that America's insistence on the payment of the British debt had made it very difficult for England to discuss remission of the French war debt. He began his afternoon address by saying that the Balfour note no longer existed for the British Government and that he was free to consider the whole question.

"I am prepared to reconsider the question of cancellation of debts," he went on, "if such cancellation would insure a settlement satisfactory to the British Government."

The British Prime Minister briefly outlined the kind of settlement he desired—a moratorium sufficient for Germany to re-establish her finances and credit and stabilize the mark, no military action of any character by the French, and a reduction of the indemnity to between 30,000,000,000 and 40,000,000,000 gold marks.

M. Poincaré, although reserving his formal reply to the new suggestion until to-morrow, expressed deep pleasure at the British attitude.

The Belgian plan presented by Premier Theunis this afternoon calls for a two-year moratorium for Germany and a loan to be participated in by all nations at the rate of 5,000,000,000 gold marks a year for seven years, making a total of 35,000,000,000. This should represent the total reparations indemnity. This loan will be guaranteed by the wealth of the German Republic.

According to this plan the German debt would be reduced to between 30,000,000,000 and 40,000,000,000 gold marks and France must abandon all idea of military or economic pressure on Germany. The Germans would be required to effect rigid financial reforms, including balancing the budget and stabilizing the mark. Part of this loan would be handed over to Germany for that purpose.

The Belgians propose postponement of the Brussels conference until the end of January or the middle of February. Their plan will probably be discussed Monday.

Karl Bergmann, German financial expert, arrived to-day and presented Chancellor Cuno's proposal to Premier Bonar Law, who in turn will probably present it to the other Premiers at 11 o'clock to-morrow morning. He will submit the plan at Germany's request, and Great Britain has in no sense approved the suggestions. Certain changes have been made in the plan as announced by the German press several days ago, and it is reported that the idea of an external loan has been dropped for a scheme of Allied participation in German industry.

It is understood that the King will receive the four Premiers and four Finance Ministers to-morrow. He is greatly interested in the European economic problem and desires an Allied agreement as soon as possible.

The presentation of the German proposals figured in the conferences of the 1st inst., details being given as follows in a copyright cablegram from London to the New York "Times":

The proposal from the German Government for a new arrangement with regard to reparations accompanied by a personal letter from Herr Cuno, the new German Chancellor, to Premier Bonar Law, was to-day before the conference of Prime Ministers. It was considered to be unsatisfactory and a reply declining it will be drafted and adopted in all probability to-morrow.

The only other plan before the conference at present is one submitted by Signor Mussolini, the Italian Premier, which links up the reparations problem with the question of the inter-Allied debts and general economic condition of Europe. It does not, however, deal with the debts owned by the European countries to the United States. Consideration of this will be resumed as soon as the German proposal has been disposed of.

The Premiers to-day had only one conference in the afternoon. The morning was occupied by visits of the French, Italian and Belgian delegations to Buckingham Palace, where they were received by the King. They proceeded to Downing Street at 3 o'clock and were in consultation for three and a half hours.

Bonar Law To Report to Cabinet.

A brief official communique then issued merely stated the fact that the German note had been received and discussed and announced that before the Premiers meet again to-morrow a full Cabinet Council will be convened to listen to Mr. Bonar Law's report on the situation.

The German note was handed in to the British Foreign Office last night by Dr. Bergmann. It has not been published here, but it is understood to propose the raising of both internal and external loans, the whole of the external and half of the internal loans being handed over to the Reparations Commission. Moreover, the German Government suggested giving the Reparations Commission bond for another 3,000,000,000 gold marks.

In return it asks that no moratorium should be extended for at least two years and for still longer if the amount handed over to the Reparation

Commission as a result of the internal loan exceeds 1,500,000,000 gold marks, and asks that reparations in kind shall be suspended during the moratorium period.

Signor Mussolini said definitely to-night that the Allied Premiers were unanimous in considering the proposal unsatisfactory and had decided to send to-morrow a reply refusing it.

On the succeeding day (the 11th), as we indicate above, the conferences were terminated, the discussions to be taken up anew with the advent of the new year.

INQUIRY OF FINANCIAL EXPERTS ON GERMAN MARK STABILIZATION—MINORITY REPORT.

At the time of the conversations of the Allied Reparations Commission with the German authorities in Berlin, about a month or more ago, on measures for the financial and economic rehabilitation of Germany, it will be recalled that recommendations looking to the stabilization of the mark were submitted by a body of neutral financial experts. The conclusions of the majority members of this body—Robert H. Brand, Prof. Gustav Cassel of Stockholm, Prof. Jeremiah W. Jenks of New York and John Maynard Keynes of England—were given at the time in these columns (Nov. 11, page 2098). During the past week (Dec. 9) the New York "Evening Post" printed the minority report, submitted by Dr. G. Vissering of Holland, Leopold Du Bois of Switzerland and Boris Kamenk, and we reproduce the same herewith:

The Minority Report.

Following is the text of the minority report:

Question 1.—Is any stabilization of the mark possible in the present circumstances?

We reply: Any permanent stabilization of the mark cannot be achieved so long as:

(1) No end has been put to the paper money inflation, the principal cause of which at the present time is the deficit in the German domestic budget and public services;

(2) The balance of payments remains unfavorable in consequence of excess of imports, the flight of capital from the country, the aversion to the mark at home, and the deliveries in kind and cash payments on account of reparations.

Question 2.—If not, what essential conditions must be created in order to render stabilization possible?

Our reply is already contained in the answer to the first question. However, some further elaboration appears to us to be advisable.

(1) The devastating effects of paper money inflation made themselves felt in Germany, as elsewhere, when in the course of the war expenditure was no longer met from the ordinary tax revenue, but by inverted borrowing; that is to say, by increasing the floating debt. Later on this inflation was increased by the necessity for procuring foodstuffs and finally by the deficit in the ordinary and extraordinary domestic budget of the State.

Each inflation, however, leads automatically to further inflation, for every time the purchasing power of the paper mark is diminished a larger sum is required to transact the same business.

If the measures taken to stabilize the mark are to have a permanent effect, the causes of inflation, which lie with the Government, must disappear.

Must Balance Budget.

This means to say that the domestic budget of the State must actually balance, the actual expenditures must be kept within the limits of the estimates, which should be cut down to the lowest possible figure; if the receipts do not suffice to cover expenditures, new sources of revenue must be opened up. Finally, the extraordinary budget must not be burdened with expenditure for investments of capital which might be avoided or postponed until better times, nor must the estimates for the extraordinary expenditure contain proposals for reparation payments in excess of surplus from the receipts of the ordinary budget.

To obtain this object it will be necessary to exercise the strictest economy in State finance, to decrease the staff of the Government offices and administrative departments, and gradually to diminish direct or indirect subsistence allowances.

(2) Unfortunately, we have no exact statistics regarding Germany's present balance of payments, nor even any trustworthy figures as to the balance of trade. All that can be said is that these balances apparently show a considerable deficit.

What is the cause of this deficit?

(a) The falling off of exports, the reasons for which are said to lie partly at home and partly abroad. Among the causes originating at home the decrease in the power of production consequent upon present labor conditions is mentioned. It is not for us to judge upon internal questions of German legislation, but in our opinion both the Government and people should make every possible effort to regain this power of production.

The most important external cause is said to be the obstacles placed in the way of the import of German goods by foreign countries. This is a very delicate question. Complaints have constantly been heard abroad, and not without reason, of the lively competition of German industry with the industries of the various countries during the last few years, which has led to the ruin of several branches of industry.

If Germany wishes the restrictions placed upon her trade to cease, her competition must be normal; that is to say, it must not be based on the cheapness of her goods in consequence of the continual depreciation in her currency.

In any case, however, it may be said that her balance of payments cannot be adjusted unless she secures some possibility of developing her export trade.

(b) An abnormal development of imports in the present circumstances.

German Confidence Shaken.

The mark has depreciated to such an extent that the confidence of Germans in their own currency has been more than shaken. The result has been the cessation of saving and an inclination to spend the mark, either in direct enjoyment or in hoarding up supplies. Were confidence to be restored by the commencement of stabilization, this inducement to import would disappear.

On the other hand, import is promoted by Germany's obligation to allow certain foreign commodities to enter the country, and it is also facilitated by the so-called *Hole in the West*. It is obvious that if the German Government remains powerless in this respect, it will have great trouble in seriously controlling imports and effectively restricting them.

Moreover, at the present time the imports of one commodity have increased, i. e., of corn; these have been particularly large this year in consequence of the bad harvest in Germany. This factor is only temporary.

Finally, the import of coal is chiefly a result of the obligation to supply coal to the Allies. So long as no other arrangements are made this cause of an adverse balance will continue to exist.

(c) The flight of German capital abroad and the aversion to the mark at home. We have no data which would enable us to estimate the extent of this. We are, however, of opinion that, on the one hand, so soon as stabilization of the mark was begun one of the reasons for the flight of capital would be removed and there would be a prospect of a general reflux, and on the other hand, that German finance legislation should take account of the fact that by the taxation of capital and income in excess of certain limits, the flight of capital is promoted and cannot be entirely prevented by draconic regulations.

(d) Finally, Germany has been compelled during the last few years and until quite recently to make cash payments and deliveries in kind on account of reparations, which have considerably influenced her balance of payments.

We consider that any attempt to stabilize the mark would be futile unless these payments are suspended until there is a prospect of equilibrium being insured.

What the Government Says.

To sum up, we would say that as it is one of the essential conditions of the stabilization of the mark that the balance of payments should no longer be adverse to Germany, the above-mentioned unfavorable factors must be removed. The German Government informs us if they were relieved for a sufficiently long period from the reparation payments, they are convinced that a noticeable improvement in the situation would speedily set in. We can but take cognizance of their statement.

Question 3.—What means should be adopted for stabilization so soon as the essential conditions are fulfilled?

So soon as the essential conditions described above are fulfilled or are on the way to realization, we propose the following measures:

I. Standard Value.

In view of the fact that in the present circumstances the paper mark has entirely lost its character of standard of value steps must be taken in the immediate future for the creation of a new and constant standard of value. This would best take the form of a new gold mark. In face of the present impoverishment of the entire political economy of Germany, it will, however, be advisable to abandon the former unit of value and to select a lower unit, which in order to facilitate conversion should be equivalent to a component of the pound sterling or the dollar; for instance, 1-4) of a pound, half a shilling or 1-10 of a dollar. This unit should be called the "new gold mark."

II. Specie Bank.

With a view to effecting the stabilization of the mark, it would be advisable to create an independent organization possessing a legal entity, which might, for instance, take the form of a share company and be styled "specie bank," since it would come into existence with the object of introducing new money.

The initial capital would be fixed at 100,000,000 gold marks, which must be subscribed by the Reichsbank in gold. The Reichsbank would receive in exchange the shares of the new "specie bank," so that the assets of the Reichsbank would thus in no wise be diminished.

As, however, the creation would require a considerable period, we believe that in the first instance a committee consisting of representatives of the Ministry of Finance, of the foreign lenders and of the Reichsbank, should be formed, in order to start the first operations for stabilization.

Reference to the "specie bank" in the following paragraphs should be taken to apply in the meantime only to this committee.

III. International Bank Credit.

Stabilization of the mark can only be effected with the assistance of a considerable credit from foreign sources, amounting for instance to 500,000,000 gold marks in the old currency. This credit would most suitably be granted by foreign banks in the form of an acceptance credit. It must be placed at the disposal of the "specie bank," which could utilize the advance as required by drawing bills, which would enable it to purchase foreign exchange.

Large banks in the United States of America and in European countries with normal currency would be most suitable to grant this credit. This group might also include banks in other countries, which would be approached with a view to their co-operation and declare themselves willing to participate in the transaction.

Under the auspices of the Reparation Commission there should be brought about at the earliest possible date the appointment of an international committee of bankers, whose task it would be to form a banking consortium, to examine in touch with the Reparation Commission and the German Government the question of the credit in connection with the guarantees to be given.

IV. Preliminary Conditions of Stabilization.

We consider it advisable at this point to repeat that final stabilization can only be achieved provided that conditions within the country render possible a stabilization de facto, namely:

(a) By recovering the equilibrium of the budget.
(b) By restoring a favorable trade balance in favor of Germany, or at least by restoring its equilibrium.

(c) By restoring equilibrium of the balance of payments.

As regards (a): Should it be impossible to balance the budget by increasing the revenue from taxation, an attempt must be made to do so by reducing expenditure. As any considerable addition of revenue will scarcely be possible, the end will probably only be attainable by a reduction of expenditure. In the first place, not only must the deficit disappear in the railway and postal administration (including telephones and telegraphs) so that the earnings cover the working expenses, but these departments should also show surpluses sufficient to insure an adequate depreciation fund and to provide interest upon the capital invested. Moreover, it is imperatively necessary that the various subsidies payable in consequence of State control, which give rise to a false scale of prices, should be discontinued at the earliest possible date. Finally, arrangement should be made to reduce the number of Government officials.

As regards extraordinary charges, in so far as these relate to necessary and permanent expenditure on railways, canals, &c., it may be remarked that the funds required should be raised by means of internal long-dated loans. We shall refer to reparation payments further on.

With regard to (b): Every means must be tried to restore a favorable trade balance which would at the same time exert a beneficial influence on the balance of payments. To this end, in the first place, an increase of production must be obtained, both by improving the working methods, by working at increased pressure, and, if necessary, by prolonging the working hours.

At the same time the question of a reduction of wages should be considered, together with their adaption to the existing value of money. It can-

not, however, be expected that the worker would agree to such measures, so long as, on the one hand, the bank would buy up mark holdings and banknotes expressed in marks, principally through the concentration of their activity in the foreign markets.

By suitable action we believe it would be possible effectively to deal with any counter-operations which might be attempted and to obtain a very appreciable improvement in mark exchange on the foreign markets.

To effect an upward movement of the mark is one of the principal objects, as the recent collapse of the mark was mainly due to panic, and the restoration of confidence may speedily bring about a counter tendency.

Assuming that it is possible in this way to restore the mark to an appreciably higher level, the following important advantages will result:

(a) A stop will be put to the disproportionately heavy depreciation of the mark;

(b) The mark will be placed on a basis which, compared with the present position, will not represent the absolute depreciation of all mark holdings;

(c) The higher the value at which the mark can be stabilized, the sooner will the note circulation suffice for the requirements of the country.

On the other hand: (a) Definitive adaption of the scale of wages to the new internal value of the mark will require a more or less lengthy period, during which very serious difficulties will have to be overcome; and (b) an appreciable reduction in prices will be natural consequences.

Improvement in the economic situation by means of stabilization will also make it easier for the Government to follow a sound economic policy. The budget will then rest upon a secure foundation and equilibrium will be restored.

VI. Moment For Provisional Stabilization.

If all these desirable consequences are taken into consideration, it would certainly appear advisable to make an immediate attempt to effect stabilization, provided there is a reasonable prospect of the above-mentioned conditions being fulfilled at no remote date.

VII. Exchange Office.

When the mark has attained a sufficiently high value every effort must be made to maintain it at that rate, either by the purchase of foreign exchange when the mark appreciates or by purchase of marks if the rate requires support. This could best be achieved by an exchange office. The "specie bank" might also take over the functions of this office.

VIII. Essential Parallel Currency.

The end to be aimed at consists in the restoration of a gold currency. Should a transition period be necessary, it might be advisable to leave the paper mark temporarily in circulation and at the same time to introduce the gold mark as a real currency. We hope, however, that direct transition from paper currency to gold currency may be possible.

IX. Definitive Stabilization.

It will then be necessary to consider by what method the paper mark notes still in circulation can be exchanged for gold mark notes or corresponding credits. After these measures have been carried out the abolition of the "specie bank" may be considered, when the Reichsbank would resume sole charge of the issue of notes and the manipulation of the parity of exchange.

X. Floating Debt.

During a certain transition period the increase of the floating debt could be entirely prohibited; therefore, the Government should be given a possibility of increasing the floating debt within certain limits to be prescribed later, until the favorable effect of stabilization has made itself felt.

The measures to be taken must be initiated forthwith, as otherwise it is to be feared that any action will come too late to have any chance of success.

(Signed) DR. G. VISSERING,
LEOPOLD DUBOIS,
BORIS KAMENK.

GERMANY AGREES TO PAY BAVARIAN FINES IMPOSED BY ALLIES—BAVARIA WITHHOLDS APOLOGY CALLED FOR.

On Dec. 2 it was announced in Paris press cablegrams that the Allied Governments had sent a note to Berlin notifying the German Government of the imposition of fines of 500,000 gold marks each against the cities of Ingolstadt and Passau, Bavaria, in consequence of the attacks upon the Allied Control Missions which visited those places in a search for concealed arms. It was also stated in the Dec. 1 cablegrams:

The German Government was informed that if these fines are not paid by Dec. 10 the amounts will be withheld from the Rhineland's remittances to the Bavarian Government.

This action is in pursuance of the recent decision of the Allied Ambassadors' Council, which also demanded apologies from the Bavarian Government, its responses having been unsatisfactory.

Advices to the effect that Germany had agreed to pay the fines, but that it had found it impossible to dismiss the officials involved, were contained in the following copyright cablegram to the New York "Times" from Berlin, Dec. 10:

Ambassador Mayer this afternoon called at the Quai d'Orsay with the reply of the German Government to the note of the Ambassadors' Council in regard to the recent incidents at Passau and Ingolstadt, in Bavaria, when officers of the Allied Armament Control Board engaged in carrying out their duties were attacked and brutally beaten by a mob.

Everything pointed to a deliberate plot on the part of the Bavarian local authorities, for the officers were lured into an evident trap. They escaped with difficulty from receiving what might have been more serious injuries or even a worse fate. Severe penalties were called for both by France and England, an English officer having been among the party attacked, and the Ambassador's Council dispatched a note demanding a full official apology, the imposition of a fine of 500,000 gold marks on each town and the removal of their Burgomasters and Chiefs of Police.

In to-day's reply the German Government, having reiterated the apology contained in its previous declaration, submitted some days ago, sets forth that it alone is qualified under the German Constitution to act on behalf of the Federal States, thus covering the Bavarian refusal to apologize. The note then states that it is impossible to dismiss the officials involved because they were appointed, not by the authorities but by public election. Lastly, while protesting that the amount of fines imposed is excessive in the extreme, the German Government announces that it holds the 1,000,000 gold marks demanded at the disposal of the Ambassadors' Council.

The Ambassadors' Council to-morrow will discuss the note, but pending Premier Poincaré's return from London it is unlikely that a reply will be drafted.

Associated Press advices from Munich the same date (Dec. 10) said:

That protection for the allied Commissions in Bavaria is impossible, if they do not want to be protected and do not advise the police authorities, of purposed visits to various localities, is semi-officially announced as the standpoint of the Bavarian Government regarding the attacks on the interallied military control officers at Passau and Ingolstadt.

In view of this attitude the Bavarian Administration holds that the allied demand for indemnity are unjustified and untenable in international law.

Calling attention to the alleged aim of the commissions to keep secret their plans of visits in order to drop in unexpectedly on communities, the Government asserts that it is understandable, humanly and politically, why such excursions "in the midst of peace" will not be borne willingly by the Bavarian people. Yet, it is stated the Government thinks excuses could be admitted as due the Allies, because such attacks are regretted by the Administration. The Government is declared to be ready at any time to assume the protection of Entente commissions.

The above attitude is expected to be announced in the Diet to-morrow by Premier Von Knilling. Meanwhile, conferences have been proceeding between the Premier and the Minister of the Interior, but these have been rendered difficult of accomplishment through the fact that quick consultation with the Berlin Government is impossible because snowstorms have broken down the telephone lines.

It is generally feared here that the Berlin Government again will adopt the attitude of yielding to the Entente. This apprehension was expressed at a large mass meeting of the Nationalist organizations held in Munich yesterday.

It is commonly believed that the recent demands have not exactly created new discontent among the masses because the dislike of France among the Bavarians is of long standing, and the large number of veterans of the war of 1870 still living are not slow to relate instances of alleged injustices the Germans suffered during the occupation of France.

The antipathy for France reached such heights at yesterday's meeting that the leaders of the movement had to exhort the thousand present to remain calm. The assemblage passed a resolution demanding unconditional rejection of the Entente demands on Ingolstadt and Passau and a firm attitude on the part of the Central Government against the allied ultimatum and thanked the Bavarian Government for the steps it has taken in the situation.

The resolution also demanded the abrogation of the new law for the defense of the republic and the release of Captain Ehrhardt, who was arrested some time ago and taken to Leipzig for trial for participation in the Kapp coup. Ehrhardt was described in the resolution as "a fellow combatant in the battle of Skagerrak." Other demands included the deportation of non-Bavarian dealers in the commodity market; sharp control of production and export; greater restrictions on foreigners; and the death penalty for all profiteers and speculators.

The adoption of the resolutions was followed by an address by Dr. Roth, former Minister of Justice, in which he assailed the parliamentary system and advocated a national dictatorship. With regard to the Cuno Ministry, Dr. Roth said:

"Because this Cabinet is not at the apex of the national movement it will not have long life. Will the Cabinet show the necessary firmness against the French ultimatum? God grant that the German Government may not constitute itself the executioner for the French intention at humiliation."

A protest by Ingolstadt municipality against the Allies' demands was made known in cablegrams from that city (Associated Press) Dec. 10 as follows:

Sharply protesting against the Entente demands for compensation in connection with the attacks of members of the Inter-Allied Military Commission, the Municipal Council has published a formal statement in which it calls attention to the fact that neither the Council nor the police were advised in advance of the intended visit to the town of the Commission.

The statement declares that, notwithstanding the fact that the authorities only learned of the visit of the Commission several hours after it had taken place, the Entente proceeded to levy on Ingolstadt "this absolutely impossible fine," without awaiting an investigation or establishing the responsibility of the municipality for the attack.

"Such procedure," the statement continues, "is understandable only if one regards the blindest of frenzy of an enemy as the cause. The Council of Ingolstadt protests most solemnly before the world against this procedure of our enemies, dictated by such terrible hate. It refuses such a senseless demand for money."

The protest has been unanimously adopted by all the political factions.

On Dec. 24 the Associated Press reported from Paris that the Allied Council of Ambassadors had decided not to accept the Berlin Government's offer to pay the 1,000,000 gold marks demanded of the Bavarian Government as penalties, for the recent attacks on Allied Military Control officers at Passau and Ingolstadt, unless the Bavarian Government agrees to carry out the other penalties imposed. These, it is stated, include an apology from the Bavarian Premier and punishment of those guilty for the attacks.

In a copyright cablegram from Paris Dec. 1 the New York "Times" said:

The severity of these measures is due to the very insufficient excuse which has been given by the German and Bavarian Governments in reply to the former note of the Allies sent through the Council of Ambassadors sitting here. Three main incidents occurred at Stettin, Ingolstadt and Passau, and immediately on their occurrence the Ambassadors sent a demand for an apology and redress. To each demand the German reply was said to be evasive, and the Allied Governments were forced to decide on energetic measures as essential if the protection of the members of the Commission of Military Control and the efficacy of their work were to be assured.

The Council of Ambassadors, therefore, after consultation with their Governments, sent last evening to the German Ambassador here a note signed by Premier Poincaré as Chairman of the Council, asking him to make known to his Government immediately the following decisions:

"Before Dec. 10, satisfaction which has not yet been given for incidents at Stettin and Passau must be given. Reparations and penalties which will be indicated to the German Government by the Interallied Control Commission for the affair at Ingolstadt must be carried out. A letter must be sent by the Bavarian Prime Minister to the Interallied Commission expressing apologies for the incidents at Passau and Ingolstadt. Each of these towns will be fined 500,000 gold marks. In the event that these

payments are not made, or being only partially made by Dec. 10, the Allied Governments will collect to their account the sum of 1,000,000 gold marks—or whatever remaining sum may be due from the resources which the Bavarian Government has in the Palatinate."

GERMANY FEARFUL OF UNITED STATES TARIFF.

In Berlin cablegrams Dec. 10 the Associated Press said:

The effects of the new Tariff Law of the United States are so intense and far-reaching as to be equalled only by the "monstrous disturbing powers" of the Versailles Treaty, declares the "Allgemeine Zeitung."

The customs barrier erected by America, says the newspaper, leaves but a limited opportunity for countries requiring imports from the United States to pay for them in exports to America.

Coupled with the general destitution of Europe, this could mean nothing other than a passive trade balance for every European country. If the oft-expressed wish of the United States for "the recovery of the unhealthy economic world" were really in earnest, the new law would have presented an entirely different appearance.

"In any case," adds the "Zeitung," "it is a very sharp, yet unfortunately double-edged, weapon, whose point must ultimately be directed against their own people."

THE RAILWAYS OF FRANCE—BOOKLET BY BROWN BROTHERS & CO.

Charles F. Spears made an investigation of the French railways for Brown Brothers & Co., of this city, a few months ago. The result is seen in an attractive booklet just published by the firm. The matter is presented in an interesting way and in brief compass furnishes a very good outline of the situation and characteristics of the leading French railways. A distinctive feature of the essay is that each of the French systems is compared with some one important American railroad as it was thought that through such comparison the field of operations and development of the French lines individually might come into plainer view in the American mind. As the best way of indicating the method of treating the subject, we quote the first two paragraphs on the Paris-Lyons-Mediterranean System, as follows:

Paris—Lyons—Mediterranean.

The Physical characteristics of the Paris-Lyons-Mediterranean RR., the leading system in France, are quite similar to those of the Great Western Ry. in England and the Atchison Topeka & Santa Fe Ry. in the United States. They are perhaps best comparable to the latter, inasmuch as each is the largest transportation line under one corporate management in its country and each radiates from a capital in the interior, across mountain ranges, through arid regions to tidewater and along a semi-tropical coast. In such a study Paris compares with Chicago, Lyons with Kansas City, Dijon, entering way to Switzerland, with Denver, and Marseilles with San Francisco. It is true that the Paris-Lyons-Mediterranean covers only half the mileage of the Santa Fe, or 6,125 miles as against about 12,000 miles, but it represents 25% of the total French railroad mileage and its gross earnings fluctuate between 30-35% of the combined gross receipts of the six separate French systems. The company also operates 641 miles in Algeria, of which 412 miles are under lease. In railroad nomenclature the "P.L.M." would justify the designation "granger" road as traversing great regions of agricultural land. Its traffic is made up to a considerable degree of farm products, but it also moves a large amount of manufactured articles into and away from the busy industrial centres south of Paris, while its volume of passenger traffic and particularly long distance traffic is in excess of that of the other roads. Here again the parallel with the Atchison is justified when we think of the trains de luxe leaving Paris for the Riviera or Italy and even Constantinople and the California limited of the Santa Fe between Chicago and Los Angeles.

Better possibly than any other French system the "P.L.M." illustrates the policy of non-competitive transportation. We find it the only railroad entering Marseilles, a city with a population of 800,000 and having exclusive rights to the very profitable traffic between Marseilles and the Italian border. Also it has nearly a complete monopoly of the traffic of Lyons and of the Rhone Valley.

First in territorial extent, the Paris-Lyons Mediterranean is second in point of credit and, while the Nord Ry. throughout its long life to 1914 was independent of French Government assistance, the "P.L.M." after 1897 paid up all of its debts to the Government and thereafter until the great war earned its fixed charges, returned its shareholders a dividend which was 11.4% in 1914 and had for some time been sharing its excess profits with the French Treasury. Like the Nord Ry., its Government guarantee expired just after the crisis in 1914 developed. Subsequently it was permitted to issue bonds to cover deficits of approximately 1,200,000,000 francs which accumulated between the end of 1914 and 1920.

EFTIMIE ANTONESCO, OF RUMANIAN DEBT FUNDING COMMISSION, RETURNS HOME—CONFERENCES IN WASHINGTON.

The Rumanian Debt Commissioner, Eftimie Antonesco, who arrived in the United States early last month to confer with members of the World War Foreign Debt Commission at Washington on the funding of the Rumanian war debt, sailed for Europe on Dec. 4 on the steamer Aquitania, following the conclusion of the conferences. With his departure Mr. Antonesco was reported as saying:

It is agreeable to the American authorities that a plan be worked out similar to the handling of the Austrian debt, but this is contingent upon the approval of the plan by the interested Allied nations.

A reference to preliminary conferences between Secretary of the Treasury Mellon, Mr. Antonesco and Constantin Antoniadis, also a member of the Rumanian Commission, appeared in our issue of Nov. 18, page 2211. On Nov. 22 the Treasury Department at Washington issued the following statement indicating that the Rumanian Commission had

not been given full authority to come to a final conclusion, and that it would return to Rumania for a further discussion of the situation.

The Rumanian Commission, consisting of Mr. Eftimie Antonesco, Mr. Constantin Antoniadis and the Charge d'Affaires of the Rumanian Government, Mr. Frederic C. Nano, had a formal meeting with the World War Foreign Debt Commission this morning.

The Rumanian Commission was charged by its Government first to consider and verify with the American Government the exact amount of the debt of the Rumanian Government to the United States and the amount of interest. This has been done.

The Rumanian Commission, on behalf of the Rumanian Government, has also presented full information as to the financial condition of Rumania and explained to the Funding Commission the difficulty which the Rumanian Government finds in determining at the present time the exact date when it may become possible to begin payment of interest on its debt to the United States.

The Rumanian Commission has not been given full authority by its Government to come to a final conclusion as to the refunding of its debt and the determination of the time at which interest payments shall begin. The Rumanian Commission, however, presented to the Funding Commission a statement to the effect that it was the intention of the Rumanian Government to meet the debt at such time as it should become possible to do so, and has received from the Funding Commission a complete understanding as to the position and desires of the United States Government regarding the funding and ultimate payment, and the exact powers which the Funding Commission has for accepting bonds running for not more than 25 years for the principal of the debt, the funding of accrued interest, and to such extent as may be desirable, the funding of future interest.

It is understood that the Rumanian Commission will now return to Rumania for a further discussion of the situation, and desires that this meeting should be considered in the light of a preliminary meeting, further negotiations to be undertaken at a later date.

FAR EASTERN REPUBLIC AT CHITA VOTES TO AMALGAMATE WITH SOVIET RUSSIA.

The Far Eastern Republic at Chita (Siberia) was abolished on Nov. 17, when the Assembly voted to unite with the Soviet Government at Moscow. An Associated Press cablegram from Berlin Nov. 17 said:

A Russian telegraphic agency message from Chita is quoted in a Moscow dispatch to the Socialist "Red Flag," to the effect that the Government of the Far Eastern Republic has unanimously decided to dissolve that Republic and make it a part of Soviet Russia.

The message declares a revolutionary board of seven members has been established and that fifteen delegates to the all-Russian "Red Congress" have been selected.

Moscow advices in the matter contained in a copyright cablegram to the New York "Times" Nov. 14 stated:

The National Assembly of the Far Eastern Republic has just voted a resolution abrogating its own death and demanding union with Soviet Russia. This probably will be granted, which means that the Far East territory will retain local autonomy in the same degree as the Tartar Republic to-day. The direct authority of the Soviet Government henceforth will extend from Petrograd to Vladivostok.

In connection with the recent occupation by the Red forces of the latter city the real significance of the projected change in the Far Eastern Republic's status becomes apparent. First of all, it eliminates the possibility of a separate agreement between the United Eastern Republic. Secondly, it cuts away the ground from the Japanese pretension to treat only with the Far Eastern Republic on the Siberian question without participation of Soviet Russia. Finally, it is an announcement to the whole world that Russia has now re-established her former sovereignty.

Unless the Baltic States, Finland or Poland adopt an aggressive attitude toward Russia they will be allowed to retain full independence, though in the case of the Baltic States it is likely that economic reasons will bring them back to the Russian fold before long. But apart from them the Russian flag—the Red flag of world revolution, which has become the national flag of Russia—rules from the Baltic to the Pacific.

In announcing that troops of the Chita Red Army representing the Far Eastern Republic of Siberia were in complete possession of Vladivostok on Oct. 26, Associated Press cablegrams that date added:

The last of the Japanese soldiers evacuated the city yesterday after handing over to the Russians an inventory of the (Allied) arms left behind and the keys to the warehouses containing them. Only a Japanese staff captain remained to complete the transfer of military stores.

The Japanese troops left the Siberian port in ten transports. An American gunboat, British and French cruisers, and Japanese warships remain in the Vladivostok Harbor to protect foreigners until the Chita forces have taken over the administration and assumed responsibility for maintaining order.

The only Japanese soldiers remaining on Russian soil are those in the northern part of Saghalien Island.

But the Japanese public is demanding their return also, as it is feared that restoration of trade with Siberia will be impossible unless this is accomplished.

OFFERING OF \$5,000,000 DALLAS JOINT STOCK LAND BANK BONDS.

At 102¼ and accrued interest, to yield over 4.70% to 1932 and 5% thereafter, Lee, Higginson & Co., the Illinois Trust & Savings Bank of Chicago and the Merchants' Loan & Trust Co. of Chicago, offered on Dec. 15 \$5,000,000 5% Farm Loan bonds of the Dallas Joint Stock Land Bank of Dallas, Tex. The bonds, issued under the Federal Farm Loan Act, are dated Nov. 1 1922 and are due Nov. 1 1952. They are redeemable at 100 and accrued interest on Nov. 1 1932 or any interest date thereafter. They are coupon bonds, and fully registered bonds, interchangeable, in denominations of \$10,000 and \$1,000. Principal and semi-annual interest (May 1 and Nov. 1) payable at the bank of issue, or coupons may be presented for payment at offices of Lee,

Higginson & Co. in Boston, New York or Chicago. A letter from Hugh W. Ferguson, Esq., President of the Dallas Joint Stock Land Bank, incorporated in the offering, is summarized as follows:

Security.—These bonds are direct obligations of the Dallas Joint Stock Land Bank and are secured by deposit of United States Government bonds or certificates of indebtedness, or by first mortgages upon improved farm lands having a value at least 100% in excess of the mortgages thereon, which equity is steadily increased by semi-annual amortization of the loans. All such mortgages have been approved by the Federal Farm Loan Board, based upon appraisals by its own agents. Further protection is afforded by \$850,000 paid-in capital stock carrying double liability and surplus and undivided profits amounting on Nov. 30 1922 to \$118,237.

Government Supervision.—The bank operates under a charter dated July 3 1919, granted by the Federal Farm Loan Board, which exercises rigid supervisory powers over the Joint Stock as well as the Federal Land banks. The Farm Loan Board approves all loans before authorizing issuance of bonds against them, appoints registrars who are custodians of the securities, and appraisers, prescribes the terms and form of bond issues, and examines the condition of the banks at least twice each year. Provisions of the Federal Farm Loan Act and regulations of the Federal Farm Loan Board rigidly prescribe the investments of the banks, the amortization of loans and the accumulation of reserves or surplus.

Territory Served.—States of Texas and Oklahoma. The bank's policy is to restrict loans to the black land belt of Texas and Southern Oklahoma, where land values have been well established for many years. Within the loaning field covered by this bank lie more than one-tenth of the farms and approximately one-twelfth of the total farm wealth of the United States. In these two States, comprising a farm wealth according to the United States Census in excess of \$6,100,000,000, there are estimated to be more than \$1,500,000,000 of farm credits, assuring a large supply of prime loans for this bank for many years.

Legal Investments.—These bonds are legal investments for all fiduciary and trust funds under the jurisdiction of the Federal Government and are acceptable as security for postal savings and certain deposits of Government funds. The banks may be designated by the Secretary of the Treasury as fiscal agents of the Government and depositories of public funds.

OFFERING OF \$1,000,000 WICHITA JOINT STOCK LAND BANK BONDS.

On Dec. 12 Halsey, Stuart & Co., Inc., of New York and Chicago, and William R. Compton Co. of New York and St. Louis offered at 102½ and interest, to yield over 4.65% to the optional date and 5% thereafter, \$1,000,000 Wichita Joint Stock Land Bank 5% bonds. They are dated Dec. 1 1922, due Dec. 1 1952, and are redeemable at par and accrued interest on any interest date after ten years from date of issue. Coupon bonds of \$1,000 denomination, fully registered and interchangeable. Interest is payable semi-annually, June 1 and Dec. 1. Principal and interest are payable at the Wichita Joint Stock Land Bank, or through the bank's fiscal agent in Chicago at the holder's option. The bonds are acceptable as security for postal savings and other deposits of Government funds. They are exempt from Federal, State, municipal and local taxation. The following is from the circular:

The Wichita Joint Stock Land Bank is restricted by its charter, granted Sept. 29 of this year, to loans on farm lands in Kansas and Oklahoma, a territory with which the management and directors of the institution have been familiar for a great many years.

C. L. Davidson, the President of this institution, and who serves in the same capacity the Guarantee Title & Trust Co. and the Guarantee State Bank and as Chairman of the board of directors of the Fourth National Bank, all of Wichita, started in the farm loan business in Wichita as early as 1882, when he was associated with his father, whose firm was the S. L. Davidson Mortgage Co. Mr. Davidson continued actively in the mortgage business until 1914, when he organized the Guarantee Title & Trust Co., which has continued loaning money on farm lands in Kansas and Oklahoma. Mr. Leck Davidson, who has been associated with his father in the farm loan business since 1908, will serve the bank in capacity of Treasurer. Robert Campbell, the Secretary, was formerly Chief Appraiser of the Federal Land Bank of Wichita and established practically all of the national farm loan associations of that bank.

OFFERING OF \$3,000,000 KANSAS CITY (MO.) JOINT STOCK LAND BANK BONDS.

An offering of \$3,000,000 Kansas City (Mo.) Joint Stock Land Bank 5% Farm Loan bonds was announced on Dec. 12 by Blair & Co., Inc., the First National Bank of Detroit, and Kelley, Drayton & Co. They were offered at 103 and interest, to yield 4½% to the redeemable date and 5% thereafter. The bonds are dated Nov. 1 1922, are due Nov. 1 1952, and are redeemable at par and interest on Nov. 1 1932, or any interest date thereafter, and they are in coupon form of \$1,000 each, fully registerable and coupon and registered bonds are interchangeable. Principal and semi-annual interest (May 1 and Nov. 1) are payable at the Kansas City Joint Stock Land Bank or coupons may be presented for collection at the office of Blair & Co., New York. As we have before indicated, the bank was chartered by the Federal Farm Loan Board on Jan. 9 1918, as the Liberty Joint Stock Land Bank of Salina, Kan. In the early part of 1922 the main office of the bank was moved to Kansas City, Mo., and the name was changed to Liberty Joint Stock Land Bank of Kansas City. The present name was adopted by an amendment to the charter approved by the Federal Farm Loan Board effective May 18 1922. A letter from Walter

Cravens, President of the bank, embodied in the circular, says in part:

The charter of the bank confines its operations to the States of Kansas and Missouri. The policy of the bank limits its loans to the best agricultural districts in these States. The 53 Kansas counties in which it has made loans have the greatest rainfall and greatest productivity of any farm land in that State. They embrace 50.58% of the farm area in the State. The 54 Missouri counties in which the bank operates have soil and climate of the same general character as the soil and climate of Iowa and Illinois. Their area is 51.69% of the total farm area of the State. According to the United States Census of 1920, the average value of land in the 53 Kansas counties was \$70.24 per acre. In the 54 Missouri counties it was \$106.51 per acre. The bank's loans in effect in these two States on Nov. 29 1922 averaged about \$36 per acre of land mortgaged for their security, or about 40% of the appraised value of the mortgaged land. (The law permits 60% plus 20% of the value of insured improvements). The average size of its loans is about \$8,000. All loans are first mortgages and are for strictly agricultural purposes.

The paid-in capital of the bank is \$1,602,750, which under the law carries double liability. It has outstanding \$17,552,000 bonds, excluding this issue. In point of size the Kansas City Joint Stock Land Bank of Kansas City, Mo., ranks as one of the three largest Joint Stock Land banks of the United States. From the very beginning the bank has been successful. At the present time the bank holds over \$20,000,000 farm loan mortgages.

OFFERING OF \$500,000 BONDS OF MUNICIPALITY OF BAYAMON, PORTO RICO.

Ames, Emerich & Co. of this City, announced on Dec. 13 an offering of \$500,000 5% gold bonds of the Municipality of Bayamon, guaranteed principal and interest by the Government of Porto Rico, (an insular possession of the United States). The bonds are dated July 1 1922 and are due semi-annually July 1 1923 to Jan. 1 1952, inclusive. Principal and semi-annual interest (Jan. 1 and July 1), are payable at the National City Bank, New York. The bonds are in coupon form in \$1,000 denomination. Principal payable in gold, interest payable in lawful money. The bonds are exempt from all Federal, State and local taxation in the United States and Porto Rico. The following financial statement is presented in the offering circular.

Financial Statement.

Assessed valuation, 1921.....	\$6,434,246
Total bonded debt (this issue only debt).....	500,000
Population, 1920 Census, 30,739.....	

The bonds were offered at a price to yield 4.65% in the case of those due 1923 to 1931, inclusive, and 4.60% due 1932 to 1952, inclusive. It was announced yesterday (Dec. 15) that the offering had been closed, the bonds having been sold. The following is from the offering circular:

The Municipality of Bayamon is one of the largest in point of population in Porto Rico. It is situated about 7 miles from the capital, San Juan, and comprises the town of Bayamon, the adjoining town of Catano and a number of rural communities. Its resources are essentially agricultural, the principal products being sugarcane, fruits, tobacco and coffee.

These bonds, issued for the construction of an aqueduct, a sewer system, school buildings and other public improvements, are direct obligations of the Municipality of Bayamon and are payable, principal and interest, from taxes levied on all the taxable property of the municipality assessed, levied and collected by the Treasurer of Porto Rico, in the same manner as the taxes of the Government of Porto Rico.

Under an Act of Congress of the United States and of the legislature of Porto Rico, the good faith of Porto Rico, is irrevocably pledged to payment of principal and interest on these bonds. Porto Rico, with a population of 1,297,772, has an assessed valuation of \$304,297,564 and net debt of about 3.3%.

Legality to be approved by John C. Thompson, Esq., Attorney, New York.

OFFERING OF \$250,000 SHENANDOAH VALLEY JOINT STOCK LAND BANK BONDS.

A \$250,000, issue of Shenandoah Valley Joint Stock Land Bank 5% farm loan bonds of Staunton, W. Va., was offered jointly by Fred'k E. Nolting & Co., of Richmond, Va., and Baker, Watts & Co., of Baltimore, Md., on Dec. 15. The offering price is 102.50 and accrued interest. To yield about 4.65% to optional maturity (1932), and 5% thereafter. The bonds, issued under the Federal Farm Loan Act, are dated Dec. 1 1922 and become due Dec. 1 1942. They are not redeemable before Dec. 1 1932. They are in coupon form, fully registerable and interchangeable, and are in denominations of \$1,000 and \$500. Principal and interest are payable at the office of the bank, Staunton, Va., or at the Hanover National Bank, in New York City. The bonds are legal investments for all fiduciary and trust funds under the jurisdiction of the Federal Government and acceptable as security for postal savings and other deposits of Government funds. By Act of Congress these bonds are declared instrumentalities of the Government of the United States, and are prepared and engraved by the Treasury Department. The circular says:

These bonds are obligations of the Shenandoah Valley Joint Stock Land Bank of Staunton, and are collaterally secured by either first mortgages on farm lands or United States Government bonds or certificates of indebtedness. The liability of the bank's shareholders is double the amount of their stock.

The Shenandoah Valley Joint Stock Land Bank of Staunton, Va., is restricted by its charter to loans on farm lands in Virginia and West Vir-

ginia, a large proportion of its loans having been made in the famous Shenandoah Valley of Virginia, where farm values are very stable, the farms exceptionally productive, and in demand.

This bank operated under Federal charter and the supervision of the Federal Farm Loan Board, a bureau of the Treasury Department of the United States. The issuance of these bonds and the collateral pledged as security have been approved by the Federal Farm Loan Board.

The Act under which they are issued provides that: "Farm Loan Bonds issued under the provision of the Act shall be deemed and held to be instrumentalities of the Government of the United States and as such they and the income derived therefrom shall be exempt from Federal, State, municipal and local taxation."

BROKERS UNCONCERNED OVER ACTION OF EXCHANGE IN DISCONTINUING BORROWING REPORTS—LOANS NOW ABOUT \$1,825,000,000.

Anent the action of the New York Stock Exchange in rescinding its requirements for reports of members' borrowings (referred to in our issue of Dec. 9, page 2525), we quote the following from the "Wall Street Journal" of Dec. 9:

Wall Street paid little attention to the Stock Exchange announcement that brokers no longer were required to make periodic reports of money borrowings. This order waived a ruling enacted in September 1918. Abolition of the money loan reports was granted by the Federal Reserve Bank upon request of the New York Stock Exchange.

Coming when Wall Street brokers' loans seemingly were large, the announcement was a surprise. Within the past few months brokers' loans soared close to \$2,000,000,000, and now are approximately \$1,825,000,000. Although many securities are selling below their recent high levels, the shrinkage in brokers' loans has been small.

When loans were higher recently, bears seized upon this fact as an argument to sell stocks. That element was of the belief that loans were excessive, irrespective of banking opinion that such was not the case, in view of the soundness of the country's credit structure. The Stock Exchange announcement was especially important, as it reflected what had been stated in these columns repeatedly—that brokers' loans were far from any danger point, owing to our enormous gold holdings, smaller Reserve bank loans and moderate demand for credit in other quarters.

BANKRUPTCY DISCHARGE OF ALLAN A. RYAN AMENDED.

Judge Julian Mack in the Federal District Court on Dec. 13 granted a motion interposed by Allan A. Ryan to amend his discharge from bankruptcy granted Nov. 20 last, so that he might be relieved of all liabilities and obligations contracted by Allan A. Ryan & Co., as well as his individual debts. This action was taken by Mr. Ryan, it is said, to remove all doubts of his being relieved of liability under the Ryan company obligation which was not mentioned in the original petition through, he alleges, the inadvertence of the Clerk of the Federal District Court. We referred to Mr. Ryan's release from bankruptcy in our issue of Nov. 25, page 2325.

CORTLANDT WARD & CO. AND M. C. SCHNEIDER & CO., NEW YORK, IN BANKRUPTCY.

On Dec. 12 an involuntary petition in bankruptcy was filed in the Federal District Court against Cortlandt Ward and Andrew Nimmo, composing the stock brokerage firm of Cortlandt Ward & Co., 25 Broadway, this city.

An involuntary petition in bankruptcy was filed in the Federal District Court on the same date (Dec. 12) against Milton C. Schneider and Charles A. Haldimand, doing a stock brokerage business under the firm name of M. C. Schneider & Co. at 50 Broad St., this city.

The Consolidated Stock Exchange of New York had removed ticker service from both the above firms and also from W. W. Weese & Co., 23 Beaver St., following an investigation by the Committee on Business Welfare and the Bureau of Auditing and Accounting. None of the firms were members of the Exchange.

SENATE PASSES BILL LIMITING NATIONAL BANKS REPORTS TO THREE A YEAR.

The U. S. Senate on Dec. 5 passed the bill reducing the number of annual reports which are required of national banks from five to three. The bill (as we stated in our issue of July 15 1922, page 254), passed the House on June 3. The only particular wherein they differ is as to the enacting clause, which in the House bill had amended "paragraph 440 of Section 5211 of the Act of June 3 1864, as amended 1877," while the Senate bill simply amends "Section 5211 of the Revised Statutes of the United States as amended." The following is the bill passed by the Senate on the 5th inst.:

Be it Enacted, &c., That Section 5211 of the Revised Statutes of the United States, as amended, be further amended to read as follows:

Sec. 5211. Every association shall make to the Comptroller of the Currency not less than three reports during each year, according to the form which may be prescribed by him, verified by oath or affirmation of the president or cashier of such association, and attested by the signature of at least three of the directors. Each such report shall exhibit, in detail and under appropriate heads, the resources and liabilities of the association at the close of business on any past day by him specified, and shall be transmitted to the comptroller within five days after the receipt of a request or requi-

sition therefor from him, and in the same form in which it is made to the Comptroller shall be published in a newspaper published in the place where such association is established, or if there is no newspaper in the place, then in the one published nearest thereto in the same county, at the expense of the association; and such proof of publication shall be furnished as may be required by the Comptroller. The Comptroller shall also have power to call for special reports from any particular association whenever in his judgment the same are necessary in order to a full and complete knowledge of its condition.

INVESTMENT BANKERS ASSOCIATION ENLISTS CO-OPERATION OF MEMBERS IN EFFECTING REDEMPTION OF CALLED VICTORY NOTES—USE OF ASSOCIATION'S NAME.

The Investment Bankers Association of America announced this week plans for enlisting the co-operation of the members of its country-wide organization in bringing to the attention of the investing public the importance of presenting for payment or exchange the United States Victory notes called for redemption on Dec. 15. Clarkson Potter, Chairman of the New York group of the Association, issued a notice to all the members of that group, making public a statement issued by John A. Prescott, President of the I. B. A. Members of the Association were urged to devote advertising space where possible up to Dec. 15 for the purpose of impressing upon the public the necessity of presenting the Victory notes when they fell due. President Prescott said:

In connection with the refunding of United States Victory notes called for payment Dec. 15, Treasury certificates due same date and Victory notes maturing next May, you have noted the present offering for subscription of certificates bearing interest at 3½% and 4% and maturing in three months and one year respectively, and two and one-half year 4½% Treasury notes aggregating all told some \$700,000,000.

It is very important to the investment market in general that owners of Victory notes called for payment Dec. 15 should promptly present same for payment or exchange in order to avoid loss of interest which certainly will result if present indifference continues.

I am officially advised that a very substantial part of the Victories called for redemption Dec. 15 are still in the hands of the public and I therefore urge you to request each member of your group to use either a part of his advertising space between now and Dec. 15 by insertion of small block advertisement or preferably devote entire space available for that purpose, and I suggest that an advertisement along the following lines will be most effective.

Important notice to owners of United States Victory Loan 4½% notes. It is officially estimated that of \$700,000,000 of these notes called for payment on Dec. 15 1922, more than half have not yet been presented for redemption. Interest ceases after Dec. 15 1922. In order to avoid loss of interest you should present your notes now either for payment in cash or in exchange for new issue United States Treasury 4½% notes maturing June 15 1925, offered for subscription at par. We recommend such exchanges and offer our services in connection therewith without charge.

Where entire space in daily press is devoted to this subject, you are hereby authorized to the first time to use after your signature the words—"Members Investment Bankers Association of America"—up to and including Dec. 15 1922, but not thereafter, but where such notices constitute part of other advertisements, no such use of these words is permitted.

F. J. PARSONS, MEMBER OF REAL ESTATE SECURITIES COMMITTEE OF INVESTMENT BANKERS ASSOCIATION.

Frank J. Parsons, Vice-President of the United States Mortgage & Trust Co., of this city, has been appointed a member of the Real Estate Securities Committee of the Investment Bankers Association of America.

NEWLY APPOINTED CLASS "C" FEDERAL RESERVE DIRECTORS.

Announcement was made Dec. 11 of the appointment of the following by the Federal Reserve Board to serve as Class "C" directors for a term of three years each, beginning Jan. 1 1923, on the board of directors of the Federal Reserve banks indicated:

- Jesse H. Metcalf, Providence, R. I., Federal Reserve Bank of Boston.
- Pierre Jay, New York City, Federal Reserve Bank of New York.
- H. B. Thompson, Wilmington, Delaware, Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia.
- L. B. Williams, Cleveland, Ohio, Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland.
- W. H. Kettig, Birmingham, Ala., Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta.
- F. C. Ball, Muncie, Ind., Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago.
- C. P. J. Mooney, Memphis, Tenn., Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis.
- George W. McCormick, Menominee, Mich., Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis.
- Fred O. Roof, Denver, Colo., Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City.
- William Sproule, San Francisco, Calif., Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco.

The Board's announcement also said:

At a later date the Board will announce the name of its appointee to serve for a three-year term as Class "C" director on the board of directors of the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, Texas. The unexpired term of the late W. F. Ramsey as Class "C" director of the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas has been filled by appointment of Mr. Clarence E. Linz of Dallas. Mr. Linz's term expires Dec. 31 1923.

The Board, at a later date, will also announce the name of its appointee to serve for a term of three years as Class "C" Director of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond.

The Federal Reserve Board has designated the following named Class "C" directors to succeed themselves for a term of one year as Federal

Reserve Agent and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Federal Reserve banks indicated:

F. H. Curtiss, Federal Reserve Bank of Boston; Pierre Jay, Federal Reserve Bank of New York; R. L. Austin, Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia; D. C. Wills, Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland; Caldwell Hardy, Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond; J. A. McCord, Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta; Wm. A. Heath, Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago; Wm. McC. Martin, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis; John H. Rich, Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis; Asa E. Ramsay, Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, and John Perrin, Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco.

The Federal Reserve Board will, at a later date, announce the name of the Class "C" director designated as Federal Reserve Agent and Chairman of the board of directors of the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, Texas.

PRESIDENT HARDING APPROVES SECRETARY MELLON'S PROPOSAL TO REDUCE SURTAX.

The following from Washington Dec. 12 appeared in the "Journal of Commerce":

Administration indorsement to Secretary Mellon's proposal for reducing the existing surtaxes on income of over \$300,000 by 50% was given today by President Harding.

President Harding let it be known that he considers Mr. Mellon's recommendations to Congress for slicing in half the existing surtax rates as very wise. At the same time, however, the President was said to see no possibility of action upon the matter at this session of Congress.

Secretary Mellon, it is understood, does not expect any Congressional action upon his suggestion until next year, although some steps towards revision of the revenue laws to prevent the disappearance of Government receipts from loopholes in the Act are looked for before Congress adjourns.

Secretary Mellon's recommendations respecting lower surtaxes were referred to in our issue of a week ago (page 2533).

GOVERNOR BLAINE, OF WISCONSIN, WRITES, REPEATING HIS CHARGES OF TAX DODGING AND PROFITEERING.

December 13 1922.

New York Commercial and Financial Chronicle, New York, N. Y.:

Gentlemen:—I enclose herewith a copy of a telegram sent to Secretary Mellon, and it is apropos to your editorial of December 6th.

That the tax-dodgers and profiteers have been cheating the Government on income taxes there is no doubt.

Yours truly,

JOHN J. BLAINE, Governor.

EXECUTIVE CHAMBER
Madison, Wis.
(COPY)

Madison, Wis., Dec. 5 1922.

Hon. Andrew Mellon, Secretary of the Treasury, Washington, D. C.:

Your interview published this morning, prompts me to suggest that you re-read my address of last Saturday before the People's Legislative Service Organization at Washington. If you were to make public the names of certain corporations and millionaires and the amount of tax refunded to them and the amounts they saved through readjustments of their tax and offsets and other claims having the effect to reduce their tax, you no doubt then would be able to explain why there is a loss to the Federal Government in tax revenues in 1922 of over a billion dollars. You either misunderstood or misapprehended my address. I was discussing the secrecy clause in income tax laws, which fosters and promotes frauds and cheats on the Government.

JOHN J. BLAINE, Governor.

SENATE CONFIRMS PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATIONS TO U. S. COAL COMMISSION.

On Dec. 11 the U. S. Senate confirmed the nominations made by President Harding of the following as members of the U. S. Coal Commission. John Hays Hammond, George Otis Smith, Thomas Riley Marshall, Edward T. Devine, Samuel Alschuler, Charles P. Neill and Clark Howell.

REDEMPTION OF 4¾% VICTORY NOTES BEFORE MATURITY.

Calling attention to the fact that the Government would pay out this week hundreds of millions of dollars to holders of certain 4¾% Victory notes which the U. S. Treasury has called for redemption on Dec. 15, the Federal Reserve Bank of New York in a circular (No. 508, dated Dec. 5) to banking institutions in the local Federal Reserve District urged the importance of the turning in of the called notes in both coupon and registered form as soon as possible to assure prompt payment Dec. 15. The bank's circular says:

Registered notes in particular should reach us without delay as they must be forwarded to Washington for discharge of registration before payment can be made. There are some requirements to be observed in assigning the registered notes and for your convenient reference we are enclosing herewith a summary of the Treasury's regulations covering the most usual assignments. Please note that we will make payment to a bank or broker presenting such notes only when assignments have been executed in blank or when the notes have been assigned "To the Secretary of the Treasury for redemption for account of (here insert the name and address of payee desired)" in accordance with Treasury requirements. In other cases we will make payment by check to order of the person assigning the note for redemption. You will also find enclosed a copy of the form of Request for Redemption, which you and your customers may use in surrendering the notes. Separate forms should be used for coupon and registered notes. We shall be

glad to forward extra copies of these papers and the poster in any number you may desire.

The redemption of about \$700,000,000 of outstanding Victory notes on Dec. 15 will be significant step in the Government's financial operations and banking institutions will render an important service to the Treasury by assisting their customers as far as possible in handling the redemptions.

Very truly yours,

BENJ. STRONG, Governor.

The following summary of Treasury regulations governing certain features of assignments of registered notes has also been issued by the New York Federal Reserve Bank:

PARTIAL REDEMPTION OF 4¾% VICTORY NOTES BEFORE MATURITY.

Summary of Treasury Regulations Governing Certain Features of Assignments of Registered Notes.

(To accompany Federal Reserve Bank of New York Circular No. 508, dated December 5 1922.)

The attention of banking institutions is directed particularly to assignments for their account as stated in Paragraph 11 on the reverse side.

The Way to Assign.—1. Any 4¾% Victory notes in registered form, bearing the distinguishing letters A, B, C, D, E, or F, prefixed to their serial numbers, which are called for redemption under Treasury Department Circular 299 of July 26 1922, should be duly assigned to "The Secretary of the Treasury for redemption," in accordance with the general regulations of the Treasury Department governing assignments. Reference is made to Treasury Department Circular 141 of September 15 1919, as amended, for further details.

Bank Officers Authorized as Witnesses.—2. The registered holder of a called 4¾% registered Victory note, or some one duly authorized to act for him, must go before one of the officers authorized by the Secretary of the Treasury to witness assignments, must establish his identity, and in the presence of such officer must execute an assignment on the form appearing on the back of the note. Detached assignments will not be accepted. Among the officers authorized to witness assignments are the executive officers of incorporated banks and trust companies, including incorporated savings banks, who are authorized to perform acts attested under the seal of their respective institutions. A notary public, a justice of the peace, or a commissioner of deeds, however, is not among the officers authorized to witness assignments.

Representative Assignments.—3. Assignments of notes registered in the names of corporations, lodges, societies, churches and other organizations, deceased persons, minors, etc., must be supported by proper documents showing authority for such assignments.

Joint Holders.—4. Assignments for redemption of notes registered jointly (John Smith and— or Mary Smith) may be made by either registrant.

By Guardian.—5. Notes registered in the name of a natural guardian, thus, "John Smith, guardian for James Smith, a minor," will be accepted for redemption without supporting evidence providing the assignment agrees with the inscription on the face of the note. Notes registered in the names of minors under legal guardianship, or in the names of minors without more, must be assigned by the legal guardian and accompanied by a certificate of the proper court showing his appointment, except where it is shown that the proceeds are necessary for the support or education of the minor (See Form L & C. 302).

Identical Inscription.—6. In all cases where assignments are executed by the registered owner, his signature must agree with the inscription on the face of the note.

Shipping Expense.—7. The notes must be delivered at the expense and risk of the holder, and should be accompanied by appropriate written advice. Form G. B. 60, "Request for Redemption," may be used for this purpose.

PAYMENTS.

Payment to Registered Owner.—8. If assignment for redemption is made by the registered owner to "The Secretary of the Treasury for redemption," payment of principal and interest to the date of redemption will be made to the registered owner unless written instructions to the contrary are received from him.

Payment to Assignee.—9. If assignment for redemption is made by an assignee holding under proper assignment from the registered owner, payment of principal and interest to the date of redemption will be made to such assignee at the address specified in an appropriate written advice.

Assignments in Blank.—10. Assignments in blank, or other assignments having the same effect, will also be recognized and in that event payment will be made to the person surrendering the notes for redemption, since under such assignments the notes become in effect payable to the bearer.

For Account of.—11. In case it is desired to have payment of registered notes presented for redemption made to someone other than the registered owner, without intermediate assignments, the notes may be assigned to "The Secretary of the Treasury for redemption for account of (here insert name and address of payee desired)," but assignments in this form must be completed before acknowledgment and not left in blank.

REPRESENTATIVE FREAR RENEWS ATTACK ON STOCK DIVIDEND DECLARATIONS—SECRETARY MELLON IN ANSWER TO GOVERNOR BLAINE.

Representative Frear of Wisconsin, whose correspondence with Secretary of the Treasury Mellon in October, bearing on the 400% stock dividend declaration of the Standard Oil Co. of New Jersey was referred to in these columns Oct. 28, page 1895, has continued to urge upon the Secretary of the Treasury Mellon that he invoke a section of the Revenue Act of 1921 designed to reach "holders of surplus stock held for the purpose of escaping taxation." In his remarks before the House, Representative Frear referred to criticism in the matter against Secretary Mellon by Governor Blaine of Wisconsin, and the reply thereto, which had been made by Mr. Mellon. This statement of Mr. Mellon's was given as follows in a dispatch from Washington Dec. 4 to the New York "Times":

I wish to call attention to statements made by Governor Blaine of Wisconsin, on Saturday, at the open forum of the group called by Senator La Follette. The press report, which I have read, is as follows:

"Governor Blaine's speech was largely an attack on Secretary Mellon for his recent statements in letters to Representative Frear of Wisconsin, that the Government could not reach the undistributed surplus of corporations which was the basis of stock dividends. In part, the Governor said:

"What Mr. Mellon meant when he said that the Government cannot collect taxes due from incomes and surtaxes on excess profits was that what the profiteers and the millionaires do to escape the income and surtaxes is to make false returns, sometimes through innocence, perchance, but often through fraud and deceit, or by legal advice and tricks of the trade, legally cheat the Government.

"But suppose Mr. Mellon would scourge the profiteer and the millionaire with the same vigor that he does the lesser criminals? Suppose he would really try to collect the taxes assessed on the rich? Is it true that the Government is powerless to enforce the law against the rich, or is it just a lack of desire on the part of Mr. Mellon to place all taxes on an equality before the law?"

There is no basis whatever for the charges and suggestions sought to be conveyed in the above remarks. The Internal Revenue Bureau is administering the law impartially in its application to large corporations and wealthy individuals as well as to others. My letter to Mr. Frear definitely explained the question of taxation as applied to stock dividends and corporation surpluses. The taxes imposed by existing law are being completely enforced to the fullest extent which the law prescribes, and any further action in this respect would have to be in the nature of new taxes levied by Congress. But he reiterated his attacks with assertions irrelevant to the issue, and now Governor Blaine distorts my statements and endeavors to portray an injurious situation which does not exist.

Criticism of public officials and of their administration, where there is laxity and ineffective service in the conduct of office, is commendable and useful to the people, but when wholly unjustifiable and without any basis of truth, is harmful, as in this instance, which can only be understood as an appeal to class prejudice in a selfish effort to obtain some political capital.

Representative Frear in addressing the House proposed that Secretary Mellon ask the President to lift the ban provided by law so far as the secrecy of records is concerned, so that a Congressional investigation may ascertain the facts. In his statement in the House, Representative Frear said:

I have no brief from Governor Blaine, nor have I directly or indirectly discussed Mr. Mellon or tax matters with him. I do not know on what evidence Governor Blaine made his charges when discussing taxation before the progressive conference. I do know that all the letters written by Secretary Mellon to me, and found in the "Record" of Nov. 28, contain nothing but general denials or assertions, and evade or avoid specific charges I have made in letters to him.

Let me courteously, but frankly and publicly, put questions to Mr. Mellon that he has thus far refused to answer.

Have you, Mr. Mellon, imposed a single penalty under Section 220 or prior law which requires you to do so whenever accumulated surpluses of corporations are held in order to avoid payment of individual surtaxes? This section was a continuance of authority contained in prior laws cited you in my letter of Oct. 23 1922.

In this connection, I call your attention to Standard Oil of New Jersey's statement of 77% net profit in 10 years, or 77 1/2% net profit annually, of which over 400% is alleged to be held in surplus for stock dividends. Also Atlantic Standard Oil, with 900% stock dividends recently declared; Vacuum Oil, with 300% stock dividends, and many other companies quoted in the press. Have you made any demands on such companies for the facts or have you imposed any penalties?

I repeat a press statement previously quoted in my letters to you, which says you have not, and based on such statement and your failure to answer I allege you have not.

Did you, Mr. Mellon, begin the stock dividend melon cutting with a 200% dividend for Gulf Oil, your own company? Did Standard Oil only follow your lead? Did you fail to penalize yourself or that company? Again, on information in my hands I charge these to be the facts.

Stock dividends from corporation surplus declared within the last three months are estimated at nearly \$2,000,000,000 in addition to former cash dividends, which in case of Standard Oil, United States Steel, and many other companies, represent extortionate prices charged the general public. What cases, if any, have you penalized to check the merry riot now filling the financial columns of the press? Based on your previous failure to answer specifically, I allege you have not penalized any company.

Did you sell the Gulf Oil Co. or aid in its proposed consolidation with Standard Oil during the last six months? I so understand.

Have you imposed tax penalties on any of the companies of which you were an official before becoming Secretary of the Treasury?

You say in your letters these are secret records, under your control as such. That is what Governor Blaine, I understand, has condemned.

Will you ask the President to lift the ban provided by law so that a Congressional investigation may ascertain the facts?

You state in the press dispatch that you are enforcing the law impartially. I cannot set forth the facts in my possession further than to say I am informed that an organized coterie of agents exists to-day for pressing tax refunds and tax contests on the Treasury. That the chief agent is a former White House usher who was made chief solicitor of the Income Tax Division without previous experience, and whose income now exceeds that of the President. That upon his resignation as a Government employee two or three years ago his brother-in-law was made Chief Solicitor of the Income Tax Division, which position he now holds. That the first named ex-Chief Solicitor is or has been the attorney for some of your own companies, practicing before your Department seeking to relieve these companies from taxes. These statements have been made to me by several men, and I allege them to be facts based on such information.

I now ask a direct question that an investigation will disclose. Is it true that due to legal evasions possible under existing law, disclosed by the secret records of your office, that Mr. Rockefeller, Mr. Morgan, Mr. Mellon, and others of great wealth are not paying one-fifth of the income tax they are popularly supposed to pay under the law based on their wealth, due to investments in tax-free securities, stock dividends, trusts, stock and bond exchanges, and other forms of tax avoidance? I gather this is so from your official report, issued to-day.

These are matters that Congress has permitted to remain secret for no logical reason, apparently, and I am hoping your answers will be specific, so that the necessity for full publicity can be determined by Congress.

Mr. Chairman, I have written Secretary Mellon to that effect and here repeat the statement in substance.

That Mr. Mellon may have no embarrassment, and after repeated requests on my part have been overlooked, I suggest an investigation of these charges may properly be had on his request by Congress and that he ask the President to permit Congress to see the public records in his office.

That the charges may be placed in definite form I here state I believe them to be true and that an investigation should be had in justice to Mr. Mellon if untrue and in justice to the country if they are based on facts.

For reasons that will be apparent I will not now offer such resolution, awaiting his own action in the matter, and will aid in any way possible to

complete exoneration of him and others mentioned if the statements publicly made are disclosed to be unfounded.

As the amount of penalties and taxes alleged to be involved reaches many millions of dollars, I submit the facts presented in the correspondence contained in the "Record" of Nov. 28 warrants such action on his part, and I invite his aid to that end.

Mr. Chairman, I have written Secretary Mellon substantially as stated to the House. Any investigation that amounts to more than a whitewash of the Government's tax administration must have Presidential permission to inspect Departmental records.

I have briefly charged that upwards of \$2,000,000,000 in corporation-accumulated surpluses are disclosed to be escaping penalties and individual surtaxes due to the refusal of Secretary Mellon to enforce the law. That Secretary Mellon's own Gulf Oil Co. started the wild melon-cutting race. That one purpose of sudden disclosures of huge profits is due to fear by great interests that tax laws by future Congresses may reach the enormous excess profits and tax dodging now practiced under Secretary Mellon's regime. That the tax administration of the Internal Revenue Office is under the control of a small group of men in and out of the Office, whose activities have become a public scandal and have resulted in a large loss in Government revenues.

Among other charges placed in my hands by well-informed witnesses, that should be investigated, are that the Aluminum Co. of America received from Treasury officials an amortization of \$15,000,000 on about \$30,000,000 valuation, although the property was then generally employed in production.

That the Standard Steel Co. has an alleged \$8,000,000 tax due, although the assessment letter has never been sent out but remains in the files of the Income Tax Unit.

That the tax audit of Gulf Oil has been made under questionable surroundings and methods that challenge full publicity. Secretary Mellon is alleged to largely own or control these companies. I do not claim that it is with his knowledge that these facts exist or rulings have been had.

Further, that the methods of appointment of Commissioner Blair, Internal Revenue Collector, the tax still due from the estate of his father-in-law, J. W. Cannon, amounting to \$869,369, and other matters that will be formally presented should be given full publicity by a thorough investigation of such charges.

Mr. Chairman, the report of Secretary Mellon given to the press to-day makes confession of the most shameful conditions ever disclosed in the Treasury taxing machinery.

He devotes an entire page of his report in describing tax-dodging, tax-evading, tax-escaping methods employed by men of large wealth. It is the most serious indictment of great financiers ever given to the public.

After a miserable confession of assumed weakness of present laws and of a tax administration that "permits" this situation to exist, he proposes a complete surrender to tax dodging by reducing surtaxes from 50% on incomes over \$200,000 to 25%, thus placing a premium on tax dodging which he fails to reach.

Knowing Secretary Mellon's great wealth, his personal interest, his associates, and his opposition to surtax, excess profits, inheritance, and other tax legislation passed by Congress, is it not time that the financial adviser of the Administration put forth his own efforts to stop accumulated surplus tax fraud evasions that reach many millions of dollars of lost income to the Government, due to his failure to enforce existing law? Is it not time the Treasury records were made public, when Secretary Mellon permits the man of large wealth to escape because he knows how to dodge the law but holds the small taxpayer down to the limit? That is new doctrine in this country, and reviewing his proposal we may well say of his report, "Verily the mountain has labored hard to bring forth a mouse." Is it not strange and significant that no recommendations for curative laws are found in the report whereby tax evasions can be restricted? No proposal to reduce the surtax will meet the situation. All we need to do is to enforce the law and such additional laws as may be found necessary to protect the Treasury from tax evasions.

Mr. Chairman, I do not believe that Secretary Mellon is personally anything but a man of integrity. I believe that at this time he has failed to enforce the law because, as I say, of his environment, and, judging from the recorded statements before our committee, he has not any understanding of the importance of it. I could pick out a dozen men before me whom I believe, if placed in that position, would enforce the law and recover the penalties, and with them the surtaxes that would be released, reaching hundreds of millions of dollars.

But a situation confronts us, and I am placing it before the House without any personal feeling or partisanship. It makes no difference who the individual is. I have the highest respect for him personally, but I say we cannot close our eyes as a Congress to the fact that this law is here, and that he makes no recommendation for any law to cure conditions except by virtue of a long-distance constitutional amendment. Doctor Seligman says there are \$20,000,000,000 worth of these securities out to-day that are subject to investment.

While some of the correspondence between Representative Frear and Secretary Mellon was published in our issue of October 28, we give herewith a recent letter of Secretary Mellon (Nov. 17) in answer to one of Mr. Frear's:

The Secretary of the Treasury, Washington, Nov. 17 1922.

Hon. James Frear, House of Representatives.

My dear Congressman: I received your letter of Nov. 13, further commenting on Section 220 of the Revenue Act of 1921 and urging its enforcement to reach surpluses accumulated by the Standard Oil Co. of New Jersey and other corporations.

As I have said before, Section 220 applies only to corporations formed or availed of for the purpose of preventing the imposition of the surtax upon the stockholders through the medium of permitting gains and profits to accumulate instead of being divided or distributed, and it expressly provides that the fact that the gains and profits are in any case permitted to accumulate and become surplus shall not be construed as evidence of a purpose to escape the tax unless the Commissioner of Internal Revenue certifies that in his opinion such accumulation is unreasonable for the purposes of the business. The section does not impose a tax on undistributed profits or on accumulated surplus, as you seem to suggest, but rather puts penalties on the accumulation of gains and profits beyond the reasonable needs of the business when made for the purpose of escaping the surtax. As heretofore stated, the Commissioner of Internal Revenue has found no evidence in the case of the Standard Oil Co. of New Jersey of the accumulation of gains and profits for this purpose beyond the reasonable needs of the business, and there are, on the other hand, many evidences—as, for example, in the dividend reports of the company—that it had for many years, before there was any income tax, been consistently putting a substantial part of the profits back into the business, and that its dividends since the surtax have been maintained at no less rate. I understand that it has also, within a few years, sold about \$200,000,000 of preferred stock in order to get additional capital to meet the needs of the business. This does not indicate accumulation of gains and profits beyond the reasonable needs of the business, and the same holds true of other companies actively engaged in business whose capital and accumulated surplus

take the form of plant, equipment and inventory, with necessary working capital.

You request information as to cases that may have been penalized, but in view of the restrictions imposed by law on the publication of income tax returns and information derived therefrom, I do not feel at liberty to disclose the status of any cases which have arisen under the section.

You will appreciate, of course, that this section, which for the first time imposed a penalty upon the corporation, did not become effective until the taxable year 1921, and that the Bureau of Internal Revenue did not receive the returns for that year until March 1922, and is only now in the course of examining them. The Commissioner of Internal Revenue has standing instructions to enforce the provisions of Section 220 wherever applicable.

As to the statements put out in Wall Street speculative circles, which you quote in your letter, they were evidently intended for stock market purposes and have no bearing on the question of tax administration. To endeavor to answer questions arising from these statements, based as they are so largely on statements from irresponsible sources, would be impossible.

Very truly yours,

A. W. MELLON.

We also give herewith the measures proposed by Representative Frear "to stop Treasury leaks"—these measures having been submitted by him in a letter to Secretary Mellon under date of Nov. 26:

These Measures Will Stop Treasury Leaks.

The tax administration of the Treasury should not be left discretionary, even if records are made public. The disease needs more heroic treatment if we would save to posterity a country in which every citizen has a vital interest, notwithstanding all its natural resources have been gobbled up by a few monopolies and money kings. Let us in this rebuilding plan—

First. Re-enact the corporation excess profits tax for 1922, fixing a reasonable graduated tax rate to discourage extortion.

Second. Let us place a retroactive graduated tax on undistributed corporation profits to reach large surpluses heretofore accumulated to avoid taxation.

Third. Increase the inheritance tax after reasonable exemptions, and add a gift tax to prevent a menacing money oligarchy.

Fourth. Enact a stock dividend tax law, making such law retroactive, subject to action on the second proposal.

Fifth. Make all tax returns and all tax proceedings public.

Every proposed tax will afford needed legislation to meet existing tax-dodging evils or dangerous economic conditions. Graduated tax rates will prevent injustice to legitimate business, and the country has been so satiated with big-business tax propaganda that it will not be frightened when motives and methods are disclosed.

First. The excess profits tax is sound and right in principle according to eminent tax authorities. It taxes according to ability to pay. It grants reasonable exemptions (8%), and then reaches the man who would squeeze humanity because he has the tools. The only pretext for its repeal was a claim it hurts business and removed incentive. This is not a vital objection to the farmers of the country, whose incentive is only a livelihood and who made less than \$200 last year on the average. This tax is just and should be re-enacted to help reach present profiteering and to compel large profits to pay just taxes because best able to do so.

When Standard Oil on a fictitious capitalization of previous stock dividends exacts 77½% from the 10,000,000 of \$200 a year agriculturists and from 10,000,000 of car users, I believe they would all look with equanimity while the Government exacted three-fourths of that hard-fisted extortion, if need be, for Government use.

Second. The tax on undistributed profits urged by Secretary Huston at 20% was estimated to produce in 1921 \$690,000,000 in addition to the excess profits tax returns, as explained in my letter of Oct. 23. Apart from its value as a Government agency with which gradually to shave away \$23,000,000,000 of national indebtedness and a \$670,000,000 revenue deficit in 1922, a tax of that kind would do away with tax-dodging stock dividends by forcing a distribution of any unnecessary surplus. No greater need for this tax can be shown than in announcements this year of \$487,500,000 stock dividend melons to be cut by big stockholders of a single company, thereby freezing out the little fellows and avoiding surtaxes on profits that are generally paid by abiding citizens from necessity if not from desire.

A graduated tax of from 5 to 20%, depending on the profits, would permit legitimate laying by of surplus for banking and other business needs, and a maximum 20% rate would release large surpluses accumulated to avoid taxes and would protect small stockholders.

Third. A graduated inheritance tax after \$50,000 exemptions contained in existing law, reaching 50% on all amounts over \$30,000,000, and a gift tax graduated to 25%. This is less than extremists advocate. For many years during their lifetime men have built up private fortunes from a few dollars a week to a surplus reaching hundreds of millions and even billions in a single family. Sometimes it avoids estate taxes by gift distributions before death. A gift tax would reach such evasion. Through consolidations, destruction of competition, railway rebates, profits on fictitious stock, monopoly, and tax evasions they have laid aside more wealth than was conceived to exist in the wildest dreams of a century ago. What is it all for? Only to play the money game, the gamblers declare. They have done this while the vast majority have been struggling for a bare existence. What does it profit that 2% of the men in the country now control 60% of the national wealth? To what purpose is the game played? Every day the world is informed of escapades, divorces and extravagances of heirs to this wealth; of fortune hunters of foreign title; American hussies, whose pot of gold, contributed by the American public, is the price of a title; of inherited wealth that tends to leave arrogance, un-Americanism and discontent with the heritage, while the concentration of power grows. The country has unwillingly and restlessly accepted a situation that certainly demands correction.

Is it not time, Mr. Secretary, then to do the common-sense thing and say generous exemptions will be allowed to save from want, not work, a chance progeny, but that men who accumulate must after death leave to their Government for its needs an equal share of vast accumulations of wealth over liberal exemptions, of accumulations wrong from their fellow men because of protection by the laws of our Government? Men have avoided tax laws through stock dividends and have invested in tax-free securities, which you denounce. This money or property has been laid away like the miser's gold, sometimes accumulated in a lifetime, often by unscrupulous methods. We cannot differentiate with these estates beyond saying a generous exemption free from taxes may first be deducted before the tax applies and then a graduated tax to reach the enormous fortunes that have become all powerful and a menace to the people. Many millions of people have no estate to leave; they fight for existence, and to them this proposal seems liberality personified.

A gift tax to reach gifts made to avoid the inheritance tax, such as was introduced last session in Senate and House, should also be enacted. To the complaint that estates cannot be unscrambled in a day it may be answered that is true on the existing maximum 25% tax on estates, and sufficient time to collect the tax should be provided by law.

How to Reach Stock Dividends.

Fourth. Enact specifically a stock dividend tax law, making it retroactive. The Macomber decision by the Supreme Court (252 U. S. Repts.) arose under a general statute without any direct expression from Congress relative to stock dividends. Five justices there held that stock dividends were non-taxable, and four justices, the balance of the full Court, dissented and held them taxable.

Justices Brandeis and Clarke in their dissenting opinion held that the majority decision "would result in limiting taxation to the income of the income." All dissenting judges subscribed to the proposition that "most people, not lawyers, would suppose when they voted for it (the amendment) that they put the question (stock dividends) at rest . . . the amendment justifies the tax." Again, the dissenting justices said: "If stock dividends representing profits are held exempt from taxation under the Sixteenth Amendment, the owner of the most successful businesses in America will be able to escape taxation on a large part of what is actually their income. . . . That such a result was intended by the people of the United States when adopting the Sixteenth Amendment is inconceivable." This opinion of four justices was based on a Standard Oil stock dividend melon and the reasoning appears to be eminently sound.

One justice on reargument swung his decision against the above principle and held that the will of the people as expressed in the Sixteenth Amendment to the Constitution was of no effect, but four able justices dissented from the majority decision. Is it probable that the Court which has rendered several unpopular decisions by a bare majority of one vote will declare unconstitutional a direct law by Congress expressing specifically the will of the people to tax stock dividends, as declared by the people in the Sixteenth Amendment and heretofore found to be the law by four justices of the Supreme Court? If so, sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof, for then it will be the right of Congress to say that no Act of the House and Senate approved by the President shall be held unconstitutional by a bare majority of one or two justices, and little doubt will be had of the approval of the people to that proposal.

Fifth. I offer no further argument against the income tax secrecy clause that was retained by the Senate last session only by a vote of 35 to 33. Your own administration, the record of the Internal Revenue Commissioner, the secret accumulation of \$1,000,000,000 surplus by one company known only to your office, the wide-spread evasion of taxes now disclosed, enormous secret tax refunds reaching hundreds of millions of dollars, also known alone to your office, all are offered without further comment. With these few observations, Mr. Secretary, I leave a subject in which we may differ, but you have no more vital interest than I, because public interest is not measured by dollars. Citizenship and interest in the country's prosperity and perpetuity comes not with wealth. It finds place equally with the humblest citizen, who often is most contented with life if blessed with a mere competence.

It need not be expected that all the proposals, however meritorious, will be enacted into law, nor have I sought to offer any cure-all, but these suggestions if adopted will ultimately reduce the Government's fiscal obligations and will meet a present need for more equitable charging of tax burdens. Let those who have profited enormously and unduly under our laws give generously (without dodging) from their profits to their Government's support. By so doing they will quiet a growing unrest that cannot safely be ignored. There must be proposed a constructive program not found in vague party platform platitudes, and my suggestions are to that end. Other legislation is needed, of course, but after some hesitation I have proposed a means of reducing the evil of high finance tax dodging that ought also to strengthen and improve our whole fiscal policy.

Very sincerely,

JAMES A. FREAR.

NEW CONFERENCE ON NAVAL LIMITATION PROPOSED BY HOUSE NAVAL COMMITTEE AT WASHINGTON.

A request that President Harding enter into negotiations with Great Britain, France, Italy and Japan with a view to reaching an understanding or agreement relative to limiting the construction of sub-surface and surface craft and of aircraft is contained in a report of the House Appropriations Committee which accompanied the Naval Appropriation bill presented to the House on Dec. 13. The Associated Press accounts from Washington of the recommendations of the Committee follow:

Blunt notice that the United States cannot avoid a new naval program in swift cruisers and fleet submarines unless treaty limitations are extended to such craft was served by the House Appropriations Committee to-day in reporting the \$293,806,538 Naval Appropriation bill. A six-line provision placed in the bill by the committee requests President Harding to negotiate with Great Britain, France, Japan and Italy for such an extension of the treaty. Limitation of aircraft to be included.

The committee report asserts that large cruiser and submarine programs are planned abroad, adding:

"In other words, competition is on again in the single direction to which the unratified agreement (the Washington naval treaty) does not extend, and if it be allowed to go on unchecked the purse strings again must be relaxed, and this Government, like all others, will be constrained to launch a new program to the extent necessary to keep us at least abreast of any of the other Powers."

President Harding was not consulted by the committee with relation to its limitation conference request. The project for negotiations apparently came as a surprise even to naval officials. It was originated by Chairman Kelley of the Naval Appropriations Subcommittee.

The chief reason prompting Mr. Kelley to propose a new naval conference was understood to have been the light-cruiser program recommended by the Navy General Board. No mention of this is included in the published copies of committee hearings on the bill. The program urged, however, as necessary to keep the United States on a parity with other navies in cruisers, the construction of sixteen new light cruisers, within the 10,000-ton size limitation of the Washington treaty and to cost \$188,000,000.

The committee also eliminated from its published hearings testimony of naval intelligence officers on the program of construction abroad. Presumably it was this information and the recommendations as to new construction made by the General Board, which prompted the attempt to check post-treaty competitive building through diplomatic negotiations.

Administration officials who were closest to the Washington arms conference deliberations expressed the view to-night that there appeared little likelihood of success for new negotiations to limit, in accordance with the "5-5-3" or some other ratio, the size of cruiser and submarine fleet. The conference, it was pointed out, in prolonged discussions had found no basis of agreement possible on these points or as to fighting aircraft.

The French position at the conference in opposition to limiting submarine fleets, it was added, brought a specific reservation by British delegates of

the right to build anti-submarine craft, such as light cruisers and destroyers, without restriction, save as to the maximum size of cruisers, 10,000 tons, and limitation of the maximum size of guns they could carry to 8-inch weapons.

In addition to the new cruiser program, the committee is known to have been informed of the General Board's recommendation that a start be made on modernizing the pre-Jutland battleships of the navy, the point being made that Great Britain has already remodeled to a large extent, to increase gun range and deck protection, her capital ships to be retained under the treaty. The American modernization project would cost in the neighborhood of \$60,000,000, it has been estimated. Lacking such remodeling work, American 14-inch gun ships would remain outranged by otherwise similar but modernized British ships by five miles, navy officers have declared.

Faced with this double prospect of heavy naval expenditures in the near future, Chairman Kelley turned to the precedent of the accepted capital ship treaty ratio in search of a way to avoid such outlays.

The request to the President was placed at the very end of the fifty-five page naval bill. It reads:

"The President is requested to enter into negotiations with the Governments of Great Britain, France, Italy and Japan with the view of reaching an understanding or agreement relative to limiting the construction of all types and sizes of sub-surface and surface craft of 10,000 tons standard displacement or less and of aircraft."

The suggestion was made by some members of the House that the paragraph might be subject to a point of order, and hence go out in the House. It was indicated, however, that there was every reason to believe the Senate would put it back into the bill, which in the shape of a conference report would bring it before the House, to be voted up or down.

It was claimed by committee friends of the Kelley proposal that the saving in capital ship expenditures under the arms treaty would be more than offset in the building of lighter vessels of a size permitted by the treaty, and that this situation possibly prevailed as to other participating nations.

The bill will be taken up to-morrow and while the disarmament item is not expected to be reached before Friday at the earliest, Mr. Kelley, in charge of the bill, will explain at the outset the nature of the request and give his reasons for the proposed step.

APPROPRIATION BY EUROPEAN STATES ON ACCOUNT OF LAND ARMAMENTS—PRESIDENT HARDING'S ADVICES TO SENATE.

A statement of financial affairs of European States was transmitted to the Senate by President Harding on Dec. 12, the information dealing especially with the annual cost of land armaments. While only the letter of transmittal appears in the "Congressional Record," the press dispatches from Washington Dec. 12 had the following to say regarding the figures supplied relative to budgets and land armament allotments:

European nations continue to devote substantial parts of their revenue to land armaments, according to official figures collected by the State Department and transmitted to the Senate to-day by President Harding, in response to a resolution of inquiry. Senator McCormick, Republican, Illinois, introduced the resolution last winter during the Arms Conference.

Neither President Harding nor Secretary Hughes commented on the expenditures in their letters. The figures gave 1921 revenues and expenditures and 1922 budgets of fifteen European countries, together with statements of interest due on their debts to the United States.

The respective total 1922 budgets and allotments for land armament were: Austria, kronen—347,533,000,000 and 4,787,821,000. Belgium, francs—7,500,000,000 and 676,000,000. Czechoslovakia, crowns—19,000,000,000 and 3,108,000,000. Estonia, marks—5,803,000,000 and 1,324,000,000. Finland, marks—2,176,000,000 and 306,000,000. France, francs—35,287,000,000 and 3,426,000,000. Great Britain, pounds—910,000,000 and 52,300,000. Greece, drachmas—3,397,000,000 and 2,142,000,000. Hungary, crowns—26,764,000,000 and 3,600,000,000. Italy, lire—18,500,000,000 and 1,876,000,000. Latvia, rubles—3,982,000,000 and 1,233,000,000. Lithuania, marks—879,000,000 and 491,000,000. Poland, marks—591,000,000 and 152,000,000. Rumania, leu—10,208,000,000 and 1,157,000,000. Serbian State, dinar—6,257,000,000 and 1,421,000,000.

The following is President Harding's letter to the Senate:

To the Senate:—

In response to Senate Resolution 208 of Jan. 16 1922, requesting the Secretary of State, if not incompatible with the public interest, to lay before the Senate "such information regarding the revenues, expenditures and deficits of the European States as may be available to the Department of State, showing for the last and current fiscal years especially the annual cost of land armaments in the several States, as compared with the annual deficits of the several States (including both 'ordinary' and 'extraordinary' expenditures) and the sum of the interest annually due from the several States on account of the loans made to them by the United States," I transmit herewith a report of the Secretary of the State furnishing the information requested by the resolution.

WARREN G. HARDING.

The White House, Dec. 12 1922.

NO GOVERNMENT ACTION AT PRESENT TIME RESPECTING ARMOUR-MORRIS PACKING PURCHASE.

Secretary of Agriculture Wallace on Dec. 12 made known his conclusion that "there seems to be no occasion for action at the present time" respecting the proposed purchase by J. Ogden Armour of the business of Morris & Co. Secretary Wallace's statement setting forth his decision said that "such authority as I have in the matter is found in the Packers and Stockyards Act, which carries also the authority which the Federal Trade Commission previously had over the packing industry. There is nothing in this Act which specifically prohibits the purchase by one packer of the physical assets of another. The question to be considered, therefore, is whether the purchase proposed would bring about conditions or actions which would come within the prohibitions of

the Act." An opinion in the matter by U. S. Attorney-General Daugherty which Secretary Wallace makes public, states that neither the Stockyards Act itself "nor the regulation provided for therein contemplates or requires that you should advise the industry in regard to such a transaction in advance of its consummation." Attorney-General Daugherty likewise says "the language used in the 'Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921' makes it clear to me that the Act does not require you to take any formal action unless you have reason to believe that the law has been violated or is being violated. To constitute a violation of the law within the meaning of this Act there must be something more than a mere statement of what a person or corporation contemplates." The following is the statement issued by Secretary Wallace on Dec. 12:

Mr. J. Ogden Armour came here and stated in an informal way that his firm had under consideration a proposal to purchase the physical assets of the packing plants owned and operated by Morris & Co. The full details of the purchase had not been worked out, but it was expected that the purchase price would be paid part in cash, part in preferred stock, and part in common stock, approximately one-third of the amount in each form. Mr. Armour submitted an extended statement prepared by his attorney dealing with the law and facts applying to the proposed transaction and containing certain arguments. This statement contains a discussion of the Packers and Stockyards Act, as well as of the Sherman Anti-Trust Law, the Clayton Act, and the Federal Trade Commission Act, as they bear on the action proposed. He submitted another statement which is in fact a brief on law points. He submitted also a mass of detailed information, compiled mainly from public records and showing the purchase and slaughter of animals by the various packing concerns, the volume of the business of each over extended periods of time, and indicating the points at which there is competition, both in packing and in the distribution of meats, between Armour & Co. and Morris & Co.

Contrary to what seems to be the general opinion, Mr. Armour did not present an application for the privilege of merging these two plants. He came to me with the frank statement that by buying the business of Morris & Co. he expected to be able to add largely to the volume of the business of Armour & Co., and thus effect large economies in the administration of that business. During the war, when there was most urgent demand for the largest possible amount of meat to maintain the Allied forces overseas, most of the large packers made extensive extensions to their plants at large expense. Under conditions which have prevailed since the war the volume of business has not been sufficient to enable them to run their plants at full capacity, and, as in the case with many other business enterprises, this has left them with an overhead expense out of proportion to the volume of business being done. By adding the business of Morris & Co. to that of Armour & Co., Mr. Armour stated that they would be able to affect economies running into many millions of dollars each year, and believed that because of such economies they would be able to serve the public more efficiently than at the present time. He said that he would like to make a careful study of the proposed transaction and of the papers submitted, together with any other conditions which might seem pertinent to me, and that he hoped that such study would lead me to the conclusion that the action he proposed would in fact result in benefit both to producers and live stock and consumers of meat and that I would not oppose it.

Such authority as I have in the matter is found in the Packers and Stockyards Act, which carries also the authority which the Federal Trade Commission previously had over the packing industry. There is nothing in this Act which specifically prohibits the purchase by one packer of the physical assets of another. The question to be considered, therefore, is whether the purchase proposed would bring about conditions or actions which would come within the prohibitions of the Act.

From time to time unfounded statements have been made intimating that there was disagreement between other Government officials and myself with regard to this matter. On Monday, Nov. 27, I had a conference with the President and with the Attorney-General. At this conference the proposed purchase and sale was considered. There was no thought on the part of any of us that anyone connected with the Government would, or could be expected to, approve in advance such a transaction as had been proposed. Such a suggestion has had no sanction. The question discussed was whether the purchase by Armour of the plants of Morris might in and of itself constitute a violation of the law, or whether it was a transaction of a sort which would warrant any of us to take action in advance of its consummation.

In response to an inquiry from me, the Attorney-General submitted to me an opinion dealing with this matter.

From the time the matter was first suggested, I have been making investigations and accumulating information which might serve as a basis for reaching an opinion as to the probable effect on competition if the proposed purchase should be consummated.

There seems to be no occasion for action at the present time.

Secretary Wallace in seeking from the Attorney-General an expression of view in the matter, addressed Mr. Daugherty as follows:

November 22 1922.

The Honorable, The Attorney-General,

Dear General: The Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921, in Title II, Section 202, makes unlawful certain conduct on the part of packers as defined in the Act; and in Section 203 provides for a procedure in case the Secretary has reason to believe that any packer has violated or is violating any provision of Title II.

Title IV, Section 402, provides that for the efficient execution of the provisions of this Act, and in order to provide information for the use of Congress, the provisions of Sections 6, 8, 9 and 10 of the Federal Trade Commission Act are made applicable to the jurisdiction, powers and duties of the Secretary of Agriculture in enforcing the Packers and Stockyards Act. The above references are not comprehensive, but serve to direct attention to the basis for the question on which I desire your advice.

Recently the head of one of the five largest packing concerns has called upon me and has stated that he has in contemplation the purchase of the physical assets of another of these five largest packing concerns, the purchase price being part cash and part in the stock of the purchasing concern, and including the assumption of certain liabilities of the selling concern. The question upon which I desire your opinion is whether the terms of the Packers and Stockyards Act contemplate or require me to take any action with regard to such a transaction in advance of its consummation.

Very truly yours,

HENRY C. WALLACE, Secretary.

The following is Attorney-General Daugherty's reply to Secretary Wallace:

December 9 1922.

My dear Mr. Secretary: In your letter of Nov. 22 1922 you state that the head of one of the five largest meat packing concerns has called upon you and stated that he has in contemplation the purchase of the physical assets of another of these five largest packing concerns, the purchase price being part cash and part in the stock of the purchasing concern and including the assumption of certain liabilities of the selling concern. You also state in your letter that you desire my opinion as to whether the terms of the "Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921" contemplate or require you to take any action with regard to such a transaction in advance of its consummation.

Section 202 in Title II of the "Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921," makes certain acts by a packer, as packer is defined in such Act, unlawful. Section 203, in Title II, of this Act provides that "whenever the Secretary has reason to believe that any packer has violated or is violating any provision of this title" he shall cause a complaint to be issued and a hearing to be held. This section also provides that if "after such hearing the Secretary finds that the packer has violated or is violating any provision of this title" the Secretary shall make a report of his findings of fact and shall issue an order requiring the packer "to cease and desist from continuing such violation."

Section 402, of Title IV of the "Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921," provides that "for the efficient execution of the provisions of this Act and in order to provide information for the use of Congress the provisions (including penalties) of Sections 6, 8, 9 and 10 of the Act entitled 'An Act to create a Federal Trade Commission, to define its powers and duties, and for other purposes,' approved Sept. 26 1914, are made applicable to the jurisdiction, powers and duties of the Secretary in enforcing the provisions of this Act."

The provisions of the Federal Trade Commission act pertinent to this inquiry are those found in Section 6 and are as follows:

"The Commission shall also have power, (a) to gather and compile information concerning and to investigate from time to time the organization, business, conduct, practices and management of any corporation engaged in commerce, and its relation to other corporations and to individuals, associations and partnerships (c) to make public, from time to time, such portions of the information obtained by it hereunder, except trade secrets and names of customers as it shall deem expedient in the public interest."

It is my opinion that the "Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921," is essentially a regulatory Act and that the duties and powers of the Secretary of Agriculture thereunder are to regulate the industry included within its provisions. Neither the Act itself nor the regulation provided for therein contemplates or requires that you should advise the industry in regard to such a transaction in advance of its consummation.

In the opinion in the case of *Stafford and others vs. Wallace and others*, decided by the Supreme Court of the United States May 1 1922, Mr. Chief Justice Taft said:

"The language of the law shows that what Congress had in mind primarily was to prevent such conspiracies by supervision of the agencies, which would be likely to be employed in it. Congress has found as an evil to be apprehended and to be prevented by the Act here in question, (b) the use and control of stockyards and the commission men to promote a packers monopoly of inter-State commerce. Its provisions are carefully drawn to apply only to those practices and obstructions which in the judgment of Congress are likely to affect inter-State commerce prejudicially."

The act in Section 203 provides that when you have reason to believe that any packer has violated or is violating the provisions of that Act you should proceed to issue a complaint and conduct a hearing, and if you find that the packer has violated or is violating such Act you shall render a report of the facts and issue an order requiring the packer to cease and desist from continuing such violation. The provisions of the Federal Trade Commission Act are carried into the "Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921" for the purpose, as expressed therein, of enabling the efficient execution of the provisions of the "Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921" and in order to provide information for the use of Congress. This does not seem to broaden the purposes or the essential powers conferred by the "Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921." The language used in the "Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921" makes it clear to me that the Act does not require you to take any formal action unless you have reason to believe that the law has been violated or is being violated. To constitute a violation of the law within the meaning of this Act there must be something more than a mere statement of what a person or corporation contemplates.

In answer to your question as to whether the terms of the "Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921" contemplate any action on your part in connection with the proposed purchase of physical assets, I am of opinion that the Act vests you with broad powers of inquiry and that you may make such inquiry. Your very truly,

H. M. DAUGHERTY, Attorney-General.

The Honorable, The Secretary of Agriculture.

Press dispatches from Chicago Dec. 12 commenting on the decision of Secretary Wallace said:

Decision of the Administration at Washington that there was no occasion for formal action on the proposal of J. Ogden Armour that Armour & Co. buy Morris & Co. and merge the two packing concerns, was interpreted by local packing officials as placing no obstacle in the way of the half-billion-dollar merger.

Mr. Armour withheld any statement for the time being, but indicated that he might make some announcement later.

Merger of Armour & Co. and Morris & Co. would represent a combination of capital of approximately \$500,000,000, with an aggregate of 65,000 employees. The merger plans had their origin some months ago when packers sought a means to reduce the overhead cost of production and maintenance expenditures.

The approval of the Government officials and farm organization chiefs was desired by the packers, although it was generally understood here that a packing merger did not require specific approval of Government officials and that the Packers and Stockyards Act did not forbid such a consolidation.

The initial investment in the Armour firm was \$160,000. In 1920 re-financing authorized a capitalization of \$400,000,000, with \$100,000,000 in preferred stock and two classes of common stock of \$150,000,000 each. On account of general business conditions only a part of the new common stock was issued.

Morris & Co.'s balance sheet a year ago showed \$3,000,000 in common stock, \$10,000,000 in preferred stock and a surplus of \$1,299,255.

The chief duplication which a merger is expected to obviate is that of branch houses throughout the world. The cost of maintaining separate branch houses and selling agencies runs into many millions a year.

COTTON STATES COMMISSION IN MEMPHIS CONFERENCE URGES MEASURES BY SOUTHERN STATES TO PREVENT BOLL WEEVIL SPREAD.

At the concluding session of the second annual convention of the Cotton States Commission, held at Memphis Dec. 4 and 5, a resolution was adopted recommending the enact-

ment by all the cotton-producing States of adequate laws for preventing the spread of the boll weevil. The convention was addressed by Secretary of Agriculture Wallace, who pointed out that the drawback in cotton production is the advent of the boll weevil and the coming of the pink boll worm. The best we can do for the present, so far as the weevil is concerned, he said, is to control the growth of the pest to a reasonable degree. Weith the pink worm, he said, the problem is "whether we can keep the fellow out." The "Commercial Appeal" of Memphis Dec. 6 reports Secretary Wallace as saying:

All Sections Interested.

Mr. Wallace, after praising the hospitality of the South, said: "The problems of the cotton men in the South are of almost equal importance to the people in the North, for whenever anything occurs to cut down the cotton crop of the South, the purchasing power of the people of this section is correspondingly reduced and the result is felt by the manufacturers and farmers of every other part of the country."

"In nearly every section," Mr. Wallace continued, "There seems to be an almost continuous crisis with respect to the dominant crop, especially during the last eighteen months, during which we have experienced one of the greatest agricultural depressions in many years. And," he declared, "each section thinks its problem is the worst."

"The war brought a great economic crisis," he said. "The South is recovering very easily from the depression of the war years, considering other sections of the country. This is in spite of the fact that farm prices have dropped to a level below the war prices, with the cost of living remaining about the same, or perhaps a little less."

"There is a better appreciation of the farmer now than there used to be. We used to pray for him in our sleep, but now we realize that he is the backbone of our commercial and industrial life."

"Of course the drawback in cotton production is the advent of the boll weevil and the coming of the pink boll worm. The weevil is here and we must adjust our farming to meet the situation. The best we can hope to do for the present is to control the growth of the pest to a reasonable degree."

Need Pink Worm Cure Now.

"The pink boll worm presents an entirely different problem. As yet it has only gained a foothold to a noticeable degree in Texas. It came over the border from Mexico, on the heels of its brother, the boll weevil. The question is, 'Will you go through the same experience with the pink worm as you did with the boll weevil, or will you make an heroic effort to eradicate it?' There are many instances where the pink boll worm has been utterly stamped out."

"In order to fight the pest intelligently we must heed the advice of our trained men, the scientists who study the life of the pest, with special reference to what varieties offer the strongest resistance. The tendency is to follow the course of the average sick man. We want a cure immediately. This can hardly be done, because of the varying conditions in the several States. The problem is, with the pink worm, what or we can keep the fellow out. We must put our confidence in the Governmental Departmental Departments handling the agricultural interest, just as during war time we help the man in charge of the War Department."

"The Agricultural Department is primarily a department of service. We do not seek to use a high hand. We are here to help wherever our help is needed. We want to fit in."

"The South is largely dependent upon its cotton. I am in favor of commodity councils, the same as are in use in the North, where the wheat problem must be faced and other agricultural problems. We should heed the advice of our trained men and enter into free discussion at all times to work out the common problem."

Marketing Problem Big.

"I believe that it is good for the entire South to produce cotton. If you raise the things they do in the North it will only hurt your market and theirs as well. The marketing problem is a big one. It is dependent largely upon the farmers and not the Government. It is better for the market that one crop be grown in a section, because it both stabilizes and standardizes the market."

"The Department of Agriculture spends about \$38,000,000 per annum in its various departments and bureaus to assist the farmers in the United States. A prosperous farmer makes a prosperous nation. The Federal Government is constantly sending men abroad to study conditions."

"This is the time when exploitation must come to an end. Agriculture must be self-sustaining."

The resolution adopted, urging action by the various States to prevent the spread of the insect pest, reads as follows:

Memphis, Dec. 5 1922.

The Committee on Resolutions recommends the adoption of the following: (1) That in view of the possible infestation in the future of new areas by the pink boll worm, and of the necessity for immediate and drastic action in the event of such a contingency, we recommend that all of the cotton-producing States which have not already done so, adopt adequate laws for preventing the spread of such an insect pest. That for this purpose we recommend the adoption of uniform laws in substantially the same form as the Pink Boll Worm Laws, now in effect in the States of Texas and Louisiana.

(2) It appears from the information available that the supply of calcium arsenate recommended by the United States Department of Agriculture in connection with methods of boll weevil control is very limited and the price liable to be so high as to render its general use impossible. It is recommended therefore, that the ad interim committee to be appointed by this conference be directed to use its best efforts to co-operate with the United States Department of Agriculture in finding ways and means of obtaining an adequate supply of said arsenate at reasonable prices in order that same may be available for use by the cotton producers during the coming year. We also recommend that action be taken by way of uniform laws or other statutory regulations (where no such laws or regulations now exist) for the purpose of co-operating with the Federal Government in safeguarding the quality of calcium arsenate and other insecticides by inspection, analysis or otherwise. In this connection we commend the laws relating to these subjects recently adopted by the State of Alabama. We warn cotton growers against a too great dependence upon the use of calcium arsenate, or upon any other single means of meeting the effects of weevil damage, and would advise the careful study of the experiments of sections of the cotton belt which have been fighting this pest for many years. That cotton is being successfully grown in so many areas in spite of the weevil and only by the use of cultural methods and better seed,

should encourage the more recently infested territory to continue the fight, regardless of the ability of the growers in such territory to secure or to use boll weevil poison.

(3) We commend and endorse the research work of the Bureau of Entomology of the United States Department of Agriculture in connection with boll weevil control, but we are convinced that the appropriation heretofore granted by Congress, amounting to about \$185,000 annually, is wholly insufficient to provide for the prosecution of said research work, in as comprehensive a manner as the magnitude and seriousness of the problem demands. In order that said research work may be conducted in the future on a more comprehensive and intensive scale, to meet the existing needs, we recommend that the Governments of the cotton-growing States seriously consider taking immediate steps to establish a research laboratory at the experiment stations now maintained in connection with the agricultural colleges in said States, for the purpose of supplementing the work now being carried on by the central laboratory of the Department of Agriculture at Tallulah, La. We further recommend that the Federal Government be urged to greatly enlarge the appropriations for research work in connection with the boll weevil, in the hope that by increasing the number of experts as well as the facilities devoted to said work, a specific remedy may be found to either eradicate entirely, or effectually control the boll weevil in the near future.

(4) We recommend that an ad interim committee consisting of the Commissioners heretofore appointed by the respective States to this conference, be appointed to carry on the work of the Cotton States Commission, including the work outlined in the above resolutions, until the States concerned have had an opportunity to adopt the statutory plan of co-operation recommended by this conference.

Respectfully submitted,
ANGUS W. McLEAN,
Chairman, Committee on Resolutions.

According to Mr. McLean, who was formerly Chairman of the War Finance Board, and who is one of the largest cotton growers in North Carolina, heroic and comprehensive efforts by Federal and State authorities working in harmony and as a unit is needed at once to prevent serious disaster to the Southern cotton-growing industry. The "Commercial-Appeal" in reporting him to this effect, also quotes him as saying:

The meeting has been most successful in every respect, in that it has pointedly called to the attention of representatives of the cotton growing States and experts of the U. S. Department of Agriculture efforts of the promoters of the Cotton Sales Commission to bring about concerted action on the part of the Federal Government and the cotton growing States in respect to the serious problems of insect pests, particularly the boll weevil control.

It is realized that the Federal Government, on account of questions involving inter-State commerce, must assume leadership in the control and eradication of the insect pests. But nevertheless, it is true that much can be done by the States involved, particularly if their governments can be persuaded to act as a unit in their efforts to solve the common problem.

Undoubtedly it is true that some progress has been made in boll weevil control, but there has been no adequate solution as yet. Methods of control recommended and practiced generally impose an additional cost and burden on the producers on account of additional labor required, and this they are unable to bear. Even without this extra burden those who have been producing cotton have never received anything like a fair return on the investment, or decent wages for the labor involved.

This unwholesome condition is only accentuated by the advent of the boll weevil for the reason that the amount of labor required is greatly increased and the yield is materially decreased, thus seriously reducing the gross return.

It is evident that some heroic and more comprehensive effort must be made to solve the problem now confronting the cotton industry. This can be brought about by increased effort on the part of the Federal Government, supplemented by very vigorous action on the part of the State governments. We may not be able to improve the quality of the brain power now engaged in an effort to solve the boll weevil problem, but we can increase the quantity of brain power by establishing more research laboratories of the experiment stations in the cotton States as recommended by the Commission at this meeting.

There is one factor in the situation which most of those at work on the problem seem to overlook and that is unless a successful remedy is promptly applied it will be too late to repair the damage. I refer particularly to the danger of large numbers of producers, including tenants, becoming discouraged and leaving the cotton farms never to return. The solution of the problem in the future may not bring about a return of farmers to the cotton farms.

Many of the negro tenants will leave, never to return, thus causing an irreparable damage to the cotton producing sections.

Before concluding its convention the Commission approved a uniform bill which will be presented to the Legislatures of the twelve cotton-producing States. The bill provides that the Governors of the Cotton States shall appoint delegates, one of which from each State shall be a member of the Government Agricultural Department to act as the "Cotton States Commission." It also provides for the appropriation of \$3,000 by each State to the work. The bill prescribes, in general, the methods which will protect the cotton growers and help them fight the boll weevil and pink boll worm, the two enemies of the South's greatest crop. It also provides a general plan of procedure, that may be adopted to the varying conditions to be found in the several States. Its text is given as follows in the "Commercial Appeal":

A bill to be entitled: An Act to authorize State of _____ to co-operate with other cotton-producing States in the work of the Cotton States Commission, providing for the appointment of representation on said Commission, and for other purposes:

Whereas, The Governors of a number of the cotton-growing States in the United States have heretofore appointed commissioners representing their respective States on a commission to be known as the "Cotton States Commission" organized for the purpose of providing for a general organization through which the government of all of said States may advise with each other and with the Department of Agriculture of the Federal Government, in respect to certain problems relating to the production and marketing of cotton such as the control of insect pests, a uniform system of ware-

housing, and a system of financing the farmer during the periods of production and marketing, as well as other problems of like character; and

Whereas, Experience has demonstrated that these common problems cannot be completely solved under our dual system of Federal and State governments without co-operative action on the part of the various State governments as between themselves and also in conjunction with the Federal Government; and

Whereas, At conferences of said commissions, held first in New Orleans in February 1922, and later in Memphis, in 1922, it was recommended that the Legislatures of the said States adopted a statutory plan of organization and providing for representation thereon; and

Whereas, At a conference of said corporation held at Memphis, December 4 and 5 1922, a statutory plan substantially as hereinafter set out was approved and recommended by the said commission for adoption as a uniform Act by the Legislatures of the cotton-growing States; and

Whereas, It appears that certain matters of common concern, particularly in respect to insect pest control, are obviously of general welfare and necessity. Now, therefore,

The General Assembly of the State of _____ do enact:

Section 1. That the State of _____ does hereby recognize the said Cotton States Commission, to the extent that it may function within the limits prescribed by this Act, as an instrumentality of the State of _____ for the purpose of providing a general organization whereby said State may co-operate with the other cotton-producing States, and with the United States Department of Agriculture, in respect to certain problems affecting the production and marketing of cotton, which are obviously to the common interest of the cotton industry in all the States and not to matters in which there may be serious conflict of interest as between the said States, particularly in respect to the control and eradication of insect pests.

Sec. 2. That the Governor of this State shall within thirty days after this Act shall take effect, as hereinafter provided, and biennially thereafter, appoint three commissioners to represent the State of _____ on said "Cotton States Commission," each of whom shall serve for a term of two years and until their successors are appointed and qualified.

One of said Commissioners shall be an officer of the Department of Agriculture or of the agricultural extension service of said State; provided, however, that if any person appointed on said Commission shall fail or refuse to act, or if any vacancy shall occur therein by death, resignation or otherwise, the Governor of said State shall appoint some one to fill said vacancy for the unexpired term of said Commissioner. Said Commissioners shall, before entering on the discharge of their duties, take the usual oath required of public officers of said State, to support the Constitution and laws of the United States and the Constitution and laws of said State, not inconsistent therewith, and that they will faithfully and honestly discharge the duties of the office of Commissioner, to the best of their skill and ability. Said oath shall be subscribed to and recorded in the minutes of said Commission and also in the office of Secretary of State of said State of _____.

Section 3. Said Commissioners shall perform such duties, not inconsistent with the terms and spirit of this Act, as may be prescribed from time to time by said "Cotton States Commission" after it is organized as herein provided.

It shall be the duty of said Commissioners particularly to advise and co-operate with the Commissioners appointed by the Governors or Legislatures of the other cotton-growing States, members of said Commission, and also with the Secretary of Agriculture of the United States or his duly authorized representative, with respect to methods whereby the cotton-producing States and the Department of Agriculture of the United States may co-operate with each other in respect to the measures for the control and eradication of insect pests, and the said Cotton States Commission shall recommend to the Governors of the cotton-growing States what measures by way of uniform laws or otherwise, which in the opinion of said Commission shall be for the common interest of all of said States in respect to said problems; provided, however, that said Commission shall exercise no police powers in the said State, unless and until the Legislature shall specifically authorize the same.

Section 4. That it shall be the duty of said Commission at its first meeting to organize by the election of a Chairman and Secretary and to also adopt rules and regulations not inconsistent with the terms of this Act, to carry out the purposes for which it was created.

Section 5. That each of the States represented on said Commission shall be entitled to three votes, to be cast by the respective representatives of said States as a unit, on all matters coming before said Commission.

Section 6. That this Act shall not take effect unless and until the Legislatures of at least six of the cotton-producing States shall have enacted a statute in substantially the terms of this Act, and providing for representation on said Commission, and making appropriations for the expenses and maintenance of the same, on the basis as herein provided.

Section 7. That whenever six of said States shall have adopted this Act, and that fact is made to appear to the satisfaction of the temporary Chairman of the "Cotton States Commission," appointed pursuant to the said conference held at Memphis, he shall request the Governors of the States that have adopted said Act to appoint the Commissioners to represent their States.

Within 30 days after said Commissioners have been appointed, said Chairman shall notify the said Commissioners to meet at a time and place to be designated in said notice, for the election of officers and for the permanent organization of said Commission as herein provided.

Section 8. That until the organization of said Commission pursuant to the uniform Act to be adopted by said States, as herein provided, the temporary organization of said "Cotton States Commission" heretofore effected and shall thereon cease and determine, provided, however, that until said "Cotton States Commission" is permanently organized under and pursuant to said uniform Acts to be enacted by six of the said cotton-growing States as herein provided, the said temporary organization now existing shall continue in effect.

The plan of organization adopted at the conference held at New Orleans and Memphis in 1922 shall govern the acts of said Commission in the meantime.

Sec. 9. That for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this Act there is hereby appropriated annually out of any funds in the treasury of the State of _____ not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$3,000, to be expended by said Commission in carrying on the work as herein provided.

Provided that all the States represented on said Commission shall appropriate and pay a like sum for the work of said Commission.

Sec. 10. The Commissioners appointed to represent the said State of _____ on said Commission shall report to the Governor of said State the work which has been done by said Commission and the expenditures made on account of said work, giving in detail the amount and purpose of said expenditures; and shall also report to the Governor of said State any measure by way of uniform laws or otherwise, which said Commission may recommend for adoption by said States, to carry into effect the purposes for which said Cotton States Commission was created.

Sec. 11. That neither the said "Cotton States Commission" nor the Commissioners representing the State of _____ herein shall in any manner contract any obligation or pledge the faith or credit of said State, except for necessary expenses within the limits of the appropriations hereinbefore provided.

Sec. 12. That this Act shall continue in force and effect for a term of six years; provided, however, that the Legislature of said State of _____ may discontinue its representation on said Commission and may withdraw the appropriation as provided herein for the expenses of said Commission, on 12 months' notice, given to the Governors of the other States represented on said Commission by the Governor of the said State of _____

Sec. 13. That this Act shall be in force and effect from and after its ratification, subject, however, to the action to be taken by the other States as provided in Section 5 hereof.

WASHINGTON CONFERENCE LAYS PLANS FOR FIGHTING BOLL WEEVIL—FLORIDA PLAN RECOMMENDED.

An effort to unify the various recommendations proposed by the different States and Federal Government towards assisting cotton growers in combating the problems arising out of the boll weevil menace was made at a conference held in connection with the meetings of the Land Grant College Association at Washington, D. C., Nov. 23, attended by extension directors and college presidents and deans of various cotton States, as well as prominent officials of the United States Department of Agriculture.

It was indicated by the U. S. Department of Commerce prior to the conference that among the important questions to be discussed would be that of encouraging the growth of uniform varieties of cotton in communities. Besides considering uniform time of planting, various methods which had been recommended for controlling boll weevils under different conditions were also gone into. The Department of Agriculture in its preliminary announcement said that no attempt would be made at the conference to dispose finally of the various problems of fighting the boll weevil, the work being intended to pave the way for another meeting in which all interests involved would be represented. In referring to the developments at the conference the "Journal of Commerce" in Washington advises Nov. 23 said that the Government had indicated its faith in the possibility of conquering the boll weevil in the cotton producing States by the new Florida method when the experts of the Department of Agriculture recommended to the Association of Land Grant Colleges that experimental application of the plan be made in each of the cotton belt States. The dispatch added:

The details of the Florida plan were not discussed at length, but the plan was urged by the Government for a thorough trial.

With the formation of a complete program of research for methods of exterminating the pest and generally improving the situation of the cotton planter, the Association closed its thirty-sixth annual convention here to-day. The Department of Agriculture presented tentative suggestions for methods of combating the cotton ravaging insect, which will be investigated by the Association through sub-committees and a report rendered at a meeting to be held in Memphis the first week in February.

Would Improve Quality.

The Department presented to the Association suggestions for consideration on four major subjects—improving the quality of American cotton, greater uniformity of action in the production of cotton under boll weevil conditions, the cotton marketing problem, and a tentative plan for the production of cotton under boll weevil conditions with a view of final extermination by research.

It was made plain by officials of the Agricultural Department that suggestions were not recommendations, but simply subjects for discussion and investigation by each State.

The Department's plan for controlling the weevil was prepared before the announcement of the Florida station of a new method for reducing boll weevil injury to short staple cotton, which consists of stripping off the squares in May and immediately treating the plant with calcium arsenate.

"In view of the promising results reported for Florida conditions it is clearly desirable that experimental application of the Florida plan should be made in each of the cotton belt States," the Department announced.

Suggested Program.

The suggested program the Department presented for consideration on the production of cotton under boll weevil conditions are:

Under boll weevil conditions, the prime necessity is to mature the largest possible crop in the shortest possible time. It is, in a sense, a race between the farmer and the boll weevil. To accomplish this end, the Department makes the following recommendations:

"Select for cotton planting well drained fertile soils—if possible, only land capable of producing, with the use of a reasonable amount of fertilizer, at least one-half a bale per acre should be planted to cotton.

"Prepare a good seed bed and fertilize liberally. Whatever fertilizer is used should usually be distributed in the soil before planting.

"Plant good seed of an improved, early maturity variety, recommended for the locality by the State experiment station and the United States Department of Agriculture. Plant as soon as danger from frost and cold is past and the ground is sufficiently warm to insure rapid germination and vigorous growth. The planting of seed of a single variety, as nearly simultaneously as possible, by entire communities and counties is strongly urged.

Full Stand Important.

"The importance of securing and maintaining a full stand cannot be over-emphasized. The best width of rows and spacing of cotton in the row may vary with soil and climatic conditions. Rows should be only wide enough to allow proper cultivation, and cotton in the drill should uniformly be spaced closer than under non-boll weevil conditions. Cotton in 3-foot rows, spaced two stalks to the hill, a hoe width apart, has given high yields in spacing tests in the Mississippi delta. This close spacing may prove undesirable

under some conditions, but spacing eight to twelve inches in the drill, with two stalks to the hill, will probably give best results throughout the entire region of severe weevil infestation. To be sure of securing a full stand the liberal use of planting seed is advised.

"Chop to the desired stand as soon as safe from cold or other adverse conditions. Great care should be taken, particularly in the latter part of the season, to cultivate shallow and not too close to the row. Careless or deep cultivation at this period may mean disaster.

"If weevils are numerous at the time cotton is just beginning to square destroy all possible adult weevils, either by hand picking or poisoning, as may be most practicable. It is probably that only at this stage can the molasses and calcium arsenate mixture be used effectively. When squaring begins, especially if not equipped to poison by dusting, pick and destroy all punctured squares from the ground and the stalk once every week or ten days for a period of about thirty days.

"Then, if weevils are still numerous or as much as 10 to 15% of squares are infested and other conditions warrant, apply the calcium arsenate dry dust poison. In making applications of the dust always carefully follow directions of the United States Department of Agriculture and the college of agriculture of your own State.

Urges Rapid Picking.

"Pick cotton in the fall as rapidly as possible and immediately kill all cotton stalks, preferably by cutting and plowing under. The object is to destroy the food supply and breeding places of the weevil before the hibernation period. To be effective, this must be done as long as possible before the first killing frost.

"A very light infestation or even practical immunity from weevil damage until late in the following season could be insured if all cotton growers in entire communities or counties, would, when conditions permit, co-operate to destroy all cotton stalks at least two or three weeks before frost."

According to the Department of Agriculture, the plan of calling the conference originated with Dr. H. A. Morgan, President of the University of Tennessee, who made three trips through the South for the Government studying boll weevil conditions. It is stated that Dr. Morgan believes that unity in the methods recommended by the States and the Federal Government for combating the pest is one of the most important steps toward that end.

GEORGE D. SMITH AND WILMON NEWELL ON FLORIDA PLAN OF BOLL WEEVIL CONTROL.

In its issue of Dec. 9 the "Journal of Commerce" devoted considerable space to articles on cotton production, the ravages and fight against the boll weevil, &c., and the details of the Florida method of boll weevil control, as summarized by George D. Smith, Assistant Entomologist of the Florida Agricultural Experiment Station, were given as follows in this special cotton edition:

On account of a more or less imperfect understanding of the improved method of controlling the boll weevil recently announced by the State Plant Board of Florida, the following brief summary of the essence of the method is given herewith for the benefit of "Journal of Commerce" readers:

Every Florida cotton grower knows that nature is one of the main factors in controlling the boll weevil. In other words, the Florida grower of upland cotton knows that when he experiences a very dry and hot period—say about May 20 to June 20—the first eggs of the weevil, or rather the eggs deposited in the squares by the weevil, are killed by the hot sunshine. The hot sunshine literally parches to death the young weevils in the squares on the ground beneath the plants.

The killing of the first weevils in the squares offsets the hatching of the first generation and so retards the development of the first generation that the upland cotton matures its crop before the weevil can overcome the handicap induced by the dry, hot weather.

The Improved Method.

The improved method for controlling the boll weevil creates a condition similar in every way to the condition caused by the hot weather killing off the immature stages of the weevil before the first generation has had time to hatch. By taking off all squares, whether punctured or non-punctured, the egg crop of the weevil is destroyed, and at the same time the one application of poison completely controls the few adult weevils that were not captured when the squares were removed.

Some cotton farmers might argue that it is well enough to remove the punctured squares, but that it is best to leave the non-punctured squares on the plants. To this argument it can be stated that the laborer does not have time to open the involucres around each square to determine whether they have been punctured by the weevil. On the other hand, by taking off all squares very good progress can be made, and at the same time the removal of all squares insures the total destruction of all immature stages.

Then, too, if a few clean or non-punctured squares were left on the plants the weevils that were not captured would immediately scerete themselves in these clean squares where the application of poison would be of little value.

Getting Back to Nature.

In other words, do what Nature does during a dry, hot period to the immature weevil stages. Then follow this up with one application of poison and make the operation about one thousand per cent more thorough than Nature could ever do.

Wilmon Newell, Chairman of the Florida State Plant Board, was also quoted in the same issue of the "Journal of Commerce" as follows, anent the Florida plan:

Prior to the advent of the boll weevil cotton was the most valuable and dependable crop available to the Southern farmer. As a crop it was seldom a total failure. As a source of credit it was unsurpassed. A cash market existed for it at all times.

With the coming of the weevil cotton growing became in many sections a hazardous occupation, a game of chance with most of the chances against the grower. Profits from cotton culture became so uncertain that the farmer who engaged in it exclusively found himself as a rule with neither cash nor credit.

Numerous efforts were made to find other dependable sources of revenue for the cotton grower. In some instances these efforts were successful, and there are Southern communities that are to-day even more prosperous than they were in the days when "Cotton Was King."

The boll weevil has undoubtedly taught the Southern farmer the valuable lesson of diversification, but the price paid for it has been, to say the least,

exorbitant (the annual reduction in cotton yield ascribed to the boll weevil is now variously estimated at from 4,000,000 to 6,000,000 bales). Nevertheless, no crop has been found for the South which possesses the many advantages characteristic of cotton.

In north Florida the consequences following the boll weevil invasion were particularly unfortunate. For a time after it was realized that the boll weevil would make cotton growing generally unprofitable, the farmers turned their attention to raising cattle and hogs.

During the war and post-war periods, with prices high, the returns were very satisfactory, but soon the prices for cattle and hogs fell to the level of or below the cost of production. Growing peanuts was a similar experience; at first prices were high, then fell to the point where the farmer could not secure as much for his crop as it had cost him to produce it.

During the last two years the farmer of north Florida has needed a dependable cash crop as never before. Confronted by this situation, the State Plant Board inaugurated an intensive investigation of the boll weevil believing that the "last word" in control measures had not been reached.

For carrying out its investigations the Board employed as associate entomologist George D. Smith, formerly with the Bureau of Entomology, United States Department of Agriculture. His experiments, conducted in three Florida counties during 1922, have given most gratifying results; so gratifying and encouraging, in fact, that it is felt that a new era is at hand for the Florida cotton grower.

With the accumulated data of many years at his command and with thirteen years' experience in studying the weevil problem, Mr. Smith began his investigations with the State Plant Board. To him must be given the credit of discovering what had been overlooked by all previous investigators, namely, the weak point in the weevil's existence, and of perceiving how it could be taken advantage of in making a successful attack upon the insect.

The method of control which he has evolved, while in a way a logical outgrowth of past investigations, nevertheless is the biggest step toward complete repression of the pest that has ever been made. This happy development is a most striking justification for long continued and persistent scientific investigation of difficult problems.

Those who have followed closely and critically the experimental work during 1922 and have visited and examined the treated cotton fields from time to time have come inevitably to the conviction that the relatively simple control method which has been evolved through Mr. Smith's work for himself at least 90% of a normal crop so far as weevil damage is concerned.

So striking and uniform are the results secured in the 1922 experiments that we would feel remiss in our obligations to the farmers of Florida if we deferred placing this information before them until after the experiments have been repeated another year. Here, undoubtedly, is information by which any intelligent farmer can materially increase his cotton crop, and the cost of applying it is so low that the method can be profitably used upon the poorest of cotton lands in the State. The experimental result, therefore, are given to the public in order that they may be made use of during the coming year. No claim is made that a perfect weevil remedy has been developed, but only that a very great advance has been made in the methods of controlling the pest and reducing its damage.

Mr. Smith's experiments have been made on typical cotton lands of north Florida, consisting largely of Norfolk and Orangeburg sandy loam, rolling and well drained. On such lands the cotton plant normally shows a very determined habit of growth and matures its crop relatively early, whether weevils are present or not; a condition somewhat at variance with that which prevails on the alluvial lands of Texas, Louisiana and Mississippi.

At the same time conditions in north Florida are perhaps as favorable to a large winter survival of weevils as anywhere in the South.

While for the present the improved method is actually recommended for Florida only, there appears to be no reason, on theoretical grounds at least, why the method cannot be successfully adapted to conditions existing elsewhere in the cotton belt.

Reference to efforts of Mr. Smith to control the boll weevil was also made in these columns Dec. 2, page 2442.

HIGHER COTTON PRICES, LIKE WEEVIL, A MENACE.

The following, by T. C. Revere, of Munds & Winslow, members of the New York Cotton Exchange, is one of the cotton articles published by the "Journal of Commerce" in its issue of Dec. 9:

Considered from the standpoint of broad economic consequences, it may be stated that the future of cotton production in the United States presents our great outstanding agricultural problem. Heretofore the South has maintained a virtual monopoly in this respect by reason of abundant yields and a fair degree of price stability around levels which the whole world could afford to pay.

The history of cotton culture demonstrates, of course provided we go back to the days before the Whitney gin and improved textile methods, that some one was willing to pay almost any price for cotton. Along in the thirteenth century England imported cotton for lamp wicks, and as nearly as we can estimate the approximate price it must have been around \$2 per pound.

Cotton, in those days, was a luxury, even more so, probably, than silk, and we are now dealing with one of mankind's major necessities, the raw material for one of the world's basic industries. It is doubtful, therefore, if the South would find itself ultimately prosperous by a continuance of the 25c. level for cotton. It may be questioned whether the sincere friends of the Southern grower desire such a fate for him.

The result that would bring the maximum of wealth to the South and consolidate its position as purveyor to the world of this prime necessity would be a price that would permit a large consumption and at the same time provide the producer with a living margin for his investment and services.

High-Priced Cotton Not Profitable.

Cotton at 25 cents is an abnormal price. At the same time it should be stated, in justice to the Southern producer, that he is actually making a smaller average profit on the basis of this return than he received on the basis of 15 cents for crops ranging from 11,500,000 to 14,000,000 bales a few years ago. Twenty-five-cent or thirty-cent cotton benefits no one. In the long run it will restrict the market for finished goods and will stimulate competitive cotton culture all over the world. Lands will be devoted to cotton that would be more suitable for raising something else, but the price will provide the incentive for diverting them to this operation.

Let it not be assumed, however, that the Southern grower is waxing prosperous at the expense of the consumer. Millions of acres of cotton have been cultivated in the South this year that would have brought no profit if cotton had doubled its peak price of the present season. The

costs of cultivation, poison and other weevil control methods have not been the sole items in determining the expense.

The farmer could have withstood all these and made a profit if he could have successfully combated the pest. With production in many cases reduced to a bale to ten or fifteen acres, the grower found himself faced with a loss practically regardless of how high cotton might go.

Weevil Control Vital.

Obviously, the only development that will restore normality—provide cotton at a reasonable price and give a living reward to the grower—will be weevil control. Whether this can be brought about by any of the methods previously tried is a matter that may be seriously questioned. The methods hitherto attempted not only are expensive but they require a great deal of labor. This complicates the situation seriously, for negro labor in the last year or so has left the South by tens of thousands and at present it is taking on the proportions of a virtual exodus.

Taking, for example, the adoption of the so-called "Florida plan" for controlling the weevil, it may be seen that a great deal of labor would be required as this plan involves the picking of the early squares on all the stalks. Fields have to be gone over carefully and much labor and time are called for. It is also doubtful whether this method would prove efficacious in the northern latitudes of the belt where the seasons are shorter. The crop in many instances would be exposed to frost damage. In the southern tier of counties where the seasons are longer the method should prove effective.

The Weather Factor.

Calcium arsenate has been fairly successful, and probably would be more so if the growing season should not be too wet, as was the case this year. With this method it is necessary to take into consideration the cost of the poison and the supply that might be available. Its general use over the cotton belt would be impracticable with the present supply of calcium arsenate.

Probably the most effective agents in weevil control will be the weather—a cold winter, frequently dry, hot periods during the summer—and constant cultivation.

There is no method that has received competent endorsement, however, that does not involve great expense and consumers, both manufacturers and ultimate consumers, will have to take this into consideration in attempting to estimate a reasonable raw material cost.

EXODUS OF FARM LABOR FROM COTTON STATES TO NORTHERN AND WESTERN CITIES.

The following is from the "Journal of Commerce" of Dec. 9:

South Carolina is apparently in the midst of a general exodus of negroes—former farm hands leaving to seek jobs and high pay in northern and western industrial centres, according to Columbia, So. Caro., railroad men quoted in the papers of that city.

The northward movement, S. H. McLean, District Passenger Agent of the Southern Ry., and C. T. Buster, agent in charge of the consolidated ticket office, say is largely an individual movement, and has been in progress since the early summer, when conditions in the industrial centres first showed signs of improvement.

There have, however, been instances of apparent concerted moves, O. G. Donny, Commercial Agent for the Seaboard Air Line Ry., points out, but these were chiefly for points in nearby States.

The negroes, Mr. Buster says, are leaving from every section of the State and are going to practically every section of the nation. The majority of the tickets, he finds, have been bought for New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, Washington and Detroit.

There has been little evidence of any mass or group movements, Mr. Buster says, but farm hands by ones and twos are daily leaving, so that traffic has jumped to a point where it has been in some instances difficult for the railroads to take care of it, since none of the lines had any intimation of the movement, which is equalled only by the war-time negro exodus.

Disgusted with Boll Weevil.

The movement, Mr. McLean believes, is largely due to the failure of the Negro tenant farmers to make money in the State under boll weevil conditions. The majority of the negroes leaving are farm hands and the fact that farm conditions are subnormal throughout the State will explain the general character of the exodus.

The movement, Mr. McLean says, appears to be spontaneous and not the result of solicitation of northern employers. Included in the groups leaving he finds many negroes who during the war found work in northern industrial centres and were forced to return to the South during the period of depression that followed. These negroes, lured northward again by reports of the return of high wages, are carrying with them other negroes who are unable to make enough money in South Carolina and are willing to try their fortunes with the high industrial wages. In some instances negroes who remained in the North after the war-day exodus have sent for relatives and these relatives are now joining in the moving.

Seeking Industrial Work.

Large groups have also left the State for North Carolina, where road building projects and other contract work offer high wages.

W. E. McGee, Division Passenger Agent, Southern Ry., said that the northward migration of negroes was considerable and increasing. Numbers of the negroes go to Philadelphia and New York, many to Chicago, but probably the principal steady movement just now is to Detroit.

Manufacturers there are no longer able to rely on the flow of immigration to recruit their unskilled labor forces and are turning to the South for cheap help. Many negroes are enabled to make the move by receiving loans from relatives or friends already settled at the North.

Mr. McGee said there was reason to believe that in some cases the prospective employers made advances toward defraying the cost of removal, but if this were being done the cash was being sent directly to the negroes; the railroads are not receiving transportation orders.

Movement Is Individual.

Little or no evidence of organization has been noted by Mr. McGee. "It is distinctly an individual, or at most a family group movement," he said. "And it is by no means confined to South Carolina. For instance, we picked up from the Central of Georgia on one train the other day forty-eight persons bound North."

Numbers of negroes from around Alston are going North, principally to Detroit.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FINDS ABNORMAL MOVEMENT FROM FARM.

The U. S. Department of Agriculture in its monthly agricultural review, made public Dec. 9, reports that November figures indicate an abnormal movement of people from farm

towns. According to the Department, the general agricultural situation in the United States improved slightly in November. Cotton, grain and livestock products prices, as well as prices of things farmers have to buy, have risen slowly, the October price index on ten farm products being 110 compared with 100 for 1913. "This has put a little money into the pockets of some farmers, put heart into many more, and has done both for those who carry farm products through the channels of trade," the review says.

The prices the farmer pays for other than food products, according to the wholesale price index, has risen to 169, compared with 100 in 1913. Thus a unit of farm products will purchase 35% less of other commodities than it did in 1913. According to the review, agricultural conditions in the East are relatively poor. Potato, apple, hay and truck growers are thoroughly discouraged, the report says. Some poultrymen are doing fairly well, but most dairymen are having all they can do to break even. The cotton belt is said to show the best general recovery of any region as a whole. Cotton is very poor in many areas, but those having cotton to sell feel fairly good at present prices. General business is reported as having been much stimulated.

KEEN INTEREST IN NEW METHOD OF CONTROLLING BOLL WEEVIL.

The Bureau of Entomology of the United States Department of Agriculture, it was reported on Nov. 29, takes great interest in the new method of boll weevil control announced by the Florida State Experiment Station, in its bulletin dealing with experiments by G. D. Smith, under the direction of Dr. Wilmon Newell. In these experiments, which were conducted in northern Florida, the treated fields averaged 439 pounds of seed cotton per acre; the untreated checks averaged only 164 pounds of seed cotton per acre, or an average increase of 275 pounds of seed cotton per acre in all tests. The average cost of treatment for the entire season was \$1.57 per acre. The new method consists of the removal and destruction of all squares present on the plants at a time when about two square per plant were present. This operation destroys a large percentage of the weevils and is immediately followed by a thorough dusting to poison the terminal buds where the remaining weevils are forced to feed. This announcement is particularly important, the Agricultural Department points out, because it apparently offers a means of controlling the boll weevil on low yielding land on which it has so far been unprofitable to use the dusting method. A very large proportion of the cotton crop is produced on low yielding land and the Bureau of Entomology is greatly pleased that this new method has been developed, well knowing Professor Newell's standing as a careful and reliable investigator, and urges a widespread and thorough trial of this method during the coming season wherever the conditions appear suitable for its use.

LEGISLATION FOR FEDERAL GRADING AND STAPLING OF COTTON URGED BY DIRECTOR OF U. S. CENSUS.

The enactment of legislation providing for the grading and stapling of cotton under the supervision of the Federal Government is recommended in the annual report, made public Dec. 12, of William Steuart, Director of the Census of the U. S. Department of Commerce. Mr. Steuart, in making the recommendation, says:

The Act of Aug. 7 1916 provides that: "The Director of the Census shall collect and publish statistics of raw and prepared cotton and lint, cotton waste and hull fibre consumed in the manufacture of gun cotton and explosives of all kinds, and of absorbent and medicated cotton, during the year 1915 and quarterly thereafter, and the quantity held in such establishments at the end of each quarter."

At the time this law was passed the consumption of cotton in the manufacture of explosives was so great that it had an effect on the price, and it was, therefore, important to know the quantities thus consumed. Such information, however, is no longer of value, and I renew the recommendation made in my report for the fiscal year 1921 that this provision of the law be repealed.

There is considerable demand for statistical information as to the quantities of the several grades of cotton held in stock in the United States. Obviously under present conditions it is impossible to secure reliable information of this character, since much of the cotton is not accurately graded until it reaches the more important cotton markets or concentration points, the grading in the less important markets not being uniform. Since practically all the cotton produced in the United States enters into either inter-State or foreign commerce, it is within the power of Congress to enact legislation requiring such cotton to be graded and stapled under governmental regulations at central grading stations. The Government could provide the necessary personnel and facilities, but the cost of the grading, which probably would not amount to more than 30 or 40 cents a bale, should be paid by the owner of the cotton.

With uniform grading thus provided for throughout the cotton-growing region, it would be possible to obtain from the grading stations the numbers

of bales of the several classes graded, and from consumers and exporters the numbers of bales of the several grades consumed or exported.

I accordingly recommend the enactment of legislation providing for the grading and stapling of cotton under the supervision of the Federal Government.

CENSUS REPORT ON COTTON CONSUMED AND ON HAND, ALSO ACTIVE SPINDLES.

Under date of Dec. 14 1922 the Census Board issued its regular preliminary report showing cotton consumed, cotton on hand and active cotton spindles for the month of November 1921 and 1922 and the four months ending with November. More cotton was utilized during November than in any month since October 1917, the Census Bureau announced. Cotton consumed amounted to 577,561 bales of lint and 55,122 of linters, compared with 533,950 of lint and 62,406 of linters in October this year, and 527,940 of lint and 57,949 of linters in November last year, the Bureau announced. The statistics of cotton in this report are given in running bales, counting round as half bales, except foreign bales, which are in equivalent 500-pound bales.

COTTON CONSUMED AND ON HAND IN SPINNING MILLS AND IN OTHER ESTABLISHMENTS AND ACTIVE COTTON SPINDLES.
(Linters Not Included.)

Locality.	Year	Cotton Consumed During (Bales)—		Cotton on Hand Nov. 30 (Bales)—		Cotton Spindles—Active During November (Number).
		Nov.	Four Months ending Nov. 30.	In Consuming Establishments x	In Public Storage and at Compresses x	
United States.....	1922	577,561	2,134,259	1,731,425	4,198,095	34,664,630
United States.....	1921	527,940	1,974,034	1,655,359	5,292,941	34,423,339
Cotton growing States. 1922		363,813	1,376,139	1,107,825	3,983,041	15,859,962
Cotton growing States. 1921		322,593	1,192,500	877,486	4,952,202	15,439,955
All other States..... 1922		213,748	758,120	613,599	215,054	18,804,668
All other States..... 1921		205,347	781,534	777,873	340,739	18,938,374

x Stated in bales.
* Includes 27,350 foreign, 6,659 Am. Eg. and 599 Sea Island consumed, 77,880 foreign, 16,558 Am. Eg. and 2,981 Sea Island in consuming establishments, and 52,125 foreign, 30,777 Am. Eg. and 5,243 Sea Island in public storage.
Linters not included above were 55,122 bales consumed during Nov. 1922 and 57,949 bales in 1921; 95,969 bales on hand in consuming establishments on Nov. 30 1922 and 152,652 bales in 1921, and 21,634 bales in public storage and at compresses in 1922 and 177,378 bales in 1921. Linters consumed during the four months ending Nov. 30 amounted to 238,180 bales in 1922 and 239,910 bales in 1921. Cotton exports for November were 858,337 bales, including 2,827 bales of linters, compared with 798,664 bales, including 1,535 of linters in October.

U. S. COAL COMMISSION WARNS AWAY NEW CAPITAL FROM SOFT COAL MINES.

The studies already made by the United States Coal Commission all point to the fact, it is stated, that the bituminous coal mining industry is over-developed. "Too many soft coal mines and too many miners" describes the situation in plain English, according to a statement made public by the U. S. Coal Commission Dec. 11, which said further:

In these coal mines more capital is invested and more miners are employed than are needed to produce the coal the country requires. This condition, of course, involves waste on a country-wide scale.

How great is the present inflation of the industry cannot be stated exactly at this time, but unquestionably the inflation is excessive. Estimates of the excess mine capacity range from 30 to fully 60% above the country's normal demand, which for the last five years has averaged about 510,000,000 tons a year. Figured on the basis of their actual output for the best week in 1918, the capacity of the soft coal mines was then 685,000,000 tons. Since 1918, unfortunately, the mine capacity has been further enlarged, and another estimate of it can be made from the average daily output last year: 300 days' work at that rate would have resulted in 840,000,000 tons being mined, or fully 69% more than the normal needs of the country.

How to deflate the coal industry is one of many problems before President Harding's Coal Commission, and its reports may be expected to present facts bearing on this question. It seems plain enough, however, that the industry should not be further inflated by opening new mines. The facts already presented furnish a valid argument against continuing to enlist new capital in the business, thereby opening new mines that are worse than unneeded, for they further spread and thus overtax car supply and shorten the possible working time of mines in the vicinity that are already well equipped to ship 50 to 100% more coal than they ship now. Indeed, the ratings of mine capacity reported to the railroads for the purpose of obtaining cars would indicate that the bituminous mines of the country have a total annual capacity of not far from a billion tons, instead of the half billion tons needed.

Exceptions may possibly be made here and there to the ban which the investing public should put on coal mine development. A local market not well supplied with coal may warrant the opening of a nearby mine, which would thereby help to relieve the burden on transportation facilities, but it is believed that such exceptional conditions are rare. In the public land States of the West, unfortunately, the Federal Government itself has not been able to discourage coal mine development, for, under the leasing law, the lessee of Government coal land is required to open the mine and to produce coal on a scale proportionate to the acreage leased. There seems to be no legal warrant for refusing a lease to bona fide applicant, even though the public interest does not seem to indicate the need of more coal. The result will be that the West will soon find its coal mines and coal miners as badly off as those in Indiana and Illinois, where the working time is too short to pay adequately either owners or workers.

If the public can appreciate the strength of the evidence already available on this subject of over-development, refusal to invest in new coal mining ventures under present conditions will be recognized as both good business and good citizenship. It is plain enough that the country needs not more coal mines but more work for the coal mines we already have. One potent reason that coal is not cheaper to the consumer is that he is supporting a vast surplus of investment and capacity. The large excess capacity cannot for long lower the price of coal, however, simply because that condition of things is wasteful.

draining of land. Lack of longer credit made necessary the activities of the War Finance Corporation last year, but the Secretary believes that agriculture should not be required to depend on emergency organizations of this sort. "No Congress in our history," declares the Secretary, "gave more extended, sympathetic and understanding consideration to agriculture than the Congress which convened in March 1921." In his review of its helpful legislation for the farmer, the Secretary mentions:

Representation for agriculture on the Federal Reserve Board.
 Activities of the War Finance Corporation, which, he declares, "undoubtedly saved many thousands of farmers from bankruptcy and hundreds of banks in agricultural States from passing into the hands of receivers."
 The act to encourage the organization of farmers' co-operative marketing associations by giving them proper standing under the law.
 The Packers and Stockyards Act, bringing all packing houses, stock yards and stock yard agencies under Government supervision.
 The Grain Futures Act, extending Government supervision over the grain exchanges on which grain is bought and sold for future delivery.
 The Joint Commission on Agricultural Inquiry, composed of members of the House and Senate, which gathered much information that is expected to be helpful in working out national agricultural policies.

PLANS OF U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOR MORE COMPLETE INFORMATION ON LIVE STOCK.

Plans for greatly improving and broadening the statistical work of the Department of Agriculture, especially as it relates to crop and live stock production, are outlined in the annual report of Secretary of Agriculture Wallace to the President made public Dec. 5. "For many years the Department's statistics on acreage and production of the principal farm crops have been regarded as very accurate," the Secretary says. "Live stock statistics have not been so satisfactory, due in large part to insufficient funds. Congress gave larger appropriations for the current year, and in co-operation with leading live stock producers, a program has been worked out which should result in much more reliable and complete live stock statistics in the future."

The program provides for the elaboration of the annual estimates of numbers of live stock on farms to show age and sex; preliminary and final estimates yearly of the calf and lamb crops of the range States; periodical reports of the numbers of cattle, sheep and lambs on feed for market; periodical surveys of special live stock producing areas; reports of the seasonal movement of cattle, sheep and lambs from the range to the feed lots and from feed lots to market; semi-annual reports of the spring and fall pig crop gathered through rural mail carriers and field representatives of the Department, and monthly reports of feed and pasture conditions. Through co-operation with the buying and selling agencies at the Chicago market live stock marketing information is also being gathered to show the State origin, number and average weight of each grade of beef steers received, together with the average price paid and the final disposition. "This information makes it possible to determine the seasonal supply of the various grades of steers arriving at Chicago and the number going to the country for further feeding or grazing," the Secretary says. "Information of this sort is necessary as a basis for enabling producers and feeders both to plan their operations and to regulate the marketing of their stock, and becomes more and more valuable as it accumulates."

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE ON GOOD RESULTS IN ENFORCING PACKERS AND STOCKYARDS ACT.

Administration of the Packers and Stockyards Act, begun when the constitutionality of the Act was upheld by the Supreme Court last May, has resulted in a growing spirit of understanding and willingness to co-operate between the traders on the various markets, the packers and the stock yard agencies, according to Secretary of Agriculture Wallace. In his report to the President, made public Dec. 5, Secretary Wallace says there are now 78 stock yards in 70 cities in 35 States subject to the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Agriculture under this Act. The provisions of the law also apply to 1,075 market agencies and 3,436 dealers at these markets. They are all registered and their schedules of rates and charges have been published and filed by the Department. According to the Secretary's statement, the application of the law has been greatly facilitated by the disposition of packers, stock yard companies and commission concerns to co-operate in its enforcement. As a result many undesirable practices have been corrected without formal proceedings and with the minimum of trouble and expense. Through such conferences the use of butter packages containing fractions of a pound was discontinued by the packers, and the

principle of the standardization of retail packages accepted. Audits of books of commission merchants in some yards revealed conditions needing correction, and many adjustments were made. In one case an offensive boycott by one group of market agencies against another at one of the principal markets was promptly stopped and the principle of open, competitive marketing established. Certain arbitrary price discriminations working to the injury of live stock producers are being brought to an end and actual market values substituted in the sale and purchase of live stock. As a result of complaints filed with the packers and stock yards administration against live stock commission rates at one of the important markets the commission merchants at several of the large markets have agreed to have their rates adjusted without formal hearings, promising to abide by the Government's decision. In summing up his comments on the enforcement of this Act, the Secretary says "the dominating thought is to bring about harmony and co-operation and remove causes for antagonism, misunderstandings and irritations, to the end that confidence in the manner in which live stock is marketed shall be established."

GREATER APPRECIATION OF LICENSED WAREHOUSE SHOWN, SAYS ANNUAL REPORT OF SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE.

Unprecedented increase in the number of applications from warehousemen for licenses under the United States Warehouse Act is reported by Secretary of Agriculture Wallace in his annual report presented to the President on Dec. 5. According to the report the volume of business handled by the offices of Federal Grain Supervision during the past year is also stated to have exceeded greatly that handled in any previous year. Secretary Wallace Says:

At the beginning of the past fiscal year there were licensed 238 cotton warehouses having a combined capacity of approximately 430,000 bales. By the close of the year this number had increased to 268 warehouses having a combined capacity of 1,210,000 bales. The number of grain warehouses licensed under the Act increased from 56, with a capacity of about 2,110,000 bushels, to 263, with a capacity of about 14,441,000 bushels. The number of wool warehouses licensed increased from 5, with a capacity of about 24,375,000 pounds, to 18, with a capacity of about 27,500,000 pounds. Fourteen warehouses controlling space to accommodate 68,395,000 pounds of tobacco were also licensed.

The substantial progress made in the warehouse work is attributed to three important factors:

- (1) More general appreciation on the part of bankers of the value of warehouse receipts issued under the Act for collateral purposes.
- (2) Insistence on the part of some of the farmers' co-operative associations that their products should be stored only with warehousemen who were Federally licensed.
- (3) The recognition accorded the Federally licensed warehouse receipts by the War Finance Corporation.

LABOR PROGRAM RECOMMENDED BY SECRETARY OF LABOR DAVIS IN ANNUAL REPORT.

A series of recommendations comprising a labor program accompanied the annual report of Secretary of Labor Davis, made public Dec. 12. The report, after reviewing the labor history of the year, and pointing out the industrial lessons of the coal and railroad strikes, makes the following recommendations:

The extension and expansion of the Conciliation Service of the Department of Labor to provide it with facilities which will permit it to deal with nation-wide industrial disturbances.

The strengthening of the United States Employment Service to enable it to meet the problem of unemployment.

Provision for the examination abroad of all aliens seeking admission to the United States with rigid physical, mental, moral and blood tests.

The enrollment by the Federal authorities of all aliens within the borders of the United States and provision for the education in Americanism of such as are eligible for naturalization.

A Federal constitutional amendment to prohibit the employment of children.

A Federal juvenile court system.

Discussing the industrial conflicts of the year and means for preventing similar clashes in the future, the Secretary's report said:

We must find a way to avert these futile, fatal appeals to force in industry, with their vast losses to the worker, the employer, and to the public, which is to-day so vitally dependent upon industry in its daily life. We must and will find a way to settle these disputes by the force of reason and justice before the appeal to force is made. Instead of conferences after months of industrial battle, I would have council before the strike is called.

There is a close community of interest between the employer and the worker in every industry. Unless obscured by passion and prejudice in the heat of dispute, that community of interest will operate to adjust any differences that may arise between the two, to their common benefit. This community of interest, to my mind, is the secret of ending these industrial conflicts.

There seems to be an unalterable opposition on the part of both employer and worker to the bringing into any dispute of a third party vested with any coercive powers sufficient to force a settlement. Our people have not indorsed any general policy of compulsion in dealing with these disputes. The principle of enforced arbitration, in any guise, is generally rejected by both parties to these controversies.

It has been the experience of the Department of Labor that disinterested, intelligent, practical conciliation is capable of ending many of these disputes. In the less than 10 years that the Department has been in existence, the

Conciliation Service, hampered by limitations in personnel and equipment, has accomplished much in these disputes. It has handled thousands of them, involving millions of workers. It has had no arbitrary power, no coercive authority. Its Commissioners have been peacemakers in industry, seeking to ascertain and appreciate the differing points of view of the two parties to a controversy and by earnest and painstaking appeals to the innate fairness and common interests of both sides to bring them to a common ground where an agreement can be reached. Of all the cases handled by this service more than 90% of the disputes have been adjusted through their efforts or with their co-operation. Furthermore, where 70% of these disputes in which the service acted when it was organized reached the stage of a strike or lockout, to-day less than 30% of them become actual suspensions of work before they are adjusted.

It seems to me that before enacting any radical legislation or changing the administrative scheme for dealing with these strikes, we might well consider the perfecting and extension of the machinery which has proved so effective in the past. I have no doubt that by improving and increasing the facilities of the Conciliation Service we can materially increase its effectiveness in dealing with the 10% of industrial disputes in which it apparently fails. In many of these cases of apparent failure, however, the efforts of a conciliation commissioner become the ultimate basis of settlement.

As to unemployment the report said:

Here we have two problems to meet—to prevent a recurrence of the employment depression which threw between five and six million men into idleness and to reduce the number of our workmen who are daily without means of livelihood.

We have a powerful agency in meeting both of these problems in the United States Employment Service, which, fully organized and equipped, would have its finger at all times upon the pulse of the labor supply and demand of the country. The past year this service, with its co-operating agencies, proved its effectiveness. It listed between 2,500,000 workers seeking employment, and placed nearly 1,500,000 of them in jobs without expense to the worker or employer. Its usefulness and the need for its development are plain.

The causes of idleness among our workmen call for instant remedy. Industrial strife and unemployment offer opportunities to the enemy of government too favorable for us to overlook them. Wherever worker and employer clash and wherever men are in enforced idleness, there is the opportunity for the unscrupulous employer with his hired guard, his mercenary plug-ugly. There, too, the ultra-radical finds conditions ripe for his efforts. Both threaten the subversion of all government, as they preach contempt for law and order, and by stirring the passions and hate of men bring to fruition their gospel of violence and bloodshed. These things are a menace to our whole national existence. They threaten the fundamentals of our Government. No duty is more pressing upon us to-day than that of safeguarding ourselves from these dangers.

NEW YORK STATE TAX ON NATIONAL BANK SHARES HELD INVALID.

The Court of Appeals at Albany on Dec. 12 decided, Judge Cuthbert W. Pound writing the opinion, that the present State laws taxing shares of stock of national banks conflict with Acts of Congress and that such assessments made against shares must be vacated. It is likely that the case will be appealed to the United States Supreme Court. It is understood that about \$12,000,000 is involved in the case, which was that of Goldfogle versus the Hanover National Bank. In effect the decision holds that when the Legislature imposed an income tax on bank dividends and retained the valuation tax on national banks and exempted competing capital of private bankers from taxation, the result was a conflict with certain Acts of Congress, which has the sole authority for taxing shares of national banks. It was held that the State tax puts a double tax on bank shares and their dividends and leaves competing capital in the hands of private bankers taxed upon income only. The Court therefore held that the tax on bank shares was invalid. We quote the following from the New York "Times":

In his opinion Judge Pound said:

"Relator seeks to review an assessment of its capital stock for taxation for the year 1921. A national bank is an agency of the national Government. The State has no constitutional power to lay any tax upon it. Its shares of stock are taxable by the State only when and as Congress permits.

"Section 5214 of the Revised Statutes of the United States imposes upon national banks the obligation to pay to the Treasurer of the United States certain duties in lieu of all existing taxes and Section 5219 provides that anything contained in the Federal National Bank Act shall prevent all the shares in any association from being included in the valuation of the personal property of the owner or holder of such shares in assessing taxes imposed by the authority of the State within which the association is located, but the Legislature of each State may determine and direct the manner and place of taxing all the shares of national banking associations located within the State, subject only to two restrictions—that the taxation shall not be at a greater rate than is assessed upon other moneyed capital in the hands of individual citizens in such State, and that the shares of national banking associations owned by non-residents of any State shall be taxed in the city or town where the bank is located and not elsewhere."

Judge Pound quoted from the Tax Law of the State affecting shares of stock of banking associations and from the Personal Income Tax Law Shares of stocks in banks and banking associations, he wrote, both State and national, were subject to a 1% valuation tax. Certain other corporations were subject to franchise taxes, but moneyed capital in the hands of individuals was exempt from taxation locally for State or local purposes. A long line of decisions defined the business of banking and held that the words "moneyed capital" in the hands of individual citizens included moneys invested in private banking houses such as J. P. Morgan & Co., Kuhn, Loeb & Co., and others, together with investments of individuals in securities that represented money at interest and other evidences of indebtedness such as normally entered into the business of banking. The National Government thus permitted State taxation only on terms of substantial equality and entire fairness and friendliness.

"The question is," continued Judge Pound, "first whether the State of New York discriminates against national bank shares by imposing a tax both on the shares and the dividends, while it imposes a tax on the income only of other competing capital in the hands of private bankers and other individuals. It was held below that if the direct tax and the income tax were both

imposed, the discrimination would be clear. The respondent contends, by a process of statutory construction which would exclude by implication the particular from the general, that no income tax is imposed on the dividends of bank stock. The question is not whether such dividends may lawfully be included in the income of the individuals taxed by the State, but whether they are in fact so included.

"It is urged that the State had no power to tax such income for the reason that section 5129 of Revised Statutes of the United States permits a tax on valuation only and therefore that it did not tax it. The language of the statute suggests no such punctilious regard for those whose income is derived from dividends on national bank shares. On the contrary, it plainly includes such dividends in gross income. Gross income includes income from dividends. Dividends from stock in bank corporations owned by resident tax payers is not included in the list of exemptions.

"A clear discrimination is made against resident holders of bank shares which are taxed according to their book value, who are also taxed on their income. The shares of bank stock are taxed by one method and the dividends thereon taxed by another method. Competing moneyed capital in the hands of individuals is exempt from taxation, according to its valuation, and is assessed according to income only. The provisions of the law are explicit. The discrimination is unfortunately too plain to escape recognition. We cannot assume that any such exemption was in the legislative mind. On the contrary, the report of the special Joint Committee on Taxation and Retrenchment, submitted to the Legislature March 1 1922, the opinion of the Attorney-General March 31 1922, and the practice of the Income Tax Bureau indicate that by legislative and administrative construction a personal tax upon dividends on the shares was contemplated and collected.

"When it appears on the face of the statute," says Judge Pound in conclusion, "that bank shares are taxed at a flat rate and that the owner of competing moneyed capital is taxed on income only, the court is powerless to say that equality of taxation has been secured and injustice prevented. We are forced to compare the two methods which are wholly unlike. How can equality be established or presumed as the necessary results of the taxing statutes? In a very considerable number of cases the flat rate must inevitably be the heavier burden. It is fixed and certain. The income tax is variable and dependent on income and amount of income. It is conceivable that when returns on such capital are low, the bank stock would be taxed and the competing capital would be exempt. In no event would equality exist unless the income on competing capital were large beyond the dreams of avarice and the usual returns on invested capital. The relator is entitled to the relief asked for. Orders reversed and assessment vacated with costs in all courts."

ITEMS ABOUT BANKS, TRUST COMPANIES, ETC.

A New York Stock Exchange membership was reported posted for transfer this week, the consideration being stated as \$93,000. The last previous sale was for \$94,000.

The tenth annual dinner of the Bankers' Forum, New York Chapter, American Institute of Banking, will be held to-night (Saturday, Dec. 16), at the Hotel Astor. The guest of honor will be John P. Puelicher, the newly elected President of the American Bankers Association, and head of the Marshall & Ilsley Bank, Milwaukee. It is estimated that about 600 bankers will be present, besides the members of the administrative committee of the American Bankers Association and other out-of-town financiers. Included among the speakers, in addition to Mr. Puelicher, will be L. F. Loree, President of the Delaware & Hudson RR., and Rev. Wm. W. Bellinger, D.D., Vicar of St Agnes' Chapel, Trinity Parish. Romaine A. Philpot, of the banking firm of Philpot & Cannon, Inc., who organized the Bankers' Forum ten years ago, and since then has been the Chairman, except during last season, will preside. Richard W. Saunders, Comptroller Famous Players-Lasky Corporation, formerly Cashier of the National Bank of Commerce, will be toastmaster. The banquet will conclude with dancing.

Regarding a report that the Banque de Paris et des Pays Bas had taken over the activities of The Farmers' Loan & Trust Co., of this city, James H. Perkins, President of the latter, on the 11th inst. said:

The announcement from Paris that the Banque de Paris et des Pays Bas had taken over the French activities of The Farmers' Loan & Trust Co. is inaccurate. The company disposed of its French banking business to the National City Bank more than a year ago. Since that time our relations with the National City Bank, where our representative has had an office, have been most agreeable and satisfactory.

The only foundation for the report referred to is that negotiations have been completed with the Banque de Paris et des Pays Bas for the establishment of the offices of The Farmers' Loan & Trust Co. representative in the new building now being constructed by the Banque de Paris et des Pays Bas. This step was taken in the belief that the company could best serve its American customers by handling their business through a French bank. Such activities as the company has carried on since the sale of its Paris office to the National City Bank will continue to be discharged by the company's Paris representative.

The American Bankers Association has issued a booklet setting forth the history and development of the organization and describing its present structure, service and aims. Copies of this book are available on request.

At the regular monthly meeting of Lawyers Title & Trust Co., Dec. 13, Vanderbilt Webb was elected a director of the company to fill a vacancy in the board. At the same meeting the directors declared a regular cash dividend of 1½% and an extra cash dividend of 2% on the existing

capital of \$4,000,000, payable on Jan. 2 1923 to stockholders of record on Dec. 23 1922. The increase of the capital stock of this company from \$4,000,000 to \$6,000,000 has been effected, pursuant to a vote of the stockholders at the special meeting held on Dec. 7 1922, by transferring \$2,000,000 from surplus and undivided profits to capital account. The board of directors duly voted to distribute 20,000 shares of stock as a stock dividend to stockholders of record at the close of business on Dec. 26 1922. Such stockholders will accordingly receive one additional share of the capital of the company for each two shares held by them. Scrip certificates, which will not be entitled to dividends or interest but which may be exchanged in sums of \$100 for whole shares, will be issued to represent all fractions of shares resulting upon this distribution. It is expected that on or about Dec. 30 1922 new stock and scrip certificates will be mailed to the stockholders at their address appearing on the books of the company.

The Standard Bank of this city has declared a cash dividend of 4½% for the past six months and a stock dividend of 100%, both payable Dec. 30 to stockholders of record Dec. 29, subject to the approval of the State Banking Department and the stockholders at a meeting called for Dec. 27. Richard M. Lederer, President of the bank, states that the stock dividend will be paid out of the surplus account from earnings accrued since the incorporation of the bank in August 1919. To enable the employees of the Standard Bank of New York to become shareholders, one of its directors has purchased a block of the bank's stock for re-sale on a partial payment plan extending over a period of forty months. A price of subscription considerably under book value has been established, the difference between that and the purchase price being assumed by the bank. This privilege is extended as an incentive towards thrift on the part of its employees. More than 90% of the employees, it is stated, have subscribed for the stock allotted.

The stockholders of the Mutual Bank of this city at a meeting on Dec. 12 ratified the proposal to increase the capital from \$200,000 to \$500,000. As indicated in our issue of Nov. 25 (page 2346), the additional shares will be distributed as a stock dividend to stockholders of record Dec. 11. The increased capital became effective Dec. 14.

To fill a vacancy, Edward F. Goltra, St. Louis, was elected a director of the Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States at the annual meeting last week. The retiring directors were re-elected.

On Nov. 28 the stockholders of the Hudson Trust Co., of this city, ratified the proposal to increase the capital of the institution from \$500,000 to \$700,000. As indicated in our issue of Nov. 18, page 2238, the new stock will be disposed of at \$200 per \$100 share. The increased capital will become effective on Jan. 1.

The National City Bank of New York, through its Trust Department, has prepared for distribution a booklet entitled "The Modern Insurance Trust," which gives complete information concerning the manner in which such trusts are established and administered. An illustrative copy of such a trust is also given with the booklet, so that a complete picture may be had of the manner in which insurance funds are cared for when left in the custody of the bank's Trust Department. Copies of booklet and trust, we are advised, may be had on request.

Welch Walker has been appointed an Assistant Treasurer of the Guaranty Trust Co. of New York.

At a recent meeting of the board of directors of the Seaboard National Bank of this city, a bonus of 10% was declared, based on a year's salary.

The directors of the Peninsula National Bank of Cedarhurst, Long Island, have declared an annual dividend of 6% upon the capital stock out of the surplus earnings, payable to stockholders of record, 1½% quarterly on the first day of January, April, July, and October 1923. The transfer books will close Dec. 26 1922 and reopen on Jan. 2 1923. The bank has been in operation two years. Its capital is \$100,000 and surplus and undivided profits amount

to \$88,144. Deposits are reported in excess of \$1,270,000 and the number of depositors exceeds 3,000.

At a special meeting of the stockholders of the Commercial Trust Co. of Jersey City, N. J., on Dec. 6, plans to increase the capital stock from \$1,000,000 to \$2,000,000 were ratified. The new stock (par \$100 per share) is to be paid to the stockholders as a dividend. The new stock will become effective Dec. 14 1922.

We are advised by F. C. Ferguson, President of the Union Trust Co. of New Jersey, Jersey City, that on Jan. 9 the stockholders of that institution and those of the Hudson County National Bank, Jersey City, will vote on a proposed consolidation of the institutions under the National Banking Act of the United States recently recommended by their respective boards of directors. Should the merger become effective, the capital of the resulting institution will be \$750,000.

The directors of the New Jersey Title Guarantee & Trust Company, Jersey City, at a meeting on Dec. 12th, declared a regular quarterly cash dividend of 5% and an extra cash dividend of 15%. The board also adopted a resolution increasing the capital of the institution from \$1,000,000 to \$1,300,000. If the action of the board is approved by the stockholders at a special meeting called for Dec. 20th, the new stock will be issued to the Stockholders as a 30% stock dividend.

Officials of the National State Bank of Elizabeth, N. J., plan to increase its capital from \$350,000 to \$700,000. A stock dividend of 100%, payable from the bank's surplus and undivided profits, has been recommended by the directors and the stockholders have been called to vote on the plan at a special meeting to be held on Dec. 22.

The shareholders of the Broad Street National Bank of Philadelphia have sanctioned the proposal to increase the capital stock of the bank from \$250,000 to \$375,000. The new stock (\$50 par) is offered to the stockholders of record as of Dec. 4 at \$75 per share. Payment will be certified to the Comptroller as soon as completed, which will probably be the very first of January, and the new capital will become effective as soon as the Comptroller's approval is received.

The International State Bank of Chicago, the majority of whose depositors are said to be of foreign birth or extraction, was closed by order of H. S. Savage, State Bank Examiner for Cook County, on Dec. 7, according to newspaper advices from that city. Intervention by the police prevented a riot by the depositors, it is said, when the bank's doors were closed. Later in the day, it is said, the following statement was given out by Mr. Savage:

On account of recent withdrawals the bank has had difficulty the last few days in meeting the balance against it through the clearing house. Due to this condition, the department deemed it advisable in the interest of the depositors to close the bank this morning pending an investigation of its assets and liabilities. It is hoped arrangements can be made to reopen the bank or at least provide sufficient cash to pay the depositors in full within a short time.

Subsequent newspaper advices from Chicago state that a shortage has been discovered in the bank's funds and that Eugene Braslawsky, its President, has disappeared. The closed bank had a capital of \$100,000 and surplus of \$25,000.

A special meeting of the respective stockholders of the Illinois Trust & Savings Bank of Chicago and the Merchants' Loan & Trust Co. of that city will be held on Jan. 18 1923 for the purpose of voting on the question of increasing the capital stock of each institution from \$5,000,000 to \$7,500,000 out of surplus and also upon the question of consolidating the two institutions.

At the regular monthly meeting of the board of directors of the Central Manufacturing District Bank of Chicago on Dec. 6, the regular quarterly dividend of 2% was declared, and in addition an extra dividend of 2%, both payable Jan. 2 1923 to stockholders of record Dec. 30 1922. The directors further voted to place the stock on a regular 10% dividend basis, payable 2½% quarterly, effective April 1 1923. At the same meeting it was also voted to transfer \$150,000 from undivided profits account to the surplus account, which will make the capital at this time \$500,000 and surplus \$400,000. The stock of the bank sold recently at \$301 a share.

According to a press dispatch from Madison, Wis., on Dec. 15 appearing in "Financial America" of this city of the same date, the Jackson State Bank of Jackson, Wis.,

has been closed by the State Banking Commissioner. The failed bank had a capital of \$20,000 and deposits, it is said, of \$175,000.

A press dispatch from St. Paul under date of Dec. 14, appearing in "Financial America" of the same date, reports the closing by the State Banking Department of Minnesota of the Sturgeon Lake State Bank of Sturgeon Lake, that State, with a capital of \$10,000 and deposits of \$60,000. Depleted reserves and bad paper were given as the reason for the failure, it is said.

According to an Associated Press dispatch from Charleston, W. Va., under date of Dec. 13, appearing in the New York "Times" of Dec. 14, Homer H. Dean, former Vice-President of the defunct First National Bank of Sutton, W. Va., who had been a fugitive from justice since August 1914, when he disappeared while an audit of the bank's books was in progress, was on that day (Dec. 13) given a minimum sentence of one year and on day in the Federal Penitentiary at Atlanta "because it was officially recognized that he "made good" in a position of trust during the year he was at large." The dispatch goes on to say:

Dean was located and arrested last June. He had changed his name and had become sale manager for a successful concern. Executives of the company informed Federal authorities that Dean had their complete confidence and that they would grant him a leave of absence until he served his sentence. Judge McClintic, the Prosecuting Attorney and Dean's counsel held a conference to-day and the consequence was a verdict of guilty on two counts, alleging misapplication of \$3,500. The other counts were dismissed.

Dean had until Jan. 2 to arrange his affairs. At the request of the Court Dean's assumed name and the identity of his employer were not disclosed.

The 105th annual statement of the Bank of Montreal (the first since the absorption of the Merchants Bank of Canada) was submitted to the shareholders at their annual meeting in Montreal on Dec. 4, an account of the proceedings of which we print elsewhere in our pages to-day. The report, which covers the fiscal year ending Oct. 31 1922, shows net profits for the period, after deducting charges of management and making full provision for bad and doubtful debts of \$4,756,668, which, when added to \$1,501,647, the balance to credit of profit and loss brought forward from the preceding year, made the sum of \$6,258,315 available for distribution. This amount was appropriated as follows: \$3,657,500 to pay four quarterly dividends at the rate of 12% per annum (\$3,112,500) together with a bonus of 2% (\$545,000); \$492,000 to take care of Dominion Government taxes; \$500,000 reserved for bank premises and \$1,050,000 transferred to rest account, leaving a balance of \$558,815 to be carried forward to next year's profit and loss account. Total assets as of Oct. 31 1922 were \$713,569,567, of which \$417,819,493 are quick assets.

Sir H. Montagu Allan, former President of the Merchants Bank of Canada, now merged in the Bank of Montreal, was on Nov. 13 acquitted of charges that he had signed and presented to the Canadian Government a false statement of his bank's financial standing. D. C. Macarow, the former General Manager of the Merchants Bank of Canada, was acquitted on a similar charge some weeks previously. We last referred to the affairs of the defunct bank in these columns in our issue of July 22 last.

THE ENGLISH GOLD AND SILVER MARKETS.

We reprint the following from the weekly circular of Samuel Montagu & Co. of London, written under date of Nov. 30 1922:

GOLD.

The Bank of England gold reserve against its note issue is £125,617,935, as compared with £125,617,630 last week.

A fair amount of gold has been on offer, and has been absorbed mainly on account of the United States of America. A few purchases were made on behalf of India. The price fixed on the 28th—91s. 0d.—is the lowest quoted since the price of exportable gold was fixed per fine ounce, and represents a premium of only about 7-16%.

Gold valued at \$5,340,000 has been received in New York from London. The Southern Rhodesian gold output for October 1922 amounted to 54,670 ounces, as compared with 55,443 ounces for September 1922 and 53,424 ounces for October 1921.

Gratifying news is still coming to hand as to the gold mining possibilities of Canada. A rush to stake claims has recently been made to the neighborhood of the Mackenzie River (Northwest Territory) where gold-bearing quartz has been found. Even without this fresh source of supply, the gold production in Ontario, according to the Ontario Government Bureau of Mines, gives promise of an output exceeding 20 million dollars in value for the whole of 1922, as compared with 14,624,085 dollars in 1921.

It is reported that Albania is one of the few European countries which now enjoy a gold currency. As foreign paper money has not been accepted, both gold and silver coins freely circulate.

SILVER.

The depression that is now resting upon the market has carried prices lower than any touched since the Spring of last year when, between March 2 and March 14, prices dipped below 32d., reaching on March 5 30½d., and 30¼d. for cash and 2 months' respectively. The fall was then tran-

sitory and a quick recovery ensued. At the present time the factors at work do not appear to be in favor of a similar reaction. The very fact that a change from a market practically all sellers on Tuesday to one of buyers on Wednesday only raised the quotation for forward delivery 1-16d. is an indication of a lack of stamina which does not augur well for the future. The strength of the sterling exchange with the United States of America brought out silver with some freedom during the week and India re-sold some previous purchases, being able to secure supplies cheaper from China and Australia. China and the Continent also sold, the main support still comes from bear covering, Indian or otherwise.

It is reported from Washington under date of Nov. 21 that the total amount of silver acquired by the Government under the Pittman Act was 141,693,576 ounces, including a purchase of 70,000 ounces on that date.

The total exports of silver from San Francisco to China during the month of October last amounted to 3,210,402 ounces.

Canadian silver bullion exports during October totaled 1,320,000 ounces; the amount of silver in ores and concentrates exported during the same period amounted to 916,000 ounces.

INDIAN CURRENCY RETURNS.

(In Lacs of Rupees)—	Nov. 7.	Nov. 15.	Nov. 22.
Notes in circulation.....	17920	17820	17761
Silver coin and bullion in India.....	9067	9062	9002
Silver coin and bullion out of India.....	.....	.....	.....
Gold coin and bullion in India.....	2432	2432	2432
Gold coin and bullion out of India.....	.....	.....	.....
Securities (Indian Government).....	5837	5742	5742
Securities (British Government).....	584	584	585

No silver coinage was reported during the week ending 22d inst. The stock in Shanghai on the 25th inst. consisted of about 38,200,000 ounces in sycee, 33,500,000 dollars, and 210 silver bars, as compared with about 40,000,000 ounces in sycee, 34,000,000 dollars, and 1,160 silver bars on the 18th inst.

The Shanghai exchange is quoted at 3s. 1d. the tael.

Statistics for the month of November are appended:

Quotations—	—Bar Silver per Oz. Std.—		Bar Gold per Oz. Fine.
	Cash.	2 Mos.	
Highest price.....	34 1-16d.	33½d.	92s. 6d.
Lowest price.....	31½d.	31½d.	91s. 0d.
Average price.....	32.282d.	32.552d.	91s. 11.4d.
November 24.....	32 5-16d.	31 15-16d.	91s. 9d.
November 25.....	32 7-16d.	32d.	.....
November 27.....	32 3-16d.	31 13-16d.	91s. 7d.
November 28.....	31½d.	31½d.	91s. 0d.
November 29.....	32 1-16d.	31 11-16d.	91s. 1d.
November 30.....	32½d.	31½d.	91s. 3d.
Average.....	32.166d.	31.802d.	91s. 4d.

The silver quotations to-day for cash and forward delivery are respectively 3½d. and 7-16d. below those fixed a week ago.

COURSE OF BANK CLEARINGS.

Bank clearings this time show a decrease from a year ago, though the percentage of falling off is small and almost entirely at New York. Preliminary figures compiled by us, based upon telegraphic advices from the chief cities of the country, indicate that for the week ending Saturday Dec. 16 aggregate bank clearings for all the cities in the United States from which it is possible to obtain weekly returns will show a decrease of 2.0% as compared with the corresponding week last year. The total stands at \$7,454,994,891, against \$7,610,999,840 for the same week in 1921. Our comparative summary for the week is as follows:

Clearings—Returns by Telegraph. Week ending Dec. 16.	1922.	1921.	Per Cent.
New York.....	\$3,323,000,000	\$3,669,400,000	-9.4
Chicago.....	485,165,988	443,794,775	+9.3
Philadelphia.....	396,000,000	370,000,000	+7.0
Boston.....	307,000,000	286,000,000	+7.3
Kansas City.....	124,029,610	110,265,116	+12.5
St. Louis.....	131,800,000	130,000,000	+1.4
San Francisco.....	120,166,923	*136,000,000	-11.6
Pittsburgh.....	94,488,577	78,469,157	+20.4
Detroit.....	76,062,075	62,297,222	+22.1
Baltimore.....	55,192,640	41,714,732	+32.3
New Orleans.....	.....	.....	.....
Ten cities, 5 days.....	\$5,112,896,813	\$5,449,936,002	-6.2
Other cities, 5 days.....	1,099,598,930	802,563,865	+35.2
Total all cities, 5 days.....	\$6,212,495,743	\$6,342,499,867	-2.0
All cities, 1 day.....	1,242,499,148	1,268,499,973	-2.0
Total all cities for week.....	\$7,454,994,891	\$7,610,999,840	-2.0

* No longer report clearings. * Estimated.

Complete and exact details for the week covered by the foregoing will appear in our issue of next week. We cannot furnish them to-day, inasmuch as the week ends on Saturday and the Saturday figures will not be available until noon to-day, while we go to press late Friday night. Accordingly, in the above the last day of the week has in all cases had to be estimated.

In the elaborate detailed statement, however, which we present further below, we are able to give final and complete results for the week previous—the week ending Dec. 9. For that week there is an increase of 5.6%, the 1922 aggregate of the clearings being \$7,246,748,392 and the 1921 aggregate \$6,863,568,315. Outside of this city, however, the increase is 18.8%, the bank exchanges at this centre having recorded a decrease of 3.8%. We group the cities now according to the Federal Reserve districts in which they are located, and from this it appears that in the Boston Reserve District the increase is 19.6%, in the Philadelphia Reserve District 16.5% and in the Cleveland Reserve District 16.0%. In the New York Reserve District (including this city) there is

a falling off of 3.7%. The Richmond Reserve District shows an improvement of 15.0%, the Atlanta Reserve District 33.8% and the Chicago Reserve District 14.6%. In the St. Louis Reserve District there is a gain of 39.5%, in the Minneapolis Reserve District 21.0% and in the Kansas City Reserve District 17.7%. The Dallas Reserve District and the San Francisco Reserve District also both register gains, the former showing an increase of 20.0% and the latter 22.3%.

In the following we furnish a summary by Federal Reserve districts:

SUMMARY OF BANK CLEARINGS.

Table with columns: Week ending Dec. 9., 1922., 1921., Inc. or Dec., 1920., 1919. Rows include Federal Reserve Districts (1st Boston to 12th San Francisco), Grand total, and Canada.

We now add our detailed statement, showing last week's figures for each city separately, for the four years:

Main table with columns: Clearings at—, Week ending December 9., 1922., 1921., Inc. or Dec., 1920., 1919. Rows are organized by Federal Reserve District (First to Sixth) and city.

Table with columns: Clearings at—, Week ending December 9., 1922., 1921., Inc. or Dec., 1920., 1919. Rows include various cities and districts such as Seventh Federal Reserve District, Michigan, and others.

Table with columns: Clearings at—, Week ending December 7., 1922., 1921., Inc. or Dec., 1920., 1919. Rows include various cities and districts such as Canada, Montreal, and others.

a No longer reports clearings or only gives debits against individual accounts, with no comparative figures for previous years. b Report no clearings, but give comparative figures of debits; we apply to last year's clearings the same ratio of decrease (or increase) as shown by the debits. c Do not respond to requests for figures. d Week end, Dec. 6. e Week end, Dec. 7. f Week end, Dec. 8. * Estimated

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 columns: London, Week ending Dec. 15, Sal., Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri. Rows include Silver, per oz., Gold, per fine ounce, Consols, 2 1/2 per cents, British, 5 per cents, French 4 1/2 per cents, French War Loan (in Paris), U.S. 7 1/2.

The price of silver in New York on the same day has been: Domestic 99 3/4, Foreign 99 1/4, 99 1/2, 99 1/4, 99 1/4, 99 1/4.

Commercial and Miscellaneous News

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

Table with columns: Dec. 4, Dec. 6, Dec. 7, Dec. 9. Rows include State National Bank in Cordell, Okla.; The Liberty National Bank of Girardville, Pa.; The First National Bank of Sheffield, Iowa; The First National Bank of Moccasin, Pa.; The Franklin National Bank of Jersey City, N. J.; The First National Bank of Bellflower, Calif.; The First National Bank of Marion, Wis.; The Third National Bank of Ashland, Ky.; The First National Bank of Ferrum, Va.; State National Bank of Alpine, Tex.

TREASURY MONEY HOLDINGS.—The following compilation made up from the daily Government statements, shows the money holdings of the Treasury at the beginning of business on the first of September, October, November and December, 1922.

Table with columns: Holdings in U.S. Treasury, Sept. 1 1922, Oct. 1 1922, Nov. 1 1922, Dec. 1 1922. Rows include Net gold coin and bullion, Net silver coin and bullion, Net United States notes, Net national bank notes, Net Fed. Reserve notes, Net Fed. Res. bank notes, Net subsidiary silver, Minor coin, Total cash in Treas., Less gold reserve fund, Cash balance in Treas., Dep. in spec. depositories, Dep. in Fed. Res. banks, Dep. in national banks, To credit Treas. U. S., To credit dist. officers, Cash in Philippine Islands, Deposits in Foreign Depts., Net cash in Treasury and in banks, Deduct current liabilities, Available cash balance.

* Includes Nov. 1, \$31,947,779 silver bullion and \$3,412,622 minor coins, &c., not included in statement "Stock of Money."

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 with columns: Shares, Stocks, Price. Rows include 500 Chicago Utilities Co., pref., 1 Motor Specialties Co., com., 2 Clinton Hall Association, 3 Ardena Corporation, 5 Ardena Corporation, 200 Albany So. RR., com., 100 Albany So. RR., pref., 100 Tougery Divide Mining Co., 50 Anaco Co. v. t. ctf., 50 Derf Mfg. Co., Inc., 16,800 El Progresso Silver, 61,494 Harshel Mining, 190 Madison Tire & Rubber Co., Inc., common trust ctf., no par., 50,000 White Star Petroleum, 100 DuBilier Cond. & Radio Corp., 400 do, 13,950 Arkansas Diamond Corp., 1,091 Independent Chemical Co., 24 pref. tr. ctf., 711 do 1st pref. tr. ctf., 47 Canadian Hawk Burner Co., Ltd., 11-500 Ctf. of Interest in Gavooser Texas Acreage.

Table with columns: Shares, Stocks, Price. Rows include 2,350 Fire Detecting Wire Corp., 1,000 shares v. t. ctf., 500 Cent. Am. Petroleum, 1,000 Nat. Oil of N. J., com., 200 Penna. Gasoline Co., 1,000 Southern Oil & Transp., 200 Delano Self-Starters Corp., 500 Corl Film Corp., 1,000 do com., v. t. ctf., 847 White Pine Extension Copper, 200 Lake Torpedo Boat, 300 Mexican Lead Co., 325 Sackett & Wilhelms Corp., v. t. ctf., 288.52 do 2d pref. v. t. ctf., 300 Mexican Lead Co., pref., 50 New Almaden Quicksilver Mines, pref., 2,200 Confidence Gold Mines, com., 125 Subury Coal, pref., 133 Imperial Tr. Co., Quebec, 35,228 Montana Cons. Copper Co., 50 Wickwire Mitchell Royalty trust ctf., 75 Mexican Internat. Corp., partly paid, 75 do com., partly paid, 205 Fraser Oil & Refining, 205 Malbohn Motors, 111 Rio Grande Farms, Inc., 1,000 Willys Corp., 50 Sturdy Truck, 450 Automobile Ticket Register, 15 Nova Scotia Tramways, com., 50 do preferred, 50 McLaughlin Co., pref., 50 do common, 1-5 Interest in 18 Timber Licenses in Calgary, Canada, 1,000 Island Oil & Transport, v. t. ctf., 100 Marelli-Mazzetti Corp., 5% stock, 63 Natural Color Pictures, com., 2,000 Kinemacolor of Amer., com., 500 do preferred, 900 Northwestern Pennsylvania Ry., common v. t. ctf., 225 North Jersey Rapid Transit, common, 58 Metallurgical Securities, com., 100 De Lima Correa & Cortislar, Inc., 7,500 People's Collateral Pledge, 400 5th Ave. Mail Order, 212 Guayanul & Quito Ry., 1 1/2 Tros, Inc., 240 Butterworth-Judson, com., 32.50 do preferred, 32.50 Texas-Midland Oil Co., 455.00 Peruvian Copper & Smelting, 55 Trow Dr. Ptg. & Bkdbg., 80 Trow Dr. Ptg. & Bkdbg., 200 Central Oil Devel., no par., 500 Island Oil & Transport, v. t. c., 50 paid, 24 1/2 Deep Sea Fisheries, 200 Douglas Mining, 100 Amer. & Mex. Mines, 200 Ironquois Porcupine Mtn., 27 Guardian Liquidation, no par., 150 Biograph Co., 100 Lawson & Co., 11,000 Alaska Central Terminals, 4,500 Choe-Lu Co., Inc., 124,059.49 Claim for money due from Choe-Lu Co., Inc., 10 East Meets West, Inc., 5 do common, no par., 50 Magna Metal, 1st pref., 295 Gillen Laboratories Corp., 245 do preferred, 1,000 Dempsey Oil, pref., 500 do preferred, 100 Livingston Radiator, com., 100 do preferred, 245 Gillen Laboratories, pref., 245 do common, 1,500 Dempsey Oil, pref., \$3,000 Louisiana Oil Lease Synd., 8,000 Montana & Mexican Mining, \$5 each, 89 Moran Oil & Ref., 25 Vegetable Oil, com., no par., 55 Vesta do preferred, 66 Keulohn Co., 220 Receipt of 15,000 shares Home Oil Refining Co., 70 Neuland Electrical Rights, Inc., 10 Neuland Magneto, \$5 each, 40 Neuland Patent Rights, Ltd., 20 Adjusto Shoe Lace, com., no par., 200 do pref., 200 Amer. Oil Eng., pref., 1 Engineers Land Co., no par., 1000 Charles F. Noble Oil & Gas Co., \$1 each, 10 Biograph, 55 Willys Corp. 8% pref., 550 Pathe Freres Phonograph, com., \$10 each, 30 Eagle Cement Corp. of N. J., \$25 each.

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

Table with columns: Shares, Stocks, Price. Rows include 6 National Shawmut Bank, 1 Merchants National Bank, 6 Second National Bank, 4 Edwards Manufacturing Co., 5 York Manufacturing Co., 5 Naumkeag Steam Cotton Co., 25 U. S. Worsted Co., 3 Old Colony Woolen Co., 11 do preferred, 25 Lancaster Mills, 5 Worcester Cons. St. Ry., 1st pref., 25 Walter Baker & Co., Ltd., 68 Nevada Consol. Copper Co., 13 Ray Consol Copper Co., 70 Trinity Copper Co., 25 Electric Bond & Share Co., 100 Olympia Theatres, 25 Walter M. Lowner Co., new.

Table with columns: Shares, Stocks, \$ per sh. Includes entries like Atlantic Coast Co., U. S. Envelope Co., Lacombe Car Co., etc.

Table with columns: Shares, Stocks, \$ per sh. Includes entries like C. H. Wills & Co., 100 C. H. Wills & Co., 150 C. H. Wills & Co., etc.

DIVIDENDS.

Dividends are grouped in two separate tables. In the first we bring together all the dividends announced the current week. Then we follow with a second table, in which we show the dividends previously announced, but which have not yet been paid.

The dividends announced this week are:

Main table of dividends with columns: Name of Company, Per Cent., When Payable, Books Closed, Days Inclusive. Includes sections for Railroads (Steam), Public Utilities, Trust Companies, and various other companies.

Table with columns: Shares, Stocks, Price. Includes entries like U. S. Worsted Co., Fairhaven Mills, 100 Scotia Worsted Mills, etc.

Table with columns: Shares, Stocks, Price. Includes entries like Greenfield Tap & Die, West Boston Gas Co., 100 First Stone Production Co., etc.

Table with columns: Shares, Stocks, Price. Includes entries like U. S. Metals, 75 do preferred, 5-20 Gillette Safety Razor Co., etc.

Table with columns: Shares, Stocks, Price. Includes entries like Dayton Coal, Iron & RR Co., 100 Dayton Coal, Iron & RR Co., common, etc.

Table with columns: Shares, Stocks, Price. Includes entries like West Philadelphia Bank, National Bank of Commerce, 100 National Bank of Commerce, etc.

Table with columns: Shares, Stocks, Price. Includes entries like 50,000 Keystone Tel. Co. of Phila., 50,000 Chelms. Abattoir Co., 75 25, etc.

WEEKLY RETURN OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE BOARD.

The following is the return issued by the Federal Reserve Board Thursday afternoon, Dec. 14, and showing the condition of the twelve Reserve Banks at the close of business on Wednesday. In the first table we present the results for the system as a whole in comparison with the figures for the seven preceding weeks and with those of the corresponding week last year. The second table shows the resources and liabilities separately for each of the twelve banks. The Federal Reserve Agents' Accounts (third table following) gives details regarding transactions in Federal Reserve notes between the Comptroller and Reserve Agents and between the latter and Federal Reserve banks. The Reserve Board's comment upon the return for the latest week appears on page 2629 being the first item in our department of "Current Events and Discussions."

COMBINED RESOURCES AND LIABILITIES OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS AT THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS DEC. 13 1922.

Table with columns for dates from Dec. 13 1922 to Dec. 14 1921. Rows include RESOURCES (Gold and gold certificates, Total gold held by banks, Total gold reserves, Total reserves, Total earning assets, Total resources) and LIABILITIES (Capital paid in, Surplus, Deposits, Total liabilities, Ratio of gold reserves to deposit and F. R. note liabilities combined). Includes sub-sections for Distribution by Maturities and Federal Reserve Notes.

WEEKLY STATEMENT OF RESOURCES AND LIABILITIES OF EACH OF THE 12 FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS AT CLOSE OF BUSINESS DEC. 13 1922

Table with columns for cities: Boston, New York, Phila., Cleveland, Richmond, Atlanta, Chicago, St. Louis, Minneap., Kan. City, Dallas, San Fran., Total. Rows include RESOURCES (Gold and gold certificates, Total gold held by banks, Total gold reserves, Total reserves, Total bills on hand, U. S. bonds and notes, U. S. certificates of indebtedness, Total earning assets) and LIABILITIES (Outstanding, Held by banks, Amount chargeable to Fed. Res. Agent in hands of Federal Reserve Agent, Issued to Federal Reserve banks, Total).

Table with 13 columns: Boston, New York, Phila., Cleveland, Richmond, Atlanta, Chicago, St. Louis, Minneap., Kan. City, Dallas, San Fran., Total. Rows include RESOURCES (Bank premises, 5% redemption fund, etc.), LIABILITIES (Capital paid in, Surplus, etc.), and Ratio of total reserves to deposit and F. R. note liabilities combined.

STATEMENT OF FEDERAL RESERVE AGENTS' ACCOUNTS AT CLOSE OF BUSINESS DECEMBER 13 1922.

Table with 13 columns: Boston, New York, Phila., Cleve., Richm'd, Atlanta, Chicago, St. Louis, Minn., K. City, Dallas, San Fr., Total. Rows include Federal Reserve notes on hand, Federal Reserve notes outstanding, Collateral security for Federal Reserve notes, and Federal Reserve notes outstanding held by banks.

WEEKLY RETURN FOR THE MEMBER BANKS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM.

Following is the weekly statement issued by the Federal Reserve Board, giving the principal items of the resources and liabilities of the 784 member banks, from which weekly returns are obtained. These figures are always a week behind those for the Reserve Banks themselves.

1. Data for all reporting member banks in each Federal Reserve District at close of business December 6 1922. Three ciphers (000) omitted.

Table with 13 columns: Boston, New York, Philadel., Cleveland, Richm'd, Atlanta, Chicago, St. Louis, Minneap., Kan. City, Dallas, San Fran., Total. Rows include Number of reporting banks, Loans and discounts, U. S. Treasury notes, and other bonds, stocks and securities.

2. Data of reporting member banks in Federal Reserve Bank and branch cities and all other reporting banks.

Table with 12 columns: New York City, City of Chicago, All F. R. Bank Cities, F. R. Branch Cities, All Other Report. Bks., Total. Rows include Number of reporting banks, Loans and discounts, U. S. Treasury notes, and Ratio of bills payable & rediscounts with F. R. Bank to total loans and investments per cent.

* All figures in thousands.

Banking and Financial.

BANK OF MONTREAL

ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTH ANNUAL MEETING.

SIR VINCENT MEREDITH, PRESIDENT, REVIEWS OUTSTANDING DEVELOPMENTS OF PAST YEAR —GENERAL OUTLOOK IN CANADA.

SIR FREDERICK WILLIAMS-TAYLOR, GENERAL MANAGER, DEALS WITH CANADA'S ECONOMIC POSITION AND PROGRESS OF BANK.

The annual meeting of the Bank of Montreal was marked by especially interesting announcements by both Sir Vincent Meredith, Bart., the President, and Sir Frederick Williams-Taylor, the General Manager.

Sir Vincent in his address referred particularly to the conditions that prevailed throughout the world. The President also made special reference to the revision of the Bank Act and to the absorption of the Merchants Bank. Before beginning his annual address, Sir Vincent also took occasion to pay special tribute to the memory of the late R. B. Angus, who had served for over 30 years as a director of the Bank, and who also for some years had acted as General Manager.

Sir Frederick Williams-Taylor, the General Manager, dealt more particularly with the affairs of the Bank, but laid special emphasis on the economic position of Canada. Sir Frederick also referred to the exchange problem and reviewed the general features of the annual statement of the Bank.

On motion of Lord Shaughnessy, Sir Vincent Meredith, Bart., was requested to take the chair.

THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

Sir Vincent Meredith, President, in moving the adoption of the report said: The recent death of our greatly esteemed director, Mr. R. B. Angus, must cast a shadow over our meeting to-day.

As a director of the Bank for 31 years and its President for three years, he rarely, if ever, was absent from a meeting of the Board except on occasions when he was abroad. His wise counsel and mature judgment were at all times at the Bank's service.

He will be greatly missed, not only by his confreres in the Bank and other large corporations with which he was closely identified, but by the public in general, by whom he was held in high esteem.

Before beginning the few remarks that it is customary for me to make at this time, I wish to state that your Directors authorized a donation of \$50,000 in May last to enable the Hospitals to continue their commendable work without curtailment, and I am confident this has your sanction.

The banking year just closed has required constant vigilance and I am glad to be in a position to inform you that, while our profits on the basis of capital employed have not been as large as those of the immediately preceding years, as was to be expected with lessened activity in business generally, coupled with increased taxation, we have been fortunate in escaping serious losses, and the liquid position and great strength of the Bank remain unimpaired.

Since your last annual meeting, the Merchants Bank has been absorbed by the Bank of Montreal. To the incidents connected with this transaction it is not necessary to refer, nor to the criticism it evoked, further than to say that, in my judgment, the prompt action of your Directors, subsequently ratified by you, averted a situation that might otherwise have proved serious to the country at large, and secured the shareholders of that institution from losses greater than were suffered.

It will interest you to know that the work of co-ordinating the staffs with a view to economies is proceeding with all possible celerity, and that the acquisition of the Merchants Bank is reasonably realizing the expectation of your Board. Under our own organization and with the economies that have been effected, the future gives promise of increased earnings.

CANADA'S TRADE.

The foreign trade of Canada is again expanding, having reached a value of \$921,700,000 in the seven months ending Oct. 31, being an increase of \$87,748,000 over the corresponding period last year. If the comparison is carried back two years, the considerable decrease of \$575,000,000, or nearly 40%, is shown; but having regard to the fall in prices, it is probable that the quantity movement is now little less than in 1920, when the peak was reached.

A satisfactory feature of the figures is the large export of agricultural produce, amounting in the seven months to \$270,084,000, an increase of \$27,000,000 over the seven months of last year—a substantial addition to the income of our farmers.

The improvement in the lumber, pulp and paper industries which set in during the summer is reflected in an increase of \$28,780,000 in the value of exports of these commodities since April 1. Imports, after a sharp decline following the general reaction in trade towards the close of 1920, have latterly expanded, increasing upwards of \$7,000,000 in October, but in the seven months period, the total value of goods brought in is slightly less than last year.

The balance of trade has turned in favor of Canada, having been the considerable sum of \$60,000,000 in the April-October period, as compared with an adverse balance of \$22,700,000 in 1921, and of \$140,000,000 in 1920. Within two years, therefore, there has been a betterment of no less than \$200,000,000 in our foreign trade, a factor contributing in a considerable degree towards the restoration of the Canadian dollar to par. Taken altogether, the foreign trade figures afford encouragement.

The net debt of Canada on the 31st of October amounted to \$2,369,000,000, an increase of \$40,000,000 during the year. The deficit of the National Railways during the same period will probably amount to upwards of \$50,000,000.

CONDITIONS IN GREAT BRITAIN.

In Great Britain the past year has witnessed an improvement in general business conditions, but it has been a very gradual one. The outlook, however, is for a continuance of this movement. Deflation is still taking place, as evidenced by the reduced amount of Treasury Bills, the fewer currency notes outstanding and the reduction in bank deposits. The floating debt is over £388,000,000 lower than a year ago, mainly represented by a reduction in Treasury Bills outstanding.

The first payment by England on account of interest on her debt to the United States is an earnest of her willingness and ability to discharge all liabilities, even those contracted for the benefit of Allies and in the common cause.

IMMIGRATION.

As you are aware, the tide of immigration into Canada has not flowed freely in recent years, and while reasons more or less convincing are given for the failure to attract larger population, the fact remains that the situation in this respect is unsatisfactory.

The return of the census taken last year revealed that if we had held the immigration of the decade as well as the excess of births over deaths, our population should have been some two millions greater than computed by the official figures. Obviously, if our confidence in Canada is to be justified, a radical change in the immigration policy becomes necessary.

It seems to me there are two ways only to check and reduce the mounting debt with which this country is now burdened; one is by the creation of fresh wealth through having more people on the land and the other by strict economies in Government expenditures.

Our country's natural resources exist in abundance; we have an exhilarating climate, fertile soil, immense forests, rich deposits of minerals, both base and precious, providing opportunities for livelihood that should attract the surplus population of the Old World. Doubling population will halve our debt, solve our railway problems, expand our trade and enhance the general prosperity. It is gratifying, therefore, to learn that the Dominion Government, in co-operation with the Provincial Governments and private organiza-

tions, is to embark upon an energetic immigration policy, of which the first fruits, we may hope, will appear next year.

REVISION OF THE BANK ACT.

The Bank Charters expire on July 1 1923, and unless the Government deems proper to extend them for another year, a revision of the Bank Act will occur at the approaching session of Parliament.

The subject is already engaging attention in the press and elsewhere. Some suggested changes are so radical that alarm might well be caused but for the conviction that caution, the lessons of the past and the sound sense of Parliament will interpose against their acceptance. I have yet to learn of any Parliamentary or other enactment that will wholly provide against the errors or misjudgments of those who conduct affairs in any business.

The banking system of Canada is the product of long experience. It has operated to the advantage of the people, despite an occasional failure, from which, however, no country and no plan has been free. I can confidently claim that to venture upon radical changes in the Banking system as to incur grave danger to the stability of trade and to imperil the credit structure of the country, and I know of nothing more certain to arrest the development and progress of Canada than rash experiments in the domain of banking and currency.

LABOR AND COSTS.

The labor problem and its near-relation, the cost of living, are still with us. Certain classes of labor have accepted a lower wage, but there has not been a pronounced general movement in this direction, nor has the tendency been wholly downward. It may be, indeed, that for a time diminished production cost will have to be sought in improved machinery and equipment, in efficiency and economy and in a larger output per man and machine rather than in cheaper labor.

Transportation rates are frequently complained of as keeping prices high. As a matter of fact, rates are lower in Canada than they are for similar services in other countries. It is obvious, therefore, that there can be no amelioration unless there be a reduction in operating costs, represented chiefly by labor, a process experience is proving to be slow, difficult and uncertain.

GENERAL CONDITIONS.

The condition of business in Canada is, upon the whole, more satisfactory than a year ago. The opinion I then ventured to express, that trade would not yet enter a period of pronounced expansion, although a spurt might be made in some departments, has been borne out by events. Price recessions seem to have been checked somewhat generally, the cost of living indices compiled by many statisticians not having been materially reduced within the year, while some important commodities move more freely at higher prices. Lumber, pulp and paper manufactures, sugar, all show improvement. The textile industry has been well employed and the boot and shoe industry is apparently emerging from the slough. The building trade has been decidedly better the country over, to the gain of artisans as well as of dealers in builders' supplies.

For several months past, the army of the unemployed has been diminishing until it can almost be said that unemployment is not greatly in excess of the normal. On the other hand, farmers have had to contend with a further fall in prices, which have practically receded to pre-war figures. Dollar wheat gives the grower a slim margin of profit.

Agricultural products have been deflated in price, as respects the producer, to a greater degree than other commodities, and the former relation of food-stuff prices to other articles has still to be restored.

Fortunately, farmers have reaped a bountiful harvest, more bountiful as a whole than in any year since the phenomenal crop of 1915, so that the excess in quantity will in some measure compensate for the drop in prices. Transportation interests, moreover, will benefit materially from the increased traffic arising from the splendid harvest, and the transportation interests are probably the largest employers of labor in Canada.

The live stock trade has been hard hit by the high tariff of the United States, particularly in the case of cattle breeders in the West. Whether the removal of the British embargo will realize all the expectations of Canadian breeders may be a moot question, but it is very satisfactory to learn that this long-imposed embargo is at last to be lifted and the hope may be indulged that an impetus to Canadian exports of cattle to Great Britain will be given thereby.

CONCLUDING REMARKS.

In conclusion, the crisis of 1920-1 has passed into history. The fact that the depression was world-wide makes it highly improbable that the return to normal will be other than slow.

We have experienced a more sudden and acute depression of trade than our generation had ever known, and though conditions, including the agricultural results, are undoubtedly more favorable, prudent business men will not build up an unduly speculative position after the lessons of 1920.

The outlook, as I see it, is for reasonably profitable operations in most lines of business, though there can be no great trade boom without a further important expansion of foreign commerce, and this, unfortunately, is not yet in sight.

THE GENERAL MANAGER'S ADDRESS.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen:

The one hundred and fifth annual balance sheet of the Bank, which I have pleasure in presenting for your approval, shows many changes as compared with a year ago.

These changes are the result in part of incidental variations in what might be termed our natural position and, in a larger measure, of the absorption of the Merchants Bank of Canada, which, I am gratified to say, has been effected with scarcely a ripple on the surface of our affairs.

Speaking in general terms, the increase in our liabilities to our shareholders and depositors is balanced by a corresponding increase in our assets, while our liquid position remains as strong as ever and the status of the Bank is enhanced through the acquisition of many branches, as well as in other ways, from all of which we shall presently derive the benefit in increased earning power.

It is trite, yet undentable, to remark that in Canada, as elsewhere, trade generally has not been good. Bankers, more distinctly than others, perceive the detailed results of this condition, which in large measure is brought home to them through losses and diminished profits.

In the case of our own Bank, if losses are moderate, as they have been, it must of necessity be the result of prudence in granting credits and of accurate perception of the inexorable working of economic laws, for there is little that can be ascribed to luck in such matters.

Criticism of bankers is never lacking in Canada, but I trust it is recognized that the best interests of our shareholders and of that much larger section of the community, our depositors, continue to be fully protected, while we have at the same time met the proper requirements of all borrowing customers.

Naturally, we have less control over our profits; yet you will observe that we have earned our dividend for the past year and are fortunately able to pay a 2% bonus as well. We enter upon a new year with confidence born of strength and experience.

Before going into a detailed explanation of the various items in our balance sheet and the factors that affect our well-being, it is customary for your General Manager to touch upon the general trade and financial situation and outlook.

Your President has covered the matter amply. My views can be expressed in very few words indeed.

Canada's economic position is not satisfactory. How could it be satisfactory, with the whole financial world out of joint? As everyone is aware, our troubles are partly the result of this universal condition; partly the result of the war. It is well, however, to bear in mind that our problems are largely of our own creation.

Readjustment will come in time, for this is a country of virility and manifold resources; yet one thing stands out signally, in my opinion, namely that Canada cannot go ahead again as she should while taxation and the cost of living are higher in this country than they are in the United States of America.

Canada is one of the best countries in the world to live in, to work in, to play in—in point of stability, security and comfort it is an earthly paradise as compared with Europe—but we must not stand still, and in order to progress the cost of living and taxation must be diminished; otherwise, we will

Table with columns: STOCKS (Concluded) Week ending Dec. 15, Range for Week (Lowest, Highest), Range since Jan. 1. (Lowest, Highest). Lists various stocks like Ind. & Misc. (Con.) Par, Oils Elevator, etc.

Foreign Exchange.—Sterling exchange prices were strong and higher, moving up nearly 12 cents, to 4 69 for a brief period, on improved trade conditions.

To-day's (Friday's) actual rates for sterling exchange were 4 61 1-16@ 4 63 1/2 for sixty days, 4 63 3-16@ 4 65 1/2 for cheques and 4 63 7-16@ 4 65 1/2 for cables.

Exchange at Paris on London, 83.55 fr.; week's range, 83.55 fr. high and 64.75 fr. low.

The range for foreign exchange for the week follows: Sterling Actual—High for the week, 4 66 1/2; Low for the week, 4 54 11-16.

Paris Bankers' Francs—High for the week, 7.43 3/4; Low for the week, 6.95.

Germany Bankers' Marks—High for the week, 0.0150; Low for the week, 0.0120.

Amsterdam Bankers' Guilders—High for the week, 39.70; Low for the week, 39.31.

Domestic Exchange.—Chicago, par. St. Louis, 15@25c. per \$1,000 discount. Boston, par. San Francisco, par. Montreal, \$2 75 per \$1,000 discount. Cincinnati, par.

The Curb Market.—Trading on the Curb Market this week was rather quiet, on the whole, with a firm undertone to prices; though changes were for the most part within narrow limits.

Standard Oil issues, in contrast with recent weeks, were very quiet, with prices steady, though changes were small.

Standard Oil (Indiana) was off from .18 to 115 1/2, the close to-day being at 116 1/4. Standard Oil (Kentucky) new fell from 127 to 118 1/2 and ends the week at 119 1/2.

Standard Oil (Kentucky) new fell from 127 to 118 1/2 and ends the week at 119 1/2. Simms Petroleum was conspicuous for heavy transactions, the price after an early rise from 14 1/2 to 15 3/8, dropping to 12 3/8, with the close to-day at 13 1/8.

Mammoth Oil declined from 43 3/8 to 42 and closed to-day at 42 1/8. Bonds were only fairly active and about steady.

A complete record of Curb Market transactions for the week will be found on page 2677.

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

Table with columns: Week ending Dec. 15 1922, Stocks (Shares, Par Value), Railroad, &c., Bonds, State, Mun. and Foreign Bonds, U. S. Bonds. Shows daily and weekly totals.

Table with columns: Sales at New York Stock Exchange, Week ending Dec. 15, 1921, Jan. 1 to Dec. 15, 1921. Shows annual and weekly sales for various categories.

DAILY TRANSACTIONS AT THE BOSTON, PHILADELPHIA AND BALTIMORE EXCHANGES.

Table with columns: Week ending Dec. 15 1922, Boston (Shares, Bond Sales), Philadelphia (Shares, Bond Sales), Baltimore (Shares, Bond Sales). Shows daily transactions for three cities.

* In addition there were sales of rights: Saturday, 1,315; Monday, 3,728; Tuesday, 6,715; Wednesday, 4,184; Thursday, 4,710.

Table with columns: Daily Record of U. S. Bond Prices, Dec. 9, Dec. 11, Dec. 12, Dec. 13, Dec. 14, Dec. 15. Lists bond prices for various categories like First Liberty Loan, etc.

Note.—The above table includes only sales of coupon bonds. Transactions in registered bonds were:

Table with columns: Maturity, Int. Rate, Bid, Asked. Lists registered bond transactions for various maturities.

Quotations for U. S. Treas. Cfts. of Indebtedness, &c.

Table with columns: Maturity, Int. Rate, Bid, Asked. Lists quotations for U.S. Treasury certificates of indebtedness.

TRADE AND TRAFFIC MOVEMENTS.

UNFILLED ORDERS OF STEEL CORPORATION.—The United States Steel Corporation on Saturday Dec. 9 issued its regular monthly statement showing unfilled orders on the books of the subsidiary corporations as of Nov. 30 1922, to the amount of 6,840,242 tons.

Table with columns: Nov. 30 1922, May 31 1921, Nov. 30 1919. Lists unfilled orders in tons for various months and years.

ANTHRACITE COAL SHIPMENTS.—The shipments of anthracite coal for the month of November 1922, as reported to the Anthracite Bureau of Information at Philadelphia, Pa., amounted to 6,420,102 tons, comparing with 5,314,014 tons for the same month last year.

Table with columns: Road, 1922, 1921, 1920, 1919. Lists anthracite coal shipments by road for various years.

OCCUPYING FOUR PAGES

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

Table with columns: HIGH AND LOW SALE PRICE—PER SHARE, NOT PER CENT. (Saturday, Dec. 9 to Friday, Dec. 15), Sales for the Week, STOCKS NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE (Railroads, Industrial & Miscellaneous), PER SHARE (Range since Jan. 1, 1923, On basis of 100-shares lots), PER SHARE (Range for previous year 1921). Rows include stocks like Add Arbor, Preferred, Aitch Topeka & Santa Fe, etc.

* Bid and asked prices; no sales on this day. † Ex-rights. ‡ Less than 100 shares. § Ex-dividend and rights. ¶ Ex-dividend. †† Ex-rights (June 15) to subscribe for shares to stock of Glen Alden Coal Co. at \$5 per share and ex-dividend 100% in stock (Aug. 22).

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

HIGH AND LOW SALE PRICES—PER SHARE, NOT PER CENT.

Table with columns for days of the week (Saturday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday) and rows for various stock prices.

Sales for the Week

Table with columns for Shares and rows for various stock sales.

STOCKS NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

Table with columns for Indus. & Miscell. (Con.) Par and rows for various stock categories.

PER SHARE Range since Jan. 1 1922. On basis of 100-shares lots

Table with columns for Lowest and Highest and rows for various stock price ranges.

PER SHARE Range for previous year 1921

Table with columns for Lowest and Highest and rows for various stock price ranges for the previous year.

* Bid and asked prices, no sales on this day. † Ex-dividend and rights. • Assessment paid. †† Ex-rights. ‡ Ex-dividend. § Par value \$10 per share.

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

HIGH AND LOW SALE PRICE—PER SHARE, NOT PER CENT.

Table with columns for days of the week (Saturday Dec. 9 to Friday Dec. 15) and rows of stock prices. Includes a sub-section for 'PER SHARE' with 'Lowest' and 'Highest' columns.

Table titled 'STOCKS NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE' listing various companies like Indus. & Miscel. (Con.), Electric Storage Battery, etc., with columns for 'PER SHARE' (Lowest, Highest) and 'PER SHARE Range for previous year 1921'.

* Bid and asked prices; no sales on this day. † Less than 100 shares. ‡ Ex-dividend and rights. § Ex-rights. ** Ex-rights.

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

Table with columns: HIGH AND LOW SALE PRICE—PER SHARE, NOT PER CENT. (Saturday Dec. 9 to Friday Dec. 15), Sales for the Week, STOCKS NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE, PER SHARE (Range since Jan. 1 1922, Lowest, Highest), PER SHARE (Range for previous year 1921, Lowest, Highest). Rows include various stocks like Pacific Mail, Pan-Am, Phillips Petroleum, etc.

* Bid and asked prices; no sales on this day. † Less than 100 shares. ‡ Ex-rights. § Ex-dividend and rights. ¶ Ex-dividend. * Reduced to basis of \$25 par. † Range since merger (July 15) with United Retail Stores Corp.

Jan. 1 1909 the Exchange method of quoting bonds was changed and prices are now—"and interest"—except for income and defaulted bonds.

Main table containing bond listings for U.S. Government, Foreign Government, and State and City Securities. Columns include Bond Name, Interest, Price, Week's Range, Range Since Jan. 1, and other market data.

*No price Friday; latest bid and asked. aDue Jan. dDue April. cDue May. gDue June. bDue July. kDue Aug. eDue Oct. fDue Nov. iDue Dec. jOption sale.

Table with columns: N. Y. STOCK EXCHANGE, Week ending Dec 15, Interest, Price, Week's Range, Bonds Sold, Range Since Jan. 1. Includes entries like Cleave Clin Ch & St L gen 4s, 20-year deb 4 1/2s, General 5s Series B, etc.

Table with columns: N. Y. STOCK EXCHANGE, Week ending Dec 15, Interest, Price, Week's Range, Bonds Sold, Range Since Jan. 1. Includes entries like Illinois Central (Concluded), Omaha Div 1st gold 3s, St Louis Div & Term 3s, etc.

* No price Friday; latest bid and asked this week. a Due Jan. b Due Feb. c Due June. d Due July. e Due Sept. f Due Oct. g Option sale.

Main table containing bond listings for 'N. Y. STOCK EXCHANGE' and 'BONDS'. Columns include 'Price Friday Dec 15', 'Week's Range or Last Sale', 'Range Since Jan. 1', and 'Bonds Sold'. Rows list various bond types such as 'N O Texas & Mexico 1st 6s', 'N Y Central & Hudson River', and 'Pennsylvania Co. (Continued)'.

*No price Friday; latest bid and asked this week. aDue Jan. bDue Feb. cDue June. dDue July. eDue Aug. fDue Oct. gDue Nov. hDue Dec. iOption sale

Table with columns: BONDS N. Y. STOCK EXCHANGE Week ending Dec 15, Interest, Price Friday Dec 15, Week's Range or Last Sale, Range Since Jan. 1. Includes sections for Street Railway, Gas and Electric Light, and various utility bonds.

Table with columns: BONDS N. Y. STOCK EXCHANGE Week ending Dec 15, Interest, Price Friday Dec 15, Week's Range or Last Sale, Range Since Jan. 1. Includes sections for Manufacturing & Industrial, various utility bonds, and other corporate bonds.

*No price Friday; latest bid and asked. aDue Jan. bDue April. cDue Mar. dDue May. eDue June. fDue July. gDue Aug. hDue Oct. iDue Dec. jOption sale.

New York Bond Record—Concluded—Page 5

Table of New York Stock Exchange bond records, including sections for Bonds, Oils, Mining, Coal, Iron and Steel, and Telegraph and Telephone. Columns include description, date, price, and other market data.

Quotations for Sundry Securities

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

Table of quotations for sundry securities, including Standard Oil Stocks, RR. Equipments, and various other securities. Columns include company name, price, and other details.

*No price Friday; latest bid and asked. †Due Jan. ‡Due April. §Due March. ¶Due May. ††Due June. ‡‡Due July. §§Due Aug. ¶¶Due Oct. †††Due Dec. ††††Option sale.

* Per share. † Basis. ‡ Purchaser also pays accrued dividend. § New stock. ¶ Flat price. † Last sale. ‡ Ex-40% stock dividend. § Ex-50% stock dividend. ¶ Ex-special dividend of \$50. † Ex-special dividend of \$15. ‡ Nomin. § Ex-div. ¶ Ex-rights. † Ex-cash and stock dividends.

Main table with columns: HIGH AND LOW SALE PRICE—PER SHARE, NOT PER CENT. (Saturday, Dec. 9 to Friday, Dec. 15); Sales for the Week; STOCKS BOSTON STOCK EXCHANGE (Railroads, Miscellaneous); Range since Jan. 1 (Lowest, Highest); Range for previous year 1921 (Lowest, Highest). Rows list various stocks like Boston & Albany, Boston Elevated, Do pref., etc.

* Bid and asked prices; no sales on this day. † Ex-rights. ‡ Ex-dividend and rights. § Ex-dividend. ¶ Ex-stock dividend. a Assessment paid.

Outside Stock Exchanges

Boston Bond Record.—Transactions in bonds at Boston Stock Exchange Dec. 9 to Dec. 15, both inclusive:

Table with columns: Bonds, Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week, Range since Jan. 1 (Low, High). Includes entries like Amer Agric Chem 5s, Amer Tel & Tel 4s, etc.

Baltimore Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at Baltimore Stock Exchange Dec. 9 to Dec. 15, both inclusive, compiled from official sales lists:

Table with columns: Stocks, Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week, Range since Jan. 1 (Low, High). Includes entries like Balt Gas Appl Mfg com 100, Boston Sash & Crav com 100, etc.

Philadelphia Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at Philadelphia Stock Exchange Dec. 9 to Dec. 15, both inclusive, compiled from official sales lists:

Table with columns: Stocks, Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week, Range since Jan. 1 (Low, High). Includes entries like Alliance Insurance, Amer Gas of N J, Amer Railways, etc.

Table with columns: Stocks (Concluded) Par, Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week, Range since Jan. 1 (Low, High). Includes entries like Pennsylv Cent Lt & Pr, Pennsylvania Salt Mfg, etc.

Chicago Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at Chicago Stock Exchange Dec. 9 to Dec. 15, both inclusive, compiled from official sales lists:

Table with columns: Stocks, Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week, Range since Jan. 1 (Low, High). Includes entries like American Shipbuilding, Armour & Co, Booth Fisheries, etc.

Pittsburgh Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at Pittsburgh Stock Exchange Dec. 9 to Dec 15, both inclusive, compiled from official sales lists:

Table with columns: Stocks, Par, Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices, Range since Jan. 1. Includes stocks like Am Whittled Prod, Am Wind Glass Mach, etc.

New York Curb Market.—Official transactions in the New York Curb Market from Dec. 9 to Dec. 15, inclusive:

Table with columns: Week ending Dec. 15, Par, Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices, Range since Jan. 1. Includes Industrial & Miscell, Acme Coal Mining, Acme Packing, etc.

Table with columns: Stocks (Concluded) Par, Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices, Range since Jan. 1. Includes Pyrene Mfg, Radio Corp of America, Reo Motor Car, etc.

RAILROAD GROSS EARNINGS

The following table shows the gross earnings of various STEAM roads from which regular weekly or monthly returns can be obtained. The first two columns of figures give the gross earnings for the latest week or month, and the last two columns the earnings for the period from Jan. 1 to and including the latest week or month. The returns of electric railways are brought together separately on a subsequent page.

Main table with columns: ROADS, Latest Gross Earnings (Week or Month, Current Year, Previous Year), Jan. 1 to Latest Date (Current Year, Previous Year). Rows list various railroads like Akron Canton & Y'n, Alabama & Vicksb., etc.

AGGREGATE OF GROSS EARNINGS—Weekly and Monthly.

Summary table with columns: Weekly Summaries (Current Year, Previous Year, Increase or Decrease, %), Monthly Summaries (Current Year, Previous Year, Increase or Decrease, %). Rows show weekly and monthly aggregates.

* Grand Rapids & Indiana and Pitts. Chm. Chie. & St. Louis included in Pennsylvania RR. z Lake Erie & Western included in New York Central

Latest Gross Earnings by Weeks.—In the table which follows we sum up separately the earnings for the first week of December. The table covers 17 roads and shows 15.26% increase over the same week last year.

Table with columns: First week of December, 1922, 1921, Increase, Decrease. Lists various railroad companies and their earnings for the first week of December 1922 compared to 1921.

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

Table with columns: Gross from Railway, Net from Railway, Net after Taxes, 1922, 1921. Lists monthly earnings for various companies like Louisiana Ry & Navigation, Pullman Company, etc.

a Includes auxiliary operations.

ELECTRIC RAILWAY AND PUBLIC UTILITY CO'S.

Large table with columns: Name of Road or Company, Latest Gross Earnings (Current Year, Previous Year), Jan. 1 to Latest Date (Current Year, Previous Year). Lists numerous electric railway and utility companies.

Table with columns: Name of Road or Company, Latest Gross Earnings (Current Year, Previous Year), Jan. 1 to Latest Date (Current Year, Previous Year). Lists various companies including Kentucky Trac Term, Keystone Telep Co., etc.

a The Brooklyn City RR. is no longer part of the Brooklyn Rapid Transit System, the receiver of the Brooklyn Heights RR. Co. having, with the approval of the Court, declined to continue payment of the rental; therefore since Oct. 18 1919 the Brooklyn City RR. has been operated by its owners. b The Eighth Avenue and Ninth Avenue RR. companies were formerly leased to the New York Railway Co., but these leases were terminated on July 11 1919, respectively, since which dates these roads have been operated separately. f Earnings given in milreis. g Subsidiary companies only. i Includes both subway and elevated lines. j Of Abington & Rockland (Mass.). k Given in pesetas. l These were the earnings from operation of the properties of subsidiary companies. * Earnings for twelve months. † Started operations April 1 1921. z Earnings for ten months. y Earnings for 11 months.

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 (Current Year, Previous Year), Net Earnings (Current Year, Previous Year). Lists net earnings for various companies like Adirondack Pr & Light, Alabama Power, etc.

Table with columns: Companies, Gross Earnings (Current, Previous Year), Net Earnings (Current, Previous Year), Gross Earnings (Current, Previous Year), Net after Taxes, Fixed Charges, Balance, Surplus. Lists various utility and industrial companies like Western Union Tel., Winnipeg Elec Ry., Adirondack Pr & Lt Nov, etc.

Table with columns: Deduct (Res've for income & war excess profits taxes as may be finally determined, Depreciation, etc.), 1921-22, 1920-21, 1919-20, 1918-19. Shows financial adjustments and balances.

P. & I. surp. Sept. 30. \$20,453,350 \$18,982,468 \$29,931,765 \$22,367,140

a Denotes raw and refined sugar produced, less commissions, &c.

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET SEPT. 30.

Table with columns: Assets (Lands, bldgs., machinery, etc., Good-will, Advances to Colo., etc.), Liabilities (Common stock, Preferred stock, etc.), 1922, 1921, 1922, 1921. Shows consolidated financial statements for Sept 30.

a After deducting reserve for bad and doubtful debts. b Price equalization deposit on sugar sold through Sugar Finance Committee (Cuba). c Reserve for adjustment of inventory of materials and supplies to approximate market value.—V. 115, p. 2586, 1735.

FINANCIAL REPORTS.

Financial Reports.—An index to annual reports of steam railroads, street railway and miscellaneous companies which have been published during the preceding month will be given on the last Saturday of each month. This index will not include reports in the issue of the "Chronicle" in which it is published. The latest index will be found in the issue of Nov. 25. The next will appear in that of Dec. 30.

Baltimore & Ohio Railroad.

(Preliminary Statement for Year Ended Dec. 31 1922.)

President Daniel Willard in a statement Dec. 13 says: That the results for the year are not materially better in fact, first, to the suspension of a large proportion of the coal operation on the company's lines from April to September, and second, and more particularly, to the effect upon the earnings of the company for the three months to Sept. 30, during which period the strike of the shompen was in progress.

For the first six months to June 30, net railway operating income was \$14,580,295, an increase, compared with same period of previous year, of \$9,950,000. For the three months to Sept. 30 there was a deficit of \$2,089,075, a decrease, compared with same period of previous year, of \$9,729,000. For the three months to Dec. 31 (December estimated) the income aggregates \$10,212,489, an increase, compared with same period of previous year, of \$3,630,000.

Total net railway operating income for the year, \$22,705,709, an increase, compared with previous year, of \$850,000.

If the company during the three months to Sept 30, instead of incurring a deficit of \$2,089,000, as actually did happen, had obtained the same net operating income that was realized in the same months of the preceding year, when business was less active, the results from the year's operations would have yielded a surplus of about \$10,000,000, instead of only \$1,117,110, as shown.

In this connection it is also proper to call attention to the fact that the reduction of 10% in freight rates, effective July 1 1922, caused a further decrease in the earnings of the company for the last six months of the year of approximately \$7,500,000.

By the provisions of the \$35,000,000 loan of July 1 1919, there is to be set aside out of the income before dividends a sum equal to \$3,500,000 per annum to be devoted to capital expenditures. The total appropriations made under these provisions, to and including the year 1922, aggregate \$12,250,000, on account of the total of \$17,500,000, to be so appropriated during the five years beginning with July 1 1919.

INCOME STATEMENT FOR YEAR TO DEC. 31 1922 (DEC. EST.)

Table with columns: Net railway operating income, Other income, Gross corporate income, Deductions for interest, rentals, &c, Net corporate income, Amount required for 4% dividend on Preferred Stock, Leaving surplus of. Shows B&O financial results.

The Cuban-American Sugar Co., New York.

(Report for Fiscal Year ending Sept. 30 1922.)

The report will be found at length on a subsequent page, including the remarks of President James H. Post, the consolidated balance sheet and consolidated profit and loss account.

GENERAL STATISTICS FOR YEARS ENDING SEPT. 30.

Table with columns: Total bags, Total in tons, Cardenas Ref. (1,000 lbs), Gramercy Ref. (1,000 lbs), CONSOL. INCOME ACCOUNT FOR YEARS ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, a Sugar sales, Molasses sales, Interest received, Profit on stores, &c, Total, Prod. & mfg. costs, selling & general expenses, Net earnings. Shows C&A sugar company statistics.

Central Aguirre Sugar Company.

(Report for Fiscal Year ending July 31 1922.)

The remarks of President Charles G. Bancroft, together with the income account and balance sheet for 1922, are cited on a subsequent page.

CONSOLIDATED INCOME ACCOUNT YEARS ENDED JULY 31.

Table with columns: Sugar & molasses prod., Miscellaneous receipts, Total income, Agricul. & mfg. exps., Freight, adm., &c., exp., Net earnings, Divs. rec'd—Cent. M. Co., Net income, Depreciation, &c, Balance, surplus, Previous surplus, Adjust. of tax reserves, Miscellaneous, Total, Deduct—Res. for income and excess profits tax, Dividends, Revaluation by appraisal, Reserve for insur., &c., P. & I. surp., July 31. Shows Central Aguirre financial results.

x Dividends amounting to \$2,463,887 (82 1/2%) for the year 1919-20 were paid as follows: On old \$100 stock, 2 1/2% regular and 10% extra in Oct. 1919 and 2 1/2% regular and 7 1/2% extra in Jan. 1920, total 22 1/2%. On new \$20 par value stock, April 1920, 5%; July 1 1920, 25%; July 31 1920, extra of 25% total, 60%. y Agricultural mfg., gen. exp., \$3,546,931; less amt. charged to res. for reduction of rentals, \$41,000.

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET JULY 31.

(Central Aguirre Sugar Co., Lucas & Co., S. on C., and Ponce & Guayama RR)

Table with columns: Assets (Real est. bldgs., Rolling stock, Cash, Porto Rico 4% irrigation bonds, Accounts receivable, Material & supplies, Growing crops, Sugar & molasses, Bills receivable, Coll. Ins. etc. dep., Cent. Mache stock, Cub. Sug. Fin. stk., Con. & Impt. (not completed), Insurance fund., Deferred charges., U. S. securities.), Liabilities (Capital stock, Sundry accruals, Accounts payable, Reserve for restoration, Income, &c., tax reserve, Unearned div., Reserve for reduction of rentals, Insurance fund., Surplus), 1922, 1921, 1922, 1921. Shows C&A balance sheet.

a Real estate, roadway and track, mill, buildings and water supply, \$5,449,467; less reserve for depreciation and deflation, \$948,969. b Rolling stock, portable track, steam plows, live stock, cars, implements, &c., \$1,055,647; less reserve for depreciation, \$246,513. c At prices since realized.—V. 113, p. 2181.

Guantanamo Sugar Co. (Cuba), New York City.

(17th Annual Report—Year ended Sept. 30 1922.)

The report of President James H. Post, together with the income account and balance sheet, will be found on a subsequent page.

Cane Harvested by the Company and Purchased from Colonos (Tons of 2,000 lbs.)

Table with columns: Company cane, Colonos Company land, Own land, Total, 1922, 1921, 1920, 1919, 1918. Shows G&C sugar company statistics.

time to recover from the effect of a period of depression and extensive improvement and to strengthen its financial structure. It must refund its maturity when due in order to preserve its existing credits and the integrity of its operating status.—V. 115, p. 2579, 2045.

Chicago Peoria & St. Louis RR.—Would Dismantle Line
Bondholders of this road have petitioned the Circuit Court at Springfield, Ill., for permission to dismantle the line and sell the right of way. This proposal is being opposed by patrons of the line, who contend that the property can be made to earn a fair return on \$4,000,000, or one-half of the present value. Several plans of reorganization have been proposed, one calling for the issuance of \$4,000,000 new capital, of which \$1,000,000 would be used to satisfy the claims of first mortgage bondholders, another plan calls for issuance of \$3,000,000 new capital, of which \$200,000 would be applied to the exchange of existing first mortgage bonds, while a third plan is to merge the road with some connecting line. ("Chicago Economist.")—V. 115, p. 1729, 1631.

Cincinnati Georgetown & Portsmouth (Elec.) RR.—
The I.-S. C. Commission on Dec. 4 authorized the company to issue \$42,000 7% Equip. Trust Certificates, Series A, to be issued and disposed of at par, by Union Savings Bank & Trust Co., Cincinnati, under an equipment-trust agreement dated Nov. 7 1922 and due \$4,200 semi-annually from May 15 1923.—V. 115, p. 2472.

Cincinnati Indianapolis & Western RR.—Equipment Trusts Offered.—Green, Ellis & Anderson, New York, are offering at 100 and div. \$300,000 Equip. Trust 5½% gold certificates, Series "C."

Dated Dec. 2 1922, maturing \$10,000 each June 1 and Dec. 1 from June 1 1923 to Dec. 1 1937. Not subject to redemption prior to maturity. Denom. \$1,000 (c*). Dividends payable J. & D. Chatham & Phoenix National Bank, New York, trustee. Prin. and semi-ann. divs. guaranteed by endorsement by company. Issue has been approved by I.-S. C. Comm. These certificates are issued for 80% of the cost of new equipment, consisting of 207 standard gondola cars, which are being manufactured under contract by the American Car & Foundry Co. at a net cost to the railroad of \$1,814.75 per car. The total purchase price is \$376,653, of which 20% is paid in cash by the railroad company at the outset.—V. 115, p. 1729.

Clev. Cin. Chic. & St. L. Ry.—1% Div. on Com. Stock.
A dividend of 1% has been declared on the outstanding Common stock, par \$100, payable Jan. 20 to holders of record Dec. 29. Dividends of 2% each were paid on the Common stock in June and November last. The regular quarterly 1¼% Preferred dividend has also been declared, payable Jan. 20 to holders of record Dec. 29.—V. 115, p. 2476.

Commonwealth Power, Ry. & Light Co.—Underwrites \$600,000 1st & Ref. Mgt. 5s of Michigan United Rys. under Reorganization Plan.—
See Michigan United Rys. below.—V. 115, p. 2477.

Death Valley RR.—Capital Stock.
The I.-S. C. Commission recently authorized the company to issue not exceeding \$99,100 capital stock to be sold at not less than par, and the proceeds used solely for the purpose of retiring certain first mortgage bonds.—V. 115, p. 759.

Denver & Rio Grande RR.—Time Extended.
The protective committee, headed by Richard Sutro, has issued a notice to holders of the 1st & Ref. Mgt. 5% gold bonds (certificates of deposit therefor issued by Bankers Trust Co.; deposit receipts therefor issued by Farmers' Loan & Trust Co.); 7% Cum. Adjust. Mgt. gold bonds (certificates of deposit therefor issued by Farmers' Loan & Trust Co.); and certificates of deposit or receipts therefor of the Equitable Trust Co.), announcing that the time within which deposits of the securities may be made with the committee has been extended to and including Jan. 10. American Exchange National Bank is the depository of the committee.—V. 115, p. 2266, 2045.

Denver & Rio Grande Western RR.—To Issue Certifs.
Joseph H. Young, receiver, has applied to the I.-S. C. Commission for authority to issue \$5,000,000 6% receiver's certificates, dated Dec. 1 1922, and payable Dec. 1 1924. Proceeds will be used to rehabilitate and improve the property.

The "Denver Rocky Mountain News" of Dec. 3 says: "The rehabilitation and expansion program of Joseph H. Young, receiver, has been approved by the Federal Court. This program involves the immediate expenditure of \$14,100,000. The Court ordered the issuance of \$5,000,000 6% receiver's certificates to run for two years, and \$5,000,000 6¼% equipment trust notes to run for 15 years. The receiver also has placed at his disposal by the Court the surplus earnings of the company, which should amount to approximately \$1,100,000 by Jan. 1 1923, and approximately \$3,000,000 more by Jan. 1 1924."

"Of the receiver's certificates \$2,000,000 worth already have been sold at 98 and interest."

The complete report of Special Master Herrington, as submitted upon the receiver's budget of Nov. 21, was approved by the Court, without modification. See V. 115, p. 2477, 2579.

Detroit Toledo & Ironton RR.—Employees' Certificates.
The Ohio P. U. Commission has dismissed for want of jurisdiction the application of the company for authority to issue \$1,000,000 employees' improvement certificates to be sold to employees of the company. A similar application is now pending before the I.-S. C. Commission.—V. 115, p. 2378, 2579.

Erie RR.—Equipment Trust Certificates Ready.
Drexel & Co. are now prepared to exchange definitive 5½% Equipment Trust Certificates, Series "GG," for outstanding interim certificates. (For offering of certificates see V. 115, p. 82.)—V. 115, p. 2477, 2378.

Fort Smith & Western RR.—Sale.
The sale of this road has been set for Jan. 16 at Fort Smith, Ark. Arthur L. Mills, special master, will conduct the sale.—V. 113, p. 2818.

Gulf & Ship Island RR.—Tenders.
The New York Trust Co., trustee, will until Jan. 4 1923 receive bids for the sale to it of 1st Mgt. Ref. & Term. 5% gold bonds, due Feb. 1 1952, to an amount sufficient to exhaust \$94,130.—V. 115, p. 2156.

Houston Bay Shore & Texas City Traction Co.
A Houston, Tex., dispatch states that the John Kirby interests have concluded negotiations for the acquisition of properties, franchises, etc., through the purchase of the \$300,000 Capital stock. The stock will be taken over on a 50% basis, payment to be made in shares of a new concern to be organized.—V. 113, p. 1155.

Illinois Central RR.—Would Lease Road.
The company has applied to the I.-S. C. Commission for authority to lease the Chicago Memphis & Gulf RR.—V. 115, p. 2267, 1941.

Interborough Rapid Tran. Co.—Judgment Affirmed.
The Appellate Division of the Supreme Court Dec. 15 affirmed the judgment of \$25,000 obtained by Clarence H. Verner against the company, the amount alleged to be due on 25 notes of \$1,000 each made by the company, with interest at the rate of 7%. The notes were part of the issue which were to be paid on Sept. 1 1922.

The special meeting of stockholders scheduled for Dec. 11 has been postponed until Dec. 22.—V. 115, p. 2580, 2478.

Interborough Consolidated Corp.—Adjustment.
Federal Judge Mayer on Dec. 14 authorized James R. Sheffield, trustee in bankruptcy, to accept an offer of \$4,000,000 for the 103,574 shares of stock of the New York Transportation Co. held by him. The offer was made by the Interborough-Metropolitan Collateral 4½% bondholders' committee, of which G. M.-P. Murphy is Chairman. The original offer for the stock was \$3,262,581, or \$31.50 a share.

The committee is acting under the Interborough-Manhattan plan of readjustment, and for the purpose of creating machinery by which the stock could be taken over, a new company, the Fifth Avenue Bus Corp., was incorporated in Delaware Nov. 15 last with a capital of 400,000 shares, no par value. This new company will issue a sufficient number of shares to provide 5 shares for each \$1,000 of the 4½% bonds.

The petition filed with the Court states that Mr. Sheffield has in his possession, besides the share of stock of the Transportation company, the following: Balance on deposit with the New York Trust Co., \$1,240,672; on deposit with the Empire Trust Co., "coupon account," \$231,910; principal amount of 2d Conv. 4½% Liberty bonds, \$390,000, with a value in the open market of \$977 for each \$1,000 bond; on deposit with Guaranty Trust Co., \$14,760, held as a dividend account and adjudged a trust fund for the benefit of holders of Pref. stock of Interborough-Metropolitan Co. who had not exchanged the stock for the Preferred stock of the Interborough Consolidated Corp.

Mr. Sheffield states in his petition that at least \$400,000 should be retained by him to meet Federal and State taxes, fees, commissions and other outlays that may arise in the administration of the estate. It was agreed to pay a dividend of \$77.50 on each \$1,000 bond. The payment to the assenting bondholders would remain as a credit on the books of the new company while the payment to the non-assenting bondholders would be made in cash. Company also V. 115, p. 2477.

International & Great Northern RR.—Control Acquired by St. Louis-San Francisco Ry.
See St. Louis-San Francisco Ry. below.—V. 115, p. 2580, 2267.

Interstate Public Service Co.—To Merge Subsidiaries.
This company, a subsidiary of Middle West Utilities, has filed a petition with the Indiana P. S. Commission for authority to acquire all property, rights and franchises of the following subsidiary companies: Southern Indiana Power Co., Hydro-Electric Light & Power Co., Hawks Electric Co., Winona Electric Light & Water Co., Middlebury Electric Co. and the Electric Transmission Co. of Northern Indiana.

This is the second merger in which the Interstate company has figured within two years. The United Gas & Electric Co., New Albany Water Works, Louisville & Southern Indiana Traction Co., Louisville & Northern Ry. & Lighting Co. and Central Indiana Lighting Co. were merged into the company on Jan. 1 1921.—V. 115, p. 2478, 1731.

Interstate RR.—Equip. Trusts Offered.—Brown Brothers & Co., Philadelphia, are offering at prices ranging from 100.24 and div. to 101.54 and div., to yield from 5% to 5.35%, according to maturity, \$1,200,000 Equipment Trust Series "D" 5½% certificates, to be issued under the "Philadelphia Plan." A circular shows:

Dated Jan. 1 1923. Maturing \$40,000 July 1 1923 and \$40,000 each Jan. 1 and July 1 to Jan. 1 1938, incl. Divs. payable J. & J. Red as a whole on any div. date at 102½ and div. Denom. \$1,000 (c*). Fidelity Trust Co., Philadelphia, trustee.

These certificates will be payable out of rentals to be paid by company as lessee of standard equipment consisting of 1,000 all-steel hopper coal cars of 110,000 lbs. capacity each, having an aggregate cost of approximately \$1,500,000, or \$300,000 more than the aggregate certificates to be issued.

On completion, about Feb. 1923, of an 18-mile extension to its main line, the company will operate about 74 miles of road in the southwestern part of Virginia. Its lines have direct connection with the lines of the Southern Ry., Louisville & Nashville RR. and Norfolk & Western Ry. and, upon completion of the extension, will have direct connection with the lines of the Carolina Clinchfield & Ohio Ry.

The Virginia Coal & Iron Co. will guarantee the payment of the rentals specified in the lease.

The issue has been authorized by the I.-S. Commerce Commission.—V. 113, p. 730.

Jackson & Battle Creek Trac. Co.—Reorganization.
See Michigan United Rys. below.—V. 115, p. 2046.

Kansas City Southern Ry.—Trustee.
Walton H. Holmes of Missouri, has been appointed trustee under the 1st Mgt. and Debt of Trust, dated April 2 1900 to succeed the late Selwyn C. Edgar. Mr. Holmes is President of the Pioneer Trust Co. at Kansas City.—V. 115, p. 1532.

Kentucky Securities Corp.—Common Dividend No. 2.
The directors have declared a dividend of 1% on the Common stock, payable Jan. 2 to holders of record Dec. 29. The regular quarterly dividend on the Preferred stock of 1¼% was also declared, payable Dec. 15 to holders of record Dec. 29.

An initial dividend of 1% was paid on the Common stock in October last.—V. 115, p. 1630, 1530.

Louisiana & North West RR.—Tenders.
The company will until Jan. 2 receive bids for the sale to it of First Mgt. bonds to an amount sufficient to absorb \$12,000 now in the sinking fund. The same amount was redeemed three months ago.

The regular quarterly dividend of 1¼% will be paid on Jan. 1 to holders of record Dec. 15.—V. 115, p. 2379, 2267.

Mahoning Coal RR.—Extra Dividend of \$15 per Share.
An extra dividend of \$15 per share has been declared on the outstanding \$1,500,000 Common stock, par \$30, payable Dec. 29 to holders of record Dec. 15. A semi-annual dividend of \$10 per share was also declared on the Common stock, payable Feb. 1 to holders of record Jan. 15. This latter dividend compares with semi-annual dividends of \$5 per share paid heretofore.

Extra dividends of \$15 per share were also paid in July 1920, July 1921 and July 1922, while in May 1920 and extra of 60% was paid.—Compare V. 114, p. 2717.

Maumee Valley Ry., Toledo, O.—Incorporated.
This company, formerly the Maumee Valley Ry. & Light Co., has been incorporated in Ohio with an authorized capital of \$500,000, which, it is believed, will consist of \$400,000 Common and \$100,000 Pref. stock.—V. 115, p. 2580.

Michigan Central RR.—Extra Dividend of 6%.—An extra dividend of 6% has been declared on the \$18,736,400 capital stock, par \$100, in addition to the regular semi-annual dividend of 4%, both payable Jan. 29 to holders of record Dec. 29.

Dividends of 4% each were paid in Jan. and July last.—V. 114, p. 2710.

Michigan United Railways.—Reorganization Plan.—The committee for the 1st & Ref. Mgt. 30-Year 5% gold bonds (G. R. Cottrelle, Chairman) has approved and adopted a plan and agreement dated Dec. 1 1922, for the reorganization of the company.

Any holder of a certificate of deposit issued objecting to the plan, may on or before Jan. 10 1923, withdraw from the protective agreement. Holders who shall not exercise such right will be entitled to the benefits of the plan without the issue of new certificates of deposit.

Holders of bonds not deposited under the bondholders' protective agreement dated Nov. 8 1921, and holders of the debentures and Preferred and Common stocks of the company, and holders of bonds of Jackson & Battle Creek Traction Co. may become entitled to the benefits of the plan by depositing their securities (with coupon No. 31 and all subsequent coupons thereto attached in the case of the 1st & Ref. Mgt. bonds) with one of the depositories on or before Feb. 1 1923.

John F. Collins, Gen. Mgr., was on Dec. 13 appointed receiver by the U. S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan, pursuant to the prayer of a creditor's bill filed by Commonwealth Power, Ry. & Light Co. Data from Letter of G. R. Cottrelle, Chairman Protective Committee, New York, Dec. 15.

History, &c.—Owns and operates street railway system in Kalamazoo, Battle Creek, Jackson and Lansing, Mich., the interurban lines connecting these cities, and also the interurbans from Lansing to St. Johns and Pine Lake, and from Lansing to Owosso and Corunna, a total of 258 miles measured as single track. Through passenger service between these cities and Detroit is maintained over the lines of the Detroit United Rys., and direct connection with Grand Rapids is made through arrangements with Michigan RR. Cars in operation, 278.

declared by the directors to be then payable, and on and after said date as such int. shall be declared to be payable by directors in accordance with the Adjustment Mortgage, and thereafter at date of maturity of the bonds.

Preferred Stock.—Dividends on the Preferred stock shall be payable only out of the net income or the surplus of the applicant and as and when declared by directors. From and after Jan. 1 1928 dividends will be cumulative, but arrears of cumulative dividends shall not carry int.

Capitalization and Fixed Charges as of Jan. 1 1922.

Table with 3 columns: Description, Principal Amount, Fixed Charges. Rows include Bonds, notes, equip. obligations & receiver's cdfs., Interest accrued and unpaid Jan. 1 1922, 4% Non-Cumulative Pref. stock, Common stock, Preferred stock Texas Central RR., Common stock Texas Central RR., Sink fd. requirements under various mtgs. for 1922.

Proposed Capitalization and Fixed Charges of New Company

Table with 3 columns: Description, Outstanding, Fixed Chgs. Rows include Common stock (no par value), Preferred stock, Prior Lien 5% bonds, Prior Lien 4% bonds, Prior Lien 6% bonds, Adjustment Mortgage 5% bonds.

Book Investment Account—Earnings—Assets and Liabilities, &c.

The combined book investment accounts as of June 30 1922 of the companies comprising the Missouri Kansas & Texas system show a total investment, less accrued depreciation on equipment of \$268,038,661. The record shows that if the reorganization had been effected as of June 30 1922 the total book investment of the new Missouri-Kansas-Texas RR. system after deducting accrued depreciation on equipment as of June 30 1922 for the three companies whose properties are to be sold under foreclosure decrees would have been \$255,907,500, or a reduction in investment accounts of \$12,131,161, which is caused almost entirely by leaving out of the book investment of the Missouri-Kansas-Texas RR. system the value, as represented by the applicant, of the lines which are to be left out of the reorganization.

It appears that the earnings of the system for the year 1921 and the 6 months ended June 30 1922 would have been sufficient to enable the payment of the fixed charges on the proposed bonded debt, including interest on the proposed Adjustment bonds, and also all rentals on leaseholds and trackage or joint facilities to be acquired by the applicant, and to provide a surplus after payment of such charges of \$1,153,356 for 1921 and \$1,388,667 for the first 6 months of 1922. The applicant estimates that on the above basis the surplus, after deduction of fixed and contingent charges and rentals for the entire year of 1922, will be \$31,968,279.

It appears further that after the reorganization, on basis of the accounts as of June 30 1922, of the companies to be included in the reorganization, substantially the following relation should exist between assets and liabilities, excluding capital liabilities:

Table with 3 columns: Description, Amount, Balance. Rows include Investments, deferred assets, Less current liabilities assumed, Current liabilities, deferred liabilities, or a net excess of assets to be acquired over liabilities to be assumed of \$272,608,729.

and that the capitalization of the applicant will be: Bonds, \$186,800,000; Preferred stock, \$30,000,000; total, \$216,800,000 Common stock (no par value) 1,000,000 shares

Book Value Sets Equity at \$75,808,630.—From the foregoing statement it would appear that the equity of the Common no-par-value stock in the book value of the properties and net assets to be acquired is \$75,808,630.

Valuation Not Yet Completed—Equity for Common Not Definitely Settled.—In our preliminary investigations of the valuation of the lines comprising the present system we have taken certain exceptions to the investment accounts.

These exceptions aggregate approximately \$74,228,798, and consist chiefly of discounts on issues of capital stock and bonds, including an item of \$48,124,630, representing apparently a marking up of the book value of road and equipment to offset securities issued in the reorganization of 1891.

Formal statement of these accounting exceptions has not yet been served upon the carriers comprising the present Missouri Kansas & Texas system, and the applicant represents that it is, therefore, impossible for it to determine whether said accounting exceptions are correct.

There have been filed with us by the carriers comprising the present Missouri Kansas & Texas system statements of additions and betterments and improvements made and new equipment acquired during the period 1882 to 1906, aggregating approximately \$21,000,000, which expenditures, it is represented, were charged to accounts other than investment in road and equipment.

It appears that of this amount we have conceded the correctness of items aggregating \$5,284,772. The applicant contends that in the completion of our valuation the remainder of its claim will be allowed. Deducting the amount already allowed, \$5,284,772, from the approximate total amount of \$21,000,000, as claimed by the applicant, would leave an amount of \$15,715,228, the correctness of which has not yet been determined.

Assuming that it is correct, the accounting exceptions would be reduced to approximately \$68,944,026. On this basis the equity of the Common no-par-value stock in the properties and assets to be acquired would be approximately \$7,864,604.

The total book assets as of June 30 1922 of the lines to be taken over by the applicant, after deducting accrued depreciation on equipment, aggregate \$255,907,500. Deducting from this amount the total of the accounting exceptions, \$74,228,798, would leave an amount of capitalizable assets of \$181,678,701, to which should be added \$8,302,085 for materials and supplies and \$8,000,000 for working capital, making a total of \$197,980,786, which slightly exceeds the proposed capitalization, excluding Common no-par-value stock.

This total properly may be increased by considering, as a permissible capitalizable asset, the net current assets of approximately \$18,000,000, less the value of materials and supplies and working capital as stated above, for the reason that in the reorganization the applicant must pay for the net assets acquired. On this basis the total book assets would be \$199,678,701, and deducting from this amount the total of bonds and Preferred stock to be issued, \$196,817,099, would leave \$2,861,602 as the equity of the Common no-par-value stock in the book value of the properties and assets to be acquired.

We have not yet established the final valuation of the properties to be included in the reorganization, and we can not at this time state definitely the equity of the Common no-par-value stock in the book value of the properties and assets to be acquired.

From our preliminary study of the cost of reproduction new of the lines comprising the present Missouri Kansas & Texas system, it would seem that the principal amount of bonds and par value of Preferred stock to be issued will be not far short of, and may be in excess of, the cost of reproduction new of the properties to be acquired, allowing for current assets and the book value of securities of affiliated companies. However, our tentative valuation of the properties to be acquired has not yet been completed and served upon the carriers comprising the present system. The applicant contends that until our final valuation is established the investment accounts should be accepted for the purposes of these proceedings.

Compensation for Reorganization Managers and Counsel Fees, &c.

Provision is made in the plan that the cash \$18,420,820, to be raised by assessing the old stockholders, shall be applied to the payment of certain prior lien and other obligations, expenses of foreclosures, organization, franchise and other taxes, compensation and expenses of reorganization

managers and fee of their counsel, &c., and also to payment into the treasury of the applicant, as working capital, of \$4,000,000; and of any remainder of said fund of \$18,420,820.

The proposed compensation of the reorganization managers and fee of their counsel aggregate approximately \$2,364,250. The reorganization managers have agreed with the applicant and with us:

(a) That determination of the amounts of their compensation and fee of their counsel shall be made by a Federal or State court authorized to entertain jurisdiction for such purpose, and in a suit or proceeding to be brought to that end; and that the court to be selected and the suit or proceeding to be brought shall be subject to our approval; or

(b) That determination of the amounts of their compensation and fee of their counsel shall be made by us in lieu of such suit or proceeding;

(c) That pending such determination they will retain of the moneys now in hand for the purposes of reorganization, the sum of \$2,364,250; and

(d) That the compensation of the reorganization managers and fee of their counsel, as they may be determined, will be paid out of said fund and the remainder, if any, shall be paid into the treasury of the applicant upon such determination.

(e) That the compensation of the protective committees for the security holders and the fees of their counsel, estimated at \$1,150,000 maximum, shall be settled as soon as may be, consistent with reasonable effort to suit to upon a proper basis; that the reorganization managers will advise us from time to time as progress is made in negotiating adjustments of such claims and will be guided by such limitations of amounts payable as we may make and will make due showing of the amounts paid in settlement of such claims and that any saving effected in the settlement of such claims will be paid into the treasury of the applicant.

It is thus apparent that the consideration which the applicant is to receive for its securities proposed to be issued consists in part of moneys, in an amount as yet undetermined, in addition to the properties which have been mentioned.

We have taken testimony as to the purposes for which it is proposed to use the \$18,420,820, which has been provided under the plan. Among the purposes mentioned are:

Reorganization managers' compensation \$1,614,249

Reorganization managers' counsel fees 750,000

It appears from the testimony bearing on the item for managers' compensation that their tasks were exceedingly difficult; that their services have been continuous since 1914 and will continue for a considerable period of time; and that as sponsors for the plan of reorganization they carry serious responsibility. This item does not cover responsibility incurred as underwriters. Additional compensation is provided for underwriters' obligations. The testimony is to the effect that the reorganization managers' compensation is measured by a percentage of the par value of the securities issued, and that this method has the sanction of established custom.

Furthermore, the rate of that compensation was distinctly stated as a term of the plan and agreement of reorganization which set forth the respective rights and interests of all security holders. The plan and agreement were given wide circulation, the agreement being signed in many instances by depositors in person and in other instances on their behalf by protective committees. It has been suggested to us that this agreement is controlling and that we are charged with no duty and possess no power to look beyond it. There is testimony that the fees of counsel bear a proper relation to fees customarily paid for services rendered in difficult matters of large magnitude.

We did not see our way clear upon the original and supplemental applications to grant such approval of the compensation of the reorganization managers or their counsel as would be involved in authorizing unconditional issuance of securities. If such compensation is appropriately measured by the standards of current and recent practice, there arises the question as to the correctness of those standards. If in one instance compensation is excessive, it does not follow that the application of the same basis to a number of instances makes the basis proper.

We were not prepared to accept the view that the situation presented involved only the usual relations of client and attorney or of parties to contracts determining by agreement their respective rights. There is involved an important question of public interest. By the amended application provision is made for resolving the elements of doubt, and the effect to be given to the provisions of the reorganization plan and agreement in respect of compensation of managers and the charges of their counsel is now determined but remains for future determination as thereby provided. We are confronted by urgent necessity that a reorganization be accomplished without further delay, and, as thus amended, we approve the applications.

It is suggested that our policy with respect to reorganizations ought to be somewhat more clearly defined. We have had only a few such cases to deal with, and these have come before us as individual cases in a continuous procession of pressing matters, all of which are rather new to us, to be administered under a new law. In the few cases referred to, the differences between the methods of reorganization have been so substantial as to suggest the inadvisability of attempting at this time to define a general policy with respect to reorganizations.

It is probable that in the future, as in the past, each case of reorganization will have to be considered and disposed of on its own merits and in the light of its own conditions. However, just as soon as our experience with concrete cases may warrant it, we shall be prepared to establish any general principles which the concrete facts may justify. In the meantime, general expressions with respect to the policy which should govern reorganizations can be of little assistance in the determination of concrete cases.

Sale of Property.

The main line of the road and branch lines in Texas were bought in for \$28,000,700 at auction at Colbert, Okla., Dec. 13 by J. & W. Seligman & Co. and Hallgarten & Co., the reorganization managers.

The Texas lines were sold at auction at Sherman Jct., Texas, Dec. 14 to the same bankers for \$6,500,000.—V. 115, p. 2581, 2478.

Missouri Pacific RR.—Listing—Earnings.

The New York Stock Exchange has authorized the listing of \$5,501,500 additional 1st & Ref. Mgt. 6% Gold Bonds, Series D, due Feb. 1 1949, making the total amount of 1st & Ref. Mgt. bonds agreed for: \$24,238,000 of Series A 5s, due Feb. 1 1965; \$13,641,000 of Series B 5s, due Jan. 1 1923; \$9,044,000 of Series C 5s, due Aug. 1 1926; and \$23,501,500 of Series D 8s, due Feb. 1 1949. The purpose of this issue is to reimburse the company for capital expenditures and to provide funds for the purchase of new equipment.

The income account for 9 mos. ending Sept. 30 1922 shows: Total railway operating revenues, \$73,122,930; total railway operating expenses, \$61,642,203; net revenue from railway operations, \$11,480,727; railway tax accruals, \$3,297,402; uncollectible railway revenues, \$28,850; total operating income, \$8,154,47; non-operating income, \$2,201,690; gross income, \$10,356,164. Deductions from gross income, \$12,438,398. Net corporate deficit for period, \$2,082,234. The profit and loss surplus as of Sept. 30 1922 amounted to \$30,782,744.—V. 115, p. 1838, 769.

New York State Railways.—Accumulated Dividends, &c.

A dividend of 1 1/4% (1 1/4% regular quarterly and 10% on account of arrears) has been declared on the Preferred stock, together with a dividend of 1 1/2% on the Common stock (the first since July 1917, when 1% was paid), all payable Jan. 2 to holders of record Dec. 22.

The payment on the Pref. stock clears up all arrears on that issue.—V. 115, p. 2268, 1942.

Northumberland County (Pa.) Rys.—

See Sunbury & Susquehanna RR. below and in V. 112, p. 1868; also Sunbury & Selingsrove Ry. in V. 113, p. 538, 294.

Ohio Electric Ry.—Sale of Electric Lighting Property.—

The Ohio P. U. Commission has authorized the Ohio Power Co. to purchase, and Thomas Newhall, Phila., to sell the electric lighting and steam purchase, and Thomas Newhall, Phila., to sell the electric lighting and steam heating system formerly operated by the railway company in the city of Lima. The sale price was \$1,700,000. Thomas Newhall recently purchased the property of the railway company at receiver's sale. The Ohio Power Co. had to assume \$1,250,000 underlying bonds and \$200,000 prior liens besides paying \$250,000 cash for the property. Compare V. 115, p. 2047.

Pittsburgh (Pa.) Railways.—Reorganization.—

The Union Trust Co., Pittsburgh, according to Pittsburgh dispatches, has agreed to undertake the financing of Pittsburgh Railways, which will amount to \$5,000,000, the amount specified by the City of Pittsburgh. The new financing will consist of \$2,000,000 in trust notes and \$3,000,000 in short-term notes. No public offering of these securities is expected.

Before Jan. 1 1923 a petition will be presented in the U. S. District Court at Pittsburgh asking retirement of the receivership under agreement with

Crude Oil Prices.—Magnaolia Petroleum Co. posted prices ranging from 65c. to \$1.80 per barrel in Oklahoma (according to gravity). "Financial America" Dec. 12, p. 2. Standard Oil Co. of La. reduced Smackover crude 20c. a barrel. Price now 30c. a barrel. "Financial America" Dec. 13, p. 2. An additional classification for crude oil below 30 degrees gravity is posted at 75c. a barrel by Standard Oil of La. (see "Chronicle" Dec. 9, p. 2582). "Wall Street Journal" Dec. 12, p. 10. Texas Co. posted crude prices ranging from \$1.10 to \$1.80, according to gravity. "Financial America" Dec. 11, p. 2. Tax on Texas Pipe Line Companies Held Unconstitutional.—Law imposing tax of 2% of gross receipts of pipe line companies engaged in Inter-State business ruled against in District Court at Austin. "Fin. Am." Dec. 13. Gasoline Price Reduced.—Tide Water Sales Corp. reduced tank wagon price 2c. to 22c. a gallon. "Wall St. Journal" Dec. 15, p. 11. The following figures show stocks of gasoline and kerosene on hand at end of October:

United States Bureau of Mines Refinery Statistics table with columns for Gasoline (in Gallons), Oct. 1922, Sept. 1922, Oct. 1921. Rows include Stocks on 1st of month, Production, Imports, Total, Daily average production, and Daily average consumption.

* Not available because of changes in new tariff. a Does not include imports for October 1922, but does for other months. b Including exports and shipments to insular possessions. c Excess of production over consumption. Imports not included in production.

Prices, Wages and Other Trade Matters.

Sugar Price Reduced.—Following companies reduced price 15 pts. to 7.10c. a lb.: American Sugar Refining, Edgar Sugar, Franklin Sugar Refining, Warner Sugar Refining and Reverse Refinery. The latter also reduced price of soft 35 pts. to 6.90c. a lb. Copper Price.—Copper sold at 14 1/2c. per lb. on Dec. 14, highest record for year to date. "Times" Dec. 15, p. 30. Tire Prices Advanced.—Pisk Rubber Co. advances its lines from 7 to 20%. "Wall St. Journal" Dec. 12, p. 7. Automobile Prices Reduced.—Havnes Automobile Co. reduces prices as follows: \$100 on all "55" models, making standard touring \$1,595; sport touring, \$1,850; and from \$180 to \$255 on all "77" models, making standard touring \$2,395, standard sedan \$3,395. "Times" Dec. 12, p. 32. Hudson Motor Car Co. reduced prices as follows: \$100 each on speedster, passenger and coach models, to \$1,425, \$1,475 and \$1,525, respectively; \$200 on sedan, to \$2,095. Essex coach, \$100 to \$1,145. "Financial America" Dec. 13, p. 2. Truck Price Advance.—Kalamazoo Motor Truck Co. increased prices ranging from \$100 to \$300, due to increased cost of steel. "Boston Financial News" Dec. 11, p. 2. Woolen Blanket Prices Rise.—American Woolen Co. posts 1923 prices 5 to 10c. higher than those at last opening. "Financial America" Dec. 16. Belfast Cambrie Manufacturers Association Reduce Price from 5 to 10%.—Sheers cut from 10 to 12 1/2%. "Financial America" Dec. 9, p. 7. Brick Price Rises 12% per Thousand.—Now \$16 per 1,000 wholesale. "Times" Dec. 11, p. 32. Cincinnati Shoe Strike Developments.—Compromise on basis of 5% wage cut likely to be accepted to end 6 months strike against 10% cut. "Philadelphia News Bureau" Dec. 14. Shoe Output.—Production of boots and shoes during October amounted to 31,093,296 pairs, compared with 28,961,051 pairs in Sept. and 28,077,392 pairs in Aug. Total for Jan. 1 to the end of Oct. 270,590,534 pairs. —Department of Commerce. Cab Co. Raises Wages.—Yellow Cab Co. of Chicago raises drivers' wages 12 1/2%. Increase will amount to more than \$300,000 annually. "Wall St. Journal" Dec. 8, p. 8. Postal Telegraph-Cable Employees Get Wage Increase.—All except messengers get 5% increase per annum, effective Jan. 1. Messengers in service since Nov. 1 last will receive bonus of \$10. "Boston Fin. News" Dec. 13, p. 3. New England Textile Situation.—(a) Rhode Island Textile Council, affiliated with United Textile Workers, passes resolution to demand restoration of 22 1/2% wage cut in Dec. 1920, which will put wages back on war-time scale. (b) Royal Weaving Co. of Pawtucket, R. I., grants 12 1/2% wage increase to 3,000 in silk plants, first advance since recent strike. (c) Lancaster Mills offers 5-hour additional work to adult male operators at straight-time pay. Union refused unless time-and-a-half was paid. Armaur-Morris Packing Merger.—See under "Current Events" in this issue. Unions to Combat Proposed Anti-Strike Legislation.—American Federation of Labor supported by Central Trades and Labor Council representing 800,000 organized workers in N. Y. City. "Times" Dec. 10, p. 9. Matters Covered in "Comic" Dec. 9.—(a) Offering of \$1,500,000 5% Kentucky Joint Stock Land Bank bonds, p. 2524. (b) Repayments received by War Finance Corp., p. 2524. (c) Advances approved by War Finance Corp., p. 2524. (d) Approval by War Finance Corp. of advance to Louisiana Farm Bureau Rice Growers' Co-operative Association, p. 2524. (e) Arthur H. Lamborn of Lamborn & Co., 7 Wall St., reinstated by N. Y. Cotton Exchange, p. 2525. (f) Earl Mendinthal and Fred T. Chandler, Jr., acquitted for second time of criminal charges, p. 2525. (g) Price of domestic silver advanced, p. 2526. (h) Offering of U. S. Treasury Notes, p. 2527. (i) Offering of 2 series of U. S. Treas. Certificates of Indebtedness, p. 2528. (j) U. S. Victory Notes retired, p. 2528. (k) Government begins suits to recover damages from construction companies under war contracts, p. 2536. (l) Indictments against gas mantle companies ordered quashed by Attorney-General, p. 2537. (m) Bituminous coal regulations revoked, p. 2540. (n) Taxability of stock dividends, p. 2542. (o) Simplified income tax forms proposed by tax simplification board, p. 2544.

Adirondack Power & Light Corp.—Bonds Offered.—Harris, Forbes & Co., Coffin & Burr, Inc., and E. H. Rollins & Sons are offering at 96 1/2% and int. to yield about 5 3/4% \$2,500,000 1st & Ref. Mtge gold bonds, Series of 5 1/2%.

Table showing bond offerings for Adirondack Power & Light Corp. Columns include description (Common stock, Pref. stock paying, Debenture bonds, etc.), Authorized amount, and Outstanding amount.

x In addition there is outstanding \$114,800 Common stock and \$13,100 Preferred stock of the Adirondack El. Power Corp., for the retirement of which a like amount of the Common and 7% Preferred stock respectively, is reserved. y Unlimited except for the conservative restrictions of the indenture.

Earnings, Year Ended October 31 1922. Table with columns for Gross earnings, Net after oper. exps., Annual int., Balance for other int., and V. 115, p. 2381, 1944.

Acushnet Mill Corp., New Bedford.—Stock Div.—The company proposes to increase the authorized Capital stock from \$1,500,000 to \$2,000,000, par \$100, by the payment of a 33 1/3% stock dividend. In March 1917 a stock dividend of 50% was paid.—V. 107, p. 804.

Ahmeek Mining Co.—Merger Proposed.—See Calumet & Hecla Mining Co. below.—V. 115, p. 547.

Alliance Realty Co.—Listing—Earnings.—The New York Stock Exchange has authorized the listing on or after Dec. 15 of \$500,000 additional Capital Stock, par \$100, on official notice of issuance as a 25% stock dividend, payable Dec. 15 to stockholders of record Dec. 6, making the total amount applied for \$2,500,000. The income account for the ten months ended Oct. 31 1922 shows: Gross income: interest from loans, bank balances and mortgages owned, \$23,185; Divs. from realty companies whose stock is owned, \$181,791; rentals from properties owned, \$60,479; Total, \$265,455; cost of operations, \$49,160; general and administrative expenses and taxes, \$33,042; surplus, \$183,253; surplus Dec. 31 1921, \$809,885; total, \$993,138. Deduct dividends paid, \$120,000; reserve for contingencies, \$279,997; profit and loss, surplus, Oct. 31 1922, \$1,153,135.—V. 115, p. 2381, 1323.

Allouez Mining Co.—Merger Proposed.—See Calumet & Hecla Mining Co. below.—V. 108, p. 880.

Alvarado Mining & Milling Co.—Consolidation.—William Leeb Jr., Vice-Pres., American Smelting & Refining Co., Dec. 4 issued a statement to the effect that a consolidation is being proposed of the Alvarado Mining & Milling Co. and three other mining companies adjoining the Alvarado company's holdings in the Parral district of Mexico, namely the Refugio Mining Co., Hidalgo Mining Co. and San Juanito Mining Co. The statement further says: It is contemplated to form a new company to take over the Mexican holdings of the 4 above mentioned companies, together with the Parral & Durango R.R., certain process patents of the Alvarado M. & M. Co. and certain timber limits, most of them adjoining the P. & D. R.R. This new company shall issue 600,000 shares of Common stock, no par value, and it is contemplated exchanging Alvarado stock share for share for the new company's stock, with lesser amounts of the same stock going to the other three companies in exchange for their properties. It is also contemplated at the present time to issue 10,000 shares (par \$100) 7% Cumul. Pref. stock, with privilege of converting the Pref. stock into Common in the ratio of one share of Pref. for 10 shares of Common. In the event the above consolidations are effected, the American Smelting & Refining Co. will take over the management of the group, which adjoin their Veta Grande mines in the Parral district, for a 10 years' period and in consideration of the economies and advantages of the technical skill that will be thereby made available by the A. S. & R. Co., for the new consolidation, the A. S. & R. Co. will receive 10% of the Common stock of the new company, together with a nominal fee per annum to cover New York office expenses, and the A. S. & R. Co. will also purchase \$250,000 of the Preferred stock at the price at which it will be issued, which will be at not less than \$90 per share.—V. 114, p. 2118.

American Bank Note Co.—Listing.—The New York Stock Exchange has authorized the listing on and after Dec. 29 1922 of \$49,550 additional Common stock, par \$50, on official notice of issuance as a 10% stock dividend, payable Dec. 29 to holders of record Dec. 15, making the total amount applied for \$4,949,550.—See V. 115, p. 2480, 648, 547.

American Book Co.—Capital Increased.—The stockholders on Dec. 15 increased the authorized Capital stock from \$5,000,000 to \$8,000,000, par \$100. The additional \$3,000,000 stock will be distributed as a 60% stock dividend.—V. 115, p. 2583, 2480.

American Cotton Oil Co.—New Director.—Foster Dulles of Sullivan & Crownwell, has been elected a director.—V. 115, p. 2374.

American Gas & Electric Co.—25% Stock Dividend.—A 25% stock dividend has been declared on the Common stock in addition to the usual quarterly dividend of 2 1/2%, both payable Dec. 30 to holders of record Dec. 15. The regular quarterly dividend of 1 1/2% on the Pref. stock will be paid on Feb. 1 to holders of record Jan. 15. Extras of 2% each were paid in Common stock in Jan., April and July 1920, in Jan. and July 1921 and in Jan. and July 1922.—V. 115, p. 2049.

American Radiator Co.—Listing—Earnings.—The New York Stock Exchange has authorized the listing, on or after Dec. 30 1922, of \$6,903,125 additional Common stock, par \$25 each, upon official notice of issuance as a 50% stock dividend, payable to Common holders of record Dec. 15 1922, making the total amount applied for \$20,709,375. The consolidated income account for ten months ended Oct. 31 1922 shows: Gross profit, \$9,018,049; selling expense, \$4,533,708; depreciation and obsolescence, \$734,471; net trading profit, \$3,749,870. Add: interest, discount and exchange, \$94,746; rentals, \$17,653; dividends received, French company, \$1,069,462; miscellaneous, \$540; total income, \$4,932,273. Deduct interest paid, \$127,544; net income, \$4,804,728.—V. 115, p. 1734.

American Rolling Mill Co.—Plan To Finance Development of New Manufacturing Unit at Ashland, Ky.—Sale of New Preferred Stock and 15-Year Notes Contemplated.—The company contemplates new financing solely in the interest of the new properties acquired at Ashland, Ky., on Dec. 31 1921. The financing will take the form of the sale of \$7,000,000 Preferred stock and \$7,000,000 15-Year 6% notes. The plan also contemplates the retirement of the present Pref. stock at 110 and the issuance of \$2,000,000 additional Common stock at par. The properties acquired were the Ashland Iron & Mining Co. and the Ashland Coal & Iron Ry., which were purchased through the payment of \$1,000,000 Common stock and the assuming of about \$6,000,000 of indebtedness. The plan contemplates that the present authorized Preferred stock of \$20,000,000 be reduced to \$7,000,000 (the present outstanding amount) and the issuance of \$30,000,000 of new 7% Cumulative Preferred stock (par \$100). If the stockholders approve the plan on Jan. 16 next, it is contemplated to call in the present outstanding \$7,000,000 Preferred stock at 110 or the holders thereof may exchange their present stock for new Preferred stock at 110 (i.e., each holder of 10 shares will receive 11 shares of new stock). It is also expected that the present (\$117,400) 6% Preferred shares will soon be retired. When the plan has been authorized the company proposes to sell \$7,000,000 of the new stock, which will be first offered to stockholders, any portion not subscribed will be underwritten. This, with the \$7,700,000 to be offered in exchange for the present 7% Preferred stock, will result in a total issue of about \$14,700,000 new Preferred stock. To supply the balance of \$23,000,000 new capital needed for the Ashland unit, the directors propose to sell \$7,000,000 8% 15-Year notes. Capital Structure After Completion of Above Plan. Common stock outstanding, \$17,852,550. Preferred stock outstanding, 14,700,000. 6% 15-Year notes, 7,000,000. The company proposes at some future time, when the above plan has been authorized, to give the Common stockholders the privilege to subscribe at par for about \$2,000,000 Common stock, proceeds to be used to increase working capital. Balance Sheet as of Sept. 30 1922 (after above financing)—Assets: Property account, \$42,859,500; sinking fund Preferred stock, \$58,800; investments, \$2,391,563; inventory, \$9,964,500; accounts receivable, \$2,893,116; notes & accept., \$1,733,921; cash, \$2,607,429; marketable securities, \$5,043,242; def. charges, \$349,507; total, \$67,951,647. Offsets:—

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Preferred stock, \$14,700,000; Common stock, \$19,852,550; 6% notes, \$7,000,000; notes payable, \$1,000,000; accts. payable, \$2,925,500; accrued taxes, &c., \$648,600; accrued divs., \$479,311; def. credits, \$83,463; deprec. res., \$8,352,248; all other reserves, \$1,118,272; surplus, \$11,796,642.—V. 115, p. 2489, 2049.

American Smelters Securities Co.—To Dissolve.—See American Smelting & Refining Co. below.—V. 115, p. 2161.

American Smelting & Refining Co.—Securities Co. Dissolves—To Acquire Interest in Mining Company.—

The stockholders of the American Smelters Securities Co. on Dec. 14, voted to dissolve the company. The number of shares of stock voted for dissolution was 606,456, which represented more than four-fifths of any of the classes of stock outstanding, and more than nine-tenths of the total number of outstanding shares.

All of the Common stock and 89% of the A and B Preferred stock of the Securities Company had been acquired by the Smelting Company and its ownership of such a large majority of the stock made unnecessary the further continuance of the Securities Company as a separate corporation. Through the dissolution a saving to the Smelting Company of approximately \$115,000 annually in taxes and other expenses will be effected.

The outstanding A and B Preferred stock of the Securities Company still in the hands of the public is entitled to be paid par, plus accrued dividend to the date of dissolution, fixed as of Feb. 1 1923.

See Alvarado Mining & Milling Co. above.
[The United States Zinc Co., a subsidiary, contemplates building a zinc smelter, to cost approximately \$400,000, on property recently purchased adjacent to Amarillo, Tex.—V. 115, p. 2049.]

American Steel Foundries.—Listing.—
The New York Stock Exchange has authorized the listing, on or after Dec. 30, of \$3,672,200 additional Common stock, par \$33.33-1/3, an official notice of issuance as an 18% stock dividend (\$6 per share) making the total amount applied for to date, \$24,073,200. See V. 115, p. 2583, 2049.

American Stove Co., St. Louis, Mo.—20% Stock Div.—
The company has declared a 20% stock dividend.
Capital stock Authorized, \$10,000,000, par \$100, of which approximately \$7,451,700 is outstanding.—V. 113, p. 1475.

Amparo Mining Co.—Extra Dividend.—
An extra dividend of 5% has been declared payable Dec. 22 to holders of record Dec. 12. This distribution will make a total of 17% paid during the current year.—V. 114, p. 2245; V. 113, p. 1890.

Anaconda Copper Mining Co.—May Buy Chile.—
Although no official announcement has been made, the purchase of the Anaconda of 2,200,000 shares of Chile Copper Co. stock, owned by the Guggenheims, is virtually consummated. The price mentioned is \$35 per share according to reports in the financial district. The Rockefeller interests are said to have agreed to underwrite the bonds necessary to complete the transaction, and nothing remains to be done but to arrange the formalities.

In their weekly market review, Carlon, Green & Co. present a discussion of the proposed acquisition of the Chile Copper Co., pointing out the importance of the transaction and its significance in the copper world and market. The bankers point out that the combined copper production of Anaconda and Chile will approximate 25% of the refinery capacity of this country, or about 550,000,000 to 600,000,000 lbs. of copper annually, with mines operating to capacity.—V. 115, p. 1535, 1431.

Armour & Co.—Secretary of Agriculture Wallace Holds It Is Not Time to Interfere in Proposed Armour-Morris Merger.—
Secretary of Agriculture Wallace issued a statement Dec. 12 in regard to the proposed purchase of the assets of the packing plant of Morris & Co. by Armour & Co., in which he asserted that "there seems to be no occasion for action at the present time."

Mr. Wallace's statement was based on an opinion rendered at his request by Attorney-General Daugherty after a conference among President Harding, Mr. Wallace and Mr. Daugherty to discuss the matter. According to Washington dispatches, the documents which were sent to the Senate were construed to mean that, after making investigations as to the probable effect of the proposed purchase on competition, Mr. Wallace felt that there was no reason for action on his part unless later developments gave indications of acts by the packing interests which were plainly in violation of the laws.

Chicago dispatches state that the packing officials have interpreted the decision as placing no obstacles in the way of the merger.
For text of Secretary Wallace's letter see under "Current Events" above.—V. 115, p. 2382, 2270.

Associated Dry Goods Corp.—Foreign Offices.—
Lord & Taylor, James McCreery & Co and other subsidiaries. It is said, will combine their foreign buying offices with Jordan Marsh Co. of Boston.—V. 114, p. 2363.

Atlantic Ice & Coal Corp.—Bonds Called.—
One hundred forty (\$140,000) 1st Mtge. 6% 20-year gold bonds, dated Feb. 1 1910, have been called for redemption Jan. 1 1923 at the Trust Co. of Georgia, Atlanta, trustee.—V. 111, p. 2523.

Atlantic Refining Co.—Listing.—
The New York Stock Exchange has authorized the listing on or after Dec. 20 of \$45,000,000 Common Stock on official notice of issuance as a 900% stock dividend, payable Dec. 20 to holders of record Dec. 12, making the total amount applied for \$50,000,000. See V. 115, p. 2480, 1735, 1213.

Babcock & Wilcox Co.—Stock Increased, &c.—
The stockholders voted Dec. 12 to increase the authorized capital stock from \$15,000,000 (all outstanding) to \$25,000,000, par \$100. It is the intention to declare a 33 1/3% stock dividend.
The stockholders have also authorized the directors to pay a cash dividend of 1 1/4% on April 2 1923 to holders of record March 20 1923 on all shares then outstanding; this dividend to be in lieu of the quarterly dividend of 2% declared (in advance) on April 5 1922 and payable April 1 1923 on the present outstanding Capital Stock.—V. 115, p. 2161, 1945.

Beech-Nut Packing Co.—60-Cent Quarterly Dividend.—
A quarterly dividend of 3% (60 cents per share) has been declared on the outstanding Common stock, par \$20, payable Jan. 10 to holders of record Dec. 30. Previous disbursements were at the rate of 4 cents per share monthly, a distribution of that amount being paid Dec. 9 last.
An extra distribution of 48 cents per share will be made on the Common stock on Dec. 26. Compare V. 115, p. 2584.

Bethlehem Steel Corp.—Time Extended.—
The corporation announces that the directors have extended the time to Mar. 31 1923, within which the 7% non-cumulative Preferred stock can be exchanged for the new 7% Cumulative Preferred stock.—V. 115, p. 2584.

Boston Mfg. Co.—Pref. Stock Retirement.—
The company on Feb. 15 1923 will retire at 110 and divs. the outstanding \$718,400 7% Cum. Pref. stock, par \$100. See also offering of 6 1/2% Cum. Pref. stock in last week's "Chronicle."—V. 115, p. 2584.

Brockway Motor Truck Corp., Cortland, N. Y.—Bonds Sold.—Hemphill, Noves & Co., New York, have sold at par and int. \$500,000 1st Mtge. 15-Year 7% Sinking Fund gold bonds. A circular shows:
Dated Dec. 1 1922. Due Dec. 1 1937. Int. payable J. & D. Red. at any time, all or part, upon 30 days' notice, at 107 1/2 and int. Denom. \$1,000 and \$500 (e). Free from normal Federal income tax up to 2%. Equitable Trust Co., New York, trustee.

Corporation manufactures a full line of trucks, from the one-ton "high-way express" to the five-ton heavy-duty truck. Has purchased the plants, business and other assets of the Brockway Motor Truck Co., which was incorporated in 1912 to succeed to the business of W. N. Brockway, Inc. Plants located in Cortland, N. Y., with branches in New York, Brooklyn, Philadelphia, Albany, Syracuse, Rochester and Boston.
For the 6 years ended Dec. 31 1922 (last six weeks estimated), business has shown a very steady earnings of \$314,200 per annum, equivalent to about 9 times int. requirements of this issue. In no year during this period has the operating profit been less than 3.56 times these int. requirements.

Bryant Paper Co., Kalamazoo, Mich.—Bonds Offered.—Union Trust Co., Chicago, and Halsey, Stuart & Co., New York, are offering, at 100 and int., \$1,500,000 First Mtge. 20-Year 6% Sinking Fund Gold Bonds, Series A.

Dated Nov. 1 1922. Due Nov. 1 1942. Interest payable M. & N., without deduction for normal Federal income tax up to 2%, at Union Trust Co., Chicago, trustee. Callable, all or part, on any interest date at 105 during first 5 years, 104 during next succeeding 5 years, 103 during next succeeding 5 years, 101 thereafter. Denom. \$1,000 and \$500 (e). Rufus F. Chapin, Chicago, co-trustee. Authorized, \$5,000,000.

Sinking Fund.—Mortgage provides for the following sinking fund, beginning May 1 1923, to be used in purchase of bonds in the open market or to call bonds by lot at call price: \$25,000 each six months until Nov. 1 1927, inclusive; \$47,500 each six months from May 1 1928 until Nov. 1 1937, inclusive; \$50,000 each six months thereafter.

Data from Letter of Pres. Felix Pagenstecher, Kalamazoo, Dec. 8.
Company.—Incorp. in Michigan. Owns and operates at Kalamazoo, Mich., a complete modern pulp and paper-making plant with 10 paper machines and 28 coating machines. Annual capacity, approximately 47,000 tons of high-grade finished paper products. Business started with a one-hour machine mill in 1895.

Plant.—Construction of a central power plant to replace the present power plants at the Brant, Superior and Imperial divisions; also to improve the equipment, &c.
Net Sales and Net Profits, after Federal Taxes, Calendar Years.

Table with 5 columns: Year (1917-1921), Net sales, Net, after Fed'l taxes, Dividends.

Balance Sheet June 30 1922 (Before Present Financing).
Assets— Cash, U. S. securities, Notes & accts rec., less res., Inventories, Securities owned, Land contracts and real estate not used, Land, buildings, mach., &c, Deferred charges.
Liabilities— Accounts payable, Accr. payroll, divs. & taxes, Bonded debt (since paid), Depreciation, &c., reserve, Common stock, Preferred stock, Surplus.

Table with 2 columns: Assets, Liabilities. Total (each side) \$9,034,584.

Burns Bros., N. Y. City.—Proposed Recapitalization Plan.
Directors on Dec. 12 declared the regular quarterly dividends on both classes of Pref. stock, payable Jan. 2 to stock of record Dec. 22.

Regarding the proposed recapitalization, it was announced that action on the proposed plan had been postponed for a week. The postponement is understood to be due to the failure of the board to agree upon the method of retiring the Preferred stock, which is believed to be contemplated.

According to reports in the financial district, the tentative plan calls for the retirement of Preferred stock for cash. In turn it is proposed to issue 80,000 shares of new Preferred stock and 160,000 shares of new Common stock in place of the 80,000 shares of Class A and 80,000 shares of Class B Common stock. The Class A Common stock, it is said, will receive one share of new Preferred stock and one share of Common stock, while the Class B Common stock will receive one share of the new Common stock.

The plan also calls for the issuance of an additional block of 140,000 shares of new Common stock, of which enough stock will be sold at \$40 a share to retire the outstanding Preferred stock of the Burns Bros. Co., as well as the Farrell Coal Co. When the plan is carried out, it is understood there will remain a sufficient amount of Common stock to declare a 25% stock dividend.
An alternative plan, it is said, calls for the sale of the entire block of 140,000 shares of new Common stock to present shareholders at \$27 a share, the lower price compensating stockholders in place of a stock dividend.—V. 115, p. 2584.

Butte Copper & Zinc Co.—Output.—
Official report discovery of ore assaying \$55 a ton on the Emma property at the 1,000 foot level. This ore assays 20% zinc, 10% lead and 10 ounces silver to the ton.

The company's present output is about 250 tons daily and the company's production schedule calls for the steady expansion of operations until the 1,000 ton a day rate is attained. The company now has about eight times as much property as it had originally, profits from the war period having been used largely in the purchase of properties adjoining the original holdings.
The company is now shipping manganese ore, and it is stated, has about 1,000,000 tons of manganese in sight.—V. 115, p. 763.

California Petroleum Corp.—Listing, &c.—
The New York Stock Exchange has authorized the listing of \$2,500,000 additional 7% Cumul. Pref. participating stock, par \$100, and \$2,500,000 additional Common Stock, par \$100, making the total amount applied for \$5,000,000 Preferred stock and \$17,500,000 Common stock.

The 25,000 shares of the Preferred and 25,000 shares of the Common Stock are to be issued in exchange for all of the \$1,000,000 issued and outstanding Capital Stock (par \$100.) of Western Star Oil Co.
The Western Star Oil Co. was organized Feb. 9 1922 in California. Capital stock authorized, 20,000 shares, par \$100; issued, 10,000 shares for cash at par. Company, as of Sept. 18 1922, owned and controlled approximately 200 acres of proven and prospective oil-bearing lands in the Signal Hill, Santa Fe Springs, Huntington Beach, Redondo and other districts in California. Storage facilities consist of 16 steel tanks of an aggregate capacity of 30,000 bbls. On Sept. 18 1922 there was in storage 4,451.85 bbls. of crude oil carried on the books at approximate cost 75 cents per bbl, the total value of the oil being \$3,338. Company possesses all the equipment necessary for the efficient operation of its properties.

Company had expended to Sept. 18 1922, \$166,673 on lands and leases; \$526,902 on drilling and development, and \$94,818 on other miscellaneous improvements. Geological and Engineering Departments of the California Petroleum Corp. have reported as of Sept. 18 1922 that the producing and proven lands and leases of the Western Star Oil Co. had a then value of \$4,827,000 based upon the recoverable oil content of the lands and leases that were actually producing oil or that were proven to be oil-bearing.—V. 115, p. 2481, 873.

Callahan Zinc-Lead Co.—Shipments—Acquisition.—
Shipments from the mine in November, the first after a two years' shutdown, amounted to 2,063,524 lbs. of zinc concentrates, 785,243 lbs. of lead concentrates, and 6,800 ozs. of silver.
President Borg says: "We have completed negotiations for the purchase of a minority interest in the Galena Mining Co., in which the Callahan heretofore had a 60% interest. The agreement provides for the exchange of stock on the basis of one share of Callahan for each 15 shares of Galena stock. The deal will involve about 1,000,000 shares of Galena and 66,666 of Callahan."—V. 115, p. 2584, 2271.

Calumet & Hecla Mining Co.—Merger Proposed.—At the Boston office of the company the following statement was given out Dec. 14:
A thorough appraisal and valuation of the properties of the Alhewick Mining Co., Alhewick Mining Co., Centennial Copper Mining Co., Calumet & Hecla Mining Co. and Osceola Consolidated Mining Co. is being made by independent experts selected by the boards of directors, with a view to establishing a sound basis for a plan of consolidation to be submitted to the shareholders of the respective companies.

Plans are also under consideration for the acquisition of manufacturing facilities which will assure the consumption of a large part of the output of the mines. The examination and negotiations are still in the initial stages and no plans have as yet been even discussed by the boards.—V. 115, p. 1945, 1735.

Carpenter Steel Co.—Merger Rumors Denied.—
Pres. W. B. Kuhnhardt says: "No merger of the company with any other steel company is pending or contemplated."—V. 115, p. 1537, 763.

Centennial Copper Mining Co.—Merger Proposed.—See Calumet & Hecla Mining Co. above.—V. 112, p. 1286.

The company is exceptionally well integrated, having large supplies of coal, iron ore and limestone. Its 39,000 acres of coal properties, practically all of which are directly owned, are sufficient to meet its requirements, at maximum capacity of the plants, for more than 80 years. The ore properties owned are sufficient to meet these requirements for more than 30 years.

The properties have been largely increased since 1914, and the constituent units of the properties are now well balanced as to producing capacities. The manufacturing properties comprise 12 blast furnaces, coke ovens, including 300 Koppers ovens with by-product plant, open hearth and Bessemer steel plants, blooming mills, bar mills, plate and structural mills, cold rolled and cold finished steel mills, tin plate mills, tube mills, rod, wire, nail and fence mills, fabricating plants, &c. All plants are located on the Monongahela River in the city of Pittsburgh and at Woodlawn, Pa., on the Ohio River.

Company owns about 250 acres of land within the city of Pittsburgh. Its transportation facilities are unusually favorable, the plants being served by two company owned railroads which connect with the Pennsylvania, B. & O., and New York Central Systems. Maintains selling offices in all of the principal cities in the United States, and owns extensive warehouses in Chicago and Pittsburgh.

The plants of the company are at present operating at about 50% of capacity, and it is expected that this percentage will increase during the ensuing months.

Earnings Years Ended December 31. Table with columns for Net Sales, Depreciation, Amortization, Net Earnings, and xNet Earnings for years 1913 through 1922 (December estimated).

Consolidated Balance Sheet Oct. 31 1922 (After This Financing). Table showing Assets and Liabilities with sub-totals for Real estate, plants, &c., Cash, U. S. Govt. obligations, etc., and Preferred stock, Common stock, etc.

(E. D.) Jones & Sons Co., Pittsfield, Mass.—Stock Div. The company has filed a certificate with the Massachusetts Commissioner of Corporations showing an increase in capital from \$80,000 to \$750,000, of which \$300,000 will be issued as a 500% stock dividend.

Balance Sheet April 30 1922. Table with columns for Assets (Real estate, Machinery, Merchandise, Cash & accounts receivable, Securities) and Liabilities (Capital stock, Accounts payable, Surplus).

Jordan Motor Car Co.—Orders.—The company has received orders for 4,350 cars (total valuation about \$10,800,000) for delivery during December, January, February and March.—V. 115, p. 1949.

Judson Mills, Greenville, S. C.—To Increase Capital.—The stockholders will vote Dec. 27 on increasing the authorized Capital stock from \$2,500,000 to \$3,500,000, par \$100. The proceeds will be used to pay for plant expansion now under way. The stockholders in November last, increased the Capital stock from \$1,200,000 to \$2,500,000.

Kellogg Switchboard & Supply Co.—Fractional Shares.—In reference to stock dividend of 15% (V. 115, p. 2386), declared Nov. 21 1922, no fractional shares are to be issued, but fractions are to be sold to the highest bidder for the benefit of owners of fractional shares, which amount to 239 shares. The company will receive bills for all or any portion of stock up to and including Dec. 16 1922 and the certificates will be issued to the successful bidders Dec. 21 1922.—V. 115, p. 2386.

Kellogg Toasted Corn Flakes Co.—Reorganization.—At a meeting of stockholders Dec. 11 it was voted to reorganize under the laws of Delaware. Accordingly, the Kellogg Co. was incorporated in Delaware Dec. 11 with a "stated capital" of \$41,800,000. According to reports, the plan proposes to exchange each share of existing stock (consisting of \$900,000 Common stock, par \$10) for one-fifth of a share of 7% Cumul. Pref. stock (par \$100), four shares of no par value Common and \$16.06 in cash. This means that the present stockholders will receive a cash dividend totaling \$1,499,400, a stock dividend in Preferred stock aggregating \$1,800,000 and 360,000 shares of new no par common.—V. 115, p. 2053.

Kilburn Mill, New Bedford.—Capital Increase, &c.—The stockholders will vote Dec. 18 on increasing the authorized Capital stock from \$1,500,000 to \$2,250,000, par \$100. If the increase is authorized, it is the intention to declare a 50% stock dividend. Compare V. 115, p. 2589.

King Motor Car Co.—Solvent.—According to a Detroit dispatch, the voluntary bankruptcy effected in Dec. 1920 was ended in court Dec. 14 and the receiver was discharged. A dividend of 17% was declared. The property was purchased by C. A. Finnegan of Buffalo, N. Y., who is said to have paid \$500,000 and to have assumed \$1,000,000 debts.—V. 115, p. 314.

Kirby Lumber Co.—To Pay Accumulated Dividends.—The directors have declared a dividend at the rate of 7% per ann. on the Pref. stock entitled to dividends for the period from Jan. 1 1903 to July 15 1903, and an additional dividend of 14% on all Pref. stock, both payable Dec. 30 to holders of record Dec. 20. The company has outstanding \$5,000,000 7% Cum. Pref. See also V. 115, p. 1216, 1329.

(S. H.) Kress & Co.—November Sales.—Table showing Net Sales, Increase, and xNet Earnings for 1922, 1921, and 1920.

Laconia (N. H.) Car Co.—Report.—Table with columns for Operating profit, Other income, Total, Inventory adjustment, Interest, Reserve for Federal taxes, Balance, surplus for years 1922, 1921, and 1920.

Libbey-Owens Sheet Glass Co.—Report.—The company reports for the year ended Sept. 30 1922 net earnings after Federal taxes of \$1,719,726.—V. 115, p. 2275, 994.

Lincoln Mfg. Co.—To Increase Capital, &c.—The stockholders will vote Dec. 21 on increasing the authorized Capital stock from \$1,625,000 (all outstanding) to \$2,250,000, par \$100. If the increase is authorized it is the intention to declare a stock dividend of approximately 40%.—V. 113, p. 1778.

Lord & Taylor.—To Pay Dividend Arrearages.—The directors have declared a cash dividend of 21% on the 1st Pref. stock, payable Dec. 20 to holders of record Dec. 12. This wipes out all dividend arrears up to Dec. 1 1922. Compare V. 115, p. 80.

(M.) Lowenstein & Sons, Inc., N. Y.—Stock Div., &c.—The stockholders will vote Dec. 22 on increasing the authorized 2d Pref. stock from \$2,027,000 to \$2,527,000, par \$100. If the increase is authorized it is proposed to issue \$500,000 of 2d Pref. stock as a 100% stock dividend on the outstanding 6,000 shares of Common stock, no par value. After the above increase, the authorized capital will be: \$1,428,000 1st Pref. stock, par \$100; \$2,527,000 2d Pref. stock, par \$100; 9,000 shares of Common stock, no par value. Abram L. Lowenstein is President and Edwin A. Weiller, Secretary.

(F. M.) Lupton, Publisher, Inc.—Dividend—Earnings, &c.—President M. B. Gates announces that a meeting of directors has been called for Dec. 22 to act upon the regular quarterly dividend of 50¢ a share payable Jan. 1 1923. Net earnings for October amounted to \$31,877 and it is stated that earnings for November are expected to be equally as good. Rudolph Metz and H. B. Lake of Ladenburg, Thalmann Co. were recently elected directors.—V. 115, p. 1540; V. 113, p. 2727.

McCroy Stores Corp.—November Sales.—Table showing Net Sales, Increase, and xNet Earnings for 1922, 1921, and 1920.

Mack Trucks, Inc.—Initial Common Dividend.—The directors have declared an initial cash dividend of \$1 per share on the Common stock, payable Dec. 28 to holders of record Dec. 18. A 100% stock dividend was paid on the Common stock in May 1920. The directors have also declared the regular quarterly dividends of 14¢ each on the 1st and 2d Pref. stocks, both payable Jan. 2 to holders of record Dec. 20.—V. 115, p. 2165.

Mackay Companies.—Extra Cash Dividend of 10%.—An extra cash dividend of 10% has been declared on the outstanding Common stock, par \$100, payable Jan. 2 1923 to holders of record Dec. 21 1922. See also V. 115, p. 2378.

(H. R.) Mallinson & Co., Inc.—Business—Sales.—An official statement says: "The company is doing the largest business in its history; each month's sales since last summer have made new records, the September business being largely in excess of the same month in 1921. October and November having shown even larger increases. All plants are working at capacity and the entire output is sold through March 1923."—V. 115, p. 1639.

Manati Sugar Co.—Listing—Earnings.—The New York Stock Exchange has authorized the listing of \$8,000,000 1st Mtge. 20 Year 7 3/4% Sinking Fund gold bonds, due April 1 1942. The profit and loss account for the 11 months ending Sept. 30 1922 shows: Total income, \$3,798,081; operating expenses, f.o.b. basis, \$3,115,475; add interest on current accounts, \$70,381; total profit, \$752,987. Deduct interest on 1st Mtge. bonds, curr. acct., &c., \$853,275; Preferred dividends, \$245,000; deficit charge for 11 months ended Sept. 30 1922, \$345,288.—V. 114, p. 2365.

Manufacturers' Finance Co., Balt.—Stock Div., &c.—The directors have declared a 12 1/2% stock dividend and a cash dividend of 25% on the Common stock, and the regular quarterly dividend of 1 1/4% on the Preferred stock, all payable Dec. 27 to holders of record Dec. 6. A 50% stock dividend was paid on the Common stock in 1916.

Manufacturers Light & Heat Co.—Extra Dividend.—An extra dividend of 2% has been declared on the outstanding \$23,000,000 Capital stock, par \$100, in addition to the regular quarterly dividend of 2%, both payable Jan. 15 to holders of record Dec. 30.—V. 115, p. 2275, 2165.

Marland Oil Co. (Del.)—Dividend No. 2.—A dividend of \$1 per share has been declared on the Capital stock, no par value, payable Jan. 1 to holders of record Dec. 20. An initial dividend of like amount was paid in September last.—V. 115, p. 2054, 1949.

May Department Stores Co.—Listing—Earnings.—The N. Y. Stock Exchange has authorized the listing of \$20,000,000 Common stock, par \$50, upon official notice of issuance in exchange for the outstanding Common stock certificates, par \$100 per share, at the ratio of two for one with authority to add, on or after Dec. 20, \$6,000,000 (par \$50) on official notice of issuance as a 30% stock dividend. Consolidated Profit and Loss Account for 9 Months ended October 31 1922. Net sales, \$42,984,079. Deduct cost of goods sold, sell., oper. & gen. admin. exp., deprec. of build. & fix., and amort. of leases acq. subs. to organ. of co., leaving gross profit, \$13,779,592. Deducting misc. earn., incl. net int. earned, income from investments, &c., \$3,779,592. Allowance for Federal taxes, 560,000. Balance, transferred to surplus account, \$3,645,387.—V. 115, p. 2589, 2165.

Mexican Petroleum Co., Ltd., of Del.—Div. Increased.—The directors on Dec. 15 declared a quarterly dividend of 4% on the Common stock, payable Jan. 20 to holders of record Dec. 29. This action places that issue on a 16% per annum basis. Heretofore that stock has been on a 12% per annum basis, quarterly dividends being paid at rate of 3%.

The directors also declared the regular quarterly dividend of \$2 a share on the Pref. stock payable Jan. 10 to stock of record Dec. 29.—V. 115, p. 2166, 2054.

Michigan State Telephone Co.—Accumulations, &c.—The directors have provided for the immediate payment of past due dividends on Preferred stock, and for the retirement of all Preferred stock Feb. 1 1923. The action taken by the directors is the first step in a new financial plan necessitated by the demand for development and expansion of telephone lines.—V. 115, p. 876.

Minneapolis Gas Light Co.—Gas Rate Increased.—The company has announced an increase of 4 cents per 1,000 cu. ft. of gas, making the rate \$1.03, effective Jan. 1. The present rate is 99 cents.—V. 115, p. 552.

Monon Coal Co.—Tenders.—The Bankers Trust Co., trustee, New York, will until Dec. 22 receive bids for the sale to it of 1st Mtge. 5% Sinking Fund Gold bonds, dated May 18 1911, to an amount sufficient to exhaust \$7,132 at a price not exceeding par and int.—V. 108, p. 485.

Montana Power Co.—Listing—Earnings.—The New York Stock Exchange has authorized the listing of \$54,600 additional Preferred stock, par \$100, on official notice of issuance in exchange for outstanding capital stock of Deer Lodge Electric Co., making the total amount applied for \$9,784,600. The issue of the \$84,600 of stock is to be applied, together with \$28,200 of like stock held in the treasury, in the purchase by exchange of all of the issued and outstanding capital stock of Deer Lodge Electric Co., excepting 9 shares heretofore purchased for cash and now owned by Montana Power Co. The consolidated income account for 10 months ended Oct. 31 1922 shows: Gross earnings, \$5,878,030; operating expenses & taxes, \$2,262,692; net earnings, \$3,615,338; int. & divs. received from invest., \$28,348; net income, \$3,643,776; interest paid, \$1,472,926; surplus income, \$2,170,849; total surplus after adding previous ad. surplus, \$5,887,273; Preferred divs., \$507,710; Common divs., \$1,116,749; p. & l. surplus, \$4,262,755.—V. 115, p. 1845, 562.

Morris & Co.—Statement on Merger.

See Armour & Co. above and "Current Events" this issue.—V. 115, p. 2276, 1950.

Mother Lode Coalition Mines Co.—Dividend, No. 2.

The directors have declared a dividend of 50 cents a share on the outstanding \$2,500,000 capital stock, no par value, payable Dec. 30 to holders of record Dec. 20. The company in June last, paid an initial dividend of like amount.—V. 115, p. 2589, 2276.

National Fuel Gas Co.—100% Stock Dividend.

The directors on Dec. 15 declared a 100% stock dividend on the outstanding \$18,500,000 capital stock, par \$100, payable Dec. 30 to holders of record Dec. 15.

The stockholders on Dec. 11 increased the authorized capital stock from \$32,000,000 to \$37,000,000, par \$100. Compare V. 115, p. 2276.

National Surety Co.—Capital Increase—Stock Div.

The stockholders will vote Dec. 28 on increasing the Capital stock from \$7,000,000 to \$10,000,000, par \$100. If the increase is authorized it is the intention to declare a stock dividend of 42.6-7% to stockholders of record Dec. 29.

The New York Stock Exchange has authorized the listing of \$2,000,000 additional Capital stock, par \$100, on official notice of issuance and payment in full, making the total amount applied for to date \$7,000,000. Stockholders of record Dec. 5 1922 have the right to subscribe at \$150 per share to the new stock in the proportion of two shares of new stock for every five shares of old stock held. Rights expire Dec. 20. The entire new issue has been underwritten without cost.

The earnings statement Jan. 1 to Sept. 30 1922 shows: Income—Net premiums written and other underwriting income, \$9,859,807. Disbursements, \$9,493,959, net underwriting profit, \$455,849; interest and dividends received, \$785,520; net operating income, \$1,238,368; depreciation and profit on sale of assets, \$1,009,247; total, \$2,247,615. Deductions, \$729,498; dividends, \$450,000; surplus Sept. 30 1922, \$6,831,364.—V. 115, p. 2276, 2055.

Neild Mfg. Co., New Bedford, Mass.—Extra Div., &c.

An extra cash dividend of 20% has been declared on the outstanding \$800,000 Capital stock, par \$100, payable Dec. 20 to holders of record Dec. 11.

The stockholders will vote shortly on increasing the authorized Capital stock from \$800,000 to \$1,200,000. The increase is authorized it is the intention to declare a 50% stock dividend.—V. 115, p. 2166.

New Niquero Sugar Co.—Capital Increase—To Retire Preferred Stock—Stock Dividend Proposed.

The stockholders on Dec. 12 increased the authorized Common stock from \$500,000 to \$4,500,000, par \$100. Of the increase the directors propose to issue \$1,000,000 of Common stock in exchange for the outstanding \$1,000,000 Preferred stock, par for par, and to cancel the Preferred stock so exchanged and surrendered. It is also the intention to declare a stock dividend upon the then outstanding Capital stock.—V. 115, p. 2485.

New River Co., Boston.—Accumulated Dividends.

The directors have declared a Pref. div. (No. 51) of \$1 50 a share (due Feb. 1 1919), payable Dec. 28 to holders of record Dec. 20. A like amount was paid on account of accumulations on Nov. 29 last. The payment of the dividend just declared will reduce accumulations to \$22 50 a share.—V. 115, p. 2388, 2276.

Newton Steel Co., Youngstown, O.—Larger Dividend.

The company has declared a quarterly dividend of 2% on the Common stock and the regular quarterly dividend of 1 1/2% on the Preferred, both payable Dec. 30 to holders of record Dec. 20. In July and Oct. last dividends of 1 1/2% each were paid on the Common stock.—V. 115, p. 1541, 190.

New York Cannery, Inc.—Circular.

Stone, Prosser & Doty have issued a circular regarding this company, packers and distributors of vegetables, canned fruits, &c.—V. 115, p. 2486.

Nipissing Mines Co., Ltd.—Extra Dividend, &c.

The company has declared an extra dividend of 3% on the outstanding \$6,000,000 Capital stock, par \$5. In addition to the regular quarterly dividend of 3%, both payable Jan. 20 to holders of record Dec. 30. A like amount was paid extra in Jan. and Oct. 1922. In Jan. 1920 and 1921 and in Oct. 1920 the company paid extra dividends of 5% each.

Financial Statement Dec. 9 1922. Showing Total Cash, &c.
Dec. 9 1922, Sept. 23 '22.
Cash in bank, including Canadian war bonds, &c., \$3,836,192 \$3,885,199
Bullion and ore in transit and on hand, &c., 711,107 730,769
—V. 115, p. 2277, 1845.

Northern Indiana Gas & Electric Co.—Bonds Called.

Certain \$20,500 30-year 5% 1st Consol. Mtge. Gold bonds of the Michigan City Gas & Electric Co. have been called for redemption Jan. 1 1923 at par and int. at the Central Trust Co., 125 West Monroe St., Chicago, Ill.—V. 115, p. 1950.

Northern Securities Co.—Extra Dividend of 2%.

An extra dividend of 2% has been declared on the outstanding \$3,054,000 capital stock, par \$100, in addition to the regular semi-annual dividend of 4%, both payable Jan. 10 to holders of record Dec. 27. In July last, a semi-annual dividend of 4% was paid, making 10% for the current year.—V. 114, p. 196.

Northwestern Bell Telephone Co.—Rates.

Federal Judge T. C. Munger has issued a temporary restraining order against the Nebraska Railway Commission forbidding that body to put into effect a new rate schedule for the company which was to become effective Dec. 1. This temporary order will remain in effect until a hearing can be arranged before three judges, when the telephone company will demand affirmative relief from the alleged confiscatory rates now in effect. The company has filed a proposed rate schedule with the court asking for and increase in rates of approximately 25%.—V. 113, p. 1060.

Northwestern Yeast Co., Chicago.—100% Stock Div. &c.

The directors have declared a 100% stock dividend, payable to holders of record Dec. 16. The stockholders on Dec. 12 increased the authorized Capital stock from \$3,000,000 (all outstanding) to \$4,000,000, par \$100.

An extra dividend of 3%, together with the regular quarterly dividend of 3%, have been declared both payable Dec. 15 to holders of record Dec. 12. An extra cash dividend of 3% has been paid quarterly since Sept. 1914.—V. 115, p. 2486, 1437.

Norwalk Iron Works Co.—Dissolved.

Notice has been filed with the Secretary of State of Connecticut that the company has dissolved and all claims have been settled. This company and the Automatic Carbonic Machine Co. of Peoria, Ill., have been merged.—V. 115, p. 1639.

Ohio Brass Co., Mansfield, O.—Extra Dividend.

An extra dividend of \$1.50 per share has been declared on the outstanding 50,000 shares of Common Class "B" stock, no par value, payable Jan. 15 to holders of record Dec. 30. The regular quarterly dividend of \$1 per share has also been declared on the Common stocks, payable Jan. 10 to holders of record Dec. 11.—V. 115, p. 1437, 190.

Ohio Fuel Supply Co.—Segregation.

The stockholders on Dec. 14 authorized the directors to carry out the segregation of the properties, making it a holding company and separating the gas, gasoline and oil branches of its business.—V. 115, p. 2590.

Ohio & Northern Gas Co.—Listing.

The Boston Stock Exchange has admitted to the list temporary notes for \$6,000,000 Guaranteed 3-Year 7% Secured Gold notes, Series A, dated Nov. 1 1922, due Nov. 1 1925. See offering in V. 115, p. 2590.

Ohio Power Co.—Acquisition.

See Ohio Electric Ry. under "Railroads" above.—V. 115, p. 2055.

Ohio Public Service Co.—Listing—Earnings.

The New York Stock Exchange has authorized the listing of (1) \$5,100,000 First Mtge. & Ref. 7 1/2% Gold bonds, Series "A", due Oct. 1 1946; and (2)

\$4,000,000 First Mtge. & Ref. 7% Series B gold bonds, due Feb. 1 1947 (see V. 113, p. 1778; V. 114, p. 860).

The income account for the 12 months ended July 31 1922 shows: Gross operating revenue, \$6,006,164; operating expenses, maintenance and taxes (including \$92,442 Federal taxes), \$3,745,653; net operating revenue, \$2,260,511; non-operating income, \$19,874; gross income, \$2,280,384; fixed charges, \$931,506; reserve for replacements, \$543,744; net income, \$805,134; pref. divs., \$293,140; balance, surplus, \$611,994.—V. 115, p. 1541, 995.

Oklahoma Natural Gas Co.—Dividend Resumed.

The directors have declared a dividend of 1%, payable Jan. 20 to holders of record Dec. 26. In April and July 1921 quarterly dividends of 2% each were paid; none since.—V. 115, p. 1841, 82.

Oppenheim, Collins & Co., N. Y.—Capital Increased.

The company has increased its Common stock from \$2,500,000 (\$2,250,000 outstanding) to \$4,000,000, par \$100. The company also has an authorized issue of \$2,200,000 Preferred, all outstanding.

The Oppenheim, Collins & Co., Brooklyn, has increased its capital stock from \$1,360,000 to \$2,100,000. The Oppenheim, Collins & Co., Buffalo, has increased its authorized capitalization from \$1,250,000 to \$1,350,000.—V. 112, p. 265.

Osceola Consolidated Copper Mining Co.—Merger.

See Calumet & Hecla Mining Co. above.—V. 115, p. 2486, 552.

Pacific Development Corp.—Plan to Finance Current Business of Two Subsidiary Companies.

The stockholders will vote Dec. 20 on the plan outlined below, which proposes the organization of two Finance Corporations to finance the current business of the Pacific Commercial Co. and the Andersen, Meyer & Co., Ltd., two subsidiaries. The plan has the approval of the directors. Substantial support for the plan has also been pledged by individual directors and others.

President Edward B. Bruce in a letter to stockholders Dec. 9 says in substance:

The plan represents the result of five months' effort on the part of the executives of the corporation and its executive committee, after consultation with a group of the principal creditors of the corporation, to evolve the best plan for continuing the Oriental trading business of the corporation and securing a substantial extension of the obligations of the corporation and its subsidiary companies.

The essence of the proposed plan consists in the organization of two Finance Corporations, one to guarantee obligations of the Pacific Commercial Co. created in financing the current business of that company, and the other to perform a like service for Andersen, Meyer & Co., Ltd. Each of these trading companies, as well as the Pacific Development Corp. itself, is carrying a large amount of frozen assets in the way of accounts receivable from the Chinese Government or others, including industrial and merchant creditors in the Far East, and the Trading Companies have still a considerable amount of slow-moving merchandise inventories which are being gradually disposed of, but which it will take some time to finally clean up.

Against these various assets each of the above companies has indebtedness which has become overdue, and which, unless a substantial loss is to result, must have considerable extensions before they can be liquidated out of our assets.

After exhaustive investigations of our situation and the possible additional resources available for the corporation, it was deemed impossible to secure enough support for the corporation to take care of the existing liability of the corporation and its subsidiary companies and leave a sufficient margin of working capital to enable the trading companies to secure the necessary credits to carry on the current business. To meet this situation and provide a margin for current obligations free from any lien of the existing indebtedness of the corporation and its subsidiary companies, the plan of the Finance Corporation has been proposed.

The corporation has already received assurances of substantial subscriptions to its stock of these proposed Finance Corporations, these promises being conditioned, however, on the securing of options referred to in the plan. Those who have pledged support to the plan have made it a condition that each stockholder in the corporation shall have an opportunity to participate to the extent which he may desire in subscribing for the stock of either or both of the Finance Corporations. The stock of each corporation will all be of one class issued in \$100 shares, and subscriptions will be payable at par for cash.

The ratio of subscriptions to stock of the new corporations based upon outstanding stock of Pacific Development Corp. is one share of stock in each of the proposed Finance Corporations against approximately 30 shares of stock in the Pacific Development Corp. The corporation, however, would be glad to receive subscriptions from stockholders of Pacific Development Corp. for any amount that such stockholders desire to subscribe for in either or both of the proposed corporations. In case subscriptions exceed the amount called for under the plan for either or both corporations, the directors reserve the right to reduce the subscriptions. No subscriptions will be received after Dec. 23 1922.

Proposed Plan Dealing with Pacific Development Corp. Situation.

New Company to Finance Pacific Commercial Co.—It is proposed to organize a corporation with an authorized capital of \$2,500,000, whose exclusive business will be, (a) by loans to or endorsement or guarantee of obligations of the Pacific Commercial Co., to finance its current business; and (b) to acquire stock of the Pacific Commercial Co.

Subscription to Stock of This Company.—It is proposed to immediately secure subscriptions to the stock of this corporation for \$1,000,000, but all secure subscriptions to the stock of this corporation in cash, under the agreement by subscriptions will be binding and callable in cash, upon the agreement by the creditors of the Pacific Commercial Co., to grant a revolving credit to that company to carry forward its current business and upon an agreement for the extension of the obligations of the Pacific Development Corp. and Pacific Commercial Co.

The Finance Corporation shall charge reasonable banking rates for any financing undertaken by it for the Pacific Commercial Co. and a reasonable commission for any guarantees or endorsements of obligations which it may make, so that it will operate at a reasonable profit.

New Company to Finance Andersen, Meyer & Co., Ltd.—It is proposed to organize a corporation with an authorized capital of \$2,500,000, whose exclusive business will be (a) by loans to or endorsement or guarantee of obligations of Andersen, Meyer & Co., Ltd., to finance its current business; and (b) to acquire stock of Andersen, Meyer & Co., Ltd.

Subscriptions to Stock.—It is proposed to immediately secure subscriptions to the stock of this corporation for \$1,000,000, but all subscriptions will be binding and callable upon the agreement by the creditors of Andersen, Meyer & Co., Ltd., to grant a revolving credit to that company to carry forward its current business and upon an agreement for the extension of the obligations of Pacific Development Corp. and Andersen, Meyer & Co., Ltd.

The Finance Corporation shall charge reasonable banking rates for any financing undertaken and a reasonable commission for any guarantees or endorsements of obligations which it may make, so that it will operate at a reasonable profit.

Joint Trusts.—Stocks of both Finance Corporations will be placed with voting trustees to be nominated by the creditor banks under two-year voting trust agreements.

Extension of Loans of Pacific Development Corp.—All banking creditors of Pacific Development Corp. are to grant to the corporation a two-year extension of their present loans and accrued interest, with interest at rate of 6% per annum to be cumulative and not payable until the end of the two-year extensions, except as principal and interest are paid out of the liquidation of collateral now held by the creditors. Inter-company debt shall be extended in the same manner.

Extension of Pacific Commercial Co. Debt.—All creditors of Pacific Commercial Co. are to grant a two-year extension of existing debt (principal and interest), except such debt as has been fixed as current debt by and has been created since the formation of the pool which is now financing the business of that company, to bear interest at rate of 6% per annum on American accounts and 7% per annum on Oriental accounts, per annum on American and not payable until the end of the extension period except as interest on and principal of extended debt can be paid from the liquidation of existing collateral.

Extension of Andersen, Meyer & Co. Debt.—All creditors of Andersen, Meyer & Co. are to grant a two-year extension of existing debt (principal and int.), the extended debt to bear 6% int. on American accounts and

7% on Oriental accounts, to be cumulative and not payable until the end of the extension period except as interest on and principal of extended debt can be paid from the liquidation of existing collateral.

All extending creditors of both subsidiary companies, are to agree that all merchandise or accounts receivable acquired by virtue of credits guaranteed by or secured from both Finance Corporations shall be held as collateral to the credits so guaranteed or debt incurred to the Finance Corporations as a prior lien thereon, and that for the liquidation of such credits or debt so incurred and to the extent of such merchandise and accounts receivable, such extending creditors will subordinate their claims; it being the intent of this agreement that in making such security effective it shall not be expected that the Finance Corporations need rely upon the technical protection of trust receipts or assignments of accounts receivable but that the validity of such security shall be created by the extension agreement of the present creditors of Pacific Commercial Co. and Andersen, Meyer & Co., Ltd.

Options to Purchase Stock.—It is proposed that Pacific Development Corp. shall grant to the Finance Corporations organized to finance the business of Pacific Commercial Co. and Andersen, Meyer & Co., Ltd., options to continue until July 1 1923 to purchase (1) all (but not part) of the stock of Pacific Commercial Co. owned by Pacific Development Corp. at \$70 per share; and (2) all (but not part) of the stock of Andersen, Meyer & Co. for \$600,000. Subscriptions to the stocks of the Finance Corporations will be received effective upon the above mentioned options being granted to the Finance Corporations. The failure to secure such options shall not affect the liability of subscribers whose subscriptions shall not in terms be specifically contingent upon the granting of such options.

Revolving Bank Credit.—It shall be a condition to the putting into operation of the Finance Corporations for the Pacific Commercial Co. and the Andersen & Meyer Co. that there be obtained a revolving bank credit for both companies (with respect to their business guaranteed by the Finance Corporations) in an amount not less than five times the amount of the effective subscriptions to stock of the Finance Corporations.—V. 115, p. 1738, 1107.

Pacific Mills, Lawrence, Mass.—Capital Increase, &c.—The stockholders will vote Dec. 22 on increasing the authorized Capital stock from \$20,000,000 (all outstanding) to \$40,000,000, par \$100. If the increase is authorized, it is the intention to declare a 100% stock dividend.—V. 114, p. 1773.

Packard Motor Car Co.—Listing.—The New York Stock Exchange has authorized the listing on and after Dec. 16 of \$11,885,100 additional Common stock, par \$10, on official notice of issuance as a 100% stock dividend, making the total amount applied for \$23,770,200.—V. 115, p. 2474, 2389.

Pan-American Petroleum & Transport Co.—20% Additional Stock Dividend.—The directors on Dec. 15 declared an additional stock dividend of 20% payable Feb. 8 to holders of both "A" and "B" stock of record Dec. 29.

The reason assigned for the payment of the additional stock dividend is that by the exchange of the Mexican Petroleum shares the surplus of Pan-American has been practically doubled. In Oct. last a stock dividend of 25% was declared on the Class "A" and "B" issues, payable in Class "B" stock in Jan. 1923. The amount of the stock dividend payable in Jan. 1923 is in accordance with the surplus of company existing at the time that dividend was declared, but under the exchange arrangement whereby over 40% of Common stock of Mexican Petroleum has been turned in in exchange for Class "B" shares of Pan-American, the latter company's combined balance sheet shows that the surplus has been practically doubled. See V. 115, p. 1951, 2166, 2389.

Paragon Refining Co.—Report.—The company reports for the year ended Oct. 31 1922 an operating profit of \$640,000, and after deducting taxes, depreciation and other charges a deficit of \$355,000.—V. 115, p. 2591.

Parke, Davis & Co.—100% Stock Dividend, &c.—The directors have declared a 100% stock dividend, payable Dec. 30 to holders of record Dec. 22, and a cash dividend of 8% on the old stock, payable Jan. 2 to holders of record Dec. 18. This makes 38% in cash declared on the stock this year.—V. 115, p. 2486, 1107.

Penn Central Light & Power Co.—Rights.—The stockholders of record Dec. 11 are offered the right to subscribe for 13,859 additional Preferred shares to the extent of 30% of their present holdings, at \$54 per share. Payment must be made in cash on or before Jan. 2. Shares not taken up by the stockholders prior to Jan. 2 1923 will be offered to the public at not less than \$54 per share on such terms as the directors may prescribe.

The earnings of the company applicable to dividends on the Preference stock exceed \$6 per share on the Preference shares now outstanding and those to be issued.

The money obtained from the sale of these additional Preference shares is to be used for additions, improvements and extensions.—V. 115, p. 1330.

(J. C.) Penney Co., Inc.—November Sales.—

1922—Nov.—1921. Increase. 1922—11 Mos.—1921. Increase.
\$5,716,792 \$4,883,121 \$833,672 \$42,738,667 \$41,704,149 \$1,034,518
—V. 115, p. 2277, 1845.

Peoples Gas Light & Coke Co.—Larger Dividend.—A quarterly dividend of 1½% has been declared on the outstanding \$38,500,000 Capital stock, par \$100, payable Jan. 17 to holders of record Jan. 3. Since Jan. 15 1922 the company has been paying dividends at the rate of 5% per annum (1¼% quarterly).—V. 114, p. 2725.

Philadelphia & Camden Ferry Co.—Special Dividend.—A special dividend of \$10 per share has been declared on the outstanding \$1,968,750 Capital stock, par \$50, payable Dec. 30 to holders of record Dec. 20.—V. 111, p. 1189.

Pierce Mfg. Co., New Bedford, Mass.—Stock Increase.—

The stockholders will vote shortly on increasing the authorized capital stock from \$800,000 (all outstanding) to \$1,200,000, par \$100. If the increase is authorized, it is the intention to declare a 50% stock dividend. See also V. 115, p. 2486.

Pittsburg Rolls Corp.—Dividend Resumed.—The corporation has declared a dividend of 2% on the Common stock, payable Dec. 30, and the regular quarterly dividend of 1¼% on Preferred, payable Jan. 1, both to holders of record Dec. 23. This is the first dividend on the Common since Jan. 1919, when 1% in Liberty bonds was paid.—V. 114, p. 1773.

Plymouth Cordage Co.—To Increase Capital—Stock Div.—The stockholders will vote Dec. 20 on increasing the authorized Common stock from \$4,000,000 (all outstanding) to \$8,000,000, par \$100. If the increase is authorized, it is the intention to declare a 100% stock dividend.

The stockholders will also vote on increasing the Employees' Special Stock, par \$10, by 25,000 new shares. Each stockholder is to receive one share of new employees' special stock for each share held.—V. 115, p. 1738.

Potomska Mills, New Bedford, Mass.—25% Cash Div.—The directors have declared an extra dividend of 25% on the outstanding \$1,200,000 Capital stock, par \$100, payable in cash Jan. 15 to holders of record Dec. 11.—V. 111, p. 902.

Producers' & Refiners' Corp.—May Increase Capital.—A Denver dispatch states that Frank R. Kistler, Chairman, has announced management is asking proxies from stockholders to authorize an increase in the Common stock from 600,000 shares to 1,000,000 shares, par \$50.

The purpose of this is to carry out pending negotiations as a result of which approximately \$5,700,000 new stock is expected to be required for acquisition of Fensland Oil Co., whose properties would be turned over to Producers' on Jan. 1. (Mr. Kistler recently denied the reports that the company is negotiating for Texas & Pacific Coal & Oil Co. or Barnsdall Corp., but did not deny the negotiations with the Fensland Oil Co.)—V. 115, p. 2389, 2056.

Prairie Oil & Gas Co.—Capital Increased—200% Stock Dividend—Dividend of \$2 Per Share Declared on Increased Capitalization.—

The stockholders on Dec. 12 increased the authorized Capital stock from \$20,000,000 (\$18,000,000 outstanding) to \$60,000,000, par \$100, and authorized the distribution of a 200% stock dividend to stockholders of record Dec. 27.

The directors have declared a quarterly dividend of 2%, payable Jan. 31 to holders of record Dec. 30. This dividend will also apply to the new shares that will be issued as a 200% stock dividend to holders of record Dec. 27. Quarterly distributions of 3% with various extras, were made on the old capitalization since 1917.—V. 115, p. 2487.

Rand (Gold) Mines, Ltd.—Gold Output (in Fine Ounces).

1922—Nov.—1921. Increase. 1922—11 Mos.—1921. Decrease.
764,476 704,236 60,240 6,229,398 7,426,739 1,197,341
—V. 115, p. 2278, 1739.

Real Estate Title Insurance & Trust Co., Phila.—The stockholders have authorized the declaration of a 33 1/3% stock dividend. This will increase the outstanding Capital stock from \$1,500,000 to \$2,000,000.

Regal Shoe Co.—Purchases Building.—This company in November last purchased the 3-story building on the southwest corner of 50th St. and Broadway, N. Y. City. The company in May 1917 leased the property with an option to purchase same before the expiration of the lease. All existing leases expire on May 1 1928.—V. 114, p. 1542.

Repetti, Inc., N. Y.—Earnings.—Total sales in October aggregated \$71,000 compared with \$60,000 in September and \$53,000 in August. In November net profits were \$7,000 and December is running at the rate of over \$10,000 net. Current earnings are at the rate of about \$1 a share annually on the 158,000 shares outstanding.

Rome (N. Y.) Brass & Copper Co.—Capital Increase.—The company recently filed notice at Albany of an increase in its capital from \$5,000,000 to \$10,000,000.—V. 106, p. 1342.

Royal Baking Powder Co.—Extra Dividend.—An extra dividend of 2% has been declared on the outstanding \$10,000,000 Common stock, par \$100, in addition to the regular quarterly dividend of 2%, both payable Dec. 30 to holders of record Dec. 15. Extra dividends of 2% each have been paid Dec. 31 from 1915 to 1920, incl.—V. 114, p. 1543.

Royal Dutch Petroleum Co.—Interim Cash Dividend.—The company has declared an interim dividend of 10% in cash, payable Jan. 1 1923. In Jan. 1922 a 15% interim dividend was paid. The Equitable Trust Co. of New York announces that it has received a cable from the company stating that the reason for the reduction in the interim dividend declared by the board on Dec. 13 is the great uncertainty still existing with regard to the taxes to be levied in the Dutch Indies.—V. 115, p. 878, 866, 769, 655, 316, 304.

Ryder & Brown Co., Boston.—Capital Increase, &c.—The company has increased its authorized Capital stock from \$500,000 (\$300,000 outstanding) to \$600,000, par \$100. A 100% stock has been declared payable Dec. 22 to holders of record Dec. 1. Surplus as of Nov. 30 1922 totaled \$420,611.

St. Joseph Lead Co.—Extra Dividend.—An extra dividend of 25 cents per share has been declared on the outstanding Capital stock, par \$10, in addition to the regular quarterly dividend of 25 cents per share, both payable March 20 to holders of record March 9. Like amounts are payable Dec. 20 1922.—V. 115, p. 1542, 655.

Safety Car Heating & Lighting Co.—New Director.—Samuel G. Allen has been elected a director.—V. 111, p. 2249.

Schulte Retail Stores Corp.—November Sales.—

Month of November— 1922. 1921. Increase.
Sales ----- \$2,158,798 \$1,686,276 \$472,522
—V. 115, p. 2390.

Securities Corporation General.—Annual Report.—

June 30 Years— 1921-22. 1920-21. 1919-20. 1918-19.
Gross Income ----- \$168,211 \$126,162 \$360,558 \$224,481
Interest on loans ----- 40,022 37,018 21,301 38,607
General, &c., expenses ----- 31,372 31,962
Preferred dividend ----- (1½)36,600
Inv. res. account ----- 100,000 250,000 250,000
Tax adjustment ----- Cr. 7,793

Balance, surplus ----- \$23,189 \$96,928 \$57,885 def\$127,088
Previous surplus ----- 309,262 272,334 214,449 341,637

Profit and loss surplus ----- \$397,451 \$369,262 \$272,334 \$214,449
—V. 113, p. 1478.

Shaffer Oil & Refining Co.—Notes Offered.—H. M. Bylesby & Co., Inc., are offering at 102 and int. a block of \$594,000 Convertible 8% Serial Gold Notes of 1921, due May 1 1924.

These notes are a direct obligation of the company and are issued under a trust agreement which authorized total issue of \$3,500,000 notes, of which \$1,000,000 were due and paid May 1 1922. Of the remaining notes \$289,700 have been retired by sinking fund operations to date, leaving \$1,100,700 due May 1 1923 and \$1,109,600 due May 1 1924. These notes are followed by \$6,000,000 Participating Pref. 7% Cumul. stock, 40,000 shares (no par value) Class A Common stock, and 120,000 shares (no par value) Common stock.

Net operating earnings, after deduction of Federal taxes, for the 12 months ended Aug. 31 1922 were more than 2.6 times annual interest charges on present outstanding funded debt, including this issue of notes.—V. 115, p. 1739, 1542.

Shell Transport & Trading Co., Ltd.—Dividend.—

The company has declared an interim dividend of 2 shillings a share, free of British Income tax, payable Jan. 5. A like amount was paid in January 1922.—V. 115, p. 1438, 191.

Sinclair Pipe Line Co.—Listing.—The New York Stock Exchange has authorized the listing of \$25,000,000 20-Year Sinking Fund 5% gold bonds, due Oct. 1 1942 (see offering in V. 115, p. 1331).

The statement of income for the 10 months ended Oct. 31 1922 shows: Revenue, \$9,325,911; oper. and general exp., \$2,998,148; depreciation, \$2,072,146; net income before Federal taxes, \$4,255,618; dividends paid during period, \$1,965,908; surplus per balance sheet, \$3,669,138.—V. 115, p. 1543, 1331.

Solar Refining Co.—Stock Increased—Stk. Div. of 100%.—The stockholders on Dec. 12 increased the authorized Capital stock from \$2,000,000 (all outstanding) to \$4,000,000, par \$100. The \$2,000,000 new stock will be distributed as a 100% stock dividend to holders of record Dec. 23. Books close Jan. 3 1923. Compare V. 115, p. 2167, 2279.

Southwestern Utilities Corp.—Tenders.—The Empire Trust Co., trustee, 120 Broadway, N. Y. City, will until Dec. 21 receive bids for the sale to it of 1st Mfg. 8% Sinking Fund Conv. Gold bonds, Series "A," to an amount sufficient to exhaust \$22,508 at a price not exceeding 110 and int.—V. 115, p. 2057.

Standard Milling Co.—Listing.—The New York Stock Exchange has authorized the listing on or after Dec. 22 of \$4,457,900 additional Common stock on official notice of issuance as a 60% stock dividend, payable in Common stock on Dec. 22 to holders of record Dec. 5, making the total amount applied for \$11,957,900.—V. 115, p. 2390, 1728.

Standard Oil Co. (N. J.).—Testimony of President Teagle Before Investigating Committee.—Upon his appearance

before the subcommittee of the Committee on Manufactures of the U. S. Senate, on Dec. 14. Pres. Walter C. Teagle offered a prepared statement for the information of the Committee. Among other things presented in the statement were facts regarding the following:

(1) Description of the foreign and domestic business of the company, including pipelines, refineries and marketing; (2) dissolution decree; (3) policy of company since dissolution; (4) competition between the company and other so-called Standard Oil companies; (5) reasons why the company has not created marketing facilities of own in States supplied by the Standard Oil Co. (New York), Atlantic Refining Co. and Standard Oil Co. (Ky.).

The statement also states the position of the company in respect to the factors governing crude oil prices and the selling prices of finished products, as well as an analysis of the earnings.

Regarding the stock dividend of 400% recently declared, Pres. Teagle offered three reasons as justification of its declaration, viz.: (1) Standard Oil Co. (New Jersey) has, practically from its inception, been under-capitalized, and the disparity between issued capital stock and net assets has steadily increased. This fact has made possible the assertion, wholly without real foundation, of abnormal earning rates. A profit percentage is properly determined only by the relation between the net earnings and the invested capital which produced them. The issued capital stock is not a factor in this determination, but has commonly been used by critics of our company. Our prime purpose, then, was to bring about, at the first opportunity offered, substantial parity between our outstanding stock and the net value of the company.

(2) "It has long been our desire to effect a wider distribution of our Common stock, which was impracticable when the market value of the shares was high. Our first step was to reduce the par value from \$100 to \$25 and this made practicable the adoption of our stock acquisition plan. The stock dividend will further reduce the market price to about one-fifth of the present figure.

(3) "An increase in the outstanding Common stock was necessary to put the company in position to accomplish any further financing which it might seem desirable to undertake through the sale of additional stock."

Mr. Teagle stated that John D. Rockefeller Sr. has not been a stockholder in the company since 1920 and the late William Rockefeller owned 700 shares at the time of his death. He stated that on June 30 last, six stockholders owned 1% or more each of the outstanding stock of the Standard Oil Co. of New Jersey. These shareholders were John D. Rockefeller Jr., with 11.4%; General Education Board, 4.3%; Edward T. Harkness, 3%; Northern Finance Corp., 4%; Laura Felton Rockefeller, 1%, and Edith Rockefeller, 9-10 of 1%.

The New York Stock Exchange has authorized the listing of \$1,623,100 additional 7% Cumul. Non-voting Pref. stock, par \$100 each, on official notice of issuance in exchange for outstanding Capital stock of West India Oil Refining Co. (Ky.), making the total amount applied for \$199,972,900, and \$397,929,700 additional Common stock, par \$25 each, on official notice of issuance as a 400% stock dividend, making the total amount applied for \$507,929,700.

When the exchange of stock for the West India Oil Refining Co. shall have been consummated, the company will own 2,991 of the 3,000 shares of West India Oil Refining Co.—V. 115, p. 2391, 2279.

Steel & Tube Co. of America.—Merger Rumors.

See Inland Steel Co. above.—V. 115, p. 83.

Studebaker Corp.—Listing.

The New York Stock Exchange has authorized the listing on or after Dec. 29 of 15,000,000 additional Common stock, par \$100, on official notice of issuance as a 25% stock dividend, payable Dec. 29 to holders of record Dec. 16, making the total amount of Common stock applied for \$75,000,000.—V. 115, p. 2522, 2168.

Terry Steam Turbine Co., Hartford, Conn.—Stock.

The stockholders on Dec. 5 increased the authorized Capital stock from \$700,000 (\$400,000 outstanding) to \$800,000, par \$100, to be divided into 4,000 shares of Common and Preferred. Of the Preferred stock, 2,000 shares are to be paid for out of surplus, thus giving one Preferred share to each holder of two shares of Common.

(John R.) Thompson Co.—Dividend Rate Increased.

The directors have declared three regular monthly dividends of 1% each on the Common stock, payable Jan. 1, Feb. 1 and March 1 to holders of record Dec. 23, Jan. 23 and Feb. 23, respectively. The regular quarterly dividend of 1 1/2% on the Preferred stock has also been declared, payable Jan. 2 to holders of record Dec. 23.

The directors in September last adopted the policy of declaring Common dividends at the rate of 12% per annum, beginning Jan. 1, 1923.

The company from April 1921 to Oct. 1922, incl., paid quarterly dividends on the Common stock at the rate of 8% per annum. On Nov. 1 and Dec. 1, 1922 two special dividends of 1% each were paid on the Common, making a total of 10% for the current year.—V. 115, p. 1322.

Tiffany & Co. (N. Y.), Jewelers.—Capital Increased.

The stockholders on Dec. 15 increased the authorized capital stock from \$12,000,000 to \$16,000,000. The additional \$4,800,000 will be distributed to stockholders as a 49% stock dividend.—V. 115, p. 2488.

Thurlof Steel Works, Chester, Pa.—Sale.

The sale of the property to Edwin H. Gackenback, of Philadelphia, for \$75,000 has been approved by Federal Judge Johnson at Media, Pa. It is stated a new company, the North American Foundries Corp., will be organized to operate the property. Company was in receivership.—V. 115, p. 770.

Tobacco Product Corp.—Shipments.—Earnings, &c.

During the first 11 months of 1922 shipments of cigarettes by the corporation increased approximately 63% over the corresponding 11 months of 1921. Current shipments, it is stated, are showing a proportionately larger increase than that indicated for the first 11 months. On the basis of earnings thus far recorded in 1922, it is estimated that the company at the close of this year will have a profit and loss surplus of approximately \$6,000,000, which will mean a surplus for the 12 months after all charges, dividend payments, &c., of around \$3,500,000. At the close of 1921, profit and loss balance was about \$2,500,000.

The corporation owns approximately 87% of the outstanding Capital stock of the United Retail Stores and the \$2 a share cash dividend of the United Retail Stores (V. 115, p. 2280) which is payable Dec. 30 to holders of record as of Dec. 11 will mean a cash payment to the Tobacco Products of about \$1,368,000. The company also on the same date will receive the 942,000 founders shares of the United Retail Candy Stores (V. 115, p. 2280) valued at around \$5 a share, which will mean an additional asset placed in the treasury of the Tobacco Products, on Dec. 30 next of about \$1,710,000, or a combined total of \$3,200,000 realized through the dividend distribution of the United Retail Stores.—V. 115, p. 1952.

Tonopah (Nev.) Mining Co.—Extra Dividend.

The directors have declared an extra dividend of 15% on the Capital stock, Jan. 5 to holders of record Dec. 16. The company in April and Oct. last, paid regular semi-annual dividend of 5% and 2 1/2% extra.—V. 115, p. 1952, 1438.

Transcontinental Oil Co.—Quarterly Earnings.

The report for the quarter ended Sept. 30, 1922 shows: Gross earnings, \$4,242,308; operating expenses, \$3,641,128; net earnings, \$601,180; administrative and selling expenses, \$420,417; profit, \$180,763.—V. 115, p. 997, 83.

Truscon Steel Co., Youngstown, O.—Larger Dividend.

A quarterly dividend of 2% has been declared on the Common stock, payable Jan. 15 to holders of record Jan. 5. In April, July and October last the company paid quarterly dividends of 1% each on the Common stock (compare V. 114, p. 1417).—V. 115, p. 1642.

Union Oil Associates (Calif.)—Exchange of Shares.

The directors announce that they will shortly be ready to effect the exchange of shares of Union Oil Associates on the basis of four shares of stock, par \$25, in lieu of each share of the old issue of \$100 par value. After full discussion it is the opinion of the board that inasmuch as each share of stock

of \$100 par value is to be divided into four shares with par value of \$25, this action will accomplish all that would result from a greater distribution. After completion of this exchange, Union Oil Associates will have four shares of its own stock outstanding for each 1.8 shares of stock of Union Oil Co. of California owned by this corporation.

It is expected that the quarterly dividend of Union Oil Associates payable in Jan. will be at the rate of 7 1/2¢ per share on the stock of the new par value, being \$3 per share on the old \$100 par value. In addition to this dividend, the company will be enabled to defray the major portion of the expenses of organization and operation for the year.

(See also Union Oil Co. of California in V. 115, p. 2593, 2488).—V. 115, p. 2391.

Union Tank Car Co.—50% Stock Dividend.—The directors have declared a 50% stock dividend on the outstanding \$12,000,000 Common stock, par \$100, payable Dec. 28 to holders of record Dec. 22. The company has an authorized issue of \$25,000,000 Common stock.

No fractional shares will be issued, but stockholders will be paid by check the value of any fraction of a share to which they would otherwise be entitled, at a price to be fixed by the Treasurer, determined upon the average closing bid price on an ex-dividend basis for the shares of the company on the New York Stock Exchange from Dec. 13 to 22, 1922, inclusive.

There are at present upwards of 300 certificates outstanding for fractions of shares of the company. It is desired to do away with these fractional shares; and the company offers to purchase such fractions of shares on the basis of the current market price on the New York Stock Exchange on the date these certificates for such fractions of shares are presented for sale. Outstanding certificates for fractions of shares should be sent to Equitable Trust Co., 37 Wall St., N. Y. City, and on their receipt check for the amount due will be mailed to the stockholder.—V. 115, p. 2593, 1218.

United Cigar Stores Co. of Am. & Subs.—Earnings.

The consolidated income account for six months ending June 30, 1922 shows: Net profit, \$2,051,718; deduct 2 quarterly dividends of 1 1/4% each on Pref. stock, \$158,445, and reserve for taxes (est.), \$381,213; surplus for period, \$1,512,060; total profit and loss surplus, \$5,630,051.—V. 115, p. 1953, 1642.

United Fruit Co., Boston.—Extra Dividend.

The directors have declared an extra dividend of 2% on the Capital stock in addition to the regular quarterly dividend of 2%, both payable Jan. 15 to holders of record Dec. 20.—V. 114, p. 1189.

United Gas Improvement Co.—Dividend Increased.

A quarterly dividend of 1 1/2% has been declared on the outstanding \$61,029,800 Common stock, par \$50, payable Jan. 15 to holders of record Dec. 30. From Jan. 1921 to Oct. 1922, inclusive, the company paid quarterly dividends of 1% each on the Common stock.—V. 115, p. 2593, 2488.

U. S. Bobbin & Shuttle Co.—Capital Increased.

The stockholders on Dec. 13 increased the authorized Common stock, par \$100, from \$850,000 (all outstanding) to \$2,550,000. It is proposed to distribute the additional stock as a 200% stock dividend.—V. 115, p. 2593.

United States Playing Card Co.—Notes Called.

The company announces that it will redeem on Jan. 1 certain 8 1/2% serial debenture gold notes, dated April 1, 1921, amounting to \$120,000, viz.: \$60,000 maturing Jan. 1, 1924 at 101 and int.; \$60,000 due Jan. 1, 1925 at 102 and int.—V. 115, p. 2058.

United States Radiator Corp.—New Preferred Stock Authorized—To Pay Accumulated Dividends.

The stockholders have authorized the issuance of \$5,000,000 new 7% Cumul. Pref. stock (par \$100), callable after Jan. 1, 1928, at 110 and divs. The stockholders also voted to exchange each of the present shares of old Pref. stock for new Pref. stock at the rate of 1.42 shares of new 7% Cumul. Pref. stock for every one share of the old Pref. stock, thus capitalizing the Preferred dividends unpaid, amounting to 42% on the present Preferred stock, on Jan. 1, 1923. See also V. 115, p. 2488, 2391.

United Stores Realty Corp.—Listing.

The New York Stock Exchange has authorized the listing of \$6,000,000 20-year 6% sinking fund debenture gold (guaranteed) coupon bonds, due Oct. 1, 1942. See offering in V. 115, p. 1953, 2058.

United States Realty & Improvement Co.—Listing.

The New York Stock Exchange has authorized the listing (1) on or after April 30, 1923 of \$5,081,400 7% Cumul. Pref. stock, par \$100 each, on official notice of issuance and payment in full; (2) on or after Dec. 8 of \$16,710,800 Common stock, par \$100, on official notice of issuance in exchange for the present outstanding Capital stock, share for share, with authority to add 80,814 shares of Common stock on official notice of issuance on conversion of Preferred stock, making the total amount applied for \$8,081,400 7% Cumul. Pref. stock and \$24,244,200 Common stock. Compare V. 115, p. 2391, 2154, 2168.

United States Steel Corp.—Unfilled Orders.

See "Trade & Traffic Movements" above.—V. 115, p. 2169.

United States Worsted Co.—Reorganization Plan.

The stockholders will vote Jan. 11 on approving a reorganization plan prepared by the committee of creditors, and which has been recommended by the board of directors.

Data from Circular to Stockholders Dated Boston Dec. 5.

History of Present Difficulties.—In 1921 company, being unable to pay its maturing debt, applied to its creditors and substantially all of them agreed to take extension notes due in one year, in order to give the company time to liquidate its inventory, settle its tax liabilities and refinance itself if possible. At the end of the year the company, while it had liquidated considerable of its inventory, was still unable to finance itself. The creditors again extended their notes for one year more. These notes, which with interest amount to nearly \$10,000,000, will fall due on Jan. 6 next. The company is still unable to finance itself and the creditors are unwilling to grant a further extension. In order to avoid the necessity of enforced liquidation of the company's assets and to provide a method by which such of the stockholders as desire to make a cash contribution may retain an interest in the company's business, the plan outlined below has been prepared by the creditors' committee.

What Creditors Are To Receive.—The plan provides that the creditors (other than Winslow & Co., Inc.) shall receive in payment of their debt 50% in cash, 25% in 15-Year 6% debentures, 12 1/2% in 6% Non-Cumul. Sinking Fund 2d Pref. stock, and 12 1/2% in the Common stock.

Winslow & Co., Inc., whose claim was incurred for merchandise and who, when the company was embarrassed, released for the benefit of the company and its creditors a lien on a large amount of wool, will be entitled to receive interest up to the date of settlement and for the principal of the claim 50% in cash and the remaining 50% in 15-Year 6% debentures.

New Money To Be Raised by Stockholders.—The plan contemplates further that approximately \$2,500,000 of new money shall be raised through subscriptions by the stockholders as outlined below, to be used in partial payment of creditors.

Underwriting.—The creditors' committee has requested Kidder, Peabody & Co., together with F. S. Mosely & Co., members of both of which firms are directors, to form a syndicate to underwrite the payment of this debt \$2,500,000, or such proportion of it as is not taken by the stockholders, and for which underwriting they will receive a commission of \$175,000.

Outlook.—During 1922, while the company has not been in a position to take advantage of a rising wool market in view of the fact that it was not desirable to incur liabilities for raw material to any great extent ahead of sales of merchandise, the company has shown satisfactory earnings and for the current year this will be sufficient to pay the interest at 7% on approximately \$9,600,000 of debt and to take care of the customary depreciation of the plants. Earnings of the new company, under normal conditions, should be at the rate of at least \$850,000 a year after taxes. With

Reports and Documents.

THE CUBAN-AMERICAN SUGAR COMPANY

ANNUAL REPORT—FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30 1922.

New York, December 5 1922.

To the Stockholders of The Cuban-American Sugar Company:

Your Board of Directors submit the following report for the fiscal year ending September 30 1922.

The production of raw sugar during the year was 361,078 tons (of 2,000 lbs.) as compared with 292,771 tons for the previous year.

The total tonnage in cane ground was approximately 10% over that of the previous year, and the raw sugar production showed an increase of about 23%.

The average sucrose realized, due to weather conditions and the unusual richness of the cane, marked a high level in the operations of the Company that will possibly not again be reached unless by more advanced processes of cultivation than now practiced in Cuba.

The year's output of Raw and Refined sugar for the last two years appears in the following table:

	1921-22.	1920-21.
Cane Ground.....	2,865,584 Tons	2,595,074 Tons
Raw Sugar Produced:	(Bags 320 lbs.)	(Bags 320 lbs.)
Chaparra.....	693,266 Bags	426,691 Bags
Delicias.....	1,062,814 "	780,384 "
Tinguaro.....	186,755 "	253,989 "
Unidad.....	Not Grinding	90,211 "
Mercedita.....	106,168 Bags	119,443 "
Constancia.....	207,703 "	159,100 "
Total.....	2,256,736 Bags	1,829,818 Bags
	or	or
	361,078 Tons	292,771 Tons

	1921-22.	1920-21.
Refined Sugar Production:		
Cardenas Refinery, Cuba.....	35,864,848 lbs.	No Millings.
Gramercy Refinery, La.....	104,110,929 lbs.	100,358,102 lbs.

The net profit of the Company for the fiscal year as shown by the Profit and Loss Account amounts to \$2,023,447 42, after making due reservation for taxes in process of adjustment, inventory losses, loss on the sale of investment securities and all other anticipated or known losses. The usual provision has also been made for bad and doubtful accounts and for depreciation on buildings, machinery and equipment.

The capital outlay during the year was small, amounting to \$312,673 61, the major portion of which was for additional railroad lines and equipment at Chaparra, necessitated by the increased tonnage of cane and its products.

Regular quarterly dividends of 1 3/4% were paid during the year on the Preferred Stock. Of the First Mortgage Collateral Eight Per Cent Sinking Fund Gold Bonds, \$472,000 have been retired during the year, leaving \$9,035,000 outstanding at September 30 1922.

During the current idle season the factories, railways and equipment have been thoroughly overhauled as usual, and the estates are ready to proceed with grinding operations at the first favorable moment. At each estate the ample supply of cane and the indicated good market for the sale of its raw sugar product gave promise of a satisfactory season.

Respectfully submitted,
By Order of the Board of Directors,

JAMES H. POST, President.

CERTIFICATE OF ACCOUNTANTS.

To the President and Directors of The Cuban-American Sugar Company:

We have examined the books and accounts of The Cuban-American Sugar Company and its Subsidiary Companies for the year ended September 30 1922, and hereby certify that the annexed Consolidated Balance Sheet has been correctly prepared therefrom.

Investments in other Companies are carried at conservative values. Refined Sugars are at cost prices at September 30 1922, which were below market, while the stock of Raw Sugar on hand has been valued at the net prices subsequently realized.

Subject to the foregoing and to the sufficiency of the Reserve for United States Income and Profits Taxes, which have not yet been finally determined by the Government, we certify that, in our opinion, the annexed Consolidated Balance Sheet sets forth the true financial position of the companies as at September 30 1922, and that the relative Profit and Loss and Surplus Accounts correctly show the results of the operations for the period.

LOVEJOY, MATHER, HOUGH & STAGG.

Members of The American Institute of Accountants.
123 Liberty Street, New York City.

THE CUBAN-AMERICAN SUGAR COMPANY, AND ITS SUBSIDIARY COMPANIES.

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET, SEPTEMBER 30TH 1922.

ASSETS.	
Capital Assets—	
Lands.....	\$9,397,608 48
Buildings, Machinery, Railroad Tracks, Rolling Stock, etc.....	27,241,400 12
	\$36,639,008 60
Goodwill.....	3,029,340 28
Investments in Other Companies.....	504,359 75
Work Animals, Live Stock and Miscellaneous Equip- ment.....	1,371,656 11
Current Assets and Growing Cane—	
Planted and Growing Cane.....	\$953,703 46
Advances to Colonos and Contractors (after deducting Reserve for Bad and Doubtful Accounts).....	6,656,938 56
Materials, Supplies and Merchandise in Stores.....	3,582,531 58
Raw and Refined Sugars.....	5,916,049 29
Accounts and Bills Receivable (after deduc- ing Reserve for Bad and Doubtful Ac- counts).....	1,664,659 64
Cash in Banks, with Fiscal Agents and on Hand.....	1,479,151 28
	20,253,033 81
Other Assets and Deferred Charges to Operations—	
Cash in Hands of Trustee for Redemption of First Mortgage 8% Gold Bonds.....	\$250,702 20
Advances in connection with Contracts for Future Delivery of Fuel Oil.....	540,075 50
Discount on First Mortgage Bonds.....	382,105 23
Prepaid Insurance, Taxes, etc.....	276,441 11
	1,449,324 04
	\$64,146,722 59

LIABILITIES.	
Capital Stock—	
Common (Authorized \$10,000,000 00) 1,000,000 shares of \$10 00 each.....	\$10,000,000 00
Seven Per Cent Cumulative Preferred Stock (Authorized \$10,000,000 00) 78,938 shares of \$100 00 each.....	7,893,800 00
	\$17,893,800 00
First Mortgage Collateral 8% Sinking Fund Gold Bonds, due March 15 1931—	\$10,000,000 00
Less—Redeemed.....	965,000 00
	9,035,000 00
Real Estate Mortgages and Censos.....	480,335 49
Current Liabilities—	
Bills and Loans Payable.....	\$4,430,805 28
Accounts Payable.....	1,231,202 73
Salaries and Wages Accrued.....	74,547 59
Interest Accrued.....	40,185 16
	5,776,740 76
Reserve for Depreciation.....	8,951,273 55
Reserve for United States and Cuban Income and Excess Profits Taxes unpaid.....	1,556,223 13
Surplus, per annexed statement.....	20,453,349 66
	\$64,146,722 59

CONSOLIDATED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30 1922.

Raw and Refined Sugars Produced—Net Pro- ceeds, after deducting Commissions, Inven- tory Losses, etc.....	\$23,949,567 87
Molasses Produced.....	231,714 93
Interest Received.....	390,205 72
Profit on Stores, Cattle, etc.....	821,805 29
	\$25,393,293 81
Less—	
Expenses of Producing, Manufacturing, Selling, etc., Raw and Refined Sugars, including losses on Invest- ments and Growing Cane Sold, extraordinary Bad Debts and Income Tax.....	20,731,078 16
	\$4,662,215 65
Deduct—	
Provision for Depreciation.....	\$1,243,786 31
Discount on Collateral Sinking Fund Gold Bonds.....	88,726 89
Interest on Collateral Sinking Fund Gold Bonds.....	734,110 15
Interest on Bills Payable, Current Accounts, etc.....	572,144 88
	2,638,768 23
Net Profit for the Year.....	\$2,023,447 42

CONSOLIDATED SURPLUS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30 1922.

Balance, October 1 1921.....	\$18,982,468 24
Add—	
Profit for the year ended September 30 1922, per annexed account.....	2,023,447 42
	\$21,005,915 66
Deduct—	
Dividends on 7% Preferred Stock: Paid January 3 1922 for three months to January 1 1922—1 3/4%.....	\$138,141 50
Paid April 1 1922 for three months to April 1 1922—1 3/4%.....	138,141 50
Paid July 1 1922 for three months to July 1 1922—1 3/4%.....	138,141 50
Paid September 30 1922 for three months to October 1922—1 3/4%.....	138,141 50
	552,566 00
Surplus at September 30 1922.....	\$20,453,349 66

CENTRAL AGUIRRE SUGAR COMPANY

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE STOCKHOLDERS FOR 1922.

To the Stockholders of the Central Aguirre Sugar Company, Porto Rico:

Aguirre, Porto Rico, Dec. 1 1922.

The Twenty-Third Annual Report of the Directors of the Central Aguirre Sugar Company and affiliated interests is submitted herewith for the year ending July 31 1922.

Everything considered, the year covered by this report has been quite satisfactory. The high cost of previous years has persisted and entered into the product, when ready for market, to a very considerable degree, but in the harvesting and marketing processes, these costs have been reduced.

The prices obtained on the whole have been better than the average price throughout the entire season, brought about largely by delay in marketing a considerable portion of the crop until after the close of the season. This delay was decided upon after a most careful consideration of all statistics and pertinent facts available, and it is gratifying to say that results justified the action.

The crop is now entirely disposed of, the properties are all in good condition and the organization is quite as good as it has ever been. A large expenditure has been made in improving the mill at the Machete property and with the possible exception of a new warehouse, it is not anticipated that any further large expenditure will have to be made on that property.

The Aguirre Mills began grinding December 16 1921 and finished May 29 1922, with a total of 44,497 tons of sugar.

The Machete Mill began grinding January 9 1922 and finished May 26 1922, with a total production of 11,691 tons of sugar.

The present season has been an exceptionally dry one, and will undoubtedly be reflected by a substantial decrease in this year's crop. It is hoped, however, that lower costs and a very substantial improvement in price may overcome the decrease in volume, and that the current year will bring satisfactory financial results.

I desire to express my hearty appreciation of the enthusiasm and loyal support and co-operation of the executive staff, both in mill and fields, and wish to give them all due credit for the results which have been accomplished.

For the Directors,

CHARLES G. BANCROFT, *President.*

CENTRAL AGUIRRE SUGAR CO.—Luce & Co. S. en C. and PONCE & GUAYAMA RAILROAD COMPANY CONSOLIDATED PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED JULY 31 1922.

<i>Sugar Made—</i>	
Sugar Sales	\$2,540,100 24
Sugar on Hand (at prices since realized)	1,202,561 36
	\$3,742,661 60
<i>Molasses Made—</i>	
Molasses Sales	\$29,158 49
Molasses on Hand (at prices since realized)	9,050 14
	38,208 63
Cane Sales (To Central Machete Co.)	267,214 12
Miscellaneous Income	315,412 19
	\$4,363,496 54
Agricultural, Manufacturing and General Expenses	\$3,546,930 80
Less: Amount charged to Reserve for Reduction of Rentals	41,000 00
	3,505,930 80
	\$857,565 74
Less: Provision for Depreciation on Roadway and Track, Mill, Buildings, Pump Stations and Equipment	163,727 88
	\$692,837 86
Add: Dividend—Central Machete Co. Stock	58,000 00
	\$751,837 86

Cable Address "Portowood" P. O. Box 54

W. T. WOODBRIDGE
Member American Institute of Accountants.

W. T. WOODBRIDGE & CO.
PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
San Juan, Porto Rico
AUDITORS' CERTIFICATE

We have audited the accounts of the Central Aguirre Sugar Company, the Ponce and Guayama Railroad Company, and Luce & Company S. en C., for the year ended July 31 1922, and certify that, in our opinion, the foregoing Consolidated Balance Sheet and accompanying Statement of Profit and Loss are correct.

W. T. WOODBRIDGE & CO., *Public Accountants.*
Per W. T. WOODBRIDGE, *Member American Institute of Accountants.*

CENTRAL AGUIRRE SUGAR COMPANY, LUCE & COMPANY, S. en C.—PONCE AND GUAYAMA RAILROAD COMPANY—CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET AS AT JULY 31 1922.

ASSETS.

<i>Current Assets—</i>	
Cash on Hand and in Banks	\$171,028 76
Accounts receivable	942,659 36
Bills Receivable	41,423 99
Sugar on Hand (at prices since realized)	1,202,561 36
Molasses on Hand (at prices since realized)	9,050 14
Investments:	
Collateral Loans & Certificates of Deposit	\$447,451 72
U. S. Bonds at Cost	1,162,709 44
P. R. Irrigation Bonds	78,400 00
Cuba Sugar Finance Co. stock	50,000 00
Central Machete Co. Stock	580,000 00
	2,318,561 16
Insurance Fund (See Contra)	29,135 10
	\$4,714,419 87
<i>Deferred Assets—</i>	
Growing Crops	\$676,264 90
Construction and Improvements (Not Completed)	17,164 35
Material and Supplies and Store Merchandise for Resale	439,729 27
Deferred Charges to Operating	37,226 26
	1,170,384 78
<i>Fixed Assets—</i>	
Real Estate, Roadway and Track, Mill, Buildings & Water Supply	\$5,449,467 27
Less: Reserve for Depreciation & Deflation	948,968 96
	\$4,500,498 31
Rolling Stock, Portable Track, Steam Plows, Livestock, Carts, Implements, &c	\$1,055,647 15
Less: Reserve for Depreciation	246,512 91
	809,134 24
	5,309,632 55
	\$11,194,437 20
<i>LIABILITIES.</i>	
<i>Current Liabilities:</i>	
Accounts Payable	\$57,424 37
Sundry Accruals	17,946 25
Reserve for Income and Excess Profits Taxes	344,089 31
	\$419,459 93
<i>Reserves—</i>	
For Restoration of Property on Leased Lands	\$5,634 12
For Reduction of Rentals	220,000 00
For Insurance Fund (See Contra)	29,135 10
	254,769 22
<i>Capital Stock—</i>	
Common:	
Authorized \$6,000,000 00.	
Issued 150,000 shares of \$20 each	3,000,000 00
<i>Surplus—</i>	
Balance August 1 1921	\$7,703,460 10
Add: Balance from Profit and Loss Statement attached	751,837 86
Add: Plant Adjustments, Net	3,553 53
	\$8,458,851 49
Deduct: Dividends	\$902,250 00
Deduct: Reserve for Income Taxes	25,650 93
Deduct: Reserve for Insurance Fund	10,742 51
	938,643 44
	7,520,208 05
	\$11,194,437 20

GUANTANAMO SUGAR COMPANY

SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT—FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30 1922.

New York, November 24 1922.

To the Stockholders of the
Guantanamo Sugar Company.

The Directors beg to submit the accounts of your Company for the year ending September 30 1922 and a copy of the Balance Sheet, together with the report of the General Manager on the operations of the Company. The accounts have been audited by Messrs. Price, Waterhouse & Company, and a copy of their certificate is appended.

The cane ground amounted to 494,895 short tons, and sugar made 56,310 short tons, or 351,936 bags of 320 pounds.

During the early part of last season the market price of sugar was extremely low. A gradual improvement occurred as the year progressed, but, all things taken into consideration, it must be looked upon as fortunate that the Company's operations show a profit, although a moderate one.

At a Special Meeting of the Stockholders held January 17 1922 the Certificate of Incorporation was amended to provide for an increase in the Capital Stock of the Company to 390,000 shares, of which 15,000 should be Cumulative Preferred of \$100.00 par value and 375,000 shares should be Common Stock of no par value.

The new Preferred Stock, in conjunction with the additional Common Stock offered to the stockholders, was oversubscribed. No commission or discounts entered into the financing, which was accomplished at a minimum of expense.

The above financing permitted the Company to pay off current indebtedness and made it possible to market the remaining sugar to advantage.

The capital expenditures for the year for improvement and betterment to your property amounted to \$197,239 70, as shown in the General Manager's report.

The new fourth mill at Los Canos has resulted in better extraction of sugar. In general, the factories are in excellent condition.

The dry weather which has been experienced during recent months will result in a smaller cane crop for the coming season.

By order of the Board of Directors.

JAMES H. POST,
President.

GUANTANAMO SUGAR COMPANY

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT—YEAR ENDING SEPT. 30 1922.

Gross sugar sales, less sea freight, commissions, etc.....	\$2,703,894 57
Molasses sales.....	35,693 78
	\$2,739,588 35
<i>Deduct</i> —Producing and manufacturing costs and shipping expenses, including New York and Guantanamo office expenses.....	2,377,197 85
Profit on operations before providing for depreciation of mills and equipment or for replanting of cane.	\$362,390 50
<i>Add</i> —	
Interest (net).....	\$81,140 68
Rents (net).....	25,155 07
	\$106,295 75
<i>Less</i> —Miscellaneous (net).....	30,907 46
	75,388 29
	\$437,778 79
<i>Deduct</i> —	
Provision for bad debts.....	\$85,000 00
Provision for depreciation and replanting of cane.....	246,715 34
	331,715 34
Profit for year.....	\$106,063 45

DIRECTORS.

ERNEST BROOKS.	GEORGE E. KEISER.
GEORGE R. BUNKER.	R. WALTER LEIGH.
THOMAS A. HOWELL.	C. LEWIS.
	JAMES H. POST.

OFFICERS.

President	JAMES H. POST.
Vice-President	GEORGE R. BUNKER.
Vice-President and General Manager	O. G. SAGE.
Secretary and Treasurer	GEORGE H. BUNKER.

GUANTANAMO SUGAR COMPANY

BALANCE SHEET SEPTEMBER 30 1922.

ASSETS.	LIABILITIES.
Real Estate, Cane Lands, Buildings, Equip- ment and other Permanent Investments.	Capital Stock:
\$6,266,371 17	Preferred 8% cumulative:
<i>Add</i> —Machinery and apparatus purchased, to be installed.....	Authorized and issued—
73,125 76	15,000 shares of \$100 each \$1,500,000 00
	<i>Less</i> —750 shares purchased for sinking fund.....
\$6,339,496 93	75,000 00
<i>Less</i> —Reserves for depreciation, replanting and extraordinary repairs.....	\$1,425,000 00
1,388,414 53	
\$4,951,082 40	Common:
Investment in Guantanamo Railroad Company:	Authorized, 375,000 shares of no par value.
Notes.....	Issued and outstanding:
\$1,000,000 00	361,060 shares of no par value.....
Advances.....	\$3,610,600 00
26,118 61	2,788 shares of unconverted \$50 par value stock (old issue).....
Stock—7,708 shares.....	139,400 00
1 00	3,750,000 00
1,026,119 61	\$5,175,000 00
Current and Working Assets:	Current Liabilities:
Growing crop carried over to 1922-23 season..	Notes and accounts payable.....
\$112,834 87	\$329,457 16
Inventories:	Provision for taxes and contingencies.....
Raw sugar on hand—	22,157 15
38,460 bags.....	351,614 31
\$425,531 62	Unexpended Funds:
Molasses.....	For 1922 dead season current repairs and maintenance.....
2,964 63	\$75,000 00
Stores and supplies in stock and in transit (at cost).....	For maintaining soil fecundity.....
394,771 67	113,251 78
Materials and spare parts (at cost).....	Surplus:
119,638 65	Balance at September 30 1921.....
942,906 57	\$3,204,174 45
Prepaid insurance and interest.....	<i>Add</i> —
34,630 90	Profit on operations for the year as per account an- nexed.....
Sundry accounts receivable and advances to colonos, etc., less reserves.....	\$106,063 45
1,029,738 93	Profit arising from purchase of company's own stock.....
Shares of Guantanamo Sugar Company pur- chased for sale to employees—2,500 shares of common stock.....	25,673 27
25,000 00	131,736 72
Cash in banks and on hand (New York and Cuba).....	\$3,335,911 17
126,859 10	<i>Deduct</i> —
2,271,970 37	Transferred to no par value stock.....
\$8,249,172 38	\$675,000 00
	Dividends on preferred stock.....
	51,604 88
	726,604 88
	2,609,306 29
	\$8,249,172 38

CURRENT NOTICES.

—The Registrar & Transfer Co., of 15 Exchange Place, Jersey City, N. J., has been appointed co-transfer agent of the Common Stock of the Shell Union Oil Corporation.

—Gilbert Elliott & Co., members of New York Stock Exchange, have prepared an analysis of New York City national banks, comparing their earnings and conditions as of September 1922 with September 1921.

—Baar Company announce that the business heretofore conducted by them at 74 Broadway, will be continued under the name of Baar & Company, at their new address, 30 Broad St.

—The United Security Co. of Canton, Ohio, has moved its offices to new and larger quarters on the first floor of the Citizens Building, on the east side of the Public Square, Canton, Ohio.

—John B. Works, since its establishment, manager of Otis & Co.'s Cincinnati office, has been placed in charge of all buying of municipal and government bonds for that firm, with headquarters at its office in Cleveland.

—Bankers Trust Co. has been appointed transfer agent for the preferred stock of the Wisconsin Telephone Co.

—The National Bank of Commerce in New York has been appointed registrar of the 7% cumulative preferred stock of the Campbell Soup Co.

The Commercial Times

COMMERCIAL EPITOME.

Friday Night, Dec. 15 1922.

Decidedly wintry weather has stimulated trade all over the country. Retail business is conspicuous for activity, partly, of course, from the holiday demand. Employment is widespread throughout the country, and the buying capacity of workers is better than it was a year ago. Trade is noticeably larger than then. It is true that wholesale and jobbing business has recently fallen off somewhat. But there have been large sales of goods for the first three months of next year. There is a big business in building materials, regardless of the cold weather. Naturally, trade in coal is larger throughout the United States. The output of bituminous coal is large enough to make Western buyers easy in contrast with the East, where the hard coal situation is less favorable than that in soft coal. The recent output of bituminous is the largest of the year. Car loadings in some sections of the country are very large. The country is better supplied with transportation. The situation is noticeably better on the Pacific Coast. Meantime iron and steel production is larger, and recent sales have increased, though at lower prices. The railroads are still buying cars, locomotives, etc., on a large scale. But it is noticeable that Belgian steel products in some cases are selling at \$4 a ton below the price of American. This seems to be due to the higher cost of labor in this country. With a better supply of cars the movement of lumber to the big centres is on a larger scale. It is noticeable, too, that the building total in November was very gratifying.

Raw cotton has advanced during the week rather sharply. And the consumption in this country is the largest since January 1920. The cotton crop has for years been subject to the depredations of the boll weevil, but it now looks as though determined measures will be taken during the coming year to control the pest. The high price for cotton has naturally increased the buying power of the South. Of late cotton goods have shown an upward tendency. Grain prices have advanced, wheat moving up 4 to 5 cents per bushel. With corn and other grain it is now at the highest price of the season. Food prices in general are higher after some recent reaction. The automobile output is at the highest point of the year, with prices for different cars declining. Failures in trade are smaller. For the week they are stated at 445, against 462 last week, and 565 in this week last year. Exports of grain are on a large scale. The winter wheat crop condition is fairly favorable, although in some sections of the West a better snow covering for the plant is desirable. It is pointed out that the demand for farming implements is better. This is something distinctly new. As reflecting the building movement the output of cement in November was much larger than in the same month last year, and in fact for 11 months it shows a new high record. There has been a big trade in heavy clothing and furs, as well as in shoes and rubbers, the latter favored by stormy weather over great tracts of the country. Significantly, too, the jewelry business is brisk. The big industries are active, whether on old or new orders. Cotton mills are running at 100% and iron and steel at 80 to 85%.

Meantime, as already intimated, wholesale and jobbing trade has slackened, but this is not unusual towards the end of the year. It is noticeable in parts of the South and the Northwest. And the European situation is far from being entirely satisfactory. In fact, it has attracted a good deal of attention. Some of the features, it is true, have been favorable. Sterling exchange rose at one time to a point within about 17½ cents of the par value. And there has also been a rise in francs, with an advance in lire and some other European currencies, although those of Southeastern Europe have in general made a less favorable showing. But the German reparations tangle excites comment and gives no little concern. There have been rumors of late that this country would in conjunction with England grant a large loan to Germany. It would appear that nothing definite has as yet been decided. But it is believed that the Washington authorities are giving the matter more or less attention. Rightly or wrongly the impression in business circles here is that the United States Government is disposed to lend a hand in Europe looking towards its economic rehabilitation. At the same time it will refuse to become entangled in any of the age-old political complications of Europe. There is an impression that very important developments in the foreign policy of the United States are impending, partly owing to the break-up of the recent reparations conference in London and the threat of France to occupy the Ruhr Basin. The fact that Premier Bonar Law in a speech the other day declared that Germany is in danger of complete collapse and that the American Ambassador to Great Britain is to come over for a consultation with the Washington authorities has attracted wide attention. In other words, business men have their eye on Washington, London, Paris and Berlin, as they have not had for a long period. Elihu Root has visited the White House and J. Pierpont Morgan has been in consultation with Secretary Hughes. It is hoped, and by many believed, that something looking to the better state of things will come out of all this. Also, it may be noted that Turkey has expressed a desire to enter the League of Nations, and following the

Ward Baking Co., N. Y.—20% Stock Dividend, &c.—
The directors have declared (1) a 20% stock dividend; (2) an extra cash dividend of 5%, and (3) a quarterly dividend of 2% on the Common stock, all payable Jan. 2 to holders of record Dec. 20. The quarterly dividend of 2% just declared places the Common stock on an 8% annual basis, as against 7% heretofore.
The company in July 1920 paid a 20% stock dividend, which increased the outstanding Common stock to \$7,927,000, par \$100 (authorized issue \$15,000,000)—V. 113, p. 2197.

Washburn Wire Co., Philipsdale, R. I.—300% Stk. Div.
The company has declared and paid a 300% stock dividend on the Common stock, increasing the outstanding Common stock from \$1,250,000 to \$5,000,000. The company also has an outstanding issue of \$2,839,400 7% Preferred stock. Authorized capital is \$7,500,000. Common and \$3,500,000 Preferred, par \$100.
President E. R. Phillips says: "Our business picked up considerably during the last 6 months of this year, as compared with the first half of 1922, which was very dull. The plants are now running full, and we are comfortably sold ahead as far as we care to commit ourselves. There is a decided shortage in steel products and the demand for them is keen.
"Earnings this year will be satisfactory and the \$24 dividend on the old stock will be fully covered. On the new stock the company shall pay dividends at the rate of \$6 a year, giving stockholders the same return."
—V. 109, p. 2303.

Western States Gas & Electric Co.—Tenders.—
The Girard Trust Co., trustee, Phila., Pa., will until Jan. 5 1923 receive bids for the sale to it of 1st Ref. Mfg. 5% gold bonds, due June 1 1941 to an amount sufficient to exhaust \$132,965 at a price not exceeding 105 and int.—V. 115, p. 2392, 1954.

Whitin Machine Works, Boston.—1400% Stock Div.—
The company has filed a certificate with the Massachusetts Commissioner of Corporations showing an increase in capital from \$600,000 to \$9,000,000, par \$100, by the issuance of 84,000 shares of stock as a 1400% stock dividend.

Balance Sheet Dec. 31 1921.

Assets—		Liabilities—	
Real estate & machinery	\$5,654,194	Capital stock	\$600,000
Merchandise	1,333,307	Accounts payable	618,227
Cash & accts. receivable	4,154,664	Reserves	890,000
Stocks in other cos.	860,151	Surplus	10,637,813
U. S. cts. of indebtedness	651,724	Total (each side)	\$12,654,040

Whiting & Davis Co., Boston.—900% Stock Dividend.—
The company has filed a certificate with the Massachusetts Commissioner of Corporations showing an increase in capital from \$100,000 to \$1,000,000, par \$100, the additional 9,000 shares to be issued as a 900% stock dividend to holders of record Dec. 5. Undivided profits as of Dec. 31 last were \$1,173,313.

(F. W.) Woolworth Co.—Reduces Good Will Account.—
The directors on Dec. 13 approved the transfer of \$20,000,000 from surplus account to be applied to reduction of the company's "good-will" account from \$50,000,000 to \$30,000,000. The "good-will" has been carried on the company's balance sheet at the larger figure since it was incorporated in 1912. This action was taken, it is said, in lieu of a stock dividend payment, and it is intimated that further reductions in this item will take place from time to time until all of the intangible items in this account have been eliminated.—V. 115, p. 2593, 2169.

Worcester (Mass.) Gas Light Co.—Larger Dividend.—
A quarterly dividend of 2% has been declared on the Common stock, placing the issue on an 8% basis, as compared with 6% previously and the regular quarterly dividend of 2% on the Preferred, both payable Jan. 2, the Common dividend to holders of record Dec. 23 and the Preferred dividend to holders of record Dec. 27.—V. 114, p. 1794.

Wyman-Gordon Co., Worcester, Mass.—Capital Increased—70% Stock Div.—To Retire 1st Pref. Stock.—
The company has filed a certificate with the Massachusetts Commissioner of Corporations showing an increase in capital from \$3,750,000, par \$10 (divided into 7,500 shares 1st Pref., 15,000 shares 2d Pref., and 17,000 shares Common) to \$5,950,000, represented by an increase of 8,500 in the number of 2d Pref. shares and an increase of 4,500 shares of Common. All of the new 2d Pref. and 3,400 shares of additional Common stock will be issued as a 70% stock dividend on the present outstanding \$1,700,000 Common stock. All of the outstanding 7,500 shares of 1st Pref. stock has been called for redemption on March 15 1923 at 110 and dividends.
The balance sheet as of Oct. 31 last shows surplus of \$2,180,141.—V. 115, p. 1955.

York (Pa.) Mfg. Co.—Stock Dividend.—
The stockholders will vote Dec. 26 on increasing the authorized Capital stock so as to afford the payment of a 100% stock dividend.—V. 112, p. 2205

CURRENT NOTICES.

—The 1922 edition of Mundy's Earning Power of Railroads has been issued by Jas. H. Oilphant & Co., Members of the New York Stock Exchange. This book (440 pages) is printed on bible paper and bound in flexible leather, pocket size. For twenty years this publication has presented earnings and finances of the principal railroads in a form permitting easy, reliable comparison.

Publication was suspended in 1919, and the new edition is especially interesting as a survey of the first full year of private operation following the disruptions of Government rental. Where ever possible, lap-over items arising from Federal operation and guaranty have been eliminated from 1921 income accounts with a view to presenting true earning power in that year.

In the first half of the manual one page each is devoted to the 135 railroads described, showing in tabular form income account, earnings in previous years, capital structure, traffic density and relation of the different operating expenses and fixed charges to total income over a number of years. Standardization of accounts and reduction of earnings to a per-mile basis make the determination of the relative railroad earning power a simpler matter. The remaining pages consist of text supplementing the statistical tables with facts as to dividend, financing, control, corporate history, &c. The book also contains prefatory chapters explaining how the material offered should be used.

—A six-page folder entitled "How Is Property Distributed Where There Is No Will," is just off the press to-day for free distribution by the Trust Department of the Liberty Central Trust Co. of St. Louis. The chart shows how real estate and personal property in Missouri will descend and be distributed when the owner dies without a will. Copies of the folder, if we are informed, may be had upon application.

—Messrs. Spencer Trask & Co. gave another of their pleasurable social affairs at the Hotel Astor Wednesday evening. It was a dinner dance and upwards of two hundred from the New York office participated in the festivities.

—Eugene F. Kinkadee, Henry A. L'abre and Alfred B. Cooke have formed a partnership under the firm name of Kinkadee & L'abre. The new firm will conduct a general commission business in stocks and bonds, at 74 Broadway, as members of the New York Stock Exchange.

—Columbia Trust Co. has been appointed registrar of the Common stock and 7% cumulative preferred stock of the Phoenix Hosiery Co.

—The Equitable Trust Co. of New York has been appointed dividend disbursing agent of the General Gas & Electric Corporation.

firm attitude of the British Government and broad intimations from the United States, seems more amenable to reason.

The labor question is of increasing interest. The growing scarcity of labor, the agitation for an increase of 29% in the wages of New England cotton mill operatives and the coal famine which might not have happened but for labor scarcity, nor the ill-advised settlement months ago of the coal strike, the greatly restricted immigration, are only a few of the many things which keep this weighty matter of labor supply before the mind. And in Chicago on Dec. 13 James A. Emery, general counsel of the National Association of Manufacturers of the United States, addressed the convention of the American Farm Bureau Federation on the subject of "The Problem of Immigration." He said what everybody knows to be true, that agriculture and industry are equally interested in the social and economic problem. "Each is feeling in an increasing degree a rising demand for labor to which, with a single exception, there has been substantially no foreign contribution in six years. The problem, then, is to apply practically the rule laid down by James Madison in his famous report on immigration to the First Congress: 'Welcome every person of good fame that really means to incorporate himself into our society, but repel all who will not be a real addition to the wealth and strength of the United States.' We have established reliance upon immigration as the great source of supply for rough and unskilled labor, without which the basic work of expanding construction, transportation, manufacture and agriculture cannot go forward. From 1915 to 1919 immigration was abruptly suspended by the great world catastrophe. During 1920 and 1921 it reached about 668,000. Alarmed by the well founded fear that we were confronted with a serious invasion of undesirable aliens and unable to devise for the moment a constructive means to meet it, Congress enacted in 1920 a 3% limitation, which was pocket-vetoed by President Wilson, but was eventually re-enacted in May 1921. Under the first year of the operation of this restriction 356,995 aliens were admissible to the United States, of which number but 243,953 were admitted. The first fiscal year of the operation of the 3% Act leaves us with a net gain of male immigrant aliens admitted over male emigrant aliens departed of but 6,518. These facts are themselves the overwhelming evidence of a shortage in industrial and agricultural labor that must be steadily intensified and which must necessarily have the most serious economic effects. The time has come when the American people should turn their attention to the formulation of a constructive policy of selective immigration and abandon the present negative legislation. Labor dictated the 3% restriction law. And how little labor cares for the welfare of the great mass of the population is shown by a recent agitation to have the restrictive immigration law made even more drastic, and also by the sufferings of the people in the present coal famine the direct outcome of a causeless strike months ago. Why labor should not be made amenable to the provisions of the laws against restraint of trade or conspiracy it is not at all easy to understand. Everybody agrees that capital should be held to a strict accountability under these Acts. But the law should not play favorites. Every man, whatsoever his station in life, should be equal before the law and no more than equal. That is common sense and common justice. Labor wants to be set above the law. If wealthy men should try to 'corner' a commodity there would be loud outcries. Labor is trying to corner the labor supply."

New Bedford and Fall River workers will meet this week to consider the question of a demand for increased wages. The Rhode Island Council has adopted resolutions calling for a demand for an increase of 2%. At Pawtucket, R. I., cotton workers are said to have begun agitating for higher wages, i. e. the same scale as before the last 22½% cut.

According to the National Automobile Chamber of Commerce, November production of motor vehicles approximated 232,000, or within 5% of October, and twice the volume of November 1921.

On Dec. 12 a high wind brought the first severely cold weather to the States of the Middle West, while the Northwest for the second time this winter was in the grip of zero temperatures. The coldest weather recorded this winter prevailed in the northern part of the Rocky Mountain region. Temperatures ranged from 12 to 27 below in Wyoming and Montana. To-day heavy snows and rains were reported in virtually every State except Florida. The snowfall in the lower Lake region was particularly heavy. It was warmer in the Eastern and Southern States, but remained unusually cold in the Northwest. In New York it began to snow on Thursday, later turning to rain. To-day it has been cloudy and mild.

LARD quiet; prime Western, 11.10@11.20c.; refined to Continent, 12.25c.; South American, 12.50c.; Brazil in kegs, 13.50c. Futures have generally fluctuated within moderate limits, but showed some upward tendency in sympathy with a rise in grain and hogs, though later on there was some reaction with hogs lower. That caused more or less liquidation. Trading has not been large, in spite of the reports that the Government will take financial measures for the relief of live stock raisers and farmers. Cash trade has shown less snap. Export business has been quiet. It is true that on the 12th inst. New York cleared 8,309,000 lbs. of lard and 4,870,000 lbs. of bacon. Liverpool on that day

was 2s. lower on the spot for lard and unchanged to 6d. higher for future delivery. The average weight of hogs in Chicago was 234 lbs. On the 11th inst., on the other hand, there was a broader market. Talk of credits to Western interests had begun to have a cheering effect. Prices advanced. Exports last week were large. Stocks at the West are very moderate. In other words, though new business has not been very heavy either for home or foreign account, the situation in the main has looked more hopeful. Later prices fell with hogs and lower Liverpool prices, though the decline, to be sure, was small. To-day prices advanced, closing 25 to 28 points higher for the week.

	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.
December delivery cts.	10.40	10.42	10.30	10.25	10.25	10.35
January delivery	10.05	10.12	10.10	10.15	10.12	10.25
March delivery	10.15	10.30	10.22	10.30	10.30	10.40
May delivery	10.25	10.42	10.35	10.42	10.40	10.50

PORK dull; mess \$28@28.50; family \$30@32; short, clear \$22.50@29. Beef quiet; mess \$12@12.50; packet, \$13.50@14; family, \$16@18; extra India mess \$28@30; No. 1 canned roast beef, \$3.25; No. 2, \$2.35½; 6 lbs. \$16; sweet pickled tongues, \$50@60 nom. per bbl. Cut meats dull; pickled hams, 10 to 20 lbs., 17@17½c.; pickled bellies, 10 to 12 lbs., 17c. Butter, creamery firsts to extra, 45½@55½c. Cheese, flats, 21@28½c. Eggs, fresh seconds to extra, 50@62c.

COFFEE on the spot steady; No. 7 Rio, 11½c.; No. 4 Santos, 15@15½c.; fair to good Cuinta, 15½@15¾c. Futures advanced somewhat, though trading has not been large. Deliveries on December contracts early in the week brought the total up to 10,000 bags. There was a moderate amount of switching from March to September at 110 points and from May to July at 20 points, as well as from July to September at 50 points. Western interests are supposed to have bought May. Rio exchange was stronger early in the week. Offerings of coffee here were light, a fact which offset the smallness of the demand. The undertone became firm, though the market lacked features of striking interest. On the 13th inst., though Brazilian exchange was 1-32d. lower, prices closed somewhat higher here. Europe sold distant months but the market took the selling very well. Switching continued. Later prices advanced with Rio exchange up to 6¾d. and the trade covering in March. Europe sold December and May. To-day Brazilian firm offers were up. Futures here advanced slightly on covering. The ending was 21 to 28 points higher than a week ago.

Spot (unoffl.)	11½c. (March)	9.73@	July	9.08@	
December	9.96@9.97	May	9.38@9.38	September	8.57@8.58

SUGAR.—Spot raw has been quiet, pending further developments, especially as refined has been dull. Yet offerings of raw have been moderate. Prompt Cuba has been quoted at 4c. c. & f. European cables reported offerings of Peru for December shipment at 18s. c. i. f., which is 6d. above the price recently paid; also Cuba for February-March shipment at 17s. 9d. c. i. f. United Kingdom, or equal to about 3.43c. f. o. b. Cuba. Twenty-three mills have started work in Cuba as against 8 at this time last year. Meantime it has been more or less of a waiting market here. Refined was 7.10c., with nominal quotations 7.25c. There was some export inquiry for refined, but apparently little or no actual business. On the 13th inst. there was considerable liquidation of sugar. Shorts were about the only buyers. The West seemed to be selling September. Selling of distant months weakened others. Havana cabled Dec. 11 that up to the end of last week no new sugar had reached exporting points, according to the Guma-Mejer report. Receipts of sugar last week at all ports were 4,276 tons, while exports were 24,505 tons and stock on hand now 29,206 tons. Cane cutters in the Camagasy Province have gone on strike. On Dec. 13, 26 sugar mills were grinding in Cuba. Jaronu has 12,743 sacks ready. Cunagua, 18,486, and Cespedes, 6,000. These were the first mills to start grinding. Manchester, Eng., reports the estimates for the European beet sugar production for the year 1922-23 at a total somewhat over 3,000,000 tons, according to the most recent reports from the various countries. Of this total about one-half will be grown by Germany, but practically none of this can be reckoned on for export. The only countries which will have an exportable surplus of any considerable amount will be Czechoslovakia, about 100,000 tons, and Poland about 40,000 tons. Russian production has been practically abandoned. The figures for Sweden represent a considerable decrease. The estimates of production reckoned in tons are as follows: Germany, 1,600,000; Czechoslovakia, 625,000; France, 400,000; Belgium, 300,000; Netherlands, 275,000; Italy, 250,000; Poland, 225,000; Hungary, 140,000; Denmark, 110,000; Sweden, 100,000; Rumania, 60,000; Jugoslavia, 35,000; Austria, 20,000; Bulgaria, 15,000; United Kingdom, 9,000; Switzerland, 5,000; and Finland, 2,500 tons. Sugar cards, it is stated, have been reintroduced in Germany after having been discontinued some two years ago. Rationing again from factory to dealer wholesale and retail, is to be the law. Later spot raws were dull and rather unsettled, with futures lower. The nominal price was still 4c. c. & f., though the Street hazarded a guess that ½c. less might be accepted. Refined remained at 7.10c. from second hands, 7c. Wall Street sold March futures. To-day nearby Cuban raws were firm at 3¾c. after sales on Thursday at 3¾c. for Cuba in port. Futures were higher to-day, but end 5 to 6 points lower for the week.

Spot (unofficial) 5.78 | March 3.39 @ 3.40 | July 3.63 @ 3.64
 December 3.94 @ 3.95 | May 3.50 @ 3.51 | September 3.74 @ 3.75

OILS.—Linsed advanced 3c. per gallon on the 14th inst. in response to the strength of the seed market. Demand is slow, however. Spot, earloads, 90c.; tanks, 86c.; less than earloads, 93c.; less than 5 bbls., 96c. Coconut oil, Ceylon, bbls., 9c.; Cochin, 10 @ 10 1/4c. Corn, crude, refined, bbls., 11 1/4c. Olive, \$1 15 @ \$1 17. Lard, strained winter, 13 1/4c.; extra, 13 1/2c. Cod, domestic, 58c. nom.; Newfoundland, 61c. Spirits of turpentine, \$1.38. Rosin, \$6 25 @ \$8. Cottonseed oil sales to-day 16,000 including switches. Crude, S. E., 8.37 1/2c. Prices closed as follows:

Spot 9.60c. | February 9.75 @ 9.85c. | May 10.12 @ 10.13c.
 December 9.70c. | March 9.95 @ 9.99 | June 10.15 @ 10.24
 January 9.65 @ 9.66 | April 10.04 @ 10.10 | July 10.28 @ 10.29

PETROLEUM.—Crude oil prices were advanced on the 14th inst. by the Texas Company to \$1 60 for De Soto, \$1 40 for Bull Bayou; \$1 25 for Crichton; \$1 35 for Mexia, and \$1 60 for Curria. In view of the large stocks of crude oil these advances were unlooked for. Gasoline in poor demand and weaker. On the other hand some improvement is noted for kerosene. Yet business is confined in most cases to small lots. Bunker oil in better demand at \$1 45 per bbl. refinery. Gas oil dull at 5c for 36-40 at refinery. New York prices: Gasoline, cases, cargo lots, 28.75c.; U. S. Navy specifications, bulk, 15.50c.; export naphtha cargo lots, 18c.; 63-66 deg., 21c.; 66-68 deg., 22c. Kerosene, cases, cargo lots, 17c.; motor gasoline, garages (steel bbls.) 24c. Gasoline production was near a new high record. The total for Oct. of 566,278,689 gallons was the largest for any month this year except July, which was about 3,400,000 gallons greater.

Pennsylvania	\$3 00	Wooster	\$1 90	Mid Continent—	
Corning	1 75	Lima	1 98	Below 28	90
Cabell	1 86	Indiana	1 78	28 @ 29.9	1 00
Somerset	1 71	Princeton	1 77	30 @ 32.9	1 10
Somerset, light	0 96	Illinois	1 77	Headton	0 75
Ragland	1 00			Mexia	1 35
				Crichton	1 25

RUBBER has been only moderately active at best, but prices remain firm. Smoked ribbed sheets and first latex crepe spot and Dec., 27 3/4c.; Jan.-March, 28c.; April-June, 28 1/4c.; July-Dec., 29 3/4c. There was a slight reaction later in the week on lower London cables and a sharp reaction in sterling exchange. On the 14th inst. London reported that market dull at 14d. Cables from Singapore reported the market dull there. Lower grades of plantation were dull and nominal. So was Para; up-river fine, 24 1/2c.; coarse, 17 1/2c. Central, Corinto, 16 1/2c. London cabled Dec. 11 that rubber recovered somewhat with early buyers at 13 1/2d., and later 14d. was paid. London stocks increased 755 tons for the week, due to arrivals and are now 70,101 tons, which compares with 71,050 tons at the same time in 1921 and 47,891 tons in 1920.

HIDES.—Late last week there was activity in Chicago in big packer hides, with about 150,000 reported sold at steady prices. Native bulls sold there at 14c. Other deals were reported pending. Smaller packers there were quoting 15c. for native and 13c. for branded, with less trading, however. Later the demand increased somewhat. Chicago wired that big packer hides were much more active and estimated 600,000 hides sold recently. Heavy hides advanced, with sales of heavy Texas at 18 1/2c., light Texas at 17c. and Colorado steers at 18c. Packer calf active at 19c. and kip-skins at 18c. Country hides dull. Sales were reported of 12,000 Sansinena frigorifico steers averaging 24 kilos at \$51 25, which is figured the approximate equivalent of 21 1/2c. c. & f. Also 4,000 Wilson steers at \$52, or equal to 21 9-16c.; 4,000 Campana steers at \$52 50 and 1,600 frigorifico La Plata cows to Europe at 15 1/2c., c. & f.

OCEAN FREIGHTS have at times shown not a little life in grain tonnage at firm rates and quite a good business in time charters. Prompt grain tonnage advanced. West Indian tonnage was in better demand. Berth grain rates were easier later in the week with little demand. Grain berth rates to the United Kingdom fell later 3d. to 6d.

Charters included grain from Atlantic range to West Italy, one port 20 1/2c.; two ports 21c.; from Atlantic range to Bordeaux-Hamburg range, 16c. December; option of discharge to the United Kingdom at 17c. to west coast of Italy, 21c. December; 6 months' time charter, 1,412-ton steamer in West Indies trade, \$1 45; January delivery north of Hatteras; grain from Atlantic range to Greece, 24c. December; lumber from a Gulf port to Buenos Aires or Rosario, 16 1/2c. January; 3 months' time charter, 1,295-ton steamer in West Indies trade, \$1 35; December delivery; 6 months' time charter, 1,667-ton steamer in West Indies trade, \$2, delivery December-January; grain from Baltimore to Bordeaux, 3s. 4 1/2d. December; lumber from Gulfport or Pensacola to Buenos Aires, \$15; option of Conception at \$16; January; linsed from Rosario to New York, \$7 (if cargo is completed below the bar \$6 50), prompt; scrap iron from Antwerp to Boston, 12d. late December; grain from Atlantic range (including Boston or Portland) to United Kingdom, 16 1/2c.; option Antwerp-Hamburg range at 15 1/2c. January; to west coast of Italy, 18 1/2c. January; from Portland to west coast of Italy, 21c. one port, 22c. two ports, December; one round trip in West Indies trade, 2,391-ton steamer, \$1 January delivery in Cuba; grain from West St. John to United Kingdom, 4s.; option or Portugal at 4s. 6d. spot.

TOBACCO has remained in much the same position. Trade has been only fair at best. Consumption somehow does not increase much. The holidays to all appearances leave it pretty much as it has been. Supplies are abundant. And truth to say, buyers are none too plentiful. Fair sales of fillers and wrappers have been made at times, but this is, of course, unsatisfactory. It shows no improvement on the monotonous record of many weeks. Prices are called steady, but with so many buyers holding aloof they often seem more nominal than otherwise.

COPPER advanced to 14 1/4c. for electrolytic. Some sales were reported at 14 1/2c. for first quarter delivery. This is

equal to the high price of the year. Considerable improvement in the demand is reported, and it is predicted by some members of the trade that business will continue good during the first half of 1923. The reported taking over of control of the Chile Copper Co. by the Ryan-Anaconda interests was considered the main reason for the advance.

TIN firmer. Spot tin is scarce. Spot straits quoted at 37 3/4c. London has been higher of late. But business here has been quiet. Lead lower at 7.15 @ 7.20c. New York and 6.85 @ 6.90c. East St. Louis stocks are large. Zinc declined slightly; spot New York, 7.55 @ 7.60c.; East St. Louis 7.20 @ 7.25c. Stocks of slab zinc increased during Nov. 1 months. This is the first increase reported in several months. Production also increased, while shipments fell off.

PIG IRON has been weak and unsettled. It is said that charcoal pig has been sold recently at \$3 under the usual quotations. Eastern Pennsylvania prices, it is declared, have dropped \$1, with sales at \$26. Buffalo, it seems, sold at \$25. Charcoal iron has been quoted at \$33 nominally, but it is said that business has been done at \$30. Pittsburgh has been more active with sales reported of 40,000 tons. British pig iron is less active. But on the other hand, it is stated that 1,000,000 tons of American iron have been closed for the first quarter of 1923. Some say more than that, with Cleveland put down for 500,000 tons, Pittsburgh some 80,000 tons and Buffalo 50,000, with considerable tonnage at New York, Boston, Cincinnati and Chicago. In the Pittsburgh district malleable iron fell \$1 a ton and Bessemer \$2 50. Birmingham reports a large quantity booked. Some 6,000 tons of basic iron were taken by the Middle West and 10,000 tons by leading pipe makers. Most of the sales are said to be at \$23. Considerable business, however, was recently done on good orders, it seems, at as low as about \$22. It is said that of late makers have been asking higher prices, though little business has been done at the new quotation. Only a small amount of business has been done for the second quarter.

STEEL output has reached a high record for the year in the Pittsburgh district. It is 85% there. A better new demand in some directions is reported. For the first quarter of 1923 the outlook is said to be promising, especially as the mills already have good heavy orders on their books. Consumers show more confidence. The steel industry in general is operating at about 80%. Chicago reports more confident buying of agricultural implements. A good business is going on in wire products and pipe. But in many other products consumers as a rule now seem to be pretty well supplied. Prices for plates, shanes and bars, it is declared, are not under existing circumstances really being adequately tested. The quotation as a rule is around 2 cents, although such prices are still mentioned in connection with some business as 1.90c. to 1.95c. The demand for cars keeps up. Chicago thus far this year has sold, it appears, 131,537 cars, or a total for the country of 157,216. Germany has sold 15,000 tons of rails to the Far East. For Belgian bars, hoops and bands there has been a fair business in the New York district of late at \$4 to \$5 under American quotations.

WOOL has been in moderate demand and steady. On Dec. 7 at Brisbane the wool auction there closed with the tone weaker on super greasy merinos and best greasy skirtings and firm for short dusty and greasy merino and greasy skirtings. Scoured wools virtually unchanged, with the tendency, however, upward. In London on Dec. 8 a smaller selection was offered, only 9,300 bales of free grades. These went to British, Continental and American buyers. Best merinos fell 5% below October prices and other merinos qualities off 5 to 10%. Crossbreds firm. Medium grades strong on American buying. Crossbreds were fully 15% above the October figures. Sydney, 897 bales; greasy crossbred, 7 1/2d. to 17 1/2d.; Queensland, 896 bales; greasy merinos, 19 1/2d. to 29d.; scoured merino pieces, 23 1/2d. to 42 1/2d.; locks, 17 1/2d. to 30 1/2d. Victoria, 652 bales; scoured merino, 29 1/2d. to 46 1/2d.; crossbred, 9 1/2d. to 30d.; New Zealand, 6,733 bales; chiefly greasy slip and crossbred, best 24d. and 25d.; respectively. Small supply of scoured merino, 49 1/2d. to 51 1/2d.

On Dec. 8 at Wellington, New Zealand, 16,000 bales were offered and 13,600 bales sold. Selection excellent. Attendance large. Good demand. American buyers took super crossbreds at 3/4d. to 1d. below last series. Low mixed crossbreds of average quality were 1/4d. to 1d. dearer. Details:

	Good to Super.	Low to Medium.
Merino	26d. to 27 1/2d.	23d. to 25d.
Halfbreds 56-58s	23 1/2d. to 26 1/2d.	15d. to 22d.
50-56s	20d. to 23d.	15d. to 19 1/2d.
Crossbreds 16-48s	12 1/2d. to 14 1/2d.	11d. to 12d.
44-46s	11 1/2d. to 13 1/2d.	8d. to 11 1/2d.
40-44s	9d. to 10 1/2d.	7d. to 8 1/2d.
36-40s	8 1/2d. (super)	

Coarse crossbreds, 36-40s, medium to good, realized 7d. to 7 1/2d.

In London on Dec. 11 the joint offerings were 11,000 bales. Demand very good from British, Continental and American operators. Prices firm or a trifle higher, especially greasy crossbreds. Sydney, 3,137 bales; greasy crossbreds, 6 1/2d. to 22d.; pieces, 10d. to 20 1/2d.; greasy merino, 21d. to 26d. West Australia, 250 bales; greasy crossbreds, 17d. to 26d.; Victoria, 2,323 bales; greasy crossbreds, 16d. to 26d.; come-

FUTURES.—The highest, lowest and closing prices at New York for the past week have been as follows:

Table with columns for days of the week (Saturday to Friday) and various price ranges and closing values for futures contracts.

OVERLAND MOVEMENT FOR THE WEEK AND SINCE AUG. 1.

Table comparing overland movement for the week and since August 1, including shipped and deducted amounts.

Including movement by rail to Canada. The foregoing shows the week's net overland movement has been 48,065 bales, against 28,777 bales for the week last year, and that for the season to date the aggregate net overland exhibits a decrease from a year ago of 153,859 bales.

Table showing receipts at ports and overland to Dec 15, and Southern consumption, including total marketed and interior stocks.

Movement into sight in previous years. Table with columns for Bales and Since Aug. 1 for years 1920-1918.

QUOTATIONS FOR MIDDLING COTTON AT OTHER MARKETS.

Table with columns for days of the week and closing quotations for midding cotton at various markets like Galveston, New Orleans, etc.

NEW ORLEANS CONTRACT MARKET.

Table showing contract market data for New Orleans, including dates and bid/ask prices.

AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT'S COTTON CROP ESTIMATE.—The report on cotton, issued by the Agricultural Department on Dec. 12, is as follows:

The Crop Reporting Board of the Bureau of Crop Estimates of the United States Department of Agriculture estimates, from the reports of the correspondents and agents of the Bureau, that the total production of cotton in the United States for the season 1922-23 will amount to 4,767,262,000 lbs. (not including linters), equivalent to 9,964,000 bales of 500 lbs. gross weight (47.4 lbs. lint and 21.6 lbs. bagging and ties estimated per 500 lbs. gross weight bale). The estimated production for 1922, with comparisons, by States, follows:

Table titled 'Bales of 500 Lbs Gross Weight' showing production by State for 1922 and 1921, with columns for Lbs. Lint, Bales, and Price per Lb.

x Includes about 8,000 bales of the 50,000 bales grown in Lower California (old Mexico).

*About 51,000 bales grown in Lower California (old Mexico) included in California figures, but excluded from United States total.

The average weight per running bale is estimated at 503.5 lbs. gross, compared with 498.5 lbs. in 1921 (as reported by the Bureau of the Census), 506.4 lbs. in 1920, 504.2 lbs. in 1919, and 504.9 lbs. the average for the preceding five years.

Reports of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics do not include "linters," which are a product obtained at mills from the seed. The production of "linters" is about 7.4% as much as the lint production (average 1916-1920).

WEATHER REPORTS BY TELEGRAPH.—Reports to us by telegraph from the South this evening indicate that there has been rather heavy rainfall in the eastern portion of the belt and cloudy weather with frequent showers in most of the other sections of the cotton region.

Table showing weather reports by telegraph, including locations like Galveston, Tex., Abilene, Brownsville, etc., and rainfall amounts.

RECEIPTS FROM THE PLANTATIONS.—The following table indicates the actual movement each week from the plantations. The figures do not include overland receipts nor Southern consumption; they are simply a statement of the weekly movement from the plantations of that part of the crop which finally reaches the market through the outports.

Table showing receipts from plantations, with columns for Week ending, Receipts at Ports, Stocks at Interior Towns, and Receipts from Plantations for years 1922, 1921, and 1920.

The above statement shows: (1) That the total receipts from the plantations since Aug. 1 1922 are 4,688,518 bales; in 1921 were 3,657,166 bales, and in 1920 were 3,891,111 bales. (2) That although the receipts at the outports the past week were 138,941 bales, the actual movement from plantations was 120,266 bales, the balance going to increase stocks at interior towns.

WORLD'S SUPPLY AND TAKINGS OF COTTON.

Table showing world's supply and takings of cotton, including Cotton Takings, Week and Season, and Total supply.

* Embraces receipts in Europe from Brazil, Smyrna, West Indies, &c. a This total embraces since Aug. 1 the total estimated consumption by Southern mills, 1,621,000 bales in 1922 and 1,369,000 bales in 1921—takings not being available—and the aggregate amounts taken by Northern and foreign spinners, 5,104,079 bales in 1922 and 5,465,324 bales in 1921, of which 3,219,529 bales and 3,783,324 bales American. b Estimated.

INDIA COTTON MOVEMENT FROM ALL PORTS.— The receipts of India cotton at Bombay and the shipments from all India ports for the week and for the season from Ang. 1, as cabled, for three years, have been as follows:

Table with columns for Dec. 14 Receipts at Bombay, 1922, 1921, 1920. Sub-sections include 'For the Week' and 'Since August 1' with categories like Great Britain, Continent, Japan & China, and Total.

According to the foregoing, Bombay appears to show a decrease compared with last year in the week's receipts of 15,000 bales. Exports from all India ports record an increase of 10,000 bales during the week, and since Aug. 1 show a decrease of 250,450 bales.

ALEXANDRIA RECEIPTS AND SHIPMENTS.

Table showing Alexandria, Egypt, Dec. 13, 1922, 1921, 1920. Includes Receipts (cantars) and Exports (bales) with weekly and since Aug. 1 data.

Note.—A cantar is 99 lbs. Egyptian bales weigh about 750 lbs. This statement shows that the receipts for the week ending Dec. 13 were 240,000 cantars and the foreign shipments 71,000 bales.

MANCHESTER MARKET.—Our report received by cable to-night from Manchester states that the market for both yarns and cloths are quiet. Manufacturers are reducing output. We give prices to-day below:

Table with columns for 1922 and 1921, showing prices for 32s Cop Twist, 8 1/4 lbs. Strictures, Common to Finest, and Col'n Mid. Upl's.

SHIPPING NEWS.—Shipments in detail: Table listing destinations (NEW YORK, GALVESTON, BOSTON, CHARLESTON, HOUSTON, MOBILE, NORFOLK, PORT TOWNSEND, SAN FRANCISCO, SAN PEDRO, SAVANNAH) and corresponding bale counts.

LIVERPOOL.—By cable from Liverpool we have the following statement of the week's sales, stocks, &c., at that port:

Table showing Sales of the week, Of which American, Actual exports, Forwarded, Total stock, Total imports, Amount afloat, and Of which American for Nov. 24, Dec. 1, Dec. 8, and Dec. 15.

The tone of the Liverpool market for spots and futures each day of the past week and the daily closing prices of spot cotton have been as follows:

Table showing Spot, Saturday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday prices for Market, Mid. Upl's, Sales, Spec. & exp., and Futures.

Prices of futures at Liverpool for each day are given below:

Table showing Dec. 9 to Dec. 15 prices for Sat., Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri. with sub-columns for p.m. and a.m. times.

BREADSTUFFS

Friday Night, Dec. 15 1922.

Flour has been in fair demand and firm with wheat prices. Also, arrivals have been a trifle smaller at times, although as a matter of fact they still reach a pretty liberal total. On the 12th inst., for example, they were 65,584 sacks here, of which 37,889 were for American markets. The tone has been better, however, even if prices have not moved up in anything like the same ratio as wheat. They are hampered by large stocks of flour at this point. Also, many consumers are pretty well supplied for the time being. So that in most grades there has latterly been only a moderate business, and at other times there was hardly that much. In the export trade there has been very little new business. If present prices of wheat are sustained, however, it is believed that a good foreign demand will spring up, especially if rates for foreign exchange continue firm. The big rise in sterling of late has made exporters hopeful of better things. If sterling rates are maintained at anything like the level attained early in the week, when they were less than 20 cents below the par of exchange, it would not be at all surprising to see a better business with the United Kingdom. As it is, moderate sales have been made to northern Europe. Naturally, not a little depends, so far as trade with Southeastern Europe is concerned, on the state of politics in the Near East. At times it has been clouded over, as the Turks seemed obstinate in adhering to a certain line of policy. But England's attitude has been firm and it is hoped that before long the political situation in that quarter of the globe will clear up and that commerce will then take its usual course along normal lines. On the 14th the Turkish news was better, though Premier Bonar Law declared that Germany was near collapse.

Though trade later in the week was light, with stocks liberal and offsetting in a measure a rise in wheat, there was bracing news from Minneapolis. On the 14th inst. the mills there were said to have sold 50,000 bbls. Also, the export situation here seemed rather more promising, with some business in small lots and a better inquiry. Flour tonnage for late December and early January shipment to Europe has been taken, it seems on a considerable scale. It suggests good clearances before long.

Wheat advanced to a new high with persistent reports that rural credits will be established for the American farmer and credits extended to Europe to facilitate America's export trade in grain. Washington will pass such legislation. That is the general belief. It seems to be well founded. The politician has seen a light. The American farmer is in an ugly mood. Charged high prices for what he has to buy and paid low prices for what he has to sell, he has reached the limits of his patience. He wants results, not talk, and results are what he is determined to get. This fact is one of the outstanding features of the present political and business situation in the United States. Added to this were higher prices for wheat in Liverpool, due partly to a falling off of 6,000,000 bushels in the world's exports from last week and a decrease of 4,000,000 bushels in the amount afloat. Also, commission houses were heavy buyers in Chicago. And there was a disposition to buy new crop months owing to

cold weather at the West. Yet the lack of export demand was a drawback and a reaction occurred when cash wheat weakened. The United States visible supply last week increased 88,000 bushels, against 115,000 last year. It is now 33,516,000, against 47,877,000 last year.

The American Relief Association received tenders on Monday of 90,000 bushels No. 2 hard or No. 1 or No. 2 Manitoba wheat for shipment to Greece.

On Dec. 12 prices advanced 1 to 1 1/4 c. at Chicago and 1 1/2 to 1 1/2 c. at Winnipeg, owing to talk of Washington credit legislation, a marked decrease in Canada's crop movement and stronger markets in the Southwest. Exporters took 350,000 bushels.

July advanced on the 12th inst. on a cold wave at the West. Also, outside speculative interest in wheat has increased. Wall Street seems to have been buying wheat. Sterling has advanced sharply of late and stocks have also been higher.

On Dec. 14 prices advanced, despite lower Liverpool cables and profit-taking. For cash markets were firm, Argentine shipments fell off sharply, the weather there was wet, its crop prospects seemed not so good, and there was a better flour trade at Minneapolis, with sales of 50,000 bbls. Foreign exchange advanced. Export demand, it is true, was light despite deficient European supplies. Only 500,000 bushels, it is believed, will be shipped from Argentina this week. Minneapolis mills have been buying in Nebraska.

Kansas City reported much uneasiness regarding winter wheat in all drouth affected territory, which includes western Kansas, Nebraska, Oklahoma and Texas. Without abundant and long persistent snow covering this winter there will be loss in acreage of poorly developed plant.

Julius H. Barnes says that the giving of credit of \$70,000,000 to \$80,000,000 abroad would probably result in an immediate advance of 20 to 30 cents per bushel in wheat, 10 to 15 in corn, 10 cents in oats and 30 cents in rye. He figures that this would be brought about by exporting 20,000,000 bushels of wheat, 40,000 bushels of corn, 15,000,000 of oats and 20,000,000 bushels of rye on credit to foreigners in addition to daily marketings. It would lift the weight of accumulations from our markets.

To-day prices broke under heavy selling to secure profits, and with Liverpool down. But for the week prices at Chicago show a rise of 4 to 5 1/2 cents.

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF WHEAT IN NEW YORK.

Table with 5 columns: No. 2 red, Sat., Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri. Prices range from 137 1/4 to 138 3/4.

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF WHEAT FUTURES IN CHICAGO.

Table with 5 columns: December delivery in elevator, May delivery in elevator, July delivery in elevator. Prices range from 122 1/2 to 123 3/4.

Indian corn advanced with wheat and touched a new "high" for the season. Shorts covered freely. They feared a delay in the crop movement owing to cold, stormy weather. It is true that on the rise country offerings increased, and that this fact caused something of a price setback. But back of it all was a fear with financial help ahead from land banks farmers might not continue to sell freely. Besides, the cash situation at times showed no little strength. Commission houses bought heavily. The American visible supply last week increased only 104,000 bushels, against 442,000 in the same week last year. It is now 11,336,000 bushels, against 15,950,000 last year.

The relatively small stocks of corn in Chicago excited comment; also the decrease in primary receipts compared with those of a year ago.

December on the 14th inst. rose 2 1/4 c. on active covering. Wheat's advance also found a response in corn. The cash demand, too, was good. It took the edge off a rather large crop movement. There was some export demand, but the higher prices ran beyond exporters' limits. To-day prices declined with those for wheat, ending, however, at a rise for the week of 3 1/2 to 3 3/4 c.

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF CORN IN NEW YORK.

Table with 5 columns: No. 2 yellow, Sat., Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri. Prices range from 91 1/2 to 93 1/2.

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF CORN FUTURES IN CHICAGO.

Table with 5 columns: December delivery in elevator, May delivery in elevator, July delivery in elevator. Prices range from 71 1/2 to 73 3/4.

Oats advanced in sympathy with corn and wheat, though there has been as a rule no general activity in the speculation. Yet the cash demand has been somewhat better and certainly the cash situation has shown strength. Offerings have been small. Shorts in December have covered freely. December has at times shown conspicuous strength. Later months, too, went to a new "high" early in the week, though later they sagged somewhat. Farm credits are going to be extended, or at any rate there is a growing belief to that effect. Wheat, corn, oats and rye are expected to benefit from expanded credits to the sorely beset farming community. The American visible supply of oats last week decreased 81,000 bushels, against 1,069,000 in the same week last year. The total is now only 32,130,000 bushels, against 68,129,000 last year.

Liverpool cabled that Argentine shippers are accepting very low prices for the new crop, as prospects for a good yield there are very bright. There is only a small trade being done in Canadian sorts at slightly lower prices.

Chicago later reported a large cash business. Deliveries were light, receipts moderate and buying by commission houses heavy.

To-day prices were lower, with other grain, closing, however, at a rise for the week of 1 1/4 to 3 1/2 cents.

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF OATS IN NEW YORK.

Table with 5 columns: No. 2 white, Sat., Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri. Prices range from 54 to 58.

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF OATS FUTURES IN CHICAGO.

Table with 5 columns: December delivery in elevator, May delivery in elevator, July delivery in elevator. Prices range from 41 1/2 to 45 1/2.

Rye advanced with wheat and corn, especially as there were rumors of large export buying over last Sunday. To be sure, they were not fully confirmed, but for all that they had a certain persistent influence. Yet the failure to confirm these statements did take the edge off for a moment. The American visible supply last week decreased, however, no less than 1,527,000 bushels against a decrease of only 530,000 in the same week last year. Still, the total even now is 8,757,000 bushels, against only 6,256,000 a year ago.

It was rumored that Germany was buying. The export demand of late has been slow and prices irregular. To-day prices were somewhat lower, but for the week they show a net advance of 4 to 5 cents.

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF RYE FUTURES IN CHICAGO.

Table with 5 columns: December delivery in elevator, May delivery in elevator. Prices range from 87 1/2 to 92 1/2.

The following are closing quotations:

Table with 2 columns: GRAIN (Wheat, Corn, Rye) and FLOUR (Spring patents, Winter straights, Hard winter, First spring, Rye flour, Corn goods). Prices range from \$1.38 1/4 to \$9.00.

The statements of the movements of breadstuffs to market indicated below are prepared by us from figures collected by the New York Produce Exchange. The receipts at Western lake and river ports for the week ending last Saturday and since Aug. 1 for each of the last three years have been:

Table with 7 columns: Receipts at (Flour, Wheat, Corn, Oats, Barley, Rye). Rows for Chicago, Minneapolis, Duluth, Milwaukee, Toledo, Detroit, Indianapolis, St. Louis, Peoria, Kansas City, Omaha, St. Joseph.

Summary table for Total wk., Same wk., Same wk. for various years.

Table for Since Aug. 1 for years 1922, 1921, 1920.

Total receipts of flour and grain at the seaboard ports for the week ended Saturday Dec. 9 1922 follow:

Table with 7 columns: Receipts at (Flour, Wheat, Corn, Oats, Barley, Rye). Rows for New York, Portland, Me., Philadelphia, Baltimore, New York News, Norfolk, New Orleans, Galveston, Montreal, St. John, N. B., Boston, Port Arthur.

Summary table for Total wk., Same wk., Same wk. for various years.

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

The exports from the several seaboard ports for the week ending Saturday, Dec. 9 1922, are shown in the annexed statement:

Table with 7 columns: Exports from (Wheat, Corn, Flour, Oats, Rus., Barley, Peas). Rows for New York, Portland, Me., Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Norfolk, Newport News, Mobile, New Orleans, Galveston, Montreal, St. John, N. B., Port Arthur, Tex.

The destination of these exports for the week and since July 1 1922 is as below:

State and City Department

NEWS ITEMS.

Arizona.—Vote on Constitutional Amendments.—According to the final count, the three measures submitted to the people on Nov. 7—V. 115, p. 1964—were defeated. The count on the \$2,500,000 road bond amendment, which was very close—V. 115, p. 2498—showed 24,688 "against" and 22,130 "for." The constitutional amendment relating to the school system lost by 24,022 to 14,212. The referendum measure proposing the repeal of the fish and game law was defeated by 23,014 to 10,555.

Astoria, Ore.—\$15,000,000 Fire Damage.—On Dec. 8 a fire destroyed the business district of the city. The property loss is estimated at \$15,000,000.

Illinois.—Voters Defeat New Constitution.—The proposed new constitution submitted to the electors on Dec. 12—V. 115, p. 1553—was defeated by a vote of six to one. Incomplete figures gave 190,761 "for" and 880,046 "against."

Official Announcement of Nov. 7 Vote.—Louis L. Emmer-son, Secretary of State, on Dec. 7 issued a bulletin, containing, among other results, of the general election the vote cast on the Soldier Bonus and the Light Wine and Beer proposals. The official canvass shows 1,220,815 "for" to 502,372 "against" the Bonus and 1,065,242 "for" to 512,111 "against" the use of light wine and beer.

Kansas City, Mo.—Charter Amendments Providing for Non-Political Water Board and \$11,000,000 Bonds Void.—Following the voters' rejection on Nov. 21 of the new charter and their approval of the alternative upholding the charter amendment calling for a non-political water board, the State Supreme Court on Dec. 6 handed down a decision in the suit brought to oust the non-political board, declaring the charter amendments establishing the board and providing for bonds void. See V. 115, p. 2290 and 2401; also V. 113, p. 2436 and V. 114, p. 1568.

Los Angeles, Calif.—Gas & Electric Co. Apply for Injunction Against City's Condemnation Proceedings.—The city, following failure to reach an agreement with the Los Angeles Gas & Electric Corp. for the purchase of the company's property, announced its intention to resort to condemnation proceedings to carry out its plan of municipal ownership. The company, according to the Los Angeles "Times," responded by asking for an injunction restraining the city from taking the contemplated action. The application was granted, and an order issued on Dec. 12 by Judge Crail of the Superior Court, ordering Acting Mayor Criswell and others to appear before Judge Hahn on Dec. 15 for a hearing. We quote the Los Angeles "Times" from its issue of Dec. 12:

Superior Court Judge Crail yesterday afternoon issued an order summoning Acting Mayor Criswell and other city officials and members of the State Railroad Commission to appear before Judge Hahn next Friday morning at 10.30 o'clock to show cause why a permanent injunction should not be issued restraining the city from embarking upon condemnation proceedings to acquire the \$17,000,000 electric generating and distributing system of the Los Angeles Gas & Electric Corp. Summons was served yesterday afternoon at the City Hall upon Acting Mayor Criswell, City Auditor Myers and City Treasurer Powell and upon officials at the offices of the State Railroad Commission.

The hearing next Friday morning will mark the beginning of a hard-fought battle by the gas company to defeat the efforts of the Public Service Commission and its municipal ownership and Socialist friends to embarrass the company, while the corporation is expending more than \$9,000,000 in making extensions and betterments to its system to meet the needs of the tremendously increased population.

The company in its application for an injunction, declares that the action of the Council last Monday in adopting by a 5 to 4 vote, a resolution calling upon the State Railroad Commission to make a survey to determine the value of the electrical properties of the company, as the beginning of condemnation proceedings, was illegal. This view of the Council's action was set forth from the floor of the Council by Councilman Mushet, who said that the resolution was not carried but was defeated, six votes being required, he said, to adopt it. He based his stand on the two points:

First, that the city charter provides that an appropriation of city money requires six votes in the Council, and the official vote as recorded showed five—President Criswell and Councilmen Conaway, Mallard, Sanborn and Wheeler—for starting proceedings before the State Commission, and four—Councilmen Allen, Langdon, Mushet and Sparks—opposed; and second, that President Criswell, who is Acting Mayor, had no legal right to cast a ballot in the Council which would thus place him in the position of functioning in two city jobs at the same time.

Councilmen Langdon and Allen stated yesterday that their reason for voting against the resolution calling upon the Railroad Commission to make a survey of the electric properties of the gas company was that they believed it would be unfair to use the Council to discredit and embarrass the company.

As showing the tremendous size of the electric system of the Los Angeles Gas & Electric Corp., which the Public Service Commission hopes to get the taxpayers to take over, Vice-President Champ Vance of the company said yesterday that these electric properties, including generating and distributing systems, were worth to-day \$17,000,000, and not \$7,000,000, which the municipal ownership advocates and Socialists who are behind the present drive to abolish the gas company's electric business are saying the properties are worth. Mr. Vance called attention to the extensions the company is now making, and said that one year from now the properties would be worth \$20,000,000.

Nevada.—Result of Election.—The two proposed constitutional amendments relating to the prohibition of local or special laws and the appointment by county commissioners of a successor to a deceased or resigned legislator, were favorably voted upon at the general election—V. 115, p. 1965:

The two propositions to change the divorce laws of Nevada failed. Proposition No. 3, which would have altered the residence requirement to one year instead of six months, lost by 8,024 votes, and proposition No. 4, which, in effect, ratifies the present divorce laws of the State and forbids their alteration under constitutional amendment for a period of three years, had a plurality of 3,359 votes.

New Jersey.—Official Vote on Road Bond.—The official canvass on the \$40,000,000 Road Bond Act approved by the people on Nov. 7—V. 115, p. 2291—gives the measure a majority of 17,064, the vote being 260,929 "for" to 243,865 "against."

BOND PROPOSALS AND NEGOTIATIONS

this week have been as follows:

AGUILAR, Las Animas County, Colo.—BOND SALE.—Our Western representative advises us that James H. Causey & Co. and Geo. W. Valley & Co., both of Denver, have purchased \$75,000 5½% water extension bonds at 92, a basis of about 6.57%—Denom. \$1,000. Date Dec. 1 1922. Prin. and semi-ann. int. (J.-D.) payable at the Mechanics' & Metals National Bank, N. Y. City. Due Dec. 1 1932.

ALBANY COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1 (P. O. Laramie), Wyo.—BOND SALE.—The \$40,000 5% 20-year high school bonds offered on Dec. 12—V. 115, p. 2292—were awarded to Crosby, McConnell & Co. of Denver, at 101.56.

ALBION, Calhoun County, Mich.—BOND ELECTION.—It is reported in the Toledo "Blade" of Dec. 9 that a special election will be held on Dec. 28 to vote on the proposition of issuing \$50,000 city hospital improvement bonds.

ALHAMBRA, Los Angeles County, Calif.—BOND SALE.—The Citizens' National Bank of Los Angeles, has purchased \$200,000 4½% sewer bonds at 100.15. Denom. \$1,000. Date Aug. 1 1922. Int. F. & A. Due serially on Aug. 1 from 1923 to 1947, inclusive.

ALLEGHENY COUNTY (P. O. Pittsburgh), Pa.—BOND SALE.—The \$2,250,000 4½% coupon (with privilege of registration as to principal and interest) bridge bonds, offered on Dec. 9 (V. 115, p. 2401), were awarded to the Union Trust Co. of Pittsburgh, on a bid of 101.87, a basis of about 4.10%. Denom. \$1,000. Date Jan. 1 1923. Semi-annual interest (J. & J.) payable at the County Controller's office. Due \$75,000 yearly on Jan. 1 from 1924 to 1953, inclusive.

ASBURY CITY, Ocean County, N. J.—NOTE OFFERING.—A. Grace King, City Clerk, will receive sealed bids until 11 a. m. Dec. 19 for \$100,000 six months' tax revenue notes. Due six months from Dec. 19 1922. Bidders to name rate of interest.

ASHEBORO, Randolph County, No. Caro.—BOND OFFERING.—Sealed proposals will be received until 8 p. m. Dec. 19 by James B. Neely, Town Clerk, for \$7,500 5% coupon (with privilege of registration) sewer bonds of 1920. Denom. \$250. Date Dec. 1 1922. Prin. and semi-ann. int. (J.-D.), payable at the Town Treasurer's office. Due \$250 yearly on Dec. 1 from 1923 to 1932, incl., cert. check upon an incorporated bank or trust company (or cash) for 2% of amount of bonds bid for, payable to the Town of Asheboro, required.

ATHENS, Athens County, Ohio.—BOND SALE.—Tucker, Robinson & Co. of Toledo, were awarded the following 5½% bonds, totaling \$80,000 that were offered for sale on Dec. 9 (V. 115, p. 2498), for a premium of \$38, equal to 100.67, a basis of about 5.35%:

\$45,000 bonds for the purpose of constructing storm sewers in Storm Sewer District No. 2. Issued under authority of the laws of Ohio, and an ordinance passed April 3 1922. Due \$4,500 yearly on Sept. 1 from 1923 to 1932, inclusive.

35,000 street-improvement bonds. Issued under authority of the laws of Ohio, and an ordinance passed July 5 1922. Due \$3,500 yearly on Sept. 1 from 1923 to 1932, inclusive.

Denom. \$500. Date Sept. 1 1922.

The above was the only unconditional bid received. The following is a list of the bids received:

	Premium		
Bonbright & Co., Inc.	\$392.00	A. T. Bell & Co., Toledo	672.00
Ryan, Bowman Co., Toledo	470.50	Citizens Trust Co., Columbus	650.00
Harnett Bond Co., Chicago	257.00	Provid'g. Sa. Bk. & Tr. Co. Cln.	400.00
Singer Spitzer & Co., Toledo		Hayden Miller Co., Cleveland	650.00
(Street bonds only)	70.00	Weld Roth & Co., Cincinnati	1002.00
Breed, Elliott & Harrison, Cln	\$25.70	The Title Guaranty & Trust Co., Cincinnati	720.00
W. L. Slayton & Co., Toledo	456.00	Stacy & Braun, Toledo	848.00
N. S. Hill & Co., Cincinnati	575.00		
Detroit Trust Co.	1013.00		

ATLANTIC COUNTY (P. O. Atlantic City), N. J.—BOND OFFERING.—Bids will be received until 3 p. m. Dec. 23 by E. L. Johnson, County Treasurer, for the purchase at not less than par and interest of the following two issues of 4½% coupon (with privilege of registration as to principal and interest, or principal only), road improvement bonds, no more bonds of either issue to be awarded than will produce a premium of \$1,000 over the amount of bonds offered:

\$235,000 bonds. Date Dec. 1 1922. Int. J. & D. Due yearly on Dec. 1 as follows: \$15,000 1923 to 1935, incl., and \$20,000 1936 and 1937.

71,000 bonds. Date Nov. 1 1922. Int. M. & N. Due yearly on Nov. 1 as follows: \$4,000 1923 to 1926, incl., and \$5,000 1927 to 1937, incl.

Denom. \$1,000. Prin. and semi-ann. int., payable in lawful money of the U. S. at the County Treasurer's office. Certified check on an incorporated bank or trust company for 2% of amount of bonds bid for, payable to the County Treasurer required. Delivery to be made on Dec. 30 at 11 a. m. at the County Solicitor's office, unless another date is agreed upon. Legality to be approved by Clay & Dillon of New York.

ATLANTIC INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT (P. O. Atlantic), Cass County, Iowa.—DESCRIPTION.—The \$55,000 school bonds purchased by Geo. M. Bechtel & Co. of Davenport, as stated in V. 115, p. 564—are described as follows: Denom. \$1,000. Date Aug. 1 1922. Prin. and semi-ann. int. (F.-A.), payable at Geo. M. Bechtel & Co., Davenport. Int. rate 4½%. Due on Aug. 1 as follows: \$15,000, 1927, and \$5,000, 1928 to 1935, inclusive.

Financial Statement.	
Actual value of property	\$7,817,812
Taxable value 1921	4,852,363
Total debt (incl. this issue)	89,500
Population, 5,329.	

BALTIC, Minnehaha County, So. Dak.—BOND SALE.—The \$10,000 6% town bonds offered unsuccessfully on Nov. 4—V. 115, p. 2292—have been purchased by Magraw, Kerfoot & Co. of Saint Paul, at par. Date Nov. 15 1922. Due Nov. 15 1942.

BIG MEDICINE CREEK DRAINAGE DISTRICT NO. 1, Sullivan and Grundy Counties, Mo.—BONDS OFFERED BY BANKERS.—The Liberty Central Trust Co. and G. H. Walker & Co., both of St. Louis, are offering to investors at par and int. \$146,000 5% drainage bonds. The bonds are described as follows: Denom. \$1,000. Date Sept. 1 1922. Prin. and semi-ann. int. payable at the Liberty Central Trust Co., St. Louis. Due serially on Sept. 1 from 1926 to 1937, inclusive.

BLUE EARTH COUNTY (P. O. Mankato), Minn.—BOND SALE.—The \$85,000 5% county ditch bonds offered on Dec. 13—V. 115, p. 2498—were awarded to the Minnesota Loan & Trust Co. of Minneapolis, as 4½% at a premium of \$645, equal to 101.89, a basis of about 4.55%. Due on Dec. 1 as follows: \$3,500 1927, \$3,000 1928 to 1936, inclusive, and \$1,500 1937 to 1941, inclusive.

BOONE, Watauga County, No. Caro.—BOND SALE.—On Dec. 14 the Watauga County Bank purchased \$14,000 6% street bonds at par.

BOONE COUNTY (P. O. Lebanon), Ind.—BOND SALE.—The Boone County State Bank of Lebanon, was awarded the issue of \$30,800 6% coupon Lara E. Edlin et al., Center, Harrison and Jackson Townships drainage bonds, offered on Dec. 8 (V. 115, p. 2498). Date Nov. 10 1922. Due \$3,080 yearly on Nov. 10 from 1923 to 1932, inclusive.

BRIDGEWATER, McCook County, So. Dak.—BOND ELECTION.—On Dec. 22 an election will be held to vote on the question of issuing \$10,000 electric light and power plant bonds.

BRIDGEWATER, McCook County, So. Dak.—BOND ELECTION.—On Dec. 22 an election will be held to vote on the question of issuing \$10,000 light and power plant bonds.

BROCKTON, Plymouth County, Mass.—TEMPORARY LOAN.—F. S. Moseley & Co. of Boston, has been awarded a temporary loan of \$200,000, dated Dec. 15 1922, and maturing Oct. 19 1923, on a 4.23% discount basis.

BROOKHAVEN UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 24 (P. O. Patchogue), Suffolk County, N. Y.—BOND OFFERING.—Sealed proposals will be received by Henry J. Bishop, District Clerk, until 11.30 a. m. Dec. 27 for an issue of \$480,000 coupon school bonds. Int. rate not to exceed 5%. Date Feb. 1 1923. Denom. \$1,000. Due \$18,000 on Feb. 1 from 1924 to 1933, incl., and \$20,000 on Feb. 1 from 1934 to 1948, incl. Int. semi-ann. Cert. check for 12% of bonds bid for, payable to Frank

\$400, \$350, \$354.30, \$477.25, \$425.61 and \$791.71. Date Sept. 1 1922. Prin. and semi-ann. int. (M. & S.) payable at the Village Clerk's office...

HOBOKEN, Hudson County, N. J.—BOND OFFERING.—Sealed bids will be received until 10 a. m. Dec. 26 by Daniel A. Hingerty, City Clerk...

HOMER, Claiborne Parish, La.—BOND SALE.—The \$120,000 Sewerage District No. 1 bonds offered on Dec. 7—V. 115, p. 2500—were awarded...

HOMESTEAD, Allegheny County, Pa.—BOND OFFERING.—James E. Chuck, Borough Secretary, will receive sealed bids until 8 p. m. Jan. 2 for the sale of an issue of \$285,000 4 1/2% municipal coupon bonds...

HOWELL, Colfax County, Nebr.—BOND OFFERING.—Bids will be received until 7 p. m. Dec. 18 by Geo. Lodes, Village Clerk, for \$10,000 5% coupon light and power distribution bonds...

HUMPHREYS COUNTY (P. O. Belzoni), Miss.—BOND OFFERING.—Bids will be received until Jan. 2 by A. R. Hutchens, Clerk Board of County Supervisors...

IOWA (STATE OF)—BOND OFFERING.—Sealed bids will be received by W. J. Burbank, State Treasurer, (P. O. Des Moines) until 11 a. m. Jan. 9 for \$22,000,000 4 1/4% State Soldiers' Bonus Bonds...

Table with 2 columns: Description of property and Taxable value. Total taxable value is \$4,353,858.120.

JACKSON TOWNSHIP DRAINAGE DISTRICT, Nodaway County, Mo.—BOND SALE.—Lewis W. Thomson & Co., Inc., of St. Louis, have purchased \$98,000 5% drainage bonds...

JAYNES IRRIGATION DISTRICT, Pima County, Ariz.—BOND OFFERING.—Until 10 a. m. Dec. 27 bids will be received by Matt Wachter, District Secretary...

JEFFERSON, Ashtabula County, Ohio.—BOND SALE.—On Dec. 4 the \$7,500 6% coupon refunding bonds offered on that date (V. 115, p. 2294) were awarded to Seussongood & Mayer...

JEFFERSON COUNTY (P. O. Madison), Ind.—BOND OFFERING.—S. G. Boward, County Treasurer, will receive bids until 2 p. m. Dec. 27 for the following three issues of 4 1/4% coupon gravel and macadam road bonds...

JEFFERSON COUNTY (P. O. Fayette), Miss.—BONDS VOTED.—Our Western representative advises us that \$35,000 road bonds were voted.

JOHNSTON COUNTY (P. O. Smithfield), No. Caro.—BOND OFFERING.—Sealed proposals will be received until 12 m. Jan. 3 by W. G. Wilson, Chairman County Board of Education...

Table with 2 columns: School District Name and Assessed valuation. Total valuation is \$536,142.

KALAMAZOO SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1 (P. O. Kalamazoo), Kalamazoo County, Mich.—BOND OFFERING.—Sealed bids will be received by H. W. Anderson, Secretary of the Board of Education...

(Building), until 7:30 p. m. Dec. 18 for \$550,000 5% school bonds. No bid for less than par and accrued interest considered...

KENEDY, Karnes County, Texas.—BOND ELECTION.—On Dec. 26 the question of issuing \$6,000 school bonds will be submitted to a vote of the people.

KNOX COUNTY COMMON SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 14, Texas.—BONDS REGISTERED.—The State Comptroller of Texas registered \$10,000 6% serial school bonds on Dec. 5.

KOSCIUSKO COUNTY (P. O. Warsaw), Ind.—BOND OFFERING.—Ed Paulson, County Treasurer, will receive bids until 2 p. m. Dec. 18 for the following three issues of 5% road bonds...

LAKE COUNTY (P. O. Crown Point), Ind.—BOND SALE.—The \$175,000 5% bridge bonds, offered on Dec. 11 (V. 115, p. 2074), have been awarded to the People's State Bank of Crown Point...

Table with 3 columns: Bidder Name, Bid Amount, and Premium. Includes entries for Fletcher-American Co., Meyer-Kaiser Bank, etc.

LAPORTE COUNTY (P. O. Laporte), Ind.—BOND SALE.—The two issues of 5% coupon highway bonds, offered on Dec. 9 (V. 115, p. 2403), were awarded as follows:

LARAMIE, Converse County, Wyo.—BOND OFFERING.—H. M. Haslett, City Clerk, will offer \$162,000 4 1/2% or 5% sewer bonds for sale at 11 a. m. Dec. 30...

LIBERTY COMMON SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 7 (P. O. White Sulphur Springs), Sullivan County, N. Y.—BOND OFFERING.—Sealed bids will be received until 3 p. m. Dec. 20 by the Clerk Board of School Trustees...

LIBERTY SCHOOL DISTRICT (P. O. Liberty), Allegheny County, Pa.—BOND OFFERING.—Sealed proposals will be received by Chas. A. Kelly, Secretary Board of School Directors, until 7:30 p. m. Jan. 2 1923...

LOS ANGELES CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT, Los Angeles County, Calif.—BOND OFFERING.—Proposals are being received until 11 a. m. Jan. 8 by L. E. Lampton, County Clerk...

LOS ANGELES CITY HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT, Los Angeles County, Calif.—BOND OFFERING.—Proposals are being received until 11 a. m. Jan. 8 by L. E. Lampton, County Clerk...

LYON COUNTY (P. O. Marshall), Minn.—BOND SALE.—Lane, Piper & Jaffray, of Minneapolis, have purchased the two issues of 4 1/4% public drainage ditch bonds offered on Dec. 7 (V. 115, p. 2501)...

McCULLOCH COUNTY ROAD DISTRICT NO. 1 (P. O. Brady), Tex.—BOND ELECTION.—An election will be held on Dec. 28 to vote on the question of issuing \$450,000 5 1/2% road district bonds...

MANCHESTER, Hillsborough County, N. H.—BOND OFFERING.—The City Treasurer, according to reports, will receive bids until 2 p. m. Dec. 18 for an issue of \$300,000 4% school bonds...

MARION COUNTY (P. O. Salem), Ore.—BOND OFFERING.—Sealed proposals will be received until 12 m. Dec. 28 by U. G. Boyer, Clerk of the County Court, for \$150,000 5 1/2% road bonds...

MATAGORDA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, Matagorda County, Tex.—BONDS REGISTERED.—The State Comptroller of Texas registered \$30,000 5% 10-20-year school bonds on Dec. 4.

MEEKER COUNTY (P. O. Litchfield), Minn.—BOND SALE.—The \$55,966.97 5% bonds offered on Dec. 13 (V. 115, p. 2404) were awarded to the Northwestern Trust Co. of St. Paul...

to 101.00, a basis of about 4.40%. Date Dec. 1 1922. Due on Dec. 1 as follows: \$6,000 1932 to 1940 incl. and \$11,966 97 in 1941.

MERCER COUNTY (P. O. Celina, Ohio).—BOND SALE.—The \$50,000 coupon bridge bonds offered as 5s on Oct. 9—V. 115, p. 1453—were awarded on that date to Prudden & Co. of Toledo, at a bid of \$50,900, equal to 101.80, for 5 1/8s, a basis of about 5.12%. Date March 15 1922. Due \$5,000 yearly on Sept. 15 from 1923 to 1932 inclusive.

MILTON SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1, Vermilion Parish, La.—BOND OFFERING.—Bids will be received until 11 a. m. Jan. 11 by J. H. Williams, Secretary-Treasurer of the Parish School Board (P. O. Abbeville) for \$4,200 school bonds. A certified check for \$100 required. Bids for less than 90 will not be considered.

MINERAL SPRINGS TOWNSHIP, Moore County, No. Caro.—BOND SALE.—The \$75,000 6% coupon bond bonds offered on Dec. 11 (V. 115, p. 2606), were awarded to Bumpus-Hull & Co., of Detroit, at a premium of \$4,012 65, equal to 105.35. Date Dec. 1 1922. Due in 20 years.

MINIDOKA COUNTY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1 (P. O. Rupert) Idaho.—BOND SALE.—The Lumbermen's Trust Co. of Portland has purchased \$45,000 5 1/8% refunding bonds of 97.

MISSOURI (State of).—BONDS OFFERED.—Newspapers report that another block of \$5,000,000 4 1/8% State road bonds were offered for sale on Dec. 15. The bonds, it is stated, will be dated Dec. 1 1922 and mature \$2,000,000 on Dec. 1 in 1923 and 1924 and \$1,000,000 1925. The State recently sold an issue of \$5,000,000, as stated in V. 115, p. 2606.

MOUNT VERNON, Westchester County, N. Y.—BOND SALE.—On Dec. 12 \$300,000 5% coupon or registered tax relief bonds were sold to Sherwood & Merrifield of New York, at 101.71 and interest, a basis of about 4.39%. Denom. \$1,000. Date Dec. 1 1922. Int. J. & D., payable at the City Treasurer's office. Due Dec. 1 1925.

Financial Statement.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes Assessed valuation, Bonded debt, Floating debt, Total debt, Tax relief bonds, etc.

NACOGDOCHES, Nacogdoches County, Tex.—BOND ELECTION.—On Dec. 23 an election will be held to vote on the question of issuing \$225,000 5% 40-year serial street improvement bonds.

NACOGDOCHES COUNTY (P. O. Nacogdoches), Tex.—BOND ELECTION.—An election will be held on Jan. 2, on which date a proposition to issue \$750,000 road bonds will be submitted to a vote of the people.

NAVAJO COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 8 (P. O. Taylor), Ariz.—BOND ELECTION.—An election will be held on Jan. 6 to vote on the question of issuing \$14,500 6% 20-year school bldg. bonds. Mary Shumway, District Clerk.

NEVADA SCHOOL DISTRICT, Vernon County, Mo.—BONDS VOTED.—A special telegraphic dispatch from our Western representative advises us that an issue of \$320,000 school bonds has been voted.

NEWCASTLE SCHOOL DISTRICT (P. O. Newcastle), Lawrence County, Pa.—BOND SALE.—On Dec. 12 the \$300,000 4 1/4% coupon school building bonds, offered on that date (V. 115, p. 2607), were sold to the National City Co. and Harris, Forbes & Co., both of New York, jointly, for \$307,737 (102.579) and interest. Date Jan. 1 1923. Due yearly on Jan. 1 from 1931 to 1940, inclusive. Other bidders were: Lewis & Snyder, Pittsburgh; Union Trust Co., Pittsburgh; M. M. Freeman & Co., Phila.; 305,490 Mellon Nat. Bk., Pittsb'gh; 305,850 Redmond & Co., Phila.; 305,820 J. H. Holmes & Co., Pittsb'gh; 305,870.

NEWPORT BEACH, Orange County, Calif.—BOND SALE.—Bayly Bros. and Cohn, McCabe & Co. of Los Angeles, have jointly purchased, \$261,639 50 7% sewer imp. district bonds. Denom. \$1,000 and \$500. Date Sept. 18 1922. Prin. and semi-ann. Int. (J-J, 2), payable at the City Treasurer's office.

Financial Statement (Area 6 Square Miles).

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes Assessed valuation, Actual valuation, Bonded debt.

NEW ROCHELLE, Westchester County, N. Y.—BOND SALE.—On Dec. 14 the following three issues of coupon (with privilege of registration as to principal and interest, or principal only) bonds, aggregating \$237,000, were awarded to Rutter & Co., of New York, for \$240,792, equal to 101.684 for 4 1/8s, a basis of about 4.10%.

\$144,000 school bonds. Due \$6,000 early on May 1 from 1932 to 1935, inclusive.

68,000 municipal improvement bonds. Due yearly on May 1 as follows: \$9,000, 1925 to 1931, inclusive, and \$5,000, 1932.

25,000 sewer bonds. Due \$1,000 yearly on May 1 from 1932 to 1936, inclusive.

Denom. \$1,000. Date Nov. 1 1922. Principal and semi-annual interest (M. & N.) payable at the City Treasurer's office; interest on registered bonds payable in New York exchange.

NICHOLSON TOWNSHIP (P. O. New Geneva), Fayette County, Pa.—BOND SALE.—Redmond & Co., of Philadelphia, have been awarded an issue of \$50,000 4 1/2% funding bonds, offered on Nov. 25, for a premium of \$325 (100.65) and accrued interest—a basis of about 4.45%. Date Dec. 1 1922. Denom. \$1,000. Due \$10,000 every five years on June 1 from 1932 to 1952, inclusive. Int. J. & D.

NORMAN COUNTY (P. O. Ada), Minn.—BONDS DEFEATED.—An election resulted in a defeat of the proposition to issue 40,000 poor farm bonds, by a vote of 1,034 "for" to 2,552 "against" the issue.

NORTH BEAVER TOWNSHIP, Lawrence County, Pa.—BOND SALE.—Redmond & Co. of Pittsburgh, purchased, on June 10, an issue of \$90,000 4 1/4% school bonds for a premium of \$975, equal to about 101.983, a basis of about 4.44%. Date June 1 1922. Denom. \$1,000. Due Jan. 1 1922. Int. J. & D.

NORWICH, Chenango County, N. Y.—BOND OFFERING.—Edward E. Davis, City Chamberlain, will offer at public auction at 2 p. m. Dec. 20 the following three issues of 5% paving bonds: \$8,423 00 bonds series DD. Denom. 16 for \$500 and 1 for \$423. Due on Jan. 1 as follows: \$500 from 1926 to 1941 inclusive; and \$423 in 1942.

\$4,546 00 bonds series EE. Denom. 8 for \$500 and 1 for \$546. Due on Jan. 1 as follows: \$500 from 1926 to 1933 inclusive and \$546 in 1934.

892 57 bonds series FF. Denom. \$892 57. Due Jan. 1 1924. Date Jan. 1 1923. Int. J. & J. Certified check for 1% of bid, payable to the City Chamberlain, required.

OKDALE, Allen Parish, La.—BOND OFFERING.—Sealed bids will be received until 10 a. m. Jan. 2 by Harry Hartstein, Secretary Board of Sewerage Commissioners, for \$20,000 First Sewerage District bonds. Bids for less than 95 will not be considered. A certified check on some solvent bank in Louisiana or some bank chartered under the laws of Louisiana, for 1 1/2% of issue, payable to S. M. Scott, President Board of Sewerage Commissioners, required. Successful bidder will be furnished with proper legal opinion as to validity of these bonds.

OKLAND, Burt County, Neb.—BOND SALE.—The State of Nebraska purchased the following two issues of 5% intersection paving bond at par during the month of November:

*\$36,504 89 bonds. Date Nov. 1 1922. Due serially on Nov. 1 from 1924 to 1940.

3,992 78 bonds. Date Oct. 15 1922. Due serially on Oct. 15 from 1927 to 1933.

*In V. 115, p. 2502, this amount was incorrectly given as \$36,000.

OLD FORGE, Herkimer County, N. Y.—BOND OFFERING.—Sealed bids will be received until 8 p. m. Dec. 18 by George M. Dullin, Village Clerk, for \$24,500 water and light bonds at not to exceed 5% interest. Denoms. \$1,000 and \$500. Date Jan. 1 1923. Int. semi-ann. Due yearly on Jan. 1 as follows: \$1,500 1924 to 1939 incl. and \$500 1940. Cert. check for \$500 required.

ORANGE COUNTY (P. O. Orlando), Fla.—BOND SALE.—Spitzer, Rorick & Co. of Toledo have purchased the \$528,000 5% road bonds offered on Dec. 12 (V. 115, p. 2295) at a discount of \$6,226 30, equal to 98.63, a basis of about 5.11%. Date Sept. 15 1921. Due on Sept. 15 as follows: \$118,000 1942; \$127,000 1943; \$137,000 1944 and \$146,000 1945.

ORANGE COUNTY (P. O. Paoli), Ind.—BOND OFFERING.—Bids will be received until 2 p. m. Jan. 1 by John L. Teaford, County Treasurer, for \$28,000 4 1/4% coupon L. O. Halston et al. Orleans Township, County Jail Road bonds. Denom. \$1,400. Date Dec. 20 1922. Int. May 15 and Nov. 15. Due \$1,400 each six months from May 15 1924 to Nov. 15 1933 inclusive.

ORANGE TOWNSHIP (P. O. Chagrin Falls R. R.), Cuyahoga County, Ohio.—BOND OFFERING.—Bids will be received until 12 m. Jan. 6 by T. W. Taylor, Township Clerk, for the purchase at not less than par and interest of \$34,556 45 5 1/2% coupon S. O. M. Centre Road Nos. 3 and 4 improvement (township's portion) bonds, issued under authority of Sec. 3215, Gen. Code. Denoms: 1 for \$556 45 and 34 for \$1,000. Date Sept. 1 1922. Prin. and semi-ann. Int. (A. & O.) payable at the Chagrin Falls Banking Co. Due yearly on Oct. 1 as follows: \$3,556 45, 1923; \$3,000, 1924; and \$4,000, 1925 to 1931, incl. Certified check on some bank other than the one making the bid, for 10% of amount of bonds bid for, payable to the Township Treasurer, required. Delivery and payment to be made at the Chagrin Falls Banking Co. within 10 days from date of award.

ORANGEBURG COUNTY (P. O. Orangeburg), So. Caro.—BOND SALE.—Sidney Spitzer & Co. of Toledo have purchased the \$100,000 bridge bonds offered on Dec. 14 (V. 115, p. 2607) as 5s at 102.71, a basis of about 4.80%. Date Jan. 1 1923. Due on Jan. 1 as follows: \$1,000 1924 to 1933 incl. and \$3,000 1933 to 1963 incl.

OSWEGO COUNTY (P. O. Oswego), N. Y.—BOND SALE.—Roosevelt & Son of New York were awarded the issue of \$26,000 4 1/2% 3-year (aver.) coupon bridge bonds offered on Dec. 12 (V. 115, p. 2607), for 100.36, a basis of about 4.39%. Date Oct. 1 1922. Due yearly on Oct. 1 as follows: \$5,000 from 1923 to 1927 and \$1,000 in 1928.

PAINT TOWNSHIP RURAL SCHOOL DISTRICT (P. O. Mt. Eaton), Wayne County, Ohio.—BOND OFFERING.—Bids will be received until 1 p. m. Dec. 23 by Ed Rich, Clerk of the Board of Education, for the purchase at not less than par and interest of \$56,000 5 1/2% coupon school building bonds, issued under authority of Sec. 7630-1, General Code. Denom. \$1,000. Date Dec. 1 1922. Prin. and semi-ann. Int. (A. & O.) payable at the Bank of Mt. Eaton. Due \$2,000 on Oct. 1 in each of the years 1923, 1927, 1931, 1935 and 1939; and \$3,000 on Oct. 1 in each of the other years from 1924 to 1942 incl. Certified check on a solvent bank or trust company, for 2% of amount of bonds bid for, payable to the Board of Education, required. Bids must be made on blanks furnished by the County Superintendent of Schools.

PALACIOS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, Matagorda County, Tex.—BONDS REGISTERED.—On Dec. 6 the State Comptroller of Texas registered \$10,000 6% serial bonds.

PARMA (P. O. Hilton), Monroe County, N. Y.—BOND SALE.—Myron W. Greene was awarded an issue of \$24,000 5% Collower Road Water District bonds, offered on Dec. 8, for 102.70, a basis of about 4.59%. Date Dec. 1 1922. Due \$2,000 on April 1 from 1925 to 1938 incl.

PAYNESVILLE CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT (P. O. Paynesville), Pike County, Mo.—BONDS VOTED.—By a vote of 192 to 55 an issue of \$12,000 school building construction bonds was voted at a recent election.

PEMBERTON, Burlington County, N. J.—BOND OFFERING.—Bids will be received until 7 30 p. m. Dec. 20 by J. Elton Ridgway, Borough Clerk, for an issue of \$30,000 4 1/2% coupon electric light and power system bonds. Denom. \$250. Date Jan. 1 1923. Prin. and semi-ann. Int. (J. & J.) payable at the People's National Bank, Pemberton. Due yearly on Jan. 1 as follows: \$1,000, 1925 to 1934, incl. and \$1,250, 1935 to 1942, incl. Certified check for 2%, payable to the Borough Treasurer, required.

PENNINGTON COUNTY (P. O. Thief River Falls), Minn.—BOND OFFERING.—Bids will be received by T. P. Anderson, County Auditor, until 10 a. m. Dec. 22 for \$75,000 5% bonds. Date Dec. 1 1922. Due \$5,000 yearly on Dec. 1 from 1928 to 1942, incl. Int. J. & D.

PENNSAUKEN TOWNSHIP (P. O. Camden), Camden County, N. J.—BONDS NOT SOLD.—The following three issues of curb and sidewalk 5% coupon bonds, offered on Dec. 11 (V. 115, p. 2607), were not sold: \$12,000 assessment bonds. Denom. \$4,000. Due \$4,000 yearly on Dec. 1 from 1923 to 1930 incl. 4,000 assessment bonds. Denom. \$500. Due \$500 yearly on Dec. 1 from 1923 to 1930 incl. 6,000 general bonds. Denom. \$800. Due \$600 yearly on Dec. 1 from 1923 to 1932 incl.

PERRYTON, Ochiltree County, Texas.—BONDS VOTED.—At the election held on Dec. 2 (V. 115, p. 2295), the \$25,000 light and water plant and \$75,000 water bonds were voted by a count of 149 to 60.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS (Government of).—BOND SALE.—The \$13,000,000 4 1/2% coupon gold bonds offered on Dec. 13 (V. 115, p. 2503) were awarded to a syndicate composed of Hallgarten & Co., White, Weld & Co., Blair & Co., Inc., Hornblower & Weeks and W. A. Harriman & Co., Inc., all of New York, at 95.07—a basis of about 4.79%. Date July 15 1922. Due July 15 1925. We are informed that all of these bonds have been sold to investors and the books closed. They were offered at prices to yield 4.625%. The advertisement on a preceding page appears as matter of record only.

PICAYUNE, Pearl River County, Miss.—BONDS VOTED.—A special telegraphic dispatch from our Western representative advises us that \$75,000 school bonds have been voted.

PICKAWAY COUNTY (P. O. Circleville), Ohio.—BOND SALE.—The \$25,000 5 1/2% coupon 1, C. H. No. 5 bonds offered on Dec. 11 (V. 115, p. 2405) were purchased by Well, Roth & Co. of Cincinnati at their bid of a premium of \$1,525, equal to 106.10, a basis of about 4.87%. Date Dec. 1 1922. Due \$1,000 yearly on Sept. 1 from 1924 to 1948 incl. The following bids were also received:

Table with 2 columns: Bidder and Premium. Lists various banks and their bid premiums.

PINEBLUFF, Moore County, No. Caro.—BOND OFFERING.—Sealed proposals will be received until 10 a. m. Dec. 20 by Lida Hutchings, Town Clerk, for \$8,000 6% coupon (with privilege of registration) water bonds. Denom. \$500. Date Nov. 1 1922. Prin. and semi-ann. Int. (M.-N.), payable in gold coin at the National Park Bank, N. Y. City, and int. on

will receive sealed bids until 2 p. m. Jan. 3 for \$20,000 5 1/2% school bonds. Denom. \$1,000. Prin. and int. (J.-D.) payable at the County Treasurer's office. Due \$1,000 on Dec. 4 from 1924 to 1943 incl. A cert. check for 5% of amount of issue payable to the Chairman Board of Supervisors, required.

WOODCLIFF LAKE, Bergen County, N. J.—BOND SALE.—On Dec. 11 the \$35,000 5% coupon (with privilege of registration) street bonds offered on that date (V. 115, p. 2503) were sold to B. J. Van Ingen & Co. of New York for \$35,052.50, equal to 100.15, a basis of 4.97%. Date Dec. 15 1922. Due yearly on Dec. 15 as follows: \$3,000, 1923 to 1927 incl., and \$4,000, 1928 to 1932 incl.

WOODWARD, Woodward County, Okla.—BOND SALE.—The First Municipal Bond & Mortgage Co., of Dallas, and the Liberty Central Trust Co., of St. Louis, jointly, were the successful bidders for the \$175,000 water-works bonds offered on Dec. 11 (V. 115, p. 2503) as 5 1/2% at a premium of \$560, equal to 100.32. Date Jan. 1 1923.

WORCESTER, Worcester County, Mass.—NOTE SALE.—The city has sold to the Merchants' National Bank of Worcester, on a 2 1/2% discount basis plus \$5, \$600,000 revenue notes, dated Dec. 14 1922 and maturing Nov. 1 1923. Other bidders were

Names of Other Bidders	Bid	Premium.
First National Bank, Boston	4.24%	discount plus \$11 premium
S. N. Bond & Co., Boston	4.25%	discount
Estabrook & Co.	4.26%	discount.
Salomon Bros. & Hutzler, Boston	4.29%	discount plus \$11 premium
Chas. L. Edwards	4.29%	discount
Blake Bros. & Co.	4.37%	discount plus \$10 premium

WORCESTER COUNTY (P. O. Worcester), Mass.—NOTE OFFERING.—Proposals will be received by Edgar L. Ramsdell, County Treasurer, until 12 m. Dec. 22 for the purchase at discount of \$70,000 Miller's River Bridge notes dated Dec. 26 1922 and payable June 30 1923 at the First National Bank of Boston. Denom. \$5,000. Delivery on or about Dec. 27 1922 at the First National Bank of Boston. The official circular states that these notes are exempt from taxation in Massachusetts and are prepared under the supervision of and certified as to genuineness by the First National Bank of Boston, their legality will be approved by Ropes, Gray, Boyden & Perkins, whose opinion will be furnished the purchaser. All legal papers incident to this issue will be filed with said bank, where they may be inspected at any time.

WYACONDA DRAINAGE DISTRICT NO. 3, Clark County, Mo.—BOND SALE.—Lewis W. Thomson & Co., Inc., of St. Louis, have purchased \$52,000 6% drainage bonds. Denom. \$1,000. Date Sept. 1 1922. Prin. and semi-ann. int. (M.-S.), payable at the Boatmen's Bank, St. Louis. Due on Sept. 1 as follows: \$2,000, 1927 to 1930, incl.; \$3,000, 1931 to 1934, incl., and \$4,000, 1935 to 1942, inclusive.

YANKTON, Yankton County, So. Dak.—BOND ISSUE VALIDATED.—John W. Summers, City Auditor, advises us that the \$70,000 paving bonds declared illegal by Wood & Oakley of Chicago—V. 115, p. 900—have been validated and sold to the Northwestern Trust Co. of St. Paul.

YATES COUNTY (P. O. Penn Yan), N. Y.—BOND OFFERING.—Sealed bids will be received until 8 p. m. Dec. 28 by Harry D. Bennett, County Treasurer, for the following coupon bonds:
\$50,000 6% county home bonds. Date Feb. 1 1923. Int. F. & A. Due \$5,000 yearly on Feb. 1 from 1924 to 1933, inclusive. Delivery of bonds to be made Feb. 1 at County Treas. office.
44,000 4 1/2% highway bonds. Date March 1 1923. Int. M. & S. Due \$22,000 March 1 1927 and 1928. Delivery of bonds to be made March 1 1923 at County Treasurer's office.
Principal and interest payable at County Treasurer's office. Certified check for \$1,000, payable to Harry O. Bennett, County Treasurer, required, with each issue.

YORK TOWNSHIP RURAL SCHOOL DISTRICT (P. O. Nelsonville R. D. No. 3), Athens County, Ohio.—BOND OFFERING.—John Maran, Clerk of the Board of Education, will receive bids until 12 m. Dec. 21 for the purchase at not less than par of \$4,000 6% school building bonds, issued under authority of Sec. 7630-1, Gen. Code. Denom. \$400. Interest annually on Sept. 1. Date day of sale. Due \$400 yearly, beginning 1 year and 8 months from date.

YOUNG COUNTY COMMON SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5, Tex.—BONDS REGISTERED.—The State Comptroller of Texas registered \$6,000 5 1/2% 20-40-year bonds on Dec. 5.

YUBA CITY UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT (P. O. Yuba City), Sutter County, Calif.—BOND SALE.—The \$250,000 6% school bonds voted on Nov. 7—V. 115, p. 2407—have been awarded to R. H. Moulton & Co. of San Francisco, at par plus a premium of \$17,826, equal to 107.13.

CANADA, its Provinces and Municipalities.

ALBERTA SCHOOL DISTRICTS, Alta.—DEBENTURE SALES.—At the offering on Nov. 30—V. 115, p. 2407—five blocks of 8% installment debentures, according to unofficial reports, were awarded as follows:
\$1,800 Garden Valley S. D. No. 2887 10-year debentures to Ewing, Harvey & Bury of Edmonton at 104.
2,000 Retlaw Cons. No. 4 10-year debentures to Ewing, Harvey & Bury of Edmonton at 103.08.
800 Inrie S. D. No. 3665 10-year debentures for par to J. W. Caswell, Veteran, Alta.
1,000 Trieste S. D. No. 4101 15-year debentures to J. H. Rouse of Edmonton at 102.
1,000 Gravelburg S. D. No. 3090 10-year debentures to J. N. Wilkinson, Pincher Creek, Alta., at 100.

BOGOTVILLE, Que.—DEBENTURE SALE.—The \$75,000 6% 10 1/2 installment debentures, offered on Nov. 14—V. 115, p. 2185—have been sold, it is reported.

CALGARY ROMAN CATHOLIC SCHOOL COMMISSION, Alta.—BOND SALE.—According to reports, Niblock & Tull purchased on Dec. 1 an issue of \$20,000 6% 10 1/2-year school bonds at 97.25, a basis of about 6.37%.

COLDSTREAM, B. C.—BOND SALE.—It is stated that on Dec. 1 an issue of \$3,000 6% 10-year bonds was sold.

CRANBROOK, B. C.—BOND SALE.—Reports state that an issue of \$10,000 6 1/2% 20-year bonds have been sold on Dec. 1.

COLBORNE, Ont.—DEBENTURE SALE.—School debentures amounting to \$40,000, bearing 6% interest and repayable in 20 installments, have been sold to Mackay & Mackay of Toronto at 100.12, a basis of about 5.99%. These bonds were unsuccessfully offered on Nov. 25 as 5 1/4%—V. 115, p. 2504. The bidders, according to the Toronto "Globe," were Mackay & Mackay, 100.12; MacNeill, Graham & Co., 99.71; Canada Bond Corp., 99.51; Harris, Forbes & Co., 99.43; Bell, Gouinlock & Co., 99.35; Wood, Gundy & Co., 98.83; R. C. Matthews & Co., 98.70; C. H. Burgess & Co., 98.42; A. E. Ames & Co., 98.09.

GIFFORD, Que.—DEBENTURE SALE.—According to newspaper reports the \$85,000 5 1/2% 20-year debentures, offered on Sept. 12 (V. 115, p. 1241), were awarded to the Provincial Bank on Dec. 1 at 98.75, a basis of 5.60%.

GRANT TOWNSHIP ROMAN CATHOLIC SCHOOL COMMISSION, Que.—BOND SALE.—It is reported that A. E. Ames & Co. of Toronto, were awarded an issue of \$2,000 7% 10-year school bonds on Dec. 1.

HAWKESBURY, Ont.—BOND SALE.—Newspapers state that an issue of \$82,720 6% 10-installment bonds was awarded to C. H. Burgess & Co. of Toronto, at 96, a basis of about 6.88%.

KINGSVILLE, Ont.—DEBENTURE SALE.—Bell, Gouinlock & Co. of Toronto, it is reported, have purchased an issue of \$140,000 6% 30-installment debentures.

LONDON, Ont.—BONDS VOTED—DEFEATED.—According to reports an issue of \$25,000 bonds for a new grandstand was authorized and an issue of \$55,000 bonds for a new fire hall and fire apparatus was defeated at an election held on Dec. 4.

MANITOBA (PROVINCE OF)—SALE OF TREASURY BILLS.—During November the province made 2 issue of treasury bills, according to newspaper reports. A block of \$200,000 dated Nov. 30 1922 and maturing Mar. 15 1923, bearing 5 1/2% was issued for the installation of telephones. The other amounting to \$350,000, dated Dec. 1 1922 and maturing Feb. 1 1923, bearing 6% was issued to cover the unpaid portion of seed grain loans which fell due Nov. 30.

ONTARIO (Province of)—BOND SALE.—An issue of \$5,000,000 5 1/2% coupon bonds was awarded on Dec. 13 to a syndicate composed of Aemilius Jarvis & Co., Wood, Gundy & Co. and A. E. Ames & Co., all of Toronto, for 99.59, a basis of about 5.54%. Date Dec. 1 1922. Denom. \$1,000. Due Dec. 1 1942. Principal and semi-annual int. (J. & D.) payable in gold coin or in lawful money of Canada, at the office of the Treasurer of Ontario, in Toronto, or at the Bank of Montreal, at the holder's option.

RICHMOND, B. C.—DEBENTURE SALE.—According to the "Monetary Times" of Toronto an issue of \$4,000 6% 20-year debentures has been purchased by Gillespie, Hart & Todd, Ltd., of Toronto at 100.59, a basis of about 5.95%.

RIVERSIDE, Ont.—DEBENTURE SALE.—In V. 115, p. 2610, we reported the sale of \$50,000 6% 20-installment school debentures to Wood, Gundy & Co. of Toronto at 100.28. We now learn that St. Louis, Jones & Faulkner of Windsor, who bid par, were given the privilege of raising their bid. This they did, and received the award at 100.28.

ROCHESTER TOWNSHIP, Ont.—BOND SALE.—According to reports an issue of \$3,958 6% 5- and 10-installment bonds has been awarded to MacNeill, Graham & Co. of Toronto.

SCARBOROUGH TOWNSHIP (P. O. Birch Cliff), Ont.—DEBENTURE SALE.—On Dec. 11 the following five issues of debentures, offered on that date—V. 115, p. 2504—were sold to MacNeill, Graham & Co. of Toronto at 103.83:

By-Law No.	Amount.	Rate of Interest.	Annual Installment, Principal and Interest.	No. of Installments.	Due Date.
1161	\$6,517.86	6	\$584.14	19	1923 to 1941 incl.
1167	12,771.13	6 1/2	1,918.71	9	1923 to 1931 incl.
1169	3,884.06	6 1/2	430.99	14	1923 to 1936 incl.
1904	49,749.77	6 1/2	6,806.73	15	1923 to 1937 incl.
1091	8,072.65	6 1/2	998.32	16	1923 to 1938 incl.

All the debentures and interest fall due on Dec. 15 in years mentioned. Other tenders were:
Gairdner, Clarke & Co. 103.52 | R. C. Matthews & Co. 102.484
Housser, Wood & Co. 103.26 | Wood, Gundy & Co. 102.19
C. H. Burgess & Co. 103.22 | Bell, Gouinlock & Co. 102.14
McLeod, Young, Weir & Co. 102.97 | Canada Bond Corp., Ltd. 101.973
Harris, Forbes & Co. 102.89 | A. E. Ames & Co. 100.89

TRENTON, Ont.—BOND SALE.—It is stated that the Municipal Bankers Corp. of Toronto purchased privately an issue of \$60,000 6% 30-installment bonds.

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