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The Financial Situation.

The reduction from 4½% to 4% in rediscount rates by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York has come very much in the nature of a surprise, and it is difficult to perceive what it is hoped to accomplish thereby. The action, however, follows close upon the heels of the elaborate discussions of "Federal Reserve Discount Policy" appearing in the recently released annual report of the Federal Reserve Board at Washington. In these discussions the Board laid down some beautiful theories regarding the rule of action that should govern the course of the Board in controlling and regulating credit, which it takes for granted is one of its chief functions, and the only fault to be found with these theories is that the Board appears to have overlooked one prime essential, namely their practical application.

The Board ventures the Delphic utterance that "Federal Reserve bank rates should be neither so low as to invite the use of credit for speculative purposes, nor so high as to discourage its use for meeting legitimate productive needs of the business community," and starting with this noble resolve it argues the question as if the task of managing the twelve Reserve banks devolved upon it instead of upon the managers of the twelve institutions. Reading this discussion one would imagine that all initiative and everything else depended upon the omniscient men at Washington aided by the superlative wisdom of a dirt farmer. The fact is that the twelve banks are separate entities and the management of each institution is in the hands of its own officials. They are supposed to have brains and to use them. They are not meant to be puppets, with no independent judgment of their own. It would be monstrous if it were otherwise.

Thus the Board makes extended reference to the open market operations of the banks, and we are

told, what is true, that the part that "open market operations may play in general credit policy is influenced by the fact that changes in the volume of securities held by the Reserve banks have an effect on the volume of their discounts for member banks," but the idea that runs all through the argument is that the Board does or can dictate these operations, when the fact is that the open market operations are in the control and judgment of the separate Reserve banks. Each bank must determine for itself what course is best to pursue and must act in accord with its own judgment and according to the circumstances of the case, which circumstances may vary widely at different times and among the different banks. It cannot rush to Washington for advice.

The experience of the New York Reserve Bank during the last five weeks furnishes an excellent illustration of the truth of this statement. In that period, not only has there been an enormous contraction in the volume of the Bank's rediscounts, but there has been concurrently a great reduction in the open market purchases. The shrinkage in the rediscounts is due to the policy the member banks have been pursuing of liquidating their borrowings at the Federal Reserve Bank, but the open market purchases one might expect would be adjusted in accordance with the changes in the holdings of discounts and Government securities. In the present instance nothing of the kind has occurred. As few persons are aware how striking the situation has been in this respect, we have compiled and present the following two tables, the one dealing with the operations of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York alone and the other with the operations of the twelve banks combined.

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF NEW YORK.

Date.	Bills Discounted.			Bills Bought in Open Market.	Holdings of Government Securities.	Total Earning Assets.
	Secured by U. S. Govt. Obligations.	Other Bills Discounted.	Total Bills Discounted.			
April 2	\$ 87,968,000	\$ 23,394,000	\$ 111,362,000	\$ 55,160,000	\$ 54,404,000	\$ 220,926,000
" 9	90,340,000	40,836,000	131,176,000	49,757,000	57,242,000	238,175,000
" 16	50,770,000	24,805,000	75,575,000	52,550,000	55,164,000	183,289,000
" 23	39,758,000	22,180,000	61,938,000	25,728,000	57,481,000	145,147,000
" 30	31,366,000	16,495,000	47,861,000	27,165,000	65,547,000	140,573,000

TWELVE FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS COMBINED.

Date.	Bills Discounted.			Bills Bought in Open Market.	Holdings of Government Securities.	Total Earning Assets.
	Secured by U. S. Govt. Obligations.	Other Bills Discounted.	Total Bills Discounted.			
April 2	\$ 239,063,000	\$ 290,597,000	\$ 529,660,000	\$ 213,772,000	\$ 264,855,000	\$ 1,008,338,000
" 9	228,280,000	301,279,000	529,559,000	197,606,000	268,903,000	996,119,000
" 16	190,419,000	279,151,000	469,570,000	176,680,000	266,667,000	912,968,000
" 23	187,914,000	284,929,000	472,843,000	140,424,000	274,295,000	887,613,000
" 30	161,164,000	286,021,000	447,185,000	124,485,000	301,660,000	873,381,000

It will be seen that in the case of the local bank the total of discounted bills has dropped from \$131,176,000 April 9 to \$47,861,000, and that at the same time the total of purchased bills has been reduced from

\$55,160,000 April 2 to \$27,165,000 April 30. Nor has there been any great change in the holdings of Government securities to explain the double decline. The result is total earning assets have fallen from \$238,175,000 April 9 to \$140,573,000 on April 30. The results for the twelve banks combined is the same, only a little more pronounced, and earning assets have dropped off from \$1,008,338,000 April 2 to \$873,381,000 April 30. The open market purchases doubtless diminished because the bills could no longer be purchased at the price fixed by the different banks. The fact that the shrinkage is common to the outside banks as well as to the New York bank would seem to show that the cause was beyond control. The Federal Reserve Board must have been equally impotent to change the result. It remains to be seen what the effect of the reduction in the New York Bank's discount rate will be.

Business failures continue quite numerous, and while the number during April of this year is somewhat smaller than for either of the three or four preceding months, as is generally the case, there is an increase in the number of such defaults in April as compared with that month of 1923—in fact, four of the last five months report a larger number of insolvencies than for the corresponding months of the preceding year. On the other hand, going back to January 1923, including 16 months in all, the four months above referred to are the only ones where a larger number of such defaults is shown, in comparison with the same months of the preceding year.

The insolvency returns, compiled from records of R. G. Dun & Co., are those on which our comments are based, as they include only commercial concerns, all banks and financial institutions naturally being reported separately. For April of this year the number of commercial failures was 1,707. These figures contrast with 1,817 similar defaults for the preceding month, but with 1,520 insolvencies during April 1923. As in practically every month for the past three years or more, the indebtedness shown by the April defaults is heavy, amounting to \$48,944,522. Much of this sum is attributable to the failure of a relatively small number of large manufacturing concerns. For March the defaulted indebtedness was \$67,651,026, an unprecedented amount, but 61 insolvencies in that month accounted for more than 80% of the total, or \$78,200,000. So, in April, nearly 60% of the total liabilities, or \$29,060,961, is attributable to 71 of the larger defaults. In April 1923 the defaulted indebtedness was \$51,491,941, and of that sum 58 failures accounted for 65%, or \$33,303,582. Defaults in manufacturing lines continue to show much heavier losses. For the month just closed there were 438 failures of manufacturing concerns, and their liabilities were \$23,136,875. Trading failures numbered 1,177, and the indebtedness reported was \$18,718,944, while for other commercial lines, including agents and brokers, the number was 91 and the liabilities \$7,048,633. For April 1923 the corresponding figures were respectively as follows: Manufacturing 388, for \$31,928,723; trading 1,088 for \$15,494,505, and agents 44 for \$4,068,713. The losses last year in the manufacturing division were considerably larger than in April this year, and in number, also, manufacturing defaults in April this year show some reduction. There was some increase last month in the number of defaults in machinery manufacturing, while in lumber manufacturing and among

banks there was a decrease. The liabilities reported for machinery lines are also much larger this year. In trading lines more failures are reported this year among general stores, grocers, dealers in clothing and shoes, jewelers and druggists than a year ago, and in general there is some increase in liabilities this year over last in the same departments of trade, the increase being nearly 50% among grocers.

As to the large defaults, there were 38 manufacturing concerns that failed last month reporting a total indebtedness of \$16,916,393, leaving to the remaining 400 other manufacturing failures that occurred in April of this year liabilities of \$6,220,482, an average for each of the latter of \$15,551, which contrasts with \$13,734 for April 1923. Of trading failures, there were only 23 of the larger defaults last month, and the indebtedness was \$6,208,239, the remaining 1,155 trading failures showing liabilities of \$12,510,705, an average for each of the latter of \$10,882; for April 1923 the average was practically the same, at \$10,756. Going back over the past 15 years, there is not one year in which the average liabilities of the smaller manufacturing defaults was as high as indicated for April of this year, and as to the trading defaults, in only two years, April 1921 and 1922 was the average higher than this year.

There have been several interesting and significant developments, all apparently with direct bearing upon the reparations situation. Briefly, in order, they were the announcement on Friday night of last week (as noted in these columns a week ago) by the International Acceptance Bank, Inc., of this city, that, in conjunction with 21 financial institutions in this and other American cities, it had arranged an initial credit of \$5,000,000 to the new German Gold Rediscount Bank; a dinner conference in Paris between J. P. Morgan and Louis Barthou, President of the Reparations Commission; Sir John Bradbury, British member, "and the other heads of the Allied missions to the reparations," and the receipt by the Commission of replies "of the four big Allied Powers" formally accepting the Dawes report "wholly."

In commenting upon the American credit to Germany local bankers were quoted as saying that "the full significance of the move was not reflected in the size of the fund." They stated that "it meant, in effect, the restoration of a commerce that always has run, except for the period of the war and the unsettled period since the war, high into the hundreds of millions of dollars annually." It was further pointed out that "the credit will protect the position of the dollar in the world markets and by so doing will open up channels for the export of American commodities to Germany as well as the import of German goods. The case was cited of American cotton. The sale of that commodity, its transportation to Germany and its warehousing there could be financed, it was explained, through ordinary American bankers' acceptances. But while the German manufacturer would want to buy the cotton on a dollar basis and sell his manufactured goods in the United States or in world markets on a dollar basis, American acceptance facilities could not be utilized to finance the latter processes of manufacturing and distribution. But trade acceptances given for each of these latter phases under the new agreement would become trade bills of a quality good enough to be offered for rediscount in the United States, thus

popularizing the use of the dollar not only by importers but also by German manufacturers."

The conference in which Mr. Morgan participated took place at "an official dinner given in honor of the American financier" in Paris on the evening of April 25. The Associated Press representative at that centre said that the bankers "discussed the situation at length." The New York "Times" correspondent at the French capital explained that "on the suggestion of Colonel James A. Logan, American unofficial member, the Reparations Commission to-day [April 25] appointed Louis Barthou, French member and President, and Sir John Bradbury, British member, a committee to discuss with financiers of various countries, especially the United States and England, ways and means of floating the 800,000,000 mark loan provided by the experts' plan. J. P. Morgan was in Paris to-night, and M. Barthou and Sir John Bradbury were to ask his advice on details respecting the loan, the necessary interest, guarantees, etc., as well as the amount New York probably would take." He added that "M. Barthou and Sir John Bradbury will confer with other American bankers as well, it being understood they expect to get in touch with Kuhn, Loeb & Co."

Cabling last Saturday afternoon regarding the two-day stay of Mr. Morgan in Paris and his conference with French and English bankers, the representative in that city of "The Sun" of this city said: "The arrival here yesterday of J. P. Morgan on a two-day visit, coming as it does at the present stage of the negotiations over the experts' plans, has assumed a tremendous importance in French eyes, Mr. Morgan appearing as the biggest figure to-day in the financial world." The correspondent suggested, however, that "exaggerated notions can easily be drawn of the importance of his visit, any discussion of details of the international loans being quite impossible at this time." He declared that, "in a general way, Mr. Morgan's position may be summed up as follows: First, America can be counted upon to take a very substantial portion of the \$200,000,000 loan once it is convinced that the Allies and Germany have agreed in a cordial spirit on a plan for working out their troubles. Much depends, however, on the way this agreement is reached and the disposition shown towards one another. Secondly, the security of such a loan must be considered absolutely the first underlying lien on German resources and in this respect the projected loan of the experts seems to fill the requirements. Thirdly, bankers at this time can give no advice on the issuing terms of such a loan until the special legislation necessary has been adopted." The correspondent added that "it is understood that Mr. Morgan has made it quite plain already that he is unchanged from the position he took two years ago in the bankers' committee, that for reparations obligations to be generally marketable throughout the world there must be a general settlement among the Allies, including the question of their debts." Continuing he said: "Naturally, hopes have been raised that the experts' plan, once adopted, will afford a basis for such a general settlement, but nothing is certain on this point as yet. In conversations now going on here, there is a difference between France and England on the question of what penalties will be applied should Germany default. This is not considered vital to the prompt application of the plan, it being understood that France

will waive her condition that England agree in advance to joint action with her should Germany default, and that England will consent to a stipulation by France that she will reserve her liberty of action in such an event. This may enable the plan to be put into effect and the loan floated by June 1."

As for the acceptance of the Dawes report by Great Britain, France, Belgium and Italy, attention was directed to the fact by the Paris representative of the Associated Press that "France alone raises the question of procedure." The British, in their reply to the Reparations Commission, said: "His Majesty's Government, for their part, accept and will do everything in their power to give practical effect to the recommendation of the Commission that the Allied Governments should likewise adopt the conclusions of the committees with regard to matters falling within the jurisdiction of those Governments." The Belgian Government stated that it "is prepared to accept the experts' conclusions as a whole with a view to a practical and equitable settlement of the reparations problem." In the Italian reply it was stated that "for its part the Italian Government is from this time disposed to adopt integrally the conclusions of the experts as well as the principles which inspired them, being persuaded that these principles constitute an equitable basis for the regulation of the question of reparations and the questions connected therewith in conformity with the line of conduct constantly pursued by the royal Government." Premier Poincare, who was said to have written the French reply, suggested that the Reparations Commission "must be in a position to find out whether Germany has taken the measures necessary to carry out the Commission's decision. He emphasizes that no decision can be taken until the Commission has approved the drafts of laws and decrees it has requested Germany to submit for the execution of the plan, and he reiterates that only after that decision will the Allies be in a position to reach their own decision."

Much significance was attached to the announcement in Berlin cable advices a week ago this afternoon that the Industrialists, "at a special session of the Federal Union of German Industries," adopted "a resolution endorsing the Dawes plan as a basis for a reparations solution." This resolution was handed to the German Cabinet, and was declared by the Berlin correspondent of the Philadelphia "Public Ledger" as being "a serious blow to the Nationalists, who counted on having the Rhine and Westphalian industrialists in their ranks." The same correspondent asserted also that "the Industrialists put their finger on the reparations report's key phrase when, in approving the Government's acceptance of the report as a basis for negotiations, they made as a fundamental hypothesis, 'that the carrying out of the propositions should be done in the same spirit which animated the experts in drawing up the report, especially as involves the protection of German currency in connection with the so-called transfers of reparations funds outside of Germany,' and 'the re-establishment of economic and administrative sovereignty in the Ruhr.'" With respect to the action of the Industrialists, the Berlin representative of the Associated Press said that "acceptance of the Dawes report by the League of German Industrialists is viewed in official and political circles as

a significant event, inasmuch as it pledges the active support of an organization whose influence and prestige are commonly rated as indispensable to any ultimate solution of Germany's tangled economic situation."

Dr. Marx, the German Chancellor, "who spoke in the Ruhr for the first time [last Sunday] since the French occupation at a meeting of voters at Duesseldorf, in which district he heads the Centre Party's list of candidates," made "a statement on the policy Germany will follow with regard to the Dawes report." A special correspondent of the New York "Times" in Cologne said that "he spoke approvingly of the recommendations as a whole and expressed hopes for the future of Germany, though he warned his hearers against overconfidence, as it would take very little to destroy again the steadiness of the mark." According to the "Times" correspondent also, "he strongly advocated a policy of fulfillment of treaty obligations for Germany and described the extreme Nationalist attitude that another war was bound to come as high treason to a defenseless people confronted by the greatest military power of the world." He further reported that "the Chancellor severely criticized the attitude of the extreme Nationalists, saying the extravagance of Deutsche Volkische ideas could only result in separating Germany from her European neighbors. For such isolation the world had grown too small. The nations to-day had to co-operate as members of a family in which the doings of one affected all the others. A Deutsche Volkische majority in the Reichstag would mean the extinction of Germany."

A meeting in Paris on Monday, at which there were present Premier Theunis and Foreign Minister Hymans of Belgium and Premier Poincare of France, was spoken of by the Paris correspondent of the Associated Press as "the first direct conference of Allied Premiers since the completion of the reparations experts' report." He also stated that the purpose of the gathering was "to discuss methods of procedure to be employed in putting the experts' recommendations into effect." According to the information obtained by the correspondent, "in the conference, MM. Theunis and Hymans outlined the Belgian viewpoint, urging that all speed possible be made to realize the suggestions of the experts. The Belgians argue that only the promptest realization of the experts' plan will create a good impression upon the outside world, tired as it is of haggling and the continuous holding of conferences." He added that "their idea is that the Allies must agree as soon as possible and without restrictions or provisos. Premier Poincare, however, is said to be not so insistent upon speeding up the settlement now that the date of the French elections is so near at hand." The Paris correspondent of "The Sun" of this city cabled that "two important decisions already have been reached in the Franco-Belgian conferences, which reached a climax this morning with a meeting of Poincare and Theunis. First, there will be no attempt to determine the nature of the penalties to be applied jointly by the Allies in case Germany defaults for several months or when the time comes for economic and possibly military evacuation of the Ruhr. Second, Belgium will remain in the Ruhr with France until the Dawes scheme is satisfactorily in operation, considering the fact that the return of Germany to economic unity as demanded

by the experts cannot be effected until it is known whether the plan is technically a fizzle or the most vast economic enterprise ever conceived. Premier Theunis will press Ramsay MacDonald next Sunday to accept this compromise as grounds for re-cementing the tripartite entente, his idea being that once the French and German elections are concluded it will be possible to settle the political phases of the Dawes plan with a more conciliatory spirit on both sides."

In an address at Port Talbot, Wales, on April 28, before "the electors who sent him to Parliament, Prime Minister MacDonald declared he was not going to lose a single chance of putting the report of the reparations experts into operation." He said also, "let there be no doubt about it, I regard these experts' reports as being an opportunity for peace, for settlement, for agreement, which if not taken by European statesmen will be one of the most God-sent opportunities ever neglected and lost." Referring to the continuance of friendly relations between Great Britain and France, the Prime Minister said: "If I can only do anything before I leave this office to remove some of the difficulties that have been in the way of a European settlement, if I can do anything to bring my country and France into closer friendship, if I can do anything to enable Central Europe to find its legs, not with hate and revenge in its heart but with a new revelation of international co-operation, then I shall have felt that I have done my day's work, and regard it as a pretty satisfactory one at that." Continuing to outline his foreign policy, Mr. MacDonald said: "If we disagree as to the angle from which we look upon these things it is not that we do not want security—that we do not want friendship. I am profoundly convinced that these experts' reports, joined together with the experience of the last four years, ought to make both France and ourselves see that by our common friendship and by that alone, working with Italy, working with Belgium, working with the small nationalities and offering Germany a real chance to fulfill its word, a real chance to make a pledge and keep it—in that way, in that friendly way, in that allied way, we can open anew the door to peace, happiness and international co-operation. That is my policy and that is the policy of my friends, and I will do my best to carry out, steadily and patiently, but without any humbug and cheating at all—straight, honest, open diplomacy."

It was made plain in Paris cable advices that the German Government acted promptly in taking initial steps toward making the Dawes plan effective. The New York "Times" representative in the French capital cabled April 28 that "the German Government took its first step toward putting into operation the Dawes reparations plan when the German War Burdens Commission communicated to the Reparations Commission to-day the names of the Germans who will serve on the committees recommended by the experts' report. This was done in compliance with the letter of the Reparations Commission of April 17, asking that Berlin present drafts of the laws necessary to put the experts' plan into effect and the names of the German members of the committees." This announcement was followed by a dispatch from Brussels the same day that "France and Belgium to-day reached a complete accord on

the course to be taken by the two Governments as their part in putting the reparations experts' recommendations into effect." It was added that, "as a result of to-day's decision, taken at a conference between Premier Theunis and Foreign Minister Hymans of Belgium and Premier Poincare of France, the two Governments will separately endeavor to reach a similar agreement with Great Britain, after which the final untangling of the reparations snarl will be attempted in a general allied conference."

Paris believes that Premiers Poincare and MacDonald will have a conference on the Dawes report in the near future. According to an Associated Press cablegram from Paris on the evening of April 29, "it was semi-officially given out on that day that a meeting between Premier Poincare and Prime Minister MacDonald of England was probable some time during May, but not until after the French elections, May 11. In any case, it was added, there was no question of any interview between the two Premiers inside of a fortnight." The correspondent also reported in the same dispatch that "the Reparations Commission met in formal session at 3 o'clock this afternoon to examine the French, British, Belgian and Italian replies regarding the experts' reports and to proceed to an interchange of views regarding the procedure to be followed. The Commission decided to postpone official discussion of the replies until a later date. Meanwhile the delegates will confer unofficially." The further information was made public that "Premier Theunis and Foreign Minister Hymans will go to Milan to interview Premier Mussolini, it was announced to-day, immediately after the visit of the Rumanian sovereigns to Brussels. The Italian Premier has requested this visit, it was added. Reparations questions, such as those discussed by the Belgian statesmen in Paris yesterday and to be gone over by them with Premier MacDonald this week end, will be taken up with Premier Mussolini." Announcement was made in Brussels on April 30 that "the conference which Premier Theunis and Foreign Minister Hymans of Belgium are to have with Premier Mussolini in Italy has been fixed for May 18 at Milan."

The outlook appears favorable for a continuance of friendly relations between France and Great Britain. Cabling Wednesday evening, the Paris correspondent of the New York "Herald-Tribune" said that "possibilities of disagreement among the Allies regarding methods of settling the reparations problem along the lines of the Dawes program are daily becoming smaller." He added that "Premier Poincare to-day, following receipt of official information from Ambassador Jusserand with regard to the statement of General Dawes and his associates on their return to America, sent instructions to the French Ambassador at Washington which manifest a most conciliatory spirit."

Premier Theunis and Foreign Minister Hymans of Belgium arrived in London Thursday night and yesterday had a conference with Prime Minister MacDonald at Chequers Court for the purpose of ascertaining the views of Great Britain "on methods for making the Dawes plan effective." Commenting upon the conference, the London correspondent of "The Sun" said in a dispatch last evening that "Prime Minister MacDonald's informal discussion of the reparations question with the Belgian Pre-

mier, Theunis, and his Foreign Minister Hymans at Chequers to-day is not only the first time the British leader has entered into direct discussion with any of the Allied countries on the problem since he assumed office, but is regarded as a very important step in the work of clearing the ground which must take place before the meeting with Poincare."

Commenting upon the importance of the German elections to-morrow with respect to the carrying out of the Dawes report, the Paris correspondent of the New York "Times" cabled yesterday morning that, "as seen from Paris the German elections on Sunday bear a most important relation to the putting into operation of the Dawes reparations plan. Before the plan can begin to work Germany must pass a series of important laws to be prepared on the basis laid down by the German and allied organization committees, which will soon start their task." He also explained that "these laws relate to handing over the railroads of the Reich to an international organization, to giving the new bank a monopoly of the issue of paper money and to the establishing of a 5,000,000,000 gold marks mortgage on German industrial property. They must be acted on by the new Reichstag to be chosen Sunday and which will meet June 1. Everything depends on the passage of those bills."

The British Parliament reassembled on Tuesday. Philip Snowden, Chancellor of the Exchequer, presented the first budget of the Labor Government. It was done "in the presence of a packed House, including six former Chancellors of the Exchequer." There was keen interest in the document, both within and without Government circles. Prime Minister MacDonald was said to have cancelled a speech "in which he intended to make reference to President Coolidge's New York discussion of disarmament in order to preside at a Cabinet meeting." The London correspondent of "The Sun" declared that this act "gives the measure of the importance attached by the Government to the first Labor budget, which will be thrown into the Parliament hopper by Chancellor Philip Snowden soon after the House of Commons reconvenes." It was expected also that the Liberals, under the leadership of former Premier Lloyd George, would pick flaws with the document freely. The opinion prevailed in London in advance that the reception accorded the budget would have an extremely important bearing on the immediate future of the Labor Party.

The abolition of the so-called McKenna duties was one of the most striking recommendations in the budget. They are "the 33 1-3% duties on American and other foreign motor cars, clocks, watches and films." It was suggested that "their cancellation would accord with Labor's traditional free trade policy." One London correspondent observed in advance of the presentation of the budget that "the demand for their continuance by Tories and a section of the Liberals and Labor's position as a minority Government strongly point to a compromise." The Chancellor explained that "these duties expire May 1, but there was a period of three months additional for protection before the expiration actually became effective. Therefore they would expire Aug. 1." He proposed "no alteration in the income tax or the supertax, and no change in the postal rates." It was disclosed also that "the budget provided for a reduction of three halfpence per pound on sugar. The

tea duty is reduced one-half. The duty on dried fruit would not be renewed under the budget provisions and would lapse Aug. 1. The schedule provided for reduction of one-half in the duties on cocoa, coffee and chicory." Another important recommendation was that "the corporation profits tax be abolished."

The Associated Press correspondent said that "the Chancellor estimated the total cost of all the reductions in taxation recommended this year at £34,030,000, and in the full fiscal year at £40,443,000. He, therefore, would be left with an estimated surplus of £4,024,000." The correspondent added that "in opening his budget statement in the House of Commons the Chancellor said "a surplus of £48,329,000 on last year's accounts had gone to reduction of the debt. Of this surplus, £27,750,000 was due to reduced expenditure." He stated also that "regarding the expenditure, the Chancellor said the outlay for the national debt services amounted to £346,250,000, of which £40,000,000 was for the sinking fund." Continuing, the Chancellor said that "the total dead weight of the debt on Mar. 31 was £7,680,484,000, as compared with £7,772,397,000 on the corresponding date of the preceding year. The floating debt had been reduced during the year by £35,500,000. A year ago this debt was £810,000,000 and on Mar. 31 of this year it was £774,500,000. The total debt reduction, external and internal, since December 1918, had been over £650,000,000." The Chancellor explained specially that "our one real external debt is to the United States, £940,500,000 par, and certain market loans in America amounting to about £45,000,000. He estimated the total expenditures for the year at £790,026,000. He estimated "the total revenue of the existing taxation basis at £828,100,000, leaving a surplus of £38,074,000."

According to the Associated Press representative, "Mr. Snowden declared the country must devote all the resources possible to the redemption of the debt, which, though a more indirect benefit than a shilling reduction in the income tax, was no less real and was more widespread and penetrating in its effect. It improved international trade." Continuing, the Chancellor suggested that, "in view of the great conversion scheme we shall have to carry out in the not far distant future, the maintenance and improvement of British credit is a matter of the most vital first-class importance." The correspondent also stated that, "as regarded the estimated revenue, the Chancellor felt justified in being rather optimistic as to the future. Unemployment conditions, although still very bad, were improving, and there were hopes of a new settlement in Europe. Even now trade was showing flickering but hopeful signs of an advance and wages were showing a tendency to rise." He reported, furthermore, that "Mr. Snowden added that the late Government's pledge to submit the preference proposals to the House of Commons would be fulfilled to the fullest extent. 'We do not propose,' he added, 'to ask Parliament to abolish the preferences now afforded, but we reserve full liberty to propose to Parliament, whenever it is deemed expedient, to reduce or abolish all kinds of preferences now granted.'"

Commenting on the Labor budget and the reception given it, the London correspondent of the New York "Times" said in part: "The budget, the first to be introduced by a Labor Government, is generally regarded as neither revolutionary nor Socialistic.

It is commended for its moderation by members of both the older political parties, and probably will be criticized for the same reason by the advanced wing of the Labor Party. It probably will receive the approval of the great bulk of the people of this country because it is a free trade budget." The Associated Press correspondent added that "London newspapers of all shades of political opinion generally concede to-day that the budget introduced in the House of Commons yesterday by Chancellor of the Exchequer Philip Snowden is a very clever one, which will be distinctly popular throughout the country."

On the other hand, as expected, the Conservatives displayed opposition to the budget. The London correspondent of the Associated Press cabled Wednesday evening that "the Conservatives began their attack on the Labor Government's budget in the House of Commons to-day. As every one expected, the onslaught of criticism was aimed at the abolition of the McKenna duties on foreign manufactures, and Labor's intention to oppose any building of a tariff wall around the empire by a scheme of imperial preference." He added that, "in leading the Conservative attacks, Sir Robert Horne, a former Chancellor of the Exchequer, said he saw no prospect at all of holding the British Empire together if the Government was going to flout the resolutions passed at the imperial conference last autumn." The Liberals came forward with support, instead of opposition, as had been predicted. The Associated Press representative said that "J. H. Thomas, Secretary of State for the Colonies, immediately protested against the Conservatives regarding themselves as alone the guardians of the Empire." He further reported that "even while Mr. Thomas was defending the budget, the Liberals left their seats and held a party meeting. The meeting was originally called to consider complaints that the Labor Government had been contemptuous toward the Liberals, who were supporting them. But instead of declaring renewed warfare on Socialism, as some expected, the Liberal meeting hailed Labor's budget as one after their own hearts—'A Liberal and free trade budget, vindicating us for turning out the Conservatives,' as Mr. Asquith described it." The correspondent also stated that "the budget proposals met with a generally favorable reception on the Stock Exchange, where business was resumed this morning on a slightly larger scale, with fair strength among the gilt-edged securities. The rise of these was not large, as the effect of the debt redemption had already been largely discounted, but the sentiment in this section was decidedly favorable, as fears of an increase in the super-tax did not materialize. The industrial shares benefited by the abolition of the corporation tax, and there was a large business at rising prices in the tea and tobacco companies' shares. The only weak spot for the moment is in the motor and cycle share section, where decreased revenue is anticipated in consequence of the abolition of the war-time duties."

No change has been noted in official discount rates at leading European centres from 10% in Berlin, which is the rate fixed on Rentenmarks last December and the basis on which nearly all transactions are now negotiated; 7% in Norway and Denmark; 6% in Paris; 5½% in Belgium and Sweden; 5% in Holland and Madrid, and 4% in London and Switzerland. In London the open market discount rate

for short bills dropped to 2 1/8% yesterday after having ruled at 2 15-16@3%, unchanged from last week. Three months' bills were quoted yesterday at 3@ 3 1-16%, against 3 1-16@3 1/8% a week ago. Money on call in London was firmer for a while, advancing to 2 3/4%, but closing at 1 5/8%, as against 1 7/8% the previous week. In Paris the open market rate is now quoted at 5 1/4@5 1/2%, against 5 1/2%, and in Switzerland 3 1/2%, against 3%, the quotation ruling a week ago.

A loss of gold amounting to £2,382 was shown by the weekly statement of the Bank of England, accompanied by expansion in note circulation amounting to £760,000, which was the means of bringing about a decrease in reserve of £763,000. The proportion of reserve to liabilities fell to 18.30%, from 18.85% a week ago, 19% in the corresponding week of 1923 and 17 1/4% a year earlier. Preparations for the May 1 disbursements were held responsible for the showing just noted. Public deposits were reduced £3,118,000, but "other" deposits expanded £2,616,000. Loans on Government securities rose £395,000, but loans on other securities fell £148,000. The bank's gold holdings are now £128,120,532, as against £127,520,900 last year and £128,873,878 in 1922. Reserve aggregates £22,256,000, comparing with £23,079,330 in 1923 and £25,232,698 the year before. Note circulation stands at £125,616,000. This compares with £124,191,570 last year and £122,091,180 in 1922, while loans amount to £74,345,000, in comparison with £70,130,283 and £74,968,814 one and two years ago, respectively. At the weekly meeting of the bank governors, the 4% minimum discount rate was left unchanged. Clearings through the London banks for the week totaled £940,785,000, comparing with £507,035,000 a week ago and £811,37,000 last year. We append herewith comparisons of the different items of the Bank of England returns for a series of years.

BANK OF ENGLAND'S COMPARATIVE STATEMENT.

	1924.	1923.	1922.	1921.	1920.
	April 30.	May 2.	May 3.	May 4.	May 5.
	£	£	£	£	£
Circulation.....	125,616,000	124,191,570	122,091,180	129,528,235	111,115,815
Public deposits.....	10,587,000	13,234,545	14,355,679	15,437,573	20,659,578
Other deposits.....	110,993,000	107,635,894	131,693,656	125,369,985	116,516,229
Govt. securities.....	42,633,000	45,359,445	63,542,646	61,667,043	55,309,621
Other securities.....	74,345,000	70,130,283	74,968,814	79,558,234	79,690,577
Reserve notes & coin	22,256,000	23,079,330	25,232,698	17,279,399	19,854,402
Coin and bullion.....	128,120,532	127,520,900	128,873,878	128,357,634	112,520,717
Proportion of reserve to liabilities.....	18.30%	19%	17.25%	12.27%	14.60%
Bank rate.....	4%	3%	4%	6 1/2%	7%

The Bank of France reports an expansion of 196,734,000 francs in note circulation this week, following reductions in that item in the three successive weeks preceding, aggregating 389,468,000 francs. The total of notes outstanding, therefore, is now 40,020,828,000 francs, contrasting with 36,904,486,000 francs at this time last year and with 36,178,276,585 francs in 1922. Just prior to the outbreak of war, in 1914, the amount was only 6,683,184,785 francs. The gold item shows a further small gain of 95,350 francs. The Bank's aggregate gold holdings are thus brought up to 5,542,449,200 francs, comparing with 5,536,861,275 francs at the corresponding date last year and with 5,527,102,934 francs the year before; of these amounts, 1,864,320,900 francs were held abroad in 1924, 1,864,044,927 francs in 1923 and 1,948,367,056 francs in 1922. During the week silver increased 159,000 francs, while bills discounted, which in the past few weeks had been considerably reduced, recorded an increase of 340,566,000 francs. On the other hand, advances fell off 29,893,000 francs,

Treasury deposits were reduced 946,000 francs and general deposits were diminished 138,790,000 francs. Comparisons of the various items in this week's return with the statement of last week and corresponding dates in both 1923 and 1922 are as follows:

BANK OF FRANCE'S COMPARATIVE STATEMENT.

Gold Holdings—	Changes for Week.	Status as of—		
		May 1 1924.	May 3 1923.	May 4 1922
In France.....	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.
In France.....	95,350	3,678,128,300	3,672,816,348	3,578,735,877
Abroad.....	No change	1,864,320,900	1,864,044,327	1,948,367,056
Total.....	Inc. 95,350	5,542,449,200	5,536,861,275	5,527,102,934
Silver.....	Inc. 159,000	298,762,000	292,082,400	282,871,670
Bills discounted.....	Inc. 340,566,000	4,943,505,000	3,234,785,000	2,954,530,742
Advances.....	Dec. 29,893,000	2,534,811,000	2,129,018,000	2,267,050,450
Note circulation.....	Inc. 196,734,000	40,020,828,000	36,904,486,000	36,178,276,585
Treasury deposits.....	Dec. 946,000	18,720,000	8,109,000	15,940,394
General Deposits.....	Dec. 138,790,000	2,280,548,000	2,285,777,000	2,433,951,812

The Imperial Bank of Germany, in its statement issued as of April 15, was noteworthy chiefly by reason of the appearance of the item of silver coin in the return. This was given as amounting to 964,000 marks. Among the larger changes were a decline of 5,396,463,000,000,000 marks in note circulation. Bills of exchange and checks expanded 25,803,220,000,000,000 marks. Rentenmark bills and checks, 7,177,207,000,000,000,000 marks, Rentenmark discounts and advances 134,500,000,000,000,000 marks and deposits 34,647,445,000,000,000,000 marks.

On Thursday, another, later, statement was received by cable for the week of April 23, which showed an increase in silver coin reserve of 322,000 marks, and a further contraction in note circulation of 4,214,207,000,000,000,000 marks, leaving the total outstanding 674,042,274,761,000,000,000 marks, as compared with the high record figure of 689,866,441,761,000,000,000 marks established the week of March 29. Rentenbank notes increased 72,810,128,000,000,000,000 marks, bills of exchange and checks 20,853,500,000,000,000,000 marks, Rentenmark discounts and advances 10,746,030,000,000,000,000 marks, investments 91,350,395,000,000,000,000 marks. There were also heavy increases in deposits, 93,949,576,000,000,000,000 marks, other liabilities 96,754,070,000,000,000,000 marks, and other assets 3,476,622,000,000,000,000 marks. Rentenbank loans remain unchanged. In Treasury and loan association notes there was a reduction of 217,000,000,000,000,000 marks, while Rentenmark bills and checks declined 14,391,473,000,000,000,000 marks, and notes of other banks 395,000,000,000,000,000 marks. Gold holdings decreased 17,991,000 marks, to 441,815,000 marks, as against 919,909,000 marks last year and 999,868,000 marks in 1922. Total coin and bullion (which now includes aluminum, nickel and iron coins) decreased 83,969,000 marks.

The Federal Reserve Bank statements issued on Thursday afternoon showed further gains in gold, while rediscounting operations continued to diminish. For the System there was an increase of \$6,400,000 in gold, a shrinkage in rediscounts of Government secured paper of \$26,700,000 and of open market purchases of \$15,900,000. "All other" bills increased slightly, namely \$1,100,000. Total bills discounted now aggregate \$447,185,000, as compared with \$730,340,000 at this time a year ago. Earning assets were reduced \$14,200,000, but deposits expanded \$4,500,000. At the New York bank the addition to gold reserves was appreciably larger, \$27,300,000, while rediscounting of all classes of paper fell approximately \$14,000,000, at the same time that bill buying in the open market gained \$1,400,000. De-

posits expanded nearly \$27,000,000, but earning assets showed a falling off of \$4,500,000. The total discounts of the New York bank are down to \$47,861,000, against \$211,574,000 last year. Member bank reserve accounts were larger, both locally and nationally, expanding \$20,500,000 at New York and \$9,800,000 for the banks as a group. The amount of Federal Reserve notes in circulation again showed contraction—\$5,500,000 at the local institution and \$14,800,000 for the combined System. As a result of the further increase in gold reserves, reserve ratios advanced a trifle further. At New York there was a gain of 0.5%, to 91.3%, and for the twelve reporting banks 0.4%, to 82.0%.

Shrinkage in surplus of more than \$13,000,000 was the most noteworthy feature of last Saturday's statement of New York Clearing House banks and trust companies, although it was merely the result of drawing down of reserves with the Federal Reserve Bank. Loans increased \$13,677,000. Deposits likewise expanded. In net demand deposits an addition of \$2,673,000 was shown, to \$3,892,433,000, which is exclusive of \$44,264,000 in Government deposits. Time deposits increased \$12,205,000, to \$500,095,000. Other smaller changes included an increase of \$1,214,000 in cash in own vaults of members of the Federal Reserve Bank, and increases of \$189,000 and \$399,000 in the reserves of State banks and trust companies in own vaults and in other depositories, respectively. As noted above, member banks heavily drew down their reserve credits at the Reserve institution, the reduction being \$13,399,000, and this brought about a loss in surplus of \$13,565,600, thus reducing excess reserves to \$18,607,300, as against \$32,172,900 last week. The figures here given for surplus are based on 13% reserves for member banks of the Federal Reserve System, but not including \$45,634,000 cash in vault held by these institutions on Saturday last.

The moderate rally in the rates for call money that was expected, following the extremely low quotations of last week, and in preparation for the May 1 disbursements, came. It was of short duration, however, as on the very first day of the month the rate dropped to 3½% in the afternoon. The latter was the prevailing quotation yesterday. There is no scarcity of money in any section of the country. Hence, upturns in rates are bound to be followed by reactions until the demand becomes more active than it has been for some time. The recession in the steel industry and other important lines of business has continued, but has not yet reached serious proportions. The drop in the production of steel ingots is estimated at 20%, compared with the peak in the earlier months of this year. Judge Gary expects the falling off in the steel industry to go further. Just how far the slowing down will proceed will depend considerably, it would seem, on the attitude of business interests toward the political situation. Gradually it is taking more definite shape in both of the leading parties. This in itself makes for somewhat greater stability than was possible until very recently. Financing in this country for foreign Governments is going forward. A loan of \$40,000,000 has been floated for Holland. A new loan of about \$10,000,000 for Bolivia is expected in this market in the near future. If after the German and French elections are held those countries go forward with

the Dawes plan, the offering in the United States of the larger part of an international loan for Germany would seem inevitable. The Wall Street demand for funds continues only moderate. The reduction in the rediscount rate of the New York Federal Reserve Bank from 4½ to 4% has resulted automatically in a readjustment of money rates. There is considerable difference of opinion even between Secretary of the Treasury Mellon and Governor Crissinger of the Federal Reserve Board, as to the probable effect of the reduction upon business. Those who in advance favored the change urged that the lower rate would stimulate trade. A more definite statement on this point can be made a few weeks hence, perhaps. It would seem that confidence on the part of the people with respect to Congress and the political situation generally would do much more in causing them to buy and do things on a larger scale than they have been doing since about March 20.

Referring to money rates in detail, call loans this week have ranged between 3½@4½%, as compared with 3½@4% a week ago. On Monday a flat rate of 3¾% was quoted all day, this being the high, the low and the ruling figure. Tuesday firmness developed and while renewals were still negotiated at 3¾%, a high level of 4½% was touched; the low was 3¾%. On Wednesday only one quotation was named, 4¼%, all transactions being put through at this level. The range on Thursday was 3½@4¼%, with the renewal basis again 4¼%. A distinctly easier trend was noted Friday, and renewals were lowered to 3½%, and this was the maximum and minimum figure for the day. In time money the market was quiet with a temporary hardening around May 1, but an easier tendency toward the close of the week. The range was not changed from 4¼@4½% for all maturities from sixty days to six months, although on Friday (yesterday) the bulk of the limited business passing was at the inside quotation. The figures here given apply to both mixed collateral and all-industrials alike.

Commercial paper was in good demand, with the bulk of the buying by country banks. Dealings were well diversified. The undertone was steady and quotations still at 4½@4¾% for four to six months' names of choice character. New England mill paper and the shorter choice names are passing at 4½%.

Banks' and bankers' acceptances were again reduced to meet the cut in Federal Reserve rates. As a result prime names were in more active demand, with a fairly large turnover reported. Buying was noted by city and out-of-town institutions, also private individuals. For call loans against bankers' acceptances the posted rate of the American Acceptance Council was firm, advancing to 4%, but yesterday was reduced to 3¾%, which compares with 3½% a week ago. The Acceptance Council makes the discount rates on prime bankers' acceptances eligible for purchase by the Federal Reserve banks 3⅝% bid and 3½% asked for bills running 30, 60 and 90 days, 3¾% bid and 3½% asked for bills running 120 days and 4% bid and 3⅞% asked for bills running 150 and 180 days. Open market quotations were as follows:

	SPOT DELIVERY.		
	90 Days.	60 Days.	30 Days.
Prime eligible bills.....	3½@3½	3½@3½	3½@3½
FOR DELIVERY WITHIN THIRTY DAYS.			
Eligible member banks.....			3½ bid
Eligible non-member banks.....			3½ bid

The Federal Reserve Bank of New York this week lowered its rate for all rediscounts and advances from 4½% to 4%. Announcement of the change in the rate was made by Governor Strong on April 30, and the reduced rate became effective May 1. The 4½% rate had been established by the Bank in Feb. 1923, when it was raised from 4%. Further reference to this week's action is made in our items under the head "Current Events and Discussions." None of the other Federal Reserve Banks have as yet followed the action of the New York Reserve Bank, although there is said to be a possibility that the Boston and Philadelphia Reserve Banks may make a similar reduction. The following is the schedule of rates now in effect for the various classes of paper at the different Reserve banks:

DISCOUNT RATES OF FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS IN EFFECT
MAY 2 1924.

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK.	Paper Maturing—					
	Within 90 Days.				After 90 Days, but Within 6 Months.	After 6 Months.
	Commercial & Livestock Paper.	Secured by U. S. Govt. Obligations.	Bankers' Acceptances.	Trade Acceptances.	Agricultural and Livestock Paper.	Agricultural and Livestock Paper.
Boston	4½	4½	—	4½	4½	5
New York	4	4	—	4	4	4
Philadelphia	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½	5
Cleveland	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½
Richmond	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½
Atlanta	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½
Chicago	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½
St. Louis	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½
Minneapolis	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½
Kansas City	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½
Dallas	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½
San Francisco	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½

* Including bankers' acceptances drawn for an agricultural purpose and secured by warehouse receipts, &c.

Sterling exchange moved within narrow limits this week and trading was marked by irregular fluctuations, with the trend slightly downward, on a comparatively small volume of transactions. Contrary to usual precedent, dealings in the half-day session of last Saturday morning were for a brief period quite brisk and good buying induced an advance to 4 39⅞. At the opening on Monday, however, weakness set in, partly on rumors of possible delays and friction over the details of the Dawes reparation proposals, which caused a small flood of selling orders, at the same time that operators withdrew from the buying side of the market to await the outcome of the Dawes plan. The decline was relatively limited, however, and the extremes for the week were 4 39⅞ and 4 37½. Another and perhaps even more direct influence on actual values was the interjection of a new British budget early in the week. Of late years budgetary changes have exercised no really important effect on foreign exchange prices, especially in the absence of speculative activity. The proposed tariff reductions, however, were taken as an indication of larger British imports in the near future and consequently increased offerings of commercial bills, which make for lower levels. On the other hand, some bankers took the view that the reaction was a necessary sequence of the recent rapid and sustained rise. On Thursday a brief spur of activity developed incidental to preparations for covering end-of-the-month commitments and rates firmed up a trifle. Just as soon as these special transactions were completed the market relapsed into dulness and values sagged. Nevertheless, banking opinion as regards the future of sterling is still optimistic; although this is tempered with a well-defined undercurrent of conservatism, and the atti-

tude of the market is one of extreme caution in the taking on of new commitments, for the time being at least. Recent reports of improved industrial conditions in Great Britain, coupled with a decline in unemployment, were regarded as factors favoring sterling.

Referring to the day-to-day rates, sterling exchange on Saturday last was firm and higher, on brisk foreign buying; which brought about an advance to 4 38¼@4 39⅞ for demand, 4 38½@4 39⅞ for cable transfers and 4 36@4 37½ for sixty days. On Monday a slightly reactionary trend developed and demand declined fractionally, to 4 38 3-16@4 39, cable transfers to 4 38 7-16@4 39¼ and sixty days to 4 35 15-16@4 36¾; freer offerings and a lessened inquiry contributed to the weakness. Dulness prevailed on Tuesday and rates moved within narrow limits, with the range 4 38 3-16@4 38¾ for demand, 4 38 7-16@4 39 for cable transfers and 4 35 15-16@4 36½ for sixty days. Wednesday's market was easier and demand sold off to 4 37½@4 38⅞, cable transfers to 4 37¼@4 38⅞ and sixty days to 4 35¼@4 36⅞; rumors of possible delay over details in the Dawes reparation plan were partly responsible for the reaction. Increased activity, due to preparations for covering month-end commitments, led to a small advance on Thursday; the day's range was 4 38@4 38⅞ for demand, 4 38¼@4 39⅞ for cable transfers and 4 35¾@4 36⅞ for sixty days. On Friday trading quieted down again and demand was a shade easier, at 4 38 5-16@4 38¾, cable transfers at 4 38 9-16@4 39 and sixty days at 4 36 1-16@4 36½. Closing quotations were 4 36⅞ for sixty days, 4 38⅞ for demand and 4 38⅞ for cable transfers. Commercial sight bills finished at 4 38¼, sixty days at 4 35¾, ninety days at 4 34½, documents for payment (sixty days) at 4 36, and seven-day grain bills at 4 37¾. Cotton and grain for payment closed at 4 38¼. So far as could be learned, no gold engagements were made this week either for export or import.

As to Continental exchange, comparative dulness and inertia replaced the feverish activity of the previous week. In keeping with this, price changes were less pronounced. French exchange is still the leader in point of strength and volume of trade, but even in this class of remittance a distinct lull was observable and Paris checks ruled quiet, though strong, at close to 6.50, with the low for the week 6.40. Disappointment over failure to arrive at some definite conclusions as a result of the conferences between French and British Premiers was responsible for hesitation on the part of dealers, and an undercurrent of nervousness developed. Some observers took the view that France's objections to certain disputed points in the Dawes plan were nothing more nor less than an endeavor to postpone actual agreement until after the approaching general elections. Predictions of heavy buying of francs to cover month-end commitments were not fulfilled, owing, it was claimed, to the fact that these short sales had already been fully taken care of, although it was rumored that some of the French banks were allowing overdrafts in order to prevent violent and unsettling rate fluctuations. Belgian francs moved parallel to Paris exchange and here also trading was exceptionally quiet. The same is true of Italian lire, which were firmly held at a few points above the closing levels of last week.

A feature of some interest was the resumption on a very small scale of trading in German marks. For the first time in several months relatively brisk bidding for Reichsmarks was reported among the few dealers and agents of German banks who still handle marks. As a result there was a fractional advance from the recent level of 0.00000000022, to 0.00000000023 $\frac{3}{4}$. About the only explanation available was that marks were being accumulated for use in speculative operations on the Berlin Bourse, which are said to be expected because of a halt in the lowering of values of securities in recent weeks. The death of Hugo Stinnes is said to have been a factor in this respect. Greek exchange hovered at close to 2.00, closing strong at 2.08, but without special trading activity, while the minor Central European currencies were dull and stable, at or near the levels of last week.

The London check rate on Paris finished at 67.75, against 69.60 last week. In New York sight bills on the French centre closed at 6.46, against 6.27 $\frac{1}{2}$; cable transfers at 6.47, against 6.28 $\frac{1}{2}$; commercial sight bills at 6.45, against 6.26 $\frac{1}{2}$, and commercial sixty days at 6.39 $\frac{3}{4}$, against 6.21 $\frac{1}{4}$ a week ago. Final quotations on Antwerp francs were 5.37 $\frac{1}{2}$ for checks and 5.38 $\frac{1}{2}$ for cable transfers, which compares with 5.35 and 5.36 the previous week. Reichsmarks finished at 0.00000000023, against 0.00000000022 the week before. Austrian kronen remain stationary at 0.0014 $\frac{1}{8}$, the same as heretofore. Lire finished at 4.48 for bankers' sight bills and 4.49 for cable transfers. A week ago the close was 4.45 and 4.46. Exchange on Czechoslovakia finished at 2.94 $\frac{1}{2}$ (unchanged); on Bucharest at 0.51 $\frac{7}{8}$, against 0.52 $\frac{1}{2}$; on Poland at 0.000012 (unchanged), and on Finland at 2.52 (unchanged). Greek drachmae closed at 2.08 for checks and 2.08 $\frac{1}{2}$ for cable transfers. Last week the close was 2.00 and 2.00 $\frac{1}{2}$.

In the former neutral exchanges trading was not especially active, but rates turned strong and higher, particularly guilders, which registered gains of more than 30 points on announcement of the securing of a large loan by the Holland Government. Swiss francs were also up several points, while the Scandinavian currencies were firmly held, with the exception of Norwegian krone, which turned weak before the close. Spanish pesetas also sagged, presumably on rumors of military reverses in the long-drawn out Moroccan campaign.

Bankers' sight on Amsterdam closed at 37.42, against 37.15; cable transfers at 37.46, against 37.19; commercial sight at 37.36, against 37.09, and commercial sixty days at 37.00, against 36.73 last week. Swiss francs finished at 17.82 for bankers' sight bills and 17.83 for cable remittances, as compared with 17.73 and 17.74 a week ago. Copenhagen checks closed at 16.88 and cable transfers at 16.92, against 16.72 and 16.76. Checks on Sweden finished at 26.38 and cable transfers at 26.42, against 26.28 and 26.32, while checks on Norway closed at 13.81 and cable transfers at 13.85, against 13.83 $\frac{1}{2}$ and 13.87 $\frac{1}{2}$ the previous week. Spanish pesetas finished the week at 13.86 for checks and 13.88 for cable transfers. Last week the close was 14.13 and 14.15.

With regard to South American rates very little change has taken place, though the trend was upward, and Argentine checks finished at 33 $\frac{1}{8}$ and cable transfers at 33 $\frac{1}{4}$, against 32 $\frac{3}{8}$ and 32 $\frac{1}{2}$, while Brazil milreis closed at 11.35 for checks and

11.40 for cable transfers, comparing with 11.20 and 11.25 last week. Chilean exchange was firm, finishing at 11 $\frac{1}{4}$, against 11 $\frac{3}{8}$, with Peru still at 4 00, unchanged.

Far Eastern exchange was as follows: Hong Kong, 51 $\frac{3}{4}$ @52, against 52 $\frac{1}{8}$ @52 $\frac{3}{8}$; Shanghai, 70 $\frac{3}{4}$ @71, against 71 $\frac{1}{4}$ @71 $\frac{1}{2}$; Yokohama, 40.50@40.60, against 39.30@39.40; Manila, 49 $\frac{3}{8}$ @49 $\frac{1}{2}$ (unchanged); Singapore, 51 $\frac{1}{4}$ @51 $\frac{1}{2}$ (unchanged); Bombay, 31 $\frac{1}{8}$ @31 $\frac{3}{8}$ (unchanged), and Calcutta, 31 $\frac{3}{8}$ @31 $\frac{5}{8}$ (unchanged).

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 522 of the Tariff Act of 1922, the Federal Reserve Bank is now certifying daily to the Secretary of the Treasury the buying rate for cable transfers in the different countries of the world. We give below a record for the week just past:

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES CERTIFIED BY FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS TO TREASURY UNDER TARIFF ACT OF 1922, APRIL 25 1924 TO MAY 2 1924, INCLUSIVE.

Country and Monetary Unit.	Noon Buying Rate for Cable Transfers in New York. Value in United States Money.					
	April 26.	April 28.	April 29.	April 30.	May 1.	May 2.
EUROPE—	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Austria, krone.....	.000014	.000014	.000014	.000014	.000014	.000014
Belgium, franc.....	.0552	.0549	.0548	.0543	.0537	.0539
Bulgaria, lev.....	.007255	.007256	.007272	.007156	.007200	.007256
Czechoslovakia, krone	.029417	.029378	.029263	.029270	.029290	.029395
Denmark, krone.....	.1680	.1680	.1681	.1687	.1691	.1692
England, pound ster-						
ling.....	4.3893	4.3841	4.3844	4.3806	4.3840	4.3864
Finland, markka.....	.025094	.025077	.025113	.025077	.025109	.025010
France, franc.....	.0646	.0644	.0646	.0645	.0646	.0647
Germany, reichsmark	a	a	a	a	a	a
Greece, drachma.....	.019980	.020061	.019832	.019655	.020154	.020775
Holland, guilder.....	.3721	.3724	.3738	.3740	.3746	.3747
Hungary, krone.....	.000013	.000013	.000013	.000012	.000012	.000013
Italy, lira.....	.0449	.0447	.0447	.0448	.0447	.0448
Norway, krone.....	.1390	.1380	.1380	.1379	.1383	.1383
Poland, mark.....	b	b	b	b	b	b
Portugal, escudo.....	.0314	.0313	.0312	.0310	.0312	.0309
Rumania, leu.....	.005206	.005180	.005183	.005202	.005219	.005176
Spain, peseta.....	.1384	.1378	.1373	.1375	.1373	.1380
Sweden, krona.....	.2631	.2630	.2630	.2632	.2637	.2640
Switzerland, franc.....	.1776	.1776	.1781	.1783	.1778	.1778
Yugoslavia, dinar.....	.012406	.012371	.012435	.012472	.012463	.012455
ASIA—						
China—						
Chefoo, tael.....	.7158	.7142	.7133	.7125	.7108	.7133
Hankow tael.....	.7175	.7169	.7156	.7150	.7138	.7166
Shanghai tael.....	.6933	.6990	.6979	.6975	.6977	.6992
Tientsin tael.....	.7208	.7200	.7183	.7183	.7167	.7192
Hongkong dollar.....	.5146	.5153	.5143	.5145	.5145	.5149
Mexican dollar.....	.5037	.5076	.5055	.5048	.5070	.5068
Tientsin or Pelyand						
dollar.....	.5092	.5158	.5083	.5075	.5167	.5154
Yuan dollar.....	.5075	.5200	.5092	.5075	.5183	.5188
India, rupee.....	.3080	.3077	.3069	.3061	.3058	.3056
Japan, yen.....	.3833	.3963	.4020	.4015	.4020	.4010
Singapore (S.S.) dollar	.5084	.5070	.5070	.5081	.5068	.5065
NORTH AMER.—						
Canada, dollar.....	.983030	.983854	.984914	.984563	.984554	.984205
Cuba, peso.....	1.000130	1.000125	1.000031	1.000031	1.000094	1.000138
Mexico, peso.....	.482917	.481875	.482708	.482708	.482217	.482708
Newfoundland, dollar	.980563	.981625	.982313	.982188	.982000	.982313
SOUTH AMER.—						
Argentina, peso (gold)	.7410	.7445	.7414	.7424	.7434	.7494
Brazil, milreis.....	.1126	.1126	.1127	.1124	.1126	.1131
Chile, peso (paper).....	.1104	.1104	.1100	.1094	.1101	.1099
Uruguay, peso.....	.7756	.7800	.7774	.7813	.7794	.7776

a Quotations for German reichsmarks have been: April 26, .00000000000222; April 28, .00000000000226; April 29, .00000000000223; April 30, .00000000000228; May 1, .00000000000227; May 2, .00000000000226.

b Quotations for Polish marks have been: April 26, .000000113; April 28, .000000112; April 29, .000000114; April 30, .000000113; May 1, .000000114; May 2, .000000114.

The New York Clearing House banks in their operations with interior banking institutions have gained \$3,009,951 net in cash as a result of the currency movements for the week ended May 1. Their receipts from the interior have aggregated \$4,080,951, while the shipments have reached \$1,071,000, as per the following table:

CURRENCY RECEIPTS AND SHIPMENTS BY NEW YORK BANKING INSTITUTIONS.

Week ending May 1.	Into Banks.	Out of Banks.	Gain or Loss to Banks.
Banks' interior movement.....	\$4,080,951	\$1,071,000	Gain \$3,009,951

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, April 26.	Monday, April 28.	Tuesday, April 29.	Wednesday, April 30.	Thursday, May 1.	Friday, May 2.	Aggregate for Week.
\$ 65,000,000	\$ 69,000,000	\$ 54,000,000	\$ 73,000,000	\$ 66,000,000	\$ 83,000,000	Cr. 410,000,000

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, reflect only a part of the Reserve Bank's operations with the Clearing House Institutions, as only the items payable in New York City are represented in the daily balances. The large volume of checks on institutions located outside of New York are not accounted for in arriving at these balances, as such checks do not pass through the Clearing House but are deposited with the Federal Reserve Bank for collection for the account of the local Clearing House banks.

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

Banks of	May 2 1924.			May 3 1923.		
	Gold.	Silver.	Total.	Gold.	Silver.	Total.
England	£ 128,120,532	£ -----	£ 128,120,532	£ 127,520,900	£ -----	£ 127,520,900
France	147,124,171	11,920,000	159,044,171	146,912,654	11,680,000	158,592,654
Germany	22,090,750	64,300	22,155,050	50,105,884	3,475,040	53,580,924
Aus.-Hun.	62,000,000	b	62,000,000	62,000,000	b	62,000,000
Spain	101,177,000	26,144,000	127,321,000	101,019,000	26,401,000	127,420,000
Italy	35,322,000	816,000	36,138,000	48,483,000	690,000	49,173,000
Neth. lands	45,332,000	3,423,000	48,755,000	35,479,000	3,033,000	38,512,000
Nat. Belg.	10,819,000	2,771,000	13,590,000	10,757,000	2,450,000	13,207,000
Switz. land	21,452,000	3,856,000	25,308,000	21,365,000	4,177,000	25,542,000
Sweden	15,039,000	-----	15,039,000	15,193,000	-----	15,193,000
Denmark	11,643,000	741,000	12,384,000	12,679,000	222,000	12,901,000
Norway	8,182,000	-----	8,182,000	8,115,000	-----	8,115,000
Total week	548,301,453	49,735,300	598,036,753	579,629,438	52,128,040	631,757,47
Prev. week	550,482,421	53,118,040	603,600,461	579,549,214	52,322,440	631,871,65

a Gold holdings of the Bank of France this year are exclusive of £74,573,797 held abroad. b No recent figures. c New official figures.

The Philosophy of the Dawes Committee's Plan.

The triumph of the Dawes Committee Plan for the rehabilitation of Europe, if it shall prove to be such, contains perhaps the largest single lesson ever offered to the world with reference to the natural basic relations of peoples. It is a comprehensive, an independent, view of present affairs, financial, economic, governmental. It is from the outside, looking in. It is not sponsored by Governments in their civil capacity, but adopted by them. It is not a theory in economics; it is a practical roadway upon which trade may travel. It issues no world currency, provides for the buying and selling of none of the current products of exchange, yet proffers a plan by which natural powers and instrumentalities may accomplish all these things. And in this wise, and no other, it proclaims the end of a war and the beginning of a peace, for all is bound up in the loosing of the floodgates of trade—the world's greatest civilizer and peacemaker!

We may seem unduly enamored with the importance of trade in human affairs, but it is in this very fundamental physical fact of all life and progress—industry, commerce, toil, call it what you will—that we find the transcendent lesson conveyed in the independent report of this committee to which we allude. Note that, although there was a Treaty and a League, peace in its true sense had not come. Note that repeated diplomatic conferences had not been able to bring it. The debts of a colossal war were unpaid and unadjusted. Exchanges were degraded and disordered. The foreign trade of various countries was striving against almost insuperable odds, was weakening, dwindling and despairing. The treasures of once proud nations were run dry. In certain States there were billions and quadrillions of money, but none that could serve as a measure of value. The vast complex human machinery that gives sustenance to the race awaited the touch of a motive power.

Into this chaos, which Governments, politics and policies, diplomacies and national interests, could not resolve into order and progress comes the Plan.

What is its first purpose. To start the wheels of industry. What are the necessary first steps? 1. To estimate a fair amount of reparations. 2. To provide a financial scheme by which trade might function that reparations be realized. 3. To thus remove the main obstacles to the natural play of economics, the resumption of industries and exchange of products by which peoples live and thrive and pay their debts. Governments, nationalities, law-making bodies, now become subservient to natural laws under which all peoples exist and through which they prosper. There is to be an international bank of issue, a necessary pre-convenience to resumption of trade. There is to be a moratorium and specific payments of reparations, that trade and industry may be free to function.

Neither individual, people, nor nation, can pay a debt without freedom to earn the means wherewith to pay it. Governments and laws which restrict the natural activities of man become interferences. The millions working in their million ways, forced into toil for sustenance by the laws of nature, actuated and spurred on, if you will, by acquisitiveness, create a surplus which furnishes a foreign trade that equalizes conditions, promotes comfort and happiness, and pays debts. Nor laws, nor civil rule, can do this—they only serve when they serve rightly, to protect individuals in their private efforts, so that in their collective capacities they may establish amicable relations. Governments that are able to make wars through their police powers over citizens and subjects are unable to make peace and pay debts. Toil and trade alone can re-establish good-will and amity by releasing the human war-factors into the natural life of labor.

This is the philosophy of the lesson of the Dawes Committee Plan. We cannot ponder this lesson too seriously, for it reacts from its international scope to the farthest county in the remotest country. Economics, the natural laws and processes of production, exchange and consumption, cannot exist without personal and national economics. Just as war is waste, peace is toil, frugality and thrift. Just as war puts a blockade upon all trade, so peace releases exchange. And as war destroys, so peace constructs. Again, the major lesson appears—that government which may make war, cannot construct peace; cannot renew intimate relations between peoples; but merely allows them to resume through toil and trade, the creators and promoters of peace through good-will. Less governmental and arbitrary rule over toil and trade—the more peace!

And there is no progress without peace. We need nationalism not chauvinism. We need internationalism, not super-government. Through discovery, development, territorial rights appear. Through national courtesies and comities international relations between countries and peoples may be served. True that most boundaries are of military origin. But each generation must take the world as it finds it and make the best of it. Territorial integrity and political independence do not offer free opportunity for the unlimited establishment of self-determination. A democratized world may be one in which there is freedom of trade and the private ownership of property under indefeasible rights. Despite all these matters of political government the philosophy embodied in the Dawes Committee Plan is that the natural efforts of peoples lay the foundation for peace and peace payments.

What have Governments to do now but stand aside, save where they act in an administrative capacity, and allow the natural laws of toil and trade to work their will? Again the old thought comes to mind, "people are never so well employed as when engaged in making money." A prosaic interpretation of life. But the cause is not without its beneficial effect. The advance scout of a trading company is in time succeeded by the traveler who seeks knowledge and culture. The thing transported carries in it the thought which spreads light and joy. Trade for mutual benefit must induce mutual respect by the peoples engaged, through a knowledge of attainments and accomplishments. Governments are merely intellectual machines for the salvage of human effort.

We may hope much from this financial plan. And hope because it negatives the efforts of Governments, internally and externally, to pacify, prosper and reform the world. It stands out that Governmental diplomacy has failed. It is apparent that the selfishness of national protection oftentimes interferes with a natural and helpful intercourse. When the natural wheels of trade begin to turn under a practical plan of natural resumption the toiler in factory and field feels a thrill of new energy. Capital gains assurance to attempt new enterprise. Corporations form for wider exploitation. Ships go laden to sea and return with full cargoes. Men have no time to quarrel who have more work than they can do. Politics becomes the science of idlers and theorists. Laws become less helpful than competitive labor and capital, each attaining co-operation through the subdivision of effort, and both coming into harmony through the free play of economics.

Administering Germany for the Benefit of Her Reparations Creditors.

If, as seems likely, the plan which the Dawes Committee of Experts has submitted is put in operation, Germany and Europe, and the world at large, will be faced with the problems growing out of what it would not seem inaccurate to describe as an international receivership. For the procedure which the Dawes Committee recommends there is no exact parallel in history. The case of Austria, which on the surface offers certain resemblances, is in important respects quite different. The desperate state into which Austria fell, and from which it had to be rescued in the name of common international decency and humanity, was due primarily to the loss at the hands of the Peace Conference of the larger part of its former economic resources, and not to desperate steps taken in the course of a long running fight with the Allies in an effort to escape the payment of reparations. Indeed, when the Austrian situation was taken in hand, the question of the ultimate ability of the country to pay what had been demanded was entirely subordinated to the greater question of how best and most quickly to set the country upon its feet and enable its people to live. What was tardily done for Austria, moreover, was done through the agency of the League of Nations, a political body not created for the purpose of rehabilitating bankrupt States; and it is through a commissioner appointed by the League and responsible to it that the program of reorganization is being carried out. The reconstitution of Austria was in form as well as in effect an official action taken by a polit-

ical body, whatever the economic aims that were immediately sought.

The Dawes plan proceeds upon different principles. The League of Nations has no part in the scheme, save in the remote contingency of a dispute in one of the controlling boards, in which case the League is to be asked to appoint an arbitrator. No Government as such is officially represented in the various official posts for which the plan provides; on the contrary, office-holding connection with Government, or the receipt of a Government compensation, appears to be throughout a disqualification. The only indirect connection with Government that appears is in the appointment of members of the committee which is to supervise the payment of reparations, these persons being designated by the Reparations Commission, which, of course, itself represents the "principal allied Powers"; but it does not appear that the Commission, once the plan is in operation, is expected to have any active function in relation to it beyond that of receiving and distributing the reparations payments as they are made. The Dawes plan begins, then, by clearing the ground of Governmental entanglement and reducing the opportunity of political interference to the minimum. Having done this, it proceeds to erect an international receivership in which Germany is invited to share, but which it cannot itself in any way control. Under the direction of the boards for which the plan provides, and in accordance with detailed regulations or suggestions which it elaborates, Germany is to be given a new bank, or in its place a reconstituted Reichsbank, with a monopoly of note issue and vast general financial powers; the German budget is to be reformed and controlled; a mortgage is to be placed on the receipts of the German railways and a blanket mortgage on the operations of the leading German industries; a strict audit and supervision of German revenues is to be instituted, and large external and internal loans are contemplated in aid of the proposed gold bank and the temporary financing of reparations payments in kind. In other words, the German Government and the German people are both to be taken over and administered, as far as economic activities of the larger sort are concerned, in substantially the same way in which a corporation that has defaulted on its bonds, or gone to pieces generally, is taken over by a court and placed in the hands of receivers, to be managed thereafter in such a way as, if possible, to make it a going concern and enable it to pay its debts. Only to the extent that Germany is asked to assent to the plan may the receivership be regarded as voluntary, for the plan itself comes from the creditor Governments, through the Reparations Commission, and not at the request of Germany as the defaulting debtor.

The possibilities of such a scheme, assuming that it can be made to work, are very great, but they do not all lie in one direction. If an international receivership such as the Dawes Committee proposes abounds in opportunity of achieving a just and durable settlement of a controversy which has set half the world by the ears, it holds also the possibility of mischief. It must work very well or it may work very badly. On the part of Germany the proposal calls for industry, economy and good-will in a measure much exceeding that which Germany has employed at any time since the peace, but it also involves a continuing acceptance of a thoroughgoing and even drastic reorganization and control of in-

dustry, transportation and national and State finance which will inevitably touch closely the capital, the labor and the daily economic life of the whole German people. The burden of annual taxation for an indeterminate period, assuming that the Allies leave open for a time the question of the total amount of reparations to be demanded, will have the penalty of unsuccessful war written large across its face, while the representation of Germany on the boards which administer the system will only in part conceal the fact that foreign control of internal affairs, on a scale unprecedented in our own or any time, has in reality been imposed. It will be easy for unscrupulous agitators to urge that the velvet glove is only a sinister cover for the iron hand, and they will so urge if they are given a chance.

These are some of the dangers on the German side. How may they be avoided? Only by the recognition, on the part of the administrators upon whom the working of the plan will devolve, of the "large way of statesmanship" to which the proposals point. More important than the great businesses which are to be mortgaged and controlled are the sixty millions of German men and women through whom the wealth that is to pay the reparations must be produced, and it is of their welfare, as well as that of the German Government or the Governments and peoples of the allied States, that the plan must take account. Nothing would more surely invite failure than for the foreign members of the boards of control that are to be set up to regard themselves as political personages, answerable politically to the Governments, allied or neutral, from whose jurisdictions they come, and hence entitled to work for the interests of their own States at the expense of Germany or to further some nationalistic advantage at the cost of the general good of Europe. That would be to bring politics in at the side door after it has been expedited out at the front. The human element of the problem may well prove to be a saving element as well, if the boards who are to direct the undertaking see the task in the large way in which the committee have presented it. There have been receiverships which have vitally concerned the welfare of many thousands of persons, but never until now has it been proposed to take so completely in charge the well-being of a nation. It is not a question of business competence, for of that there is fortunately an abundance; it is a question rather of spirit and temper. If the men, Germans and foreigners alike, upon whom this great international responsibility may fall look upon their task in a narrow sense as "mere business," the Dawes plan may easily become only another ingenious device for fending off war and chaos a little longer. If they look upon it as a great human trust to be administered for the benefit of peoples and Governments alike, there is reasonable ground for expecting that they may achieve a settlement such as the whole world earnestly desires.

The Farmer in the Field—Co-operative Associations and Credits.

As the leaves of the corn spring in the long black furrows and green fields of the wheat wave in the prairie winds, does the farmer think on credits and co-operative marketing associations, or is his problem a more intensive one, that of maturing and garnering a crop? This is not an idle question. Nor is it answered by saying his individual problem is no

bar to collective effort to better personal fortunes. And it is worth while to consider just how much this worker in the fields and furrows can delegate successfully to an organization to promote his own interests. We have spoken before of the plan for creating scarcity to enhance price. That, we think, is contrary to our best economics. There are some recent figures given out at Washington for partial surveys of Middle West and Northwestern States that seem to indicate a slight decrease in wheat acreage in certain counties—but there are also reports showing in some instances a slight increase. Though some diversification of crops is indicated it is a mere fraction in the whole equation.

The farmer who listens to these appeals to lessen production must perceive that he delegates power but does not receive it. He knows, as he plows through the hours of a long day, that nothing comes down from the so-called co-operative organization above him which will minimize his own effort. Unless he works in the old way he will have no crop to gather. Again, he knows every foot of his own soil (he may have had help, previously, from the analysis of a soil expert), knows what each field will produce best—and it makes no difference what the whole outside world does, this is his chief guide. He cannot afford to ignore these facts in the interest of some vague resolve by a loosely woven organization which would increase the price of one or many of his products. To listen to these pleas and resolves would be equivalent to a denial of his own patrimony.

The same thing is true concerning the plans for aid offered by Congress, or by Government. Whether credits or capital be offered, the application must be by the farmer himself, under his own supervision in connection with his own daily toil. It may seem almost captious, but how much time, in a busy season, can be given to meetings for co-operative organization, and to partisan political meetings, without detriment to this individual problem? More than this, how much thought and study can be given to these artificial helps without destroying peace of mind and weakening that courage of effort which alone assures success? We have no hesitancy in believing that these constant attempts at the impossible in the way of relief to the farmer are breaking down his contentment in work and confidence in effort.

As the corn is laid by and the wheat and hay harvests come on, there is no thoughtful farmer who will not perceive the force of initiative and enterprise and constant work as compared to the artificial aids that spring from politics. Perhaps the campaign orator will insinuatingly arraign this, that and the other, as the farmer's enemy. The cause, whatever it may be, offered to explain the farmer's ills will be far away and very big. And it will grow bigger up to the time of the election, when it will suddenly disappear into the limbo of lost promises. Then, if the farmer has rested complacently on political theory, he will find himself reaping economic failure. This is an age of machinery—the age of invention, which does not forget the farm, but he who does not put his own shoulder to the wheel will fail.

Contemplative minds are beginning to wonder at the growing lack of self-reliance in business. Moralists are striving to find the reason for an unmistakable slump in prudent living. The professor of economics is analyzing tendencies and statistics. And

the politicians are indulging in an orgy of relief measures. Meantime, for all his earnestness and bewilderment, the farmer is working in his own field to make it produce the most and best of which it is capable. And all the rest of the occupations and industries are waiting upon his work, are depending upon his success, relying on a sufficiency of food and not a scarcity. And after all, what the farmer produces exchanges for everything else. Food comes first, and the farmer who has this primal necessity (in theory, 'tis true) can set the price in exchange for these other semi-essentials and non-essentials of life.

We often hear a great deal about the amount of our circulating medium and its effect on comparative prices. What about the effect of a prime essential like wheat in the avenues of exchange? A dollar may be used a thousand times in as many separate transactions—a bushel of wheat actually used once cannot be used again. As a medium of exchange and measure of value can the wheat farmer be really benefited by growing fewer bushels of wheat, merely because the market price in dollars is temporarily depressed. Again, and the thought must come to him in his hard task of following the plow in the long furrow, there are countless other farmers in the world, other wheat growing continents, subject to many and indeed all his own difficulties—and if a wheat-growing section or a wheat-growing continent

fail, and by his own hand he has lessened his own production, is he not depriving himself of the opportunity to reap the benefits of this larger scarcity?

The farmer, as he reflects, recalls that experience is a hard teacher. He is painfully aware of a war and its prices and of a land boom and its losses. Conscious, as he may be, of the sun and the wind and the rain as friends and allies, yet the weeds and the drouth and the storm are no respecters of persons. Insect pests do not wait on legislation at Washington. And if he does not keep the plowshare bright co-operative marketing will prove a delusive farce. He lives in the midst of bounty and beneficence, but he cannot escape incessant work. The worst thing that can happen to him is his failure to appreciate conditions. Allowing himself to become the quadrennial prey of quack politics and following the will-o'-the-wisp theory of limited production in the interest of price, he may find new burdens in the coming years. As matters stand he has borne the brunt of inevitable war consequences and is on the up grade again. Equalizing processes are at work to make the so-called "purchasing power" of his dollar advance. He has been wandering mentally in a morass of political speculation, but he *lives* in a fertile valley of economic law. And as he "tends his crop" in burning suns of summer, surely it must be borne in on his reasoning powers that the most and best his farm will produce is his manifest destiny.

Indications of Business Activity

THE STATE OF TRADE—COMMERCIAL EPITOME.

Friday Night, May 2 1924.

The weather has not been all that could be desired, great storms, indeed, having prevailed at the South and Southwest, so that trade conditions are still more or less unsatisfactory. The demand is under the curb of a general disposition to keep close to shore. Prices have been declining. The record for April was one of retardation of trade in general. Production has outrun consumption in not a few lines. This is the case in iron, steel, textiles and in some other directions. Prices in not a few cases are lower than they were a year ago. Yet they do not stimulate trade to any noticeable extent. There is still plainly a determination to buy only for immediate use. The great industries tend to slow down still further. Decrease of production will, of course, in time remedy any evils brought about by over-expansion of output. But just now trade is, so to speak, going ahead on half steam or less. It is in a period of transition. Buyers, of course, can overdo the plan of holding aloof and buying only from hand to mouth. Sooner or later the tide will turn. Supplies will dwindle. Consumption will begin to trench on or overlap output. And then the demand will sharpen. Even as the case stands, bank clearings exceed those of last year. This is significant when it is remembered that prices are lower than those current at this time in 1923 for iron, steel, lumber, some textile raw materials, as also cotton fabrics and leather, to go no further. It shows that, after all, there is a sizeable business under way. And if we can get entirely clear of bad weather and bad politics there is no reason why trade should not increase as the year wears on. One regrettable thing is that the outlook for the crops is not altogether satisfactory, although it is too soon to be at all pessimistic on the subject. But prolonged cold weather in the cotton belt, accompanied of late by heavy rains, has retarded planting and other field work. There were some reports, too, of the appearance of boll weevil in Texas. In parts of the wheat belt conditions might be better, although there is still time for improvement. The winter wheat outlook is better in most sections, but in parts of Kansas and Nebraska, as well as Oklahoma, there are some complaints of destructive insects like the Hessian fly and green bugs. Cold weather in the Northwest has delayed the seeding of the spring wheat crop. Twenty-

five per cent remains to be done. But one gratifying circumstance is that the farmers in the spring wheat country have to all appearances taken to heart the lessons of the past and are determined as far as in them lies to relieve their situation by crop diversification. It is believed that the decrease in the planted area of wheat in those sections may be 10 to 12% if not more. The winter wheat acreage is estimated at some 7% smaller than that of last year.

Rains have delayed plowing in parts of the corn belt. But planting is in progress in some portions at least of the principal producing States. The planting of other grain is well advanced and indeed almost finished. And as regards the cotton crop the reports to-day were in some cases more hopeful. Texas is evidently determined to raise a large crop. The forecast was for warmer weather in parts of the Southwest. With an absence of rain for a time, crop work will be vigorously pushed. The estimated increase on the cotton acreage this year ranges from 4 to 6%, with an average of about 5. This with the determination on the part of the Southern planter to fight the boll weevil with greater vigor than ever before—as evidenced by larger sales of fertilizers for the fields and of calcium arsenate to fight the weevil—give hopes of a materially larger yield this year with average weather. A crop of anywhere from 12,000,000 to 13,000,000 bales is urgently needed to restore the equilibrium in the world's cotton business. As the case now stands, world's supplies of cotton are down to a low scale and the carry-over in this country is likely to be small. Of late, too, it is significant to notice that there has been a corner in old cotton at Alexandria, Egypt, where it has been selling at a premium of 12 cents per pound over the next crop deliveries. Exports of cotton from this country still make an excellent exhibit and are now approximately 800,000 bales larger than at this time a year ago.

It is curious to notice, too, that despite the tendency to dwell on the less cheerful phases of the business situation in this country the mail order business is running ahead of that of a year ago. Building, too, is active. It is true, on the other hand, that failures are larger than those for April last year, especially in the amount of liabilities. This is the inevitable reflex of a prolonged period of dull trade and the checking of the turnover. It is noticeable, too, that petroleum output in March overtopped that of any of the

preceding three months. And it turns out that on April 1 petroleum stocks in this country were up to a new peak. Woolen goods business is unsatisfactory, only a moderate amount of buying is reported. Raw silk, on the other hand, has shown an upward tendency. The demand for leather is not up to normal. Anthracite coal has advanced 10 cents per ton. Bituminous coal is dull. The production of automobiles is still declining. On the Pacific Coast trade has suffered from the foot and mouth disease among the cattle, and the consequent quarantine, though the situation in this respect has latterly begun to improve in California.

Steel and iron have been dull and in some cases lower. But production is being steadily reduced. And shipments on old business, it is perhaps significant, are reported good. There are predictions of a revival of business in the fall. Judge Gary thinks buyers may carry the holding off policy too far. Certain reduced output will tell in time. And the United States Steel Corporation's net earnings for the quarter ended March 31 reached the largest total in peace times with at least some slight gain over the preceding quarter and some 15,300,000 more than in the first quarter of 1923. This, together with an extra dividend of 50 cents on the common, made no bad exhibit, though, of course, the earnings reflect past conditions. The steel trade has had its periods of depression, and also periods of very marked recovery and pronounced activity. Business history in this direction seems not unlikely to repeat itself when economic conditions in the trade are corrected as they are bound to be.

Taking trade in general, it still suffers more or less from the blight of pernicious politics and the evident disinclination of politicians to ease the burden of taxation for the people. From time to time there have been rather more hopeful reports in regard to taxation. Secretary Mellon has been quoted as saying that prospects for the passage of legislation of a kind that would meet the views of President Coolidge and the supporters of the Administration were more favorable. But later the outlook seemed to cloud over again. The truth is that practical politics seems to take little heed of anything but votes in the future with an evident disregard of the best interests of the people. One hopeful circumstance is the growing opinion that the Dawes reparations plan will go through. This seems to be the outlook in Europe and the fact has a cheering effect in this country. At times, too, the stock market has shown a rather steadier tone. But to-day it was quiet and more or less irregular if not depressed. Meanwhile London is helped by low rates for money, and the tone there is cheerful. Sane politics at home and abroad will do much if not everything for the trade of the world, and it is hoped that this is what civilized nations will get without undue delay.

If President Coolidge disapproves the McNary-Haugen bill, the Senate's majority report on which has just been filed with the House, its passage is considered uncertain. Some call it socialistic or Bolshevistic. The grain markets have advanced during the week, led by wheat, and owing partly to a falling off in the crop movement and higher prices in Liverpool and Buenos Aires. In the latter market a harbor strike is threatened. In the long run the American farmer will have to trust to the law of supply and demand and discard quack nostrums like the McNary-Haugen bill and similar forms of paternalism.

At Fall River, Mass., on April 29 the emergency committee of the American Federation of Textile Operatives at a special meeting voted to indorse the action taken last week by the Textile Council of New Bedford in condemning the importation of cloth into this country. It would be something more to the point, so far as labor is concerned, to lower wages and give New England mills a chance to compete with European goods in American markets. It is the big overhead of which labor costs form a very important part that puts New England mills at such a serious disadvantage. At Fall River there was an increase in curtailment this week. The estimated curtailment is now 80%. At Chicopee, Mass., the Dwight Manufacturing Co. textile mills will be reduced to a three-day basis and the Torrington Co. needle factory from 48 to 40 hours a week. The William Carter Co., underwear manufacturers, will resume on a 35-hour week. New Bedford, Mass., cotton mill production for the present month has averaged about 55 to 60% of normal, and is less than for any period since the strike of four years ago. In Rhode Island several mills curtailed this week. Eleven plants in Rhode Island are closed down entirely and not a few others are running on short time. At Woonsocket, R. I., the Nourse mill of the Manville-Jencks

Co. closed Thursday for the rest of the week. The big Manville mill at Manville closed Wednesday night. The Globe and Social mills of the same company are curtailing. At Manchester, N. H., the Amoskeag Co. announced on Wednesday that its entire plant would be operated only four days this week. At Nashua, N. H., the Nashua Jackson cotton mills will close during the week beginning May 5 owing to poor trade. The officials are resolved not to pile up stocks. North Carolina curtailment continues at 15%. At Anderson, S. C., on May 1 a tornado caused damage to the Riverside mills to the extent of some \$500,000 to \$750,000. The mills were wrecked. Rebuilding, it is announced, will begin at once. Most mills at Columbus, Ga., are closed half a day on Saturday. In the Carolinas the Textile Council threatens a strike against big wage cuts if made.

The Clinton plant of the Bigelow-Hartford Carpet Co. has cut wages approximately 10% in all departments. Some 1,500 to 1,600 employees are affected. At Sherbrooke, province of Quebec, the Connecticut mills with 1,000 workers have closed owing to the tariff. Montgomery Ward & Co.'s sales to date in 1924 are \$9,572,000 larger than for the same period last year. Their sales in April were 19.31% larger than in April last year. April's hardware sales decreased, as weather conditions were unfavorable but no major price changes are reported. Depression in the Western shoe manufacturing business is reported. Exports to South America, Central America and Australia and Mexico have fallen off, as American shoemaking machinery has been shipped on a large scale to Mexico, Argentina, Brazil and Australia.

New Orleans reports that the March 1924 building demand broke all records for a single month in its history; that the total building expenditure for the first three months of 1924 also exceeded any other quarter of any previous year; that building costs in April decreased slightly from the preceding month and that exceptionally heavy movements of forest products are continuing. So says the April Economics and Statistics bulletin of the Southern Pine Association just issued. Forest products car loadings continued at record levels, the total for the first three months of this year being 978,397 cars, an increase of 8.1% over the previous record of the first quarter of last year and of 50.2% over the first quarter of 1922. At Youngstown, Ohio, new wage agreements have been signed in the building trades and no labor disturbances are looked for. Bricklayers receive \$1 40 an hour, effective from April 1st, compared with \$1 25 in the previous 12 months. Carpenters are advanced from \$1 15 to \$1 25 and painters from \$1 to \$1 25. Sheet metal workers will receive \$1 12 against \$1 12½, while plumbers' scale remains \$1.25 an hour.

Motor car output was cut 12% in April. Operations are now about 80% of the high point in the first quarter. Production of passenger automobiles declined from 12 to 15% in April as compared with March, according to preliminary estimates in the trade based on figures for the first three weeks of the month. The reduction was due in part, observers said, to a change in policy by many manufacturers and in part to slackening of sales. Alex. Smith & Sons cut rug list prices 20% from last October level and 10% from that of March this year. Threats of a river and harbor strike, contained in the call for a mass meeting on May 14 of the Association of Watermen, are not disturbing shipping employers here.

President Zayas of Cuba issued a proclamation on Wednesday announcing the "happy and speedy end of the uprising in Santa Clara province." Private cables questioned this sharply. General Crowder thinks a revolt will be futile as not being effectively organized. At Havana a general strike called last week to support the strike of harbor workers has ended.

Atlanta wired May 1 that towns and villages struck suddenly the day before by great tornadoes in 7 Southern States were slowly recovering. The damage is said to have been \$10,000,000, with 111 killed. Big tornadoes and rains occurred on Wednesday of this week in South Carolina, Alabama, Georgia, Arkansas, Louisiana, Texas and elsewhere. Southern weather has been so cold as to retard the growth of the cotton crop.

There was rain here on Tuesday and Wednesday but the week, on the whole, has been clear and rather mild, especially to-day, in strong contrast with great storms of rain and wind at the South and Southwest. To-day it was clear and rather cool at the South. Latterly the West has been fair and cool; Chicago temperatures were 38 to 62 deg.

on Thursday, Cleveland 38 to 50, Cincinnati 40 to 60, Minneapolis 38 to 62, Milwaukee 34 to 62, New York 51 to 62, and Philadelphia 52 to 66.

Conflicting Tendencies in Industry and Trade.

Conflicting tendencies in industry and trade persist, states the current issue of "The Guaranty Survey," published by the Guaranty Trust Co. of New York. "Lessened production in some basic industries, a reduced volume of freight movement, the decline of commodity prices, and accentuation of the conservatism which characterizes buying policies have all reacted on business sentiment," the "Survey" continues. "The passage of the bonus bill by the Senate substantially in the form approved by the House increases the likelihood of the enactment of the measure despite a possible veto. And the continued delay in action on the important matter of tax revision is necessarily a disturbing element in the business situation. The numerous Congressional inquiries have also contributed to the weakening of confidence in the business outlook. A recent compilation shows that eleven Senate committee and five House committees, composed of 50 Senators and 30 Representatives, are engaged in various investigations. The "Survey" continues as follows:

Features of Underlying Strength.

It is easy, however, to exaggerate the significance of the recessions in some lines of production and trade. A year ago activity was at an extraordinarily high level and current records somewhat below those of that period are consistent with the maintenance of generally favorable business. Apart from political uncertainties, the economic features of the business situation indicate the probable continuance of production and trade at close to normal levels. There is no threat of a general depression comparable to that of 1920-21.

President Coolidge's address at the annual luncheon of the Associated Press last week was gratifying in its promise of continued adherence to sane and conservative principles.

The prompt acceptance of the report of the Dawes Committee by the Governments chiefly concerned gives renewed hope that a practicable plan for dealing with the reparations problem has at last been formulated.

American interests are vitally involved in the economic rehabilitation of Europe. And it will be an occasion for lasting gratification and justifiable pride if it shall prove that a body of experts, under the leadership of an American business man, has pointed the way to a definite removal of the chief obstacle to progress in the restoration of normal world conditions.

The Building Industry.

In spite of the high level of building activity which has been maintained for more than two years, it is evident that an appreciable part of the shortage resulting from the relative inaction of the war period still remains. From time to time attempts have been made to estimate the extent of the shortage and the progress already made toward its removal. These estimates show considerable variance, but in general they tend toward the conclusion that a dearth of structures for the country as a whole is still apparent.

The greatest obstacle to an even rate of progress in construction has been the tendency for the demand for new buildings to induce a rate of activity beyond the capacity of the industry. In the spring of 1923, for example, the huge volume of contemplated construction placed the industry in a critical position. Both wage scales and the costs of materials, which had been rising throughout 1922, were out of all proportion to the general commodity price level. In many cases it became impossible to make deliveries, and the shortage of labor resulted in renewed wage advances. The result was a situation which is best described as disorganization. Many projects were postponed, and in some instances work already under way was abandoned. The number of new projects undertaken declined sharply until late in the summer, with the result that, measured by physical volume, apparently less new construction was begun in 1923 than in the preceding year.

A sharp recovery, however, has taken place in recent months. The value of contracts awarded during the first quarter in 36 States is 15% higher than the corresponding total last year, but the increase is more than accounted for by the figures for New York City, which are more than double those of a year ago. The remainder of the country shows a decrease of about 1% in total value, which probably represents a decrease of about 10% in physical volume.

The same irregularity is shown in the distribution of contracts in March. Taking into consideration the slightly higher costs, it is doubtful whether the actual physical volume represented by last month's contracts was enough larger than that for February to cover the usual seasonal movement. As compared with a year ago, March shows an increase in value of 15%, which is partly, though not entirely, due to higher costs. With costs at their present level, and with the difficulties of last year in retrospect, it is not surprising that the amount of new construction planned in most sections should be somewhat lower than that of a year ago.

New York City Building on a Large Scale.

In New York City building activity, especially that of a speculative sort, has been projected on such a large scale that considerable anxiety has been expressed lest the industry again overreach itself, with unfortunate results similar to those experienced last spring. The New York Building Congress has recently issued an announcement that unless there is a voluntary curtailment of building plans it will undertake an active campaign to induce moderation. Not only is contemplated work in excess of the industry's physical capacity, but there is a possibility, it is thought, that an actual surplus of housing space may result from the enormous volume of speculative residential building, which has been estimated to constitute nearly three-fourths of the activity now in prospect.

For the country as a whole, however, present conditions give promise of a well-sustained rate of activity throughout this year. There are, to be sure, certain factors in the present situation which are less favorable than the conditions which prevailed in 1923. The shortage is undoubtedly less acute than a year ago, and the ability of the industry to proceed in spite of rising costs is correspondingly less. On the other hand, the amount of contemplated construction in most sections is somewhat smaller. Except in New York City, present indications do not point to any likelihood of over-expansion.

Influence of Rent Levels.

The "housing shortage" is the excess of demand for housing space, at existing rent levels, over the amount of space available, and the progress which is made toward supplying the shortage depends in part on the course of rents, not only because the level of rents influences the activity of building, but because it influences also the demand for space. Estimates of the building deficiency are frequently based on the increase of urban population, with the assumption that the same proportion would naturally exist between population and housing space as existed a few years ago. The error in this assumption lies in the fact that, as long as rents remain higher than they formerly were, a smaller relative amount of space will be demanded. And unless relative building costs decline appreciably from present levels, rents will remain higher than in past years.

On the other hand, barring higher costs, the rate of building may be expected to continue near present levels until rents decline sufficiently to diminish the incentive to further construction.

Such a decrease in rents, however, would in turn operate to stimulate the demand for space—in other words, to prolong the existence of the housing shortage. The decline in building activity, therefore, will probably be gradual, until the supply of space is ultimately brought into equilibrium with population, through the medium of rents and construction costs.

A large volume of construction, then, may be anticipated for some time to come. Its result will necessarily be a continued stimulation of industrial and commercial activity along many lines. Both on account of its actual size and on account of the variety of its demand, building is in a peculiar degree a key industry, and large construction operations, as in the last two years, tend not only to promote activity in the industries and trades directly associated, but to provide a powerful stimulus to business in general.

Federal Reserve Board's Summary of Business Conditions in the United States—Decrease in Production of Basic Commodities.

"Production of basic commodities decreased during March, and there was a recession in wholesale prices," says the Federal Reserve Board in its summary of general business and financial conditions in the United States made public April 27. "Distribution, both at wholesale and retail," says the Board, "showed less than the usual seasonal increase and was smaller than a year ago." The Board continues:

Production.

The Federal Reserve Board's index of production in basic industries, adjusted to allow for length of month and other seasonal variations, declined 3% in March. Output was reduced by most industries and the decreases were particularly large in mill consumption of cotton and production of bituminous coal and copper. Daily average production of steel ingots, however, was larger than in any previous month. The level of factory employment was unchanged but some curtailment in working hours was evidenced by a decline of 1% in average weekly earnings. Contract awards for new buildings in March reached the highest total value on record, owing chiefly to a large increase in the New York district.

Estimates by the Department of Agriculture on the basis of condition on April 1 indicate a reduction of 4% in the yield of winter wheat and of 6% in the production of rye as compared with the final harvests in 1923.

Trade.

Shipments of commodities by railroads declined each week in March and car loadings were 4% less than a year ago. Wholesale trade increased slightly during March but was 8% less than a year ago owing to decreases in sales of drygoods, shoes, and hardware. March sales of department stores were 8% less than in March 1923 and merchandise stocks at the end of the month were 8% larger than a year ago. Sales of mail order houses also showed less than the usual seasonal increase in March. Decrease in the volume of purchases at retail compared with last year is partly accounted for by the late Easter and the generally unfavorable weather conditions.

Prices.

Wholesale prices, as measured by the Bureau of Labor Statistics index, decreased slightly more than 1% in March and were 6% lower than a year ago. Prices of farm products, foods, clothing, chemicals and housefurnishings declined, building materials remained unchanged, while fuel and metals were slightly higher than in February. During the first three weeks of April quotations on pig iron, lead, coal, silk, and sugar declined, while prices of wheat, corn and cotton advanced.

Bank Credit.

Volume of borrowing for commercial purposes at member banks in leading cities, after increasing during the early part of the year, remained constant at a high level between the middle of March and the middle of April. During the four week period total loans of these banks were in larger volume than at any time in more than two years.

Discounts and investments of the Federal Reserve banks, which on April 2 were slightly above \$1,000,000,000, declined by about \$125,000,000 during the first three weeks in April to the lowest point for the year. This decline represents a reduction in discounts and in the holding of acceptances, while the volume of Government securities increased somewhat.

Money rates in the New York market during the first three weeks in April were at about the same level as in the latter part of March. Prime commercial paper was quoted at 4½% and 90-day bankers' acceptances at 4% throughout the period.

Decrease in Wholesale Trade in Federal Reserve District of New York During March.

Wholesale trade in this district was less active during March, according to the May 1 issue of the "Monthly Review of Credit and Business Conditions" by the Federal Reserve Agent at New York. The "Review" says:

This bank's weighted index of the sales of 163 dealers was 9% below the unusually large sales of March a year ago and 3% below normal as determined by the trend of sales of past years, with allowance for seasonal variation and price changes.

The decrease in sales from a year ago may be attributed partly to lower prices and partly to the lateness of Easter this year. Apparel sales, in which the date of Easter is a large factor, showed large decreases compared with last year. There were also important decreases in sales of groceries and machine tools, which are not affected by Easter trade. Hardwars

sales, while larger than a year ago, showed the smallest increase almost in two years.

The following table gives the detailed figures of sales in the various groups and indicates declines from a year ago in all but stationery, hardware and drugs:

DOLLAR VALUE OF MARCH SALES (MARCH 1923 EQUALS 100%).

Commodity—	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.
Stationery.....	127	101	88	100	108
Hardware.....	122	85	83	100	104
Drugs.....	102	78	86	100	103
Groceries.....	139	92	92	100	94
Shoes.....	188	106	85	100	89
Dry goods.....	119	87	66	100	89
(a) Cotton.....	113	81	76	100	83
(b) Silk.....	125	93	57	100	94
Clothing.....	99	80	78	100	87
(a) Men's.....	103	70	73	100	95
(b) Women's dresses.....	97	88	80	100	77
(c) Women's coats and suits.....	95	85	83	100	85
Jewelry.....	187	73	63	100	83
Machine tools.....	171	41	28	100	77
Diamonds.....	237	61	64	100	76
Weighted average.....	121	86	80	100	91

Decline in Chain Store Sales in Federal Reserve District of New York During March.

The May 1 "Monthly Review of Credit and Business Conditions" by the Federal Reserve Agent at New York states "sales by chain stores were 2% smaller in March than in March 1923, and 4% below the computed trend of past years, probably due partly to the lateness of Easter this year. The amount of sales per store also showed a decline in all types of stores except tobacco stores, but were particularly marked in the cases of grocery, candy, shoe and dry goods stores."

Type of Store	Number of Stores.		Dollar Value in Percentages						Per Cent Change in Sales per Store Mar.'23 to Mar.'24.
	Mar. 1923.	Mar. 1924.	Mar. 1920.	Mar. 1921.	Mar. 1922.	Mar. 1923.	Mar. 1924.		
Dry goods.....	438	562	53	78	69	100	100	-16.1	
Tobacco.....	2,732	2,721	90	98	92	100	101	+1.3	
Ten-Cent.....	1,800	1,920	69	74	72	100	101	-5.6	
Drug.....	305	320	88	92	88	100	99	-5.7	
Grocery.....	14,381	17,851	72	66	76	100	97	-21.9	
Candy.....	104	122	69	84	72	100	97	-17.6	
Shoes.....	299	345	85	97	68	100	81	-29.4	
Total.....	20,059	23,841	72	73	76	100	98	-17.2	

Decline in Department Store Sales in March in Federal Reserve District of New York.

Smaller sales of men's and women's clothing in March, due partly to the lateness of Easter and unfavorable weather conditions, were largely responsible for a decline of 6% in sales of department stores in this district, compared with March a year ago, according to an item which appeared in the May 1 issue of the "Monthly Review of Credit and Business Conditions" by the Federal Reserve Agent at New York. The "Review" states:

Decreases occurred in every reporting city except Newark and were particularly marked in the cases of apparel stores in this city and of general department stores in Bridgeport, Rochester and Syracuse. Including all reporting cities and allowing for seasonal variations and price changes, March sales were 10% below the computed trend of past years, compared with 1% below in February and 4% below in the three preceding months. The "Review" continues:

"During the first three weeks of April prior to Easter, however, sales were reported by a number of New York stores to be running considerably in excess of those of the corresponding period last year.

"The following table shows the changes in sales in the major departments of the stores in March compared with March a year ago:

	Per Cent Change in Sales Over March 1923.	Per Cent of Sales in Each Department to Sales of All Departments.
Furniture.....	+12.9	6.3
Cotton goods.....	+12.4	4.3
Home furnishings.....	+8.8	15.1
Hosiery.....	-1.3	3.1
Women's ready-to-wear accessories.....	-5.9	16.2
Woolen goods.....	-8.2	2.3
Silk goods.....	-11.3	5.7
Men's and boys' wear.....	-12.0	6.8
Women's and missess' ready-to-wear.....	-15.0	11.2
Shoes.....	-21.7	3.4
Miscellaneous.....	-0.5	25.6

"Stocks of goods on hand April 1 were 5% larger than a year ago, the same increase as was shown on Feb. 1 and March 1. For the first quarter sales averaged 5% larger than last year, and the rate of stock turnover for all stores was unchanged at 3.5 times per year. The average sales check was \$2 58 in March, or 4% smaller than a year ago. The table at the foot of the page gives the detailed figures on sales and stocks and shows also the turnover of stocks during the first quarter in terms of the annual rate.

"Sales by leading mail-order houses were 7% smaller in March than in March 1923. This is the first time in almost two years that sales have fallen below the corresponding month of the previous year. This bank's index of mail-order sales, which allows for seasonal variation and price changes, declined from 95% of the computed trend in February to 85% in March, the lowest since November."

	Net Sales During March (March 1923=100%)					Stock on Hand April 1 (April 1 1923=100%)						
	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924
All dept. stores.....	67	99	96	89	100	94	73	116	93	98	100	105
New York.....	69	104	97	90	100	95	74	118	93	100	100	103
Buffalo.....	72	101	100	86	100	96	81	121	108	97	100	109
Newark.....	58	88	88	91	100	101	70	124	90	94	100	107
Rochester.....	68	90	101	85	100	90	74	126	110	94	100	98
Syracuse.....	69	104	102	90	100	92	93	143	115	104	100	113
Bridgeport.....	67	102	98	76	100	81	81	121	96	101	100	104
Elsewhere, 2d Dis.....	78	104	99	93	100	97	74	97	83	96	100	104
Apparel.....	58	82	94	83	100	88	55	91	80	94	100	113
Mail-order houses.....	72	115	84	74	100	93	--	--	--	--	--	--

Decrease in Department Store Trade and Wholesale Trade in Federal Reserve District of Chicago.

For the first time in two years department stores reporting to the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago failed to show in March this year larger total sales than for the corresponding month of the preceding year, says the May 1 report of the bank, which continues:

Factors contributing to this unfavorable comparison of March 1924 which a year ago were adverse weather conditions, the one less trading day, in March this year, and the later date of Easter. The same influences affected the seasonal expansion over February, normally the second or third largest increase of the year.

Collections similarly were retarded, the 43.6 percentage ratio of March collections to accounts outstanding at the end of February comparing with 46.8 last year. Accounts on the books were reduced during February by 7%, which is a smaller rate of decrease, however, than noted in 1922 and 1923, in both of which years March 1 was the lowest point.

All but three reporting stores were carrying heavier stocks at the end of March than on Feb. 29, the average increase for the district as a whole amounting to 11%, and raising the index to 132. This point reflects individual gains over March 31 1923, by most of the firms and indicates in comparison to sales a larger margin of goods carried than last year. Outstanding orders dropped during the month from 8.6% of 1923 purchases to 7.9%.

As to wholesale trade in the Federal Reserve District of Chicago, the report says:

Total sales during the first quarter of 1924 for the five groups of whole salers reporting to this bank were less in the aggregate than the corresponding 1923 volume. Except for shoes, however, the differences were slight, drugs showing 5% less in total sales, dry goods 4, hardware 3, and groceries, in which less than half the stores showed declines, 1%. Furthermore, in comparing the two years, the unusual expansion of the first three months of 1923 should be taken into consideration. Comparisons of 1924 with the opening quarter of 1922 show increases for all commodities except shoes, Drug, dry goods, and hardware sales were larger than in 1921.

For March alone, the majority of dealers in each group reported a smaller volume of business than in 1923—drugs and shoes continuing the declines noted in the two preceding months, hardware and groceries averaging the second decreases for the year, and dry goods, which until March had maintained their 1923 level, showing next to the largest decline.

The dry goods group also registered the only decrease from February, a significant trend in view of the large increases usually expected at this time of year. For the other commodities, gains over February were smaller than corresponding changes in 1923, partly on account of the extra day in February and the fifth Sunday in March this year. Then, too, cold weather and bad roads continued, definitely deterring factors throughout March, especially to rural trade. These influences likewise affected collections, none of the groups showing so high a ratio of March collections to February sales this year as last.

The hardware inventory index rose to a new level March 31, the increase at this time being a customary seasonal feature in preparation for spring shipments. For both hardware and groceries, stocks are being carried in about the same proportion to sales as last year. Drug, shoe, and dry goods inventories, however, are higher.

Continued Unsettled Business Conditions in Federal Reserve District of Boston.

The combination of poor weather and lessened confidence in the immediate outlook has prolonged the somewhat unsettled business conditions in New England, although in several important industries trade is satisfactory, says Frederic H. Curtiss, Chairman and Federal Reserve Agent of the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston in the May 1 issue of the "Monthly Review of Industrial and Financial Conditions" in the New England District. "Furthermore," says Mr. Curtiss, "some improvement was reported in April by certain industries which had previously complained of poor business." Continuing he says:

In New England as a whole, however, conditions in April approximately held their own, when compared with those of March. The volume of business of many of the more important industries, as well as retail trade, normally expands every spring. This year, too, business increased during March and April, as compared with January and February, but when a comparison of the relatively small increase this spring is made with that which ordinarily occurs, the present hesitation in business activity is more apparent.

Bank deposits are one of the important factors which showed an improvement in April of very nearly the usual proportion. The fact that commercial deposits of member banks in New England have increased during recent weeks, while the so-called "commercial" loans have declined, furnishes an excellent index of the character of the present situation. Commercial loans would undoubtedly not be liquidated coincidentally with an increase of commercial deposits, if inventories were unwieldy or there was much of an element of real strain in the business situation. When fundamental economic factors are working into a dangerous position, commercial loans of banks to their customers tend to increase rather than decrease, as they are doing at present.

The building industry is another important factor in the New England situation which showed the usual amount of seasonal expansion in operations between February and March. New construction, especially residential, continues in large volume in this district.

Much of the recent contraction has been in the volume of new business and production, rather than in shipments of merchandise. Carloadings of

merchandise and miscellaneous freight in New England have not only increased steadily since the first of the year, but also have been larger than during the corresponding period of 1923.

One of the causes of the recent change in the attitude of business men has been the decline in commodity prices. When buyers for any reason hesitate to order merchandise, there is a tendency for commodity prices to decline, and this very decline regenerates further hesitation. Some such process as this has been going on during recent weeks. However, fewer wholesale commodities declined in price during the first three weeks of April than during the preceding three weeks, while a larger number increased during the first three weeks of April than in the previous three weeks. To be sure, there remained a net excess of wholesale price declines over advances in April, but apparently the reaction was losing in force rather than gaining.

The financial situation, as for months past, continues strong, and is one of the most important factors tending to stabilize the business situation.

Slight Falling Off in Business in Federal Reserve District of Philadelphia.

The summary of business conditions in the Federal Reserve District of Philadelphia, issued under date of May 1, states that "business has fallen off slightly during the past few weeks, as is evidenced by reduced production schedules in several industries, by decreases in the loadings of freight cars, and by declines in wholesale commodity prices." The "Review" continues:

Moreover, in six of the eight wholesale lines reporting to this bank sales were smaller in March than in March 1923, but for this the late Easter was partly responsible. It must be remembered also that a year ago business was entering upon a period of great activity, so that in spite of a smaller volume at present the total is still large. Employment at industrial establishments in Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware increased slightly in March, but average weekly earnings declined, probably as a result of shorter working hours.

The value of building permits issued in 15 cities of the Third Federal Reserve District during March totaled \$23,464,044, which, though considerably above the February total, was well below the record figure of \$31,844,831 in March 1923. The call for building materials is fair, and as was to be expected, shows some improvement since last month. Manufacturers, in most lines, report that demand is rather quiet and that the majority of orders call for prompt delivery. Iron and steel has been in light request, and the tendency to purchase only for immediate requirements has continued. Unfilled orders of the United States Steel Corporation declined in March for the first time since last November. Production of both big iron and steel during March was at a high rate, but during the past few weeks operations have been curtailed. The situation in the textile industries fails to improve, and practically all textile lines report a sluggish demand and weak prices. As a result, operations have been reduced at several mills producing cotton and woolen and worsted goods. Other manufacturers, especially in the paper box, cigar, flour and leather industries, report only a moderate demand for goods and less activity than last year. Sales of automobiles in this district, however, continue to be good, and most dealers report increases over the first quarter of 1923.

The agricultural situation is on the whole favorable, although lack of snow protection during the winter affected the wheat and rye crops. Fruit trees are in excellent condition, and farmers have purchased more fertilizers than they did a year ago, which augurs well for the coming crops. The supply of farm labor, though larger than it was a year ago, is still inadequate.

According to the latest reports, retail trade in April will run ahead of that of last year, chiefly because of the late Easter. The same factor is probably responsible for a decline in retail sales in March. Wholesale trade in April was somewhat better than in March, during which month sales ran behind those of March 1923 in all but two of the lines reporting to this bank. As was to be expected, sales in March were larger than in February.

Wholesale commodity prices declined during March, the index of the Bureau of Labor Statistics falling from 152 to 150. The decrease was mostly due to lower prices for farm products and for cloths and clothing. Prices of some important commodities, such as pig iron, silk and copper, have declined further since April 1.

Reporting member banks in this district have continued to extend accommodation in substantial volume for commercial purposes, and credit conditions are easy. Money rates are lower than they were a month ago, the bulk of sales of commercial paper being at 4½ and 4¾%, with only a small amount offered at 5%.

Employment and Wages in Federal Reserve District of Philadelphia.

From the May 1 number of the "Business Review" of the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, we take the following:

Employment and wages in the manufacturing industries of Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware changed but little from February to March. An increase of .3% occurred in the number of wage earners at 1,041 reporting establishments, and total wages paid decreased .5%, causing a decline of .8% in average per capita earnings. Employment increased in 32 of the 48 industries included in our survey, and average weekly earnings were smaller in the same number of industries.

With few exceptions, however, the changes recorded were quite small. The largest gain—8.1%—was reported by canneries, and only six other industries—foundries and machine shops, blast furnaces, carpet and rug factories, chemical, coke and jewelry establishments—reported increases in employment of 3% or more. In all of these industries, moreover, average earnings declined, indicating either shorter working hours or the hiring of lower-paid workmen. Cotton mills, meat packing establishments, cigar factories, paint and varnish factories, lumber and planing mills, musical instrument factories and leather tanneries were the only industries which reported decreases of more than 3% in the number employed.

The average decline of nearly 1% in weekly per capita earnings probably indicates shorter working hours rather than reduction in wage rates, as very few firms reported either decreases or increases in the latter. The number of workers affected by these changes in wage rates was only 2,204, or less than 1% of the total number employed at reporting establishments.

A detailed statement regarding employment and wages in Pennsylvania and New Jersey, issued under date of April 15, appeared in these columns April 19, page 1841.

Factory Workers' Earnings in New York State Maintain Slight Gain in March Over Last Year—Largest Increases in Building Supply Industries.

The following statement was made public on April 28 by Industrial Commissioner Bernard L. Shientag of the State Department of Labor on the earnings of workers in the factories of New York State:

Average weekly earnings in March were \$28 16. This was a gain of 43 cents over February, but that was chiefly a recovery from the holiday. The gain over last year is becoming narrower. The average weekly pay of workers in New York City was not quite a dollar larger in March than the average they received in March 1923. Three months ago a yearly comparison showed a difference of more than a dollar and a half. For the State at large the difference between the two years dwindled at the same time. The average this month does not include some 65,000 persons who were employed in factories in March 1923, but who have been unable to obtain the same opportunity this year.

Largest increases come in the building supply industries.

The most generally favored group of workers in the State in the past year has been those in the building supply industries. In fact, the largest increases shown in any division of manufacturing from last March to this came in the trades which are closely associated with the building program: the heating apparatus plants, the stone yards, the saw and planing mills and the cement and plaster plants. In the stone yards in New York City weekly earnings this March averaged nearly \$7 more than they did a year ago.

On the other hand, the only industries to show any considerable drop in earnings since last March are the apparel trades—the men's clothing shops, the boot and shoe factories, furs, miscellaneous sewing and women's headwear establishments. To these should be added the cotton goods mills, where 40% of the workers are now off the pay-rolls entirely.

Women in Less Favorable Position Than Men.

In only two of the eleven groups into which the manufacturing industries of this State have been classified are more women employed than men. These are the textile and clothing industries. Taken together these two groups, which employ two-thirds of all the women factory workers in the State, show a net decline in employment since last year of 8% as compared with 3% for the remaining industries. Average weekly earnings in these two industries show an increase only one-third as great as that in the industries where 90% or more of the employees are men.

Almost without exception the employment index in New York State for the past ten years has been higher in March than in the preceding November. This year neither men nor women were quite so largely employed in March as they were in November. Employment among the men has been held down by the reductions in the railroad equipment plants while a considerable number of women have been dismissed because of the dullness in the cotton goods mills and the shirt and collar factories.

Earnings of Men and Women Compared.

In March this Department received reports covering the separate earnings of men and women from the factories employing over 260,000 men and 58,000 women. These reports indicate that the average weekly earnings of women in up-State factories are \$15 28 and that men up-State receive a little more than twice this amount. Women, especially up-State, are generally found in those industries where earnings for both men and women are low. This is evident from the fact that the wages of men, in the industries where more than half the workers are women, are \$5 below the general average for men up-State. In New York City earnings of women averaged \$20 30, which was about 60% of the average for men. While this ratio of women's earnings to those of men is more favorable than that which holds true up-State, a larger percentage of the women here are engaged in industries in which employment is highly seasonal.

Structural Steel Workers Strike for Wage Increase.

More than 2,000 members of the Bridge and Structural Iron Workers Union quit work on May 1 on buildings under construction, including some of the large buildings north of the Grand Central Terminal, and thirteen school buildings. The union demands a wage increase from \$10 50 a day, or \$1 31 an hour, to \$12, and a closed shop. Robert B. Thomas, Secretary of the Iron League of New York, at 101 Park Avenue, said his organization composed of structural iron contractors, had ignored the demands, in line with its policy of having no dealings with the union. William Wade, President of Local 40, at 62 East 106th Street, said the trade was 100% organized, and that more than 3,000 men were out. The buildings affected, include the new Roosevelt Hotel, Forty-sixth Street and Madison Avenue, the Postum Cereal Building, Forty-ninth Street and Park Avenue, the George Washington High School, and Public Schools Nos. 78, 98, 177, 108 and 121. The iron workers did not quit at Erasmus Hall High School.

Falling Steel Output is Accompanied by Lower Prices.

The shrinkage in iron and steel output, which had been continuous throughout April, was more rapid in the final week, says the "Iron Age" in its issue of May 1. For the industry as a whole the decline from the peak in March has been close to 20%, steel ingot production to-day being estimated at about 40,000,000 tons a year, as against 50,000,000 tons at the high point seven weeks ago, declares the "Age," and gives further particulars as follows:

Early in April the falling off in orders was laid to price cutting, resulting from overproduction, and to buyers' expectation of lower steel later. It is now apparent that consuming industries are somewhat less active and therefore that stocks on hand will last longer.

In respect to prices the situation is that the cuts that only recently were made quietly and were considered exceptional are now generally recognized. In plates, shapes and bars the recession in ordinary transactions is \$4 to \$6

a ton from the February levels, so that 2.25c., Pittsburgh, is usual on bars and shapes, while competition on plates has made 2.20c. a common price.

A further decline has come in sheet prices, as well as in hoops and in bolts and nuts.

Steel producers are generally following the procedure of last year in adjusting their operations to demand and there is no indication of efforts to get orders by drastic cuts. Cancellations are exceptional and suspensions are light, seeing that many consumers are urging quick deliveries for their bare needs.

Conceding that the present quietness may continue into June, steel companies point out that with all buyers following the same policy, production may soon fall below requirements and replenishment buying become the decisive factor.

Railroads are taking good-sized rail and track supply shipments from the mills, but little additional rail business is looked for until late in the year. The Denver & Rio Grande has just placed 10,000 tons with the Colorado mill.

The bulk of the year's railroad car business is considered to be now on the books of the builders. On some of this deliveries of steel will be spread over several months.

Some lines of manufacture connected with building show slackening. Chicago reports recession in radiator output, and the metal bed industry is now running at 65% of capacity.

Farm implement makers, who put into their product steel costing more than it costs to-day, now find farmers asking reductions in line with the decline in the steel market.

There is some revision of the original estimate that all the tin plate that could be turned out would be needed this year. Late planting has delayed contracts for food containers, and tin plate mills are cutting down output because storage space has been used up.

The general average of wire mill operations is probably not over 50%. Stock accumulated some weeks ago in anticipation of a spring movement are now being drawn upon, but buyers are ordering on the most limited scale.

The week's bookings of structural steel work amounted to 27,000 tons. Last week they were 20,000 tons, and the weekly average since the first of the year for the larger projects as reported in "The Iron Age" does not exceed 28,000 tons. Fresh work appearing calls for 24,000 tons, about one-fourth less than the rate at which it has been offered since December. Chicago, Pittsburgh and Cleveland find some lessening in building activity.

In the present trend of prices and demand bar iron manufacturers in the Middle West are expected to refuse the \$3 per ton advance asked by puddlers. Similar advances in sheet and tin plate scales will be contested.

Pig iron has declined 50c. at Chicago and at nearly all centres the market is so dull that prices are untested. Favorable features are the heavy shipments and the appearance of very little resale iron, but foundry operations, taking the country through, are somewhat less. The blowing out of a number of merchant blast furnaces is expected to check the downward tendency of prices.

In the Pittsburgh district six more blast furnaces, chiefly steel company stacks, were blown out in the past week and six others will stop within a few days. In the Pittsburgh and nearby districts 95 furnaces are now going as against 114 in March.

Falling prices have reduced "The Iron Age" composite figure for finished steel to 2.653c. per lb., the lowest since February 1923. One year ago it was 2.824c., the highest point since February 1921.

The pig iron composite has dropped from \$21.96 last week to \$21.88, the lowest of the year, and \$1 below the level of two months ago. One year ago it was \$30.79 and two years ago \$22.23 per ton.

The weekly composite price table is appended:

<i>Composite Price, April 29 1924, Finished Steel, 2.653c. per Pound.</i>	
Based on prices of steel bars, beams, tank plates, plain wire, open-hearth rails, black pipe and black sheets, constituting 88% of U. S. output of finished steel	Apr. 22 1924, 2.696c. Apr. 1 1924, 2.703c. May 1 1923, 2.810c.
	10-year pre-war average, 1.689c.
<i>Composite Price April 29 1924, Pig Iron, \$21.88 per Gross Ton.</i>	
Based on average of basic and foundry irons, the basic being Valley quotation, the foundry an average of Chicago, Philadelphia and Birmingham	Apr. 22 1924, \$21.96 Apr. 1 1924, 22.59 May 1 1923, 30.79
	10-year pre-war average, 15.72

In its weekly market review issued May 1 the "Iron Trade Review" of Cleveland observed that the output of steel declined more rapidly during the last week in April, while heavy shipments accompanied by light bookings compelled sharper curtailment. The "Review's" summary follows in full:

Large shipments by the mills in April, which new bookings have fallen far short of replacing, have cut deeply into unfilled orders for steel and further curtailment of production has been quick to follow. The cumulative effects of this shifting to a lower scale of output in order to match a contracted market, now are more apparent. Deliveries of the Steel corporation in April averaged only 4 to 5% less daily than in March which was the biggest period in 18 months. Steel ingot operations, however, now have been dropped to about 75%, or approximately 20% under the peak in March and stocks of raw steel are being drawn against for the finishing mills. In the industry at large operations are not over 65 to 70%.

Independent plants in the Mahoning Valley are running at 56% of steel ingot and 58% of sheet capacity. Blast furnaces active in the Valley district are being reduced to 29 against 36 early in March. The H. C. Frick Coke Co. has cut coke production drastically in the Connellsville region.

New buying has quieted down more perceptibly in all directions this week with the single exception of building work. No week of the present year has been so unproductive of fresh bookings or of important undertakings. Competition among producers for new tonnage is keener than ever as rolling schedules are more difficult to round out. Consumers of steel impressed by the continuing unsettlement of prices are meeting their needs in a hand-to-mouth way.

Iron and steel exports in March were the lowest since October 1921, amounting to 120,596 tons. Imports were 39,280 tons.

Manufacturers of sheets, tin plate and wrought iron products are strongly opposed to entertaining seriously the radical program for wage advances formulated by the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel & Tin Workers as reported in last week's "Iron Trade Review." Some sheet makers point out that already their costs are exceeding the sales price. Until the question comes to conference, the date for which has not yet been set, it cannot be said how far the union proposes to press its demands and to threaten a strike. Further wage reductions made by some coke operators in the Connellsville region total 18%.

Prices still lack stability. Talk is heard of 2-cent steel on car tonnage that recently came into the market. An Eastern sale of plates at 2.05c. Pittsburgh is reported this week, following a larger transaction at 2.10c. In districts tributary to Pittsburgh, plates, shapes and bars were selling

freely at 2.25c. Chicago prices are down another \$1. The American Sheet & Tin Plate Co. is expected to open its books May 1 on tin plate for last half at an unchanged price.

"Iron Trade Review" composite of 14 leading iron and steel products now shows the lowest price since January 1923, standing this week at \$41.72. The highest recent point was in February at \$43.53.

The pig iron market has picked up slightly in some districts as some buyers now are coming out for future requirements which in some cases run through the third quarter. Reduced prices apparently are becoming more attractive, and are still receding. At Chicago they are down 50c. and as low as \$20 has been done at Buffalo. Eastern basic has sold lower. Tennessee iron is offered at \$21.50 Birmingham. Structural awards this week make a fair showing considering general market conditions, totaling 21,122 tons. The New Jersey Central drawbridge, 8,000 tons, is the largest job placed. Work placed in metropolitan territory in April is well ahead of a year ago though for the first four months is behind. Activity may be checked by a threatened ironworkers' strike. The Mandel Bldg., 18,000 tons, and the Dupont Hotel, 12,000 tons, are coming out at New York. At Chicago also 30,000 tons await the settlement of building wage scales.

Railroad buying has dropped off abruptly. The Chesapeake & Ohio car material, 75,000 to 100,000 tons, has attracted spirited competition.

Continental output of iron and steel is growing. French export prices are rising due to the increase of the franc.

Fuel Oil Prices Advance—Gasoline and Crude Remain Stable.

The expected advance in the price of California crude oil failed of realization during the week closed last night. However, it was reported that fuel oil is selling at \$1.40 a barrel in California against the former price of \$1.15. Principal oil companies in and around New York, on April 29, were reported to be asking \$2 a barrel for fuel oil. This is 15 cents a barrel higher than the posted price and is the highest quotation in years.

Petroleum Production Remains Nearly Stationary.

An increase of 8,700 barrels per day during the week of April 26 in comparison with the output during the preceding week was recorded by the American Petroleum Institute's weekly statistics. The current production averaged 1,941,050 barrels per day, against 1,932,350 barrels. Compared with the corresponding figure of 1923, the present output is a decrease of 5,450 barrels per day. The daily average production east of the Rocky Mountains was 1,294,450 barrels, as compared with 1,287,050 barrels the previous week. California production was 646,600 barrels, as compared with 645,300 barrels. Santa Fe Springs is reported at 74,000 barrels against 75,000 barrels; Long Beach, 170,000 barrels against 175,000 barrels; Huntington Beach, 53,000 barrels, the same as the previous week; Torrance, 58,000 barrels, against 55,000 barrels, and Dominguez, 9,600 barrels, against 6,300 barrels.

The following are estimates of daily average gross production for the weeks indicated:

<i>(In Barrels.)</i>	DAILY AVERAGE PRODUCTION.			
	Apr. 26 '24.	Apr. 19 '24.	Apr. 12 '24.	Apr. 28 '23.
Oklahoma	430,100	429,950	433,000	459,600
Kansas	69,750	69,650	69,350	81,850
North Texas	74,200	72,900	71,800	68,300
Central Texas	198,850	201,800	209,150	125,550
North Louisiana	53,250	49,650	43,000	69,100
Arkansas	138,200	137,750	137,100	109,750
Gulf Coast	96,600	97,700	96,800	98,350
Eastern	103,000	102,000	101,000	108,000
Wyoming and Montana	130,500	125,650	132,650	131,000
California	646,600	645,300	659,500	695,000
Total	1,941,050	1,932,350	1,953,350	1,946,500

Curtailement of Coal Production Has Steady Effect on Market Conditions.

Although bituminous production showed a slight increase during the third week of the month, says the "Coal Trade Journal" in its issue of April 30, the preliminary figures for the week ended last Saturday do not carry much promise of a further gain. Moreover, the increase reported—111,000 net tons—is less than half of the total tonnage dumped at the Lake Erie ports during the same period. The daily production rate approximates that of the corresponding period three years ago, but actual consumption is considerably above that of the former period when industrial depression was so great. Giving full weight to the ultra cautious spirit in manufacturing and the lowered activity attributable to political uncertainty, it is nevertheless apparent that the country is consuming coal faster than it is being mined, continues the "Journal's" review, from which we make the following further extracts:

It is this knowledge, working both consciously and subconsciously, that is injecting the element of firmness into the price situation in the spot market—that and the number of mines that have again discovered that it is cheaper to conserve their coal in place than to sell it at ruinous prices. Compared with quotations for the week preceding, the prices given below for the week ended April 26 showed changes in only 28.3% of the figures. Of these changes 74.5% represented advances ranging from 5 to 50 cents and averaging 13.4 cents per ton. The reductions ranged between 5 and 25 cents and averaged 12.5 cents. The straight average minimum for the week was \$1.92, a gain of one cent; the straight average maximum was \$2.22.

a loss of one cent. A year ago the averages were \$2 36 and \$2 72, respectively.

General market conditions reflect little greater changes over the week than those mirrored in the prices. The slow start of the Lake season has disappointed buyers...

With the retail trade accepting the forecast of higher company prices in May as an assured fact, there has been a healthy demand for domestic sizes of anthracite the past few days.

While observing no pronounced recovery from the dullness that has been prevalent in the bituminous coal markets, the "Coal Age" in its summary of market conditions issued May 1, voiced the opinion that it is probable that the bottom of the valley of depression has been reached.

The consensus of sentiment seems to be that the trade is so flat on its back that the only direction in which it can look is upward.

The Department of Commerce contemplates instituting in the near future a campaign to start domestic consumers of coal laying in stocks at this time.

"Coal Age Index" of spot bituminous coal prices registered a slight rebound during the last week, the April 28 figure being 171 and the corresponding price \$2 07.

Activity in the export field was less marked during the last week; nevertheless, total coal shipment from Baltimore for foreign ports during the first twenty-four days of April were greater than for the full month of either January, February or March.

Demand for anthracite is somewhat stronger, which with the lessened output has tended to make independent prices firmer on domestic sizes.

Activity of Machinery in Wool Manufactures During the Month of March 1924.

The Department of Commerce on April 29 issued its report on active and idle wool machinery for March 1924, based on reports received from 913 manufacturers, operating 1,092 mills.

March 1923. The number of carpet and rug looms reported for March 1924 was 9,403, of which 7,736 or 82.3%, were in operation for some part of the month and 1,667 were idle throughout the month.

Spinning Spindles.

Of the total number of woolen spindles reported in March 1924, 1,938,355, or 84.4%, were in operation for some part of the month and 357,627 were idle throughout the month.

The number of worsted spindles in operation during March 1924 was 2,063,055 or 78.0% of the total, and the number idle was 582,937.

Cards and Combs.

Of the total number of sets of cards reported for March 1924, 5,971, or 85.5%, were in operation at some time during the month, while 1,014 were idle throughout the month.

Of the combs reported for March 1924, 2,205, or 81.8%, were in operation for some part of the month, and 489 were idle during the month.

Detailed Report.

The accompanying table gives the total number of machines in operation some time during the month of March 1924, the number of idle for the whole month, the number reported on single shift and on double shift, the active and idle machine or spindle hours, the percentages active and idle, and comparative figures for Feb. 1924 and March 1923.

Table with columns for Looms (Wider than 50-inch reed space, 50-inch reed space or less), Carpets and Rugs, Sets of Cards, Combs, Spinning Spindles (Woolen, Worsted), and Cards and Combs. Rows include monthly and annual totals for active and idle machines, spindle hours, and percentages.

a Overtime was reported sufficient to offset all idle hours and leave an excess of 62,490 hours, or 3.9%. b Overtime was reported sufficient to offset all idle hours and leave an excess of 98,726 hours, or 17.2%. c Overtime was reported sufficient to offset all idle hours and leave an excess of 11,720,315 hours, or 2.1%.

Total Values of Imports and Exports of Merchandise by Grand Divisions and Principal Countries. The Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce of the Department of Commerce at Washington on April 28 issued its report showing the merchandise imports and exports by

States Treasury notes and certificates of indebtedness. All other bonds, stocks and securities increased by \$8,000,000.

Member banks in New York City report a net increase of \$12,000,000 in loans and discounts. Loans on corporate securities increased by \$17,000,000, while decreases of \$3,000,000 in loans on Government securities, and of \$2,000,000 in all other loans and discounts are noted. Investment holdings of these banks show an increase of \$1,000,000, an increase of \$12,000,000 in United States bonds being offset by reductions of \$11,000,000 in United States Treasury notes and \$1,000,000 in certificates of indebtedness, while all other bonds, stocks and securities increased by \$1,000,000. Further comment regarding the changes shown by these member banks is as follows:

Net demand deposits of all reporting institutions decreased by \$50,000,000, notwithstanding an increase of \$42,000,000 shown for the reporting banks in the New York district. A decrease of \$25,000,000 is shown for reporting banks in the Boston district, a decrease of \$22,000,000 for reporting banks in the San Francisco district, and of \$14,000,000 for reporting banks in the Chicago district, together with smaller decreases in the other districts. Time deposits show an increase of \$14,000,000, of which \$9,000,000 is reported for the New York City banks. Government deposits decreased by \$20,000,000.

Reserve balances of reporting institutions decreased by \$4,000,000 and cash in vault increased by \$10,000,000. Reporting banks in New York City show increases of \$6,000,000 and \$1,000,000, respectively, in reserve balances and cash in vault.

Borrowings of all reporting institutions from the Federal Reserve banks decreased from \$242,000,000 to \$237,000,000, the increases in other districts being more than offset by a decline of \$21,000,000 for reporting banks in New York City.

On a subsequent page—that is, on page 2165—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 ago:

	Increase (+) or Decrease (—) During Week.	During Year.
Loans and discounts, total.....	—\$8,000,000	+\$215,000,000
Secured by U. S. Government obligations.....	—6,000,000	—49,000,000
Secured by stocks and bonds.....	+16,000,000	+89,000,000
All other.....	—18,000,000	+175,000,000
Investments, total.....	+3,000,000	—81,000,000
U. S. bonds.....	+11,000,000	+10,000,000
U. S. Treasury notes.....	—8,000,000	—187,000,000
U. S. Certificates of indebtedness.....	—8,000,000	—52,000,000
Other bonds, stocks and securities.....	+8,000,000	+148,000,000
Reserve balances with Federal Reserve Banks.....	—4,000,000	+70,000,000
Cash in vault.....	+10,000,000	+3,000,000
Net demand deposits.....	—50,000,000	+133,000,000
Time deposits.....	+14,000,000	+276,000,000
Government deposits.....	—20,000,000	—61,000,000
Total accommodation at Fed. Res. Banks.....	—5,000,000	—165,000,000

J. P. Morgan in Conference with Allied Reparation Members on German Reparations—Sails for United States.

J. P. Morgan, who has been abroad nearly two months, and who left London on April 30 on the steamer *Homer*, on his return to the United States, conferred on April 25 with Louis Barthou, Sir John Bradbury and the other heads of the allied missions to the Allied Reparations Commission during the course of an official dinner given in Paris in honor of the American financier. Col. James A. Logan, the American unofficial observer on the commission, was also in attendance at the dinner. Regarding a further discussion of the subject between Mr. Morgan and members of the commission, we quote the following copyright cablegram from Paris to the New York "Times" April 26:

J. P. Morgan had a long conference with M. Barthou and Sir John Bradbury at the headquarters of the Reparations Commission to-day and this evening he dined with M. Robineau, director of the Bank of France, and Finance Minister Marsal.

It is understood that Mr. Morgan discussed with the Reparations Commission delegates only the general principles of the 800,000,000 gold mark loan for Germany and did not go into the details on which his advice is sought.

It is said that Mr. Morgan expressed the opinion that American investors would be quite disposed to participate in the German loan to facilitate the reparations settlement so far as the principle of the thing went, but that they would insist first that the loan be part of a genuine reparations settlement, and, secondly, that it be amply secured. Generally, he thought the Dawes plan had not gone far enough to discuss technical details of the loan as, for instance, the rate of interest.

Norman Montagu, head of the Bank of England, will confer with M. Barthou and Sir John Bradbury the first of the week, and Mr. Morgan will be in London during the week. So it is hoped here that the commission will be able to get more definite information on the loan's prospects in the near future.

The general impression in Paris is that Mr. Morgan has let the Reparations Commission delegates feel that if all the allied Governments and the German Government accept the Dawes scheme without radical changes New York will take half the projected \$200,000,000 loan. But Mr. Morgan himself will say nothing.

It is recalled that Mr. Morgan headed the Bankers' Committee which studied reparations in Paris in 1921, but which adjourned when the French declined to agree to discussion of the reduction of the reparations total.

Associated Press advices from Paris, April 25, referring to the proposed conference the succeeding day, stated:

Reparations Commission purposes to mobilize the opinions of all the leading financiers in allied countries on the question how Germany can borrow 800,000,000 gold marks to help her make her first year's reparation payment and balance her budget.

The commission will begin its work to-morrow with a conference with J. P. Morgan, the New York banker. After learning the views of Mr. Morgan, Louis Barthou, President of the commission, and Sir John Bradbury, Great Britain's representative, will interview M. Robineau, Governor of the Bank of France, and Montagu Collet Norman, Governor of the Bank of England. Swiss, Dutch and Scandinavian financiers also will be consulted.

Mr. Morgan is to be consulted only as a representative American financier and not as a member of the firm of J. P. Morgan & Co. The Commissioners will ask his opinion as to the prospects of subscriptions to a loan in the United States and on what conditions a loan can be floated. They also may invite him to suggest the name for "reparations dictator."

The first task of the commission will be to find out what conditions are likely to be imposed in the different countries with regard to subscriptions to an 800,000,000 mark loan to Germany. The idea of the commission is that the subscriptions should be spread over as wide a territory as possible so as to make it to the interests of the greatest number of countries that Germany succeed in carrying out the plans of the experts.

On the same date copyright advices from Paris to the New York "Times" stated:

On the suggestion of Colonel James A. Logan, American unofficial member, the Reparations Commission to-day appointed Louis Barthou, French member and President, and Sir John Bradbury, British member, a committee to discuss with financiers of various countries, especially the United States and England, ways and means of floating the 800,000,000 mark loan provided by the experts' plan. J. P. Morgan was in Paris to-night and M. Barthou and Sir John Bradbury were to ask his advice on details respecting the loan, the necessary interest, guarantees, &c., as well as the amount New York probably would take.

I am asked to say that this first contact with Mr. Morgan does not necessarily signify his banking house will handle the American end of the loan. The purpose of the members of the Reparations Commission is to have the benefit of Mr. Morgan's advice on the program which should be followed to make American participation certain.

M. Barthou and Sir John Bradbury will confer with other American bankers as well, it being understood they expect to get in touch with Kuhn, Loeb & Co. However, the frequent mention of Dwight Morrow's name and the interview with Mr. Morgan have given rise to numerous reports the Morgan house will handle the German loan in New York.

During the experts' discussions it was generally said it was hoped the United States would take half the \$200,000,000 loan, London \$75,000,000, with Continental nations, France included, making up the remaining \$25,000,000. This money is to be placed in the new bank the experts have planned for Germany to be held at the Allies' orders for payments on deliveries in kind the first year of operation of the Dawes plan. However, these deliveries would be paid for in the bank's paper issue, the gold produced by the loan remaining in the bank to form, with the 400,000,000 marks capital subscription, the bank's initial gold reserve of 1,200,000,000 marks, which is to back, on the basis of one to three, the first paper money issue.

Later Loans Also Considered.

It is entirely probable M. Barthou and Sir John will seek Mr. Morgan's opinion on the prospects for other and later loans provided in the Dawes scheme, as, for instance, the sale by Germany in the second year of 500,000,000 marks in bonds of the German railways. But this conversation would be merely general, since it is obvious the possibility of disposing of these bonds depends on the record of operation of the experts' plan the first year.

On the 2nd inst. the New York "Commercial" printed the following from London, May 1:

J. P. Morgan left for New York yesterday on the *Homer*, satisfied that the French Government will accept the Dawes report. According to the most reliable information here he gained this impression when he stopped off in Paris last week.

The "Daily Telegraph" to-morrow is printing an article revealing that J. P. Morgan saved France from complete collapse last month only when he received pledges from members of the then French Government that the report of the experts would be accepted by France. Morgan's representative exacted similar guarantees from other leading Frenchmen who might have succeeded Poincare had his ministry fallen, it is said.

"When confronted with the collapse of the franc," says the "Daily Telegraph," "Messrs. Dawes and Young became greatly alarmed that the laborious work of the experts might be rendered useless and immediately sounded the State Department at Washington as to whether it would come to the rescue of France.

"The American Administration declined to become involved in France's economic condition but subsequently undertook to raise no objection to assistance being given by American bankers."

Offering of \$40,000,000 Kingdom of Netherlands (Holland) Bonds.

Kuhn, Loeb & Co. and the National City Co. of New York offered on April 29 \$40,000,000 Kingdom of The Netherlands (Holland) thirty-year 6% external sinking fund gold bonds of 1924. The bonds were offered at 98½% and accrued interest to date of delivery, to yield over 6.10% on the investment if held to maturity.

Arrangements for the loan were concluded on April 28, when a contract therefor was signed at the offices of Kuhn, Loeb & Co., between Mortimer L. Schiff and Charles E. Mitchell, representing Kuhn, Loeb & Co. and the National City Co., respectively, and Dr. A. C. D. de Graeff, representing Holland. An interesting fact regarding the loan is that it is the first to be floated in behalf of Holland in currency other than guilders and the first loan to be floated in a foreign market. Messrs. Schiff and Mitchell referred to this in a statement given out on April 28 announcing the purchase of the bonds. This statement said:

This is the first loan issued by the Dutch Government payable in any currency other than her own. Holland has been for centuries one of the foremost financial and commercial powers, and one of the chief creditor

nations of the world. In international finance her accustomed role has been that of lender rather than borrower. It is symptomatic of the greatly enhanced financial prestige and power of the United States that the first loan floated by Holland in a foreign market, in a foreign currency, should be floated in the United States and expressed as payable in United States gold dollars. There is something of romance in the fact that the contract for the first Dutch External Loan, payable in a foreign currency, should have been signed in New York, the descendant city of the first Dutch colony in the New World, and it is perhaps a sign of the times that Holland, whose experience and ability in international finance is second to none, should have chosen the dollar in preference to any and all other currencies.

This growth of the prestige and power of the United States was, of course, greatly accelerated by the demand for American goods and services during the war, and the consequent heavy favorable trade balances that accrued to the United States and which have only been partially settled by great importations of gold comprising the greatest flow that the world has ever seen in a similar period.

It is practically self-evident that the volume of American exports can not be indefinitely maintained unless this country be willing to take payment therefor either by increasing its commodity imports or copy the example of such countries as Great Britain and Holland and increase the annual amount of capital loaned or invested abroad. Looked at from this standpoint, the present loan for the Kingdom of the Netherlands, one of the finest of the neutral credits, may be regarded as the most desirable form of increase in imports. Any foreign loan floated in this country, payable in dollars, must inevitably increase to that extent the purchasing power of the rest of the world from the United States, whether that purchasing power is used by the original borrower or is transferred to others.

Loans of this character will do more than anything else to lengthen and stabilize the economic prosperity of the United States, and in due time possibly contribute toward a proper redistribution of the unnecessarily large proportion of the world's gold supply now held in this country.

The bonds will become due April 1 1954. They will be issued in coupon bearer form in denominations of \$1,000 and \$500. Principal and interest will be payable at the offices of Kuhn, Loeb & Co. and the National City Bank of New York, fiscal agents of the loan, in United States gold coin of the present standard of weight and fineness, free from all taxes, present and future, levied by the Government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, and payable as well in time of war as in time of peace, and whether the holder be a citizen or resident of a friendly or hostile State. Interest will be payable April 1 and Oct. 1. The offering circular says:

A sinking fund is provided beginning April 1 1925 to retire annually, during the first five years, one-thirtieth of the original principal amount of the loan by purchases of bonds, if obtainable, below par. The unapplied balance of any installment shall revert to the Government. After 1929 the sinking fund shall retire annually by drawings at par one-twenty-fifth of the aggregate principal amount of bonds outstanding on Jan. 1 1930.

On April 1 1929, or on any semi-annual interest date thereafter, the Government may, at its option, call for redemption all the bonds of this issue then outstanding, in whole but not in part (except as above provided for the sinking fund), at par and accrued interest.

Statements approved by Dr. L. A. Ries, Assistant Treasurer-General of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, state in part:

These bonds are a direct obligation of the Kingdom of the Netherlands and are authorized by Act of Parliament approved Dec. 22 1922.

Holland has been for centuries one of the foremost financial and commercial powers of the world, and for generations one of the most important markets for United States and other foreign securities. Her two principal cities, Amsterdam and Rotterdam, to-day occupy a position of great international importance as banking and commercial centres.

The foreign trade of Holland—not including that of her colonies—aggregated in 1923 fl. 3,312,000,000, which is \$175 per capita at the present rate of exchange, as against \$73 per capita for the United States. Like Great Britain, Holland always was, and still is, a creditor country, having made very large investments in her colonies and throughout the world.

The total funded and the net unfunded debt of Holland at the close of the year 1923 aggregated fl. 3,173,000,000* (about \$1,275,500,000). This is at the rate of about \$182 per capita at par of exchange, compared with approximately \$785 per capita for Great Britain. Holland's credit position before the war is illustrated by the fact that her loans were then issued, from time to time, at interest rates of approximately 3½% and 3%.

The monetary unit of Holland is the guilder (florin) with a value at par of exchange of \$4.02 in the United States.

The Bank of the Netherlands (Holland's only bank of issue) as of March 31 1924 had a gold reserve against its circulation of about 56%.

The proceeds of this loan will be applied toward the redemption of floating debt included in the total debt as stated above. The dollars realized from this loan will be sold to the Netherlands Bank to be from time to time made available for payments to be effected in the United States for purchases and other purposes.

Temporary bonds or interim receipts exchangeable for definitive bonds when prepared may be delivered against payment in New York funds. Application will be made in due course to list the bonds on the New York Stock Exchange.

*This figure does not include Treasury bills, issued to finance certain advances made by the Government to the Government of the Dutch East Indies against which it holds the obligations of the latter.

Hungary on the Way to Financial Stabilization.

According to a cabled dispatch from Budapest to local bankers, the Hungarian public is showing great interest in the announced offering of shares of Hungarian National Bank, Ltd., and it is confidently expected in governmental and financial circles that the capital will be subscribed several times. A statement in behalf of local bankers says:

It will be under the auspices of the League of Nations and will be capitalized at 30,000,000 gold crowns, or \$6,000,000. The shares are in denomination of 100 gold crowns, or approximately \$20, each, to allow of wide public participation.

Its organization may be regarded as the first important step towards Hungary's economic rehabilitation, which is to be worked out under the guidance of the newly appointed High Commissioner, Mr. Jeremiah Smith, distinguished Boston jurist and financial economist.

Payment of May 1 Coupons on City of Berne (Switzerland) Bonds.

Speyer & Co. announce that coupons due May 1 on the \$6,000,000 City of Berne, Switzerland, 25-year 8% sinking fund gold bonds, due Nov. 1 1945 (municipal external loan of 1920), will be paid on presentation at their office.

Comparative Figures of Condition of Canadian Banks.

In the following we compare the condition of the Canadian banks under the February 1924 statement, with the return for January 1924:

	ASSETS.	
	Feb. 29 1924.	Jan. 31 1924.
Gold and subsidiary coin—	\$	\$
In Canada	44,612,601	44,894,972
Elsewhere	11,206,053	13,018,263
U. S. and other foreign currencies	25,645,314	29,634,142
Total	81,463,968	87,547,377
Dominion notes	155,254,971	169,987,738
Deposited with Minister of Finance for security of note circulation	6,119,119	6,119,119
Deposit of central gold reserves	55,052,533	44,852,533
Due from banks	81,896,657	74,184,684
Loans and discounts	1,350,664,535	1,358,674,736
Bonds and securities, &c	465,083,159	435,476,675
Call and short loans in Canada	111,467,549	107,113,769
Call and short loans elsewhere than in Canada	188,915,774	182,019,643
Other assets	160,926,557	165,910,877
Total	2,656,844,822	2,631,887,151
	LIABILITIES.	
Capital authorized	175,175,000	175,175,000
Capital subscribed	123,572,300	123,572,300
*Capital paid up	123,409,260	123,409,190
*Reserve fund	123,775,000	123,775,000
Circulation	163,446,173	156,865,776
Government deposits	95,450,515	77,585,178
Demand deposits	807,560,381	808,141,378
Time deposits	1,192,561,512	1,184,461,830
Due to banks	48,827,616	50,551,939
Bills payable	8,073,766	7,211,456
Other liabilities	76,282,982	83,548,337
Total	2,639,387,205	2,615,550,084

* Beginning Oct. 31 1923 capital paid up and reserve fund included in total.

Note.—Owing to the omission of the cents in the official reports, the footings in the above do not exactly agree with the total given.

British Labor Government Budget Duties Imposed During War Abolished—The Reduction in Great Britain's Debt.

Under the British Labor Government's first budget, presented to the House of Commons on April 29, the duties on imports imposed during the administration of Chancellor McKenna will be abolished on Aug. 1. Philip Snowden, Chancellor of the Exchequer, introduced the new budget in the House. The Associated Press accounts from London had the following to say regarding the reductions it would effect:

The first budget ever prepared for the Government of Great Britain by a Socialist appeals to every Britisher through his stomach as well as his pocketbook. Abolition of these duties, it is stated, would remove in the neighborhood of 33 1-3% of the duties on foreign films, motor cars, motor cycles, clocks, watches and musical instruments, all of which the United States exports heavily to England. The English motor manufacturers have claimed that the removal of the McKenna duty would ruin the industry here. The duty on tea is cut in half, to a figure 3½d. per pound less than before the war. The duty on sugar that goes into the teacups and elsewhere in the national diet is reduced more than one-half, from 2½ to 1½ pence per pound, the Chancellor pointing out that it is now being taxed fourteen times as heavily as before the war.

The effect of these reductions in the cost of Great Britain's great indoor pastime and rite—afternoon tea—will be immediate. The dealers have already announced that the price will drop to-morrow.

Coffee, cocoa and chicory also get off with half the duty heretofore imposed, and the duty on dried fruits will pass out of existence on Aug. 1.

Loud complaints are going up to-night from British motor manufacturers, who say that the country will be flooded with American cars, and the British motor industry given a setback just when it was beginning to achieve a relatively large production. Some of them are of the opinion that the workers themselves will complain, since protection has secured for their jobs, and perhaps by complaining strong enough will have Mr. Snowden's proposal killed in committee.

Even with the duties on American films, the British motion picture industry has had a hard time of it, and with the taxes abolished next summer, the way will not be made easier.

The Chancellor estimated the total cost of all the reductions in taxation recommended this year at £34,030,000, and in the full fiscal year at £40,443,000. He therefore would be left with an estimated surplus of £4,024,000 on the current year.

Mr. Snowden said last year's surplus of £38,000,000 had gone to reduction of the debt. Of this surplus £27,750,000 was due to reduced expenditure.

Regarding the expenditure, the Chancellor said the outlay for the national debt services amounted to £347,250,000, of which £40,000,000 was for the sinking fund.

The total dead weight of the debt on March 31 was £7,680,484,000, as compared with £7,772,397,000 on the corresponding date of the preceding year, the Chancellor stated. The floating debt had been reduced during the year by £35,500,000. A year ago this debt was £810,000,000 and on March 31 of this year £774,500,000.

The total debt reduction, external and internal, since December 1918, had been over £650,000,000, Chancellor Snowden said.

"Our one real external debt is to the United States, £940,500,000 par, and certain market loans in America amounting to about £45,000,000," he explained.

He estimated the total expenditures for the year at £790,026,000.

An attack by the Conservatives on the Labor Government's budget was begun in the House of Commons on April 30. The Associated Press said:

In leading the Conservative attack, Sir Robert S. Horne, former Chancellor of the Exchequer, said he saw no prospects at all of holding the British Empire together if the Government was going to flout the resolutions passed at the imperial conference last autumn. Sir Robert Horne, in his speech to the House, said that the Labor Government's abolition of the McKenna duties was going to have an ill effect on employment. The Government was surely running the risk of throwing more men out into the streets. Referring to imperial preference, he wondered if Mr. Thomas realized what Great Britain owed to the empire in the war of trade. He proceeded to enumerate:

Australia, with a population of 5,500,000, had bought more British-made goods than America's 110,000,000, or Germany's 65,000,000, or France's 40,000,000 population.

Before the war New Zealand, with 2,000,000 people, had outbought Russia's teeming millions in the British market. He ridiculed the idea that this was due to any merit of British goods over foreign goods, attributing it largely to good will and preference.

J. H. Thomas, Secretary of the Colonies, immediately protested against the Conservatives regarding themselves as alone the guardians of the empire.

"Stop talking," he remarked to the Conservatives, "as if the empire was the property of one section and realize that on the Government benches—indeed, in all quarters of the House—you will find men ready to co-operate with you in doing their very best for the empire."

While Mr. Thomas was defending the budget the Liberals left their seats and held a party meeting. The meeting hailed Labor's budget as one after their own hearts—"a liberal and free trade budget, vindicating us for turning out the Conservatives," as Mr. Asquith described it. The speakers at the Liberal conclave indorsed the budget in general.

Canadian Automobile Manufacturers Affected By Termination of British War Duties.

Toronto press advices, April 29, said:

Canadian automobile manufacturers declared to-night that the termination of the McKenna duties as announced in the British House of Commons to-day would be harmful to the industry in the Dominion and a serious blow to the automobile export trade.

Cars manufactured in Canada now enter Great Britain at a preferential rate of 22.2-9% as compared with 33.1-3% on American cars. With the elimination of the McKenna duties both Canadian and American cars will be admitted free of duty.

Prime Minister Ramsay MacDonald of Great Britain Says Dawes Report Should Be Taken As Whole—Approves Disarmament Recommendation of President Coolidge.

Indicating the attitude of British labor toward the experts' report on reparations, Prime Minister Ramsay MacDonald, of Great Britain, urged, on April 19, that it be taken as a whole and put into operation at once; a copyright cablegram to the New York "Times" from London on that date, quoted him as saying: "Here is Europe's chance. Put it into operation all at once and all together. Then when that is done, go on and finish the job and bring peace and security to the Continent." The same paper said:

The Premier was addressing a Labor meeting at York, where he is the guest of the Lord Mayor of that city, who is also a Labor man. He derided the idea that his Government had no power and he pointed to the Anglo-Russian conference and the Singapore decision as evidence to the contrary.

In regard to the Dawes report particularly, the Government had the whole country behind it, he said. The report should be taken as a whole. There were things in it he did not like, and there were things in it he did like, but if he began to raise this detail and that detail, France, Belgium and Germany would do the same and they would be in exactly the same position and they would be just exactly where they started. Even if they agreed in those circumstances, they would never get good will behind the agreement. It was clear from the report that if they went on for another two years carrying out a policy that had been carried out for two or three years, there would be no hope of relief or hope of reparations, security or peace.

Germany Needed in the League.

That was all he cared about, the Prime Minister declared, and that was what he was going to work for. By letting Germany join the League of Nations, they could complete the organization upon which he would like to found the future peace of Europe.

He regarded the rise of extreme nationalism in Germany as a very great menace, dangerous to Europe and deplorable for Germany as well. The policy of the Allies was largely responsible for this rise of German nationalism. He urged that Germany's word be accepted and pointed out that the greatest danger Germany offered to Europe now was not the danger of arms, but the danger of industrial deterioration.

Again, speaking at Port Talbot, Wales, on April 28, to the electors who sent him to Parliament, Prime Minister MacDonald stated that he was "not going to lose a single chance of putting these reports into operation if I can help it, and I

want France to be with us." The Associated Press accounts report him as saying on April 28:

The other day I spoke at York. Over part of my speech as reported in France there was some misunderstanding as to what I said.

Let there be no doubt about it, I regard these experts' reports as being an opportunity for peace, for settlement, for agreement, which if not taken by European statesmen will be one of the most Godsent opportunities ever neglected and lost.

As far as I am concerned I am not going to lose a single chance of putting these reports into operation if I can help it, and I want France to be with us.

Some of our papers are talking about France being isolated. That is the very last thing I want. I do not want France to be isolated. I want to stand side by side with France. I want M. Poincare to know that France, so far as her security is concerned, has no better friend than this country.

If we disagree as to the angle from which we look upon these things it is not that we do not want security, that we do not want friendship. I am profoundly convinced that these experts' reports, joined together with the experience of the last four years, ought to make both France and ourselves see that, by our common friendship and by that alone, working with Italy, working with Belgium, working with the small nationalities and offering Germany a real chance to fulfill its word, a real chance to make a pledge and keep it—in that way, in that friendly way, in that allied way, we can open anew the door to peace, happiness and international cooperation.

That is my policy and that is the policy of my friends, and I will do our best to carry out, steadily and patiently, but without any humbug and cheating at all—straight, honest, open diplomacy.

When we disagree, let us say that we disagree, and when we agree, unite the agreement with the firm handclasp of friendship and fellowship. In that way our country will again take its proper place in the councils of the world.

The Prime Minister also, in his Port Talbot speech, declared that he was glad President Coolidge had referred to disarmament the other way; on this point the Prime Minister said "When disarmament comes to be discussed the President will find no stronger support in the world for it than from us." Mr. MacDonald began his discussion of foreign affairs with an expression of his hopes of helping to put Europe on its feet and said:

If I can only do anything before I leave this office to remove some of the difficulties that have been in the way of a European settlement, if I can do anything to bring my country and France into closer friendship, if I can do anything to enable Central Europe to find its legs, not with hate and revenge in its heart but with a new revelation of international cooperation, then I shall have felt that I have done my day's work, and regard it as a pretty satisfactory one at that.

Return of General Dawes and Other Americans Who Assisted in Drawing Up Experts' Reports on German Reparations.

Brigadier-General Charles G. Dawes, of Chicago; Owen D. Young of New York, and Henry M. Robinson of Los Angeles, the Americans who participated in the drafting of the experts' reports on German reparations, returned from Europe on the steamer "Leviathan," reaching New York on Monday last, April 28. The recommendations of the two committees, headed by General Dawes and Reginald McKenna, were referred to at length in these columns April 12, page 1729, and further reference thereto appeared in our issue of April 19, page 1849. Following their return to the United States the three conferred with President Coolidge at Washington on April 30, General Dawes going from there the same day to his home in Chicago, and Messrs. Young and Robinson also departing from Washington for their homes. In a joint statement issued by General Dawes and his associates in New York on April 28, it is stated that "the loan contemplated by the plan is, in our opinion, sound, and will be amply secured. It should be, and we believe will be, participated in by all important European countries. The people of the United States will be asked, through private bankers, to take their share." The statement also said that "the prompt acceptance of the reports by the Reparations Commission and by the Allied Governments leads us to hope that the time of substantial controversy is passed and that of concerted action by the European Allies and Germany is at hand." In full the statement follows:

We have no comment to make on the plan; as written it must speak. Any word of ours might excite controversy or be regarded as an interpretation. The spirit of the plan and its broad outline must be its persuasive force. The endeavor of both committees was to make their reports clear and keep them free from technical language and discussion.

We welcome the opportunity to testify to the high purpose and great ability of our European colleagues on the committee. We feel it an honor to have worked with them.

We have not received instructions from nor have we made reports to Washington. We have not received suggestions from nor have we made inquiries of bankers regarding the character of the plan. The Reparations Commission put at our disposal its vast accumulation of material and the German Government did not fail to answer fully and frankly every question put to it by the committees.

The representatives of the Allied governments were also uninstructed and therefore the responsibility of the plan rests wholly upon the members of the committees. In making it no member of the committees sacrificed any conviction of principle or of fact; but, on the other hand, the plan does represent the composite opinion of a group. After full discussion every member of the committees assented to the plan, not as a matter of compromise but because of conviction.

The plan contemplated the participation of Americans in some degree in its execution. This we believe to be in every way desirable. The judgment of America is welcomed by all countries in every critical decision because of

her impartiality. This has been true in most effective conferences since the armistice, and will continue to be in future ones.

Loan Contemplated By Plan.

The loan contemplated by the plan is, in our opinion, sound, and will be amply secured. It should be and we believe will be participated in by all important European countries. The people of the United States will be asked, through private bankers, to take their share. The detailed purpose for which the loan is to be used is relatively unimportant. It is enough to know that it will be effective to start the plan in motion to secure economic tranquility in Europe; to restore their buying power; to return the thoughts and energies of their people to production and finally to be a step in the substitution of peace and good will for war and prejudice. We believe that American bankers and investors will subscribe to the loan.

The plan means much to the Allies; it means more to Germany in her present economic condition. It asks her to assume a burden of taxation commensurate with but not greater than that of the other countries of Europe. It does not require impairment of her standard of living. We have assumed the good faith of Germany in the acceptance and execution of a plan which she is able to fulfill. Every step taken by Germany thus far indicates that our assumption is well founded.

The prompt acceptance of the reports by the Reparations Commission and by the Allied governments leads us to hope that the time of substantial controversy is passed and that of concerted action by the European Allies and Germany is at hand.

According to the New York "Times" Mr. Young declined to answer any questions that might be construed as leading to an interpretation of the Dawes report, and would not allow himself to be quoted except on corollary matters. It continues:

Asked how soon the report could be put into operation, Mr. Young said: "This will depend upon two things. First, how quickly the Reichstag passes the necessary enabling legislation; second how promptly the appointing power, the Reparation Commission or whatever body it may be, nominates the personnel. The principal factor is the attitude of the newly elected Reichstag. The report of course is a big issue in the German election campaign now on."

Mr. Young said that he did not know anything about the reported plan to name an American as a "reparations czar," but added:

"It is undoubtedly true that the disinterestedness of America provides in some degree for such impartiality as cannot be readily obtained from the interested countries."

Mr. Young thought that the right share of the German loan for Americans to take was 50%—the figure attributed to Mr. Morgan in dispatches from abroad. He also thought that England should take 37½%, and that the rest of the loan should go to the Continent:

Regarding security for American investors, Mr. Young said that the plan of the Dawes committee provided that the loan "may be" a first claim on all German resources underlying all reparations—"that is, a first charge on the bank account of Germany." He said that the plan did not provide that this must be the case, as the kind of security to be pledged was a matter for negotiation between the German Government and the bankers.

Mr. Young said that if Europe did not accept the Dawes plan, it was hard to tell what alternative she should have.

Should Be Effective Quickly.

"Obviously," he went on, "if the plan is to be effective it must be effective quickly, because economic conditions change so rapidly you can't possibly lay out a program in those rapidly shifting times over there that is fit for application a very long distance off."

"For example, suppose that the rentenmark should break and Germany should go into economic chaos. It would be difficult to deal then with a plan like this, which is based upon the assumption that the rentenmark will hold until the new currency, guaranteed by the loan, supports it. And the rentenmark will most certainly collapse unless the plan is adopted."

"If the plan is successful," he added, "it will show how much will be available from that source to pay inter-Allied debts."

Some one asked if this would not take several years.

"Not necessarily," he replied. "I think you are going to get a demonstration very quickly, if Germany can be restored, and I think she can, of how much she can pay and how much can be transferred to pay off the inter-Allied debts."

Mr. Young was asked to reply to German criticisms of the Dawes report, chiefly on the ground of its omission of the total amount Germany must pay.

"This committee had no right to deal with the total sum," he said. "The report says in effect that in order to balance Germany's budget you must know what the annual charge against Germany is to be, but you don't have to know how many years that charge is to run. The only question put up to us was the balancing of the budget, and all we've tried to state is the maximum annual payment Germany is to make."

"I've been asked time and again why Germany should accept any plan when she didn't know the total amount of her debt. But as far as the average individual German is concerned, he probably doesn't know and doesn't care to know what the debt of his country is. What he does want to know is what his taxes will be. I don't know what the total debt of the United States is, but I know what taxes I have to pay. I think it's the same with the average citizen of every country."

Asked to discuss the question of how Germany was to dispose of her goods in world markets in order to create enough surplus of exports over imports to pay reparations under the Dawes plan, Mr. Young said:

"Nobody knows what the German exports will be and who will take them. If this plan has any advantages over previous plans, it is that for five years people have been speculating as to what Germany could export and trying to fix figures in accordance with their speculations, while this plan sets up a machinery to make Germany pay as much taxes as any other country, and to transfer this money to such of the Allies as are willing to take her goods."

"Let Germany go ahead and develop her business and give her a show, and then take what she can pay. If she becomes prosperous her reparations payments should be heavy. If the other countries refuse to take her goods, she cannot be expected to pay reparations."

With their visit to Washington on April 30, Messrs. Dawes, Young and Robinson had interviews with Secretary of State Hughes and Secretary of the Treasury Mellon, in addition to President Coolidge. The following is taken from the Washington dispatch to the New York "Times":

They spent an hour with the President, during which they sketched in an informal way the more important features of their work in connection with the proposed reparations settlement. Their narrative included an account of conditions in Germany.

President Coolidge showed a deep interest in what he was told and was extremely cordial in expressing his appreciation of what had been accom-

plished. None of the Commissioners would make any statement for publication. General Dawes said that all that could be told had already been published.

When he was asked in regard to reports that he might be brought forward for nomination as the Republican candidate for Vice-President of the United States, General Dawes was silent.

From the Washington account in the New York "Journal of Commerce" we quote the following:

A loan of \$200,000,000 to Germany will be all the immediate financial assistance required of American capital under the proposed reparations settlement, Owen D. Young declared to-day at the White House after a conference of the American experts with President Coolidge. He predicted that it would be years before the Allied governments would seek to market the reparations bonds.

Young's Views Welcomed.

Mr. Young's views of the extent to which American financial aid is to be expected in the furtherance of the proposed reparations program were received with considerable satisfaction here as in some quarters there have arisen doubts as to the extent to which the investing public could be relied upon to absorb reparations issues. Mr. Young believes that the flotation of a \$200,000,000 loan will be an easy task and indicated that the American experts did not feel called upon to undertake any financial missionary work in this country in support of a German loan.

While there is a disposition in some quarters to believe that France and some of the other Allies may desire to realize at once on the principal of some of the reparations bonds, it is felt that Mr. Young's prediction that it will be years before any actual attempt is made to market those bonds is based on knowledge of the familiarity of the Allies with probable difficulties in the way of promptly unloading these securities.

Advances of American funds to aid in the capitalization of the suggested gold bank in Germany are regarded as foregone conclusions. But the marketability of the railroad and the industrial bonds at the outset have been very strongly questioned and Mr. Young's belief that these latter issues will not be put on the market for a long time is accepted as an encouraging sign of a disposition on the part of the Allies to carry out the spirit of the experts' report.

Reparations Bonds.

Under the Dawes plan the German railroads would be bonded for some 11,000,000,000 gold marks and German industries for about 5,000,000,000 gold marks. These securities would be turned over to the Allies on reparations account and after a few years would yield about 6%. As offering attractive investments to the American public, however, these proposed railroad and industrial bonds have been open to question because of their terms in competition with domestic security and also because of the uncertainty which would surround the properties to some extent.

These bonds would bear interest at 5% with 1% amortization, which it is felt would compare rather unfavorably with American security, especially in the light of the fact that the investment would be made abroad. France and other Allies, it was thought, would have difficulty in passing these bonds along to investors in this country because of the possibility of the revenues from these issues being subject to interruption in the event of any future occupation activities.

But if the Allies intend to hold these bonds and be content with the installments of interest, provided it is believed that the reparations program has an excellent chance of getting at least several years trial. If the Allied Governments are the holders of the railroad and industrial bonds it is contended they would undoubtedly look with great disfavor on any activities in the Ruhr or by-way for forced reparations collections which would interfere with the regular payments on interest on the bonds.

At the time of his departure from Southampton, Eng., on April 22, General Dawes was reported in Associated Press cablegrams:

I have done all my talking in the experts' report, which speaks for itself, and I don't intend to go into competition with it. Nothing I could say would make it clearer. It is a document prepared by men who recognized that the obligation to make it understandable to average men was as binding upon them as to have it clear to themselves.

This sense of obligation has not always characterized those who have drawn up documents of similar importance, and I attribute the widespread support it is receiving as much to its clearness as to its common sense.

Advices to the effect that General Charles G. Dawes refused to permit bands to meet him with his arrival in Chicago on May 1, or allow any demonstration in his honor, was indicated in press dispatches from Chicago on the 1st inst., which said:

There was to have been a big demonstration and reception in Evanston, but General Dawes got wind of it and headed it off. Previously he had declined to be dined by the Illinois Manufacturers' Association.

"Nothing in that, nothing in that, so far as I am concerned," his comment on the Vice-Presidential gossip, was the longest sentence he uttered.

Views on Dawes Plan of Colonel Ayres, Who Was Associated with Experts' Committee.

Colonel Leonard P. Ayres, Vice-President of the Cleveland Trust Co., of Cleveland, Ohio, who served as technical adviser to the American members of the Dawes committee of experts, returned on the Cunard line steamer "Beren-garia" on April 19. Colonel Ayres had sailed from New York on Jan. 12. At the meeting of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States in Cleveland next week, Colonel Ayres is to open the discussion on the experts' reports. As to what he had to say with his return from abroad, we quote the following from the New York "Evening Post" of April 19:

Flexible Plan Needed.

"The new plan is a great advance over anything previously done," he said, "and it might briefly be characterized as a good plan, but the figures are really too large."

"I would say that the contemplated payments are too great and that the plan will break down if it is not amended."

"Do you think that the payments should be cut down?"

"It is not so much the size of the cut nor any reduction in the payments, but rather that the plan at present is inflexible. Under the present arrangement, if Germany is unable to meet her payment she is considered in default, which would create probably another economic disturbance."

"I believe the plan should be made flexible with a sliding scale and a commission to determine if Germany really is unable to pay. If so, a reduction could be made allowing her to meet the payment at that particular time.

"To state any figure that Germany is able to pay at the present time is rather difficult because one must be thoroughly acquainted with conditions throughout the country and other involved factors.

"My impression of the social conditions of Germany is that there is widespread hardship rather than general suffering."

Colonel Ayres was in the employ of the Dawes committee as an expert accountant and looked over the books of banks throughout Germany to establish the sales of marks and mark credits abroad.

American Mark Buying.

"As for the sales of marks and mark credits during the last five years," he said, "I found my survey to be interesting and perhaps significant.

"The greatest purchasers in any foreign country were in the United States. This could not be attributed to a conspiracy, however, but, rather to an insatiable demand in America, our countrymen believing that Germany would come back to normalcy.

"American speculators purchased \$770,000,000 in marks from the time when it was at top value to about six months ago, when it reached bottom." Asked if he would call America the "sucker nation," his only reply was a laugh.

"Throughout the world," he continued, "I estimated that there were about \$2,000,000,000 spent for marks. As far as I could learn, the number of foreign purchasers traceable through German banks amounted to one million. Approximately 200,000 of these were in the United States.

"The only other flaw I found in the plan was that it does not call for a gold basis bank at the outset. Under the Dawes plan the bank will operate with paper currency, the other countries of Europe being jealous of the gold standard. It will be hard to raise an American loan unless a German finance is founded on the gold standard.

"There are two things that I would suggest American bankers should insist upon in the Dawes plan:

"(1) That the plan be made more flexible.

"(2) That the newly established bank start at once on a gold basis."

Replies of Great Britain, France, Belgium and Italy to Allied Reparations Commission's Recommendations for Acceptance of Reparations Reports.

Replies of the Allied Governments—Great Britain, France, Belgium and Italy—to the Allied Reparations Commission's request of April 17, recommending the early adoption of the experts' reports on German reparations, were made public at Paris on April 26. Premier Poincaré, in his reply, states that the Governments will not "be able to take useful action until they have exact information as to the practical effect which the Reparations Commission gives to the experts' proposals," and he adds the French Government "will in a spirit of conciliation and mutual understanding make every necessary effort compatible with the vital interests of France, to facilitate prompt execution of the definite decision to be communicated to it by the commission." The British Government indicates in its reply that it will accept and do everything in its power "to give practical effect to the recommendation of the commission." The Belgian Government likewise states that "it is prepared to accept the experts' conclusions as a whole with the view of a practical and equitable settlement of the reparations problem," and the Italian Government says that it is "willing immediately to adopt the experts' reports in their entirety, as well as the principles underlying them, being convinced that these conclusions and principles can constitute a fair basis for the settlement of the question of the reparations." The text of the replies, as given in a copyright cablegram to the New York "Times" from Paris April 26, follows:

Texts of the Allied Replies.

The texts of the Allies replies to the Reparation Commission follow:

M. Poincaré writes:

"I have studied the experts' reports with the greatest interest. They fulfill exactly the tasks assigned them by the Commission, on the one hand to ascertain the measures necessary to secure the balancing of the German budget and stabilization of currency, and on the other to ascertain means of estimating capital exported abroad and causing its return to Germany.

"These documents were to enable the Reparation Commission to consider, in conformity with the provisions of Article 234 of the Treaty of Versailles, the resources and capacity of Germany.

"The experts' reports form an extremely interesting and complete whole and I can only congratulate myself on having taken the initiative in requesting the French delegate on the Reparation Commission to propose convocation of the experts. I am glad to take this opportunity of paying tribute to the great competence which they have shown, their impartiality and appreciation of the actual facts.

"In possession of such detailed and valuable information, the Commission is now in the position to pronounce judgment, and the Governments have a right to expect from it a definite decision which will embody the conclusions contained in the experts' reports, will support them with argument, will give them practical form—since in most cases they are drafted, as is only proper in the case of reports from advisers, in the form of mere indications—and will complete them on certain points which the experts have left the Commission itself to deal with or on which they have not expressed any opinion.

"It is only when the Reparation Commission has completed this work and has thus clearly defined all the matters which come within its competence under the Treaty and those which are not within its jurisdiction that it will be in the position to communicate the latter to the Governments concerned.

Must Have Definite Information.

"The Governments will not, in fact, be able to take useful action until they have exact information as to the practical effect which the Reparation Commission gives to the experts' proposals. They must also be in the

position to ascertain whether the German Government has for its part taken the necessary measures to carry out the Commission's decision.

It is evident that this decision cannot be taken until the Commission has approved the drafts of the laws and decrees which it has requested the German Government to submit to it with a view to insuring execution of the plan. But it is also evident that only after this decision will the allied Governments be in the position to arrive at "conclusions coming within their jurisdiction in order that the plans proposed may be brought into full operation without delay." In the circumstances, the German Government and the allied Governments cannot in fact be placed on the same footing.

The Reparation Commission, acting in virtue of its powers under the peace treaty, can take into account the observations made to it by the German Government, which is entitled to a just opportunity to be heard, and must then give its decision with all the authority which the treaty confers upon it.

The experts have, moreover, stated that in their opinion the economic and financial unity of the Reich should be restored as soon as the plan recommended is put into execution. Since the Commission has decided to accept the experts' conclusions as a whole, the French Government ventures to assume that on this point of capital importance it does not intend to modify these conclusions.

The Governments will have to consider together under what conditions the guarantees at present held by France and Belgium shall be merged into or exchanged for those which will be handed over as an undivided whole to all the Allies. These operations cannot, however, take place until Germany has effectively put the plan into execution. It is for the Governments to determine by common agreement the guarantees which these operations may render necessary.

It is, moreover, understood that in the course of the conversations to be entered into the French Government, which appreciates the experts' work as do the other allied Governments, will in a spirit of conciliation and mutual understanding make every necessary effort compatible with the vital interests of France to facilitate prompt execution of the definite decision to be communicated to it by the Commission.

POINCARÉ.

Reply of the British Government.

Following is the British reply:

"His Majesty's Government note with satisfaction that the Reparation Commission has unanimously approved the conclusions of the committees of experts and are taking the necessary steps to give effect to these in regard to the matters within the jurisdiction of the Commission.

"His Majesty's Government for their part accept and will do everything in their power to give practical effect to the recommendation of the Commission that the Allied Governments should likewise adopt the conclusions of the committees in regard to the matters falling within the jurisdiction of those Governments.

"The recommendations of the experts do not appear to involve any reduction of the total of the German reparation debt and necessary modifications of the schedule of payments of May 1921 appear to be within the competence of the unanimous decision of the Reparation Commission and not to require the specific authority of the several Governments represented on the Commission under Article 234 of the Treaty of Versailles.

"If, however, there is any doubt on this point, His Majesty's Government are prepared to grant such specific authority.

Other Matters for Governments.

"The only other matters arising on the experts' recommendations which appear to be within the jurisdiction of the Allied Governments are:

"(a) Restoration of the economic and fiscal authority of the German Government over the whole of the German territories.

"(b) The steps necessary to give binding effect to new guarantees and controls so far as these may not be clearly covered by the existing provisions of the Treaty of Versailles.

"(c) The inclusion of all the financial liabilities of Germany under the peace treaty in a single annuity."

"On the first point His Majesty's Government are prepared to give their full support to the experts' recommendation to take, in consultation with the other Governments concerned, whatever steps may be necessary to effect date.

"As regards the second, agreement of the German Government having already been obtained, all that remains to be done is give formal effect to it: His Majesty's Government will be prepared to proceed by whatever may be found the most convenient and effectual method of achieving this object.

"On the third point his Majesty's Government accept the experts' recommendation and are prepared for their part to ask the Reparation Commission to propose a scheme to put this provision into execution.

"Should any other of the recommendations of the experts be held by the Reparation Commission to require endorsement by or action on the part of the Allied Governments his Majesty's Government will, for their part, be prepared to take whatever steps may be necessary to give effect to them.

"In the absence of the Secretary of State. (Signed) W. TYRRELL.

Belgian Government's Reply.

The Belgian reply reads:

"The Belgian Government has examined the experts' reports with the greatest interest.

"The indisputable competence of the members of the two committees, their objective aims and the co-operation of America have given their unanimous conclusions a high moral importance which the Belgian Government is pleased to recognize.

"It has the honor to inform the Reparation Commission that it is prepared to accept the experts' conclusion as a whole with the view to a practical and equitable settlement of the reparation problem.

"It hopes the Reparation Commission will give careful consideration to the drafts of the laws and decrees which it has asked the German Government to submit to it and which are necessary for complete execution of the experts' plan.

"The Belgian Government further hopes the Reparation Commission will lose no time preparing measures the details of which are entrusted to it by the report, so that when this work has been carried out the plan recommended may be brought into prompt operation by common agreement among the Allied Governments. The Belgian Government is placing itself immediately in touch with these Governments.

(Signed) HYMANS THEUNIS."

Italian Government's Note.

The Italian reply is appended:

"The Italian Government has the honor to acknowledge receipt of the letters of the Reparation Commission under date of April 17 communicating the reports of the two committees of experts, together with copies of the letters exchanged between the commission and the German Government and the text of the decision adopted by the Commission on the same date.

"The Italian Government has taken the greatest interest in examining these two reports, which on account of the competence of the experts and the unanimity with which they adopted their conclusions must be considered documents of the greatest value.

"Since the Royal Government considers the contents of the two reports as an indivisible whole, it notes with satisfaction that the Reparation Commission adopted them in their entirety and is sure the Commission will be able to pursue its work rapidly.

"The Italian Government for its part is willing immediately to adopt the experts' reports in their entirety, as well as the principles underlying them, being convinced that these conclusions and principles can constitute a fair basis for settlement of the question of the reparations and connected questions in accordance with the line of action always followed by the Royal Government.

"The Royal Government considers, moreover, that the conclusions unanimously adopted by the experts and approved by the Reparation Commission will facilitate the solution of the general problem by a settlement of the questions among the Allied Governments which are within their jurisdiction and which were not within the competence of the committee of experts.

(Signed) MUSSOLINI.

On April 17 the following statement was issued at Washington by the Italian Embassy indicating the readiness of the Italian Government to accept "in its integral form the work of the experts":

The Italian Government has examined with the deepest interest the report of the reparations experts, not only in the parts containing definite proposals and suggestions, but also in those setting forth the general principles on which the report is based and that justify its conclusions.

In conformity with the statement made by the experts, the Italian Government considers that the subject of the reports with all its principles and proposals must be accepted as an indivisible whole; and it is gratified to see that all the points of the report have been unanimously approved by the experts.

The Italian Government has constantly stood on the principle that a general settlement could only be reached by an agreement of all the Governments interested in the question of reparation and that this should be forth coming from a preparatory study carried out and unanimously approved by a committee of experts.

Therefore the Government of Italy is ready to accept in its integral form the work of the experts and the principle inspiring it, considering them as the basis for the solution of the reparations problem and of the questions which are connected with it.

The communique issued April 17 by the Reparations Commission recommending the acceptance of the experts' reports by the Allied Governments and Germany was given in our issue of April 19, page 1849. This week interallied conversations have been in progress at Paris between Premiers Theunis of Belgium and Poincare of France, and at London between Belgian officials and Prime Minister MacDonald on the reparations issue.

Appointees Named Under Dawes Plan—Allies Select the Members of Organizing Committees on Railroads' Bank and Bonds.

The following copyright advices from Paris April 30 appeared in the New York "Times" of May 1:

Another step was taken to-day by the Reparation Commission in preparing the Dawes plan for operation when its political aspects shall have been settled. This was the selection of its representatives on the organizing committees provided for in the report to draw up the final working plans for the bank, railroads and industrial bonds. The German Government on Monday nominated its representatives on these committees.

As has been expected from the first, Sir William Acworth, England, and M. Leverve, France, were asked to serve on the Railroad Committee. These two, working under the Dawes Committee, were responsible for that portion of the report dealing with the railroads.

Sir Robert Kindersley, President of Lazard Brothers, a director of the Bank of England and Governor of the Hudson Bay Co. and the principal British representative on the Dawes committee, was selected to serve on the Bank Committee. His acceptance caused some surprise, as it is known that he wished to avoid the position because of ill health.

For the Industrial Bonds Committee Alfred Descamps, the French banker who assisted the experts, and Alberto Porelli of Italy, members of the Dawes body, were chosen.

The next step is for the Railroad and Industrial bond committees to select a fifth member, belonging to a neutral nation, to serve with them. Should there be a deadlock this member will be selected by the Reparation Commission.

These committees are of a purely temporary character and their functions are to round out the suggestions of the experts into a workable plan. When this work has been completed they will cease to exist and permanent commissioners will take over the direction of the enterprises.

Offering of Bonds of Liberty Central Joint Stock Land Bank of St. Louis.

At 101 and interest, to yield 4.87% to the redeemable date and 5% thereafter, Blair & Co., Inc., and the Liberty Central Trust Co. of St. Louis offered on April 28 \$1,600,000 5% bonds of the Liberty Central Joint Stock Land Bank of St. Louis. The bonds are dated April 1 1924, become due April 1 1964, and are redeemable at par and interest on April 1 1934, or any interest date thereafter. The bonds, coupon, in denomination of \$1,000, and fully registerable, are interchangeable. Principal and semi-annual interest (April 1 and Oct. 1) are payable at the Liberty Central Joint Stock Land Bank of St. Louis or coupons may be presented for collection at the office of Blair & Co., New York, or Liberty Central Trust Co., St. Louis. The bonds, issued under the Federal Farm Loan Act, are exempt from all Federal, State, municipal and local taxation, excepting inheritance taxes,

and are legal investments for all fiduciary and trust funds under the jurisdiction of the Federal Government. C. C. Lockett, Treasurer of the Liberty Central Joint Stock Land Bank, in a letter to the offering houses, says in part:

This bank was chartered by the Federal Farm Loan Board on April 14 1922. Its capital stock, which carries a double liability for the protection of the bondholder, is owned in its entirety by the Liberty Central Trust Co. It has a paid-in surplus equal to 10% of its capital stock. It is required by law to set aside 25% of its net earnings yearly until the reserve so established is equal to 20% of its capital stock and thereafter continuously to set aside 5% of its net profits.

The bank's operations are confined exclusively to the States of Missouri and Illinois, which have long borne high rank in the value and productivity of their farm lands. The average appraised value of the farm lands upon which loans have been made by this bank is \$74.85 per acre. The average loan per acre is \$30.30, making the percentage of loan to the conservative appraised value 40.48%. The average size of our loans is about \$6,700. As of March 31 1924 net loans of the bank amounted to \$3,187,568 upon farm lands having an aggregate appraised value of \$7,874,322.

All of the operations of Joint Stock Land Banks are, as you know, supervised by the United States Government, by whom both the bonds and mortgages securing the same must be approved.

The bank is under the management of men who for years have been engaged in the making of farm loans in this territory. Each loan is carefully analyzed and scrutinized, not only by the entire Executive Committee of the Liberty Central Joint Stock Land Bank, but likewise by the entire Officers' Committee of the Liberty Central Trust Co., before final approval.

Governors of New York Stock Exchange Record Appreciation of Work of Retiring President Seymour L. Cromwell.

At a meeting of the Governing Committee of the New York Stock Exchange on April 30 the following resolution commending the work of President Seymour L. Cromwell, who will retire at the annual meeting May 12, was unanimously adopted:

Mr. Seymour L. Cromwell in retiring as President of the Exchange, after his third consecutive year of service, brings to a close an administration which has sustained the welfare and prosperity of the Exchange under circumstances which have called for unusual patience, discretion and high courage, and involved duties and responsibilities greatly in excess of those arising in more normal times.

Mr. Cromwell has not only been called upon to exercise the talent and ability for which he is distinguished, in the services of the Exchange, but, in order to fulfill his onerous duties, he has been obliged to sacrifice his private interests in the conduct of his own business to an extent hitherto almost unparalleled.

In carrying forward the important work of presenting the real character and functions of the Exchange to the public his services have been unique and of inestimable value. Be it therefore

Resolved, That the Governing Committee of the New York Stock Exchange do hereby record their profound appreciation of what Mr. Cromwell has done for the Exchange of which he has been so brilliant a chief executive, and do above all register their admiration of the generous and conscientious self-sacrifice that has characterized his devotion to his duties. Be it further

Resolved, That this resolution be spread upon the minutes of this meeting, and that an engrossed copy thereof be presented to Mr. Cromwell.

Liverpool Cotton Exchange to Close on Saturdays.

The Liverpool Cotton Exchange will be closed Saturdays during June, July and August, and on Fridays from June 6 to Aug. 29, the Exchange will remain open for trading until 4.30 p. m.

Death of H. M. Bylesby of Chicago.

Henry Malison Bylesby, head of the well-known Chicago bond and engineering firm of H. M. Bylesby & Co. and nationally known promoter of public utilities, died suddenly in Chicago, on May 1, while in the office of his dentist. Death was due to heart disease, from which he had suffered for many years. In addition to being President of H. M. Bylesby & Co., Mr. Bylesby was an officer and director in a number of public utilities companies all over the United States, principally gas and electrical companies. He served during the War, despite his age of 60 years, as general purchasing agent for the A. E. F. In this capacity he was stationed at London. When he was discharged in 1918 he was awarded the Distinguished Service Order by the British Government, and later he received the American Distinguished Service Medal. He was a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers, the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and the Union League and University Clubs of Chicago. At one time Mr. Bylesby was a co-experimenter in electricity with Thomas A. Edison.

Zimmermann & Forshay Resume Business.

Leopold Zimmermann, former head of the long established firm of Zimmermann & Forshay, which in June of last year was placed in the hands of a receiver by reason of its involvement in the financial difficulties of Europe, resumed business on Wednesday, of this week, April 30, under the firm name of Zimmermann & Forshay at the same address as the former firm—170 Broadway. The new organization will specialize in foreign moneys, gold and silver bullion, United States Government bonds and other investment securities, both

domestic and foreign. Mr. Zimmermann, who founded the old firm in 1872, will continue as active head of the new organization. On Monday, April 28, Judge Knox, of the Federal Court, signed the composition plan whereby the creditors of the old firm of Zimmermann & Forshay are to receive 40% of their claims. With regard to the resumption of business by Mr. Zimmermann, the "Herald-Tribune," in its issue of April 30 said, in part:

Starting off at the age of seventy-one, with a handicap of approximately \$3,000,000 comprising a self-imposed obligation which is in no sense a legal claim, Leopold Zimmermann will reopen the doors of Zimmermann & Forshay for business this morning. Ten months and nine days ago the firm of Zimmermann & Forshay went into receivership. Day before yesterday the court approved a composition by which creditors will receive 40% of their claims. Once this payment is made by the receiver the slate will have been wiped clean.

Mr. Zimmermann declared yesterday that he will not consider the debts of the old firm to have been eradicated until he has paid every last dollar, regardless of the forthcoming discharge from bankruptcy.

"I am seventy-one years old," he said yesterday, "but if God grants me strength to go ahead, every friend, every associate, and every customer of the firm of Zimmermann & Forshay will be repaid in full."

The new business is starting in a small way. Where there were close to 100 employees at the time of the failure, it will begin to-day with but fifteen. The diversification will not be as great at the start as it was before, and transactions will be confined to foreign exchange, bullion and specie, and investment securities. Mr. Zimmermann sold his Stock Exchange seat two weeks ago and will not again become a member of the institution, at least for the present.

Judge Knox also, on April 28, handed down a decision in which between \$700,000 and \$750,000, it is said, is involved, in favor of the receiver of Zimmermann & Forshay against the Alien Property Custodian, the United States Treasurer, Wiener Bankverin of Vienna and the Deutsche Bank of Berlin, according to the "Wall Street Journal" of April 28. The receiver had asked, as a basis of settlement, the dollar value as of the date of the entry of this country into the war. Judge Knox, in his decision, said demands should have been made earlier, and took the exchange value as of August 1919, when the first demand was made on the foreign banks. The amount asked approximated \$1,200,000, it was said. Our last reference to the affairs of Zimmermann & Forshay was in the "Chronicle" of April 26, p. 1985.

Newly Organized Firm of Rees, Scully & Forshay, Inc. Opens for Business.

Louis J. Rees, John S. Scully and David Forshay, all former partners in the old firm of Zimmermann & Forshay of this city, have organized a new firm under the title of Rees, Scully & Forshay, Inc. and opened for business on Thursday of this week, May 1, at 111 Broadway. The new firm will deal in bullion, specie, foreign moneys and investment securities. Mr. Rees was associated with the firm of Zimmermann & Forshay for 47 years, while Mr. Scully was with the firm for 35 years and Mr. Forshay is said to have spent 23 years with the firm.

International Cotton Congress.

Representatives from all countries interested in the cotton industry will attend the twelfth International Cotton Congress to be held at Vienna on June 13-14. Many important subjects will be discussed, including international courts of arbitration, the report of the 1923 journey of the American Cotton Crop Reporting Mission sent out to the United States last year by the International Federation of Master Cotton Spinners' Associations, the effect of the 48-hour week on the cotton industry, labor saving appliances in cotton mills, cotton growing in Brazil, the Colonies and Dependencies, American cotton conditioning reports. Of great interest will be the address by the representatives of the American Cotton Growers' Co-operative Movement. Delegates will attend from England, Switzerland, Belgium, Italy, Austria, Czechoslovakia, France, Holland, India, Japan, Spain, Sweden and other countries.

Bean Warehouses to come under Federal Warehouse Act.

Government licensing of bean warehouses under the provisions of the United States Warehouse Act is contemplated in a series of public hearings arranged by the United States Department of Agriculture. The first hearing was held at Rochester, N. Y., April 30; on May 1 there was a hearing at Lansing, Mich.; hearings will also be held at Denver, Colo., May 5; Twin Falls, Idaho, May 8; San Francisco, Cal., May 12, and Los Angeles, Cal., May 15. The hearings will be conducted by H. S. Yohe, in charge of the Warehouse Division of the Department of Agriculture, assisted by Paul M. Williams, also of the Warehouse Division. The Department's announcement of April 24 said:

Extension of the provisions of the Warehouse Act to bean warehouses is made possible by an amendment to the Act in February, 1923, providing for the licensing of warehouses for the storage of such agricultural products as the Secretary of Agriculture may deem properly storable under the Act. The law originally provided for licensing warehouses for the storage of cotton, grain, tobacco, and wool. Peanut warehouses now come under the provisions of the Act, and regulations are being drawn for potatoes and broomcorn. It is planned to extend the Act to other products that might properly be stored under the law, as soon as the Department can make the necessary investigations to determine what regulations should be made.

Criticism of McNary-Haugen Bill by President Head of American Bankers Association.

The McNary-Haugen bill, designed to afford relief to producers of certain agricultural products, was criticized as an example of impracticable Government price-fixing by Walter W. Head, President of the American Bankers Association, speaking before the Georgia State Bankers Association at Atlanta on April 24. Mr. Head in his speech said:

Periodically we are afflicted with the passion for price-fixing by governmental decree. Whenever the price of certain commodities has not been satisfactory to the producers, there has been a demand that the Government, by artificial stimulus or arbitrary act, fix a satisfactory price and require its payment by purchasers. There are two methods by which government can maintain prices above the level established by natural economic law. One is by the establishment and enforcement of penalties for sale or purchase of a particular commodity at a price other than that fixed by the Government; the other is by the purchase by the Government or a Governmental agency of a sufficient amount of the commodity to raise the price to the decreed level.

The first method has been proved impractical wherever tried. The enforcement of fixed prices by Government purchase to reduce or eliminate a surplus is the more effective method. Prices can be established by this method provided the Government has sufficient funds to sustain the loss which results and provided the producers of other commodities are sufficiently docile to surrender their own advantage.

These two provisos are sufficiently large "ifs," however, to make such price-fixing impracticable, even though not theoretically impossible. We have an example in the case of the McNary-Haugen bill, designed to afford relief to the producers of certain agricultural products. Originally this bill was advanced as a means of affording relief to growers of wheat. But what happened? Exactly what one would and should expect. The growers of corn, of live stock and of cotton objected to special preference by Government toward wheat producers. They insisted that the prices of their product should also receive protection by Government. As a result, the McNary-Haugen bill includes provisions for wheat, corn, cattle, swine, cotton and products thereof. If it should be enacted into law and put into operation, how long will it be before the producers of other commodities will demand equal favor? And why should they not? They have an equal right. The ultimate result is, of course, an absurdity. No Government can fix prices of all commodities in which its people trade, nor of a large number of them.

Mr. Head exposed the fallacy of the proposal to fix a present price for an individual commodity at the same ratio to its average pre-war price as the present general price level bears to the pre-war general price level. Taking the general price level, he pointed out that some of the individual articles included in the composite figure are now at only one-quarter of their pre-war prices, while others are nearly three times their own pre-war prices. Yet by Government decree certain specified commodities would arbitrarily be maintained at a price at least one and a half times their pre-war prices. He gave a number of examples of the social injustice, especially to farmers, that would result from such an attempt to prevent by law the free play of factors of price competition which establish the relative values of different commodities and work their own correction of disparities in prices.

F. N. Shepherd of American Bankers Association Says United States is Becoming Government by Minority.

Government by minority is coming about in the United States on account of the indifference of the people to their duties as citizens, F. N. Shepherd, Executive Manager, American Bankers Association, declared on April 24, speaking in New York by radio from WJY to 160 local chapters of the American Institute of Banking meeting simultaneously in various parts of the country. Mr. Shepherd, who was one of 15 figures in the banking world addressing the Institute from a chain of broadcasting stations from coast to coast on financial and other questions of public moment, spoke on the subject "Recreant Citizenship." He said in part:

A large percentage of the people neither exercise their right nor give heed to their duties as citizens. Instead of denouncing Washington, the people have themselves to blame for not taking a more lively and intelligent interest in the selection of their representatives. It is through the indifference of the people that we are becoming a Government by minority. We are dominated by groups and blocs because the voters do not vote.

The investigations now going on in Washington have disclosed a situation which has shocked the moral sense of the nation. Those who have watched the proceedings are only a little less astounded by the manner of their conduct than by the facts revealed. The desire to protect the interests of the people at times seems lost in the scramble to make political capital for current consumption. Surfeited by a mass of irrelevant, fantastic and immaterial testimony from witnesses of unquestioned incompetency, the public is now turning away in disgust. But whatever Washington is, it is nothing more nor less than the reflection of the people. Its faults can be corrected only by the constant vigilance of an intelligent electorate.

In the Presidential election of 1920 less than one-half of the legal voters voted, and in the Congressional election of 1922 less than 40%. Had

Harding received the entire vote cast, Democratic, Republican, and all, he would then have been put into office by a minority of the voters. It is interesting to note by how small a vote certain men were put in the Senate in 1922. Brookhart of Iowa received only 29% of the possible legal vote. La Follette of Wisconsin received 28%, Copeland of New York 25%, Bruce of Maryland 20%, Dill of Washington 17% and Ferris of Michigan 16%. Whatever delinquency there is in the Government to-day reflects the delinquency of the people in their duty of taking an interest in government.

The Constitution, Mr. Shepherd said, provides, not for a pure democracy but a representative democracy, under which men were to be selected best qualified to execute the business of government, and who "were not supposed to keep their ears to the ground for the whisperings of every voter in regard to the business of government, but in their capacity as representatives were expected to act in accordance with their best judgment, like the officers and directors of a corporation, elected by the stockholders because of their ability and fitness to carry on the business." He continued:

Largely as a result of the primaries and the subsequent indifference of the voter, we are becoming a government of blocs and groups. The people are not content to elect their representatives and have them operate the business of government in accordance with their best judgment, but after electing them, they want to tell them how to act on the details of the business. Our successful corporations would soon be in need of the receiver if, in matters of business policy and detail, the officers and directors first gave ear to the wishes and opinion of the widely scattered stockholders. Imagine the shareholders undertaking to pass upon the loans of a bank. The statement of the case alone shows its absurdity. The Government is a business; in fact, the biggest business in the world, but it is the only business wherein business experience and training are not made qualifications for those who carry it on.

The effect of the direct primary is already shown in the quality and calibre of our representatives, who aspire to office, become candidates, and are often elected by reason of their own aggressiveness and ambition and not because they were selected through any intelligently sifting process as those best fitted to serve and then presented to the people for consideration and approval. Though errors were made under the convention system and at times developed bosses of an undesirable type, it did bring about the selection of a higher average of experience, ability and fitness and make for party responsibility—which means intelligent responsibility to the people. To-day, under the primary system, being responsible to everybody, representatives are in fact responsible to nobody and the system itself brings about class appeal, particularly in times of economic depression, when absurd and uneconomic promises mean votes and votes mean election.

As shown by the results of the elections in 1920 and 1922, the worst feature of the situation is that the people are indifferent, apathetic, and take little interest in the intelligent exercise of their right to vote. The irresponsibility developed and the character of representatives elected have, after the experience of a decade, brought about the repeal of the direct primary law in certain States and the return to the convention system, with party responsibility and a better selection of candidates.

Julius H. Barnes Says McNary-Haugen Farm Bill Would Advance Flour to American Consumers \$2 a Barrel.

Julius H. Barnes, President of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, in an analysis of the McNary-Haugen bill in Chicago on April 22 called attention to several features showing this and similar legislation to be a distinct menace to future farm prosperity. "The House Committee," said Mr. Barnes, who is former President of the United States Grain Corporation, "has done a useful service in stripping the McNary-Haugen proposal of the false hopes engendered in agricultural districts. By the provision to substitute a cash deduction from the proposed ratio price, instead of the unworkable and doubtful-value scrip originally proposed, the farmer can now see just how ineffective this plan will be in improving his farm prices." Continuing Mr. Barnes said:

The wheat raiser must realize that no price can make profitable a seven-bushel yield of wheat, as in North Dakota this year, while Pennsylvania's twenty-five bushel yield is profitable to-day. His remedy lies in improved farm methods with higher yields, in diversification and in demanding from the Department of Agriculture practical service in showing him how to grow the superior type of wheat which to-day is selling in Kansas City at \$1.20 and in Minneapolis at \$1.30.

The peculiarly American system of future trading on exchanges has facilitated home consumption of wheat at ten, twenty and thirty cents above the foreign equivalent. If legislation and regulation should wisely encourage this trading device, America could face an export surplus and yet for many months of the year maintain its home prices far above the export equivalent.

The ratio proposal of the McNary Bill, if workable at all, would affect the price of wheat thus under the House proposal to deduct the probable loss on export from the cash price.

The average United States crop of wheat for the last ten years is 870,000,000 bushels. July 1st we may carry over unsold 130,000,000 bushels of wheat and flour, making the equivalent of 1,000,000,000 possible bushels of wheat as of next year. Deduct 100,000,000 bushels for seed and feed on the farm against which no ratio price would apply. Of the remaining 900,000,000 bushels we would probably consume at home 450,000,000 bushels, leaving a possible export surplus of 450,000,000.

The price to-day of Canadian wheat equal to a standard American quality is equivalent to 90c. at Chicago. The McNary ratio price at Chicago for standard wheat as proposed would work out \$1.50 a bushel. If Government exporting did not frighten foreign buyers and did not undermine this 90c., there would be a possible loss on forced export from the ratio price of 60c. a bushel. This is 30c. a bushel on the entire 900,000,000 of American wheat possible to care for. Deduct this loss of 30c. per bushel on all wheat marketed in America, plus 10c. additional to cover expenses and margin of safety, and it leaves the price probable in cash to the farmer, Chicago basis of \$1.10. Kansas City about \$1.05 and Minneapolis about \$1.20.

In all these markets to-day high-grade wheat is selling above these prices, sustained thus far above its export value by investment and price confidence

through futures trading holding up the higher American prices 'on which home consumption proceeds month by month. Moreover, the farmer to-day can sell his crop for delivery next September in Chicago at \$1.10, apparently as much as this futile legislation could promise him to-day; and without initiating Government price interference which the farmer, of all people, should avoid in this country, where 75% of the voters are consumers with periodic waves of resentment against the "high cost of living."

If this McNary plan could be set in motion at all, it would advance flour probably \$2 per barrel to American consumers in order that foreign consumers could buy their wheat supplies 60c. cheaper than our home people and with a very small and dubious gain to our own farmers.

For this futile promise, this McNary proposal would destroy the friendship of buying nations, erect tariff and dumping barriers against us for years to come, and destroy a highly perfected marketing system which holds our price thus far above export parity ten months out of twelve.

It is time the farmer realized this and terminated this proposal before increased misgiving on the part of all business enterprises further undermines the home buying power which has recently recorded lower prices in hogs and grain and dairy products and eggs, just as the European situation is becoming most promising for the restoration to him of the buying power of 300,000,000 consumers there. The real friends of the farmer, in Congress and out, are the men who see this economic futility in its true light as the greatest menace to future farm prosperity proposed in recent years.

Only ignorance or misrepresentation can repeat the broad statement that the American farm to-day buys at protected prices and sells its products without tariff benefit. The truth is that the Atlantic seaboard to-day pays for American corn a price of full freight and full duty over Argentine, our nearest competitor. The truth is that American oats are selling there at full duty over Canadian. The truth is that American wheat in Minneapolis sells 20c. to 30c. higher than the same quality across the Canadian border, 200 miles away.

Only certain areas of agriculture are in real distress to-day; and the farmer is solving this situation in his own intelligent and resourceful way. He is decreasing his acreage of wheat and increasing his acreage of corn. He is shifting from single-crop farming to improved yields of diversification. He is by co-operative direction raising quality, standardizing grades, avoiding the losses of gluts and famines by intelligent knowledge of markets and supplies.

Let's devise remedies for poor crop areas where distress exists and let's stop undermining the credit and attraction of sound farming by picturing all agriculture as lacking resources and enterprise.

A reference to the bill appeared in our issue of a week ago, page 1980.

United States Supreme Court Upholds Right of National Banks to Act as Executives—Dissenting Opinion.

In an opinion handed down on April 28, the United States Supreme Court held that national banks may act as executors of estates in States where trust powers are conferred on State banking institutions. The opinion which reversed the findings of the Missouri Supreme Court was rendered by Associate Justice Holmes, who, according to the St. Louis "Globe-Democrat" held that the power to act in fiduciary capacities, conferred upon national banks by the Federal Reserve Act, could not be impaired or rendered ineffective by State enactment. The same account said:

Judgment of the Missouri State Supreme Court that the exercise of trust powers by Missouri national banks was in contravention of State law, is reversed by to-day's opinion.

The case decided was that of the State of Missouri, at the relation of the Burnes National Bank of St. Joseph, Mo., plaintiff in error, against A. B. Duncan, Judge of the Probate Court of Buchanan County, Mo. Associate Justice Sutherland filed a dissenting opinion, in which Associate Justice McReynolds concurred.

History of Case.

The Burnes National Bank was appointed executor by a citizen of Missouri, who died on Nov. 22 1922, leaving a will. The bank applied to the proper probate court for letters testamentary, but was denied appointment, on the ground that by the laws of Missouri national banks were not permitted to act as executors. Thereupon the bank applied to the Supreme Court of the State for a writ of mandamus to the Judge of the Probate Court, and an alternate writ was issued. The respondent demurred, the demurrer was sustained and the peremptory writ was denied. A writ of error was allowed by the Chief Justice of the State Court. The bank claims the capacity to fill the office under the statutes of the United States.

High Court's Decision.

"By the Act of Sept. 29 1918, Section 2, 40, Statutes 967, 968, amending Section 11 (k) of the Federal Reserve Act," says the court opinion, "the Federal Reserve Board was empowered 'to grant by special permit to national banks applying therefor, when not in contravention of State or local laws, the right to act as trustee, executor, administrator or in any other fiduciary capacity in which State banks, trust companies, or other corporations which come into competition with national banks are permitted to act under the laws of the State in which the national bank is located.'"

"If the section stopped there, the decision of the State Court might be final, but it adds the following paragraph:

"Wherever the laws of such State authorize or permit the exercise of any or all of the foregoing powers by State banks, trust companies, or other corporations which compete with national banks, the granting and the exercise of such powers by national banks shall not be deemed to be in contravention of State or local law within the meaning of this Act."

"This says in a roundabout and polite but unmistakable way that whatever may be the State law, national banks having the permit of the Federal Reserve Board may act as executors if trust companies competing with them have that power. The relator has the permit, competing trust companies can act as executors in Missouri, the importance of the power to the sustaining of competition in the banking business is so well known and has been explained so fully heretofore that it does not need to be emphasized and thus the naked question presented is whether Congress had the power to do what it tried to do.

Precedent Cited.

"The question is pretty nearly answered by the decision and fully answered by the reasoning in First National Bank of Bay City vs. Fellows. That case was decided before the amendment to the Federal Reserve Act that we have quoted and came here on the single issue of the power of Congress when the State law was not contravened. It was held that the power was to be tested by the right to create the bank and the authority to attach

to it that which was relevant in the judgment of Congress to make the business of the bank successful.' The power was asserted and it was added that 'this excluded the power of the State in such case, although it might possess in a general sense authority to regulate such business, to use that authority to prohibit such business from being united by Congress with the banking function.' Now that Congress has expressed its paramount will, this language is more apposite than ever. The States cannot use their most characteristic powers to reach unconstitutional results.

"There is nothing over which a State has more exclusive authority than the jurisdiction of its courts, but it cannot escape its constitutional obligations by the device of denying jurisdiction in courts otherwise competent. So here—the State cannot lay hold of its general control of administration to deprive national banks of their power to compete that Congress is authorized to sustain.

"The fact that Missouri has regulations to secure the safety of trust funds in the hands of its trust companies does not affect the case. The power given by the Act of Congress purports to be general and independent of that circumstance, and the Act provides its own safeguards. The authority of Congress is equally independent, as otherwise the State could make it nugatory. Since the decision in First National Bank of Bay City vs. Fellows it generally has been recognized that the law now is as the relator contends."

Dissenting Opinion.

Associate Justice Sutherland, in his dissent, says:

"The real question here, as I understand it, is not whether Congress may safeguard national banks against ordinary State legislation of a discriminatory character; but whether Congress may intrude upon and prohibit the exercise of the Government's powers of a State to the extent that such exercise discriminates against such banks and in favor of competing State corporations. The authority of the Fellows case, I think, is pressed too far. The statute thereunder review simply made national banks competent to act as executors, etc., 'when not in contravention of State or local law.' The statute did not attempt to override the will of the State in that respect, but expressly recognized its control and authority. The State Supreme Court conceded that the powers thus conditionally conferred by the Federal statutes in fact would not be in contravention with the State law, but held that Congress was without constitutional authority, because the function sought to be given to such banks were subjects of State regulation.

"That view of the matter was rejected. But putting aside some expressions not necessary to the decision, I do not think the case can be regarded as authority for the conclusion apparently now reached. That Congress may so limit the power of a State, against its expressed will to the contrary, that it may confer the right to act as executors and administrators upon State corporations which compete with national banks, only upon condition that the same right be conferred upon the latter. Certainly, that precise question was not there presented for decision."

After citing former decisions, Justice Sutherland concludes:

"The Probate Courts of a State have only such powers as the State Legislature gives them. They are wholly beyond the jurisdiction of Congress, and it does not seem to be within the competency of that body on any pretext, to compel such courts to appoint as executor or administrator one whom the State law has declared shall not be appointed."

McFadden Bill to Modernize National Bank Laws Reported to House.

The omnibus banking bill of Chairman L. T. McFadden of the Banking and Currency Committee was reported favorably to the House on April 26. The House Committee had authorized Chairman McFadden on April 25 to report favorably his bill (H. R. 6855) under a new number and to secure a rule for its early consideration. Mr. McFadden has the assurance of the Rules Committee and the Majority Leader of the House that such rule will be given together with their co-operation for early action on the bill on the floor of the House. A statement regarding the bill says:

While the bill contains many important amendments to the national banking laws, the chief centre of interest is perhaps in the section relating to branch banking. The bill as reported prohibits branch banking outside of city limits by national and State member banks of the Federal Reserve System. Under the terms of the bill no State bank can hereafter convert into or consolidate with a national bank and retain in operation any branches which it may have outside of city limits. No State bank can become a member of the Federal Reserve System without giving up as a condition precedent to membership any branches which it may have in operation outside of city limits.

National banks and State member banks are permitted to have branches in those States which permit branch banking by law or regulation, but only in cities having a population in excess of one hundred thousand, except that such banks may have one branch in cities in such States where the population is from twenty-five to fifty thousand and two branches in cities where the population is from fifty to one hundred thousand.

Branches of national banks can only be established with the approval of the Comptroller of the Currency and by State member banks only with the approval of the Federal Reserve Board. The bill does not affect existing branches of State member or national banks in cities or outside of cities which they may have in operation at the present time.

Other features of the bill of especial interest are the increase of the loan limits upon improved city property made by national banks from one year to five years; broadening the powers of national banks to engage in the bond and investment business; permitting national banks to have indeterminate charters so that they may be able to handle with more assurance long time trusts; clarification of the law relating to the loaning power of national banks to any one customer, and increasing the power of the Federal Reserve banks to discount paper held by national or State member banks, thus broadening the field of eligibility for rediscount.

Detailed reference to the committee hearings on the bill appeared in our issue of a week ago, page 1980.

Broadening of Powers of Comptroller of Currency Discussed Before House Judiciary Committee.

Conflicting views regarding the advisability of broadening the powers of the Comptroller General were presented to the House Judiciary Committee on May 1, according to Washington advices in the New York "Journal of Commerce" which added:

Chairman Madden, of the Appropriations Committee, endorsed a bill he has introduced providing for an increase in the Comptroller's authority. Representative Dallinger, Republican, Massachusetts, urged enactment of a measure sponsored by him, which would make the Attorney-General the arbiter in all disputes arising between the Comptroller's office and various departments.

Mr. Madden asserted his measure would work for greater economy in the Government, as it would make it necessary for the Comptroller to pass upon the disbursements of departing officials and claims against the Government. Mr. Dallinger and several Treasury Department officials contended that the authority of the Comptroller should be "limited" rather than increased.

Decrease in Discount Rate of Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

The Federal Reserve Bank of New York, which since Feb. 23 1923 had maintained a discount rate of 4½% on all classes of paper (the rate then having been advanced from 4%), lowered its rate this week to 4%. The decision to reduce the rate was reached at a meeting of the directors of the bank on April 30, which was attended by R. D. Crisinger, Governor of the Federal Reserve Board. Announcement of the change in the rate was made as follows by Benjamin Strong, Governor of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York:

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF NEW YORK.

Rates of Discount.

To All Member Banks in the Second Federal Reserve District

You are advised that, effective from the opening of business on Thursday, May 1 1924, until further notice and superseding all existing rates, this bank has established a rate of 4% for all rediscounts and advances.

Very truly yours,

BENJ. STRONG, Governor.

On May 1 Associated Press dispatches from Washington had the following to say regarding the change in the rate:

Reduction of the rediscount rate by the New York Reserve Bank yesterday from 4½ to 4% is expected at the Treasury to be followed by similar action by the Reserve banks at Boston and Philadelphia.

It developed to-day that the reduction by the New York Bank with its subsequent approval by the Reserve Board was a proposition originating entirely with the bank itself. Members of the Reserve Board, while expressing opposition, felt it would accomplish little change in the general economic situation.

Secretary Mellon, among others, believes the reduction will do little to stimulate new business inasmuch as he regards the general money supply as adequate and the present rates easy.

According to advices to the New York "Journal of Commerce," from Washington April 30, the action of the Federal Reserve Board in approving the reduction in the rate of the New York Federal Reserve Bank "may be regarded as in the nature of an experiment." This paper said in part:

The opinion of the Board seems to be very much the same as that of Secretary Mellon, that there is no fundamental necessity for a change in rates, but the Board appears to have taken the position that no harm could be done and a lower rate might be productive of some stimulation of activity.

Reduction of the New York rate marks the first departure of the Federal Reserve System from its uniform rate level of 4½% in all twelve districts close to fourteen months, and incidentally signals a departure from the policy of uniformity which was heavily stressed a year ago. On the other hand, the change in New York demonstrates the force of the newly announced policy of the Board to exercise its discretion and judgment in determining credit questions rather than to be bound by hard and fast rules. To some extent the lowering of the New York rate was a surprise here. There was no little talk of change in rates about a month ago, but it apparently died down after the money market reacted so promptly, when the heavy financial operations of the Government around the March 15 tax payment date had ceased. Depressed money rates in the middle of March appear to have led to some discussion of the rediscount rate with the Board, which assured the New York Bank that there would be no objection from Washington to a 4% rate.

The rebound of call money rates after the pressure of Government operations was removed called a halt on proposals to lower the rediscount rate, but lately the money rates have evidenced a tendency to sag. The New York bank, it is understood, felt that the condition of commercial rate there warranted a reduction in the Reserve bank rate and there appears to be a hope that the lower rate may not only be an inducement to further activity, but may serve as a check against a slowing up of operations.

Situation in New York.

The commercial rate situation in New York, it appears, had virtually rendered inoperative as a credit factor the Reserve policy of buying and selling securities in the open market as a means of increasing or reducing the supply of money. Acceptance rates went down below the Reserve bank purchasing rate and activities in the open market seemed blocked.

Nevertheless the possibility of a lower rate in New York working any very great change in conditions appears scant from the Washington viewpoint. Secretary Mellon holds that a change in rates will make but little difference and the Board is understood to have accorded the request of the New York bank but routine attention.

The indications are that Washington is planning to watch closely the effect of the lower rate in New York. It has been contended that under present conditions with the country overstocked with gold the rediscount rate was no longer a credit factor. Now that an experiment with the rate is being made officials here are evidencing keen interest in what the outcome will be.

Rates of Interest Paid on Deposits by Members of New York Clearing House Automatically Lowered with Reduction in Federal Reserve Rate.

As a result of the lowering of the discount rate of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York from 4½ to 4%, the maximum interest rate which members of the New York Clearing House may pay on deposits is automatically low-

ered, under the amendment to the constitution of the Association which became effective in July 1922. This is pointed out in the New York "Times," which says:

When the rediscount rate is to be advanced in this district, in accordance with this regulation, member banks of the Clearing House may increase their maximum rate to be paid on deposits, and when the Reserve Bank rate is lowered, their maximum rate that may be paid is likewise lowered. As virtually all banks pay the maximum rates under this regulation, the effect of the Reserve Bank's reduction in the rediscount rate will be carried through to depositors as follows:

The maximum interest rates for banks, trust companies and private bankers, but excluding mutual savings banks, is cut from 2½% to 2%; to mutual savings banks from 3% to 2¾%, and to others (including corporations, &c.) from 2½% to 2¼%. These rates apply on certificates of deposit payable within thirty days from date of issue, on certificates of deposit payable within thirty days from demand, on credit balances payable on demand and on credit balances payable within thirty days from demand. On certificates of deposit payable on or after thirty days from the date of issue or demand and on credit balances payable on or after thirty days from demand the rate is cut from 3% to 2¾%.

Tax Revision Bill in Senate.

The Senate in its action on the tax revision bill this week approved on April 30 the proposal of the Treasury Department to reduce by 25% the taxes on earned income, but cut down, from \$20,000 to \$10,000, the maximum amount on which said reduction would apply. The House provision defining all incomes of \$5,000 and less as earned was at the same time accepted by the Senate. The Associated Press advices from Washington that day said:

Considerable opposition arose, however, to the Treasury proposal to limit deductions which may be made on account of interest payments to the amount by which these payments exceeded the income from tax-exempt securities.

Opponents declared it an indirect tax on tax-exempt bonds. Senator Reed, Republican, Pennsylvania, defending the provision, said it would not affect these bonds, but would prevent evasions and net the Government \$35,000,000 additional revenue annually. He was joined in its support by Senator Glass, Democrat, Virginia, Secretary of the Treasury in the Wilson Administration.

An attempt of Senator McCormick, Republican, Illinois, to unite the party on a plan calling for an increase in the Mellon surtax rates to a maximum of 37% is understood to have brought a counter proposal from farm bloc Senators for support of the McNary-Haugen farm export bill in return for their support of a compromise along the lines suggested in the McCormick schedule.

No agreement was reached, however, and Senator McCormick left the city to-night on business which he said may prevent his return before the income rates are reached.

At the same time other Republican organization leaders held to the original plans to swing to the Longworth compromise adopted by the House. This provides, in addition to a maximum surtax rate of 37½% for greater, reduction in the normal taxes than carried in the Mellon plan.

Reduction of the normal taxes beyond the point recommended by the Treasury was the main demand of House Republican insurgents, and is considered also a plank in the program of Senate Republican insurgents, who, like their group in the House, hold the balance of power.

While the surtax schedule proposed by Senator McCormick would carry a maximum rate of 37%, this would apply only to incomes of \$500,000 and over, and the rates on the other brackets are only slightly above those in the Mellon plan.

Yesterday (May 2) the Senate rejected, by a vote of 37 to 36, the provision in the bill limiting tax deductions in relation to income from tax-exempt securities. It was stated in the press dispatches that Chairman Smoot of the Finance Committee announced that he would demand a further vote on the question later. The "Sun" of last night said:

Senator Jones (Democrat, N. Mex.) to-day introduced his proposed corporation tax provision, which has been agreed to by a conference of Senate Democrats. It would provide for a reduction in the present flat corporation tax of 12½% to a normal tax of 9% with a graduated surtax rate applied on undistributed profits. It would give an option, however, allowing a corporation to be taxed under the law applying to partnerships upon unanimous agreement of the shareholders.

This provision also has been approved by the House. A finance committee amendment authorizing the committee to make public the returns also was accepted by the Senate action.

Senator Norris, Republican of Nebraska, immediately opened a fight for full publicity of all tax returns.

On the 1st inst. when action on the bill was interrupted by debate, Chairman Smoot gave warning that with the continuance of prolonged debate night sessions would be resorted to to expedite the measure. From the Associated Press accounts that day we quote the following:

Debate carried into the approaching fight on normal and surtax rates, and while Senator Bruce, Democrat, Maryland, openly left the Democratic ranks to support the Mellon surtax rates, Chairman Smoot conceded that there were "probably not enough votes" to gain adoption of this schedule reinserted in the bill by the Finance Committee.

In this regard, Senator Smoot denied that he would negotiate for a compromise on the Mellon surtax rates within the Republican party, but said he might offer compromise amendments on the floor, if the Treasury rates were turned down, to make the maximum surtax 32%. Beyond this point he declared he would not go.

Senator Bruce said he was ready to cut the present maximum surtax rate of 50% to 25%, as recommended by Secretary Mellon, "or the 20 or 15%."

Continuing their party conference after indorsing last night the Simmons plan calling for a reduction in the maximum surtax of 40%, Democrats met to-night to consider the advisability of party support for the proposal of Senator Jones, Democrat, New Mexico, for a new corporation tax based on a normal and graduated scale instead of a flat levy as at present.

Democratic leaders predicted to-day that on the strength of the conference action last night all but two or three members would support the Simmons income tax schedule.

While modification of the corporation tax and the repeal of the tax on telegraph and telephone messages was voted by the Senate on Monday April 28, notice was given that these taxes would later be contested. The Senate, on that day, approved the recommendation of the Senate Finance Committee that the tax on corporation earnings be increased from 12½% to 14%, on the understanding that the capital stock tax be repealed. At the same time Senator Simmons, of North Carolina, ranking Democrat on the Finance Committee, announced that minority members were drafting a substitute amendment, proposing to replace the present corporation tax with one carrying a graduated scale. The Associated Press dispatches from Washington, April 28, said:

In voting for the repeal of the tax on telegraph and telephone messages, the Senate rejected the recommendation of the Finance Committee. Repeal of this tax had been suggested by Secretary Mellon and was voted by the House. Chairman Smoot, of the Finance Committee, announced he would ask for a record vote on it later.

Senator Smoot explained the tax involved revenue amounting to \$34,000,000 annually, and it had been restored to the bill by the committee because it was found necessary to raise more revenue than would be forthcoming under the measure as framed by the House.

Little opposition was voiced to the proposed change in the corporation tax, but discussion of the subject stirred up considerable debate, with Senator Jones, Democrat, of New Mexico, arguing against the general principle upon which the tax is levied and in favor of a graduated scale tax.

Mr. Jones was joined by Senators Norris, Republican, of Nebraska, and Shipstead, Farmer-Labor, of Minnesota, in his contention that the present flat tax paves the way for evasion.

In its summary of the Senate's proceedings on the bill on April 29 the Associated Press advices stated:

The Senate gave approval to-day to Finance Committee amendments to the revenue bill, imposing a 10% tax on radio sets, reducing the automobile taxes, repealing the capital stock tax and restoring to the bill the tax on drafts, checks and promissory notes.

All were adopted virtually without debate or opposition in rapid order after more than two hours had been spent in discussion of minor proposals. Further contests are expected, however, on the radio and automobile rates.

A tentative draft of the corporation tax amendment was agreed upon to-day by Senators Simmons and Jones, Democrat, New Mexico, and placed before minority members of the Finance Committee for approval. It will propose a normal tax, probably lower than the pending flat tax of 14%, and additional taxes, probably on a sliding scale, on undistributed profits above the amounts subject to the normal tax.

Senator Dill, Democrat, of Washington, has introduced an amendment proposing to eliminate from the bill the radio tax approved to-day, and he declared to-night a roll call vote would be asked on this provision later. Likewise, Senator Walsh, Democrat, of Massachusetts, had introduced an amendment proposing entire repeal of the tax on automobile tires, parts and accessories, and he said to-night a fight would be made for this when amendments of individual members are in order.

The reductions in automobile taxes approved to-day are practically the same as made by the House repeal of the 3% tax on automobile trucks the chassis of which sell for less than \$1,000 and the bodies of which sell for less than \$200, and a cut in half of the 5% tax on automobile tires, parts and accessories. These changes, Chairman Smoot of the Finance Committee said, would mean a cut in revenue of \$25,000,000 annually. The new radio tax would bring in about \$10,000,000, it has been estimated.

Elimination of the capital stock tax was in accordance with the action taken yesterday in increasing the corporation tax from 12½% to 14%.

The tax of 2 cents a \$100 on drafts, checks and promissory notes was eliminated from the bill by a close vote on the floor of the House. Its restoration was recommended by the Finance Committee.

Regarding the deliberations on the bill on April 26 we quote the following from the Washington dispatch to the New York "Times":

Only about half an hour was given to the Revenue bill by the Senate to-day, a few undisputed amendments being disposed of. When the section dealing with the change in the corporation taxes was reached there was a short debate, Senator Smoot then yielding the rest of the afternoon to the Appropriation Committee, which took up the Naval bill.

Senator McKellar produced a telegram from a Tennessee Chamber of Commerce protesting against the remodeling of the corporation taxes which would involve an abandonment of \$1 per \$1,000 tax on corporation capital stock and the substitution of 14 for the 12½% corporation income tax. Mr. McKellar stated that he was against any increase in taxation, and he declared that if the Treasury contention that \$19,000,000 would be raised in revenue by the contemplated change were correct, there must necessarily be a new burden to the corporations.

Replying, Senator Smoot asserted that even though there were additional taxation, corporations would welcome a change because the program involved abandoning the existing tax of \$1 per \$1,000 on the value of capital stock, a tax which necessitated a troublesome revaluation of this stock annually.

It was indicated to-day that a strong effort would be made to secure full publicity of tax returns, Senator Norris of the radical Republicans, Dill of the radical Democrats, and McKellar of the regular Democratic ranks, all introducing recommendations to this end.

Previous action by the Senate on the bill was referred to by us last week, page 1988.

Jake L. Hamon Contributed \$100,000 to Republican Campaign Fund in 1920—Not \$1,000,000.

Frederick L. Thornton, certified public accountant, who made an audit of the estate of Jake L. Hamon, Republican National Committeeman from Oklahoma, denied on April 21 that Hamon contributed \$1,000,000 toward the nomination of Warren G. Harding, as has been charged in testimony before the Senate oil investigating committee. He said Hamon's campaign contributions in 1920 did not exceed \$100,000.

Jake Hamon Wanted to Make His Son "The Youngest President of the United States," Mrs. Hamon Says.

The late Jake Hamon, Oklahoma politician and oil man, did not seek to become Secretary of the Interior, as those familiar with his political career have told the committee, according to a statement issued on May 1 by his widow, Mrs. Georgia Hamon-Rohrer, at Chicago. Hamon's ambition, the statement said, was to make his son Jake Jr., President of the United States. The statement by Mrs. Hamon-Rohrer was made on her return from Washington, where she had been summoned to testify before the Senate investigating committee. When she appeared before the committee, however, she was not asked to take the witness stand. In her statement at Chicago discussing Hamon's political ambitions she said:

"He wanted to be nothing else but Chairman of the Republican National Committee."

"I'll get it and I'll hold it for years, until Jake Jr., is old enough to take it over," he told me. "Then I'll make him Chairman in my place and let him hold it until he is wise enough and old enough, and when that time comes I'll make Jake Jr. President—the youngest President of the United States'."

Hamon swung his support from former Governor Lowden of Illinois to Warren G. Harding in the 1920 Republican convention at her request, Mrs. Hamon said. President Harding, she explained, was a distant relative of her family. Then the widow, who was married to a Chicago man and divorced since Hamon's death, paid a tribute to the deceased.

"I want to be known by his name; I shall have no other, I shall henceforth be known always as Mrs. Jake Hamon."

President Coolidge Denies That He Was Trying to Deliver Muscle Shoals to Henry Ford—Bill Passed By House Authorizing Acceptance of Latter's Bid.

At the hearing on April 28, before the Senate Committee on agriculture on the question of the disposition of Muscle Shoals, a telegram from President Coolidge in which he declared that "I have never said I was trying to deliver Muscle Shoals to Henry Ford or to any one else" was read. The McKenzie bill, authorizing the acceptance of Henry Ford's offer for the Government war-time project at Muscle Shoals, Ala., was passed by the House of Representatives on March 10 by a vote of 227 to 142. Early in April hearings were begun by the Senate Committee on the offer of Elou H. Hooker, of New York City, to take over and operate Muscle Shoals. This week's statement of President Coolidge denying that he had said he was "trying to deliver Muscle Shoals to Mr. Ford or any one else" followed the action of Senator Norris (insurgent Republican, of Nebraska) in reading into the Senate Committee proceedings on April 28, a telegram sent from Washington Oct. 12 1923 to "Wm. J. Cameron or Ernest G. Liebold, care Dearborn Independent, Detroit," by "James Martin Miller, National Press Club, Washington"; this telegram is reported to have said:

In private interview with President Coolidge this morning he said incidentally: "I am friendly to Mr. Ford but wish some one would convey to him that it is my hope that Mr. Ford will not do or say anything that will make it difficult for me to deliver Muscle Shoals to him which I am trying to do." While President didn't say so am sure Weeks has been in consultation with President this morning in view of Mr. Ford's reported interview today's papers.

The following is the statement of President Coolidge denying the declarations attributed to him:

My position on Muscle Shoals is fully stated in my message to the Congress delivered Dec. 6, where I said:

"The Government is undertaking to develop a great waterpower project known as Muscle Shoals, on which it has expended many million dollars. The work is still going on. Subject to the right to retake in time of war, I recommended that this property with a location for auxiliary steam plant and rights of way be sold. This would end the present burden of expense and should return to the Treasury the largest price possible to secure.

"While the price is an important element, there is another consideration even more compelling. The agriculture of the nation needs a greater supply and lower cost of fertilizer. This is now imported in large quantities. The best information I can secure indicates that present methods of power production would not be able profitably to meet the price at which these imports can be sold. To obtain a supply from this water power would require long and costly experimentation to perfect a process for cheap production. Otherwise our purpose would fall completely. It seems desirable, therefore, in order to protect and promote the public welfare, to have adequate covenants that such experimentation be made and carried on to success. The great advantage of low priced nitrates must be secured for the direct benefit of the farmers and the indirect benefit of the public in time of peace, and of the Government in time of war. If this main object be accomplished the amount of money received for the property is not a primary or major consideration.

"Such a solution will involve complicated negotiations, and there is no authority for that purpose. I, therefore, recommend that the Congress appoint a small joint committee to consider offers, conduct negotiations and report definite recommendations."

From the position of this message I have never departed. I have never said I was trying to deliver Muscle Shoals to Mr. Ford or to anyone else. I do not think his favor is for sale. I wanted him to have his proposal fairly considered, just as I wanted any other proposal fairly considered. My mind was made up when Mr. Ford called on me on Dec. 3, and at that time

my message was already written, printed and had been sent to the press for five days. My message went out Nov. 28, five days before Mr. Ford came to see me. I expected there would be other bids and wanted all of them considered on their merits.

This question ought to be decided on its merits. I have no other method of dealing with it. The Congress should have none."

From the New York "Times" account of the Senate Committee hearing on April 28 we quote the following:

Secretary Weeks Examined.

John W. Weeks, Secretary of War, was being examined by the committee when the telegram quoting President Coolidge as favoring the sale of the Muscle Shoals project to Mr. Ford was produced. Leading Secretary Weeks through the sequence of events having to do with President Coolidge's attitude toward the project, Chairman Norris brought out that when the Government sold the Gorgas plant, a detail of the Muscle Shoals undertaking, to the Alabama Power Co., Mr. Ford had denounced Secretary Weeks in a public statement for this sale.

When Senator Norris mentioned Mr. Ford's declaration in favor of President Coolidge's candidacy for another Presidential term, Mr. Weeks remarked that this was evidence that Mr. Ford was a sensible man, and got a sharp retort from Senator Norris to the effect that it was evident that whatever anger Mr. Ford felt against the Administration had disappeared.

Secretary Weeks began his testimony by saying he had consulted with President Coolidge before selling the Gorgas plant. After advising that the plant should be sold, the President agreed with this opinion. Secretary Weeks said that inasmuch as Mr. Ford had made an offer of \$5,000,000 for definite property, he considered it would be logical that his bid for Muscle Shoals be reduced to that extent.

Mr. Weeks was then questioned about the attack Mr. Ford made on him following the sale of the Gorgas plant. He admitted that he was "pretty hot" about the matter, but that "a member of the Cabinet can't involve himself in vituperative discussion without involving the Administration."

"If I had been a private citizen I would have answered Ford in another way," he added.

Senator Norris then mentioned Dec. 3 1923, the date of Mr. Ford's call on President Coolidge, and inquired about a call Mr. Ford made on the Secretary the same day.

"Mr. Ford came to my office," said Secretary Weeks, "accompanied by his secretary and an engineer, and said he had not come on business but had come to pay his respects. It was a social call and we did not talk business."

The sequence of events following the Miller telegram, which had been sent Oct. 12 1923, was then brought out by Senator Norris. On Dec. 3 came Mr. Ford's call on the President. On Dec. 6 the President delivered his message to Congress in which he advised the sale of Muscle Shoals. This, it was disclosed, was interpreted by members of the Committee on Agriculture as being favorable to Mr. Ford. On Dec. 19 Mr. Ford issued a statement withdrawing himself as a candidate for President and putting himself on record in favor of Mr. Coolidge.

"That," remarked Mr. Weeks, "was evidence that he was a sensible man."

"It was evidence that whatever anger he had against the Administration had disappeared, was it not?" asked Senator Norris.

"His anger was leveled at me," Mr. Weeks answered.

"He must have known when he made the attack that you had not sold the Gorgas plant without consulting the President," said Mr. Norris.

"He very likely had not given that consideration," replied Mr. Weeks.

Weeks Doubts Miller's Story.

Senator Norris asked whether Mr. Weeks knew if James Martin Miller, the Russian representative of Mr. Ford's Dearborn Independent, had held an interview with the President on Oct. 12 1923. Without waiting for an answer, Mr. Norris said the records of the White House showed that Mr. Miller had interviewed the President at 10:25 a. m. that day. Thereupon Senator Norris read the Miller telegram, which was addressed to "William J. Cameron or Ernest J. Liebold, care the Dearborn Independent, Dearborn, Mich."

"I don't believe the President at that time or any other time stated he was anxious to turn the property over to Mr. Ford or anybody else," said Secretary Weeks, when the telegram was read.

"He never I pressed such an opinion to me. He never intimated it to me. I am in favor of turning this property over to the man who makes the best offer for the Government. I don't believe Mr. Ford's offer is the best offer, and consequently I am not in favor of it."

Asked about the sale of the Gorgas plant, Mr. Weeks said he was willing to explain in detail. Senator Norris replied that he was satisfied the Secretary had done the right thing in selling this plant.

Senator Kendrick, of Wyoming, also said Mr. Weeks had done the best thing under the circumstances.

Continuing his explanation, Mr. Weeks said:

"Mr. Ford's arraignment of me was very severe. If I had been a private citizen I would have taken advantage of my rights. The Government had made a definite contract with the Alabama Power Co. I had legal advice on the subject.

"Estimates were made by the Ordnance Department and the Engineers and we had split the difference and got \$500,000 more than was offered. After the sale Mr. Ford had announced that his offer for the complete project would remain open.

"I had no interest other than that of the Government in carrying out the contract. I had no interest in any fertilizer company. I got out of all my businesses, sold my securities, and for eleven years I haven't had the slightest interest in anybody's business. Nobody could be more completely divorced from business than I have been for these eleven years. Therefore I was aggrieved to have the public charge made that I was influenced by my associations."

In his opinion, said Mr. Weeks, Dam No. 2 should be completed by July 1 1925. He had studied all the offers in a general way, but it was difficult to compare them.

"What is your own idea?" Mr. Weeks was asked.

"The Government ought to give somebody the authority to take up the proposition and negotiate and get the best offer that will make for the manufacture of nitrates."

Mr. Weeks said the committee would have taken the offers that came to it and deal with them, and that the negotiations might properly be carried on through a subcommittee.

"In this way," he added, "you will get better terms than under any of these offers."

Asked if he thought the Government should retain the property, Mr. Weeks replied that he did not favor public operation, and if the Government was to retain Muscle Shoals the only thing to do was to find a qualified man to handle it.

When he had completed his testimony Secretary Weeks made known to President Coolidge what had taken place at the hearing, and later in the day the President's denial was issued from the White House.

At the Senate Committee's hearing, on April 26, former Secretary of War Newton D. Baker stated that his recommendation for Muscle Shoals followed in the main that of Chairman Norris—Government ownership. The Associated Press accounts state:

"Mr. Baker, who had a part in the selection of Muscle Shoals as the site for a nitrogen plant, said that never "under any circumstances" should the Government part with the dams at the shoals, but that the fertilizer plants were of relatively little importance.

"If Muscle Shoals were leased to a private individual," he said, "he would soon stop making nitrogen because he would find something more profitable to produce with the power. If some one should invent a chemical process for producing nitrogen it would be tragic to have this greatest water power east of the Mississippi tied up for 100 years with some uneconomic process."

The witness declared to give control of the property without provisions of the Water Power Act would be equal to giving one individual all the coal in the State. He said fertilizer was of first importance, but insisted that, in the event of new discoveries in that direction, the plant would be tied up and lost to its natural function of producing power for the country.

"Mr. Mayo, Henry Ford's chief engineer," Mr. Baker said, "told the House Agriculture Committee that Ford did not intend to sell one kilowatt of power."

"I believe that, at present, industrially, the United States is ahead of consumption and our main future is in the foreign market," Mr. Baker said. "It would be useless to use the Muscle Shoals power to create new industries. It should be used to aid present industries to make operation costs cheaper."

The witness said the committee could get a dozen proposals similar to that of the Hooker-White-Atterbury group.

"The tendency of water power," he said, "is to be gauged by the price of coal, so that, at Muscle Shoals, in twenty-five years the tendency will be to approximate coal cost as the price of power. This should not be the case. The return should be based on a fair return on the investment. Government ownership would do this.

"I think the Government ought to make the power and sell it to agencies and companies whose product commends itself to the Government."

The former Secretary said he had no interest in Muscle Shoals other than that of an American citizen.

Charges placed in the "Congressional Record" that the Muscle Shoals offer made by Elon H. Hooker, President of the Hooker Electro-Chemical Co., for himself; W. W. Atterbury, Vice-President of the Pennsylvania Railroad, and J. G. White of the J. G. White Co. was a move in behalf of British interests were denied categorically by Senator Wadsworth, of New York, on March 21, according to Washington advices to the New York "Evening Post" which also said:

The charges were made by Representative Garrett of Tennessee, Democratic leader in the House and an ardent supporter of Henry Ford's proposal for the development of Muscle Shoals.

"The effort made to associate the offer embodied in my bill with British capital," said Senator Wadsworth, "is too absurd for words. The only argument is that the White company has done some work for one of the so-called allied companies. There is probably not one construction company or corporation of the size of the J. G. White Co., which has no foreign contracts of any kind.

Just why this should imply that the offer of such outstanding Americans as Mr. White, Mr. Atterbury and Mr. Hooker for Muscle Shoals is a deep-dyed plot on the part of British interests intended to be inimical to the States is beyond me.

The chart put in the "Congressional Record" shows that the J. G. White Co. has some connection with George MacAuley Booth, who in turn has some connection with the Bank of England. It also purports to show that through a Mr. George E. Hardy this company has some connection with the Tennessee Power Co., which in turn is supposed to have some connection with the Alabama Power Co., this latter company being shown by a series of complicated lines to have some connection with a Canadian company which also seems to lead to the Bank of England. Mr. Atterbury and Mr. Hooker are brought into this interesting picture only because they have been so indiscreet as to associate themselves with Mr. White.

The approval of the Hooker-White-Atterbury proposal embodied in a bill introduced by Senator Wadsworth, Republican, of New York, was urged before the Senate Committee by Elon H. Hooker on April 16. Press advices that day stated:

The bid provides a 50-year lease on a profit-sharing basis with a \$1,000,000 corporation to be organized. Mr. Hooker, who is President of the Hooker Electro Chemical Co., of New York, said his company now is producing caustic soda and ammonia at Niagara Falls.

"The only advantage we have over Henry Ford or the power companies," Mr. Hooker said, "is that we have spent our entire life in the chemical industry and literally spent millions in developing processes."

"Our proposition calls for the Government to put up 99% of the capital and get the bulk of the profit."

He said the fertilizer end could be made an enormous part of the operations and that the market would fix its price. He added that the Ford bid would obtain the property for nothing for fifty-six years.

The following is from the New York "Times" of April 30:
Replies to Huddleston—J. G. White Terms as "Nonsense" the Charge of Muscle Shoals Plot.

Charges that their bid for Muscle Shoals was a "plot to prevent the production of cheap nitrates and low-cost electricity" were characterized as "nonsense" yesterday by J. G. White, who, with Elon H. Hooker and W. W. Atterbury, is a bidder for the power project for industrial purposes. The charges were made in the House Monday by Representative Huddleston.

"There seems to be a desperate effort to create a false impression concerning our bid," said Mr. White, "because the Ford plan is evidently losing ground. We have no relations whatever with Secretary Weeks. Regarding the charges involving the Philippine railroad, we sought merely to manage efficiently a Government-owned line, Governor Wood, once favorable to the plan, finally vetoed the proposal."

Officials of the Alabama Power Co. which, as the leader in a group of Southern power companies, made the Government an offer of approximately \$105,000,000 for Muscle Shoals as the centre of a super-power zone have had little to say about the Ford offer. It has been learned here that while these companies are standing by their offer, and regard it as a move of great economic importance to the South, the expense incident to carrying out the proposed development has mitigated against their insistence upon the offer being accepted. The Ford bid involves the payment of about \$5,000,000.

The McKenzie bill, passed by the House on March 10, authorizes and directs the Secretary of War to sell to Mr. Ford, Nitrate Plant No. 1, at Sheffield, Ala.; Nitrate Plant No. 2 at Muscle Shoals, Ala.; Waco Quarry near Russellville, Ala.; and to lease to the corporation to be incorporated by Mr. Ford, Dam No. 2 and Dam No. 3, including power stations. The McKenzie bill was taken up by the House on March 4; under a resolution reported on Feb. 29 by the Rules Committee giving the measure priority after the tax bill had been disposed of. On March 4 the House agreed to the following motion limiting debate on the Muscle Shoals bill:

HOUSE RESOLUTION 169.

Resolved, That upon the adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to move that the House resolve itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of H. R. 518. That after general debate, which shall be confined to the bill and shall continue not to exceed 10 hours, to be equally divided and controlled by the acting chairman and some member of the Military Affairs Committee opposed to this bill, the bill shall be read for amendment under the five-minute rule. At the conclusion of the reading of the bill for amendment the committee shall arise and report the bill to the House, with such amendments as may have been adopted, and the previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and the amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion, except one motion to recommit.

Of the 227 votes whereby the bill was passed by the House 170 were cast by Democrats and 57 by Republicans; the 142 votes in opposition came from 122 Republicans, 19 Democrats and 1 Farmer-Labor member (Representative Wefald). The McKenzie bill, it is stated, was approved by the House in practically the form in which it was reported by the House Military Committee, which had been informed by Mr. Ford that he would take over the Government's nitrate and power project on the Tennessee River under the terms embodied in the bill. Advocates of the Ford offer resisted to the last attempts to modify the proposed contract. The Associated Press accounts from Washington March 10 stated:

Amendment after amendment aimed at the heart of the bill was thrown out by decisive vote, and as passed the measure carried fewer than half a dozen changes of minor importance which its supporters were willing to accept.

Attached to the bill, however, was the Madden amendment, approved by the Military Committee, which obligates the Government to replace the Gorgas steam power plant, recently sold to the Alabama Power Co. Provision is made that this plant—which is not to cost, with a transmission line, to Nitrate Plant 2, more than the \$3,472,487 received for the Gorgas plant—is to be sold to Mr. Ford, along with nitrate plants 1 and 2, and the Waco Quarry, near Russellville, Ala.

Under the terms of the bill Mr. Ford will have the right to lease for one hundred years Dams 2 and 3 at Muscle Shoals and adjacent power stations.

Outnumbered, but fighting stubbornly to the last roll-call, opponents of the offer made a futile last minute attempt to bring the project under the terms of the Federal Water Power Act, thereby limiting Mr. Ford's lease to fifty years, and to keep in the bill an amendment adopted Saturday which would enable the Government to "recapture" the properties if the Detroit manufacturer failed to live up to his contract in an particular.

On the demand of Chairman Madden of the Appropriations Committee, one of the leading Ford advocates, a roll-call was demanded just before the final vote on the amendment, and it went out of the bill by a vote of 197 to 176.

Party lines were disregarded to a large extent on the final vote, although Democrats as a rule supported the bill.

Regarding efforts to amend the bill on March 7, the Washington Associated Press dispatches said:

The House voted down a proposal to make the lease of Muscle Shoals to Henry Ford subject to provisions of the Federal Water Power Act and also rejected a proposal to limit the lease to 50 instead of 100 years.

Both proposals were included in an amendment offered by Representative Burton, Republican, Ohio, to the McKenzie bill, which would authorize acceptance of Ford's bid.

On a standing vote the Burton amendment was rejected 169 to 79, and then, on a tellers' vote, by 182 to 104.

The first test of strength in the voting to-day favored advocates of the Ford bid.

On the first amendment of importance to be put to a vote, Representative Blanton, Democrat, Texas, lost in an effort to limit future appropriations for completion of dam No. 2 at Muscle Shoals to \$28,000,000, the House rejecting it 60 to 34. Blanton said he favored the Ford bid but sought to place a check on expenditures.

The House also rejected an amendment by Representative Hill, Republican, Maryland, to broaden the provision requiring construction of dam No. 2 and adjacent locks to be done at actual cost, without profit to the company organized by Ford.

Representative Burton, Republican, Ohio, urged an amendment which would place the Ford bid under the Federal Water Power Act and limit the lease to 50 instead of 100 years.

Repeated efforts on the following day to change the important features of the bill likewise failed. Representative Hill of Maryland, during the debate on the bill in the House on the 4th inst., stated that he personally favored the passage of the Hull bill, embodying a proposition made by a number of power companies which had agreed to form a \$15,000,000 nitrate fertilizer and power company. Representative Hill stated that the reasons for his favoring the Hull bill were clearly set forth in the report of the minority members of the House Military Committee, submitted on Feb. 9. In part Mr. Hull said:

Henry Ford is 61 years old. Under his proposition the Ford offer does not and cannot become completely operative for six years, and under this

ment to Mr. Henry Ford. Mr. Ford is probably the richest man in the world; to accept his unusual offer it is necessary not only to reject another which has every appearance of being more advantageous, but also to violate an established national water power policy. But the House perseveres, although the example of Teapot Dome is still brilliant in the heavens. It is so brilliant, in fact, that it seems to have obscured this other and equally remarkable disposition of the national resources.

In brief, Mr. Ford proposes to lease the dams and the hydro-electric plant from the Government for one hundred years, and to buy outright the steam plants and nitrate works. These cost \$84,000,000 to build and have a scrap value of about \$16,000,000. Mr. Ford would pay a net price of \$1,500,000 for them. He would also engage to manufacture fertilizer in accordance with demand and sell it at not more than an 8% profit. The surplus power he would use as he likes.

When the offer was first made it was the only one. Congress now has another proposal from the Southern power companies. They would lease the dams and hydro-electric plant for a somewhat higher rental than Mr. Ford offers and for a period of only fifty years. They would buy the principal steam plant alone for \$4,500,000; they would lease one of the nitrate plants and agree to maintain the other one in condition. They would manufacture 50,000 tons annually of fixed nitrogen and the surplus power they would sell over their switchboards in connection with their already extensive development of public utility electric power in the Southern States under the usual public regulation.

Congress is apparently unable to think of anything except cheap fertilizers for the farmer. But during the coming century the importance of Muscle Shoals will not lie in the power which either Mr. Ford or his rivals will put in nitrates. It will lie in the great surplus power which will be available for general industrial use. The real question is whether that should be turned over for one hundred years to the unexplained purposes of the Ford interests or incorporated for fifty years in the power production system which has already been built up for the ordinary service of the Southern States.

The Democrats who are so properly suspicious of Mr. Doheny and Mr. Sinclair have an unbounded confidence in Mr. Ford. It is the extraordinary personal reputation of the manufacturer which has alone made possible a moment's consideration of the offer; but while the proposed leases are to run for one hundred years Mr. Ford is already at the age of sixty-one. Mr. Denby was asked to resign because of stupidity. But it is impossible to ask the House of Representatives to resign.

The United States Senate Investigation of Indictment Against Senator Wheeler.

The special committee of the Senate which was appointed recently to investigate the circumstances and facts surrounding the indictment of Senator Burton K. Wheeler in Montana, resumed its sessions this week, hearing the testimony of oil operators, politicians and others. The committee, of which Senator Borah is Chairman, has been holding sessions now for nearly three weeks. At the outset of the session on May 1 Chairman Borah read a letter from Commissioner Spry of the General Land Office saying that a search of the files of his office failed to show any appearance as an attorney of Senator Wheeler before that office in the matter of land permits. Blair Coan, who went to Montana for Secretary Lockwood of the Republican National Committee to investigate the charges against Senator Wheeler, testified that he had no "direct knowledge" regarding the truth of the accusations in the Senator's indictment. With further regard to the session on May 1, press dispatches had the following to say:

W. W. Rhea of Idaho Springs, Colo., who identified himself as an oil man, was the first witness. He said he had met Wheeler at the Rainbow Hotel in Great Falls on Jan. 15 1923 at a conference at which Gordon Campbell and H. C. Glosser also were present.

"The main conversation," he said, "was in regard to the Phil McGowan permit. Mr. Campbell said it would be fixed up when Mr. Wheeler got to Washington."

"What, if anything, did Senator Wheeler say?" asked Senator Borah.

"He said he didn't need to worry, that this would all be taken care of when he got back here."

Promised a Big Slice.

Rhea said he had an interest in the Phil McGowan permit, and that Campbell declared if the permit was fixed up, they would give Wheeler "quite a big slice out of it."

"Did Senator Wheeler make any statement when there was talk of slicing up the permit?" asked Senator Borah.

"I don't think he said a word," was the reply.

Rhea testified he never paid any sum to Wheeler in connection with the permit, nor did he have any knowledge that Wheeler appeared in the Land Office either in Washington or Montana in connection with it.

Senator Borah developed that Rhea had made an affidavit in connection with the Rainbow Hotel conference.

"To whom did you first narrate this matter?" asked Senator Borah.

"To Mr. Coan."

Rhea said he had met Coan at Denver on invitation of Glosser, who formerly was an employee of Campbell.

"Was this after the investigation of Attorney-General Daugherty had started?" asked Senator Borah.

"Well, I guess it was," the witness replied.

Rhea said he made the affidavit within ten minutes after he met Coan. He added that he and Glosser and Coan had not talked the matter over before he made the affidavit.

Under examination by Senator Sterling, Republican, of South Dakota, Rhea said his claim was under contest at Washington at the time of the Rainbow Hotel conference. That question was discussed.

H. E. Glosser, referred to as the star witness before the Grand Jury which recently indicted Burton K. Wheeler, appeared on April 26 to testify before the special committee which is investigating the facts regarding the Wheeler indictment. Mr. Glosser, who is a former private secretary of Gordon Campbell, the oil operator and one-time client of Senator Wheeler, in answer to the questions put to him by Senator Borah, admitted, according to the New

York "Times," that much of the testimony he gave before the Grand Jury was hearsay. He also admitted that he had corrected while in the Grand Jury room an affidavit he had previously given to Blair Coan, a representative of the "National Republican," the editor of which is George Lockwood, Secretary of the National Republican Committee. Regarding Glosser's testimony, the "Times" also had the following to say:

Senator Borah subjected the witness to a searching examination and when the witness was excused Senator Borah directed him to remain within call of the committee, as it is probable he will be heard again after certain witnesses now on the way to Washington have testified.

The witness said that he had never personally had any conversation with Senator Wheeler as to the scope of the latter's employment by Mr. Campbell, although he declared he was present at a hotel in Great Falls when Senator Wheeler said the matters in controversy could be "fixed up" in Washington.

The Grand Jury did not have a stenographer present when Mr. Glosser was before it, he said, and subsequently this statement was corroborated by J. W. Sparling, a Great Falls hotel man, who was a member of the Grand Jury. Mr. Sparling said that in the Butte case there was a stenographer present, but none when the matter of Senator Wheeler's employment by Mr. Campbell was under consideration.

While Mr. Glosser insisted he had heard Mr. Campbell and Senator Wheeler discuss the Washington phase of the Campbell case, Edward M. Harvey of Eugene, Ore., a trustee of the Campbell properties, declared that when the matter of Senator Wheeler's employment was brought before the trustees for their approval not one word about litigation before the Government departments was mentioned. Senator Wheeler's employment, Mr. Harvey told the committee, related only to the Campbell cases in the Montana State courts.

Met Wheeler First in 1923.

Mr. Glosser said that he met Senator Wheeler for the first time in the early part of January 1923. He saw him several times afterward. Mr. Campbell, the witness said, had a large number of cases pending in the courts, some involving titles and others involving permits.

"Did you ever talk to Senator Wheeler as to the scope of his employment by Mr. Campbell?" asked Senator Borah.

"I never did," Mr. Glosser replied.

"Did you make an affidavit in this case?"

"I did."

"To whom did you give this affidavit?"

"To Mr. Coan."

"Did you make a second affidavit?"

"I did."

"For whom did you make this?"

"The same person, Mr. Coan."

This second affidavit, the witness said, was made in Denver. He went to Denver with Mr. Coan, and the latter, the witness said, paid his expenses. He insisted, however, that he received no remuneration and that the money he received was \$80 less than he actually spent on the trip. Mr. Glosser had only one of his affidavits with him. Senator Sterling, a member of the committee to whom the authorities have been supplying information to use in examining witnesses, was asked if he had the other affidavit, but he did not have it.

"Did you testify before the Grand Jury?" Senator Borah inquired.

"Yes, sir, I did," Mr. Glosser answered.

"Were there any minutes of the jury?"

"I did not see anybody taking anything down while I was there," Mr. Glosser replied.

J. D. Watson of Great Falls was the first man to whom he talked regarding the Wheeler case, Mr. Glosser said. He said that Mr. Watson came to him and told him some people from Washington were in town and these people wanted to know what he, Glosser, knew about the Wheeler case. Mr. Watson, he added, told him Coan was in town, and a little later he was introduced to him. He said he thought an Assistant United States Attorney named Mayes was the man who introduced him to Mr. Coan.

The witness had testified that he had seen two checks of \$2,000 each made out to the order of Senator Wheeler. In the affidavit he submitted he gave the amounts as \$3,000. In answer to a question by Senator Swanson he said he had changed the amount to \$2,000 while he was before the Grand Jury.

Says He Heard Talk About Lease.

Senator Sterling, taking up the examination, asked Mr. Glosser to tell what was said at the conference which Mr. Glosser had testified was attended by Mr. Campbell, Senator Wheeler, himself and one or two other persons. The matter discussed, he replied, was the Phil McGowan lease. Mr. Campbell declared at that conference, according to the witness, that if "Senator Wheeler could get it fixed up in Washington it would be all right," and Senator Wheeler, he said, replied that it could be done, and told Mr. Campbell not to worry.

"Did Coan tell you what he wanted with those affidavits?" Senator Caraway asked.

"He said he wanted to use them in the newspapers," Mr. Glosser answered.

Mr. Glosser said that while in the employment of Mr. Campbell he had signed in blank papers relating to two oil permits. Senator Caraway asked if he had waived immunity before the Grand Jury and the reply was that he had not been asked to do so.

All of the witnesses from both Washington and Montana who appeared before the Borah committee at the first hearing on the 17th, denied any knowledge of Senator Wheeler having acted as attorney for Gordon Campbell, oil operator of Montana, before the Department of the Interior. The New York "Times" accounts of the first day's hearing said:

One of these [witnesses] was Edwin S. Booth, former solicitor of the Department of the Interior, and now a Special Assistant Attorney-General. Mr. Booth was solicitor in the period covered by the indictment and is generally understood to be the witness by means of whose testimony the Department of Justice expected to prove its case. Mr. Booth declared that Senator Wheeler had never represented Mr. Campbell or any other oil lessee before the Department. He testified that he had met Mr. Wheeler socially and that he had discussed Mr. Campbell's troubles with him, but that this had "nothing to do with the Government."

"Did Mr. Wheeler at any time appear before you in connection with any permits for lands for Mr. Campbell?" asked Senator Borah.

"He did not," replied Mr. Booth.

"Did he solicit your aid or help with reference to these assignments (those in the indictment) or anything connected with them?"
"No, sir."

Campbell Denies Charges.

Mr. Campbell also testified, as did James H. Baldwin, Mr. Wheeler's Montana law partner, and both insisted that Mr. Wheeler had not appeared as attorney for Mr. Campbell before the Government department. They emphasized that the \$4,000 received by Mr. Wheeler was for suits in the Montana courts, Mr. Campbell declaring that Mr. Wheeler himself had repeatedly stated that he could not appear for his client in Federal matters.

Mr. Campbell produced what he said was a complete file of all the telegrams which have passed between Senator Wheeler and himself as well as other telegrams bearing on the matter in issue, but not addressed to the Senator. These were copies of the telegrams placed before the Great Falls grand jury by the Department of Justice as proof of the charge that Mr. Wheeler was practicing before the Interior Department. Mr. Campbell said the telegrams had nothing to do with any leases. All leases in which he has, or claims an interest, were made, he declared, before Mr. Wheeler came to the Senate and before he was retained to represent the Campbell interests in the Montana courts.

Mr. Campbell said the originals of the messages had been taken from his office in Great Falls by representatives of the Post Office Department and of the Department of Justice, while Mr. Daugherty was still in office. Senator Swanson asked him if the office was searched, and if so if the searchers had a warrant. Mr. Campbell said that all of his files were seized and there was no warrant.

The Senate committee was told on April 23 that Mr. Wheeler's activities in behalf of Gordon Campbell had been restricted to actions before the State courts and that the Senator had declared he "didn't know a thing about Government permits and wouldn't know one if he saw it." This testimony was by L. V. Beaulieu, now of Los Angeles, who was general counsel for Mr. Campbell from Oct. 1 1922 to September 1923. The indictment charges Senator Wheeler with appearing before the Interior Department for Mr. Campbell in connection with Government oil leases. Senator Sterling of South Dakota stirred up his committee colleagues when he consulted a memorandum and asked Mr. Beaulieu if he knew of a letter which the Senator said had been written by Solicitor Booth of the Interior Department to Senator Wheeler's law firm containing a reply to questions about Government leases. Chairman Borah promptly objected to this line of questioning and called on Senator Sterling to produce the letter. No other committee members knew about the memorandum which had been supplied to Senator Sterling. The latter was asked to divulge the source of his information, but refused to do so, contending that it was not pertinent to the inquiry. "I haven't the letter now, but I expect to produce it during the course of the proceedings," said Mr. Sterling. "I haven't seen such a letter, but I have a memorandum reminding me of such a letter."

William G. Feely, Washington attorney for Gordon Campbell, on April 24 testified that under an oral contract made with Campbell in March 1923 he represented Campbell in land cases before the Interior Department, but said he had never had any consultation with Senator Wheeler or his law firm on these matters. "Senator Wheeler had absolutely nothing to do with it," the witness said.

Mr. Feely said he formerly was in the Interior Department and met Campbell through Edwin S. Booth, at that time the Department solicitor. Campbell's business with the Department was in connection with oil land prospecting permits, he said, and "our firm handled all those matters." "Are you acquainted with Senator Wheeler?" asked Senator Borah, Chairman of the committee. "Yes, sir. I met him in the summer of 1923," the witness replied, "after we had practically closed up the matters with the Interior Department. "So far as you know, Mr. Wheeler had nothing to do with the matter?" asked Senator Caraway, Democrat, Arkansas. "Absolutely nothing." Mr. Feely said the Government had no financial interest in the Campbell permits, but "merely passed on controversies between claimants." Senator Sterling, Republican, of South Dakota, asked the witness who introduced him to Senator Wheeler. Mr. Feely said it was Booth. "Where was this?" "I think it was in the Department of Justice. I did not meet him in the Interior Department." "You said you never wrote to Mr. Wheeler. Did he ever write to you?" "He did not." Mr. Feely said no question was raised as to the acreage in the assignment or permits that he handled for Campbell, but that the question of their validity "was raised in the matter of the Phillip McGowan permit."

Commissioner Spry of the General Land Office testified on April 24 that Senator Wheeler called at his office in the spring of 1923 with Solicitor Booth, who said Wheeler was interested in the Campbell matter. The Commissioner said that the Senator himself had declared he was only interested to see that Campbell should get a "square deal." Senator Wheeler never talked to him on any matter except in the way all members of Congress were interested in affairs of

their constituents, Commissioner Spry said. Asked to describe his talk with Senator Wheeler, Commissioner Spry said:

I think it was in the spring of 1923. He and Mr. Booth came to my office. After some pleasantries were exchanged I tendered the services of the Department to Senator Wheeler, as I do to other Senators. Mr. Booth made the remark that Senator Wheeler was interested in one case. The Senator replied his interest was only to see that Gordon Campbell got proper treatment and a square deal. I assured him that he would get that.

Senator B. K. Wheeler, of Montana, appeared before United States Commissioner McDonald at Washington on April 19 and furnished bond for \$1,000 for his appearance May 5 at Great Falls, Mont., to answer the indictment charging him with accepting money illegally for appearing before the Interior Department. He went before the Commissioner voluntarily soon after he was advised by the District Attorney's office that the indictment had been forwarded here with a request for service. Bond was furnished by William B. Colver, a former member of the Federal Trade Commission and a personal friend of the Senator.

Contempt Proceedings Against Mal Daugherty by the Senate.

The Senate adopted on April 26 without a record vote a resolution declaring Mal S. Daugherty, brother of the former Attorney-General, and President of the Midland National Bank of Washington Court House, Ohio, in contempt of the Senate for refusing to answer two subpoenas directing his appearance before the Brookhart Committee which is investigating the Department of Justice. The following day, i. e. April 27, Mr. Daugherty was arrested at Cincinnati, and immediately thereafter he obtained a writ of habeas corpus in the Federal Court. His arrest was made by John J. McGrain, Deputy Sergeant-at-Arms of the Senate on a Senate warrant. After a preliminary hearing behind closed doors, Judge Hickenlooper granted the writ, effective forthwith, and Mr. Daugherty was released under bond of \$5,000 for his appearance for a hearing on May 10. Mr. Daugherty in Cincinnati was represented by N. P. Clyburn, John Logan, A. E. Vorys of Columbus and John P. Philips of Chillicothe, as attorneys. Assistant Federal Attorney Beatty represented Mr. McGrain. The arrest of Mal Daugherty grew out of his failure to obey Senate subpoenas for his appearance before the committee investigating the regime of his brother as Attorney-General and because he refused to permit a special sub-committee of the Senate, composed of Senators Wheeler and Brookhart, to examine records of the Midland National Bank. The habeas corpus proceedings filed by Mr. Daugherty charged that "the sole and only authority under which the committee pretended to have jurisdiction to direct and require Daugherty to appear and testify, and to produce the bank records, was and is by a resolution passed previously by the Senate." The Senate, the application charged, had and has no power, under the Constitution or laws of the United States, to confer any such authority or jurisdiction on the committee, and did not do so in its resolution. The order of the committee directed to Mr. Daugherty, it is alleged, was in violation of the Fourth Amendment to the Constitution. The application further charges that the committee and Senate are wholly without power or authority to punish Mr. Daugherty for any alleged contempt, or to order his commitment, or to take him into custody, and that the Senate has no jurisdiction to exercise any judicial power to compel the attendance and testimony or other evidence under "the pretended authority of the resolution" to investigate the conduct of Harry M. Daugherty. On April 11 1924, the application set out, in an action in the Common Pleas Court of Fayette County, Ohio, in which the Midland National Bank was plaintiff and Senators Wheeler and Brookhart were defendants, a temporary order was granted to the bank, restraining Messrs. Wheeler and Brookhart and their agents and employees from molesting the books of the bank.

A request that President Coolidge direct the Attorney-General to defend suits brought by Mal S. Daugherty against members of the Senate committee investigating the Department of Justice was made in a resolution adopted by the Senate on May 1.

The resolution, offered by Chairman Brookhart of the investigating committee, called attention to the habeas corpus proceedings instituted by Mr. Daugherty and the injunction suit filed by him when a sub-committee attempted to question him at Washington Court House, Ohio, as the suits to be defended. There was no discussion of the resolution and it was adopted by unanimous consent.

Attorney-General Stone already has informed the committee he would co-operate with it in its litigation.

The resolution declaring Mal Daugherty in contempt of the Senate was offered by Senator Brookhart, Chairman of the investigating committee, and read as follows:

Whereas, The select committee of the Senate selected pursuant to Senate Resolution 157, Sixty-eighth Congress, first session, has submitted a report to the Senate; and

Whereas It appears from such report that M. S. Daugherty as President of the Midland National Bank, Washington Court House, Ohio, was on March 27 1924, duly served with a subpoena to appear forthwith before such committee in Washington, D. C., and then and there testify relative to subject matters and to produce specified files, records and books pertinent to the matter under inquiry; and was on April 11 1924, duly served with a subpoena to appear forthwith before the committee in Washington Court House, Ohio, and then and there to testify relative to subject matters pertinent to the matter under inquiry; and

Whereas It appears from such report that the said M. S. Daugherty has, in disobedience of such subpoena, failed to appear or answer or to produce such files, records and books; and

Whereas The appearance and testimony of the said M. S. Daugherty is material and necessary in order that the committee may properly execute the functions imposed upon it and may obtain information necessary for such legislative and other actions as the Senate may deem necessary and proper; therefore be it,

Resolved, That the President of the Senate pro tempore issue his warrant commanding the Sergeant-at-Arms or his deputies to take into custody the body of the said M. S. Daugherty wherever found, to bring the said M. S. Daugherty before the bar of the Senate and then and there to answer such questions pertinent under the inquiry as the Senate may order the President of the Senate pro tempore to propound; and to keep the said M. S. Daugherty in custody to await the further order of the Senate.

The special Senate committee of which Senator Brookhart is Chairman had been endeavoring for some time to force the appearance of Mal Daugherty before it, and also to compel him to produce certain records of his bank which the committee has held to be pertinent to the inquiry. It was the desire of the committee to make an inspection of all accounts at the Midland National Bank which might have a bearing on the inquiry in an effort to determine whether there were accounts in the bank which, in the opinion of the committee, required explanation. Mr. Daugherty was first summoned to appear before the committee at Washington and a second subpoena was issued and served on him when Senators Brookhart and Wheeler went recently to Washington Court House, Ohio, to hold a session there. On both occasions Mr. Daugherty failed to appear or produce the records sought by the committee. He has retained counsel and has made known his intention of fighting the demands. There was no debate when Senator Brookhart offered his resolution. Senator Smoot asked that no action be taken until a quorum of the members had been summoned. Unanimous consent was given and while Senator Oddie of Nevada asked for a record vote, this was not demanded.

Western Union Company Refuses to Reveal Private Telegrams of Harry Daugherty to Brookhart Committee Without Consent of Sender and Addressee—Position of Company Explained in Memorandum.

The Western Union Telegraph Co., through its attorney, Paul E. Lesh, on April 16 formally notified Senator Brookhart and other members of the committee on investigation of the Department of Justice, that it will not comply with the committee's subpoena for the production of the private telegrams of former Attorney-General Harry M. Daugherty without consent of the senders or addressees of these messages. The memorandum in which the counsel for the telegraph company sets forth its position challenges the authority of the Brookhart investigating committee to "compel" the appearance of witnesses before it and the submission to it of the telegrams. The reply says that the company, "like other confidential agents, is, of course, compellable by competent legal authority to disclose such information as it has concerning its patrons' business" and that "it may be forced to produce the messages in its files upon subpoena issuing from courts or from other tribunals vested by law with similar inquisitorial powers," but that upon this point the company's established rules are also quite explicit. The attention of Chairman Brookhart is then invited to the company's rule 57 relative to "court orders" for the production of messages. The memorandum says that in the opinion of the Western Union and its counsel, the investigation of the conduct of the executive officials is not, in the first instance, within the constitutional powers of the United States Senate. In its memorandum the Western Union company further says:

There is a distinction between an inquiry which is undertaken as an incident to the consideration of legislation by either house of Congress and an inquiry which is not incidental to proposed legislation but is purely inquisitorial and has for its independent object the ascertainment of facts such as are here sought.

It would be impertinent for us to express a view upon the wisdom or expediency of such a resolution of inquiry.

If the Senate committee were calling upon the telegraph company to aid it in the inquiry in any way in which the company could act without violation of its duty to its patrons, the company would accept the decision of the Senate that such an inquiry is in the public interest.

It is necessary, however, in order to make our position clear, to point out, without intent to comment upon its propriety, that the present investigation is not one having to do with laws, but with conduct; not with office, but with officers; not with governmental institutions, but with the executive officers in charge thereof. It is an investigation by the Legislature to ascertain if certain of the personnel of the executive branch have failed in their duties.

Denies Senate's Power to Make Inquiry.

Such investigations by the legislative branch are of course contemplated by the Constitution, and the tribunals which shall exercise the respective functions involved in such an investigation are specified. Article 1, Section 2, provides: "The House of Representatives shall have the sole power of impeachment." Section 3 provides: "The Senate shall have the sole power to try all impeachments."

The present investigation appears to be such a one as would be appropriate for the House of Representatives to carry on with a view to impeachment of the executive officers being investigated. In some of its aspects it seems similar to such an inquiry as might be undertaken by a Grand Jury.

It is certainly clear, however, that it is the House of Representatives which has in this field of investigation the power analogous to that of the Grand Jury, whereas the function of the Senate corresponds to that of the petit jury and the trial court.

It is well known to those who have studied the subject that the extent of the power of the Congress to issue compulsory process for the attendance of witnesses has never been clearly defined nor authoritatively settled.

It is clear, however, that the power is not unlimited. It is clear, also, that the power is essentially judicial, not legislative, and it is with respect only to the judicial powers vested in the houses of Congress that the exercise of the power has received an authoritative sanction.

The doubt as to the power to subpoena witnesses in aid of the legislative functions of Congress has arisen because if this quasi-judicial power exists at all it is by implication of the Constitution and not by express grant.

On the other hand, the power to investigate and deal with failures of the executive officers to perform their duties is by express grant of the Constitution. The power of Congress in impeachment cases is stated in plain and explicit words. Equally plain and explicit, however, are the division and allocation of that power, and the functions of the Senate in this regard, therefore, cannot be invoked until the House shall have impeached. There is no occasion nor room for an implication of power on this subject.

It may be suggested that the facts developed will be available to the House of Representatives, which may find therein a basis for an impeachment proceeding. It might with equal force be suggested that facts may be developed which may be brought to the attention of Grand Juries and indictments and convictions secured, all of which might be justly in the public interest.

No Power to Compel Witnesses.

But such considerations have to do with the expediency of the investigation, not with the legal authority of the Senate to issue compulsory process to compel citizens to appear before the tribunal it has set up. An investigating committee appointed by the President might equally and similarly serve the public interest, but it seems plain that the Executive would have no power by its mandate to compel unwilling witnesses to attend.

In support of the contentions thus set forth by the company, its counsel calls the attention of the Senate committee to the Kilbourn, Chapman, Henkle and other cases and argues that it is clear that the inquisitorial power of Congress and its committees is not unlimited. The memorandum is said to go into a careful analysis of the Senate resolution which authorized the investigation now being conducted by the Brookhart-Wheeler committee, and expresses doubt as to whether the Senate intended to give the committee more power than simply, in the words of the resolution, "to send for persons, books and papers." A power to compel the production of private papers by unwilling witnesses is certainly beyond the import of the words used," the memorandum says. "The subpoena calls for all private telegrams of Harry M. Daugherty, both incoming and outgoing, for the last three years. It lacks altogether any further specifications of what is desired." The memorandum later declares:

It seems to us that this subpoena is of the kind which have been called "fishing expeditions into private papers on the possibility that they may disclose evidence" (Justice Holmes in Federal Trade Commission v. American Tobacco Co., decided March-17 1924), which have been condemned by the courts as unreasonable uses of a subpoena duces tecum.

The subpoena appears to be an attempt by "the party wanting evidence to call for all documents in order to see if they do not contain it," in order that there may be a search made through all of Mr. Daugherty's private telegrams, "relevant or irrelevant, in the hope that something will turn up." The phrases just quoted are from the same opinion of Justice Holmes.

In conclusion, after an elaborate citation of Supreme Court decisions, the statement says:

As a matter of fact, the estimated cost of making the examination required of the telegraph company's papers under the present subpoena is \$1,620. Nevertheless, because of the more important issues involved and because the telegraph company would not permit this expense to prevent it from extending to the committee of the Senate any aid it did not feel compelled for other reasons to withhold, and in order that the issues may not be confused by an element which has not entered into the telegraph company's decision, it expressly waives any objection it might have to the subpoena based upon the expense to which it would be put in complying with it.

Harry M. Daugherty's Statement on Testimony Before Senate Investigation Committee—Says Most of It is False.

Harry M. Daugherty issued a statement on April 22 at Washington dealing with the investigation by the Brookhart Committee of the Senate into the activities of the Department of Justice during his incumbency of office. Much of

the testimony given before the committee, Mr. Daugherty alleged, was false, and he asserted that he had affidavits of witnesses who testified against him that words were placed in their mouths and that they were corruptly influenced to tell untruthful stories. He indicated that his Columbus speech would open a vigorous campaign against his accusers. Mr. Daugherty's statement specifically denies that he drank any intoxicating liquor after becoming Attorney-General and that it was served in his home or that anybody brought it there. He denies that he was ever in Howard Mannington's "little green house in K Street," or had any corrupt dealings with Mr. Mannington. He denies that there was any deal with oil men to nominate President Harding, declaring Mr. Harding the "freest man ever to cross the threshold of the White House." The statement further denies that Mr. Daugherty knew that Jesse Smith had an office in the Department of Justice and defends Mr. Smith's character. It declares that Mr. Daugherty's Wright-Martin stock was purchased before he took office, and insists that he took vigorous action to prosecute the company. Mr. Daugherty assails Gaston B. Means, accusing him of airing grievances, and denounces Senator Wheeler, "the indicted prosecutor," as having promised the I. W. W. to drive Mr. Daugherty out of office if elected to the Senate. Mr. Daugherty's statement read:

Upon my return to Washington, finding the atmosphere has cleared somewhat and considering the fact that thinking men and women the entire country over have expressed their opinion of the situation here, I feel now that the country would welcome the truth in reference to matters which have recently been exploited.

Prior to the passage of the Wheeler resolution it was impossible to interest anybody in the truth because of these lies that have been told by "witnesses" and whispered into the ears of Senators, newspaper owners and as many others as could be used or influenced to perpetuate the deception and set the scene.

Without giving any intimation as to what I shall say in my speech at Columbus to-morrow night, which is not to be a political speech, I desire now to say to the American people that the accomplishments of the Department of Justice will be one of the great issues upon which the Republican Party will win the next election.

That is one of the reasons for the attacks that have been made upon me, in order to discredit the department and to assassinate my character in order that I might be discredited and disbelieved. While no charges have been made against me and no real testimony has been considered the volumes covering the record of the department have been furnished in official dependable form to the Senate, and also to the Wheeler investigating committee, and hundreds of witnesses and records can be furnished if the committee desires facts, yet, considering this villainous attack upon me personally, headlines in newspapers have been used to make me almost as black as some of the criminals who have testified against me.

I was compelled to stand my ground; I was compelled to shut my eyes to cruelty and criminality; I was compelled to ask my family and others to endure the sorrow and humiliation incident to the production of the testimony which had been whispered into the ears of those who were swept off their feet. Weeks ago I said that I could stand it better than others, for I was better fortified with the department behind me accustomed to criminal assaults.

Charges Corruption of Witnesses.

Now, in justice to my family and in justice to my friends, in truth and in honor bound to the American people, I ask, not for myself, but for them, that the press publish the truth which I now tell. No opportunity has been afforded to cross-examine the star witnesses operating with the committee under the management of Scaife and Vanderlip.

No opportunity will be afforded now, though I have statements and affidavits from those who were procured as witnesses testifying to falsehood, averring that words were put into their mouths and that they were corruptly influenced to tell untruthful stories of a character injurious to me.

The attacks upon my character, the attacks upon dead men and the use of weird tales attributed to dead men indicate that it is not the purpose of the Wheeler committee to do justice, to deal in official acts, but rather to spread slime, generate hatred, deceit and create confusion and suspicion for reasons which, if not now known, will be made known to-morrow night and frequently thereafter.

The matter of drinking has been freely referred to. I never was a drinking man, and shortly after I was appointed Attorney-General, not wishing to be a hypocrite, I being my official duty to enforce the prohibition laws, I refrained from taking a drink of anything intoxicating, and from that day since I have not done so. Nobody ever brought any liquor to my house and I never served liquor in my house.

My conduct and my associates before and since I have been in Washington will compare favorably with that of any other man who maintains his self-respect and conducts himself so as to command the respect of the public. My conduct and my associates have been equal in respectability to those of any public official in Washington, President, Cabinet officer or anybody else.

All these things are known to those who were around me and working with me during the three years I served as Attorney-General.

Explains Wright-Martin Stock.

The testimony regarding the Wright-Martin stock is false and the witnesses who testified thereto lied, and Brookhart, my "impartial" judge and juror who called attention to it, made a misstatement when he reiterated the story for publication. I bought 500 shares of Wright-Martin stock at, I think, \$5 a share long before I became Attorney-General. The company reorganized and I took in exchange for these 500 shares two or three small batches of the reorganized stock. This I now hold, and all of it I could sell to-day for the amount I paid for the original 500 shares, or about \$2,500. The records of the Department of Justice will conclusively show how vigorously I pressed the case involving the company in behalf of the Government, despite the interference by some of those who have been most active in criticizing me.

This is like all the other stories reflecting upon my stock transactions and the stories reflecting upon my personal character. They are false and my persecutors know it to be false.

I welcome an investigation, with the assistance of my successor in office and anybody else of honor and respectability, of my official acts, and, as

far as I am concerned, I should be glad to see the records of my official acts while Attorney-General thrown open to the world.

I was told by those in high position, not by the President, however, that if I would voluntarily resign as Attorney-General the resolution introduced by Wheeler would not be pressed for passage. This I could not do, for it would have been an admission on my part that there was some truth in the false whisperings around Washington and in the cloak rooms of Congress for the purpose of creating the condition most desired by those who were behind the movement with no proper motives.

All the cheap sensational talk by a partisan committee and others in regard to the manner in which President Harding was nominated and elected is false. There was no oil discussion at the convention or during the Harding campaign.

Says Harding Was a Free Man.

President Harding was nominated and elected the freest man that ever stepped across the threshold of the White House. No promises were made by him to any man, nor did I make any promises for him, and nobody else was authorized to make any promises, and if they were made they never came to our ears.

Jess Smith was a young man whom my brother and I assisted in business in our home town in Ohio. He became a successful business man and was active in the campaign of President Harding and was helpful to us both. He has been dead about a year. Four doctors and the undertaker stand ready to testify as to the cause of his mind giving way, which ended in his taking his own life.

I never knew Jess Smith to do a dishonest thing. He was with me only part of the time, and while I was not familiar with all his acts, I do not believe he was capable of doing a dishonest thing. I never knew he had an office in the Department of Justice, though since his death I understand that he frequently made use of a room occupied by others for the purpose of looking after some private and legitimate matters for me which I did not have time to attend to myself.

I knew nothing about his domestic affairs except that I knew he was worried on account of demands made upon him and the treatment he had received at the hands of a woman.

I never saw the "mysterious green house in K Street," and was never in it. The H Street house I used temporarily because my family was not able to be with me. My house was never used for any improper purpose. Some of the leading politicians, those seeking office, many Senators and Representatives called upon me there to confer with me and ask favors. Nothing ever took place there that the world might not know or that could not with propriety take place in the most respectable home in the country.

"The shack" so mysteriously referred to, was a rough place along the creek where with others for years I did considerable work and took healthful recreation. Nothing ever took place there that was not wholesome or correct in every way.

Dentes Deals With Mannington.

As far as Howard Mannington is concerned, I do not think I saw him four times after the first two weeks I was Attorney-General. He never made any proposition of any kind to me and never asked any favors of me.

Gaston Means, an indicted man, has been accommodated by having his case postponed under a promise by those in control of the Wheeler committee that he would furnish sensational and dishonest testimony and newspaper headlines. I appointed Means with reluctance and dismissed him in the face of opposition. Later I was importuned to re-employ him and did so with great reluctance in order that he might complete the procuring of testimony in an important case. I discovered that he had neglected that duty and was engaged in other work against my positive instructions, and I discharged him finally. He has gone about the country complaining because he has been indicted.

His grievance against me on that occasion is well known, as are the grievances of other discharged employees used by the Wheeler committee for the vicious purpose of assassinating a man's character and reflecting upon the administration of the Department of Justice.

Wheeler, the indicted prosecutor of the committee, is carrying out a public promise made to the I. W. W. in Montana, that if elected to the Senate "he would drive the Attorney-General from the Cabinet." He has not driven me from the Cabinet, but those who believed his lies and the attacks of those who had been procured for the sole purpose of telling lies have succeeded in doing so.

I ask nothing for myself, but I ask those newspapers which have been misled and used to carry out the most damnable enterprise ever undertaken against government, law, order, or any individual in the name of decency, to publish this statement, which can be believed implicitly.

Mr. Daugherty followed up his statement issued at Washington with a further attack on the Senate investigating committee on April 23 at Columbus, Ohio, where he told an audience of friends and neighbors that he had given up his Cabinet post rather than "contribute to a reasonable cause." Files of the Department of Justice, he said, contained "abundant proof of the plans, purposes and hellish designs of the Communist International." "Bear in mind," he added, "that the files which I refused to deliver to the Wheeler investigating committee at the time my resignation was requested, were demanded by Brookhart and Wheeler, two United States Senators who spent last summer in Russia with their Soviet friends—those same Soviet and Communist leaders who preach destruction of constitutional government, destruction even to human life. I preferred to permit my integrity to be questioned and my honor to hang in the balance, for the time being, rather than surrender the files in the keeping of the Department of Justice. I gladly gave up a post of honor rather than contribute to a treasonable cause." Mr. Daugherty charged that "pilgrimages to Moscow by United States Senators" had been arranged for by the Communist authorities after their efforts to capture American labor organizations had failed."

Senator Wheeler's Reply to Harry M. Daugherty.

Replying to the statement issued by former Attorney-General Daugherty at Washington on April 22 (given above) Senator Wheeler, who is "prosecutor" of the Brookhart Committee of the Senate investigating Mr. Daugherty's

conduct of the Department of Justice, gave out a statement on April 23 accusing the former Attorney-General of having uttered falsehoods. The Wheeler statement bristled with charges against Mr. Daugherty. The Montana Senator reveals that his intention is to drive from the Department of Justice "almost a dozen high officials," composing the "Ohio gang," known at Columbus, Mr. Wheeler says, as "Us Boys." He indicated also that the investigation is to be long drawn out for "the evidence thus far adduced is but a drop in the bucket." The statement reads as follows:

I have just completed a rather hasty reading of Mr. Daugherty's highly ingenious statement in to-day's press.

The evidence thus far adduced before the committee is but a drop in the bucket.

The "achievements of the Department of Justice" of which Mr. Daugherty boasts cannot be fully revealed until the Ohio gang known at Columbus as "us boys" and numbering almost a dozen high officials in the department is ousted. The department is still full of Daugherty men.

The character of witnesses is assailed by Mr. Daugherty. The character of the witnesses in any case of this kind is determined largely by the character of the central figure. Birds of a feather flock together.

Calls Statement False.

Mr. Daugherty complains he has had no opportunity to cross-examine witnesses. That is false. His counsel have been allowed to examine every witness who finished his or her direct testimony, and such examination strengthened rather than weakened the testimony. In the case of Miss Roxey Stinson they complained in the press for days about not being allowed to cross-examine, but when given the opportunity their questions were timid and they were glad to stop in five minutes.

The "attack upon dead men," referred to by Daugherty, results from the fact that Jess Smith was his roommate and constant companion. Jess Smith was honest before he came to Washington with Daugherty. If he then became corrupt it was as Daugherty's agent, his "buffer."

After Smith's suicide there was no inquest. His body was rushed to Ohio within a few hours. Jess Smith has been mentioned in the case only because he was known everywhere as Daugherty's representative, the man who, in Daugherty's absence, sat in his office and spoke for him authoritatively.

Daugherty says, "I never was a drinking man; nobody ever brought liquor to my house, and I never served liquor in my house." The Daugherty-Smith apartment at Wardman Park Inn was frequently referred to as "one of the wettest spots in Washington." Evidence clearly shows that Daugherty and Jess Smith were always well supplied with liquor.

Daugherty refers to Jess Smith as a young man whom he and his brother helped to business success. Jess Smith inherited \$70,000 and sold his department store for \$38,000. He was nearly 55 years old when Daugherty brought him to Washington.

Says Fear Caused Smith's Suicide.

Evidence shows there was nothing in the condition of his health to cause suicide. He had been under treatment for diabetes, but was getting better. Evidence shows his suicide was clearly due to fear of detection and of being made Daugherty's scapegoat.

Daugherty says he "never knew that he, Smith, had an office in the Department of Justice." Everybody else knew it. Many letters introduced at the hearing were written by Smith on Daugherty's official stationery, and Mr. McLean, Congressman Haley and members of Mr. Daugherty's staff, when desiring to communicate with Smith, addressed him at the department. Many of these documents have been offered in evidence.

Daugherty says "I never saw the mysterious greenhouse in K Street." Several witnesses have testified to seeing him there frequently, and more can be produced if it becomes necessary to refresh Mr. Daugherty's memory.

Daugherty thinks "he did not see Howard Mannington" four times after the first two weeks he was Attorney General. Mannington was one of the regular Daugherty gang of legislative agents and go-betweens in Ohio. Daugherty made Mannington office manager for the Harding headquarters in Chicago and appointed him to handle arrangements for the various political delegations that came to Marion to see Mr. Harding during the "front porch campaign."

Suggests Getting Mannington on Stand.

If Mr. Daugherty thinks that Mr. Mannington can clear his (Daugherty's) name, it might be well for him to use his influence with Mannington to get him to testify before the committee.

Daugherty refers to Gaston Means as "an indicted man" and boasts of having "appointed him with reluctance and dismissed him in the face of opposition."

W. J. Burns, Daugherty's chief detective, testified before the committee a few weeks ago: "I gave him (Means) a very high recommendation; he is a good investigator; I had absolute faith in him."

Daugherty refers to Senator Wheeler as "the indicted prosecutor of the committee." It is true that Daugherty was active in causing me (Wheeler) to be indicted, but he has not been so active in the case of former Secretary Fall, nor in the indictment and prosecution of bootleggers, as revealed in the current number of Hearst's International Magazine. If the Hearst's magazine charges are not true, Mr. Daugherty has a good case against the publisher for libel, for the article shows conclusively how the bootleggers were protected under Mr. Daugherty's regime.

Daugherty, in referring to my indictment, tries to create the impression that he had nothing to do with it, but that it originated in the Post Office Department. My indictment was due solely to Daugherty's desire to discredit me because I was investigating him.

Points to Daugherty's Hand.

Such indictments have been a regular part of his game, just as it has been a regular part of his game not to prosecute criminals when some advantage was to be gained thereby. His hand in the Montana indictment shows clearly from the fact that John S. Pratt, his trusted man, normally on duty at Toledo, Ohio, was sent to Montana by Solicitor General Beck to prepare the case for the Grand Jury, the foreman of which is one of my bitterest political enemies.

One thing Mr. Daugherty conspicuously fails to mention in his statement is the case of Mal Daugherty's bank. If Mr. Daugherty is so anxious "to welcome the truth" as he now says, and to set himself right before the public, he would do well to arrange for a full investigation of the huge cash deposits in his brother's bank at Washington Court House, Ohio. The Daugherty's have used a battery of lawyers and every technicality to prevent the committee's examination.

Finally, if Mr. Daugherty had been as good an Attorney-General as he thinks he is an explainer, he would not now be out of office and in disgrace.

Senator Wheeler denied the claim of Mr. Daugherty that he had furnished "official dependable records" of the Department of Justice to the investigation committee. The only records supplied, Mr. Wheeler said, were the annual reports of the Department of Justice, "which obviously contain nothing the Attorney-General would wish to conceal," adding "His attitude as to supplying information has been obstructive throughout."

Another Senate Oil Investigation—Inquiry into Leases Granted Honolulu Oil Co.

Turning its attention for the first time to Naval Reserve No. 2 in California, the Senate Oil Committee was advised on May 1 by Assistant Secretary Finney of the Interior Department that a search of the records failed to show the necessary Presidential approval of the lease of more than 3,000 acres in that reserve to the Honolulu Oil Co. The lease was not valid, the witness said, unless approved by the President, because Secretary Fall had no authority to make such a contract alone. All Naval Reserve No. 2 had been leased by Fall, except 1,280 acres, he said, and since Secretary Work came into office, the remainder has been leased at the request of the Navy Department. The leases made since Fall resigned carry royalties of from 61 to 50%, he said, which were much higher than those under Fall. At the conclusion of Mr. Finney's testimony the Committee took a recess until May 8.

The history of the lease granted to the Honolulu company by Secretary Fall was explained at the request of Senator Walsh, who said that by resolution of the Senate the Committee had been directed to go into that matter specially. Senator Walsh added that he wanted to obtain from Finney a foundation for such inquiry as would be made later. Fall had authorized the lease to the Honolulu company, Finney said, and it was not approved by Secretary Denby. He had been unable to find any record to show that President Harding gave his approval. Senator Walsh read from the law to sustain conclusion that the lease was invalid unless approved by the President, and Finney agreed. Fall granted the lease to the Honolulu company after his predecessor, Secretary Payne, had denied a patent to the company, the witness said. The land covered was slightly in excess of 3,000 acres.

With the investigation into the Doheny and Sinclair oil leases of Naval reserve oil lands in its final stages, it became known on April 21 that a separate investigation into the leases granted to the Honolulu Oil Co. on land within Naval Reserve No. 2 in California is to be made by the Senate Oil Committee. A resolution proposing such an inquiry recently was offered by Senator La Follette and adopted by the Senate. No date has yet been fixed, it is stated, for the opening of this investigation, and it may be deferred for some time. The general oil inquiry is to be ended next week, to await final decision by the court as to whether Harry F. Sinclair, lessee of Teapot Dome, is to be required to testify.

Secretary Wilbur's Letter to the Senate in Response to Norris Resolution Showing that W. G. McAdoo, J. Hamilton Lewis and Hoke Smith Prosecuted Claims Before Navy Department within Two Years after Tenure of Office.

In response to a resolution offered by Senator Norris, Secretary Wilbur sent to the Senate on April 19 a statement which disclosed that William G. McAdoo, former Secretary of the Treasury and former Senators James Hamilton Lewis of Illinois and Hoke Smith of Georgia had prosecuted claims before the Navy Department within two years after their tenure of office expired. Mr. McAdoo and Mr. Lewis won their cases. Mr. Smith lost and has taken his case to the Court of Claims. Mr. McAdoo put in a claim for \$385,000 and got \$300,000 for his client. Mr. Lewis got something more than 25% of the amount he claimed, which was in excess of \$2,225,000. Senator Norris has offered seven resolutions, calling on as many Departments for information as to whether former Cabinet officers and former Senators and Representatives have appeared as attorneys in claim cases before these Departments within two years after the expiration of their terms of office. His object is to ascertain the extent of a practice of which there has been much criticism, emphasized by the testimony before a Senate investigating committee that former Secretary McAdoo had been retained by Edward L. Doheny. Behind the criticism is said to be the contention that the appearance of public officers before

executive departments is contrary to the spirit of a law of Congress which serves as a ban on the appearance of certain Government officers within two years after they have left the Federal service. There has been criticism also on the ground that without reference to any restrictive law former public officers, especially those who held high positions, should not accept retainers to appear before Departments. The letter of Secretary Wilbur in answer to the Norris resolution reads:

Washington, April 19.

Senator Albert H. Cummins, President pro tempore of the Senate.

Dear Sir—An examination of the records of the Navy Department, bureaus and offices discloses that the Hon. William Gibbs McAdoo, former Secretary of the Treasury; the Hon. James Hamilton Lewis, ex-Senator, and the Hon. Hoke Smith, ex-Senator, appeared before this department in advocacy of claims against the Government of the United States and who at the time of their advocacy came within the provisions of Senate Resolution No. 176, above quoted.

The Hon. William Gibbs McAdoo appeared in behalf of Albert C. Burrage, owner of the steam yacht Aztec, in the advocacy of the claim of Mr. Burrage arising out of the leasing of the steam yacht by the Navy Department during the World War. The amount of money involved in the claim was \$325,000 as the cost of repairs, plus \$60,000 for the loss of the use of the vessel, a total of \$385,000. The sum of \$300,000 was the final settlement of the claim. This sum has been paid.

The Hon. James Hamilton Lewis appeared before this department in the advocacy of the claim of the Edward Valve and Manufacturing Co., Chicago, for reimbursement on account of partial cancellation of Navy Department contract No. 2010 for three-inch projectiles, work under which was terminated after the signing of the armistice. The amount of money involved in the claim was \$2,259,783 27. The amount of money finally allowed and which was the final settlement of the claim was \$574,291 42. This amount has been paid.

Hoke Smith Pushed Sugar Claim.

The Hon. Hoke Smith appeared before this department in advocacy of the claim of the Federal Sugar Refining Co., for additional compensation under Navy Order No. 6273, dated April 15 1920. This claim was based upon the claimant's assertion that it should be paid 25 cents a pound, less 2% f. o. b. refinery, instead of .175 cents as fixed by the Bureau of Supplies and Accounts of the Navy Department on 420,000 pounds of granulated sugar delivered by the plaintiff company under Navy Order No. 6273.

Payment was made to the Federal Sugar Refining Co. at the preliminary price of 14 cents per pound, amounting to a total of \$58,000, slightly more than the price fixed by the Paymaster General of the Navy for said sugar. The amount of claim in behalf of which the Hon. Hoke Smith appeared before this department was \$37,350, together with interest from May 12 1922. This claim has not been settled. The claimant has now instituted suit before the Court of Claims, which suit is still pending.

An examination of the records of this department has failed to disclose the name of any other member of the Senate or ex-Cabinet officer who, within two years after retirement from office and since the first day of January 1918, has appeared before this department as attorney or agent, or who has been a member of any firm or partnership appearing as attorney or agent before the Navy Department, its bureaus or offices in advocacy of any claim against the Government of the United States.

In consequence of these remarks of Senator Norris as set forth in the Congressional Record of March 1 1924, relative to eliminating from consideration under the resolution ex-members of the House of Representatives I have caused no thorough and complete examination of the records of the Navy Department to be made with a view to ascertaining whether ex-members of the House of Representatives have appeared as attorneys in the advocacy of claims against the Government. Should reports in respect to ex-members of the House of Representatives be requested I shall endeavor to furnish the desired information. Respectfully,

CURTIS D. WILBUR, Secretary of the Navy.

Secretary Wilbur on April 21 made available the official record in the case of the yacht Aztec, owned by Arthur C. Burrage of Boston. The record includes letters signed by William G. McAdoo, indicating that he appeared in behalf of Mr. Burrage's claims against the Government. Secretary Wilbur, however, according to the daily papers, refused to comment on the denial of Gordon Woodbury, Assistant Secretary of the Navy in the latter part of President Wilson's Administration, that Mr. McAdoo had been active in the Aztec case. The record relates the history of Mr. Burrage's claims for use of the yacht, which were heard by various boards of arbitration and Secretary Daniels. No agreement satisfactory to the Government and Mr. Burrage was reached. The case ran along until June 21 1921, when the Secretary of the Navy under the Harding Administration set aside all amounts determined upon by the Naval Board of Appraisers, previously approved by Mr. Daniels, and authorized a payment to Mr. Burrage of \$300,000, which he accepted. The record includes letters exchanged between ex-Secretary McAdoo and Mr. Daniels, then Secretary of the Navy, during 1919 and 1920. Telegrams recorded, as well as the letters, indicate on their face that Mr. McAdoo was actively pressing the case before the Department. Among the letters is one dated Sept. 3 1920 from the law firm of McAdoo, Cotton & Franklin, to the Board of Review, which reads:

We have your letter of the 1st inst. advising us that a hearing has been arranged in the above matter for Friday, Sept. 10 at 10 a. m.

In view of the fact that Mr. W. G. McAdoo, who had charge of this case, will be out of the city on that date, we request that, if possible, the hearing be postponed until the next regular meeting of the board, which we understand will take place Sept. 24.

Amended Complaint Filed by the Government in Suit to Cancel Elk Hills Naval Reserve Oil Leases.

Edward C. Finney, acting Secretary of the Interior during a temporary absence of Secretary Fall, was named in an amended complaint filed in Federal Court, on April 25 at Los Angeles, in the Government's suit to cancel Elk Hills Naval Reserve oil leases granted the Pan-American Petroleum Co. and the Pan-American Petroleum and Transport Co. The amended complaint, which adds 160 acres to the approximately 32,000 acres now held under receivership pending outcome of the litigation, alleges that Finney delivered to the Pan-American Petroleum and Transport Co. a letter conferring upon the company "an especially valuable right to a lease to lands then known to contain great and valuable deposits of petroleum," and later arranged the details of the lease with an officer of the company. "The letter," the complaint continues, "was written with the intent that said land should be acquired by the defendant secretly, without competitive bidding and without right or authority in the officers of the United States who executed the same." The additional quarter section covered by the alleged Finney lease is the northeast quarter of section 3, township 31, south, range 24 east, and is known as "Lease K."

Senator George Says There is No Two-Year Limitation Against Members of Congress Accepting Federal Cases.

Senator George of Georgia told the Senate on April 25 that the statutes did not bar members of the House or Senate from practicing before Government departments within two years after they left office and receiving fees for their services. The statement of Senator George was in connection with the transmission to the Senate on April 19, in response to a resolution by Senator Norris, Republican of Nebraska, of the names of former Senators Hoke Smith of Georgia and James Hamilton Lewis of Illinois and former Secretary McAdoo of the Treasury. Senator George declared later that he did not believe any of those mentioned had violated the law. In the course of his remarks Senator George said:

There is no two-year provision forbidding Senators or members of the House of Representatives to receive fees in connection with representing clients before the departments after their retirement from office.

I think the statement should be made in justice to the names of former members of the Senate and of the House of Representatives who have been reported by the various departments as having appeared before the several departments within two years after expiration of their terms of office.

Senator George read the statutes and asked that they be inserted in the record as follows:

Whoever, being elected or appointed a Senator, member of or delegate to Congress, or a Resident Commissioner, shall, after his election or appointment and either before or after he has qualified, and during his continuance in office, or being the head of a department or other officer or clerk in the employ of the United States, shall directly or indirectly receive or agree to receive any compensation whatever for any services rendered or to be rendered to any person, either by himself or another, in relation to any proceeding, contract, claim, controversy, charge, accusation, arrest or other matter or thing in which the United States is a party, or directly or indirectly interested, before any department, court-martial, bureau officer or any civil, military or naval commission whatever, shall be fined not more than \$10,000 and imprisoned not more than two years; and shall, moreover, thereafter be incapable of holding any office of honor, trust or profit under the Government of the United States. (35 Stat. L. 1109, 7 Fed. Stat. Ann. 659.)

It shall not be lawful for any person appointed after the first day of June, 1872, as an officer, clerk or employe in any of the departments to act as counsel, attorney or agent for prosecuting any claim against the United States which was pending in either of said departments while he was such officer, clerk or employe, nor in any manner nor by any means to aid in the prosecution of any such claims, within two years next after he shall have ceased to be such officer, clerk or employe. (2 Fed. Stat. Ann. Sec. 190.)

Mitsui & Co.'s Letter Denying Testimony Before Senate Committee of Charges Made by Gaston B. Means and Others in Connection with Air Craft Cases.

Mitsui & Co., Ltd., 65 Broadway, who were mentioned by Gaston B. Means and other witnesses recently appearing before the Brookhart Committee of the Senate in connection with the investigation of the Department of Justice, issued on April 5 an unqualified denial of the charges made against the company, offering to submit their books and tendering personal services, or those of their counsel, to the committee. The denial and offer were contained in a letter signed by Shigeji Tajima, New York Manager of the company, which was sent to Senator Smith W. Brookhart and the other members of the Daugherty committee. The Manager summed up the situation by stating that Standard Aero and Aircraft corporations were devoted exclusively to the production of airplanes for the United States Government, and that Mitsui & Co. financed the company and received in ex-

change only 6.7% interest on the money, and "no profits whatsoever." The letter follows:

New York, April 4 1924.

Hon. Smith W. Brookhart, Chairman, Daugherty Investigating Committee, United States Senate, Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir—It has been reported in the press that Gaston B. Means, a witness called before your committee upon the investigation of Attorney-General Daugherty, testified that he received from a Japanese, who stated that he represented Mitsui & Co., the sum of \$100,000, and that he turned this sum over to Jesse Smith. In some of the newspaper accounts it is stated that it was Jesse Smith who informed Means that the sum had been received from Mitsui & Co. As the opportunity to meet this testimony may not be afforded to us, or may be postponed for some time, I deem it proper at this time to make an emphatic and comprehensive denial of the truth of the statement made by Mr. Means. I also deny with equal emphasis the statement reported to have been made by Mr. Means that Mitsui & Co. has ever acted, directly or indirectly, as paymaster for the German Government, or has received or disbursed money for the account of that Government. The same may be said with reference to the Japanese Government. We never have acted as the fiscal agents of that Government in this country.

Makes an Unqualified Denial.

I am the manager of Mitsui & Co. at its principal office in this country, which is in this city, and I am consequently familiar with every detail of its financial transactions. If there had been any such payment as that mentioned by Mr. Means, it would certainly have come to my attention, and of course would have been reflected in the accounts of the company. I am, therefore, able to assert without qualification that no such transaction was ever authorized or ever took place. No sum of money was ever paid to Mr. Means or to anyone else connected with the Department of Justice, or with any other department of the Government, in connection with the Standard Aircraft transactions. This may be confirmed by an examination of our books, which you are at liberty to make at any time.

Mitsui & Co. held the preferred stock of the Standard Aircraft Corporation, and that corporation was indebted to it for money advanced to an amount of nearly \$2,000,000. After a settlement of pending contracts with the Government on June 24 1919, the corporation was dissolved and out of the moneys received from the Government Mitsui & Co. received from the corporation the par amount of the preferred stock, in addition to the amount of the indebtedness for the advances above referred to, with interest. The representatives of the Government asserted that, upon the establishment of the claim against the aircraft corporation, they proposed to procure reimbursement from Mitsui & Co. for the amounts so received. The claim against the aircraft corporation was first asserted through the Air Service Bureau of the War Department in June 1921.

This situation made it necessary for Mitsui & Co. to see to it that a suitable defense was made to the claim of the Government.

Auditors of the Government made an examination of the books, accounts and vouchers of the Standard Aircraft Corporation. Over thirty persons were occupied upon this audit for a period of about five months. The report of the audit was furnished to us and the auditors of the receiver of the Standard Aircraft Corporation were engaged many months in examining the conclusions of the Government auditors and were able to show that the report of the Government auditors was so full of inaccuracies and mistakes as to be practically worthless. Upon the reports of the auditors of the Government and of the receiver of the Standard Aircraft Corporation protracted hearings were had before a board of five members in the Air Service, Liquidation Branch, Finance Section, of the War Department. Elaborate briefs were submitted to the board and the whole matter involved consideration of voluminous documentary evidence. The record of these hearings is, of course, a matter of public record available to your committee. The brief submitted by our counsel, Messrs. Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft, was printed and dealt with every aspect of the claim. It is a document of 260 printed pages, and I beg herewith to hand to your committee a copy of it.

Dealt with War Department.

At no time since the claim was asserted have we or our counsel appeared before or had any communication with any representative of the Department of Justice. If that department has been consulted concerning the merits of the claim of the Government or our defense, it has been without our knowledge, although some quite indefinite rumors came to us at one time that the department was making some kind of an investigation. But so far as we are concerned, in February 1922, and ever since, the matter has been in the charge of officials of the War Department.

Some mention was made in the testimony of the witness Means of statements made by Harry B. Mingle, a former President of the Standard Aircraft Corporation. Mr. Mingle was not familiar with the details of the claim of the Government. The Standard Aircraft Corporation had been dissolved, and as one of its liquidating trustees he had possession of its records and books. He early assumed an attitude of antagonism to Mitsui & Co. As neither he nor the dissolved corporation had the sources to present a proper defense, it became necessary for Mitsui & Co. to cause steps to be taken to procure from Mr. Mingle the custody of the books, papers and records of the corporation which were in his possession. A suit in equity in this State was, therefore, commenced and resulted in the appointment of a receiver, Mr. Wilson M. Powell, who was represented before the War Department Board by our counsel, Messrs. Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft, who have been ever since in charge of the matter. The controversy which led to the termination of all control by Mr. Mingle will appear from the bill of complaint and affidavits in the equity suit, a copy of which I beg herewith to hand you.

Captain Scaife, who was a witness before your committee, made certain statements which I desire to correct. He is evidently incorrectly informed as to the proceeding in the War Department, which I have accurately described above. If the committee desires to advise itself as to the condition of the audits referred to by Captain Scaife, we presume that they will be produced by the War Department upon request.

Captain Scaife is reported to have said that a Mr. or Major Coleman, who was a disbursing officer in the Air Service when considerable sums were paid upon the contracts of the Standard Aircraft Corporation, was in the employ of Mitsui & Co. at the time the audit referred to by him was made. This statement is entirely without foundation. Mr. Coleman was never in the employ of Mitsui & Co. I never heard of him.

The newspapers reported that Mr. Lane made a number of statements in regard to the amounts paid by the Government to the Standard Aircraft Corporation on account of depreciation and raw material. His statements are not true. For example, the statement that the asset account of Standard Aircraft Corporation included a loss of \$1,619,000, sustained by Mitsui in financing the Sloane Manufacturing Co., is wholly without foundation. The exact facts appear in detail in the audit prepared for the receiver of the Standard Aircraft Corporation and filed in the War Department. They are discussed in considerable detail in the enclosed printed brief, filed with the War Department.

To sum up the whole situation, we wish to call the attention of your committee to the fact that the Standard Aero and Aircraft Corporations were devoted exclusively to the production of airplanes for the United States Government and that they were financed by Mitsui & Co. out of their own resources, and that Mitsui furnished all the necessary working capital and received in return only the money which it had invested in and advanced to the corporations with 6% interest and absolutely no profit whatsoever. This is not a case where any war profits were received. All production was under the strict supervision of the United States Government officials. The employees were all Americans, and Mitsui only aided in furnishing the capital because it wanted to be of some assistance to the United States and Allies in winning the war.

If I or any other person connected with Mitsui & Co. or the counsel for ourselves or for the receiver can be of assistance to you in a further investigation of this matter I shall be glad to have you call upon us.

Yours very truly,

SHIGEJI TAJIMA.

Charles R. Forbes Pleads Not Guilty to Indictment in Baltimore.

Charles R. Forbes, former Director of the Veterans Bureau, who recently was indicted with others in Chicago and subsequently in Baltimore, appeared voluntarily in the Federal District Court at Baltimore on April 25 and pleaded not guilty to an indictment returned against him by a Federal Grand Jury in that city charging conspiracy to defraud the Government. Bail was set at \$10,000 and was furnished by Oscar Ricketts of Washington. No date was set for the trial. After the brief proceedings Forbes, accompanied by his counsel and bondsman, left for Washington. Nathan Thomson, head of the Thomson-Kelly Co. of New York, and Commander Charles R. O'Leary, U. S. N., indicted jointly with Forbes, will be arraigned later.

Indictments charging conspiracy to defraud the United States were returned on April 16 at Baltimore by the Federal Grand Jury for Maryland against Charles R. Forbes, Charles R. O'Leary, former Assistant Director of the Bureau and Chief of the Supply Division, and Nathan Thomson, President of the Thomson & Kelly Co. of Boston. The indictment alleges that a contract bearing Forbes's signature disposed of more than \$3,000,000 worth of supplies to the Thomson & Kelly Co. for slightly less than \$600,000. These goods were part of the stores on the Government reserve at Perryville, Md., which experts are said to have appraised at \$5,000,000, or 40 cents on the dollar, as against the alleged price of 19 cents on the dollar to the Thomson & Kelly Co. The indictment declares that the conspiracy was formed to sell the Thomson & Kelly Co. great quantities of supplies, sheets, towels, cotton duck, blankets, shirts, bandages, surgical dressings and other goods to the value of \$5,000,000 at "less than one-fifth of value." The indictment charges that the defendants would represent falsely that the property was unserviceable and used, whereas, in point of fact, it was, in the main, serviceable, unused and the same kind of property which the United States was at the same time buying in large quantities and paying for at the full market price. It is further charged that the defendants "would falsely represent that the price agreed to be paid by Nathan Thomson for the property was the best bid or proposal of the said Charles R. Forbes had secured for the sale of the property." The indictment then continues:

And, in order to further effect the object of the unlawful conspiracy, combination and confederation, Charles R. Forbes and Charles R. O'Leary at Perryville, Md., between the 15th day of November 1922 and the 28th day of January 1923, delivered to Thomson & Kelly Co., at the request of Nathan Thomson, of the said property to the extent of 155 railroad freight cars filled therewith, of which Nathan Thomson represented that the invoice price to the United States Veterans' Bureau to be \$3,188,250 75 and for which the Thomson & Kelly Co., by the direction of Nathan Thomson, paid to the United States \$598,149 62, contrary to statute.

The indictments came at the end of a two-day investigation by the Federal Grand Jury for the Maryland District and followed an investigation conducted by the United States Senate. In prosecuting the matter Federal Attorney Amos W. Woodstock acted under orders direct from Washington.

American Newspaper Publishers' Association Condemns Proposed Increase in Second-Class Mail Rates Recommended by Postmaster-General New.

A resolution condemning the recommendations of Postmaster-General New proposing further increases in postage on second-class mail was adopted by the American Newspaper Publishers' Association at the April 24 session of its annual convention held in New York. The resolution read:

Whereas, The present postal rates for the transportation of the second-class mails are burdensome and oppressive, and

Whereas, The so-called zone postal rates alone of the eleven war revenue measures of 1917 have been maintained by Congress on the war basis, and all other war revenue measures have been repealed or modified, therefore be it

Resolved, That this convention hereby endorses the program outlined in the report of the Committee on Second-Class Postage, and be it further

Resolved, That this convention emphatically condemns the recommendations of the Postmaster-General dated April 4 1924, suggesting that further burdens be imposed upon the second-class mails.

S. E. Thomason, of the Chicago "Tribune," Chairman of the Association's Committee on Second-Class Postage, gave out a statement on April 24 in which he said, according to the New York "Evening Post":

The attitude of the convention is that there should be no additional loading up of second-class mail rates. We decided that it is time for us to get up on our hind legs and raise a protest in view of the plan to advance those rates.

The proposed increase would add about 20% to the mailing overhead of the daily newspapers in this country. The Post Office does not know and never has known the cost of handling and sending out second-class mail, but an investigation would show that it is the only class of mail that pays for itself. So why increase it?

Another thing: newspapers in sending out copies through second-class mail do most of the work. As a matter of fact the individual who sends a newspaper by first-class mail causes the Government far more trouble than we do. I like to emphasize that express companies are coming for our business and that some of them charge only 50 cents a hundred pounds where the Government charges a dollar and a half.

Another thing: the basis of the present second-class mail rates was made in 1917 under the War Revenue Act and other taxes were proposed at that time, and all of these have been decreed excepting the second-class mail rates.

According to the New York "Times" the report of Mr. Thomason's committee contained the following paragraphs bearing upon Postmaster-General New's recommendations of April 4, which were condemned in the resolution:

On April 4 the Postmaster-General addressed a communication to Senator Edge, Chairman of the joint Subcommittee on Post Offices and Post Roads, in which he insisted that the increases in salaries suggested by the bills referred to would have to be made by increases in postal revenues and postal rates. Among other increases, he suggested an increase in second-class rates, which he declared would net approximately \$5,000,000.

Magazine Zones Ignored.

His suggestion provided for increases in the first four postal zones—1½ cents a pound in the first zone, 1¼ cents a pound in the second and third zones, and ¼ cent a pound in the fourth zone.

How and why the Postmaster-General determined to obtain his increased revenues solely in this zone, in which the bulk of newspaper circulation falls, ignoring the zones in which magazines only circulate, is not made apparent in his communication.

The National Publishers' Association and a number of other organizations of publishers immediately attacked the Kelly-Edge bill editorially, and your committee was urged to press upon members of the American Newspaper Publishers' Association the same course. Your Vice-Chairman and your committee, together with members of the New York publishers' committee, met in Washington April 18 with the Postmaster-General. The Postmaster-General informed your committee that in view of the editorial support accorded by newspapers to the Kelly-Edge bill the newspapers should expect to bear a portion of the cost of postal wage increases.

In the opinion of your committee, the question of increases in rates of pay to postal employees and the question of the propriety of present high second-class rates are in no manner associated. We recommend that our association shall not be sidetracked in its effort to secure fair and lower second-class rates by discussion of the propriety of postal employees' compensation. We can see no useful purpose in opposition to the Paige and Kelly-Edge bills. In our judgment, this is a question for the Postal Departments and Congress to determine for themselves free from any interference on our part.

Huston Thompson in Testimony Before the Senate Committee Investigating Department of Justice Says Failure to Prosecute Price-Fixing Suits Has Contributed to High Building Costs and Rents.

The Brookhart Committee of the Senate, which for the past several weeks has been investigating the Department of Justice during the incumbency of office of Harry M. Daugherty, resumed its inquiry this week, devoting the large part of its hearings to testimony on defaulted anti-trust prosecutions which come within the province of the Department of Justice. One of the principal witnesses who have appeared before the committee in connection with this phase of its inquiry during the current week and last week has been Huston Thompson, Chairman of the Federal Trade Commission. Mr. Thompson charged that the Department of Justice under Mr. Daugherty failed to take action against several alleged price-fixing combinations operating in restraint of trade and in violation of the anti-trust laws. The committee, on April 25, for instance, inquired into the charge that there had been failure to prosecute wholesale stationers' associations on evidence submitted by the Federal Trade Commission. Chairman Thompson of the Federal Trade Commission and several other witnesses were heard. Subsequently, on April 30, Chairman Thompson told the committee that in case after case of trade associations fixing prices and controlling productions submitted by the Commission the Department of Justice failed to act. He declared his belief that the restriction of production and the fixing of prices could not be stopped unless criminal

prosecutions were brought and some of the offenders were sent to jail. A discussion of what ought to be done in a constructive effort to bring about a more satisfactory state of affairs from the viewpoint of the consumer was started when Senator Wheeler, the committee's "prosecutor," asked Mr. Thompson if he had any suggestions to make concerning additional legislation. "There is no necessity for further legislation if criminal prosecutions are brought," Mr. Thompson replied. "There is sufficient law on the statute books now to break any trade association which is engaged in price regulation or the restriction of production." Chairman Brookhart asked if the recent decision of the Supreme Court of the United States in the so-called tobacco cases, which made records and files of corporations unavailable to the Commission, did not seriously handicap efforts to obtain information against these corporations. "Very much so," replied Mr. Thompson.

Huston Thompson had previously appeared on April 22 before the Brookhart Committee. He charged that failure of the Attorney-General to prosecute various price-fixing groups in the lumber industry had been responsible in a large measure for the high cost of home building as well as high rent. He laid before the committee further evidence to support his testimony that anti-trust cases were not properly prosecuted under Attorney-General Daugherty after facts warranting legal action had been developed by the Commission and turned over to the Justice Department. Turning from conditions in the tobacco industry, which he had described at length the preceding day, the Commission Chairman related how he and his colleagues uncovered "price fixing" and "coercive measures" among lumber producers in an investigation beginning in 1919. The results of this inquiry, he said, were laid before the Justice Department before Mr. Daugherty took office. Suit against the Southern Pine Association was instituted in the closing days of the Wilson Administration, he declared, but "has remained in status quo ever since and now rests in the District Court at Kansas City." The Southern Pine Association, Mr. Thompson explained, included most of the large manufacturers of that commodity. "There is price fixing going on now in the country such as I've never seen before," said Mr. Thompson. He expressed the view that "jail sentences on criminal prosecutions were the only solution." W. B. Wooden, Federal Trade Commission examiner, who directed the Commission's 1919-20 investigation of the lumber situation, followed Chairman Thompson on the stand and said he had been convinced there were "criminal violations" in the West Coast Lumber Association. Price-fixing operations of the West Coast association, he said, affected lumber users "as far east as the Mississippi." Regarding Mr. Thompson's testimony, the New York "Times" accounts had the following to say:

Mr. Thompson testified at the outset of the hearing that lumber prices were considerably higher to-day than they were during the war, although somewhat lower than during the runaway market just after the armistice. All of the actions which the Federal Trade Commission had been able to bring against lumber interests, said Mr. Thompson, had been ineffectual in the fight to break up price fixing combinations, and he added that the Department of Justice under Mr. Daugherty failed to bring criminal actions.

Senator Wheeler throughout the hearing sought to emphasize the point that the alleged delinquency of the Department of Justice had hit directly at the pocketbooks of the home builders and to this Chairman Thompson agreed.

"Price fixing is going on in this country such as I have never seen before," said Mr. Thompson.

"Isn't it true that this is done because there hasn't been an attempt since Mr. Daugherty came into power, no effort on the part of the Government to prosecute?" demanded Senator Wheeler.

"I do not know how we are going to meet the situation unless some one is prosecuted," replied Mr. Thompson. "The Federal Trade Commission has exposed the situation and can order the companies to cease their illegal activities. But what we have been able to do has not been sufficient to stop these activities."

"You think," asked Senator Wheeler, "that in addition there should be prosecutions and jail sentences to stop this increase in prices of the necessities of life?"

"I think that is wholly true," said Mr. Thompson. Mr. Thompson discussed among other cases that involving the Southern Pine Association. He said that the Federal Trade Commission had uncovered "price fixing" and other employment of "coercive measures" among lumber producers.

Mr. Thompson said that the investigation of the Southern Pine Association and other lumber interests was started in 1919 at the request of the Department of Justice and that the first reports were made by the Commission before Mr. Daugherty came into office.

Suit against the Southern Pine Association, said Mr. Thompson, was started in the closing days of the Wilson Administration. It was not pushed by Mr. Daugherty, he said, and now rests in the United States District Court at Kansas City.

"The investigation as we reported it to the Department of Justice," said Mr. Thompson, "showed price fixing and price regulation and production restriction by different groups of the Southern Pine Association and coercive measures toward various concerns to make them work in co-operation with the association. There were 14 organizations in different parts of the country. We made investigations of them all."

Retention of Section 15a of Transportation Act Urged By Milton W. Harrison.

Speaking in support of the retention of Section 15a of the Railroad Transportation Act, Milton W. Harrison, Vice-President of the National Association of Owners of Railroad Securities, in an address before the Lions Club, New Britain, Conn., on April 29 said in part:

You all doubtless have shared some apprehension in respect to probable action by Congress in repealing the financial provisions of the Transportation Act.

We, in the Mutual Savings banks, have seen the average value of our highest grade railroad bonds range from 95.51 to 66.82 in the period of ten years, from 1913 to 1923, making it difficult to maintain a proper ratio of surplus to deposits, in spite of the fact that our earnings on bond and mortgage and other investments have been uniformly good.

We are interested in sustaining the financial provisions of the Transportation Act as described in Section 15A of that Act, for the reason that we believe it will aid in giving us permanent relief from the unstable condition in our assets which I have just described.

Before the Transportation Act was passed and before Federal control of railroads, the carriers were under two very practical difficulties in their effort to secure adequate revenues.

First, the carriers were under regulation as to rates by forty-eight State commissions and one Federal commission, always in conflict.

Second, the method of regulating rates before Federal control constituted what Senator Cummins declared to be the "insoluble problem" in the railroad situation. If the commission made rates to provide a reasonable return to the minority or stronger carriers, the rates would be insufficient to permit the existence of the majority or weaker carriers. This fact was borne out by the numerous railroad receiverships in the decade prior to Federal control. On the other hand, if the commission made rates so as to provide a reasonable return to the majority or weaker carriers, such rates would be so large for the minority or stronger carriers so as to make such return too large. Now, the majority or weaker carriers who serve sparsely settled territory are just as important in the public interest as are the stronger carriers who serve densely populated areas. Railroad transportation in Inter-State Commerce is not like a private industry. There can be no conceivable parallel. Congress since the Constitution was established has had power over Inter-State Commerce, and hence the regulation of the carriers is a fundamental part of our national life. Railroad transportation is primarily a national public service.

We contend that Section 15A cured these two difficulties. The United States Supreme Court confirms this belief. Section 15A, in its operation, forbids the functioning of State commissions as to railroad rates in Inter-State Commerce. Hence the "Forty-Nine Bosses" which tended to strangle the railroads before Federal control, is a thing of the past. On the other hand, Senator Cummins' "insoluble problem" has been solved by Section 15A. It has placed rate making upon a scientific basis by mandate from Congress to the Inter-State Commerce Commission, whereby the commission must base its making of rates on the value of railroad property in groups, specifically treating railroad transportation as a national system. This process of rate making to be entered into after the commission has declared what is a reasonable rate of return on the value of railroad property. Moreover, when any individual carrier has made a net return on its individual property value, that is, before fixed charges, in excess of 6%, one-half of such excess remains with the carrier and the other half is paid by the carrier into a General Railroad Contingent Fund to be used by the Government for the benefit of transportation as a whole, not as is generally misunderstood, for the weaker carriers. Now, when we consider that 6% return on railroad property value, for illustration, to the Lackawanna, means an equivalent to an amount considerably in excess of 6% of Common stock because the capitalization of the Lackawanna is relatively low, and the outstanding bonded indebtedness bears a considerably less than a 6% average coupon rate, it is by no means unfair to the Lackawanna for one-half of the excess of 6% to be recaptured by the Government. In respect to this matter which is not well understood, the Supreme Court in its unanimous decision declaring that this recaptured clause is constitutional, contends that the Government's division of the excess theoretically never belongs to the railroad, but is held as a trust fund, the practical purpose being to equalize the rate structure between the stronger and the weaker carriers, thus permitting the weaker carriers a living return and permitting a return for the stronger or minority carriers that will be reasonably consistent with public policy.

So, therefore, it is highly important that Congress does not break down this pre-eminently constructive legislation. We, as security owners, through the National Association of Owners of Railroad Securities, have stood solidly behind the Act and have made every effort to sustain it. There are certain other things still incompletely which will make this financial provision function more satisfactorily to the shipper and the investor. There are considerable savings that may be instituted by the joint use of operating facilities of all the carriers in interchange business. The institution of these larger savings will enable the railroad to satisfy the shipping public with reduced rates and at the same time will not impair an adequate rate of return which will serve to support the stability of railroad security market values. Fortunately, the railroads have agreed to appoint a committee of unprejudiced experts who will for the first time fairly analyze the constructive suggestions made by the security owners' association which were amply authenticated as to their practicability by a Board of Experts who studied every phase of the question. We believe that with the fair-minded attitude of the railroads in approaching an analysis of these constructive suggestions, there will be the dawn of a new day in the stability of our railroad investment and in the practical rehabilitation of the railroad credit.

Tidal Wave of Worthless Securities Nation-Wide, Says Samuel H. Beach at Eastern District Savings Conference.

Prosperity has brought a nation-wide tidal wave of speculative and worthless securities, Samuel H. Beach, President of the Rome Savings Bank of Rome, N. Y., told the Eastern District Savings Conference at its meeting in New York on April 25. Further reference to the conference is made in another item in this issue. Mr. Beach said:

The increasing opportunity for the sale of securities to small investors, the augmented incomes of the well-to-do and the general condition of prosperity with high wages and high prices, have brought a tidal wave, seemingly nation-wide in extent, of highly speculative and worthless securities. To

protect its depositors from loss by ill considered investment of savings, generally accumulated by long years of self denial, is an ever present duty of the officers of every savings bank and is one especially important at this time.

The demand for so-called Blue Sky legislation to render less harmful the interviews between the voluble, high pressure salesman and the uninformed wage earner, comes from many quarters and is both insistent and persistent; but the seemingly insurmountable difficulty of framing legislation which will bar the offering for sale of all classes of worthless securities and will not at the same time seriously hinder and handicap the marketing of absolutely sound and desirable investment offerings, has thus far blocked remedial legislation along this line—with the exception of the increasingly effective Martin Law passed in New York State some two years ago. The education of the masses by both personal effort and newspaper publicity remains the best and in many States apparently the only way to safeguard guard their savings.

Generally speaking, any person who has accumulated not over \$5,000 is fully warranted in believing if he leaves his money in a savings bank, that he will be very much more certain ten years hence of having his principal fully intact and, with the added compound interest, that he will then have more money actually in hand than if he had invested it in higher interest bearing securities with the probable occasional losses of principal incident thereto.

Surprising ability to make poor investments is by no means confined to people of small means for it is a notorious fact that the "tin box" of nearly every deceased millionaire is found to contain a considerable proportion of nearly or absolutely worthless securities. The losses of this latter class need give us no cause for worry but the very fact that intelligent, well-informed, rich men do make many bad investments only deepens my conviction that no one is warranted in making investments of a speculative character until the income from his capital exceeds what it costs him to live, and then only the excess of income over living expenses should be used for this character of investment.

If any one, whose entire worldly wealth consists of \$5,000 or less, should ask me how that money should be invested, and I should accede to his request, that money of his, so far as I was concerned, would be just as much a trust fund as though I had been duly appointed to administer it by a court and I would therefore be morally bound not to advise its investment in any security excepting those in which trust funds can be legally invested.

This does not take care of the investor who may be well off and still seeks our advice. If such there be let him go for advice to those whose business it is, to the investment bankers, to his trusted attorney or to the head of the securities department of his commercial bank. I do not hesitate to contend that it is no part of the regular job of an officer of a savings bank, or the head of the interest or savings department of a commercial bank, to take upon himself the responsibility of giving advice to other than legitimate savings depositors.

Annual Convention of American Institution of Banking to be Held in Baltimore July 15.

In anticipation of the annual convention of the American Institution of Banking at Baltimore, beginning July 15, New York Chapter has appointed the following committee to make the necessary arrangements: George W. Wright, Assistant Secretary of the Bowery Savings Bank, Chairman; with Gerald E. Cristie of Blodgett & Co., and Arthur W. Sauer of the Williamsburgh Savings Bank. Convention headquarters for the New York delegation will be at the Hotel Emerson, and it is expected that probably two hundred members of New York Chapter will make the trip to Baltimore, including in addition to the regular business and educational program, trips on Chesapeake Bay, to the Naval Academy at Annapolis, and a day or two as guests of Washington Chapter in the nation's capital.

Annual Meeting of Chamber of Commerce of the United States in Cleveland Next Week—European Readjustment to Be Discussed.

A distinguished company of speakers will discuss outstanding national and international economic problems at the annual meeting of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, to be held at Cleveland next week, May 6 to 8. The major topics to which the convention will give its attention are "Business and Agriculture," "European Readjustment" and "The Responsibility and Integrity of Business." Among the speakers who will address general sessions of the convention are: Sir Esme Howard, British Ambassador; Secretary of Commerce Hoover; Secretary of the Navy Wilbur; Newton D. Baker, former Secretary of War; Frank O. Lowden, former Governor of Illinois; Julius H. Barnes, President of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States; General Herbert M. Lord, Director of the Budget; Colonel George T. Buckingham, Chicago; Judge Edwin B. Parker, umpire of the German-American Mixed Claims Commission; Dwight B. Heard, President of the National Livestock Association, Phoenix, Ariz.; and John W. O'Leary, Vice-President of the Chicago Trust Co.

Delegations representing the 1,200 member organizations of the National Chamber, with an underlying membership of 750,000, will attend the convention, and in addition to the subjects to be considered at the general sessions will discuss current problems of business policy and practice at special group sessions.

An invitation has been extended by the Chamber to General Charles G. Dawes, Owen D. Young and Henry M. Robinson, the American members of the expert committees which have just completed their reports to the Reparations

Commission, to attend the general session, which will take up the question of "European Readjustment." This phase of the program promises to be one of the most interesting features of the meeting. In a statement Julius H. Barnes, President of the National Chamber, said:

There is hopeful progress in Europe toward working out of the logical settlement of the menace of reparations and allied problems.

After five years of pleading that the settlement be constructed on sound economic principles which business learns through trial and error, and under actual test and experience, there has finally been constructed an opportunity for co-operative team play between business and government. It is a matter of considerable pride that the principles which underlie a settlement, if achieved in Europe, will be principles applied by the business judgment of the world, participated in by America and outlined in the declaration of the economic conference at Rome in March 1923. In this conference the American formula was unanimously adopted by the representatives of twenty-six countries of Europe, after days of consideration, and the declaration of principles effective in such a settlement made their way to this final promising adoption by the very logic which carried conviction.

European readjustment which accomplishes financial and political stability will mark the resumption of advancing living standards on the part of the three hundred million people of Europe, whose social progress has been obstructed for ten years by war, and the resultant indeterminate peace. There is a great significance to America, with its process in attained leadership in industrial methods in reaching that stability which will revive the individual earning power in Europe, expand the currents of trade and commerce, once more establish the merchant, the importer and the exporter on a scale which a vast world trade will justify. This promises something to both agriculture and the processes of industry in America.

Regional Meetings of American Bankers Association— Eastern District Savings Conference.

At the Eastern District Savings Conference, held in New York at the Hotel Commodore on April 24 and 25 under the auspices of the Savings Bank Division of the American Bankers Association, Herbert K. Twitchell, President of the Seamen's Bank for Savings of New York, expressed the hope that the deliberations of the convention "will send us back to our respective institutions better equipped than ever so to present the lesson of thrift that idle ten dollar gold pieces now in hiding will be put to work and the thriftless and careless be led to appreciate the necessity of preparing for the day when their earning power will cease." Mr. Twitchell, who delivered the address of welcome to the delegates, also said:

We are not bent on money making for money making's sake. We are not working for increased dividends to stockholders. We are aiming to transfer those who are spendthrifts and thereby public enemies to the thrifty class who are public benefactors.

A Government report makes this startling statement: A record of 100 average men at 25 years taken 40 years later (at 65 years of age) would show 36 dead, 1 rich, 3 comfortably well off, 6 earning a living and 54 dependent upon friends or relief agencies. I am not concerned that out of the 64 remaining at 65, only one is rich. To my mind it is somewhat misleading for us savings bankers to lay great stress on savings as a road to great wealth. I am concerned, however, that more than four-fifths of those living at 65 out of every 100 able bodied men starting at 25, are dependent upon others for support. Does this not constitute a challenge to those who are engaged in promoting thrift and savings? What vigorous, full blooded young man of 25 would contemplate for a moment the possibility of losing his independence at 65 and depending on the support of friends or charity? Should these facts not quicken us in our efforts to impress upon the young manhood and young womanhood of our country the necessity of laying foundations of thrift upon which to build independence and protection in later years?

Eighty-three years ago a ten-dollar gold piece was given to a little girl by a rich uncle. She kept it as an heirloom for fifty years. After her death, the gold piece was left to another favorite niece who recently died. This gold piece was left to another little girl whose father suggested that it was about time that this ten dollars was put to work—that it had been loafing long enough. This practical man had figured out that had this gold piece been put to work by the first little girl, it would now be worth \$1,200.

I wonder if we realize how much the future, not only of our country but of nations as well, depends upon the carrying out of the principles of thrift and economy. As we try to prognosticate the business future we find ourselves asking these questions:

Has building been overdone and have too many people bought houses at high prices with too little margin of savings invested if values should begin to crumble?

Has the wheat farmer enough margin to carry him to another crop?

Is the laborer with present high wages saving a proportionate share of his income?

Is the tremendous credit being granted by automobile companies going to prove a menace to our future prosperity?

When we look further afield to the settlement of international questions, we are impressed with the fact that their solution rests largely upon financial adjustments and that these adjustments depend largely upon the thrift and economy of the people of the respective nations and their willingness to bear taxation burdens sufficient to wipe out gradually war debts, furnish capital needed to revive industry, and meet the expense involved in the repair of devastated regions.

David Gibbs, Superintendent of Schools, Meriden, Conn., spoke on "School Savings from the Educator's Viewpoint." He said:

Schools are concerned primarily with training every child in that knowledge and in those habits, skills and virtues essential to his becoming an intelligent, law-abiding, loyal and constructive citizen. Thrift, resulting in the possession of property and of money, stabilizes character, arouses ambitions for larger service in life, increases happiness, provides better homes, counteracts Bolshevism and other forces destructive of the common weal. Instruction in thrift has, therefore, such an important place in the training of the future citizen that it should be included in the curricula, and every child in the country should have the advantage of such instruction.

The schools must have the co-operation and support of the bankers. Precept and book study are of little value without actual experience and practice. The saving and expenditure of money gives a tangible and easily understandable basis for wider application of the ideal of thrift.

The great progress made in establishing school savings throughout the country shows not only a desire for such co-operation, but also a realization of the future financial and civic importance of this movement. It should be so extended that every child in the nation shall have the opportunity to open a saving account through his school, or directly with a bank, or by mail where no bank is available, not so much for the money that may be immediately saved as for training. In the Meriden schools the second week after the opening of the school banks 96% of the total enrollment, including kindergartens, had opened accounts. It was 98% for the year 1923 and has since averaged weekly 99%.

The banker's viewpoint was presented by William G. Roelker, Vice-President Industrial Trust Co., Providence, R. I., who said in part:

There is now hardly a city or town in the State without its juvenile savings depositors. There are three very tangible benefits to the bank. One is in the direct association of the bank with the project. Everybody in the State, from the members of the School Commission to the youngest and most timid new pupil, knows the school bank. Our passbooks are in about 25,000 Rhode Island homes.

The second benefit to the bank is the inculcation of the savings habit in the minds of the young folks of the community. The generation that is growing up with the savings account habit is going to be a generation of savers. Let even 50% of these youngsters drop out of the ranks and you still have a huge army of thrifty, substantial men and women who prosper, build homes, rear children and become good bank customers. Advertise as much as you like, most of your business comes to you as a result of the things that people say about you. Let ten people say to each other that your bank is all right—just that moderate statement—and something has been accomplished for you. People will say that and a good deal more of the bank that has a school savings department, operated under official sanction and with the co-operation of the school authorities.

The third benefit is that of bringing up a generation friendly to the bank. You know that thousands of people either fear the bank or look upon it as a grim, cold-blooded and utterly commercial institution. Because many of them still distrust us a little, the sock, the stove and the coffee can are taking our places with a good many people. Every transaction between the school bank and the young depositors is conducted to instill the idea that the money belongs to them, and that we are merely the custodian of the funds. When they need money they find it easy to draw their funds. They become acquainted with the orderliness and security of banking procedure. They believe in us and they trust us. When they grow up they will approach us in all confidence and will do business with us without misgivings.

Ten and a half billion dollars of savings was reported for the district represented at the Eastern District Savings Conference, it was stated by Charles H. Deppe, President Savings Bank Division, American Bankers Association, who presided at the meeting which opened April 24. "When we realize that as of June 30 1923 approximately 18 billion dollars, representing almost one-half of the reported bank deposits of the country, were in savings deposits, with over 30 million depositors and a per capita savings of \$166, it places savings deposits as one of the most important factors in banking," Mr. Deppe said. He added:

In this conference district composed of the States of Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Maine, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, North Carolina and the District of Columbia, the reported savings deposits were approximately 10½ billions of dollars, a gain in the last 11 years of slightly over 100%, or a per capita gain of about 75%. The banks in this district have in savings deposits one dollar out of every one dollar and eighty cents of the total savings deposits in the United States.

Savings are primarily for investment; they assist in building houses, and in developing farms. They contribute their share in the building and equipping of railroads and financing municipal improvements. When through commercial enterprise the stability of an industry has been thoroughly established, savings has its place in the development of this branch of banking. Those in control of operations have held firmly to the thought and practice that safety of principal must primarily underlie all savings investments as distinguished from the greater risks apparent in commercial enterprises.

In the past 11 years savings have increased at the average rate of one billion dollars per year. The interest received by the savers in the United States during the year past was about seven hundred million dollars, being equal in amount to that spent by the United States Government for its ordinary expenditures for any year prior to 1913.

School savings—another product of thrift education—has developed through the direct teaching of thrift in the public schools in America. Its development has been unexpectedly rapid. Since 1920 the number of towns using school-savings systems has largely increased. At the close of last year approximately seven thousand schools with an enrollment of three million pupils reported almost two million participants with bank balances of about 12 million dollars.

It was stated at the session on April 25 that a billion dollars a year is wasted by purchasers of worthless securities, this statement being made by H. J. Kenner, Manager of the Better Business Bureau, New York, who told of the measures taken by the Bureau to combat the evil. Mr. Kenner stated:

It is believed that the money waste for the whole country due to the distribution of worthless and misrepresented securities approaches a billion dollars a year. The destructive effects are plain. Three outstanding perils menace savers and inexperienced investors. The first is the peril of money loss to the citizen who can ill afford to lose. The second is the peril of suspicion and lost confidence created by a misunderstanding of investing and by experiences with unscrupulous operators. The third is the peril of prejudice and destructive radicalism inculcated by irresponsible salesmen who, to distribute their insecure securities, spread false information about banks, banking and the general subject of finance. To quote from a piece of literature offering a "speculative investment," and circulated among savings bank depositors recently: "The banks want to stop speculation. The banks do not want the speculator to disturb his balance. They can pay three for it and peddle it out at six. But the average man wants to see his money work. He knows it will never grow unless it is exercised."

Not long ago the promoters of a motor car manufacturing company, who were indicted on a mail fraud charge, following an investigation by the national Better Business organization, reproduced in their literature, press reports of bank embezzlements and failures, under the caption, "Yet You Are Told Your Money Is Safe in the Banks." Business leaders believe that steady effort to offset these destructive influences is necessary and that business itself with customary thoroughness should do the job."

An address by Samuel H. Beach at the conference is referred to in another item in this issue.

Reginal Conferences of the American Bankers' Association were inaugurated in Kansas City, Mo. on Feb. 21, and in line with this new move, five regional meetings of the Savings Bank Division of the association were arranged. One of these was held at Los Angeles on Feb. 27 and 28, and still another at Chicago on March 19 and 20. New Orleans, Seattle and New York were the other cities chosen by the Savings Bank Division for regional meetings.

The Los Angeles regional conference comprised the States of California, Nevada, Utah, Arizona and New Mexico. The meeting at New Orleans was for Louisiana, Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina and Florida. The Chicago meeting was for Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Wyoming, Colorado, Kansas, Iowa, Missouri, Indiana, Ohio and Kentucky. The Seattle covers Washington, Idaho, Montana and Oregon. The New York meeting was for New York, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, Pennsylvania and District of Columbia. In announcing the first of the regional conferences at Kansas City on Feb. 20, Mr. Shepherd, the executive manager of the association, stated that its object was the discussion of the common problems of the American banker in regard to agriculture, the necessity of having banking and the banker better understood among the people, and the best method by which these objectives may be attained. A call to participate in the meeting was sent by Walter W. Head, President of the association, to the officers of the association and an extensive list of bankers resident in the Tenth Federal Reserve District and the entire State of Missouri active in State and national bank organization affairs. The Reserve District comprises the States of Wyoming, Nebraska, Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma, part of New Mexico, and part of Missouri. Those invited from this territory were past presidents of the American Bankers Association; members of its Executive Council; State Vice-Presidents of the American Bankers Association and its National Bank, Savings Bank, State Bank and Trust Company Divisions; State representatives of its Clearing House Section; members of its commissions and committees; and officers and agricultural committee chairmen of State bankers' associations.

Honorary guests at the conference included the following past Presidents of the Association: E. F. Swinney, 1904, President First National Bank, Kansas City, Mo.; F. O. Watts, 1910, President First National Bank, St. Louis, Mo.; P. W. Goebel, 1916, Chairman of Board Commercial National Bank, Kansas City, Kan.; and R. S. Hawes, 1919, Vice-President First National Bank, St. Louis, Mo. W. J. Bailey, Governor Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, will also be an honorary guest. The program of the conference, which was presided over by Mr. Head, follows: Morning session, address, "Public Education and the American Banker," J. H. Puelicher, Chairman Committee on Public Education of the Association, followed by discussion; "The Banker and the Public," Charles Cason, of the Public Relations Commission of the Association, discussion. Afternoon session, "The Banker and Agriculture," D. H. Otis, director Agricultural Commission of the Association, discussion; "The Banker and the A. B. A.," Tom J. Hartman, Chairman Committee on Membership, discussion. The evening session included a dinner given to those attending the conference by the Kansas Clearing House Association; Governor W. J. Bailey delivered an address.

Income Tax Ruling—Banks Crediting Depositor with Interest of \$1,000 or Over Must File Individual Return.

An important ruling affecting banks has just been issued by the Income Tax Department, according to M. L. Seidman, C.P.A., tax expert of Seidman & Seidman, certified public accountants. This ruling holds that every bank that credits a depositor with interest amounting to \$1,000 or more in any year must file individual information returns to that effect on forms 1096 and 1099. Heretofore it was

generally believed that information returns were required to be filed only by those who actually pay the interest, but the new ruling decides that the bank is as much the payer of the interest as the real borrower. Mr. Seidman points out:

The Income Tax Department realizes, however, that a strict enforcement of the ruling would make it necessary for the bank to keep detailed records of a kind never kept before, and impose an undue burden on it. The Department has therefore announced that it does not deem it necessary for the banks to maintain a record with respect to each item of interest passing through its departments. It is expected, however, that all banks will use ordinary care on such transactions and render a substantial compliance with the law.

In other words, if the bank has reason to believe that the person receiving the income is one to whom payments during the calendar year of interest on bonds will amount to \$1,000 or more, a record of payments made to that person should be maintained in order that returns on forms 1096 and 1099 may be filed not later than March 15 of the succeeding year.

Annual Meeting of Association of Reserve City Bankers—Its Origin and Development.

Outlining the development of the Association of Reserve City Bankers, at its recent annual meeting in Dallas, Craig B. Hazlewood, of Chicago, President of the Association, stated, according to the Dallas "News":

This is the twelfth annual meeting of this association, formally organized in 1921 in Chicago with a charter membership of 103, which has grown to its present membership limited to 400. Of the original 103 charter members 43 are still on its membership roll. Its informal origin was really at the Indiana Bankers Association convention the year before, when Gux Mueller, one of our real standbys, was host to a party of outside bank men who hoped to share with him the privilege of serving Indiana banks. The crowd consisted principally of convention men interested particularly in transit matters.

The organization has grown greatly in numbers and scope since that time. Assistant cashiers of that day are the vice-presidents and presidents of today. The membership now is largely composed of executive and loaning officers; men who are taking a real part in the conduct of the banking business in the United States.

It would be interesting to determine what proportion of the total deposits of American banks are represented in the banks with which our individual membership is connected. My guess would be that more than one-third, and perhaps one-half, of the banking resources of the country are represented here in our membership list.

Commercial Business Large.

It may fairly be said that our group handles a very large part of the commercial banking business of America. In those circumstances lie immensely important possibilities of this association. In my judgment we have an opportunity in this organization to do some original thinking, to conduct some really scientific symposiums on banking questions and to obtain for the published summary of our deliberations a place in the libraries of banks and colleges, and in the hands of business men, writers and economists.

I desire to hold up to you as a high ideal for this association, that it shall become a banking clinic where all may learn the best theory and the best technique of our profession.

The meeting covered three days, April 14, 15 and 16. Fred W. Shibley, Vice-President of the Bankers Trust Co., New York, gave a discussion of "The Banker's Relation to Industrial Reconstruction Since 1920." As to what he had to say, we quote as follows from the Dallas "News":

In contrast to other addresses dealing with the relations of commercial banks to business concerns suffering from financial difficulties, Mr. Shibley's address dealt with how a bank may prevent its commercial customers from getting into financial difficulties through overproduction and overexpansion.

This preventive system may be carried on through intelligent and intensive study of the bank's commercial accounts and of the industries as a whole of which they are a part. Mr. Shibley said, particularly, he declared, by learning how the manufacturing business must be conducted so as to produce a profit.

The main portion of Mr. Shibley's address was devoted to a description of a system of management control that has proved successful in industrial reorganization and has demonstrated its worth when employed by prosperous corporations. He gave an analysis of the sales dollar as a yardstick with which to measure manufacturing efficiency and to maintain a positive and economical control of operating costs, using for this purpose a series of blocks representing how much each item of cost bore to the total sales dollar. The sales dollar used in illustration was that of a large silk manufacturer in New England. The illustration showed the sales dollar made up as follows:

Raw materials.....	\$ 42.4	Power, heat, light, gas, water....	.022
Dyestuffs, supplies, &c.....	.05	Taxes.....	.033
Pay roll.....	.22	Interest.....	.006
Clerical salaries.....	.017	Selling expenses.....	.069
Salaries of officers and managers....	.017	Reinvested in business.....	.058
Repairs.....	.016	Dividends paid.....	.042
Insurance.....	.001		
Depreciation.....	.014		
			\$1.00

Many financial problems were discussed and debated and the meeting was considered one of the most successful ever held by the association. The 1925 meeting will be held in the early spring at Louisville, Ky. The following are the officers and directors elected for the ensuing year:

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| Heyward E. Boyce, President,
President Drovers & Mechanics National Bank, Baltimore, Md. | J. D. Gillespie, Vice-President Dallas National Bank, Dallas, Texas. |
| Rufus R. Clabath, Vice-President,
Vice-President Liberty Central Trust Co., St. Louis, Mo. | Roy L. Stone, Vice-President American Exchange Bank, Milwaukee, Wis. |
| Richard Bean, Secretary-Treasurer,
President, Louisville National Bank, Louisville, Ky. | Edward Buder, Vice-President The Mercantile Trust Co., St. Louis, Mo. |
| | C. W. Allendoerfer, Vice-President First National Bank, Kansas City, Mo. |
| | James Ringold, President United States National Bank, Denver, Colo. |
| | Charles H. Ayers, Vice-President Peoples State Bank, Detroit, Mich. |
| | George V. Drew, Assistant Secretary Equitable Trust Co., New York City, N. Y. |

Directors.

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|--|--|
| Craig B. Hazlewood, Vice-President Union Trust Co., Chicago, Ill. | |
| O. Howard Wolfe, Cashier Philadelphia National Bank, Philadelphia, Pa. | |

Brotherhood's Co-operative National Bank Organizing in Portland, Ore.

The Comptroller of the Currency has approved an application to organize the Brotherhood's Co-operative National Bank of Portland, Ore., with a capital of \$200,000. None of the officers has as yet been decided upon. The stock is being disposed of at \$125 per \$100 share.

Labor National Bank of Great Falls, Mont.

The second bank controlled entirely by union labor to be established in Montana was opened in Great Falls on April 4, when the majority of the stock of the Northern National Bank was turned over by former owners to the representatives of the Great Falls labor unions and the railroad labor organizations having headquarters in that city. Beginning May 15 the institution will be known as the Labor National Bank of Great Falls and its capital will be \$100,000. Of this amount the union labor forces have purchased \$70,000. The new board of directors includes two of the old directors of the Northern National, J. M. Ryan and Ben S. Hill. The new board with the official positions of each will be made up as follows: President, J. C. McDermand of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers; First Vice-President, J. M. Ryan, former President of the bank; Second Vice-President, Paul Schermerhorn of the Brotherhood of Railway Fireman; Third Vice-President, Edward Shields of the Brotherhood of Railway Conductors; Cashier, Ben S. Hill. Mr. Hill has been Cashier of the Northern National. Clarence Berg will continue as Assistant Cashier. The stock is in shares of \$100 and is being disposed of at \$125 per share. Montana's first labor bank is the Labor National Bank of Three Forks, Mont.

Organization of Board of Trade for German-American Commerce, Inc.

The Board of Trade for German-American Commerce, Inc., has been organized for the purpose of re-establishing and furthering commercial relations between the United States and Germany. Offices have been established at 60 Broadway, New York, and H. Portack, Executive Secretary, in advices to us states:

This Association will be the central body for the exchange of information in all matters pertaining to trade, industry and finance, for the widening of existing and the opening of new markets, for aid in facilitating customs and tariff matters, for arbitration of commercial disputes, for rendering assistance in all questions which tend to promote and widen friendly commercial relations between the two countries.

The organization is being extended to comprise the entire United States, with branches in all important centers. It will be in close co-operation with the existing chambers of commerce and similar organizations throughout the United States and Germany, and will be of great value not only to the respective business communities, but also to its members, to whom information and other facilities will be available.

The board solicits applications for membership from responsible firms and individuals interested in the furthering of trade and the strengthening of business relations between the United States and Germany. Complete information may be obtained by addressing Board of Trade for German-American Commerce, Inc., 60 Broadway, Suite 507, New York City.

The officers are Jarvis W. Mason, President; Eugene Hennigson, Vice-President; C. F. Koth, Treasurer; Henry C. Steneck, Assistant Treasurer, and Robert C. Mayer, Secretary. The following are the directors:

M. S. Bausch, Manager Foreign Department the Equitable Trust Co.
 Carl M. Bernegau, Vice-President Keuffel & Esser.
 Hubert Cillis, Chairman Guardian Life Insurance Co.
 Karl Eilers.
 August Elmer, President Elmer & Amend.
 C. Ermelbauer, Stoehr & Sons, Inc.
 Dr. K. G. Frank, Siemens-Rhein-Elbe-Schuckert Union.
 Henry Heide, President Henry Heide, Inc.
 Eugene Hennigson, President E. Hennigson Co., Inc.
 Hans Hinrichs, President Hans Hinrichs Chemical Corporation.
 H. Hollesen, President H. Hollesen, Inc.
 E. G. Hothorn, President Hothorn Litzrodt Corporation.
 Hermann Irion, General Manager Steinway & Sons.
 C. F. Koth, Vice-President & Manager Foreign Dept. Harriman National Bank.
 Paul G. Leonl, President Iron & Ore Corporation of America.
 Jarvis W. Mason, Vice-President American Surety Co. of New York.
 Robert C. Mayer, Robert C. Mayer & Co.
 Herman A. Metz, President H. A. Metz & Co., Inc.
 Julius P. Meyer, Hamburg-American Line.
 C. F. Rutgers, C. F. Rutgers & Co.
 Dr. Emil Schill.
 Richard C. Schilling, President American Mercedes Co., Inc.
 Henry Schuengel, North German Lloyd.
 Henry C. Steneck, Vice-President Steneck Trust Co.
 A. F. Stoeger.
 Max W. Stoehr, Chairman Botany Worsted Mills.
 E. Wedemann, President Wedemann, Godknecht & Lally, Inc.
 Arthur Wiener, Pres. Atlantic Book & Art Corp.; Hon. Repres. Leipzig Fair.
 Felix F. Wiener, President Amplex, Inc.
 W. L. Wirbelauer, President Royal Piece Dye Works, Inc.

ITEMS ABOUT BANKS, TRUST COMPANIES, ETC.

A charter has been issued by the Comptroller of the Currency for the Perth Amboy National Bank of Perth Amboy, N. J., with a capital of \$100,000. The officers are Harry Conard, President; Sigmund Spitzer, Vice-President and Cashier, and Ira R. Crouse, Vice-President. The bank plans to begin business July 1. Its stock (par \$100) is being disposed of at \$130 per share.

Three New York Stock Exchange memberships were reported posted for transfer this week, that of Marshall Adams, deceased, to Arthur K. Harris, the consideration being stated as \$84,000. That of Julius R. Schmeltzer to Harry E. R. Hall for \$83,000 and the membership of E. Gay Spencer to Ray M. Mulford for \$82,000. The last previous transaction was at \$82,000.

The New York Coffee & Sugar Exchange membership of Lionel Sutro was reported transferred to Alexander Cycleman the consideration being stated as \$6,800. The last preceding transaction was at \$6,900.

Sir John Aird, heretofore Vice-President of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, head office Toronto, has been elected President of the institution to succeed the late Sir Edmund B. Walker. Sir John who has been in the bank's service since 1878, is also President of the Canadian Bankers' Association. A new office, that of Chairman of the bank, has been created in the Canadian Bank of Commerce. This office carries with it a general supervision of the bank's affairs. Sir Joseph Flanelle, for many years a member of the board of directors, has been appointed to the position.

Ownership of the Central Mercantile Bank at 1 East 14th St. has changed hands, according to the "Sun" of last night, which said:

The new interests in control are headed by C. Stanley Mitchell. Mr. Mitchell is to be the new President of the institution.

Mr. Mitchell is well known in local banking circles. Until a month ago he was manager of the 18th St. branch of the Chatham & Phenix Bank. Formerly he was President of the old Security Bank in East 14th St.

The transaction, it is understood, involved between \$3,500,000 and \$4,000,000.

The quotation for the shares of the Central Mercantile recently advanced sharply in the over-the-counter market.

The Chemical National Bank of New York announced on April 24 the appointment of Paul Partridge as Vice-President of the bank effective May 1. Mr. Partridge is a native of Effingham, Ill., and began his banking career in that city at the First National Bank, which he entered as a clerk at the age of 16. While there he filled every position in the bank, including that of Cashier, director and President. In 1916 Mr. Partridge was made a National Bank Examiner, serving in Iowa and in northern and central Illinois, and in 1921 he was transferred to the Second Reserve Bank with headquarters in New York.

At the annual meeting of the United States Safe Deposit Co. on April 25, the following officers were elected: President, J. Lynch Pendergast; Vice-President, H. L. Servoss; Secretary, Joseph Adams; Treasurer, Ferdinand J. Claussen; Assistant Treasurer, M. B. Alpaugh. L. C. Deming, Comptroller of the Atchison Topeka & Santa Fe RR., was elected a director.

At a meeting of the board of directors of the Pacific Bank of New York, John F. Degener Jr., of Auffmordt & Co., was elected a director.

At a meeting of the board of directors of the American Exchange National Bank of New York this week, Frederic C. Buswell, First Vice-President of the Home Insurance Co., was elected a director. Mr. Buswell is also a director of the Pacific Bank, with which the American Exchange National Bank is closely affiliated.

Jerome J. Hanauer, member of the banking house of Kuhn, Loeb & Co., was among the passengers arriving on April 30 on the S. S. Olympic. Mr. Hanauer has been abroad for the past three and a half months.

The class of 1925, New York Chapter, American Institute of Banking, held its get-together dinner on May 1 at the Building Trades Club. The class which will graduate a year from this June has recently completed its organization with the election of Douglas B. Simonson, National City Bank, President; John H. Kohler, Bank of America, Vice-President; Marjorie C. Todd, Bank of Commerce, Secretary; William L. Olsen, Tottenville National Bank, Treasurer.

The Bank of America, New York, has issued its Statistical Data Sheet for April comprising a chart of business barometers on money and banking, securities markets, production, commodity prices, railroads and commercial failures.

At a meeting of the Morris County Bankers Association on April 24 the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

President, E. W. Rosevear, Vice-President Dover Trust Co., Dover, N. J. Vice-President, C. G. Wilson, President First National Bank, Butler, N. J. Secretary-Treasurer, J. P. Dalton, Secretary Madison Trust Co., Madison, N. J.

The Second National Bank of Elmira, N. Y., announces the death of its Vice-President, J. Sloat Fassett, on April 21.

Invitations to inspect their new banking rooms on May 1 were issued by the officers and directors of the Guaranty Trust Co. of Cambridge, Mass. The new quarters—Massachusetts Avenue at Inman Street (Central Square)—were open for inspection from 10 a. m. to 9 p. m.

The National Bank of Boyertown of Boyertown, Pa., celebrated its fiftieth birthday on April 26. Besides special music at 7 p. m., there were souvenirs for those visiting the bank on the occasion of the anniversary.

It is announced that the organization of the Mid-Day Club of Cleveland is now well under way. More than 160 acceptances have already been received and other applications, it is stated, still continue to come in. The Mid-Day Club of Cleveland will be a business men's luncheon club, similar to the Lawyers' Club, the Bankers' Club and other organizations of like character in New York City. The Mid-Day Club is not a social club. It is designed primarily as a place where Cleveland's active business and professional leaders may meet at noon, as well as a convenient place to which business men may bring local or out-of-town business friends or associates for either a quiet luncheon or for a conference. It is planned to limit the membership of the club to 1,200 or possibly 1,500 resident members, although provision will be made for non-resident membership. It is proposed to take in 500 charter members immediately, the character and personnel of this charter membership determining the future development of the club. The organization of this club is the outgrowth of the planning of a group of Cleveland business and professional men who have for a number of years felt the need of an organization of this kind in Cleveland. The temporary officers of the club are: Alexander C. Brown, President; Elton Hoyt 2d, Vice-President; Carl M. Osborne, Treasurer, and Allard Smith, Secretary. The temporary directors are: Charles E. Adams, Alva Bradley, Alexander C. Brown, Harold T. Clark, Norris J. Clarke, Elton Hoyt 2d, Carl M. Osborne, Harry C. Royal, Asa Shiverick and Allard Smith. The quarters of the Mid-Day Club of Cleveland will be located on the top of the New Union Trust Building, and it is expected that the club will be opened in June. There will be a large dining room, and in addition, nine private dining rooms. Besides the men's lounge, there will be a reception room and dining room set aside for the wives of members.

A special press dispatch from Wichita, Kan., on April 15 to the Topeka "Capital" stated that at a joint meeting of the directors of the North End State Bank and the Stock Yards State Bank, both of that city, on that date (April 15) arrangements were made for the consolidation of the institutions under the title of the Industrial State Bank, and that the new bank would open for business on the following day, April 16. The dispatch further stated that J. J. Benjamin, "who is interested in several country banks," had been elected President of the enlarged institution with Harry S. Reynolds, heretofore Cashier of the North End State Bank, as Vice-President and W. A. Cary, formerly Cashier of the Stock Yards State Bank, as Cashier. It was also stated that the new bank would begin business with deposits of \$400,000. The Stock Yards State Bank began business in 1907 and had a capital of \$20,000, while the North End State Bank was chartered in 1917 and was capitalized at \$50,000.

John N. Richardson, former President and one of the founders of the American State Bank of Wichita, which closed its doors on June 18 last upon the discovery of a shortage of approximately \$1,500,000 (since found, it is said, to be nearly \$2,000,000) in its funds, was on April 23 convicted on nine counts of accepting deposits when he knew the bank was insolvent. The trial, a sensational one, lasted two weeks. After the verdict the defendant's bond of \$50,000 was continued pending a motion for a new trial. Others formerly connected with the failed bank awaiting trial on indictments growing out of the bank's failure are: Philip Drumm, the Cashier, in whose accounts the alleged shortage was discovered; C. A. Powell, a Vice-President of the bank, and Roy A. Crummer, a director. Mr. Crummer is Vice-

President of the Brown-Crummer Investment Co. of Wichita, of which Mr. Richardson was Treasurer. Warren E. Brown and H. F. Hoffman, President and Cashier, respectively, of the company, are also under indictment, it is understood, in connection with the bank's collapse. The closing of the American State Bank was reported in these columns in the "Chronicle" of July 7 1923.

The closing, on April 22, of the First National of Poteau, Okla., was reported in an Associated Press dispatch from Fort Smith, Ark. on that day, printed in the Dallas "News" of April 23. The failed bank had a combined capital and surplus of \$30,000 and was organized in 1904.

The former President of the defunct Inter-State Trust Co. of Denver, Frank Newton Briggs, was found guilty of embezzlement in the West Side Court of Denver on April 25. The defendant was convicted on the second count of an indictment containing 8 counts, that of the alleged embezzling of \$1,700 received from Isador Amter, a stockbroker. The jury deliberated one hour. The indictment of Mr. Briggs followed an exhaustive probe into the affairs of the Interstate Trust Co. after the collapse of the institution in August 1923. At the time of the failure O. J. Clark was President of the bank, the defendant having resigned as President the previous January in order to be a candidate for Mayor of Denver in the election last May in which he was overwhelmingly defeated. When the indictment was returned against him, Mr. Briggs was living in Los Angeles, but returned at once to Denver and surrendered, subsequently being released on a bond to await his trial which began on April 17. Following the rendering of the verdict, Judge Francis E. Bauck of Leadville, Colo., before whom the case was heard, granted a stay of execution of 15 days in which to prepare a motion for a new trial and released the defendant in \$10,000 bonds. We reported the failure of the Interstate Trust Co. in these columns in our issue of Sept. 15 1924.

A bank consolidation was consummated in East St. Louis, Ill., on April 24 when the Security National Bank and the Union Trust Co. joined forces under the title of the latter. The new Union Trust Co. has a capital of \$600,000 with surplus and undivided profits of \$250,000. The personnel of the institution is as follows: Paul A. Schlafly (heretofore President of the Union Trust Co.), Chairman of the Board; August Schlafly, Chairman of the Executive Committee; G. A. Miller (former President of the Security National Bank), President; E. P. Keshner, Vice-President; Fred W. Hensker, Vice-President and manager of the bond department; M. P. Murray, Vice-President and Secretary; Sidney W. W. Ewing, Cashier; S. C. Jarvis, Assistant Cashier and H. J. Hornberg, Assistant Secretary.

Benjamin Margolius, President of the American Exchange Bank of Norfolk, Va., and a member of the City School Board, died on April 13. He was 47 years of age. His death followed an operation for mastoiditis. He was one of the organizers of the American Exchange Bank, President of the Atlantic Jute Mills; Vice-President of the Norfolk Mattress Co.; a director in the Virginia National Bank, etc.

The Comptroller of the Currency has approved an application to organize the City National Bank of Gadsden, Ala., with a capital of \$100,000. Officers have been elected as follows: G. C. King, President; R. V. Davidson, Vice-President and Cashier, and Lamar Smith, Vice-President. The bank will begin business about Sept. 1, its operations being delayed pending the erection of a building. The stock is selling at par—\$100 per share.

The stockholders of the Atlanta Commercial Bank, Atlanta, at a special meeting on April 23, unanimously voted to increase the capital of the institution from \$50,000 to \$100,000, according to the Atlanta "Constitution" of April 24. The price of the new stock will be \$140 per share, it is said. It is further stated that plans are now under way for the erection of a modern bank building for the institution opposite its present quarters at Marietta Street and Bankhead Avenue, and that the bank will shortly make application for an amendment to its charter giving it authority to do a general trust company business. The officers of the Atlanta Commercial Bank are W. B. Chandler, President; H. B. Davis and Howard Parrish, Vice-President, and William A. Cook, Cashier.

The Citizens National Bank of Los Angeles will formally open its new banking room, corner of 5th and Spring Streets, Los Angeles, to-day, May 3. A reception will be held from 4 to 10 p. m.

W. H. Comstock resigned recently as general manager of the Los Angeles & Salt Lake Division of the Union Pacific RR. to become a Vice-President and a director of the Citizens' Trust & Savings Bank of Los Angeles, according to the Los Angeles "Times" of April 25. Mr. Comstock's resignation became effective May 1. After a month's vacation he will enter upon his new duties at the bank. Mr. Comstock's connection with the Union Pacific RR. covered a period of twenty-three years. He entered its employ as a clerk and rose by successive stages to the position he has now relinquished to enter the banking field.

According to the San Francisco "Chronicle" of April 23 the Bank of California, N. A., with headquarters in San Francisco, has elected Alexander H. Holley a Vice-President of the institution. Mr. Holley, since 1912, has been identified with the New York Commercial paper house of Hathaway, Smith, Folds & Co., 45 Wall Street, during the past five years as their Pacific Coast manager with headquarters in San Francisco. He assumed his new duties, it is understood, on May 1.

Agreement for the acquisition of the eight branches of the Valley Bank of Fresno, Calif., by the Pacific-Southwest Trust & Savings Bank (Los Angeles) and the Bank of Italy (San Francisco) was recently reached. The San Francisco "Chronicle," in its issue of March 9, had the following to say with regard to the matter:

According to the news from Fresno a basis of agreement has been reached between the Bank of Italy and the Pacific Southwestern Bank of Los Angeles for taking over the eight branches of the Valley Bank at Fresno and vicinity. The deal now appears to be up for approval by the California State Banking Department and the Federal Reserve Board. It may be reasonably assumed that the two buying banks will divide the branches between them, probably upon a basis of fifty-fifty. Both have banks at present in Fresno. Official statements have not been issued by either of the purchasing banks, but the special dispatch to "The Chronicle" outlining the progress of negotiations, indicates that the agreement has been ratified and awaits only the official approval to become effective.

J. Enderman, of 14 Wall Street, New York City, representative in the United States of the Rotterdamsche Bank Vereeniging of Holland, announced on April 29 that after writing off 293,000 guilders for depreciation of premises, the bank showed net profits of 10,715,000 guilders for 1923, which will be divided as follows: Reserves, 500,000 guilders; special reserves, 4,500,000 guilders; dividend 6%, 4,500,000 guilders; taxes on dividend, 407,000 guilders; bonus to officers and employees, 400,000 guilders, and carried forward, 408,000 guilders. The annual report states that no losses were sustained nor are to be expected on forward contracts as contracting parties have been carefully chosen.

THE WEEK ON THE NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE.

Price movements on the New York Stock Exchange during the early part of the week were decidedly reactionary, but recovered somewhat the latter part. The returns of railroad earnings for the month of March have in many cases shown severe losses in net income, and this and the unsatisfactory report of the Studebaker Corporation for the quarter ending March 31 contributed in a measure to unsettle the market. In the short period of trading on Saturday the market displayed considerable irregularity. Renewed declines characterized the movements in the market on Monday, losses of one to three points being fairly numerous in the more active speculative issues. Railroad securities were generally weak and motor shares were prominent in the downward drift. United States Cast Iron Pipe & Foundry shared the general decline of the opening hour, but later in the day regained its losses and advanced to a new high level at 90 3/8. American Sugar Refining was particularly weak, falling about three points to 39 1/4. The market was again irregular on Tuesday, advances and declines frequently occurring simultaneously in various parts of the list. The automobile shares were particularly weak, Studebaker leading the decline with a loss of two points to 81 3/4. Yellow Cab Mfg. Co. was also conspicuous in the recession, yielding 5 points to 50 1/2. United States Cast Iron Pipe & Foundry suffered a decline of three points to 89, followed later in the day by a brisk advance of five points to 94 and again establishing a new high level. Railroad shares were heavy throughout the day, many of the leading issues of that group showing

substantial losses at the end of the session. Prices again showed a declining tendency on Wednesday, although a moderate recovery during the last hour retrieved most of the losses of the earlier part of the day. Studebaker was again the weak feature of the trading, receding two points to 80 1/2 and recording a new low for the year. Congoleum was under strong pressure and declined three points to 37 1/2. On the other hand, Corn Products was particularly strong, moving up three points to 172 and in the late afternoon Davison Chemical developed a brisk upward movement that carried that issue 3 points above its low level of the day. Much improvement was manifested in the late afternoon trading, many of the more prominent issues showing a substantial increase as the session closed. On Thursday there was a notable expansion in the volume of trading during the fore part of the session, and a brisk recovery in prices occurred, the greater part of the rally developing in the last hour. Railroad issues were in the foreground. Pere Marquette attracted considerable attention by its advance of one point to a new high level at 47 1/4. As the day advanced the recovery became more pronounced, especial interest developing in Baldwin Locomotive, which made a gain of more than two points from its morning low. General Electric was in strong demand and advanced 8 points to 221. American Can also displayed strong recuperative tendencies and registered a net gain of three points to 103 3/8. The trend of prices was again upward as the session opened on Friday, and substantial gains were recorded in nearly all sections of the list. General Electric was in special demand in the first hour and registered an advance of two points at 223 1/2. Studebaker reached new high ground on the recovery at 84 1/2 and United States Cast Iron Pipe & Foundry again advanced 1 3/8 to 92 1/4. In the last hour prices again fell off and recessions of 1 to 3 points were recorded by many of the active leaders.

COURSE OF BANK CLEARINGS.

Bank clearings the present week again record a moderate increase as compared with a year ago. Preliminary figures compiled by us, based upon telegraphic advices from the chief cities of the country, indicate that for the week ending to-day (Saturday, May 3) aggregate bank exchanges for all the cities of the United States from which it is possible to obtain weekly returns will register an increase of 4.2% over the corresponding week last year. The total stands at \$9,235,935,728, against \$8,863,664,965 for the same week in 1923. At this centre there is a gain of 10.2%. Our comparative summary for the week is as follows:

Clearings—Returns by Telegraph. Week ending May 3.	1924.	1923.	Per Cent.
New York	\$4,686,000,000	\$4,253,169,214	+10.2
Chicago	592,282,861	646,632,073	-8.4
Philadelphia	399,000,000	451,000,000	-11.5
Boston	348,000,000	324,000,000	+7.4
Kansas City	106,162,243	119,804,884	-11.4
St. Louis	a	a	a
San Francisco	132,000,000	141,300,000	-6.6
Los Angeles	115,160,000	121,514,000	-5.2
Pittsburgh	131,333,668	138,589,550	-5.2
Detroit	124,871,909	114,403,917	+9.2
Cleveland	82,388,288	106,596,079	-22.7
Baltimore	86,563,382	93,340,387	-7.3
New Orleans	53,095,556	48,371,397	+9.8
Total 12 cities, 5 days	\$6,856,857,907	\$6,558,781,501	+4.5
Other cities, 5 days	\$39,755,200	\$27,605,370	+1.5
Total all cities, 5 days	\$7,696,613,107	\$7,386,387,471	+4.2
All cities, 1 day	1,539,322,621	1,477,277,494	+4.2
Total all cities for week	\$9,235,935,728	\$8,863,664,965	+4.2

a Will not report clearings.

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 to-day (Saturday), and the Saturday figures will not be available until noon to-day. 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 ended April 26. For that week there is an increase of 6%, the 1924 aggregate of the clearings being \$8,128,544,102 and the 1923 aggregate \$7,671,036,710. Outside of New York City, however, the increase is only 1.9%, the gain in the grand total being due to the fact that the bank exchanges at this centre made a gain of 9.3%. We group the cities now according to the Federal Reserve districts in which they are allocated and from this it appears that for the Boston Reserve District there is an improvement of 0.8%, for the New York Reserve District (including this city) of 9.1% and for the Philadelphia

Reserve District of 13.6%. In the Richmond Reserve District the totals are larger by 13.1%, in the Atlanta Reserve District by 14.4% and in the Dallas Reserve District by 8.9%. But for the Cleveland Reserve District there is a falling off of 0.1%, for the Chicago Reserve District of 1.2% and for the Kansas City Reserve District of 13.7%. The St. Louis Reserve District shows an increase of 0.9% and the Minneapolis Reserve District of 0.1%. The San Francisco Reserve District suffers a loss of 1%.

In the following we furnish a summary by Federal Reserve districts:

SUMMARY OF BANK CLEARINGS.

Table with columns: Week ending April 26 1924, 1923, Inc. or Dec., 1922, 1921. Rows include Federal Reserve Districts (Boston, New York, Cleveland, Richmond, Atlanta, Chicago, St. Louis, Minneapolis, Kansas City, Dallas, San Francisco) and Grand total.

We now add our detailed statement, showing last week's figures for each city separately, for the four years:

Detailed table of bank clearings by city for the four years (1921-1924). Categories include First Federal Reserve District (Maine-Bangor, Portland, Mass-Boston, etc.), Second Federal Reserve District (New York, Albany, Buffalo, etc.), Third Federal Reserve District (Philadelphia, Altoona, Bethlehem, etc.), Fourth Federal Reserve District (Cleveland, Akron, Canton, etc.), Fifth Federal Reserve District (Richmond, Norfolk, Richmond, etc.), Sixth Federal Reserve District (Atlanta, Chattanooga, Knoxville, etc.), and Canada.

Table of bank clearings at various locations: Clearings at - Week ending April 26. Includes Seventh Federal Reserve District (Michigan-Adrian, Ann Arbor, Detroit, etc.), Eighth Federal Reserve District (Indiana-Evansville, Mooresville, etc.), Ninth Federal Reserve District (Minnesota-Duluth, Minneapolis, etc.), Tenth Federal Reserve District (Nebraska-Fremont, Hastings, etc.), Twelfth Federal Reserve District (Washington-Seattle, Spokane, etc.), and Grand total (121 cities).

Table of bank clearings at various locations: Clearings at - Week ending April 24. Includes Canada (Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg, etc.), and Grand total (29 cities).

a No longer report clearings. b Do not respond to requests for figures. c Week ending April 23. d Week ending April 24. e Week ending April 25. * Estimated.

THE CURB MARKET.

Except for brief periods of firmness at the opening of the week and again on Thursday, prices on the Curb Market this week showed a sagging tendency. Trading, however, was light and changes for the most part small. Oil issues as usual dominated the market. Buckeye Pipe Line lost two points to 62 1/2. Humble Oil & Ref. sold down from 40 to 38. Magnolia Petroleum was off from 138 to 135. Ohio Oil after an early advance from 63 to 65 1/2, sold down to 63 1/2 and recovered finally to 64. Prairie Oil & Gas rose in the opening of trading from 223 1/2 to 227, dropped to 219 and moved upward again, reaching 228 1/2; in the closing session to-day it dropped to 224. Prairie Pipe Line lost about two points to 103, recovered to 105 and ended the week at 104 1/2. Solar Refining lost five points to 193 and sold finally at 195. Standard Oil (Indiana) after early advance from 58 3/8 to 60 1/4 sagged to 57 5/8 and finished to-day at 58 1/2. Standard Oil (Kentucky) lost two points to 104 but recovered to 105 1/2. Standard Oil of N. Y. sold up at first from 40 to 41 1/4, then down to 39 1/4, with a final recovery to 40 5/8. Standard Oil (Ohio) lost nine points to 293. Swan & Finch fell from 52 to 44, while Vacuum Oil lost 2 1/2 points to 59 1/2, the latter closing to-day at 60 1/2. Except for a few issues trading in other oil issues was dull. There was little of interest in the industrial list. Dubilier Condenser & Radio advanced from 33 1/4 to 35 3/4, reacting finally to 34 1/2. Durant Motors dropped from 19 3/8 to 17 and closed to-day at 18. Gillette Safety Razor sold down from 282 1/2 to 265 1/4, closing to-day at 267, ex-dividend. Glen Alden Coal weakened from 91 1/2 to 90 1/4 and to-day advanced to 93. Hazeltine Corp. improved from 15 7/8 to 18 5/8, the close to-day being at 18 1/4. United Bakeries common moved up from 53 to 56 1/8.

A complete record of Curb Market quotations for the week will be found on page 2168.

THE ENGLISH GOLD AND SILVER MARKETS.

We reprint the following from the weekly circular of Samuel Montagu & Co. of London, written under date of April 16 1924:

The London bullion market will be closed from the 18th to the 21st inst., inclusive, for the Easter holidays.

GOLD.

The Bank of England gold reserve against its note issue on the 9th inst. amounted to £126,286,745, as compared with £126,284,360 on the previous Wednesday. Only a moderate proportion of the substantial amount of gold available this week was taken for India.

The United Kingdom imports and exports of gold during the month of March 1924 were as follows:

Table with columns: Imports, Exports, Netherlands, Belgium, France, Egypt, West Africa, United States of America, Central America and West Indies, Rhodesia, Transvaal, British India, Straits Settlements, Australia, Other countries, Total.

The discount rate of the Imperial Bank of India was reduced from 9% to 8% on the 10th inst.

The Transvaal gold output for March 1924 amounted to 795,671 fine ounces as compared with 760,617 fine ounces for February 1924 and 761,586 ounces for February 1924 and 761,586 fine ounces for March 1923.

SILVER.

Market conditions have remained fairly stable. A sudden revival of interest on the part of India and China carried the price from 33 1-16d. to 33 5-16 on the 14th inst., at which figure some Continental selling took place, and rather free offerings from America. Prices eased 1-16d. next day, owing to China sales. The appreciation of sterling exchange inclined America to sell again in this market. Prices seem to keep within somewhat narrow limits, though the market does not seem robust enough to stand up against heavy China sales, now that the Indian demand here is so slight. Therefore any considerable advance in rates would probably be soon checked by larger offerings, speculative or otherwise.

We are informed authoritatively that the reports current in the press of rich silver and lead deposits at Mount Isa in the Cloncurry district of Queensland have substantial foundation, so much so that rivalry with the famous Broken Hill mines is predicted. At present, of course, indications are confined to the surface, but the attraction of miners to the locality in great numbers will doubtless soon test the permanence of the new mine fields.

INDIAN CURRENCY RETURNS.

Table with columns: (In Lacs of Rupees), Notes in circulation, Silver coin and bullion in India, Silver coin and bullion out of India, Gold coin and bullion in India, Gold coin and bullion out of India, Securities (Indian Government), Securities (British Government), Bills of exchange.

No silver coinage was reported during the week ending 7th inst. The stock in Shanghai on the 12th inst. consisted of about 34,200,000 ounces in sycee, 46,500,000 dollars, and 3,390 silver bars, as compared with 32,700,000 ounces in sycee, 46,000,000 dollars, and 1,600 silver bars on the 5th inst.

Table with columns: Quotations, Bar Silver, per Oz. Std., Bar Gold per Oz. Fine.

The silver quotations to-day for cash and two months' delivery are, respectively, 3-16d. and 1/4d. above those fixed a week ago.

ENGLISH FINANCIAL MARKETS—PER CABLE.

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

Table with columns: London, Sat. Apr. 26, Mon. Apr. 28, Tues. Apr. 29, Wed. Apr. 30, Thurs. May 1, Fri. May 2.

Table with columns: Bank Holidays, French Renten (in Paris), French War Loan (in Paris).

Table with columns: The price of silver in New York on the same day has been: Silver in N. Y., per oz. (cts.), Foreign.

Commercial and Miscellaneous News

Breadstuffs figures brought from page 2215.—The statements below are prepared by us from figures collected by the New York Produce Exchange. The receipts at Western lake and river ports for the week ending last Saturday and since Aug. 1 for each of the last three years have been:

Table with columns: Receipts at, Flour, Wheat, Corn, Oats, Barley, Rye.

Table with columns: Since Aug. 1, 1923-24, 1922-23, 1921-22.

Total receipts of flour and grain at the seaboard ports for the week ended Saturday, April 26 1924, follow:

Table with columns: Receipts at, Flour, Wheat, Corn, Oats, Barley, Rye.

* 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, April 26 1924, are shown in the annexed statement:

Table with columns: Exports from, Wheat, Corn, Flour, Oats, Rye, Barley, Peas.

The destination of these exports for the week and since July 1 1923 is as below:

Table with columns: Exports for Week and Since July 1 to, Flour, Wheat, Corn.

The world's shipment of wheat and corn, as furnished by Broomhall to the New York Produce Exchange, for the week ending Friday, April 25, and since July 1 1923 and 1922, are shown in the following:

Table with columns for Wheat and Corn, subdivided by year (1923-24, 1922-23) and further by week (April 25, Since July 1). Rows include North Amer., Russ. & Dan., Argentina, Australia, India, Oth. Countr., and Total.

The visible supply of grain, comprising the stocks in granary at principal points of accumulation at lake and seaboard ports Saturday, April 26, was as follows:

GRAIN STOCKS. Table with columns for United States, Wheat, Corn, Oats, Rye, Barley. Rows list various locations like New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore, etc., with sub-totals for April 26, 19, 12, and 28 1923.

New York City Banks and Trust Companies.

Table listing various banks and trust companies with columns for Bid, Ask, and other financial metrics. Includes entries like Amer Exch, Bowery, Broadway Cen, etc.

* Banks marked with (*) are State banks. (z) Ex dividend.

New York City Realty and Surety Companies.

Table listing realty and surety companies with columns for Bid, Ask, and other financial metrics. Includes entries like Alliance R'ty, Amer Surety, Bond & M G, etc.

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

APPLICATION TO ORGANIZE APPROVED.

April 26—The First National Bank of Washburn, Wis. Capital. \$25,000. Correspondent, Scipio N. Wise, Washburn, Wis. Succeeds the Bayfield County Bank and Northern State Bank of Washburn, Wis.

CHARTERS ISSUED.

Table listing charter issuances with columns for date, bank name, and amount. Includes entries for Pineville, La., Wood River National Bank, etc.

VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATIONS.

Table listing voluntary liquidations with columns for date, bank name, and amount. Includes entries for Newton Falls, Ohio, and San Bernardino, Calif.

CONSOLIDATION.

Table listing consolidations with columns for date, bank name, and amount. Includes entries for Middleport, Ohio.

Auction Sales.—Among other securities, the following, not actually dealt in at the Stock Exchange, were sold at auction in New York, Boston and Philadelphia on Wednesday of this week:

Table listing auction sales with columns for Shares, Stocks, and \$ per sh. Includes entries for American Philippine, Realty Co., etc.

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

Table listing securities sold by R. L. Day & Co. Includes entries for Fidelity Trust, Connecticut Mills, etc.

By Messrs. Wise, Hobbs & Arnold, Boston:

Table listing securities sold by Wise, Hobbs & Arnold. Includes entries for Waltham Bleach & Dye Works, Sullivan Machinery, etc.

By Messrs. Barnes & Lofland, Philadelphia:

Table listing securities sold by Barnes & Lofland. Includes entries for Manufacturers Cas. Ins. Co., National Fire Ins. 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:

Weekly Return of the Federal Reserve Board.

The following is the return issued by the Federal Reserve Board Thursday afternoon, May 1, 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 returns for the latest week appears on page 2120, 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 APRIL 30 1924.

Main table showing combined resources and liabilities of the Federal Reserve Banks at the close of business April 30 1924. Columns include dates from Apr. 30 1924 to May 2 1923. Rows include Resources (Gold, Reserves, Bills, Deposits, etc.) and Liabilities (F.R. notes, Deposits, etc.).

WEEKLY STATEMENT OF RESOURCES AND LIABILITIES OF EACH OF THE 12 FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS AT CLOSE OF BUSINESS APRIL 30 1924

Table showing the weekly statement of resources and liabilities for each of the 12 Federal Reserve Banks at the close of business April 30 1924. Columns include city names (Boston, New York, Phila., Cleveland, Richmond, Atlanta, Chicago, St. Louis, Minneap., Kan. City, Dallas, San Fran., Total) and rows for Resources and Liabilities.

Table showing 'RESOURCES (Concluded)—Two ciphers (00) omitted.' with columns for Boston, New York, Phila., Cleveland, Richmond, Atlanta, Chicago, St. Louis, Minneap., Kan. City, Dallas, San Fran., Total. Rows include assets like Total earning assets, Total resources, and liabilities like Total liabilities.

STATEMENT OF FEDERAL RESERVE AGENTS ACCOUNTS AT CLOSE OF BUSINESS APRIL 30 1924

Table showing 'STATEMENT OF FEDERAL RESERVE AGENTS ACCOUNTS AT CLOSE OF BUSINESS APRIL 30 1924' with columns for Federal Reserve Agent at (Boston, New York, Phila., Cleve., Richm'd, Atlanta, Chicago, St. L., Minn., K. City, Dallas, San Fr., Total). Rows include Resources (Federal Reserve notes, collateral security) and Liabilities (Net amount of Federal Reserve notes received from Comptroller, collateral received).

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 the liabilities of the 755 member banks from which weekly returns are obtained. These figures are always a week behind those for the Reserve Banks themselves. Definitions of the different items in the statement were given in the statement of Oct. 13 1917, published in the "Chronicle" of Dec. 29 1917, page 2523. The comment of the Reserve Board upon the figures for the latest week appears in our Department of "Current Events and Discussions," on page 2120.

1. Data for all reporting member banks in each Federal Reserve District at close of business April 23 1924. Three ciphers (000) omitted.

Table showing 'Data for all reporting member banks in each Federal Reserve District at close of business April 23 1924.' with columns for Federal Reserve District (Boston, New York, Phila., Cleve., Richm'd, Atlanta, Chicago, St. Louis, Minnpls., Kan. City, Dallas, San Fran., Total). Rows include Number of reporting banks, Loans and discounts, Total loans and discounts, U.S. pre-war bonds, U.S. Liberty bonds, U.S. Treasury bonds, U.S. Treasury notes, U.S. Certificates of Indebtedness, Other bonds, stocks and securities, Total loans & disc'ts & invest'mts, Reserve balance with F. R. Bank, Cash in vault, Net demand deposits, Time deposits, Government deposits, Bills payable and rediscounts with Federal Reserve Bank, Secured by U. S. Govt. oblig'ns., All other.

2. Data of reporting member banks in Federal Reserve Bank and branch cities and all other reporting banks.

Table showing 'Data of reporting member banks in Federal Reserve Bank and branch cities and all other reporting banks.' with columns for Three ciphers (000) omitted (New York City, City of Chicago, All F. R. Bank Cities, F. R. Branch Cities, Other Selected Cities, Total) and sub-columns for Apr. 23, Apr. 16, Apr. 23, Apr. 16, Apr. 23, Apr. 16, Apr. 23, Apr. 16, Apr. 23, Apr. 16, Apr. 23, Apr. 16, Apr. 23, Apr. 16, Apr. 23, Apr. 16, Apr. 23, Apr. 16. Rows include Number of reporting banks, Loans and discounts, Total loans and discounts, U.S. pre-war bonds, U.S. Liberty bonds, U.S. Treasury bonds, U.S. Treasury notes, U.S. Certificates of Indebtedness, Other bonds, stocks and securities, Total loans & disc'ts & invest'mts, Reserve balance with F. R. Bank, Cash in vault, Net demand deposits, Time deposits, Government deposits, Bills payable and rediscounts with F. R. Bank, Secured by U. S. Govt. obligations, All other, Ratio of bills payable & rediscounts with F. R. Bank to total loans and investments, per cent.

* Includes Victory notes.

Bankers' Gazette

Wall Street, Friday Night, May 2 1924.

Railroad and Miscellaneous Stocks.—The review of the Stock Market is given this week on page 2147.

The following are sales made at the Stock Exchange this week of shares not represented in our detailed list on the pages which follow:

Table with columns: STOCKS, Week ending May 2, Sales for Week, Range for Week (Lowest, Highest), Range Since Jan. 1 (Lowest, Highest). Rows include Railroads (Bangor & Aroostook, Brunswick Terminal, etc.) and Industrial & Misc. (All America Cables, Am For & Pow paid, etc.).

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

Table showing transactions at the New York Stock Exchange. Columns: Week ending May 2, Stocks (No. Shares), Railroad &c. Bonds, State, Municipal & Foreign Bds., United States Bonds. Rows: Saturday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Total.

Table showing sales at the New York Stock Exchange. Columns: Week ending May 2, 1924, 1923, 1924, 1923. Rows: Stocks, Government bonds, State & foreign bonds, Railroad & misc. bonds, Total bonds.

DAILY TRANSACTIONS AT THE BOSTON, PHILADELPHIA AND BALTIMORE EXCHANGES.

Table showing daily transactions at the Boston, Philadelphia, and Baltimore exchanges. Columns: Week ending, Shares, Bond Sales. Rows: Saturday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Total, Prev. week revised.

Table showing daily record of U.S. bond prices. Columns: Apr. 26, Apr. 28, Apr. 29, Apr. 30, May 1, May 2. Rows: First Liberty Loan, Second Liberty Loan, Third Liberty Loan, Fourth Liberty Loan, Treasury.

Note.—The above table includes only sales of coupon bonds. Transactions in registered bonds: 7 1st 4 1/8s, 1 2d 4s, 6 2d 4 1/8s.

Foreign Exchange.—To-day's (Friday's) actual rates for sterling exchange were 4 36 1-16 @ 4 36 1/2 for sixty days, 4 38 5-16 @ 4 38 1/2 for checks and 4 38 9-16 @ 4 39 for cables.

Table showing exchange rates for Sterling, Paris Bankers' Francs, Germany Bankers' Marks, and Amsterdam Bankers' Guilders. Columns: High for the week, Low for the week, Cheques, Cables.

Domestic Exchange.—Chicago, par. St. Louis, 15 @ 25c. per \$1,000 discount. Boston, par. San Francisco, par. Montreal, \$15.3125 per \$1,000 discount. Cincinnati, par.

Quotations for U. S. Treas. Cts. of Indebtedness, &c.—See page 2169.

The Curb Market.—The review of the Curb Market is given this week on page 2149.

Table showing daily transactions at the New York Curb Market. Columns: Week ending April 25, Stocks (No. Shares), Bonds (Par Value). Rows: Saturday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Total.

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

Table with columns: HIGH AND LOW SALE PRICE—PER SHARE, NOT PER CENT., Sales for the Week, NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE, PER SHARE Range Since Jan. 1 1924., PER SHARE Range for Previous Year 1923. Rows include various stock symbols and prices.

* Bid and asked prices; no sales on this day. † Ex 300% in stock. ‡ Ex-dividend.

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

Table with columns: HIGH AND LOW SALE PRICE—PER SHARE, NOT PER CENT. (Saturday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday); Sales for the Week; STOCKS NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE; PER SHARE Range Since Jan. 1 1924; PER SHARE Range for Previous Year 1923. Includes various stock listings like General Asphalt, General Electric, etc.

* Bid and asked prices; no sales this day * Ex-dividend.

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., Sales for the Week, STOCKS NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE, PER SHARE Range Since Jan. 1 1924, and PER SHARE Range for Previous Year 1923. Rows list various stocks like Indus. & Miscell. (Con.) Par, Pacific Oil, Packard Motor Car, etc.

* Bid and asked price; no sales on this day. z Ex-dividend.

Main table containing bond listings with columns for Bond Description, Interest Period, Price, Week's Range, Range Since Jan. 1, and various other details. The table is organized into two main sections: 'BONDS. N. Y. STOCK EXCHANGE' and 'BONDS. N. Y. STOCK EXCHANGE'.

* No price Friday; latest bid and asked. a Due Jan. b Due March. c Due April. d Due May. e Due June. f Due July. g Due Aug. h Due Oct. i Due Dec. j Option sale

Main table containing bond listings with columns for 'BONDS. N. Y. STOCK EXCHANGE Week ending May 2.', 'Price Friday May 2.', 'Week's Range or Last Sale.', 'Range Since Jan. 1.', and 'Bonds Sold.' Includes sub-sections for 'INDUSTRIALS' and 'BONDS. N. Y. STOCK EXCHANGE Week ending May 2.' with various bond descriptions and prices.

*No price Friday; latest bid and asked. a Due Jan. b Due Feb. c Due June. d Due July. e Due Aug. f Due Oct. g Due Nov. h Due Dec. i Option sale.

New York Bond Record—Concluded—Page 5

Quotations of Sundry Securities

All bond prices are "and interest" except where marked "f"

Table of New York Bond Record with columns: BONDS, N. Y. STOCK EXCHANGE, Week ending May 2, Interest, Price Friday, Week's Range, Bonds Sold, Range Since Jan. 1.

Table of Quotations of Sundry Securities with columns: Standard Oil Stocks, Railroad Equipments, Public Utilities, Short Term Securities, Industrial & Miscellaneous.

* No price Friday; latest bid and asked. a Due Jan. d Due Apr. c Due Mar. e Due May. f Due June. h Due July. k Due Aug. l Due Oct. p Due Dec. q Option sale.

HIGH AND LOW SALE PRICE—PER SHARE, NOT PER CENT.

Table with columns for days of the week (Saturday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday) and stock prices. Includes a 'Sales for the Week' column.

Main table listing various stocks and bonds under the heading 'STOCKS BOSTON STOCK EXCHANGE'. Columns include stock names, share counts, and price ranges from Jan 1, 1924.

* Bid and asked prices; no sales on this day. Ex-rights. Ex-div. Ex-stock div. Assessment paid. Price on new basis.

Outside Stock Exchanges

Boston Bond Record.—Transactions in bonds at Boston Stock Exchange April 26 to May 2, both inclusive:

Table with columns: Bonds, Par, Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week, Range since Jan. 1. (Low, High). Includes entries like Amer Tel & Tel 4s, 5 1/8s, etc.

Baltimore Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at Baltimore Stock Exchange April 26 to May 2, both inclusive, compiled from official lists:

Table with columns: Stocks, Par, Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week, Range since Jan. 1. (Low, High). Includes entries like Amer Wholesale pref, Arundel Sand & Gravel, etc.

Table with columns: Bonds, Par, Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week, Range since Jan. 1. (Low, High). Includes entries like Atl C L (Conn) cts 5s, Balt Electric 5s, etc.

Philadelphia Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at Philadelphia Stock Exchange April 26 to May 2, both inclusive, compiled from official sales lists:

Table with columns: Stocks, Par, Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week, Range since Jan. 1. (Low, High). Includes entries like Abbots Old Dairies pref, American Elec Pow Co, 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 Union Traction, United Cos of N J, etc.

Chicago Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at Chicago Stock Exchange April 26 to May 2, both inclusive, compiled from official sales lists:

Table with columns: Stocks, Par, Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week, Range since Jan. 1. (Low, High). Includes entries like Amer Pub Serv, pref, American Radiator, etc.

Pittsburgh Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at Pittsburgh Stock Exchange April 26 to May 2, both inclusive, compiled from official sales lists:

Table with columns: Stocks—, Par., Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week (Shares), Range since Jan. 1. (Low, High). Includes entries like Am Wind Glass Mach., Preferred, Arkansas Nat Gas, etc.

St. Louis Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at St. Louis Stock Exchange April 26 to May 2, both inclusive, compiled from official sales lists:

Table with columns: Stocks—, Par., Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week (Shares), Range since Jan. 1. (Low, High). Includes entries like Merchants-Laclede Nat'l, Nat'l Bank of Commerce, Units Rys, etc.

New York Curb Market.—Below is a record of the transactions in the New York Curb Market from April 26 to May 2, both inclusive, as compiled from the official lists. As noted in our issue of July 2 1921, the New York Curb Market Association on June 27 1921 transferred its activities from the Broad Street curb to its new building on Trinity Place, and the Association is now issuing an official sheet which forms the basis of the compilations below.

Table with columns: Week ending May 2., Stocks—, Par., Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week (Shares), Range since Jan. 1. (Low, High). Includes entries like Indus. & Miscellaneous, Acme Coal Mining, Allied Pack, etc.

Table with columns: Stocks (Concluded) Par., Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week (Shares), Range since Jan. 1. (Low, High). Includes entries like Dort Motor Car, Dubblel Condenser & Rad, Dunhill International, etc.

* No par value.

Other Oil Stocks.			Selling				Range since Jan. 1.				Friday			Selling				Range since Jan. 1.						
(Concluded) Par.			Week's Range		for		Low.		High.		Low.		High.		Week's Range		for		Low.		High.			
			Prices.		Week.								Prices.		Week.									
			Last Sale.		Low.		High.		Shares.		Low.		High.					Low.		High.				
Royal Can Oil Syndicate	4	3 1/2	4 1/2	6,100	2 1/2	Apr	4 1/2	Jan	5 1/2	Jan	5 1/2	Jan	5 1/2	Jan	100 3/4	97 1/2	98	\$28,000	100 3/4	Jan	100 3/4	Jan	100 3/4	Jan

* No par value. k Correction. m Dollars per 1,000 lire flat. l Listed on the Stock Exchange this week, where additional transactions will be found. o New stock. s Option sale. w When issued. z Ex-dividend. v Ex-rights. s Ex-stock dividend.

Quotations for U. S. Treas. Cdfs. of Indebtedness, &c.

Maturity.	Int. Rate.	Bid.	Asked.	Maturity.	Int. Rate.	Bid.	Asked.
June 15 1924	5 1/2%	100 1/8	100 1/8	Dec. 15 1927	4 1/2%	101 3/4	101 3/4
Sept. 15 1924	5 1/2%	100 1/8	100 1/8	Mar. 15 1927	4 1/2%	101 3/4	102
Jan. 15 1925	4 1/2%	100 1/8	100 1/8	June 15 1924	4%	100	100 1/4
Mar. 15 1925	4 1/2%	100 1/8	100 1/8	Dec. 15 1924	4 1/2%	100 1/2	100 1/2
June 15 1925	4 1/2%	100 1/8	100 1/8	Mar. 15 1925	4%	100 1/8	100 1/8
Sept. 15 1925	4 1/2%	100 1/8	100 1/8				

CURRENT NOTICES.

—Guaranty Trust Co. of New York has been appointed transfer agent for the capital stock of the Pierce Petroleum Corp., without nominal or par value.

—McDowell, Gibb & Herding have had installed a private telephone connecting their office with the office of Hale, Waters & Co., Boston, Mass.

—Greene & Cooke announce that Jerome B. Sellers has been admitted to the firm as a general partner.

—Abbott, Hoppin & Co., members of the New York Stock Exchange, announce that James F. Shaw has become associated with them.

—E. A. de Chutkonski, formerly with Ralph W. Voorhees & Co., has become associated with Bonner, Brooks & Co. in their syndicate department.

—M. W. Stroud was elected chairman of the board of National Power Securities Corp., and Edward B. Robinette was elected President.

—Alfred M. Dick has recently become associated with Wm. G. Hooper & Co., 115 South 3d St., Philadelphia, in their trading department.

—Clement & Whitney, members New York Stock Exchange, announce the removal of their offices to 150 Broadway, New York.

—Joseph A. Flynn, formerly a partner of George H. Watson & Co., has become associated with McClure, Jones & Reed.

—Lloyd & Co., members New York Stock Exchange, have removed their offices to 141 Broadway, New York.

—H. D. Smith & Co. have removed their offices from 52 Broadway to 15 William Street, New York City.

—Farr & Co. have issued for free distribution to investors an analysis of Cuba Cane Sugar Preferred stock.

—Coffin & Co. have moved their offices from 34 Pine St. to 56 Pine St., New York City.

—Taylor & White have removed their offices to 66 Broadway, New York.

—The Zimmermann Co. has removed to new offices at 52 Broadway.

Table with columns: Companies, Gross Revenue, Net Revenue, Fixed Charges, Net Corp. Income. Rows include Second Ave (rec), N Y & Queens (rec), Steinway Rys (rec), Long Island Electric, NY & Long Isl (rec), Ocean Electric, Manhattan & Queens (rec), Richmond Lt & RR.

* Includes other income. — Deficit.

Comparative Earnings of Companies Under the Executive Management of Stone & Webster, Inc.

Table with columns: Companies, Gross, Net, Surplus After Chgs., 12 Months Ending March 31. Rows include Puget Sound Pr & Lt Co, Baton Rouge Elec Co, Black Val Gas & El Co, Cape Breton Elec Co Ltd, Cent Miss Valley Elec Properties, Columbus Elec & Pow Co, Eastern Texas Elec Co, Edison El Illum Co of Brock, The El Lt & Pow Co of A & R, El Paso Elec Co, Fall River Gas Works Co, Galv-Houston Elec Co, Haverhill Gas Lt Co, Houghton Co El Lt Co, Keokuk Elec Co, The Key West Elec Co, The Lowell El Lt Corp, Miss River Power Co, Northern Texas El Co, Paducah Elec Co, Savannah El & Pow Co, Sierra Pac Elec Co, Tampa Elec Co, Blackstone Valley Gas & Elec Co.

Seaboard Air Line Railway.

(Annual Report—Year Ended Dec. 31 1923.)

The remarks of President S. Davies Warfield, together with comparative income account and balance sheet for 1923, are given under "Reports and Documents" on subsequent pages. The results for the first three months of 1924 are also given.

TRAFFIC STATISTICS YEAR ENDED DEC. 31.

Table with columns: 1923, 1922, 1921, 1920. Rows include Average miles operated, No. of tons carried, No. of tons carried 1 m., No. of tons 1 mile per mile of road, Average haul per ton, Ave. rec't per ton p. m., No. of passengers carried, No. pass. carried 1 mile, No. mile of road, Ave. dist. carr. each pass, Ave. amt. rec. from each passenger, Av. rec. per pass. per m.

INCOME ACCOUNT FOR CALENDAR YEARS.

Table with columns: 1923, 1922, 1921. Rows include Operating Revenues, Freight, Passenger, Mail, Express, Other transportation, Other than transportation, Total oper. revenues, Operating Expense, Maintenance of way and structures, Maintenance of equipment, Traffic, Transportation, Miscellaneous operations, General, Trans. for investment, Total operating expenses, Net operating revenues, Taxes, Uncollectible railway revenues, Operating income, Other Income, Joint facility rent income, Income from lease of road, Dividend income, Income from funded securities, Income from unfunded secur. & accts., Miscellaneous, Gross income, Deduction—Hire of equip.—Dr. bal., Joint facility rents, Interest on funded debt, Interest on equipment obligations, Rent for leased road, Miscellaneous, Net surplus, Int. on Adjustment Mtg. bonds, Annual allotment of discount secur., Surplus for year.

GENERAL BALANCE SHEET DECEMBER 31.

Table with columns: 1923, 1922, 1921, 1920. Rows include Assets, Inv. in r'd & eq., Sinking funds, Depos. in lieu of M. prop. sold, Misc. phys. prop., Inv. in affil. cos., Stks., pledged, Stks., unpledged, Bds., pledged, Bds., unpledged, Notes, Advances, Other invest'ns, Cash rec'v., Special deposits, Loans & bills rec., Traffic and car service balance receivable, Net bal. receiv'le from agents & conductors, Indiv's & cos., U. S. Govern'm't, Other companies for claims, Mat'ls & supp., Int. & divs. rec., Cash rec'v., U. S. RR. Adm., Oth. curr. assets, Work fund advs., U. S. RR. Adm., Oth. def. assets, Insur. premiums prepaid, Disc. on funded debt, Claims in susp., U. S. Govern'm't, U. S. RR. Adm., Other unadjst. debits, Total, Liabilities, Common stock, Pref. 4-2% stock, Pf. 6% cap. stk., Equip. oblig'n., Mtg. bds. prop. companies, S. A. L. bonds, 3-year notes, Sec. & Treas. of U. S.—Notes, Dir.-Gen. of RR. notes, Non-negot. debt to affil. cos., Loans & bills pay., Traf. & car serv. bal. payable, Aud. acct's & wages payable, Misc. acct's pay., Int. mat'd unpd., Div. mat. unpd., Unmat. int. acer, Unmat. r'ts acer., U. S. RR. Adm., Oth. curr. liab'l., U. S. RR. Adm., Oth. def. liab'l's, Ry. tax accruals, Oper. reserves, Acer. dep. equip., Res. for outstdg. stk. prop. cos., U. S. RR. Adm., Oth. unadj. cred add'n to prop'y through inc. & surplus, Fund. debt ret'd through inc. & surplus, Profit & loss sur., Total.

Note.—Accumulated and unpaid interest on Adjustment Mortgage (income bonds amounting to \$3,333,333 and payable out of future income or otherwise, or at the maturity of the bonds, is not comprehended in the above balance sheet.)

Guaranty.—The company is liable as a guarantor of the following: Athens Terminal Co. 1st Mtg. \$100,000, Birmingham Term. Co. 1st Mtg.—Seaboard proportion 1-6 of 1,940,000, Fruit Growers Express Co.—Payments 569,045, Jacksonville Term. Co. 1st M.—Seaboard proportion 1-3 of 400,000, Jacksonv. Term. Co. 1st & Gen. M.—Seab. proportion 1/4 of 100,000, Jacksonv. Term. Co. Ref. & Ext. M.—Seab. proportion 1/4 of 3,100,000, Macon Dublin & Savannah RR. 1st Mtg. 1,529,000, Raleigh & Charleston RR. Co. Prior Lien & Consol. Mtgs. 550,000, Richmond-Washington Co. Coll. Tr. M.—Seab. propor. 1-6 of 10,000,000, Savannah & Statesboro Ry. Co. 1st Mtg. 185,000, Southeastern Investment Co.—Note 150,000, Tampa & Gulf Coast RR. Co. 1st Mtg. 750,000, The Seaboard Bay Line Co.—Payments 300,000, The Seaboard Bay Line Co. notes to Secy. of Treasury of U. S. 4,239,000, Wilmington Ry. Bridge Co. Cons. Mtg.—Seab. propor. 1/4 of 217,000.—V. 118, p. 2043.

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 April 26. The next will appear in that of May 31.

Missouri-Kansas-Texas Railroad.

(Annual Report—Year Ended Dec. 31 1923.)

The remarks of President C. E. Schaff, together with comparative income account and balance sheet and other tables, will be found under "Reports and Documents" on subsequent pages.

COMMODITIES CARRIED FOR YEAR ENDED DEC. 31.

Table with columns: (All in Tons)—Agriculture, Animals, Mines, Forests, Mrs., &c. Rows for years 1923, 1922, 1921, 1920, 1919, 1918, 1917, 1916.

GENERAL STATISTICS FOR YEARS ENDING DEC. 31.

Table with columns for years 1923, 1922, 1921, 1920. Rows: Average miles operated, Passengers carried, Pass. carried one mile, Revenue pass. per mile, Revenue tons carried, do 1 mile (per ton), Rev. per ton per mile, Rev. per mile of road.

United States Steel Corporation.

(Earnings for Quarter Ended March 31 1924.)

The financial statement given out on Tuesday following the monthly meeting of directors reports the total net earnings of the corporation and its subsidiaries for the quarter ended March 31 1924 as below shown.

At the present time, so far as I know, there is no good reason for the depression of business in this country. That there has been some of late is well known, and in fact I have freely stated. The fundamental conditions of this country, as I see them, were never better.

Our country is rich, the cash in circulation throughout the country per capita is very large, the ability to pay is slowly, though not regularly, increasing, and, although one occurrence or another not necessary to mention at this time, political or otherwise, has caused slight interruptions, still there has been no really good ground for any business man to become frightened or to lose hope or confidence in future prospects and prosperity.

I would be less than candid if I failed to repeat, in substance, what I said at the stockholders' meeting, namely that there has been some letting up of new business in the iron and steel lines, and probably in other lines, and I am only insisting now that, as far as the steel line is concerned, there is no good reason for that.

Our business is not exactly the same as that of some other steel corporations because we have a greater diversity of products than most of them, and therefore it happens that when there is a depression in some lines it does not apply to many other of our lines of business.

I must be a little more specific now, first, in regard to the question as to whether or not we are going to maintain a certain rate of dividend, regularly and permanently. I have answered that question before, but it is always pertinent and I am always glad to answer it.

I said at the stockholders' meeting last week: "We allowed quarter before last an extra dividend of 1/4 of 1%, the next quarter we added another 1/4 of 1%, making 1/2 of 1% for that quarter. If we could maintain that regularly and permanently you could see that would make the dividend on the Common stock equal to 7% per annum, which is very good for any stock."

And then in another place I said: "You must remember it is the policy of our corporation to be prudent, to be careful, to look way ahead, to be prepared for eventualities, whatever may happen, and to take care of your stock exactly the same as you would take care of your farm or your business of any kind, namely to protect it whatever might happen."

Our corporation is expending at the present time not less than \$6,500,000 at \$7,000,000 per month in keeping in proper order the property owned by us, in making extensions in accordance with appropriations determined upon during the last year or longer to take care of the business which is before us and which is being offered, and which we feel certain will continue; and those expenditures by us not only keep our men employed at fair wages, but show the confidence we have in the future of our business—not only for next week or next month, but for the year or two years and longer.

This country is never going into the hands of a receiver if any other country in the world can possibly survive. Remember that, God Almighty has given to this nation the opportunity to prosper if any other country can live, and there is nothing that can take that away from us, except God Almighty or our own stupidity and mismanagement. I have said before, and others more important, in better language, have said: Have faith in our country. Do not be discouraged because at any particular time, for the present, it may appear that business, then or even for the immediate future, is not as good as you hope it will be, or on the average. How any one could imagine that, with my own beliefs and with my information concerning this country and its chances, and with our corporation

that can succeed and prosper if any other similar corporation can survive, and could be pessimistic, he must have an imagination that is greater than I have ability to comprehend.

Some one asked if there would be any reduction in prices. Again I must remind you that you know what our policy is in regard to prices. We stand for stability of prices, regularity of prices, because our customers like that best, because we think in the long run it pays best and because it is for the best interests of the country to have steady markets.

While we admit we are as liable to make mistakes as any body, our intention is to transact business in a fair way and with justice to every one who is interested in the results of our business, including the general public, our employees, our customers, our stockholders and our competitors.

But when we talk about reduction of prices our policy is to follow others and to lead in the advance, and when it comes to the reduction of wages our policy is to wait until conditions compel us to do it. And when we think wage rates are not sufficiently large, it is our policy to be one of the leaders in advance there. Now, please do not think I am posing as one who has any better disposition than any one else, for I again emphasize the fact that it pays in dollars and cents to do at all times what we believe is sincerely the right thing to do.

INCOME ACCOUNT FOR QUARTER ENDING MARCH 31.

Table with columns: Net after Taxes, &c.—1924, 1923, 1922, 1921. Rows: January, February, March, Total (see x below), Deduct—For sinking fund, deprec. and reserve funds, Interest, Prem. on bonds redeem., Total deductions, Div. on Pref. (1 3/4%), Div. on Com. (1 3/4% do extra (1/2%)), Balance, surplus.

Table with columns: 1924, 1923, 1922, 1921. Rows: January, February, March. Note: * After deducting interest on subsidiary co.'s bonds outstanding, viz.

x After deducting all expenses incident to operations, comprising those for ordinary repairs and maintenance of plants, estimated taxes (incl. estimate for Federal income taxes) and interest on bonds of subsidiary co's.

Table with columns: 1923, 1922, 1921, 1920. Rows: Ordinary, Estimated Fed. taxes. Note: Unfiled Orders as Previously Reported (V. 118, p. 1727).

Table with columns: Mar 31 1924, Dec. 31 1923, Sept. 30 1923, June 30 1923, Mar. 31 1923. Rows: 4,782,807, 4,445,339, 5,035,750, 6,386,261, 7,403,332.

Northern States Power Co. of Delaware and Subsidi.

(Annual Report—Year Ended Dec. 31 1923.)

The remarks of President H. M. Bylesby, together with the income account and balance sheet, will be found under "Reports and Documents" on a subsequent page of this issue.

CONSOLIDATED INCOME ACCOUNT FOR CALENDAR YEARS.

Table with columns: 1923, 1922, 1921, 1920. Rows: Electric department, Gas department, Steam department, Telephone department, Street railway department, Total gross earnings, Operating expenses, Maintenance, Taxes, Net earnings, Interest charges (net), Preferred dividends, Common dividends, Depreciation, Amortization of debt discount and expenses, Balance, surplus, Total surplus.

International-Great Northern Railroad.

(2d Annual Report—Year Ended Dec. 31 1923.)

President T. A. Hamilton reports in substance:

Operations.—As the company had no operations prior to Dec. 1 1922, the operations of the receiver have been included wherever necessary to round out periods for comparative purposes.

Results.—Notwithstanding increased expenditures for maintenance of way and structures and maintenance of equipment, which combined were 11.8% greater in 1923 than in 1922, there was secured, out of an increase of 7.7% in operating revenues, an increase of 60.7% in the balance available for interest.

Additions and Betterments.—The amounts charged under the accounting rules of the I.-S. C. Commission to capital account during the year were as follows: Road, \$1,147,197; equipment, \$1,032,988; total road and equipment, \$2,180,184.

Maintenance.—The physical condition of the property, with respect to both track and track structures and equipment, has been materially improved during the year. With the expenditures on capital account authorized in the company's 1924 improvement budget, and the maintenance program outlined for that year, the condition of the property at the end of 1924 will show further substantial gains and will be such that it is believed this condition can be maintained after 1924 with a reduction in the annual amount of expenditures now necessary to keep the property up to a good standard of maintenance.

New Industries.—During the year progress has been made in locating new tonnage-producing industries on the company's lines. Chief among these is the large cotton warehouse, with two high-density compresses, storage capacity of 100,000 bales and wharf accommodating four ocean-going vessels, constructed by the Houston Compress Co. on the Houston Ship Channel. The establishment of this large and modern facility, which began operation just prior to the opening of the 1923 cotton season, has been instrumental in largely increasing the quantity of export cotton handled by the railroad company.

At Percival Junction, 5 miles north of Houston, the Houston Wood Preserving Co. began the erection in the closing months of 1923 of a two-cylinder

Rueping process wood-preserving plant, which, in addition to providing more efficient and more economical treatment of the railroad company's tie and timber requirements, than was formerly obtainable, will also furnish a considerable amount of commercial traffic.

The Humble Oil & Refining Co. in Oct. 1923 established a new plant on the company's rails at Hearne, Texas, which installation, in addition to enabling the company to secure an advantageous contract for fuel oil, is furnishing a substantial volume of commercial traffic. At the present time this plant is shipping via I.-G. N. rails commercial output to the amount of between 400 and 500 carloads per month.

At Huntsville, Texas, a new quarry was opened during the closing months of 1923 by D. M. Pickett & Co. of Port Arthur, Texas, which firm is engaged principally in furnishing rock for Government harbor work along the Gulf Coast, as well as rock for building purposes in the Gulf Coast and South Texas cities. The present output from this quarry is averaging approximately 20 cars per day, and rates received for its transportation average in excess of 1 cent per ton mile, which is very satisfactory revenue for this heavy loading traffic, particularly on account of the absence of casualty risk in movement.

During 1923 an extensive deposit of brick clay was discovered in the vicinity of Conroe, Texas, and a brick-making plant has been erected at that point which, when operating to full capacity, will furnish approximately 15 cars of revenue traffic daily.

During the later months of 1922 the Texas Company erected a Fuller's earth plant at Riverside, Texas. This plant began operation early in 1923. Its daily output averages approximately 10 cars.

At New Braunfels, Texas, the Planters & Merchants Gingham Mill Co. erected during 1923 the first gingham mill to be placed in operation west of the Mississippi River. This plant is equipped with 10,160 spindles and an adequate complement of looms. It is operated by water power secured from the Guadalupe River. Its annual capacity is 4,500,000 yards, working single shift, and when an enlargement of the power plant, now under way, is completed, it is the intention to operate the plant on double shift increasing the annual output capacity to approximately 9,000,000 yards.

All of the above mentioned industries are served exclusively by the International-Great Northern RR.

In addition, there have been located on the company's rails during 1923, principally at local non-competitive points, a considerable number of smaller commercial enterprises, such as cotton seed warehouses, vegetable and fruit packing and loading plants, wholesale and jobbing houses, &c.

Port Development.—The deep-water port at Houston, Texas, has made rapid strides in development and enlargement during 1923. The Houston-Harris County Navigation District Commission, which is in charge of the construction, development and operation of the port, is at present engaged in the expenditure of the proceeds of a \$4,500,000 bond issue authorized early in 1923. The ship channel leading up from the head of Galveston Bay to the Turning Basin, approximately 6 miles from the centre of the City of Houston, is being enlarged and its depth increased from 25 to 30 feet. The Turning Basin is also being enlarged. The construction of additional docks and warehouses on the property of the Navigation District is contemplated and will be undertaken in the near future. The local expenditure for development of the port facilities is being supplemented by appropriations made by the Federal Government.

The International-Great Northern RR. Co. owns extensive acreage fronting on the ship channel immediately east of and adjoining the Turning Basin. Located on this acreage are the plants and dock facilities of the Texas Cuban Molasses Co., Armour Fertilizer Works, the new plant of the Houston Compress Co. and the warehouses and cotton compresses of Alexander Sprunt & Co. and Wells-Neville & Co.

Approximately 1,000 linear feet of this ship channel frontage still remains vacant and constitutes an attractive location for industries yet to be secured. This ship channel property is all served exclusively by the rails of the International-Great Northern RR., and along its southern edge the company has constructed during 1923 new yard facilities with a capacity of 450 cars.

The traffic of Port Houston, both inbound and outbound, is rapidly increasing and approaching the volume handled through the Port of Galveston, which latter is also reached by the International-Great Northern through its ownership, jointly with the Missouri-Kansas-Texas Ry., of the Galveston Houston & Henderson RR.

Agricultural Development.—During the past year an intensive campaign for development of the agricultural resources of the territory served by the company has been undertaken and is being actively pushed.

In June an Agricultural Department was inaugurated to promote this development. Increased traffic is already in evidence as a result.

Traffic.—Particular attention has been devoted, during the past year, to the improvement of the company's traffic solicitation, and the development of its traffic generally, with gratifying results. While the operating revenues of the first half of 1923 were, as was the case with other Texas carriers and competing lines, comparatively thin, the traffic secured during the latter half of the year indicated substantial gains. Anticipations of increased traffic volume during 1924 are at this time showing definite signs of realization.

TRAFFIC STATISTICS FOR CALENDAR YEARS.

Table with 5 columns: 1923, 1922, 1921, 1920. Rows include Tons rev. freight carr'd., Tons rev. fr't car. 1 mile, Rev. per ton per mile, Tons rev. fr't carr'd per rev. freight train mile, Rev. passengers carried, Rev. pass. carr'd 1 mile, Aver. distance car., miles, Aver. rev. per passenger, Rev. per passenger mile.

CONSOLIDATED INCOME ACCOUNT FOR CALENDAR YEARS.

Table with 4 columns: 1923, 1922, 1921, 1920. Rows include Operating Revenue, Freight, Passenger, Mail, Express, Miscellaneous, Incidental, Joint facility revenue, Total operating revenue, Operating Expense, Maintenance of way and structures, Traffic expenses, Transportation expenses, Miscellaneous operations, General expenses, Transportation for investment, Total operating expenses, Net operating revenue, Operating Charges, Taxes, Uncollectible railway revenues, Hire of equipment—Debit, Joint facility—Net, Total operating charges, Operating income, Other income, Total income, Deductions from Income, Rentals, Miscellaneous, Total deductions from income, Balance available for interest, &c., Interest on fixed charge obligations, Int. on Adjust. Mtge. bonds at 4%, Balance of income.

x The Adjustment Mortgage provides that the Adjustment bonds did not rank for interest until Jan. 1 1923. In accordance with the terms of the Adjustment Mortgage, interest for the year 1923 at the rate of 4% was declared by the board of directors to be payable on April 1 1924.

Note.—The year 1922 includes eleven months of receiver's operations and one month of the new company, which commenced operations on Dec. 1 1922. The interest shown for the year 1922 is based on the interest-bearing obligations of the new company.

Profit and Loss Account.—The consolidated profit and loss account for the year ended Dec. 31 1923 shows: Credits—Credit balance Jan. 1 1923, \$1,579; balance transferred from income account, \$431,511; donations (for construction of industry tracks—see contra), \$4,297; total credits, \$437,388. Debits—Surplus appropriated for investment in physical property (see contra), \$4,297; surplus available for capital expenditures and other corporate purposes, but not available for dividends as per Adjustment Mortgage, \$340,000; loss on retired road and equipment, \$15,660; miscellaneous debits, net, \$7,515; credit balance Dec. 31 1923, \$69,915; total, \$437,388.

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET DEC. 31.

Table with 4 columns: 1923, 1922, 1923, 1922. Rows include Assets: Investments, Cash, Time deposits, Special deposits, Loans & bills rec., Traffic & car serv., bal., Agts. & cond. bals., Miscel. accts. rec., Mat'ls & suppl'es, Int. & divs. rec., Working fund adv., U. S. Govt. guar. account, Other def. assets, Rents & ins. paid, Oth. unadj. debits. Liabilities: Common stock, Long-term debt, Adj. Mtge. bonds, U. S. Govt. notes, Equip. trust oblig., Traffic & car serv. balances, Aud. accts. & wages, Misc. accts. pay., Int. mat'd unpaid, Unmat. int. acc., Unmat. rents acc., Oth. curr. liabils., Deferred liabilities, Tax liability, Oth. unadj. credits, Add'ns to prop. th. inc. & surplus, Sur. avail. for corp. expend., &c., Sinking fund reserves, Profit and loss.

Total 48,806,564 48,739,493 Total 48,806,564 48,739,493

—V. 118, p. 2035.

International Railways of Central America.

(Annual Report—Year Ended Dec. 31 1923.)

Table with 4 columns: 1923, 1922, 1921, 1920. Rows include Miles op. (excl. Occ. RR.), Operating revenues, Operating expenses, Net earnings, Taxes, Operating income, Outside operations (net), Int., disct., &c., received, Gross income, Bond interest, &c., Unexting. disct., &c., Total deductions, Balance, surplus, P. & L. surplus Jan. 1, Occidental RR., Guatemala Tr., L. & P. Co., Chiquimula Ship. Corp., Profit on bonds in treas., Preferred dividends, Insur. res. discontinued, Miscellaneous.

P. & L. surp. Dec. 31. \$1,017,976 \$750,417 \$192,035 \$2,134,850 x This amount consists of \$875,000 back dividends on Preferred (8 3/4%) discharged in 13-year 6% notes, \$250,000 dividends (2 1/2%) in 13-year 6% notes and \$250,000 cash (2 1/2%). y Preferred div. (20%) paid in 15-yr. 6% notes (covering period Feb. 1917 to Jan. 1921, unpaid since that date). z Insurance reserve was discontinued as all properties are now covered by insurance policies.

BALANCE SHEET DEC. 31.

Table with 4 columns: 1923, 1922, 1923, 1922. Rows include Assets: Road & equipm't, Inv. in affil. cos., Other investments, Sinking fund for 1st Mtge. bonds, Cash, Traffic, &c., bal., Agts. & conduc'rs, Remit. in trans., Equity in under-writing Salvador loan, Mat'ls & suppl'es, Miscel. accounts, Govt. of Guatem'a, Other Governm'ts, Disct. on fund. d't, Other unadj. deb. Liabilities: Common stock, Preferred stock, Govt. grants, Funded debt, Debt to Occ. RR., Notes payable, Accts. & wages pay, Int. & divs. mat'd, Interest accrued, Due from Guatemala, Min. int. Occ. RR., Invest. reserve, Miscel. accounts, Tax liability, Fire Insur. reserve, Accrued deprec'n., Int. rec. suspense, Other unadj. cred., Deferred liab., Profit & loss.

Total 64,963,290 60,741,194 Total 64,963,290 60,741,194

x Invested in affiliated companies: Occidental RR. of Guatemala (28.308 shares of stock), \$984,541.

z "Net consideration due from Govt. of Guatemala under terms of settlement of May 22 1923."

Contingent Liability.—(a) Guarantee of principal of 910 shares Preferred stock of the Guatemala Tramway, Light & Power Co. at \$100 per share, on liquidation or dissolution of that company, in addition to guarantee of dividends thereon at the rate of 6% per annum. (b) The International Rys. Co. of Central America is entitled to receive the following subvention not mentioned in above balance sheet: From the Govt. of Guatemala, \$7,500 U. S. gold per kilometer for approximately 90 kilometers.—V. 118, p. 1664.

General Motors Corporation.

(Report for Quarter Ended March 31 1924.)

Pres. Alfred P. Sloan Jr., in announcing that the directors have adopted the policy of publishing quarterly statements of earnings, says:

In the first quarter there were sold 212,572 cars and trucks as compared with 176,258 cars and trucks in the first quarter of 1923.

Consumer demand in the spring of 1923 exceeded all previous records, and this year is equal to and probably 10% greater than last year. Due to unseasonable weather, what is termed the spring buying is just getting well under way. We lost business last year by not having sufficient cars in the field. To avoid repetition of this condition the corporation changed its policy and ran its plants at a peak during the past winter and this spring in order that dealers and distributors should have a sufficient supply of finished cars to meet this spring demand.

This having been accomplished, the plants of the corporation are now being operated at a rate equal to slightly over 80% of the sales for the first quarter. It will be noted that this policy of running the plants at peak through the winter and spring enables the corporation to supply its dealers and distributors with sufficient cars to meet spring requirements and to slack off its operations during the summer months to that point necessary to cover the lesser demand for automobiles during that season of the year.

CONDENSED CONSOL. INCOME ACCOUNT, 3 MOS. ENDED MAR. 31.

Table with 3 columns: 1924, 1923, and a third column for comparative figures. Rows include Profit from operations, Net profit from operations, Less-Provision for employees' bonus, and Total dividends.

SURPLUS ACCOUNT. Table with 3 columns: 1924, 1923, and a third column. Rows include Surplus over and above \$10 per share, Total, and Surplus over and above \$10 per share on March 31.

Studebaker Corporation, South Bend, Ind. (Report for Quarter Ended March 31 1924.)

President A. R. Erskine says:

Net profits for the first quarter before taxes were \$4,036,620, against \$7,085,454 last year. This year's profits would have been about \$5,400,000, or \$1,400,000 more had last year's basis of charging dealers' discounts been followed this year.

RESULTS FOR THREE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31.

Table with 4 columns: 1924, 1923, 1922, 1921. Rows include No. automobiles sold, Net sales, Net profits before taxes, and Net profits all sources.

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET MARCH 31.

Table with 4 columns: 1924, 1923, 1924, 1923. Rows include Assets (Cash, Slight drafts out, Investments, etc.) and Liabilities (Preferred stock, Common stock, etc.).

Shell Union Oil Corporation.

(Annual Report—Year Ended Dec. 31 1923.)

CONSOLIDATED INCOME ACCOUNT YEAR ENDING DEC. 31. (Including income of Wolverine Petroleum Corp., successor to Central Petroleum Co. from May 1 1923.)

Table with 3 columns: 1923, 1922, and a third column. Rows include Calendar Years—Gross income, Investment income, Miscellaneous income, Total income, and Net income.

Great Western Sugar Co.

(Annual Report—Fiscal Year Ended Feb. 29 1924.)

Pres. W. L. Petrikin, Denver, Colo., April 16 wrote in brief:

The total production of granulated sugar for the season was 5,918,381 bags of 100 lbs. each, representing an increase of about 18% over the previous season's production.

Climatic conditions during the most of the growing season were quite unusual. The abnormally heavy precipitation was undoubtedly an important factor in the high per acre average yield of 12.18 tons, which figure has been exceeded only once in the last 10-year period.

The policy of purchasing the crop based upon returns from the sale of the sugar is being continued. In addition to the initial payment, further payments are being made as rapidly as the marketing of the product justifies.

The outlook for the coming season is encouraging. The beet contract, worked out in joint conference with the various beet growers' associations in our territories, has received the endorsement of these organizations, and it is expected that all plants will be operated with a good supply of beets the coming season.

CONSOLIDATED INCOME ACCOUNT YEARS ENDED LAST DAY OF FEBRUARY.

Table with 3 columns: 1923-24, 1922-23, 1921-22. Rows include Profits from operation, Interest income, Income from investments, Dividends from Gt. Western Ry., Total income, and Common dividends.

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET.

Table with 4 columns: Feb. 29 '24, Feb. 28 '23, Feb. 29 '24, Feb. 28 '23. Rows include Assets (Plants, RR., real estate, etc.) and Liabilities (Preferred stock, Common stock, etc.).

Rolls-Royce of America, Inc.

(Annual Report—Year Ended Dec. 31 1923.)

President L. J. Belnap, Springfield, Mass., says in subst.: The financial statement for 1923 shows a net profit, after interest and depreciation, of \$313,240, as compared with a net loss of \$294,509 for 1922.

The year 1923 is the first since passing from the construction and development stage to the beginning of operations, that the works have been in continuous and regular production. At no time, however, have the operations reached the maximum of which the plants are capable.

The sales billed for the year were approximately 65% in excess of 1922. 70% of the total was through direct factory branches of which there are now five, and the balance through dealers, of which there are 14. Two of the branches were open for sales distribution only during the last half of the year.

The above results, compared with the previous year, tend to confirm the most satisfactory means of sales distribution is through the company's direct sales branches.

During the year, many orders have been received from owners for a second and even a third car, which is further evidence of the continued favor with which Rolls-Royce cars are received by the discriminating purchaser. The sales outlook, with expansion of distributing facilities and with continued sound general business conditions, is even more promising than at the beginning of any previous year.

Unfilled orders on file are approximately \$900,000.

RESULTS FOR CALENDAR YEARS.

Table with 4 columns: 1923, 1922, 1921, and a third column. Rows include Net profit, Bond interest, Depreciation, Surplus for year, and Debit balance Dec. 31.

BALANCE SHEET DEC. 31.

Table with 4 columns: 1923, 1922, 1923, 1922. Rows include Assets (Ld. bldgs., mach. & equipment, etc.) and Liabilities (7% Pref. stock, Common stock, etc.).

x Common stock, \$35,000 shares of no par value. y Preferred stock dividends unpaid since 1921.—V. 116, p. 3006.

The Winchester Company.

(Annual Report—Year Ended Dec. 31 1923.)

President J. E. Otterson, New Haven, Conn., March 28, wrote in brief:

The sales for the year 1923 were \$20,373,998, compared with \$18,146,200 in 1922, an increase of about \$2,200,000.

The operating profit for the year amounted to \$659,741. Out of this profit there was charged off \$526,124 covering extraordinary expenses due to the development of new products. No new lines of products were undertaken during the year, but about 1,000 new items were added to existing lines, increasing their completeness and salability.

The number of Winchester stockholding agents was increased during the year by about 650, and the business done with them substantially increased.

The increase in the sale of roller and ice skates made necessary an increase in the capacity of the company's skate plant during the year, and the plant was accordingly moved from Springfield to New Haven into buildings available and suitable for the purpose. The buildings at Springfield were disposed of to the Associated Simmons Hardware Cos., and are now being used as their distributing house for the New England district.

The Philadelphia plant of the Mound City Paint & Color Co., which occupied rented quarters, was moved into available space in the company's plant in New Haven and is now operating satisfactorily with increased capacity.

Continuing the policy of the previous year, special attention has been given to obtaining Winchester exclusive agencies in the larger cities and two of the retail stores not suitable for sporting goods and conflicting with agency arrangements have been closed and the cost of their liquidation included in the regular operating expenses for the year. To simplify the man-

agement of the remaining stores, they have been separately incorporated as Winchester Retail Stores Co., thus placing Winchester Co. as the parent corporation in the position of holding company.

The comparative income account was given in V. 118, p. 2079. The report of the Winchester Repeating Arms Co. was also given in V. 118, p. 2079.

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET DECEMBER 31.

Table with columns for 1923 and 1922, split into Assets and Liabilities. Assets include Plant & equip't, Retail stores, Cash, Acc'ts & notes rec., Due from Simmons, Hardware Cos., Marketable securities, Depos. as sec. for workmen's compensation, Inventories, Inv. & adv. to affil. cos., Inv. in other cos., and Deferred items. Liabilities include 1st Pf. 7% stock, 2d Pref. 6% non-cum. stock, Common stock, Acc'ts & notes pay., Bank loans, Accrued interest, Accrued taxes, Misc. reserves, 1st M. 20-yr. bds., Minor int. in subs., General reserve, Capital surplus, and Surplus (earned).

GENERAL INVESTMENT NEWS

RAILROADS, INCLUDING ELECTRIC ROADS.

The following news in brief form touches the high points in the railroad and electric railway world during the week just past, together with a summary of the items of greatest interest which were published in full details in last week's "Chronicle" either under "Editorial Comment" or "Current Events and Discussions."

Havana Strike Settled.—It was reported that the strike which has prevailed for some time in Havana (Cuba), including harbor workers, street car men, ice men, tobacco workers and taxi drivers, &c., has been settled, with the strikers losing their demands. "Daily Fin. Am." Apr. 28, p. 1.
Advices on May 2 state that there will probably be a strike on the United Rys. to-morrow at noon. "Wall St. Journal" May 2, p. 11.
"Freight Charges Are Not Large Factor in Cost of Living," Says President Loomis of Lehigh Valley RR.—That railroad transportation costs "are credited with an importance in the cost of living entirely unwarranted by the facts," is the observation of E. E. Loomis, President Lehigh Valley RR. Definite examples of the relation of rates to the cost of living was made public yesterday, Mr. Loomis acting for the Committee on Public Relations of the Eastern Railroads. New York "Times" May 1, p. 29.

Authorized Statistics.—Reports filed with the Car Service Division of the American Railway Association show the following facts:
Surplus Cars.—Surplus freight cars in good repair and immediately available for service totaled 305,981 on April 14, an increase of 27,257 over the number reported on April 7, at which time there were 278,724. Of the total number, surplus coal cars in good repair totaled 180,320, an increase within a week of 21,182, while surplus box cars in good repair numbered 92,023, or an increase within the same period of 4,645. Surplus stock cars totaled 18,849, an increase since April 7 of 206, while there also was an increase of 718 in the number of surplus refrigerator cars, which brought the total for that class of equipment to 8,169.
Car Shopage.—Practically no car shortage is being reported.

Repair of Locomotives.—The railroads on April 15 had 12,144 locomotives in need of repair, or 18.8% of the number on line. This was an increase of 586 locomotives over the number in need of repair on April 1, at which time there were 11,558, or 17.9%. Of the total number, 6,463, or 10%, were in need of classified repair, an increase of 335 compared with the number on April 1. Reports also showed 5,681 or 8.8% in need of running repair, an increase of 251 since the same previous date. The railroads on April 15 had 5,508 serviceable locomotives in storage, in readiness for use whenever traffic conditions warrant. This was an increase of 860 over the number in storage on April 1. During the first 15 days in April, 28,836 locomotives were repaired and turned out of the shops.

Freight Car Repair.—Freight cars in need of repair on April 15 totaled 176,698, or 7.8% of the total number on line, an increase of 3,951 compared with the number of such freight cars on April 1, at which time there were 172,747, or 7.6%. Freight cars in need of heavy repair totaled 129,892, or 5.7%, an increase of 3,960 compared with the number on April 1, while at the same time there were 46,806 freight cars in need of light repair, 2.1% of the number on line, or a decrease of nine cars compared with the number at the beginning of the month.

Matters Covered in "Chronicle" April 26.—(a) Inter-State Commerce Commission postpones until June 20 effective date of preferential railroad rate section of Shipping Act, p. 2001. (b) Flour millers' objections to Section 2c (preferential rate section of Shipping Act), p. 2002. (c) Argument of T. C. Powell, urging postponement of preferential railroad rate under Shipping Act, p. 2002. (d) 5% wage increase granted to conductors and trainmen on Western roads, p. 2003. (e) Increases in wages on Wabash RR., p. 2000. (f) N. Y. N. H. & H. RR. raises wages—Agreement gives 5% increase to engineers and firemen, p. 2003. (g) Wage increase granted by Bessemer & Lake Erie, p. 2003.

American Electric Power Co.—According to a Philadelphia dispatch the company has received overtures to sell one of its properties to an outside operating company, but the latter is not the Electric Bond & Share Co.—V. 118, p. 1663, 1259.

Ann Arbor RR.—New Director.—W. D. Hutton has been elected a director.—V. 118, p. 1663, 1266.

Aitchison Topeka & Santa Fe Ry.—Div. Outlook, &c.—President W. B. Storey, in reply to a question as to whether the dividend would be increased in the near future, said: "If our net earnings for the next two months should fall off \$2,000,000 more, probably that would settle for the present any possibility of an increase in the Common dividend." The directors meet the last week in June to take action on the Common dividend. The California RR. Commission has authorized the company to acquire all the outstanding stock, except five directors' shares, of California Southern Ry. This line is now operated by Aitchison under a 10-year lease. The Kansas P. U. Commission has granted the Saline & Santa Fe RR. permission to lease its property to the Aitchison. The old Saline & Northern recently was purchased by the Santa Fe and incorporated as the Saline & Santa Fe RR.—V. 118, p. 2040, 2033.

Atlanta & West Point RR.—Report.—Calendar Years—1923, 1922, 1921. Railway operating revenues, Railway operating expenses, Net rev. from railway operations, Railway tax accruals, Uncollectible railway revenues, Railway operating income, Non-operating income, Gross income, Deduct—Hire of equipment, Joint facility rents, Interest on unfunded debt, Miscellaneous income charges, Dividends, 6%, Surplus.

Canadian Northern Ry.—No Interest on Debenture Stock.—Referring to the trust deed securing the 5% Income Charge Convertible Debenture stock, the directors regret to announce that the earnings of the company for the half-year ended Dec. 31 1923 are insufficient to enable them to declare any interest to be payable on the above stock on May 2.—V. 116, p. 2762.

Chicago & Interurban Traction Co.—Wages Increased.—Circuit Judge Hugo M. Friend, in an order recently granted a wage increase of 10 cents an hour to 82 motormen and conductors of the company.—V. 116, p. 1759.

Chicago Railways.—Suit to Stop Negotiations for Sale of Properties to City, &c.—A move to upset negotiations now under way for the sale of the traction properties to the city of Chicago to displace directors of the Chicago Rys. and give control of the property to holders of the participation certificates was launched April 23 with the filing of a bill in the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois. The suit requested that a receiver be appointed if necessary to gain these ends.

The bill is largely directed at President Henry A. Blair, and charges that he is acting in the interest of the bondholders in any sale of the traction properties, because he is Vice-President and director of the Illinois Merchants Trust Co., which is trustee under some of the mortgages and alleged to be a holder of bonds in its own name.

The action is in the name of Orville E. Babcock, William F. Prindle, Robert J. Dunham, Harry C. Edmonds, Judson F. Stone, Sidney Mitchell, Albert A. Sack, Arthur T. Gault and Hugh T. Birch. It is alleged that these interests hold more than two-thirds of the Series I participation certificates of the Chicago Rys., which is the principal unit in the traction system operated by the Chicago Surface Lines.

The complainants ask that no further negotiations looking toward sale of the property to the city shall be held until the participation certificate owners can hold a meeting to elect directors, which the court is asked to order. They charge that Henry A. Blair has withheld earnings accruing to the certificates since 1917, which issue recently was fought out unsuccessfully in the courts (V. 118, p. 1664), and has prevented the holders of those securities from meeting through a depository arrangement and has withheld a list of their names.

The complainants also intimate that Mr. Blair is excessively paid and has used funds for political and other purposes. They declare he now receives a salary of \$60,000 annually and ask the court to fix a fair figure and force return of any excessive amounts, as well as to obtain an accounting of income and expenditure in recent years aside from those relating directly to operations. They also say he receives \$40,000 a year as Chairman of the board of control, despite the fact that he is not an operating man.

- The bill asks the following court orders:
1. The trust agreement of Aug. 1 1907 giving depositaries the right to vote the stock of the Chicago Rys. be decreed no longer operative and that the control of the company hereafter to be in directors elected by holders of participation certificates.
2. That a meeting of certificate holders be held under supervision of the court for election of directors "and that the present directors be required to take such steps as may be necessary to effect a substitution of the newly elected directors."
3. That the defendants be ordered to file immediately with the court a true list of present holders of all classes of participation certificates.
4. That defendants be enjoined from voting any of the stock of the company for election of directors.
5. That City of Chicago be enjoined from entering into any contract or agreement for the purchase of the railways company properties.
6. That directors be enjoined from creating or permitting any defaults under any of the four mortgages against the property.

The Harris Trust & Savings Bank, Illinois Merchants Trust Co. and Central Trust Co. be enjoined from taking any legal proceedings in any other court to foreclose any of the mortgages.

8. If necessary to enforce court jurisdiction, a receiver be appointed for Chicago Railways Co.
The complainants, in their bill, express little hope that the City of Chicago will purchase the properties.
In this regard the bill says: "It is alleged that the fair market value of the properties of the Chicago Rys. exceeds \$110,000,000, and, while the ordinance reserves to the city or its nominee right to purchase for cash at the expiration of the ordinance for less than the amount stated, your orators are informed and believe that the city will not at the expiration of the ordinance be in a financial condition to and will not exercise its option to buy."
They contend in the bill that if the directors act in the interest of certificate holders there will be \$10,000,000 left for them after payment of all liens.—V. 118, p. 1771, 1664.

Chesapeake & Ohio Ry.—Where the Dollar Goes.—President W. J. Harahan has had a table prepared showing how every dollar of revenue on the road is spent. The dollar is divided as follows:

Table showing dollar distribution: Maintenance of tracks, roadbed, buildings, bridges and other structures (11.20), Maintenance of locomotives, freight and passenger cars and other equipment (19.76), Train, station, yard and other transportation service (21.33), Traffic agencies, compilation and issuance of tariffs, miscellaneous traffic and operating expenses, hotel, restaurant, dining service and grain elevators (1.93), Locomotive fuel (6.98), Salaries of general officers (0.24), Salaries of clerks and other general office employees (1.02), Legal expenses, pensions, valuation and miscellaneous general expenses (0.72), Depreciation and retirement of equipment (5.42), Loss, damage and casualties (1.18), Rent of equipment, leased lines, joint facilities and miscell. rents (7.51), Interest on bonds and other interest charges (10.60), Dividends on capital stock (3.01), Taxes (4.14), Equipment trust and sinking fund payments (2.38), Balance for enlarging and improving the property (2.58).

Total 100.00
The company has applied to the I.-S. C. Commission for authority to pledge with the Director-General of Railroads, as security for a proposed note issue of \$9,200,000, bearing interest at the rate of 6%, \$12,896,000 of 1st Lien & Imp't. 20-Year 5% Mortgage bonds and \$487,000 Gen. Mtge. 4 1/2% Gold bonds. The note will mature 10 years from the termination of Federal control, or earlier, at the option of the carrier.—V. 118, p. 1664, 1519.

Chicago Burlington & Quincy RR.—Tenders.—The New England Trust Co., trustee, 35 Devonshire St., Boston, Mass., will until May 13 receive bids for the sale to it of C. B. & Q. Nebraska Extension 4% bonds, due May 1 1927, to an amount sufficient to exhaust \$294,410, at a price not exceeding 110 and int.—V. 118, p. 2034.

Cleveland Cincinnati Chicago & St. Louis Ry.—Bonds.—The I.-S. C. Commission on April 24 issued a supplemental order modifying its order of Dec. 29 1923 wherein the company was authorized to issue \$20,000,000 Ref. & Imp't. Mtge. bonds, series "D," bearing interest at the rate of 5 1/2%, red. as a whole on any int. date at 107 1/2 and maturing July 1 1948, and to sell at not less than 94.81 and int, reducing the int. from 5 1/2 to 5%, the redemption price from 107 1/2 to 105 and extending the maturity date to July 1 1963. No definite arrangements for the sale of the proposed bonds, as modified have been made. Negotiations have been had with J. P. Morgan & Co. and it is expected that such bond will be sold at a net price to the applicant of not less than 90 and int.—V. 118, p. 2041, 1518.

East Jersey RR. & Term. Co.—Equip. Trust Notes.—The I.-S. C. Commission on April 17 authorized the company to issue \$138,000 Equip. Trust notes, series "A"; said notes to be delivered at par to the American Car & Foundry Co. in connection with the procurement of 64 50-ton 10,000-gallon tank cars at the unit price of \$2,214 and at an agreed total cost of \$145,530. The latter sum includes \$3,850, which represents expenses in financing the cost of the equipment and deferred interest payments in connection therewith.—V. 118, p. 1772.

Eastern Massachusetts Street Ry.—Adjust. Trust Cfts.—By the terms of the Deed of Trust under which the Adjustment Trust certificates are issued, this trust expires April 30 1924. These certificate

Atlas Tack Corp.—Earnings.—The company reports for the quarter ended March 31 1924 net sales of \$612,479 and a net loss of \$49,997.

Comparative Balance Sheet. Assets—Mar. 31 '24, Dec. 31 '23. Liabilities—Mar. 31 '24, Dec. 31 '23.

Attleboro (Mass.) Steam & Electric Co.—Stock.—The company has applied to the Massachusetts Dept. of Public Utilities for authority to issue 4,160 additional shares of capital stock (par \$25) at \$37.50 a share.

Barnsdall Corp.—Earnings. Quarter Ended Mar. 31 1924.—Gross sales and earnings from operations, \$2,448,021; producing and operating expenses, \$1,494,928; net earnings, \$953,093.

Bassick-Alemite Corp.—Acquisition.—The corporation is reported to have obtained control of the Allyn Zerk & Co., manufacturers of a lubricating device for automobiles.

Batchelder & Snyder Co.—Balance Sheet Oct. 31.—[As filed with the Massachusetts Commissioner of Corporations.] Assets—1923, 1922. Liabilities—1923, 1922.

Batopilas Mining Co.—Transfer and Registration Facilities.—The transfer agent and the registrar of the capital stock of the company have notified the N. Y. Stock Exchange that transfer and registration facilities have been discontinued.

Beech-Nut Packing Co.—Balance Sheet.—Assets—Mar. 31 '24, Dec. 31 '23. Liabilities—Mar. 31 '24, Dec. 31 '23.

Bell Telephone Co. (of Pa.)—Earnings.—Quarter Ended March 31—1924, 1923.

Bethlehem Shipbuilding Co. Ltd.—To Push Claim.—Attorney-General Stone, according to a Washington dispatch of April 29, has appointed Henry P. Brown, of Philadelphia, as special counsel for the Department of Justice to prosecute the Government's claim against the company.

Bethlehem Steel Corp.—Bonds Sold.—Guaranty Co. of New York and Bankers Trust Co. have sold at 96 and int., to yield 6.30%, \$30,000,000 Consol. Mtge. 30-Year Sinking Fund 6% Gold bonds, Series A (see advertising pages).

Bigelow-Hartford Carpet Co.—Obituary.—Pres. Robert P. Perkins died in New York on April 28.—V. 118, p. 2045.

Biflex Products Co.—Stock Offered.—Gorrell & Co., Inc., Chicago, are offering, in blocks of 2 shares of Pref. stock and 1 share of Com. stock at \$200, \$500,000 7% Cum. Sinking Fund Pref. (a. & d.) Stock. Par \$100.

Braeburn (Pa.) Alloy Steel Corp.—New Company.—This company was recently organized to acquire the plant of the Braeburn Steel Co. from the Marlin-Rockwell Corp. (V. 118, p. 439).

Bridgeport Brass Co.—Earnings.—Calendar Years—1923, 1922.

These acquisitions admirably supplemented the Bethlehem system, adding an annual capacity of more than 4,250,000 gross tons of ingots at well located plants, new lines of products and valuable reserves of raw materials.

Purpose.—At the time of the acquisition of the properties mentioned above, it was known that considerable expenditures would be necessary to improve, enlarge and co-ordinate them with the Bethlehem system.

Security.—The Consolidated Mortgage bonds are direct obligations of Bethlehem Steel Corp. and (through a covenant in the Mtge.) of its subsidiary Bethlehem Steel Co. They will be secured by direct mortgage upon, or by the pledge of stocks of companies owning or holdings under lease directly or through other companies, all the plants and raw material properties of the system.

Issuance of Additional Bonds.—Additional consolidated bonds may be issued, under certain restrictions, for the retirement of underlying bonds and for, or to reimburse Bethlehem Steel Co. for, expenditures made or to be made for investments in properties (including obligations or shares of subsidiary companies as defined in the mortgage) at not exceeding 80% of such expenditures.

Sales & Earnings of Bethlehem Steel Corp. Calendar Years. Deprec. & yEarnings Amort. & Available for Interest.

The above earnings include the results of operation after Oct. 10 1922 of properties acquired from Lackawanna and after March 30 1923 of properties acquired from Cambria and Midvale.

The above earnings available for interest show an annual average of \$26,250,000, or almost twice the \$13,800,000 total annual interest requirements including interest on these bonds.

From Jan. 1 1915 until their acquisition by Bethlehem, the Lackawanna, Midvale and Cambria properties acquired had aggregate earnings of over \$123,900,000 available for interest.

Earnings available for interest for the first quarter of 1924 amounted to \$7,600,000, or substantially more than the rate for 1923, since which time there has been some falling off in orders.

Consol. Balance Sheet March 31 1924 (Before giving effect to this financing).

[Bethlehem Steel Corporation and Subsidiary Companies.] Assets—Mar. 31 '24, Dec. 31 '23. Liabilities—Mar. 31 '24, Dec. 31 '23.

x Property account (depletion and amortization deducted) as at Jan. 1 1924, \$599,767,767; additions during 3 months, \$4,238,050; total, \$604,005,818.

Bigelow-Hartford Carpet Co.—Obituary.—Pres. Robert P. Perkins died in New York on April 28.—V. 118, p. 2045.

Biflex Products Co.—Stock Offered.—Gorrell & Co., Inc., Chicago, are offering, in blocks of 2 shares of Pref. stock and 1 share of Com. stock at \$200, \$500,000 7% Cum. Sinking Fund Pref. (a. & d.) Stock. Par \$100.

Capitalization.—Pref. Stock 7% Cumul. (par \$100), 5,000 shares; Com. stock (no par value), 50,000 shares.

Data from Letter of W. G. Pancoast, President of the Company.—Company.—Organized in Illinois late in 1919, and in 1920 entered into production of what is now nationally known as the Biflex cushion bumper.

Purpose.—To acquire a substantial majority of the capital stock of the L. P. Halladay Co., Decatur, Ill., and to provide additional working capital and Sales and Earnings.—Net sales of the Biflex Products Co. from 1921 to 1923, inclusive, averaged \$1,246,484, whereas average net profits from depreciation and Federal taxes for the same period were \$193,456.

Sinking Fund.—An annual cumulative sinking fund beginning in 1925, amounting to \$25,000, or 10% of net earnings (after preferred dividends) of the preceding calendar year, whichever sum is greater, will be payable out of earnings and will be applied to retire Preferred stock at not more than the current redemption price.

Braeburn (Pa.) Alloy Steel Corp.—New Company.—This company was recently organized to acquire the plant of the Braeburn Steel Co. from the Marlin-Rockwell Corp. (V. 118, p. 439).

Officers of the new company include: D. T. Sipe, formerly President of the Vanadium Alloy Steel Co., Latrobe, Pa., President; G. H. Neilson, formerly President Braeburn Steel Co., Vice-President & Gen. Mgr.; G. W. Yealy, President First Savings & Trust Co., Dairy, Pa., Treasurer; and A. J. Barnett, President Barnes Coal Co., Latrobe, Secretary.

Braeburn (Pa.) Steel Co.—Sale.—See Braeburn Alloy Steel Corp. above.—V. 108, p. 2631.

Braeburn (Pa.) Alloy Steel Corp.—New Company.—This company was recently organized to acquire the plant of the Braeburn Steel Co. from the Marlin-Rockwell Corp. (V. 118, p. 439).

Gross sales of the company, not including sales of subsidiaries, were \$5,664,760 in the first quarter of 1924, against \$4,553,424 for the same period last year.

Hearst Publications, Inc.—Guaranteed Bonds Offered.—Halsey, Stuart & Co., Inc., New York, and Anglo-London Paris Co., San Francisco, are offering at 100 and int., \$12,000,000 First Mtge. & Coll. Trust 6 1/2% Serial Golds Bonds (see advertising pages).

Dated May 1 1924. Due serially May 1 1926 to May 1 1936, inclusive. Interest payable M. & N. at the office of the trustee, Anglo-California Trust Co. in San Francisco, and at the office of Halsey, Stuart & Co., Inc., New York and Chicago, without deduction for the normal Federal income tax now or hereafter lawfully deductible at the source not in excess of 2%.

Guaranty.—Unconditionally guaranteed as to principal and interest by William Randolph Hearst.

Data from Letter of William Randolph Hearst, New York, April 22. Company.—Incorp. in California. Will own all of the outstanding capital stocks of the subsidiary companies publishing the following well-established and successful newspapers and magazines:

Table with columns: Newspapers, Magazines. Lists titles like San Francisco Examiner, Good Housekeeping, etc.

The diversified type of the various publications is a strong factor in Hearst Publications, Inc. All of the newspapers are among the foremost in the respective cities where they operate and the magazines are ranked with the leaders of corresponding nationally-known periodicals.

Each of the publications represents an important unit in the Hearst organization and all of the publications have the advantage of the supervision of experts connected with this extensive organization.

In addition to the Associated Press franchises owned by certain of the newspapers, which are very valuable, all of the publications share in the benefits rendered by the special services of the Hearst organization, which include a system of direct private wires all over the United States.

The publications comprising Hearst Publications, Inc., have had a remarkable growth, newspapers having a present combined net paid circulation of 627,000 on week days and 715,000 on Sundays, and the magazines of 2,575,000 monthly.

Table with columns: Capitalization, Authorized, Outstanding. Lists First Mtge. & Coll. Trust 6 1/2% Serial Gold Bonds.

Purpose.—Proceeds will be used for refunding purposes, for the retirement of current liabilities and for other corporate purposes.

Bonds will be a direct obligation of Hearst Publications, Inc., together with joint and several obligation of its various subsidiary companies, and will be secured by a first mortgage lien on real estate, buildings, equipment and other fixed assets now or hereafter owned.

Balance Sheet.—The balance sheet as of Feb. 29 1924, reflecting the proceeds of the new financing, shows current assets of \$11,057,200 as compared with current liabilities of \$1,472,500.

Earnings of the properties to be acquired, as reported by independent auditors, for the last three calendar years:

Table with columns: 1921, 1922, 1923. Lists Gross earnings, Net, after deprec., int. and all taxes.

Annual interest requirements on \$12,000,000 First Mtge. and Coll. Trust 6 1/2% Serial Gold Bonds to be outstanding, \$780,000.

Of the above net earnings for the year 1923, \$3,924,551 were derived from the newspapers and \$2,549,582 from the magazines.

Provisions of Trust Indenture.—The agreement will provide, so long as any of these bonds are outstanding: (a) For the monthly payment to the trustee of amount sufficient to take care of the semi-annual interest and payments of principal of these bonds; and (b) for the release of any of the security for these bonds by the deposit of cash with the trustee or by the cancellation or redemption of any bonds equal in principal amount to the cash release requirements.

It is provided that in no event shall any release of real estate pledged thereunder be made which would bring the aggregate release price of the remaining real estate below an amount which would be equal to 50% of the then outstanding principal amount of bonds, and that in no case shall the stock of any newspaper corporation or the property of any of the magazines, referred to above, be released if the net earnings for a preceding period of twelve months ending not more than sixty days prior to the date of such release of the remaining property shall not equal twice the amount of the annual payments for necessary interest and principal purposes.

Company will covenant not to pay, or to permit any of its subsidiaries to pay, cash dividends out of the surplus as of Feb. 29 1924, of the respective companies.

Hearst Organization.—The so-called Hearst organization had its inception in the San Francisco "Examiner," which was acquired by the father of William Randolph Hearst and has since developed into a chain of newspapers serving a number of the important cities of the United States from coast to coast, together with a number of magazines, comprising the largest publishing business in the world.

The more important newspapers, in addition to those included in Hearst Publications, Inc., are: "The New York American," "New York Evening Journal," "Chicago Herald and Examiner," "Chicago Evening American," "The Milwaukee Telegram," "The Wisconsin News," "The Detroit Times," "The Rochester Evening Journal," "The Rochester Sunday American," "Syracuse Evening Telegram," "Syracuse Sunday American," "The Boston Sunday Advertiser," "The Boston American," "Baltimore News," "Baltimore American," "The Washington Herald," "The Washington Times," "The Atlanta Georgian," "Atlanta Sunday American," "Fort Worth Record," "Seattle Post-Intelligencer," and "Albany Times-Union."

Some idea of the extent of the Hearst organization may be gathered from the fact that one or more of its publications may be found in over 9,000,000 homes and are read by one out of every three families of the United States. The gross business for 1923 amounted to \$123,000,000. The combined net paid circulation of these publications is approximately 9,000,000, the printing of which requires annually 800,000,000 lbs. of paper.—V. 118, p. 2049.

Table with columns: Quarters end. Mar. 31, 1924, 1923, 1922, 1921. Lists Gross receipts, Net earnings, Pref. div., Balance, surplus.

x After deducting all expenses incident to manufacture and sale, ordinary and extraordinary repairs, maintenance of plants, accidents, depreciation, taxes, &c., also interest on Aetna bonds.

Consolidated Balance Sheet March 31.

Table with columns: 1924, 1923. Lists Assets (Plants & property, Cash, Accts. receivable, etc.) and Liabilities (Common stock, Preferred stock, etc.).

Total 40,546,097 39,819,181 Total 40,546,096 39,819,181 V. 118, p. 788.

Hoosar Cotton Mills.—Smaller Preferred Dividend.—The directors have declared a quarterly dividend of 1 1/2% on the 6% Cumul. Partic. Preferred stock, payable May 15 to holders of record May 5.

Humble Oil & Refining Co.—Acquisition.—A published statement, understood by the "Chronicle" to be correct, says: "The company has taken over the Webb leaseholds in the Cotton Valley or Dorcheat district, Webster Parish, La., for \$1,550,000."

Huntington (W. Va.) Water Corp.—Guaranteed Bonds Offered.—P. W. Chapman & Co., Inc., and H. M. Payson & Co., Portland, Me., are offering at 96 3/4 and interest, to yield about 6 1/4%, \$1,300,000 First Mtge. 6% Gold Bonds, Series "A."

Guaranty.—Principal and interest guaranteed by American Water-Works & Electric Co., Inc.

Dated March 1 1924. Due March 1 1954. Interest payable M. & S. at the office or agency of the corporation in New York City, without deduction of normal Federal income tax not in excess of 2%.

Each of the publications represents an important unit in the Hearst organization and all of the publications have the advantage of the supervision of experts connected with this extensive organization.

In addition to the Associated Press franchises owned by certain of the newspapers, which are very valuable, all of the publications share in the benefits rendered by the special services of the Hearst organization, which include a system of direct private wires all over the United States.

Data from Letter of J. C. Adams, President of the Company. Company.—Incorp. in 1917, acquiring the properties of Huntington Water Co. and Guyandotte Water Works Co., which had served the cities of Huntington and Guyandotte (now a part of Huntington) in West Virginia since 1886 and 1888, respectively.

Capitalization.—First Mtge. 6s Series "A" (this issue) x \$1,300,000. 7% Preferred Stock \$1,000,000. Common Stock (no par value) 10,000 shs. 10,000 shs.

x Mortgage provides that additional bonds may be issued thereunder for not in excess of 80% of the actual cost or fair value to the corporation, whichever is the lower, of improvements, additions or extensions to the property, provided the annual net earnings have been at least 1 1/2 times interest charges on all bonds outstanding and those to be issued.

Earnings Year Ended Feb. 29 1924. Gross revenue \$295,213. Operating expenses, maintenance and taxes 136,172. Net earnings \$159,042.

Annual interest on entire funded debt (this issue) \$78,000. Purchase by the City.—Under the agreement now in effect between the city and the corporation, the city has an option to purchase the properties of the corporation at intervals of five years at an appraised value of the property to be determined by two appraisers appointed by the city.

Hurley Machine Co., Chicago.—Earnings.—Calendar Years—1923, 1922, 1921, 1920. Net sales \$6,855,088, \$4,857,464, \$3,844,164, \$8,828,025.

Independent Oil & Gas Co.—Dividends.—The company has declared three quarterly dividends of 25 cents a share, payable June 30, Sept. 30 and Dec. 31 to holders of record June 14, Sept. 14 and Dec. 12, respectively.

Ingersoll-Rand Co.—Earnings.—Calendar Years—1923, 1922, 1921, 1920. Total income \$7,829,592, \$4,982,949, \$3,082,824, \$5,141,191.

Inland Steel Co., Chicago.—New Directors.—Earnings. A. E. Norman and W. D. Truesdale have been elected directors to fill vacancies.

International Business Machines Corp.—Quar. Earns. Three Months Ended March 31—1924, 1923, 1922. Net earnings after bond interest \$658,410, \$558,063, \$402,774.

International Mercantile Marine Co.—Resignation.—The directors have accepted the resignation of Frank A. Vanderlip from the board.—V. 118, p. 1527.

This issue of bonds is secured by a direct first mortgage on land and buildings located at 33d and Market, Ludlow St. and Woodland Ave., Philadelphia, and valued by William Wallace Smith at \$1,000,000.

Telephone Operations.—Summary of Earnings for Month of February.—

The following compilations of the I.-S. C. Commission (subject to revision) are from reports of revenues and expenses of 72 telephone companies for the month of Feb. 1924 as filed in the Bureau of Statistics.

Summary of Monthly Reports of Large Telephone Companies. Table with columns for 1924 and 1923, showing revenue, expenses, and operating income.

(John R.) Thompson Co., Chicago.—Earnings.—

Table showing earnings for three months ended March 31, 1924, compared to 1923, including gross income and dividends.

Tide Water Oil Co.—Earnings.—

Table showing earnings for three months ended March 31, 1924, compared to 1923, including gross earnings and surplus.

Tidewater Steel Corp., Baltimore, Md.—New Co.—

This company was organized in Delaware in March 1924 with an authorized capital of \$1,500,000 (\$1,200,000 Common, par \$10, and \$300,000 8% Preferred, par \$10) to take over the properties of the Maryland Steel Rolling Co. and the Trenton Strip Steel Co.

Timken-Detroit Axle Co.—Balance Sheet Dec. 31.—

Balance sheet for Timken-Detroit Axle Co. as of Dec 31, 1923 and 1922, showing assets and liabilities.

Transue & Williams Steel Forging Corp.—Earnings.—

Table showing earnings for the month of March and three months ended March 31, 1924, compared to 1923.

Two Rector Street Corp.—Tenders.—

The Guaranty Trust Co., trustee, 140 Broadway, N. Y. City, will until May 19 receive bids for the sale to it of 1st Mtge. 15-Year 6% Sinking Fund Gold Loan certificates, due April 1 1935.

Union Cattle Co.—Must Liquidate.—

The bitterly contested litigation, occupying the attention of the Federal Courts of Nevada and California for the last 4 years, revolving around the tangled affairs of this company and its indebtedness to the First National Bank and the First Federal Trust Co. of San Francisco, with more than \$4,000,000 involved, was ended April 7 through a decision of the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

- Order: (1) The right to foreclose the mortgage held by the trustees (First Federal Trust Co.) on the property of the Union Cattle Co. is denied, and the decision of the Federal District Court of Nevada in relation thereto sustained.

Union Oil Co. of California.—Quarterly Report.—

The report for the three months ended March 31 1924, dated at Los Angeles, April 7, says in brief:

Table showing quarterly results for three months ended March 31 1924, compared to 1923, including profit subject to depreciation and net profit.

Profits earned from all operations, less general expenses, taxes (including income tax), interest charges, employees' share of profits, and provident fund.

Production.—Of crude oil by the company and controlled companies approximately 4,250,000 bbls., an increase over the same period last year of 650,000 bbls.

Sales for the three months approximate \$15,800,000, an increase in value of \$400,000. Our exports of crude oil to the Atlantic seaboard have been materially reduced in the last three months.

Capital Expenditures approximate \$2,800,000, consisting principally of the cost of drilling new wells and additions to our marketing station facilities.

Current Liabilities at March 31 1924 approximate \$7,000,000, a decrease of \$300,000 from Dec. 31 1923. During the three months there has been a decrease in mortgage debt in the hands of the public of \$2,930,000, making a total reduction in indebtedness of \$3,230,000.

Capital Stock Subscriptions already paid on the offering of \$4,500,000 Capital stock, made in January last, amounted to \$2,963,000, leaving a balance of \$1,537,000 to be paid on the due dates of May 10, Aug. 10 and Nov. 10 next.

Total dividends paid to date (including quarterly cash dividend of \$1.80 per share paid April 28 1924): Cash, \$54,211,788, and in stock, \$59,745,993; total, \$113,957,781.

(Signed by W. L. Stewart, Pres., and R. D. Matthews, Comp.]—V. 118, p. 1786.

United Bakeries Corp.—Earnings.—

The company reports for the 15 weeks ended April 12 1924 profits of \$768,406, after depreciation, but before income tax. Sales during the period amounted to \$9,852,438.—V. 118, p. 1532.

United Engineering & Foundry Co.—Extra Dividend.—

An extra dividend of 1% was paid on the Common stock April 22 in addition to the regular quarterly dividend of 2%.—V. 116, p. 1907.

United Gas Improvement Co.—Sales of Gas.—

The sales of gas in Philadelphia through the company's subsidiary, the Equitable Illuminating Gas Light Co., in the 3 months ended March 31 1924 compare as follows: 3 Months end, Mar. 31— 1924, 1923, 1922.

United States Finishing Co.—Earnings.— Calendar Years— 1923, 1922.

Gross income, Net operating income, Balance after charges and preferred dividends.

United States Hoffman Machinery Corp.—Earnings.— Quarters ended March 31— 1924, 1923.

Gross sales, Operating expenses, depreciation, &c.

Profit from operation, Interest, &c., income.

Gross income, Interest and other charges, Debenture bond int., Federal taxes, &c., Provision for amortization.

Net income, Profit and loss charges, Previous surplus.

Profit and loss surplus. x Does not include interest accrued on customers' notes receivable.—V. 118, p. 1679.

U. S. Rubber Reclaiming Co., Inc.—Merger.—

See Madison Tire & Rubber Co., Inc., above.—V. 118, p. 2067.

United States Steel Corporation.—Extra Dividend of 1/2 of 1% Declared.—

Quarterly Statement—Foreign Holdings.— The directors have declared an extra dividend of 1/2 of 1% on the outstanding \$508,302,500 Common stock, par \$100, in addition to the usual quarterly dividend of 1 1/4%, both payable June 28 to holders of record May 28.

The regular quarterly dividend of 1 1/4% on the outstanding \$360,281,100 7% Cumulative stock, par \$100, has also been declared, payable May 28 to holders of record May 5.

The financial statement of the corporation and subsidiary companies for the quarter ending March 31 1924 will be found under "Financial Reports" above.

For foreign holdings of Common and Preferred stocks of the Corporation, see under "Current Events and Discussions" in last week's "Chronicle," page 2000.—V. 118, p. 1786.

United Verde Extension Mining Co.—Quar. Report.—

Pres. James S. Douglas reports in brief for the first 3 months of 1924: Copper Output (Pounds)— January, February, March, 1924, 1923.

The mine is in good shape and there is nothing of importance in the way of development to report either in the Jerome Verde or in our ground.

Our copper is fairly well sold ahead in accordance with our usual policy, but the price does not justify the same dividend rate as of last year.

Cash on hand, Liberty bonds (par value \$3,363,950), market value, U. S. Treasury certificates.

The directors on March 19 1924 (V. 118, p. 1413) declared a dividend of 50 cents per share, payable on May 1 to holders of record April 3.—V. 118, p. 1786.

Utah Copper Co.—New Director.—

Ellott C. Bacon of J. P. Morgan & Co. has been elected a director, succeeding William Pierson Hamilton.—V. 118, p. 2038, 1149.

For other Investment News, see page 2206 and 2207.

Reports and Documents.

SEABOARD AIR LINE RAILWAY COMPANY

ANNUAL REPORT—FISCAL YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31 1923.

Baltimore, Md., April 10 1924.

To the Stockholders and Security Owners
Of the Seaboard Air Line Railway Company:

The President and Board of Directors submit the following report of the affairs of the Company for the year ended December 31 1923:

INCOME ACCOUNT.

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31 1923, COMPARED WITH YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31 1922.

	1923.	1922.	Increase.
Railway Operating Revenues.	\$52,249,110 36	\$45,679,048 19	\$6,570,062 17
Railway Operating Expenses.	40,342,259 48	36,222,884 20	4,119,375 28
Net Revenue from Railway Operations	\$11,906,850 88	\$9,456,163 99	\$2,450,686 89
Railway Tax Accruals	2,204,054 28	2,124,235 32	79,818 96
Uncollectible Ry. Revenues.	12,314 20	3,776 11	8,538 09
Railway Operating Income.	\$9,690,482 40	\$7,328,152 56	\$2,362,329 84
Equipment Rents—Dr.	1,644,548 31	2,991,974 66	*1,347,426 35
Joint Facility Rents—Dr.	87,970 68	105,608 95	*17,638 27
Net Ry. Operating Income.	\$7,957,963 41	\$4,230,568 95	\$3,727,394 46
Other Income.	516,756 60	489,074 06	27,682 54
Gross Income.	\$8,474,720 01	\$4,719,643 01	\$3,755,077 00
Rents and Other Charges.	107,095 10	105,973 03	1,122 07
Applicable to Interest.	\$8,367,624 91	\$4,613,669 98	\$3,753,954 93
Fixed Interest Charges.	6,095,245 36	5,616,286 93	478,958 43
Annual Allotment of Discount on Securities.	252,938 81	155,613 13	97,325 68
Interest Adjustment Mortgage (Income) Bonds.	625,000 00		625,000 00
Net Income.	\$1,394,440 74	\$1,158,230 08	\$2,552,670 82

* Decrease.

FUNDED DEBT.

The President, by authority and direction of the Board of Directors, negotiated a loan of \$6,759,000 with the United States Government under the provisions of Section 210 of the Transportation Act, 1920, to provide funds for the retirement of \$3,000,000 Florida Central and Peninsular Railroad Company First Mortgage Bonds maturing July 1 1923; \$1,000,000 Secured Gold Notes of the Company maturing September 15 1923; for the retiral of other obligations, and for additions and betterments. Accordingly the Company issued and delivered to the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States secured notes maturing ten years after date, bearing interest at the rate of Six Per Cent (6%) per annum, payable semi-annually, as follows:

Dated May 21 1923	\$1,259,000
Dated June 30 1923	3,000,000
Dated August 1 1923	300,000
Dated September 14 1923	1,000,000
Dated October 1 1923	450,000
Dated November 1 1923	350,000
Dated December 1 1923	400,000
Total	\$6,759,000

During the year \$4,028,000 First and Consolidated Mortgage, Series "A," Six Per Cent (6%) Bonds, due 1945, were delivered to the Company by the Trustee of the First and Consolidated Mortgage in reimbursement of expenditures for additions, betterments and equipment pursuant to the provisions of said Mortgage. These bonds were used by the Company as part of the collateral to secure the loans received from the United States under Section 210 of the Transportation Act.

During the year 1920 allotment of \$2,750,000 Refunding Mortgage Four Per Cent (4%) Gold Bonds, due 1959, were delivered to the Company by the Trustee of the Refunding Mortgage in respect of expenditures for additions, betterments and property, pursuant to the provisions of said Mortgage. These bonds were pledged under the Company's First and Consolidated Mortgage, as therein provided.

In April 1923 Equipment Trust Agreement Series "V," Philadelphia Plan, was entered into with The Chase National Bank of the City of New York as Trustee, under which there was issued \$6,600,000 principal amount of Six Per Cent (6%) equipment trust certificates payable in twenty-four semi-annual installments of \$275,000 each, on the first day of October and the first day of April in each year, commencing October 1 1923 and ending April 1 1935.

The equipment acquired under Trust "V," most of which was reported in last year's annual report as contracted for, is hereinafter enumerated.

Since the close of the year Equipment Trust Agreement Series "W," dated December 15 1923, has been entered into with The Chase National Bank of the City of New York, as Trustee. There is to be issued thereunder \$1,620,000 principal amount of Six Per Cent (6%) equipment trust certificates. The equipment to be acquired under this trust is hereinafter enumerated.

\$3,000,000 Florida Central and Peninsular Railroad Company First Mortgage "Extended" Bonds, maturing July 1 1923 were acquired by the Company; these bonds remain uncanceled and have been pledged under the Refunding Mortgage, as required thereunder, and a like face amount of

Refunding Mortgage Four Per Cent (4%) Gold Bonds, due 1959, were delivered to the Company in 1924. These \$3,000,000 Refunding Bonds have been pledged under the Company's First and Consolidated Mortgage as against the delivery in 1924 of \$3,000,000 First and Consolidated Mortgage, Series "A" Six Per Cent Bonds, due 1945, which were used as collateral to secure loans received from the United States under Section 210 of the Transportation Act, 1920.

There were paid and retired during the year \$1,000,000 face amount of Seaboard Air Line Railway Company Three Year Extended Gold Notes, maturing September 15 1923.

Equipment Trust Certificates aggregating \$1,476,000 were paid off and acquired during the year. The certificates are uncanceled and have been or may be pledged under the First and Consolidated Mortgage against the drawing down of First and Consolidated Bonds.

EQUIPMENT.

Equipment Trust Series "V" provides for the following equipment:

- 20 new Mikado type freight locomotives.
- 4 new all steel combination mail and baggage cars,
- 1000 new 80,000 lb. capacity steel upperframe and underframe, steel end ventilated box cars,
- 1000 new 100,000 lb. capacity steel upperframe and underframe, low side gondola cars,
- 25 new steel underframe caboose cars,
- 1100 rebuilt steel upperframe and underframe ventilated box cars,
- 500 rebuilt steel center sill, reinforced ends, ventilated box cars,
- 400 rebuilt steel underframe hopper bottom gondola cars.

Of the above equipment, and other equipment reported in last year's report as contracted for and undelivered, the following was received and put into service during the year:

- 23 new Mikado type freight locomotives,
- 1 new steel dining car,
- 1726 new 80,000 lb. capacity steel upperframe and underframe, steel end ventilated box cars,
- 1000 new 100,000 lb. capacity steel upperframe and underframe, low side goldola cars,
- 25 new steel underframe caboose cars,
- 1178 rebuilt steel upperframe and underframe ventilated box cars,
- 1539 rebuilt steel centre sill, reinforced ends, box cars,
- 400 rebuilt steel underframe hopper bottom gondola cars,
- 245 rebuilt wood upperframe and steel underframe box cars,
- 1533 rebuilt drop bottom gondola cars,
- 76 rebuilt all steel phosphate cars,

leaving equipment contracted for but undelivered as follows:

- 4 new all steel combination mail and baggage cars,
- 225 rebuilt steel upperframe and underframe ventilated box cars,
- 56 rebuilt steel centre sill, reinforced ends, box cars.

Since January 1 1924 the following additional equipment to be acquired under Equipment Trust Series "W" has been contracted for delivery as early as possible during the current year, to wit:

- 4 new all steel combination mail and baggage cars,
- 2 new all steel dining cars,
- 1 new all steel business car,
- 25 new steel underframe caboose cars,
- 932 80,000 lb. capacity steel underframe flat cars, new except for rebuilt trucks,
- 588 rebuilt freight cars.

At the close of the year only 15.5% of the Company's locomotives were awaiting repairs, 10.8% being in need of heavy repairs, the balance, 4.7%, requiring running repairs only.

At the close of the year only 4.91% of the freight cars owned by the Company, were on its line, in unserviceable condition, awaiting repairs.

The Company's rebuilding program, begun in 1922, involved the complete rehabilitation of 10,620 freight cars. It is anticipated that the entire program will be completed by the summer of 1924. As of the close of the year 8,819 had been rebuilt and put into service, leaving a balance of 1,801 to be completed in the early part of 1924.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The freight car rebuilding program put into effect by this Company during 1922, marked a new era in overcoming the delinquencies of Federal control during which Seaboard equipment suffered severely and as a result of which the railroad, upon return to its owners, faced a serious problem owing to the bad order equipment conditions. Equipment rehabilitation under the Company's policy, together with the purchase of certain new equipment, increased operating efficiency and enabled the Company to handle the large volume of freight business during the year which otherwise could not have been secured. The policy adopted placed the Company in position to handle additional traffic, both freight and passenger, and not only were the Company's gross earnings largely increased over the preceding year, but equipment per diem paid for foreign cars decreased \$1,347,426 35, although the equipment program had not been completed at the close of 1923.

Gross revenues increased \$6,570,062 17 over 1922. Freight revenue increased \$4,576,331 65, although a ten per cent (10%) rate reduction became effective during the previous year. Passenger train revenue increased \$1,808,275 03, and

other revenue from operations increased \$185,455 49. The number of revenue tons carried during 1923 was 14,995,016, an increase over the previous year of 2,615,920 tons, or 21%. The number of tons of revenue freight carried one mile increased 17%, and there was an equal increase in the number of revenue tons carried one mile per mile of road.

Operating expenses increased \$4,119,375 28, of which \$2,136,334 52 was in maintenance. Gross revenues increased \$6,570,062 17, while transportation expenses increased only \$1,650,341 89. The transportation ratio was 38.89, as against 40.86 for the previous year. The number of revenue tons per train increased 4% over the previous year. Train miles increased 10% and locomotive miles increased 11% and, as previously stated, equipment rents decreased \$1,347,426 35.

The negotiations for the settlement of the Company's claim against the United States Railroad Administration, growing out of Federal control, terminated during 1923. These negotiations had been carried on since 1920. Your management believed that the terms named by the Director-General of Railroads at the beginning of these negotiations in 1920 were totally inadequate and not commensurate with the value of the property to the Government under the rental value the Director-General then proposed, and would not compensate the Company for the damage done to its freight car equipment during Federal control. The freight car equipment of this Company was turned over to the Railroad Administration in 6.7% bad order and returned in approximately 40% bad order. Your management believed it was essential that sufficient time be given to prove the claims made in this respect and declined to press matters to a conclusion until sufficient time had been given to permit the freights cars in the ordinary course of business to be returned from other lines in order that their condition could be ascertained.

The rental or standard return for the Company's property was finally fixed at \$7,800,000 per annum for the period of Federal control, compared with the figure of \$6,504,428 76 originally certified for the standard rental. As a result of the fixing of this amount as standard rental, the Company received \$650,188 43 in final settlement with the Inter-State Commerce Commission on account of the six months' guaranty period, and in reimbursement, under Section 209 of the Transportation Act, of the deficit from operations during that period. The balance of the amount for the guaranty period had been previously paid. The settlement of the guaranty period resulted in a charge to Profit and Loss due to abnormal maintenance which was necessary during the period immediately following Federal control.

In the final settlement with the Director-General of Railroads \$750,000 was received in addition to the amount received from the Commission, the balance between the increased amount finally agreed upon as a standard rental and the rental first certified, which had been paid by previous advances. Expenditures made by the Director-General for additions and betterments to the Company's property during Federal control were funded in the amount of \$2,000,000, increasing the cash received by the Company in final settlement with the Government to \$3,400,188 43.

In this settlement all Federal control accounts against the Seaboard were discharged, including items of the book accounts between the Director-General and the Company, which, on the basis of the so-called standard return indicated an apparent balance against the Seaboard amounting to approximately \$8,000,000, without computing interest or the Director-General's claim for over-expenditures with respect to maintenance on the flat accounting basis, which the Company declined to accept.

While the settlement did not produce the amount which as a result of litigation, in the judgment of your management, would be recoverable, in view of the fact that your Company declined to accept the standard form of contract for the taking of the property under Federal control, a suit in the Court of Claims would have been requisite to establish full recovery. For this reason, in view of the substantial concessions by the Director-General, regarded as reasonable from his standpoint, in view of the basis of settlement with other carriers, the settlement was agreed to. The result was a substantial credit to the Company's Profit and Loss Account.

On December 20 1923, the Board of Directors declared and ordered paid on February 1 1924 an installment of interest on the \$25,000,000 Adjusted Mortgage Bonds, amounting to two and one-half per cent (2½%), represented by August 1 1921 coupons, numbers 45 and 46 for \$12 50 each.

The outlook for business throughout the territory traversed by this railroad is excellent. The favorable prices for cotton, tobacco and other products of the Southern country give an increased purchasing power throughout this territory. Indications are that the movement of fertilizer during 1924 will be very heavy. The production of citrus fruits and vegetables in Florida and products from the other States of the South is increasing from year to year with unprecedented rapidity, indicating heavy increases in this class of traffic for 1924.

The passenger business of the Seaboard has already shown large increases and promises for the coming year to be heavily augmented. Florida and the whole Southern country are now looked to as perhaps the most important pleasure seeking territory of the country. People from various

sections of this country and from other countries are beginning to realize that the South offers the greatest inducements not only for relaxation and rest, because of climatic and other conditions and the excellence of the hotel accommodations, but also as a place of residence, many investing in property and making the South either a permanent or part time residence.

Traffic density in Seaboard territory has greatly increased. Mileage at one time unproductive is now productive.

Too great a concentration of railroads into a very few large consolidated systems, such as has been proposed, will not secure the best results to the South. Many millions of acres of agricultural lands; great deposits of minerals, clays and material used in industrial commerce, await development. Adequate transportation facilities are essential to enable the South to work out its destiny. These facilities can only be obtained by an attitude toward the railroads that will enable them to sell their securities with reasonable assurance to the investor of their ability to meet their obligations.

The Transportation Act of 1920 should not be amended in essential particulars. Harmful legislation affecting the railroads would have much to do with depressing existing business conditions.

The Directors desire that an expression of appreciation be extended to the officers and employees for the loyal and efficient service which they have rendered in the development and satisfactory progress of the Company's business.

S. DAVIES WARFIELD, *President.*

INCOME ACCOUNT FOR THE QUARTER ENDED MARCH 31 1924,
COMPARED WITH QUARTER ENDED MARCH 31 1923.

	Three Months Ended March 31 1924.	Three Months Ended March 31 1923.	Increase.
Railway operating revenues	\$14,798,887 33	\$13,916,934 62	\$881,952 71
Railway operating expenses	11,142,823 59	10,892,710 37	250,113 22
Net revenue from railway operations	\$3,656,063 74	\$3,024,224 25	\$631,839 49
Railway tax accruals	570,000 00	525,000 00	45,000 00
Uncollectible railway revenues	2,557 33	2,515 45	41 88
Railway operating income	\$3,083,506 41	\$2,496,708 80	\$586,797 61
Equipment rents—Dr	324,436 56	831,132 80	*506,696 24
Joint facility rents—Dr	24,075 00	21,150 00	2,925 00
Net railway oper. income	\$2,734,994 85	\$1,644,426 00	\$1,090,568 85
Other income	165,567 04	124,399 37	41,167 67
Gross income	\$2,900,561 89	\$1,768,825 37	\$1,131,736 52
Rents and other charges	29,425 78	26,306 14	3,119 64
Applicable to interest	\$2,871,136 11	\$1,742,519 23	\$1,128,616 88
Interest charges (exclusive of interest of adjustment mortgage (income bonds))	1,645,286 10	1,484,444 81	160,841 29
Discount on securities	62,925 31	63,387 18	*461 87
Net income before adjustment mortgage (income) bond interest	\$1,162,924 70	\$194,687 24	\$968,237 46

* Decrease.

TABLE NO. 2—GENERAL BALANCE SHEET, DEC. 31 1923.

ASSETS.	
<i>Investments—</i>	
Investment in Road and Equipment:	
Road	\$167,864,141 81
Equipment	37,590,539 17
General Expenditures	572,747 24
Sinking Funds	\$206,027,428 22
Deposits in Lieu of Mortgaged Property Sold	1,032 04
Miscellaneous Physical Property	1,024,205 67
Investments in Affiliated Companies:	835,943 63
Stocks—Pledged	
Stocks—Unpledged	\$3,088,654 31
Bonds—Pledged	299,639 22
Bonds—Unpledged	916,158 45
Notes	407,551 78
Advances	741,905 12
	4,266,945 82
Other Investments:	9,720,854 70
Stocks—Pledged	\$26 00
Stocks—Unpledged	84,546 82
Bonds—Pledged	9,850 00
Bonds—Unpledged	21,000 00
Notes	30,636 00
Advances	171,794 97
	317,853 79
Total	\$217,927,318 05
<i>Current Assets—</i>	
Cash with Treasurer	\$3,879,877 41
Cash in Transit	1,041,914 24
	4,921,791 65
Special Deposits—Cash with Fiscal Agencies and Trustees	1,059,568 57
Loans and Bills Receivable	43,575 23
Traffic and Car Service Balances Receivable	1,224,275 76
Net Balances Receivable from Agents and Conductors	190,617 12
Miscellaneous Accounts Receivable:	
Individuals and Companies	\$1,630,800 89
United States Government	259,151 46
Other Companies for Claims	131,894 55
	2,021,846 90
Material and Supplies	5,088,110 42
Interest and Dividends Receivable	3,302 04
Rents Receivable	3,867 60
Other Current Assets	314,302 47
Total	14,871,257 76
<i>Deferred Assets—</i>	
Working Fund Advances	\$65,930 96
Other Deferred Assets	474,947 62
Total	540,878 58
<i>Unadjusted Debits—</i>	
Insurance Premiums Paid in Advance	\$102,924 49
Discount on Funded Debt	4,587,539 93
Claims in Suspense	386,775 59
Other Unadjusted Debits	1,496,791 58
Total	6,574,031 59
Grand Total	\$239,913,485 98

LIABILITIES	
Capital Stock—	
Common Capital Stock	
Issued	\$40,041,000 00
Less: Pledged as Collateral	\$3,021,600 00
In Treasury	300 00
	\$37,019,100 00
Preferred 4-2% Capital Stock	
Issued	\$25,000,000 00
Less: Pledged as Collateral	1,105,900 00
	23,894,100 00
Preferred 6% Capital Stock	
Issued	\$2,273,100 00
Less: Pledged as Collateral	\$2,225,000 00
In Treasury	800 00
	37,300 00
Total	\$60,950,500 00
Funded Debt Unmatured—	
Equipment Obligations	\$26,628,687 47
Less: Pledged as Collateral	\$9,224,687 47
In Treasury	66,000 00
	\$17,338,000 00
Mortgage Bonds Proprietary	
Companies	\$39,606,000 00
Less: Pledged as Collateral	5,947,000 00
	33,659,000 00
S. A. L. Railway First Mortgage Bonds	\$39,775,000 00
Less: Pledged as Collateral	27,000,000 00
	12,775,000 00
S. A. L. Railway Refunding Mortgage Bonds	\$58,761,000 00
Less: Pledged as Collateral	39,411,000 00
	19,350,000 00
S. A. L. Railway Company First and Consolidated Mortgage Bonds, Series "A"	\$48,749,000 00
Less: Pledged as Collateral	\$20,838,500 00
In Treasury	133,000 00
	27,777,500 00
Income Bonds:	
S. A. L. Railway Adjustment Mortgage Bonds	25,000,000 00
Miscellaneous Obligations:	
Secretary of Treasury of United States—Notes	14,557,400 00
Director-General of Railroads, United States—Note	2,000,000 00
Total	152,456,900 00
Non-Negotiable Debt to Affiliated Companies	420,362 43
Current Liabilities—	
Loans and Bills Payable	\$32,560 19
Traffic and Car Service Balances Payable	961,476 79
Audited Accounts and Wages Payable:	
Audited Vouchers Unpaid	\$4,084,833 37
Wages Unpaid	1,191,230 57
	5,276,063 94
Miscellaneous Accounts Payable:	
Individuals and Companies	\$104,789 95
Agents Traffic Drafts	126,805 02
Claim Authorities	51,048 89
	282,643 86

Brought forward	\$6,552,744 78	\$152,877,262 43
Interest Matured Unpaid:		
Funded Debt	\$668,793 75	
Equipment Trust Obligations	13,593 03	682,386 78
Dividends Matured Unpaid		9 00
Funded Debt Matured Unpaid		129,500 00
Unmatured Interest Accrued:		
Funded Debt	\$1,806,402 79	
Equipment Trust Obligations	315,000 14	
Unfunded Debt	2,851 64	2,124,254 57
Unmatured Rents Accrued		33,288 26
Other Current Liabilities		241,264 71
Total		9,763,448 10
Deferred Liabilities—		
Other Deferred Liabilities		389,307 40
Unadjusted Credits—		
Accrued Taxes	\$540,675 17	
Operating Reserves	1,448,490 14	
Accrued Depreciation—Equipment	4,653,238 52	
Reserve for Outstanding Stock of Proprietary Companies	19,526 41	
Other Unadjusted Credits	1,587,789 78	
Total		8,249,720 02
Corporate Surplus—		
Additions to Property through Income and Surplus	\$280,381 71	
Funded Debt Retired through Income and Surplus	3,896 12	
Profit and Loss—Surplus	7,398,970 20	
Total		7,683,248 03
Grand Total		\$239,913,485 98

Accumulated and unpaid interest on Adjustment Mortgage (Income) Bonds amounting to \$3,333,333 34 and payable out of future income, or otherwise, or at the maturity of the bonds, is not comprehended in the above balance sheet.

This Company is liable as a Guarantor of the following Securities and Obligations:

Athens Terminal Company First Mortgage	\$100,000 00
Birmingham Terminal Company First Mortgage—Seaboard proportion one-sixth of	1,940,000 00
Fruit Growers Express Company—Payments	569,045 22
Jacksonville Terminal Company First Mortgage—Seaboard proportion one-third of	400,000 00
Jacksonville Terminal Company First and General Mortgage—Seaboard proportion one-fourth of	100,000 00
Jacksonville Terminal Company Refunding and Extension Mortgage—Seaboard proportion one-fourth of	3,100,000 00
Macon Dublin & Savannah Railroad Company First Mortgage	1,529,000 00
Raleigh & Charleston Railroad Company Prior Lien and Consolidated Mortgages	550,000 00
Richmond-Washington Company Collateral Trust Mortgage—Seaboard proportion one-sixth of	10,000,000 00
Savannah & Statesboro Railway Company First Mortgage	185,000 00
Southeastern Investment Company—Note	150,000 00
Tampa & Gulf Coast Railroad Company First Mortgage	750,000 00
The Seaboard-Bay Line Company—Payments	300,000 00
The Seaboard-Bay Line Company Notes to Secretary of Treasury of United States	4,239,000 00
Wilmington Railway Bridge Company Consolidated Mortgage—Seaboard proportion one-half of	217,000 00

THE NEW YORK CHICAGO AND ST. LOUIS RAILROAD COMPANY

FIRST ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS—YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31 1923.

To the Stockholders of

The New York Chicago & St. Louis Railroad Company:

The Board of Directors herewith submits its report for the year ended December 31 1923.

This Company was formed under the laws of New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois by consolidation of The New York Chicago & St. Louis Railroad Company, The Chicago & State Line Railroad Company, Toledo St. Louis & Western Railroad Company, The Lake Erie & Western Railroad Company, and Fort Wayne Cincinnati & Louisville Railroad Company.

The Agreement and Articles of Consolidation were entered into by the directors of the constituent companies on December 28 1922. Ratification by the stockholders, and compliance with the requirements of State statutes, were completed on April 11 1923, on which date the consolidation became effective. On June 18 1923 the Inter-State Commerce Commission issued a certificate of public convenience and necessity authorizing the acquisition, and operation in inter-State commerce, of the lines of railroad of the constituent companies by the consolidated corporation, and approved the necessary issue of securities.

The total capital stock of the consolidated company authorized by the Agreement and Articles of Consolidation is \$105,500,000, of which \$45,880,000 is to be preferred stock and \$59,620,000 is to be common stock. The amount of stock authorized by the Inter-State Commerce Commission to be presently issued in exchange for the stocks of the constituent companies is \$78,967,900, of which \$32,720,000 is preferred stock and \$46,247,900 is common stock. On December 31 1923 capital stock of the constituent companies amounting to \$78,468,800 par value had been exchanged, par for par, for stock of this company, leaving a stock liability for conversion under the Agreement and Articles of Consolidation of \$499,100. A part of the stock which will

be issued to discharge that liability will be contributed to the Company pursuant to the Agreement. Because of contributions by stockholders and other adjustments incident to the consolidation, the Company holds in its treasury, out of the total of \$78,468,800 issued and exchanged to December 31 1923, fully paid preferred stock of the par value of \$6,785,714 and fully paid common stock of the par value of \$15,751,596.

The outstanding funded debt of the Company on December 31 1923, including funded debt of the constituents, was as follows:

Mortgage Bonds—	
First Sinking Fund 4s, due 1937—N. Y. C. & St. L.	\$17,655,000
Gold 4s, due 1931	10,000,000
Second and Improvement 6s, due 1931	12,230,000
Prior Lien 3½s, due 1925—T. St. L. & W.	\$9,575,000
First 4s, due 1950	6,500,000
First 5s, due 1937—L. E. & W.	\$7,250,000
Second 5s, due 1941	3,625,000
	10,875,000
Equipment Obligations—	
Serials 4½s, due 1924-1926—N. Y. C. & St. L.	\$420,000
Sinking Fund 5s, due 1931	3,157,000
Sinking Fund 5½s, due 1932	326,000
Serial 5s, due 1924-1937	3,150,000
	7,053,000
Federal Serial 6s, due 1924-1935—T. St. L. & W.	945,600
Serial 4½s, due 1924-1927—L. E. & W.	\$440,000
Federal Serial 6s, due 1924-1935	518,400
	958,400
Serial 5s, due 1924-1938	4,275,000
Miscellaneous Obligations—	
Note to U. S. Railroad Administration, due 1930—N. Y. C. & St. L.	1,000,000
Serial notes to U. S. Treasurer, due 1924-1936—T. St. L. & W.	600,000
Serial notes to N. Y. C. RR., due 1924-1932—L. E. & W.	1,170,000
Total	\$82,837,000

In addition to the funded debt outstanding at December 31 1923, \$690,000 in N. Y. C. & St. L. Second and Improvement 6s, issued during the year, and \$425,000 in T. St. L. & W. Prior Lien 3½s, were held in the treasury of the Com-

pany, while \$1,389,000 in N. Y. C. & St. L. Second and Improvement 6s and \$692,000 in T. St. L. & W. Receiver's Certificates of Indebtedness were pledged as collateral security for the notes to the United States Government.

Inasmuch as this Company succeeded to all the properties, rights and privileges of the constituent companies under the provisions of the Agreement and Articles of Consolidation dated December 28 1922, the financial and statistical statements, which are appended, show the results from operation of the Company's property for the entire year, and comparisons are made with the combined figures of the constituent companies for the previous year.

The Board takes pleasure in acknowledging the fidelity, efficiency and united efforts displayed by your officers and employees in the discharge of their duties during the year.

For the Board of Directors,

J. J. BERNET, *President.*

O. P. VAN SWERINGEN, *Chairman of the Board.*

INCOME ACCOUNT.

	1923.	1922.
<i>Operating Income—</i>		
Railway operating revenues	\$57,477,378 99	\$50,948,424 92
Railway operating expenses	43,938,161 63	39,060,666 86
Net revenue from railway operations	\$13,539,217 36	\$11,887,758 06
Railway tax accruals	\$2,852,483 16	\$2,604,453 98
Uncollectible railway revenues	7,690 40	5,890 87
	\$2,860,173 56	\$2,610,344 85
Railway operating income	\$10,679,043 80	\$9,277,413 21
<i>Nonoperating Income—</i>		
Rent from locomotives	\$47,094 88	\$63,553 08
Rent from passenger-train cars	23,524 58	19,849 59
Rent from work equipment	13,921 10	12,290 98
Joint facility rent income	202,748 19	263,790 33
Miscellaneous rent income	119,893 26	77,860 17
Miscellaneous non-operating physical property	24,821 28	22,748 29
Dividend income	719,582 50	85,768 50
Income from funded securities	46,968 06	56,526 22
Income from unfunded securities & accounts	329,194 80	316,866 52
Income from sinking & other reserve funds	425 00	425 00
Miscellaneous income	2,625 30	4,562 62
Total nonoperating income	\$1,530,798 95	\$924,241 30
Gross income	\$12,209,842 75	\$10,201,654 51
<i>Deductions from Gross Income—</i>		
Hire of freight cars—Debit balance	\$1,301,615 28	\$794,370 42
Rent for locomotives	13,723 25	58,610 01
Rent for passenger-train cars	59,899 51	54,342 97
Rent for work equipment	14,472 88	4,326 38
Joint facility rents	377,767 57	351,402 61
Rent for leased roads	2,789 90	5,689 90
Miscellaneous rents	101,100 76	174,921 51
Miscellaneous tax accruals	9,316 17	14,317 38
Interest on funded debt	3,669,233 39	3,121,179 87
Interest on unfunded debt	248,575 30	117,211 49
Amortization of discount on funded debt	45,846 79	46,353 63
Miscellaneous income charges	34,160 34	118,965 22
Total deductions from gross income	\$5,878,501 14	\$4,861,691 39
Net income	\$6,331,341 61	\$5,339,963 12
<i>Disposition of Net Income—</i>		
Income applied to sinking funds	\$98,482 05	\$98,226 00
Dividend appropriations of income	3,556,648 00	1,499,365 00
Total sinking fund & dividend appropriations	\$3,655,130 05	\$1,597,591 00
Income balance transferred to profit & loss account	\$2,676,211 56	\$3,743,372 12
PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.		
Credit balance December 31 1922		\$17,421,930 18
Balance transferred from Income Account	\$2,676,211 56	
Profit on road & equipment sold	487,130 75	
Discount on bonds purchased & retired	10,517 95	
Unrefundable overcharges	4,496 43	
Donations	9,310 17	
Miscellaneous credits & adjustments	16,637,422 32	
		19,825,089 18
		\$37,247,019 36
Loss on retired road & equipment	\$134,478 04	
Dividend appropriations of surplus	798,110 80	
Surplus appropriated for investment in physical property	9,310 17	
Debt discount extinguished through surplus	228,604 59	
Premium on equipment trust certificates purchased & retired	1,369 60	
Miscellaneous debits	191,454 07	
		1,363,327 27
Credit balance December 31 1923		\$35,883,692 09

GENERAL BALANCE SHEET DECEMBER 31 1923.

ASSETS.	
<i>Investments—</i>	
Investment in road & equipment:	
Road	\$142,029,270 45
Equipment	39,575,064 93
General expenditures	435,712 96
	\$182,040,048 34
Improvements on leased railway property	56,777 82
Sinking fund for equipment trust certificates	211,911 41
Deposits in lieu of mortgaged property sold	116,800 99
Miscellaneous physical property	1,025,057 71
<i>Investments in affiliated companies:</i>	
Stocks	\$7,839,183 00
Bonds	466,601 00
Advances	93,800 00
Other investments:	8,399,584 00
Stocks	\$1,000 00
Bonds	189,166 32
Notes	21,800 00
Miscellaneous	2,090 00
	214,056 32
	\$192,064,236 59
<i>Current Assets—</i>	
Cash	\$3,469,481 43
Time drafts & deposits	1,833,397 00
Special deposits	3,062,993 26
Loans & bills receivable	141,194 27
Traffic & car service balances receivable	1,286,418 61
Net balance receivable from agents & conductors	708,231 88
Miscellaneous accounts receivable	1,350,266 70
Material & supplies	4,963,551 07
Interest & dividends receivable	265,940 68
Rents receivable	14,600 61
Other current assets	438,649 84
	17,534,725 35
<i>Deferred Assets—</i>	
Working fund advances	\$16,851 55
Insurance & other funds	10,287 50
Other deferred assets	9,748,469 86
	9,775,608 91
<i>Unadjusted Debits—</i>	
Rents & insurance premiums paid in advance	\$62,500 00
Discount on funded debt	338,620 14
Other unadjusted debits	2,472,204 51
<i>Securities issued or assumed—Unpledged:</i>	
Capital stock—Common	\$15,751,596 00
Cumulative preferred	6,785,714 00
Second & improvement mortgage bonds	690,000 00
Prior lien bonds	425,000 00
	23,652,310 00
<i>Securities issued or assumed—Pledged:</i>	
Second & improvement mortgage bonds	\$1,389,000 00
Receivers' certificates of indebtedness	692,000 00
	2,081,000 00
	28,606,634 65
	\$247,981,205 50
LIABILITIES.	
<i>Stock—</i>	
Capital stock:	
Common	\$45,942,800 00
Cumulative preferred, Series A	32,508,300 00
Ownership certificates:	
Common	7,050 00
Cumulative preferred, Series A	10,650 00
	\$78,468,800 00
Stock liability for conversion:	
Common	\$298,050 00
Cumulative preferred, Series A	201,050 00
	499,100 00
	\$78,967,900 00
<i>Long Term Debt—</i>	
Funded debt unmaturing:	
Equipment obligations	\$13,232,000 00
Mortgage bonds	66,835,000 00
Mortgage bonds nominally issued	2,504,000 00
Collateral trust notes:	
Note to U. S. Railroad Administration	1,000,000 00
U. S. Government loan notes, Series 1921	600,000 00
Miscellaneous obligations:	
Serial notes to New York Central RR	1,170,000 00
	\$85,341,000 00
Receiver's certificates of indebtedness	692,000 00
	86,033,000 00
<i>Current Liabilities—</i>	
Loans and bills payable	\$4,273,381 11
Traffic and car service balances payable	1,861,425 55
Audited accounts and wages payable	6,452,751 04
Miscellaneous accounts payable	998,323 68
Interest matured unpaid	502,345 00
Dividends matured unpaid	836,569 50
Unmatured interest accrued	808,874 44
Other current liabilities	699,985 29
	16,433,655 61
<i>Deferred Liabilities—</i>	
Other deferred liabilities	10,488,248 31
<i>Unadjusted Credits—</i>	
Tax liability	\$2,441,778 87
Operating reserves	177,807 14
Accrued depreciation—Equipment	7,570,246 58
Other unadjusted credits	2,709,607 59
	12,899,440 18
<i>Corporate Surplus—</i>	
Additions to property through income and surplus	\$5,703,172 35
Funded debt retired through income and surplus	1,478,296 96
Miscellaneous fund reserves	93,800 00
Total appropriated surplus	\$7,275,269 31
Profit and loss—Balance	35,883,692 09
	43,158,961 40
	\$247,981,205 50

THE CHESAPEAKE AND OHIO RAILWAY COMPANY

FORTY-SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT—FISCAL YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31 1923.

Richmond, Va., March 31 1924.

To the Stockholders:

The Forty-sixth Annual Report of the Board of Directors for the fiscal year ended December 31 1923 is herewith submitted.

The average mileage operated during the year was 2,552.7 miles, an increase over the previous year of 3.6 miles. The mileage at the end of the year was 2,552.9 miles, an increase of 2.2 miles over mileage on December 31 1922. See schedule on page 12 [pamphlet report].

RESULTS FOR THE YEAR.

Operating Revenues.....	\$101,975,797 68
(Increase \$18,464,236 66, or 22.11%)	
Operating Expenses.....	78,889,776 46
(Increase \$12,771,746 62, or 19.32%)	
Net Operating Revenue.....	\$23,086,021 22
(Increase \$5,692,490 04, or 32.73%)	
Taxes and Uncollectible Railway Revenue.....	4,716,669 98
(Increase \$1,404,265 78, or 42.39%)	
Railway Operating Income.....	\$18,369,351 24
(Increase \$4,288,224 26, or 30.45%)	
Net Equipment and Joint Facility Rents.....	766,004 37
(Increase \$436,801 50, or 132.68%)	
Net Railway Operating Income.....	\$19,135,355 61
(Increase \$4,725,025 76, or 32.79%)	
Miscellaneous Income.....	2,216,048 22
(Decrease \$262,454 77, or 10.59%)	
Total Gross Income.....	\$21,351,403 83
(Increase \$4,462,570 99, or 26.42%)	
Rental and Other Payments.....	380,765 58
(Increase \$11,544 79, or 3.13%)	
Income for the year available for interest.....	\$20,970,638 25
(Increase \$4,451,026 20, or 26.94%)	
Interest (57.18% of amount available) amounted to.....	11,991,207 73
(Increase \$1,995,265 72, or 19.96%)	
Net Income for the year.....	\$8,979,430 52
(Increase \$2,455,760 48, or 37.64%)	
Dividend of 6½% on Cumulative Convertible Preferred Stock, Series A, aggregating.....	816,302 50
Net Income equivalent to 12.48% of Common Stock Outstanding.....	\$8,163,128 02
Common Stock Dividend—two of 2% each, aggregating.....	2,591,031 79
Remainder, devoted to improvement of physical and other assets.....	\$5,572,096 23

RETURN ON PROPERTY.

The following table shows the amount of return to your Company, including subsidiary companies, from transportation operations only, upon its investment in road and equipment at the termination of each year of the five year period ended December 31 1923 and the average for the five years:

	*Property Investment.	Net Railway Operating Income.	Percent- age of Return.
Year ended Dec. 31 1923.....	\$329,703,287 00	\$19,135,355 61	5.80%
Year ended Dec. 31 1922.....	313,102,488 50	14,410,329 85	4.60%
Year ended Dec. 31 1921.....	308,004,741 01	13,660,926 20	4.44%
a Year ended Dec. 31 1920.....	294,686,412 65	14,410,821 80	4.89%
a Year ended Dec. 31 1919.....	291,042,054 93	13,725,866 83	4.72%
Yearly average for five years ended Dec. 31 1923.....	\$307,307,796 82	\$15,068,660 06	4.90%

* Does not include Material and Supplies and Cash on hand during year.
 a The road having been operated in 1919, and during January and February 1920, by the United States Railroad Administration, the compensation payable during the period mentioned has been used in lieu of operating and other items making up the return for transportation operations. In these computations, interest payable by way of compensation for additions and betterments completed during Federal control has been excluded.

FINANCIAL.

In the Annual Report for the year 1922, your Company announced that arrangements had been made to purchase the following locomotives and cars:

- 2 Class J-2 Mountain Type Passenger locomotives;
- 6 Class F-17 Pacific Type Passenger locomotives;
- 25 Class H-6 Compound Mallet freight locomotives;
- 25 Simple Mallet freight locomotives;
- 2,000 70-Ton Steel Coal Cars;

at an approximate cost of \$9,844,825. Equipment Trust, Series "U," was created during the year under which 5 per cent Equipment Trust Certificates were issued to the aggregate principal amount of \$7,875,000, an amount sufficient to provide approximately 80 per cent of the total cost of the above mentioned equipment. These Certificates, dated March 15 1923, will be due March 15 1938, and provide for an annual payment of \$525,000 on March 15th of each year commencing with 1924.

The program of additions, betterments and improvements, financed in a large part by the issue of preferred stock, referred to in the annual report for 1922, has proceeded rapidly

during the year. Much of this work was completed and put in operation during the year and the major portion of that remaining will be completed during the year 1924.

Attention is called in the table showing "Changes in funded debt in the hands of the public" to the retirement of 5 per cent Convertible Secured Gold Bonds, amounting to \$2,106,500. In accordance with Trust Indenture, dated April 1 1916, between your Company and the Central Union Trust Company of New York, these Bonds were convertible into Stock up to April 2 1923 at \$80 00 per share, and accordingly there was issued Common Capital Stock to a par value of \$2,633,125 to the holders of the Convertible Bonds retired. This increases the amount of Common Capital Stock outstanding as of December 31 1923 to \$65,425,725.

The changes in funded debt in the hands of the public during the year were as follows:

	Retired.
4 per cent Big Sandy Ry. First Mortgage Bonds.....	\$51,000 00
4 per cent Coal River Ry. First Mortgage Bonds.....	30,000 00
4 per cent Greenbrier Ry. First Mortgage Bonds.....	5,000 00
5 per cent Kanawha Bridge & Terminal Co. First Mortgage Bonds.....	5,000 00
4 per cent Raleigh & Southwestern Ry. First Mortgage Bonds.....	1,000 00
5 per cent Convertible Secured Gold Bonds.....	2,106,500 00
Equipment Trust Obligations.....	2,588,800 00
Decrease.....	\$4,787,300 00
Increase in obligations shown under funded debt on balance sheet of December 31 1923 were as follows:	
5 per cent Equipment Trust Certificates—Series "U".....	\$7,875,000 00

GENERAL REMARKS.

Branch Line Extensions during the year have been as follows:

Logan Division, Extension from Mallory No. 2 Coal Mines to West Gilbert, W. Va., increase..... 2.2 Miles

Additional second track mileage put into operation during the year is as follows:

Big Sandy Division—Big Sandy Junction, Ky., to Hampton, Ky. 1.08 Miles
 Clifton Forge Division in West Virginia—Elimination of second track—(Gauntlet) Second Creek Tunnel..... .45 Miles

making total increase in second track..... .63 Miles

Third track mileage increased by:
 Westend Catlettsburg, Ky., to eastend of Ashland, Ky. 2.39 Miles

The equipment inventory as of December 31 1923 was as follows:

	Increase.	Decrease.
Locomotives owned.....	749	46
Locomotives leased.....	182	34
Total.....	931	12
Passenger Train Cars owned.....	366	11
Passenger Train Cars leased.....	101	63
Total.....	467	52
Freight Train and Miscellaneous Cars owned.....	33,091	8,095
Freight Train Cars leased.....	19,220	7,449
Total.....	52,311	646

The changes during the year in the accrued depreciation of equipment account were as follows:

Balance to credit of account December 31 1922.....	\$16,346,210 35
Amount credited during year ended December 31 1923, by charges to Operating Expenses.....	\$2,284,530 46
Charges to account, for:	
Accrued depreciation on equipment: 8,163 freight train and work cars; 9 passenger train cars; 46 locomotives; 3 floating equipment retired during year; and 2,268 freight train cars; 10 locomotives and 2 floating equipment rebuilt.....	\$3,038,915 65
Balance to credit of account December 31 1923.....	\$15,591,825 16

	1923.	1922.	Inc.
Operating Revenues were.....	\$101,975,797 68	\$83,511,561 02	Inc. \$18,464,236 66
Operating Expenses were.....	78,889,776 46	66,118,029 84	Inc. 12,771,746 62
Net Operating Revenues were.....	23,086,021 22	17,393,531 18	Inc. 5,692,490 04
Operating Ratio.....	77.4%	79.2%	Dec. 1.8%

The revenue coal and coke tonnage was 35,377,871, an increase of 24.0 per cent; other freight tonnage was 12,571,623, an increase of 33.7 per cent. Total revenue tonnage was 47,949,494 tons, an increase of 26.4 per cent. Freight revenue was \$85,202,379 50, an increase of 24.1 per cent. Freight train mileage was 10,944,416 miles, an increase of 30.2 per cent. Revenue ton miles were 12,909,457,276, an increase of 29.1 per cent. Ton mile revenue was 6.60 mills, a decrease of 3.9 per cent. Revenue per freight train mile was \$7.785, a decrease of 4.7 per cent. Revenue tonnage per train mile was 1,180 tons, a decrease of .8 per cent; including company's freight, the tonnage per train mile was

1,236 tons, a decrease of 1.3 per cent. Tonnage per locomotive mile, including company's freight, was 1,105 tons, a decrease of .5 per cent. Revenue tonnage per loaded car was 39.3 tons, a decrease of .3 per cent. Tons of revenue freight carried one mile per mile of road were 5,057,178, an increase of 28.9 per cent.

While the increase in coal and coke tonnage carried was 24 per cent, the increase in coal and coke freight revenue was 24.5 per cent, notwithstanding rates were reduced 10 per cent on July 1 1922, due to the fact that Tidewater coal tonnage increased from 2,972,527 tons in 1922 to 4,965,367 tons in 1923, an increase of 67 per cent, and the total eastbound coal tonnage increased from 6,112,908 tons in 1922 to 9,217,566 tons in 1923, an increase of 50.8 per cent. The revenue on Tidewater coal and on eastbound coal generally is higher than on westbound coal. Tonnage of freight traffic other than coal and coke increased 33.7 per cent, whereas the revenue therefrom increased only 23.3 per cent, showing the effect of reduction in freight rates and heavy increases in tonnage of lumber, brick, gravel, sand, stone and other building materials carried at relatively lower freight rates.

There was a slight reduction in the revenue tons per train mile due to the disproportionate increase in eastbound coal shipments and to the large increase in tonnage of commodities other than coal.

There were 7,430,827 passengers carried, an increase of 11.7 per cent. The number carried one mile was 334,582,773, an increase of 10 per cent. Passenger revenue was \$11,650,940 65, an increase of 10.1 per cent. Revenue per passenger per mile was 3.482 cents, an increase of .1 per cent. Number of passengers carried one mile per mile of road was 136,771, an increase of 9.8 per cent. Passenger train mileage was 5,562,898, an increase of 5.5 per cent. Passenger revenue per train mile was \$2.094, an increase of 4.3 per cent; including mail and express it was \$2.472, an increase of 4.6 per cent. Passenger service train revenue per train mile was \$2.527, an increase of 4.2 per cent.

Operating Expenses increased \$12,771,746 62, or 19.3 per cent. Transportation Expenses increased \$3,894,553 04, or 13.1 per cent. Ratio of Transportation Expenses to Operating Revenues was 33.07 per cent in 1923, and 35.72 per cent in 1922. The revenue ton miles carried increased 29.1 per cent. The increase of 33.7 per cent in tonnage of freight other than coal and coke, which is handled in fast freight trains, and the increase of 50.8 per cent in eastbound coal tonnage, which encounters heavier grades than the westbound coal tonnage, tended to increase transportation expenses in relation to net ton miles.

There were 28,891.9 tons of new rail (10,793.6 tons 130 lb., 15,716.8 tons 100 lb., 2,381.5 tons 90 lb.), equal to 169.7 miles of track, used in renewal of existing track.

There were 1,131,893 cross ties used in maintaining existing tracks, a decrease of 101,857.

There were 884,210 yards of ballast (478,539 yards stone) used in maintaining existing tracks, an increase of 184,462 yards.

The roadway, track and structures were maintained in general good condition throughout the year.

The average amount expended for repairs per locomotive was \$8,555 75, an increase of 29.4 per cent over 1922; per passenger train car, \$1,796 50, a decrease of 8.3 per cent; per freight train car, \$230 93, an increase of 3.7 per cent. The increase in the average amount expended per locomotive was due to increased business, requiring more intensive use of locomotives and improvement in the general condition of motive power. There was also an increase of 3.5 per cent in the average tractive power of locomotives in service. The increase in the average amount expended per freight train car was due to improvement in the general condition of equipment.

During 1922 contracts were made for repairing 6,290 freight cars and 34 locomotives at outside shops at approximate total cost of \$5,126,124, of which approximately \$1,100,000 was charged to operating expenses during the year 1922 and the remainder during the current year. 5,165 of the freight cars and 24 of the locomotives covered by these contracts were repaired and restored to service during the year. 8,103 freight train cars were retired from service and 1,935 coal cars were retired and rebuilt, causing a total charge to operating expenses of \$3,533,242 75. 46 obsolete locomotives were retired from service, causing a charge to operating expenses of \$277,943 40. The Company's locomotive and car shops were worked to full capacity throughout the year in addition to the work done under contract and the general condition of the equipment was materially improved. On December 31 1922, 6,476 freight cars, or 12.2 per cent of the number owned, were out of service for heavy or general repairs, while at the close of the year 1923 only 1,112 freight cars, or 3.3 per cent of the total, were out of service for heavy or general repairs. There were 140 locomotives, or 14.8 per cent at the beginning of the year, and only 107 locomotives, or 11.5 per cent, at the close of the year undergoing or awaiting classified repairs.

In the month of October 1923 3,488,692 tons of bituminous coal were shipped as revenue freight, which exceeded by 12 per cent the highest previous record, in the month of June 1922. The revenue tonnage of coal and coke carried during the year exceeded by 22 per cent the previous high record of the year 1920.

In the annual report for 1922 it was stated that public hearings would be held before the Inter-State Commerce

Commission during the year 1923 relating to the tentative plan of the Commission for the consolidation of the railway properties of the United States into a limited number of systems. This tentative plan provides for the consolidation of the property of the Virginian Railway Company with that of your Company and the Hoeking Valley Railway Company. The Norfolk & Western Railway Company and others presented evidence in support of their contention that the Virginian Railway should be consolidated with the Norfolk & Western instead of with the Chesapeake & Ohio. The officers of your Company presented evidence in support of the tentative plan of the Commission.

As of December 11 1923, by authority of your Board of Directors, a final settlement was made with the Director-General of Railroads covering operations during the period of Federal Control, in accordance with the contract between the Chesapeake & Ohio Railway Company and its subsidiary Companies with the Director-General, dated February 28 1920. Under this settlement your Company agreed to pay to the Director-General the net sum of \$7,000,000 in final settlement. The Director-General, however, agreed to fund indebtedness for Additions and Betterments made to the property during the period of Federal Control to the extent of \$9,200,000, thus releasing to your Company \$2,200,000 in cash. The \$9,200,000, so funded, will mature March 1 1930 and will be secured by pledge of certain of your Company's treasury securities. Negotiations for the final completion of the funding transaction have not, as of December 31 1923, been completed, therefore your Balance Sheet shows, under the caption "Working Liabilities," the net amount of \$7,000,000 due to the Railroad Administration. The adjustments necessary to account for this final settlement have been included in the accounts for 1923 and reflect a net credit to Profit and Loss of \$3,283,997 87.

Your Company has, through its Public Relations Department, endeavored to cultivate as close an association with the people along the line of its road as it is practicable for it to do. Our purpose has been to show clearly and definitely the railroad situation, and convince people that it is of far greater importance to have good railroad facilities than to make any practicable reduction in rates. For this purpose it has been strenuously argued that no action should be taken to prevent the railroads building up their facilities in such a way as will enable them to render the best possible service. It is gratifying to observe that this has had some effect on those to whom these arguments have been addressed and that real, practical results have come from these efforts. It has been attempted to put the arguments in simple, understandable shape, so that they might be divested of any technical cloudiness.

During the year an extension of three miles to the Elk Creek Branch of Logan Division, from Wylo, W. Va., was completed, making this branch six miles in length.

An extension of about one mile up Clear Fork of Coal River from Colcord, W. Va., was completed.

A section of second track on Big Sandy Division from Big Sandy Junction to Hampton, a distance of 1.08 miles, was completed and put in operation.

At Handley, W. Va., 4 additional yard tracks were built and at Huntington track and embankment for storage of steel car parts was completed, as well as track for the assembling of frogs and switches. In addition, on every division existing sidings were extended to hold the longer trains now being operated and new sidings, storage and yards tracks built.

At Phoebus, Va., Bridges No. 00 and No. 05 were strengthened; Bridge No. 1070 at So. Anna, Va., and Bridge No. 1087 at Little River, Va., were rebuilt; Bridges No. 2017-A at Springwood, Va.; No. 1896-A at Indian Rock, Va.; No. 2049-A at Saltpetre, Va.; No. 2206-A at Baldwin, Va.; No. 3294 at Ft. Springs, W. Va.; No. 3477 at Talcott, W. Va.; No. 17 at Ansted, W. Va., on Hawks Nest Branch, and No. 05 and No. 12 on Whitmans Branch were renewed; the westbound span of Bridge No. 2814 at Low Moor, Va., was renewed, the west abutment and piers of Bridge No. 5103 at Ceredo, W. Va., were rebuilt, and Bridge No. 6012 at Maysville, Ky., filled and channel of Limestone Creek changed.

At Newport News, Va., facilities were installed for the recovery of waste coal at Pier No. 9, the floors of Warehouse No. 25 repaired and strengthened, and improvements made to passenger station.

At Lynchburg, Va., new 150-ton track scales installed. At Clifton Forge, Va., an 800-ton reinforced concrete coaling station was constructed; at Gladstone, Va., a 300-ton frame coaling station was built, and at Raleigh, W. Va., a 300-ton frame coaling station was constructed. At Russell, Ky., a conveyor was installed for handling coal from bad-order cars.

Shop improvements at Peach Creek, W. Va., consisting of 5 additional stalls to roundhouse, new power plant, machine shop, storehouse and boiler washing plant were completed and put in operation. At Peru, Ind., 5 stalls were added to the roundhouse.

New passenger station was constructed at Crozet, Va., combined freight and passenger station was built at Cass, W. Va., and new freight station built at Norfolk, Va., to replace station destroyed by fire.

Traffic locking signals installed between D. K. Cabin and Barbourville, W. Va., to protect and increase movement of traffic.

100-foot turntables were installed at Whitesville, W. Va., and Sproul, W. Va.

A large program for improving the water supply was undertaken and the following works are now rapidly approaching completion:

Strathmore, Va., 100,000 gallon tank and pumping station; Huntington, W. Va., water treating plant; Sproul, W. Va., 100,000 gallon tank and oil burning pumping plant; Whitesville, W. Va., 100,000 gallon water station; Brush-ton, W. Va., 100,000 gallon water station; Ranger, W. Va., replacing 50,000 gallon wooden water tank and steam pumps with 150,000 gallon steel tank and oil burning pumping equipment with concrete pit and intake; Logan, W. Va., 6 inch gravity pipe line from treating plant at Peach Creek to tank at Logan; Peach Creek, W. Va., pumping plant; Taplin, W. Va., water station, and water treating plants at Russell, Ky., Edgington, Ky., So. Portsmouth, Ky., Maysville, Ky., Foster, Ky., Wheeler, O., and Robbins, O.; water treating plant was constructed and put in operation at Cane Fork, W. Va., and soda ash treating facilities installed at West Hamlin, W. Va., Ranger, W. Va., and Big Creek, W. Va., 50,000 gallon water tanks were constructed at Sabot, Va., Paint Creek (Scale Yard), W. Va., Ethel, W. Va., and Garrison, Ky., and 100,000 gallon water tank at Taplin, W. Va.

A great many improvements were started during the year which have not been completed—Some of the more important projects are:

Newport News, Va., construction storage yard east of Pier No. 9 to hold 1,500 cars.

Fulton, Va., extension of five tracks in eastbound yard to hold 100 car trains, which will be completed early this year.

Clifton Forge, Va., new freight terminal consisting of a receiving yard and a classification and forwarding yard for eastbound business. The receiving yard will include ten 100 car tracks a double track hump with scales in each track and two main lines and thoroughfare track. The classification yard will include twenty tracks to hold 100 car trains, two main lines and a car rider track. This project will cost more than \$3,500,000. The work should be completed the latter part of 1924.

Covington, W. Va., the reduction of "Paynes Grade"—a distance of 2.3 miles, between Covington, Va., and Steele, Va., from 0.4% ascending eastward and 1.13% ascending westward to level grade which will increase the tons per train in both directions. This work will be completed in summer of 1924.

The installation of new 115 ft. twin span turntables at Allegany, Va., and Hinton, W. Va., to turn the heavier engines assigned to this territory. These tables will be completed early next year.

Montgomery, W. Va., the construction of a modern up to date passenger station, which will be completed early next year.

Ashland, Ky., improvements and extension of transportation facilities, including new passengers station, construction of yard and other tracks and a third main track between Ashland and Russell, Ky., and a 200 ton track scale. This is a large and important improvement, will cost approximately \$2,500,000 and the work will extend through next year into 1925.

The construction of second track on Big Sandy Division between Hampton and Lockwood, Buffalo Tunnel and Auxier and Fergo and Shelby. The authorizations for this second track amount to \$1,250,000 and cover the construction of 14.1 miles new second track. This work should be completed late in 1924.

Russell, Ky., extension of switching lead from eastbound yard about one mile, transfer tracks, flood lighting in yard, connecting old and new westbound receiving yard, re-arranging engine house tracks, 10 additional tracks in westbound yard, 800 ton reinforced concrete coaling station. This work will cost in the neighborhood of \$800,000 and will extend well into 1924.

On the Northern Division second track is being constructed between Robbins and Gregg 1.5 miles, passing siding at Robbins to hold 100 car trains and 300 ton frame coaling station at Robbins. This work will extend well into 1924.

In addition, side and yard tracks are being constructed at various points; also other miscellaneous improvements are being made to properly handle the increasing business of the Company.

Among the new local industries were the following:

4 manufacturers of farm implements and farm products.

4 manufacturers of lumber and lumber products.

14 manufacturers of mineral, metal and other products.

Mr. R. N. Begien was elected Vice-President in charge of Operations, effective June 1 1923.

Mr. H. T. Wickham, who had for a number of years been Vice-President and General Counsel of this Company, requested that he be relieved of the heavier burdens of his office and his resignation as Vice-President and General Counsel was accepted by the Board of Directors, effective September 15 1923. Mr. Wickham was prevailed upon to remain in the Company's service as Advisory Counsel, in which position he is rendering valuable service.

Mr. H. Fitzpatrick, who had also been in the service of the Company for a number of years was elected to succeed Mr. Wickham as Vice-President and General Counsel, effective September 15 1923.

Your Directors acknowledge the great appreciation of the Company for the faithful and efficient services of its officers and employees.

By order of the Board of Directors.

W. J. HARAHAH,

President.

O. P. VAN SWERINGEN,

Chairman.

GENERAL BALANCE SHEET DECEMBER 31 1923.

ASSETS.

(Excluding Stocks and Bonds owned of The C. & O. Ry. Co. of Indiana and of The C. & O. Equipment Corporation.)

<i>Property Investment—</i>			
Cost of Road.....		\$219,255,753 65	
Cost of Equipment.....		101,400,191 97	
			\$320,655,945 62
<i>Improvements on Leased Railway Property</i>			40,716 21
<i>Securities of Proprietary, Affiliated and Controlled Companies—Pledged—</i>			
Stocks.....	\$11,213,999 44		
Bonds.....	2,500,002 00		
	\$13,714,001 44		
<i>Other Investments—Pledged—</i>			
Bonds.....	385,000 00		
<i>Securities—Issued or Assumed—Pledged—</i>			
Bonds.....	62,274,001 00		
	(Includes First Lien and Improvement 5% Mortgage Bonds, \$62,274,000 00. See Contra.)	\$76,373,002 44	
<i>Miscellaneous Investments—</i>			
Physical Property.....		446,905 60	
<i>Special Funds and Funded Debt Issued and Reserved—</i>			
R. & S. W. Ry. Co. First Mortgage Bonds—Reserved for Construction.....	\$40,000 00		
Potts Creek Branch—Cash.....	56,482 06		
		96,482 06	76,916,390 10
			\$397,613,051 93
<i>Working Assets—</i>			
Cash in Treasury.....	\$4,318,838 18		
Cash in Transit.....	1,092,776 84		
Cash Deposit—Equipment Trust "U" Funds.....	\$5,411,615 02		
*Cash Deposit—Preferred Stock, Series "A" Proceeds.....	2,083,156 86		
Cash Deposit—Special Fund for Additions and Betterments, New Equipment and Maintenance of Equipment Reserve.....	8,467,394 49		
Cash deposits to pay Interest and Dividends.....	3,262,183 90		
Miscellaneous Cash Deposits.....	2,172,402 52		
Loans and Bills Receivable.....	3,000 00		
Traffic Balances.....	76,068 01		
Agents and Conductors.....	2,813,560 56		
Miscellaneous Accounts Receivable.....	1,339,157 03		
Other Working Assets.....	2,211,887 82		
	27,062 80		
		\$27,867,487 01	
<i>Material and Supplies</i>		10,840,335 14	
<i>Securities in Treasury—Unpledged—</i>			
Stocks.....	\$5,647,652 98		
Bonds.....	8,078,848 46		
		13,726,501 44	
<i>Deferred Assets—</i>			
Unmatured Interest, Dividends and Rents.....	\$1,160,271 44		
Advances to Proprietary, Affiliated and Controlled Companies.....	1,396,523 95		
Advances, Working Funds (Fast Freight Lines, etc.).....	11,523 22		
Special Deposits with Trustees, Various Mortgage Funds.....	596,738 26		
Cash and Securities in Sinking Funds.....	239,362 73		
Cash and Securities in Insurance Reserve Fund.....	121,634 39		
Sundry Accounts.....	3,004,223 83		
		6,530,677 82	58,965,001 41
Total			\$456,578,053 34

* Represented in part by U. S. Government Treasury Notes

GENERAL BALANCE SHEET DECEMBER 31 1923—Concluded.

LIABILITIES.

(Excluding Stocks and Bonds owned of the C. & O. Ry. Co. of Indiana and of the C. & O. Equipment Corporation.)

Capital Stock—			
Common			
6½% Cumulative Convertible Preferred Stock—Series "A"	-----	\$65,425,725 00	
First Preferred (To be retired under plan of Feb. 23 1892)	-----	12,558,500 00	
Second Preferred (To be retired under plan of Feb. 23 1892)	-----	3,000 00	
		200 00	
Common—The Chesapeake & Ohio Railway Co. of Indiana	-----		\$77,987,425 00
			1,200 00
			\$77,988,625 00
Funded Debt—			
General Funding and Improvement 5% Bonds	-----	1929	\$3,698,000 00
Convertible 4½% Bonds	-----	1930	31,390,000 00
First Mortgage, R. & S. W. Railway, 4% Bonds	-----	1936	825,000 00
First Consolidated Mortgage, 5% Bonds	-----	1939	29,858,000 00
First Mortgage, Craig Valley Branch, 5% Bonds	-----	1940	650,000 00
First Mortgage, Greenbrier Railway, 4% Bonds	-----	1941	1,641,000 00
First Mortgage, Warm Springs Branch, 5% Bonds	-----	1941	400,000 00
First Mortgage, Big Sandy Railway, 4% Bonds	-----	1944	4,165,000 00
First Mortgage, Paint Creek Branch, 4% Bonds	-----	1945	539,000 00
First Mortgage, Coal River Railway, 4% Bonds	-----	1945	2,528,000 00
First Mortgage, C. & O. Northern Railway Co., 5% Bonds	-----	1945	1,000,000 00
Convertible 5% Secured Gold Bonds	-----	1946	38,073,500 00
First Mortgage, Potts Creek Branch, 4% Bonds	-----	1946	600,000 00
First Mortgage, Kanawha Bridge & Terminal Co., 5% Bonds	-----	1948	446,000 00
First Mortgage, Va. Air Line Railway, 5% Bonds	-----	1952	900,000 00
First Mortgage, R. & A. Division, 4% Bonds	-----	1989	6,000,000 00
Second Mortgage, R. & A. Division, 4% Bonds	-----	1989	1,000,000 00
General Mortgage, 4½% Bonds	-----	1992	48,616,000 00
Secured Obligations to U. S. Government	-----	1931	6,738,523 97
Secured Obligations to U. S. Government	-----	1932	1,334,500 00
			\$180,402,523 97
Equipment Trust Obligations and Contracts	-----		31,913,600 00
			212,316,123 97
			\$290,304,748 97
First Lien and Improvement 5% Mortgage Bonds not in hands of public (see Contra)	-----	1930	66,842,000 00
Working Liabilities—			
Loans and Bills Payable	-----		\$40,000 00
Traffic Balances	-----		534,473 15
Audited Vouchers and Pay Rolls	-----		8,602,084 94
Unpaid Wages	-----		109,579 29
Miscellaneous Accounts Payable	-----		436,886 74
Matured Interest and Dividends Unpaid	-----		2,109,634 15
Matured Mortgage and Secured Debt Unpaid	-----		7,174 17
U. S. Government, U. S. Railroad Administration	-----		7,000,000 00
Other Working Liabilities	-----		45,229 48
			\$18,885,061 92
Deferred Liabilities—			
Unmatured Interest and Rents	-----		\$2,911,011 56
Insurance and Casualty Reserves	-----		121,634 39
Taxes Accrued	-----		2,373,673 25
Accrued Depreciation—Equipment	-----		15,591,825 16
Sundry Accounts	-----		4,984,104 86
			25,982,249 22
Appropriated Surplus—			
Additions to Property through Income and Surplus	-----		\$24,941,996 83
Reserve Invested in Sinking Funds	-----		239,362 73
Funded Debt Retired Through Income and Surplus	-----		378,826 28
			\$25,560,185 84
Profit and Loss—Balance	-----		29,003,807 39
			54,563,993 23
Total	-----		\$456,578,053 34

This Company is also liable as a guarantor of the following securities:

Western Pocahontas Fuel Co. Coupon 5% Notes. Due 1919 and 1921 (\$500,000 each year), owned by this Company	-----	\$1,000,000 00
The Chesapeake & Ohio Grain Elevator Co., First Mortgage 4% Bonds, due 1938	-----	820,000 00
Richmond-Washington Co. Collateral Trust Mortgage (C. & O. prop'n 1-6) 4% Bonds, due 1943	-----	10,000,000 00
Louisville & Jeffersonville Bridge & Railroad Co. Bills Payable (C. & O. prop'n 1-3) 6% Notes, due 1931	-----	147,000 00
Louisville & Jeffersonville Bridge & Railroad Co. Mortgage (C. & O. prop'n 1-3) 4% Bonds, due 1945	-----	4,500,000 00
Western Pocahontas Corporation, First Mortgage 4½% Bonds, due 1945	-----	750,000 00
Western Pocahontas Corporation, Extension Mortgage No. 1, 4½% Bonds, due 1945	-----	97,000 00
Western Pocahontas Corporation, Extension Mortgage No. 2, 4½% Bonds, due 1946	-----	51,000 00
Norfolk Terminal & Transportation Co., First Mortgage 5% Bonds, due 1948	-----	500,000 00

FONDA JOHNSTOWN & GLOVERSVILLE RAILROAD COMPANY

FIFTY-THIRD ANNUAL REPORT—FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31 1923.

To the Stockholders of the Fonda Johnstown & Gloversville Railroad Company:

The Board of Directors herewith submits the following report of the business and operations of the Company for the fiscal year ended December 31 1923:

OPERATING REVENUES AND EXPENSES.

The statement below shows a comparison of the total revenues and expenses and net revenue from operation for the fiscal year, with similar figures for year 1922.

The complete income account appears further below.

	1923.	1922.	Increase (+) or Decrease(-).
Railway Operating Revenues—			
Freight revenue, Steam Division	569,014 36	487,220 47	+81,793 89
Passenger revenue, Steam Division	51,811 30	42,104 91	+9,706 39
Passenger revenue, Electric Division	778,124 23	816,464 78	-38,340 55
All other revenue from transportat'n	57,409 66	52,561 34	+4,848 32
Revenue from other railway operat'ns	14,859 44	11,296 86	+3,562 58
Total operating revenues	1,471,218 99	1,409,648 36	+61,570 63
Railway Operating Expenses—			
Maintenance of way and structures	165,595 72	166,201 68	-605 96
Maintenance of equipment	157,015 37	129,941 44	+27,073 93
Traffic expenses	7,580 77	9,187 09	-1,606 32
Power	88,570 67	74,870 06	+13,700 61
Transportation expenses	394,409 86	368,181 22	+26,228 64
General expenses	85,522 89	82,099 53	+3,423 36
Total operating expenses	898,695 28	830,481 02	+68,214 26
Net operating revenues	572,523 71	579,167 34	-6,643 63
Ratio of operating expenses to operating revenues	61.09%	58.91%	+2.18%

GENERAL STATEMENT.

Gross revenues for the year were \$1,471,219, the largest in the history of your Company, and an increase of \$61,571 over the previous year. All classes of revenue showed an increase, with the exception of the Electric Division which decreased \$38,341, partly due to the Schenectady Railway

strike of several months' duration. Freight revenues amounted to \$569,014, an increase of \$81,794, through an increase of 64,851 tons of coal and 3,532 tons of merchandise handled, making the total tonnage carried 334,726. Passenger revenues on the Steam Division showed an increase of \$9,706 through more frequent service provided by the operation of gasoline coaches.

Operating expenses, including depreciation reserves, amounted to \$898,695, an increase of \$68,214. This increase reflects increased wages which became effective May 1st, abnormal operating charges on both divisions due to an unusually severe winter and also a new charge of \$15,312 for depreciation on equipment of Power House and Sub-Stations not heretofore included in operating expenses.

The Company's payroll amounted to \$612,110, or 41 per cent of gross revenue, an increase of \$38,146.

Taxes were \$94,713, an increase of \$18,448. Miscellaneous operating income (Sacandaga) was \$21,439, an increase for the year of \$2,999, and non-operating income was \$62,479, an increase of \$12,164. The amount paid for "Hire of Freight Cars" for the year was \$46,076, an increase of \$19,140, due principally to congestion of freight traffic caused by snow blockades. Interest charges for the year decreased \$11,572. (See table No. 4, page 12, pamphlet report.) Income available for interest charges amounted to \$478,446, against \$509,563, while after deducting interest charges of \$308,977, the net income was \$169,469, against \$189,014 in 1922.

The Company earned 1.55 times its interest requirements and 5.65 times its preferred stock dividend. The balance after payment of the preferred dividends was equivalent to

5.58 per cent a share on the common stock. Its corporate surplus on December 31 1923 amounted to \$396,027 and its depreciation reserves \$611,297.

FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR PERIOD OF YEARS.

Since the last issue of securities in 1911, your Company has paid off \$550,000 prior lien bonds (Oct. 1922), paid dividends amounting to \$540,000 and put into property and equipment \$673,302 34, or a total of \$1,763,302 34. These payments have been made out of surplus income and current assets, proceeds of sale of \$250,000 First Consolidated General Refunding 4½% Mortgage Bonds and Company's loans which amounted, at date of this report, April 1, to only \$200,000. The Company holds in its treasury \$300,000 First Consolidated General Refunding 4½% Mortgage Bonds, the sale of which has been authorized by the Inter-State Commerce Commission and Public Service Commission of New York State.

The Treasury Bonds have been sold since printing this report.

During the year there were charged to Investment, Road and Equipment expenditures for additions and betterments as follows:

ROAD.	
Paving, City of Gloversville.....	\$2,765 71
Paving, City of Johnstown.....	513 40
Paving, City of Amsterdam.....	138 32
Paving, Village of Fonda.....	2,015 09
New steel pole line, Gloversville.....	4,946 15
Industrial sidings—Gloversville, Johnstown and Cranberry Creek	3,025 69
Lowering grade, South Perry St., Johnstown	5,340 89
Increased cost of 5 new boilers, Tribes Hill Power Station, over original cost of same number removed	9,942 65
Macadam road to freight house, Johnstown.....	1,422 98
Motor car gasoline supply tank and pump.....	1,046 97
Shop machinery and tools.....	1,503 85
Other improvements.....	1,525 83
EQUIPMENT.	
Locomotive—Steam Division.....	37,376 61
Gasoline motor car—Steam Division.....	16,553 70
Other equipment.....	2,547 74
	\$90,675 58
Equipment retired.....	\$7,850 00

NEW EQUIPMENT.

The Company added to its equipment through purchase from the American Locomotive Company a locomotive weighing 215,000 pounds with tender weighing 110,000 pounds at a cost of \$37,376 61. This locomotive, with a tractive power 60% greater than any other owned by the Company, nearly doubles the train loads over the steep grades between Fonda and Johnstown, insuring more efficient operation and improved service. Due to increased weight this locomotive necessitated replacing one bridge at Fonda, another at Johnstown and strengthening all other structures at an approximate cost of \$22,000, this work having been completed in the early part of the current year.

DEPRECIATION.

By resolution of the Board Nov. 5 1923, a plan was adopted and filed with the Inter-State Commerce Commission for depreciation on the equipment of Power House and Sub-Stations which also authorized a charge to Profit and Loss account of \$273,719 72 accrued from Jan. 1 1904 to Dec. 31 1922, said amount to be credited to depreciation reserves. The Company purchased five new boilers for its Tribes Hill Power Station during the year at a cost of \$47,212 65 to replace an equal number installed in the year 1903 and the original cost of which, \$37 270, was charged to the above mentioned depreciation reserve. Commencing with the year 1923 the additional annual charge credited to depreciation reserves is \$15,312, which brings the total depreciation charges in operating expenses up to approximately \$45,000 a year.

GENERAL.

The brick passenger station in Johnstown, which had been used but little in recent years, was remodeled and is now rented under a long term lease as a wholesale fruit warehouse and storage building.

In line with the Company's policy to install sidings for industrial plants to facilitate the movement of carload shipments, sidings were built at Cranberry Creek to property of the Gloversville Feldspar Company, and in Gloversville, N. Y., to the J. J. Dillenbeck warehouse, and at the plant of Richard Young's leather mill. Several other industrial sidings to large plants on the Company's lines are to be constructed during the current year.

The general balance sheet, table No. 5 [pamphlet report], reflects the financial condition of the Company at the close of the year.

Your Directors acknowledge with pleasure the faithful and efficient services rendered by the officers and employees of the Company.

For details of operation you are referred to the statements prepared by the Auditor and submitted herewith.

For the Board of Directors,
J. LEDLIE HEES, President.

INCOME ACCOUNT.

	December 31			
	1923.	1922.	1921.	1920.
	88.77	88.77	88.77	88.77
Miles operated.....				
Railway Operating Revenues—				
Freight revenue, steam division	\$569,014 36	\$487,220 47	\$456,243 23	\$484,322 51
Passenger revenue, steam division	51,811 30	42,104 91	43,087 09	57,907 04
Passenger revenue, electric division	778,124 23	816,464 78	806,869 60	828,760 55
Mail revenue	5,123 42	5,123 86	4,944 24	4,094 32
Express revenue	43,126 46	40,395 59	23,581 74	28,385 80
All other revenue from transportation	9,159 78	7,041 89	4,887 56	6,008 90
Revenue from other railway operations	14,859 44	11,296 86	16,045 88	22,083 00
Total Operating Revenues	\$1,471,218 99	\$1,409,648 36	\$1,355,659 34	\$1,431,562 12
Railway Operating Expenses—				
Maintenance of way and structures	\$165,595 72	\$166,201 68	\$168,441 88	\$170,210 11
Maintenance of equipment	157,015 37	129,941 44	122,663 31	136,996 95
Traffic expenses	7,580 77	9,187 09	8,398 87	6,426 11
Power	88,570 67	74,870 06	84,386 70	89,042 19
Transportation expenses	394,409 86	368,181 22	403,004 19	447,364 73
General expenses	85,522 89	82,099 53	78,349 69	70,839 47
Total Operating Expenses	\$898,695 28	\$830,481 02	\$865,244 64	\$920,879 56
Net revenue from railway operations	\$572,523 71	\$579,167 34	\$490,414 70	\$510,682 56
Railway tax accruals	94,712 96	76,264 63	71,064 63	53,896 26
Railway operating income	\$477,810 75	\$502,902 71	\$419,350 07	\$456,786 30
Miscellaneous operations (Saratoga, N. Y., Summer Resort)—Income	21,438 72	18,439 80	11,568 53	6,691 85
Operating income	\$499,249 47	\$521,342 51	\$430,918 60	\$463,478 15
Non-operating income	62,478 98	50,314 53	53,350 14	40,424 91
Gross Income	\$561,728 45	\$571,657 04	\$484,268 74	\$503,903 06
Deductions from gross income other than interest charges	83,282 04	62,093 94	54,614 23	62,279 55
Balance (available for interest charges)	\$478,446 41	\$509,563 10	\$429,654 51	\$441,623 51
Interest charges	308,976 87	320,548 66	328,532 68	330,047 36
Net Income (available for Dividends)	\$169,469 54	\$189,014 44	\$101,121 83	\$111,576 15
Total Dividends for year (Preferred Stock)	30,000 00	30,000 00	30,000 00	30,000 00
Balance to Profit and Loss	\$139,469 54	\$159,014 44	\$71,121 83	\$81,576 15

COMPARATIVE CONDENSED GENERAL BALANCE SHEET DECEMBER 31 1922 AND 1923.		
ASSETS.		
1922.	Investments—	1923.
\$10,044,093 77	Investment in road and equipment.....	\$10,126,919 35
24,379 26	Improvements on leased railway property.....	24,379 26
370,001 36	Miscellaneous physical property.....	384,541 83
275,527 38	Investments in affiliated companies.....	279,990 34
71,600 00	Other investments.....	8,600 00
\$10,785,601 77	Total investments	\$10,824,430 78
	Current Assets—	
\$48,224 23	Cash.....	\$60,157 30
11,231 00	Loans and bills receivable.....	10,827 15
48,736 07	Accounts receivable.....	62,173 86
94,589 96	Materials and supplies.....	122,377 75
\$202,781 26	Total current assets	\$255,536 06
\$15,840 00	Deferred assets.....	16,375 00
30,868 85	Unadjusted debits.....	78,399 49
450,000 00	Securities issued or assumed—Bonds—Per contra.....	300,000 00
\$11,485,091 88	Total assets	\$11,474,741 33
	LIABILITIES.	
\$2,500,000 00	Capital Stock—	\$2,500,000 00
500,000 00	Common stock.....	500,000 00
	Preferred stock.....	
\$3,000,000 00	Total capital stock	\$3,000,000 00
\$6,550,000 00	Funded debt unmaturing (See detail) [pamphlet report].....	\$6,700,000 00
450,000 00	50-year First Consolidated General Refunding 4½% bonds—Per contra.....	300,000 00
	Current Liabilities—	
367,500 00	Loans and bills payable.....	235,000 00
141,719 26	Accounts payable.....	163,454 08
69,984 25	Accrued liabilities.....	70,939 18
\$579,183 51	Total current liabilities	\$469,393 26
\$50 40	Deferred liabilities.....	.00
9,172 27	Unadjusted credits.....	Cr.1,976 46
.00	Accrued depreciation—Road—Power and Sub-Station equipment.....	359,535 34
365,204 16	Accrued depreciation—Equipment.....	251,761 64
	Surplus—	
531,481 54	Profit and loss—balance.....	396,027 55
\$11,485,091 88	Total liabilities	\$11,474,741 33

MISSOURI-KANSAS-TEXAS RAILROAD COMPANY

and Controlled Companies.

REPORT AS OF DECEMBER 31 1923.

St. Louis, Mo., April 21 1924.

To the Stockholders:

The Board of Directors submit herewith report for the year ended December 31 1923, including three months' operations of the Receiver prior to April 1.

A summary of the results of operations for the year compared with the year 1922 is as follows:

Operating Revenues were.....	\$55,987,918 08
(Increase, \$952,216 19 or 2%)	
Operating Expenses were.....	\$43,628,318 95
(Increase, \$3,944,617 91 or 10%)	
Net Operating Revenue was.....	\$12,359,599 13
(Decrease, \$2,992,401 72 or 19%)	
Taxes were.....	\$2,587,461 12
(Decrease, \$338,915 56 or 12%)	
Operating Income, Taxes Deducted, was.....	\$9,772,138 01
(Decrease, \$2,653,486 16 or 21%)	
Miscellaneous Income was.....	\$1,327,564 87
(Increase, \$816,178 66 or 160%)	
Rentals and Other Payments were.....	\$11,099,702 88
(Decrease, \$1,190,787 39 or 56%)	\$918,034 33
Income for the Year Available for Interest was.....	\$10,181,668 55
(Decrease, \$646,520 11 or 6%)	
Fixed Interest Charge for year was.....	\$4,781,973 66
(Decrease, \$119,872 10 or 2%)	
Balance available for Interest on Adjustment Bonds was.....	\$5,399,694 89
Interest on Adjustment Bonds was.....	\$2,791,013 64
Balance.....	\$2,608,681 25
Interest charges are based on securities of company as reorganized.	

FINANCIAL.

Missouri-Kansas-Texas Railroad Company was incorporated under the general laws of the State of Missouri, July 6 1922, and has acquired substantially all of the lines of railroad, franchises and property formerly of Missouri Kansas & Texas Railway Company and the Wichita Falls & Northwestern Railway Company. The entire capital stock and all the mortgage bonds of the Missouri-Kansas-Texas Railroad Company of Texas (Reorganized Company) were also acquired, as well as all or a majority of the capital stock of various controlled and subsidiary companies now constituting part of the system as reorganized.

Missouri-Kansas-Texas Railroad Company acquired possession of the properties on April 1 1923 in exchange for bonds and stock of the company. Of these securities there have thus far been issued and are now in the hands of the public the following:

Common Stock (no par value).....	804,874 shares
Preferred Stock (7% cumulative after Jan. 1 1923).....	\$23,939,200 00
Prior Lien Mortgage 5% Series "A" bonds.....	36,599,502 00
Prior Lien Mortgage 4% Series "B" bonds.....	11,483,750 00
Prior Lien Mortgage 6% Series "C" bonds.....	12,894,570 00
Adjustment Mortgage 5% Series "A" bonds.....	55,820,272 71
Total.....	\$140,737,294 71

There are additional amounts of these securities in the hands of the Reorganization Managers, to be used for the purposes of the reorganization, and so far as not used, to be returned to the Company.

There were in addition on December 31 1923, \$35,010,700 underlying bonds and equipment obligations left undisturbed in the reorganization, also \$4,750,000 United States Government Loans issued in June 1923.

ROLLING STOCK.

During the nine months to December 31 1923 expenditures were made for new equipment amounting to \$7,614,901 42 and improvements to existing equipment amounting to \$227,873 20.

The value of equipment replacements during the nine months, less retirements, was \$716,098 29, leaving a net increase of \$8,558,872 91 in the value of equipment owned.

OPERATIONS.

The mileage operated on December 31 1923 was 3,202.55, compared with 3,738.51 on December 31 1922, a decrease of 535.96 miles, due to 466.29 miles having been relinquished in the reorganization effective April 1 1923, and 69.67 miles between Hannibal and Moberly, Mo., leased to the Wabash Railway Company effective August 1 1923. Despite this decrease in mileage freight revenues increased \$592,813 79, or 1.5%, passenger revenues increased \$337,044 56, or 3.1%, other revenues increased \$22,357 84 or 0.5%, and total operating revenues increased \$952,216 19 or 2%.

Passenger and freight train service was generally satisfactory, and traffic was moved without interruption, with the exception of interference with operations during the

month of October due to serious floods in Oklahoma. During that month the main line at crossings of the North and South Canadian Rivers between Muskogee and McAlester was broken for several days and there were numerous washouts on the Wichita Falls-Forgan branch where the line was out of service for practically the entire month.

The locomotive and car shops are on a normal operating basis and have adequate capacity to properly take care of all repair work.

Locomotives, passenger and freight cars, as well as track and bridge and building structures, are in good condition.

It is expected that passenger and freight traffic will continue in volume at least equal to that of 1923, and the railroad is in condition to handle it economically.

ADDITIONS TO THE PROPERTY.

The larger improvements completed during the year to attract traffic and facilitate operation were:

Million bushel elevator at Kansas City.
New freight and engine terminal at Denison.

Locomotive shop at Bellmead.

New Freight stations at Waco and Wichita Falls and extension of present station at Ft. Worth.

Water treating plants at 77 locomotive water stations.

New Equipment purchased and delivered during the year included the following:

40 Mikado Locomotives.
10 Switch Locomotives.
5 Pacific type passenger locomotives.
30 Passenger coaches.
200 Refrigerator cars.
300 Flat cars.
500 Automobile cars.
1,500 Box cars.

GENERAL.

Negotiations with the Inter-State Commerce Commission covering allowance for maintenance of the property and final determination of the amount guaranteed to the Receiver for operating income during the six months period beginning March 1 1920 and ending August 31 1920, under provisions of Section 209 of the Transportation Act, 1920, are still under way and it is hoped that final settlement may be reached at an early date.

Federal valuation of the properties by the Inter-State Commerce Commission, with the co-operation and assistance of the Officers of the Company, has progressed during the year.

The officers and employees are especially commended for their faithful and efficient services during the past year.

C. E. SCHAFF,
President.

INCOME ACCOUNT YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31 1923. COMPARED WITH YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31 1922.

	1923.	1922.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-).
Average Mileage Operated.....	3,359.76	3,737.46	-377.70
Operating Revenue—			
Freight.....	\$39,791,214 67	\$39,198,400 88	+\$592,813 79
Passenger.....	11,295,456 27	10,958,411 71	+337,044 56
Mail.....	1,221,101 46	1,241,950 01	-20,848 55
Express.....	2,181,233 24	2,130,755 79	+50,477 45
Miscellaneous.....	637,146 76	620,380 79	+16,765 97
Incidental.....	788,633 92	710,075 52	+78,558 40
Joint Facility.....	73,131 76	175,727 19	-102,595 43
Total Operating Revenue.....	\$55,987,918 08	\$55,035,701 89	+\$952,216 19
Operating Expenses—			
Maintenance of Way and Structures.....	\$7,393,307 28	\$7,237,276 60	+\$156,030 68
Maintenance of Equipment.....	14,636,724 26	10,548,094 49	+4,088,629 77
Traffic Expenses.....	1,151,353 02	1,041,435 68	+109,917 34
Transportation Expenses.....	18,380,268 53	18,780,007 03	-399,738 50
Miscellaneous Operations.....	362,232 53	337,509 18	+24,723 35
General Expenses.....	2,053,373 25	2,023,709 14	+29,664 11
Transportation for Investment—Cr.....	348,939 92	284,331 08	-64,608 84
Total Operating Expenses.....	\$43,628,318 95	\$39,683,701 04	+\$3,944,617 91
Net Operating Revenue.....	\$12,359,599 13	\$15,352,000 85	-\$2,992,401 72
Railway Tax Accruals.....	\$2,587,461 12	\$2,926,376 68	-\$338,915 56
Uncollectible Ry. Revenue.....	26,091 57	31,354 78	-5,263 21
Total.....	\$2,613,552 69	\$2,957,731 46	-\$344,178 77
Total Operating Income.....	\$9,746,046 44	\$12,394,269 39	-\$2,648,222 95

Non-Operating Income—	1923.		1922.		Increase (+) or Decrease (—).		Deduct. from Gross Income—	1923.		1922.		Increase (+) or Decrease (—).	
	1923.	1922.	1923.	1922.	\$	\$		1923.	1922.	\$	\$	\$	\$
Rent from Locomotives	\$120,946 32		\$43,966 60		+\$76,979 72		Hire of Freight Cars—Dr.						
Rent from Passenger Train Cars	169,516 25	117,994 74			+51,521 51		Balance	\$519,500 86	\$1,403,503 84			—\$884,002 98	
Rent from Work Equipment	38,188 69	32,327 60			+5,861 09		Rent for Locomotives	24,493 77	18,952 55			+5,541 22	
Joint Facility Rent Income	177,901 72	185,871 10			—7,969 38		Rent for Pass. Train Cars	90,133 88	112,343 66			—22,209 78	
Income from Lease of Road	61,273 12	11,273 12			+50,000 00		Rent for Work Equipment	8,636 22	9,818 30			—1,182 08	
Miscellaneous Rent Income	58,211 70	96,751 51			—38,539 81		Joint Facility Rents	800,245 39	834,791 01			—34,545 62	
Miscellaneous Non-Operating Physical Property	18,051 75	26,096 20			—8,044 45		Rent for Leased Roads	9,701 40	15,823 23			—6,121 83	
Dividend Income	8,000 00	5,500 00			+2,500 00		Miscellaneous Rents	1,332 87	1,090 95			+241 92	
Income from Funded Securities	322,293 09	204,628 60			+117,664 49		Miscellaneous Tax Accruals	4,599 35	2,207 65			+2,391 70	
Income from Unfunded Securities and Accounts	275,823 69	271,317 80			+4,505 89		Interest on Unfunded Debt	57,593 74	158,399 38			—100,805 64	
Income from Sinking and Other Reserve Funds					—53 85		Miscell. Income Charges	1,743 08	8,721 04			—6,977 96	
Miscellaneous Income	703,396 34	3,789 76			+699,606 58		Total Deductions from Gross Income	\$1,517,980 56	\$2,565,651 61			—\$1,047,671 05	
Total Non-Operating Income	\$1,953,602 67	\$999,570 88			+\$954,031 79		Balance Available for Interest	\$10,181,668 55	\$10,828,188 66			—\$646,520 11	
Gross Income	\$11,699,649 11	\$13,393,840 27			—\$1,694,191 16		Fixed Interest Charges	4,781,973 66	4,901,845 76			—119,872 10	

CONSOLIDATED GENERAL BALANCE SHEET.

ASSETS.	December 31 1923.		April 1 1923.	Increase (+) or Decrease (—).	LIABILITIES.	December 31 1923.		April 1 1923.	Increase (+) or Decrease (—).
	\$	\$				\$	\$		
Investments—					Stock—				
Investment in Road and Equipment:					Capital Stock:				
Road	222,383,018 18	218,410,248 07		+3,972,770 11	Preferred	30,000,000 00	30,015,000 00		—15,000 00
Equipment	48,009,239 08	39,450,366 17		+8,558,872 91	Common	82,420,000 00	82,422,425 00		—2,425 00
	270,392,257 26	257,860,614 24		+12,531,643 02	Total Stock	112,420,000 00	112,437,425 00		—17,425 00
Improvements on Leased Railway Property	7,959 96	7,959 96		—294 81	Long Term Debt—				
Sinking Funds	43 75	338 56		—294 81	Mortgage Bonds:				
Deposits in Lieu of Mortgaged Property Sold	837 64	117,275 65		—116,438 01	Book Liability				
Miscellaneous Physical Property	552,027 89	141,673 44		+410,354 45	—\$107,832,899				
Investments in Affiliated Companies—Pledged	529,001 00	529,001 00			Pledged with U.S. Govt.	6,100,000			
Other Investments (United States Government Securities)	3,195,156 25	4,457,874 98		—1,262,718 73	Actually Outstanding	101,732,899 00	107,403,602 05		—5,670,703 05
Total Investments	274,677,283 75	263,114,737 83		+11,562,545 92	Equipment Trust Obligations	1,077,200 00	1,476,496 95		—399,296 95
Current Assets—					United States Government Loans	5,140,000 00	420,000 00		+4,720,000 00
Cash	2,505,811 77	10,095,141 17		—7,589,329 40	Income Mortgage Bonds	57,500,000 00	57,500,000 00		
Time Drafts and Deposits	200,000 00	2,650,000 00		—2,450,000 00	Total Long Term Debt	165,450,099 00	166,800,099 00		—1,350,000 00
Special Deposits	11,293 76	80,353 38		—69,059 62	Current Liabilities—				
Loans and Bills Receivable	23,730 27	380 95		+23,349 32	Traffic and Car Service Balances Payable	1,296,603 69	973,042 48		+323,561 21
Traffic and Car Service Balances Receivable	775,082 20	578,413 86		+196,668 34	Audited Accounts and Wages Payable	4,904,357 61	5,245,705 16		—341,347 55
Net Balance Receivable from Agents and Conductors	1,126,575 43	816,707 02		+309,868 41	Miscellaneous Accounts Payable	167,367 35	144,339 86		+23,027 49
Miscellaneous Accounts Receivable	2,343,131 36	2,461,472 24		—118,340 88	Interest Matured Unpaid	2,082,841 51	7,562,829 91		—5,479,988 40
Material and Supplies	8,059,484 01	8,167,593 75		—108,109 74	Funded Debt Matured Unpaid		13,000 00		+13,000 00
Interest and Dividends Receivable	23,619 78	40,196 08		—16,576 30	Unmatured Interest Accrued	1,655,729 81	2,370,458 35		—711,728 54
Rents Receivable	132 00	33 00		+99 00	Unmatured Rents Accrued	107,109 67	103,021 85		+4,087 82
Other Current Assets	116,476 29	70,503 83		+45,972 46	Other Current Liabilities	243,513 89	2,397,299 15		—2,153,785 26
Total Current Assets	15,185,336 87	24,960,795 28		—9,775,458 41	Total Current Liabilities	10,473,523 53	18,796,696 76		—8,323,173 23
Deferred Assets—					Deferred Liabilities—				
Working Fund Advances	77,546 50	75,320 32		+2,226 18	Other Deferred Liabilities	78,171 52	233,516 58		—155,345 06
Other Deferred Assets	9,000 00	68,742 40		—59,742 40	Unadjusted Credits—				
Total Deferred Assets	86,546 50	144,062 72		—57,516 22	Tax Liability	1,128,310 66	1,773,286 57		—644,975 91
Unadjusted Debits—					Insurance and Casualty Reserves	162 30	74 55		+87 75
Rents and Insurance Premiums Paid in Advance	93,907 79	141,105 04		—47,197 25	Accrued Depreciation—				
Other Unadjusted Debits	421,614 42	436,944 64		—15,330 22	Equipment	1,161,373 72	42,592 72		+1,118,781 00
Reorganization Suspense	4,349,517 75	12,471,261 59		—8,121,743 84	Other Unadjusted Credits	1,799,462 24	1,185,215 92		+614,246 32
Securities Issued or Assumed—Pledged (With U. S. Govt.)	\$6,100,000 00				Total Unadjusted Credits	4,089,308 92	3,001,169 76		+1,088,139 16
Total Unadjusted Debits	4,865,039 96	13,049,311 27		—8,184,271 31	Corporate Surplus—				
Total	294,814,207 08	301,268,907 10		—6,454,700 02	Additions to Property through Income and Surplus	15,353 28			+15,353 28
					Profit and Loss—Balance	2,287,750 83			+2,287,750 83
					Total Corporate Surplus	2,303,104 11			+2,303,104 11
					Total	294,814,207 08	301,268,907 10		—6,454,700 02

Note.—Intercompany Assets and Liabilities are excluded. The Company is guarantor, jointly with other Companies, of the securities of certain terminal companies, none of which are in default.

OPERATING REVENUES AND EXPENSES FOR TEN YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31 1923.

REVENUES.

	Average Mileage Operated.	Freight.	Passenger.	Mail.	Express.	Miscellaneous.	Other.	Total.
1914	3,848.97	\$20,692,214 11	\$8,489,071 23	\$718,386 06	\$883,642 79	\$246,703 14	\$609,546 56	\$31,639,563 89
1915	3,865.07	22,142,576 03	7,966,913 35	770,382 12	858,629 05	267,702 92	447,258 98	32,453,462 45
1916	3,865.02	24,795,719 61	9,215,627 16	783,675 57	1,055,446 23	331,073 57	552,140 14	36,733,682 28
1917	3,866.31	29,027,903 37	11,160,922 06	796,848 22	1,239,934 08	426,765 48	691,777 18	43,344,150 39
1918	3,860.88	35,754,940 45	14,715,178 42	765,503 13	1,623,472 00	489,494 21	790,210 76	54,138,798 97
1919	3,838.66	41,283,105 84	16,709,710 51	715,238 82	1,609,690 09	416,308 03	1,081,323 00	61,828,376 29
1920	3,793.42	47,363,850 89	19,378,120 16	2,286,746 68	1,899,960 98	794,557 53	1,191,494 82	72,914,373 06
1921	3,733.69	43,782,692 09	13,904,679 97	1,356,041 38	2,102,426 33	779,656 03	1,095,479 65	63,020,975 45
1922	3,737.46	39,198,400 88	10,958,411 71	1,241,950 01	2,130,755 79	620,380 79	885,802 71	55,035,701 89
1923	3,359.76	39,791,214 67	11,295,456 27	1,221,101 46	2,181,233 24	637,146 76	861,765 68	55,987,918 08

EXPENSES.

	Maintenance of Way and Structures.	Maintenance of Equipment.	Traffic.	Transportation Expenses.	General and Other.	Total.	NET REVENUE.
1914	\$4,088,710 24	\$4,191,637 16	\$700,920 30	\$12,065,737 51	\$1,301,358 03	\$22,358,363 24	\$9,281,200 65
1915	5,277,655 26	4,657,976 77	658,522 72	11,494,484 95	1,135,176 59	23,223,816 29	9,229,646 16
1916	7,635,694 93	7,273,803 80	725,564 02	12,400,520 85	1,404,117 14	29,439,700 74	7,293,981 54
1917	6,353,665 13	8,737,922 08	786,979 55	15,672,561 22	1,594,982 61	33,146,110 59	10,198,039 80
1918	9,539,254 15	12,630,284 39	582,149 43	22,377,510 36	2,199,835 07	47,329,033 40	6,809,765 57
1919	12,124,064 16	14,814,834 52	657,119 63	26,876,430 00	2,514,447 24	66,986,895 55	4,838,480 74
1920	16,422,652 00	17,378,345 36	978,596 39	32,014,151 75	3,087,133 40	69,880,878 90	3,033,858 16
1921	9,835,638 33	13,803,427 26	1,064,545 36	22,866,804 76	2,485,368 60	50,055,784 31	12,965,191 14
1922	7,237,276 60	10,548,094 49	1,041,435 68	18,780,007 03	2,076,887 24	39,683,701 04	15,352,000 85
1923	7,393,307 28	14,636,724 26	1,151,353 02	18,380,268 53	2,066,665 86	43,628,318 95	12,359,599 13

RATIO TO TOTAL REVENUE.

	Maintenance of Way and Structures.	Maintenance of Equipment.	Traffic.	Transportation Expenses.	General and Other.	Total.	Net Revenue.
1914	12.95	13.25	2.22	38.13	4.12	70.67	29.33
1915	16.26	14.35	2.03	35.42	3.50	71.56	28.44
1916	20.79	19.80	1.98	33.75	3.82	80.14	19.86
1917	14.66	20.16	1.81	36.16	3.68	76.47	23.53
1918	17.62	23.33	1.07	41.34	4.06	87.42	12.58
1919	19.61	23.96	1.06	43.47	4.07	92.17	7.83
1920	22.52	23.84	1.34	43.91	4.23	95.84	4.16
1921	15.61	19.90	1.99	36.28	3.95	79.43	20.57
1922	13.15	19.17	1.89	34.13	3.77	72.11	27.89
1923	13.20	26.14	2.06	32.83	3.70	77.93	22.07

NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY

REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31 1923.

Office of the President
208 South La Salle Street
Chicago, Illinois.

April 14 1924.

To the Stockholders of
Northern States Power Company:

Submitted herewith is the report of the operations of your Company and its subsidiaries for the year ended December 31 1923.

After payment of the regular dividend on the preferred stock, quarterly dividends at the rate of 8 per cent per annum were paid on the common stock of your Company, leaving a balance of \$1,580,324 07 available for amortization, retirement reserves and surplus, compared with a balance of \$1,134,526 19 in 1922.

The earnings of the properties operated for the four-year period ended December 31 compare as follows:

	1923.	1922.	1921.	1920.
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Gross Earnings	15,489,790 76	13,881,919 01	12,963,222 30	11,798,778 84
Net Earnings	6,580,991 99	5,781,092 07	5,207,543 82	4,466,938 23
Interest Charges	2,345,292 51	2,311,432 30	2,295,682 41	2,148,470 28
Balance	4,235,699 48	3,469,659 77	2,911,861 41	2,318,467 95
Preferred Dividends	2,161,775 41	1,841,533 58	1,601,164 58	1,341,374 22
Balance Available for Amortization, Retirement Reserves, Common Dividends and Surplus	2,073,924 07	1,628,126 19	1,310,696 83	977,093 73

The business of your Company increased substantially over the preceding year, as shown by an increase in gross earnings of 11.58 per cent and in net earnings of 13.83 per cent over the corresponding earnings for the year 1922. Fuel costs required 18 per cent of the gross earnings, and are still high as compared with pre-war prices, but compare favorably with 21 per cent of gross earnings required in the previous year. The ratio of operating expenses to gross earnings has decreased steadily from 62.14 per cent in the year 1920 to 57.51 per cent in the year 1923.

The above figures for 1923 do not include certain large companies which were acquired during the year, but which actually did not become part of the corporate structure of the Company until December 29. The combined earnings of your Company and the full earnings of the acquired companies for the entire year of 1923, compared with those of 1922, were as follows:

Twelve Months ended Dec. 31—	1923.	1922.
Gross Earnings	\$18,869,140 31	\$17,088,868 32
Net Earnings, Exclusive of Depreciation	8,321,943 46	7,434,259 20

85.74% of the gross earnings and 93.41% of the net earnings are derived from the sale of electric power and light.

ACQUIREMENT OF ADDITIONAL COMPANIES.

The year 1923 was notable in the purchase of additional companies and properties possessing a satisfactory degree of existing earning power, and capable of much more efficient development when operated as units of a large system. These acquisitions have considerably enlarged the scope of operations and include large developed water powers and undeveloped water power sites. These purchases have further materially strengthened the physical and strategic position of your Company, and at the same time will assist it towards discharging its broad obligations as a public servant furnishing vital services in adequate quantity and quality at the lowest reasonable cost.

One of the principal purchases of the year was that of all of the common stock and part of the preferred stock of the Wisconsin-Minnesota Light & Power Company. This company, whose name was changed to that of Northern States Power Company of Wisconsin, in April 1924, was taken over for operation in July 1923. Its properties include several valuable water power plants (one of them, of 14,400 horsepower, being operated under lease) aggregating 73,000 horsepower and upwards of 800 miles of transmission lines. The territory served is a rich agricultural and manufacturing area, approximately 140 miles wide and 160 miles from north to south, in western Wisconsin and eastern Minnesota. Electricity is supplied in 78 communities with a total population of 165,500, including the cities of La Crosse, Eau Claire, Chippewa Falls, Menominee and Red Wing. Gas is supplied in La Crosse, Eau Claire, Chippewa Falls and Winona, and other utility services are rendered in some of these places. The transmission lines are tied in with those of the Northern States Power System, the whole now being a conspicuous example of intercon-

nected water and steam power sources, by means of which the public will be increasingly benefited in the future.

Another large acquisition was that of the St. Anthony Falls Water Power Company and the Minneapolis Mill Company. These companies own the historic power development at the Falls of St. Anthony on the Mississippi river in the heart of Minneapolis. The property has a potential capacity of approximately 60,000 hydraulic horsepower.

CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM.

The amount of construction accomplished in 1923 to care for the Company's expanding business exceeded that of any previous year, and called for the investment of \$8,468,726 51. Measured in terms of public service the new construction in part enabled the rendering of service to 53 additional communities; to add 15,529 new customers supplied direct with electricity, and 568 new customers supplied with gas; to install 12,000 horsepower in additional electric producing capacity; the building of 462 miles of new transmission and distributing lines, and the construction of nine important new substations. It enabled the partial construction of the new High Bridge steam turbine station in St. Paul, and installation work to enlarge capacities at five other power plants.

For the year 1924 the total amount of new construction, including the completion of projects already started, calls for the investment of \$14,440,000. The facts recited will give the stockholders some conception of the rate at which their Company is growing, and why large amounts of new capital are required from year to year to supply the steadily increasing demands of the great geographical field covered by the Company's operations.

Included in the 1924 construction program is the completion of the High Bridge power station to a capacity of 80,000 horsepower (the first 40,000 horsepower generating unit at the High Bridge station about June 1924, and the second 40,000 horsepower unit before the close of the year) of the 200,000 horsepower ultimately planned; completion of a new 10,000 horsepower steam turbine station at Sioux Falls; improvements at the Riverside steam turbine station, and completion of the large Aldrich substation in Minneapolis, important new substations, high tension transmission lines and extensions, additions and improvements throughout the territories served.

ENGINEERING AND MANAGEMENT.

Engineering and management services are performed for the Northern States Power Company by the Byllesby Engineering and Management Corporation, which is composed of specialists with long and successful experience in the administration of public utility properties. The properties are efficiently operated, an example being found in the fact that during the past two years there has been a decrease of about 20% in the quantity of coal required for the production of each kilowatt hour of electric energy generated.

DEVELOPMENT OF WATER POWERS.

A subject of interest to stockholders and the public is the development of additional water powers. A number of sites on the Mississippi and St. Croix rivers are controlled by your Company. The Federal Water Power Commission has granted preliminary permits to the Company for the development of two sites on each river, or four in all, with a combined potential capacity of 96,000 horsepower. Surveys, designs and plans are under way for these developments for submission to the Federal Water Power Commission for approval, as all work must be carried out, and the power utilized, as specified by the Commission.

The acquisition of the Wisconsin-Minnesota Light & Power Company not only brought 73,000 horsepower of developed hydro-energy under the control of your Company but also a number of undeveloped sites on the Chippewa and Red Cedar rivers. St. Anthony Falls property added a large new water power source to the Company's resources.

Early in the year the water power created by the Government High Dam was leased by the Federal Water Power Commission to the Ford Motor Company, which is now constructing a large factory in St. Paul adjacent to the dam. Under the terms of the award all surplus power not used by the Ford factory is to be sold to the Northern States Power Company at favorable rates. The power plant is nearly completed, and it is apparent that for part of 1924, and until the factory is finished and in operation, all of the Government High Dam power will be delivered to your Company.

It is the intention of the Company to proceed with new water power developments according to a comprehensive plan, in line with the wishes of the Federal Water Power Commission, and well in advance of the requirements of the public for additional power.

FINANCING.

It will be realized that the properties added to the System, as well as the largest construction budget in its history, have called for a considerable amount of new capital. Favorable

market conditions during the year led the Company to anticipate the redemption of its outstanding short-term debt, and no funded debt of your Company now matures before 1933. It was also deemed an auspicious time for the creation of a new mortgage, which permits the Company to readily finance its requirements with a security that can be carried as to maturity, coupon and other terms, to meet changing market conditions. The creation of this new mortgage closes the issuance to the public of further bonds under the old indenture, all of which bonds mature in 1941.

During 1923 your Company issued and sold \$3,000,000 of first and refunding Series "B" 6% gold bonds, due 1941; \$8,500,000 first lien and general mortgage gold bonds, Series "A," 6%, due 1948; \$10,000,000 6½% convertible gold notes, due 1933, and \$6,001,200 of 7% cumulative preferred stock. During the same period the bonds and notes and stocks retired aggregated \$9,164,800 face value.

DEVELOPMENT OF CUSTOMER OWNERSHIP.

At the close of 1923 the companies comprising the Northern States Power Company System had a total of 30,163 shareholders of record. In addition there were 5,381 contracts outstanding for the purchase of preferred stock. Upwards of 90 per cent of the shareholders are residents of the territories served. More than 80 per cent of the Company's employees are now shareholders.

In 1923 a larger number of home shareholders were added to the Company's list of owners than in any previous year. There were 16,716 separate sales of preferred stock by the Company's investment department, and the number of new home or local shareholders added was 7,368.

The distribution of dividends to the people of the cities and territories served is now approximately \$2,200,000 a year.

ELECTRIC SERVICE FOR THE FARMS.

Towards the further development of diversified and profitable farming few steps have been taken with greater possibilities for practical assistance than the progress made by your Company in the establishment of experimental rural lines. These lines have been built, and trial rate schedules formulated, under the direction of co-operative committees composed of representatives of the farm organizations, agricultural educational institutions, the farm press and the power companies. The application of electricity to farming, towards the end of reducing labor and increasing production and profits, is now being scientifically tested in Minnesota and South Dakota, and records kept of costs and results. In Wisconsin considerable practical progress has been made in serving the farms at places where the conditions are exceptionally favorable.

COMBINED STATISTICS SHOWING GROWTH.

Including the Wisconsin-Minnesota Light & Power Company properties, the number of communities served (both on a wholesale and retail basis) increased from 586 to a total of 517 in 1923. At the close of the year the Company served 209,501 users of electricity and 30,079 consumers of gas, representing a gain of 45,422 electric customers and 15,595 gas customers. Not included in these totals are many thousands of individual customers supplied directly by other companies and municipalities, to which your Company supplies power on a wholesale basis.

CONCLUSION.

The future growth of your Company in public usefulness, with resultant earnings, is indicated in a most satisfactory manner. The managers, their staffs and the employees have carried out their duties so as to retain the respect and good will of the public and fully warrant the confidence of the stockholders, and the Directors wish to express appreciation of the efficient and loyal services which they have rendered.

The report of the Treasurer for the twelve months ended December 31 1923 will be found on pages 6 to 16 [pamphlet report].

By order of the Board of Directors,
H. M. BYLLESBY,
President.

REPORT OF TREASURER.

Minneapolis, Minn., April 14 1924.

H. M. Bylesby, Esq.,
President, Northern States Power Company,
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Sir.—I beg to submit herewith consolidated balance sheet as of December 31 1923, of Northern States Power Company of Delaware and subsidiaries, prepared by Arthur Andersen & Company, certified public accountants, and consolidated by them with the consolidated balance sheet as of December 31 1923, of Wisconsin-Minnesota Light & Power Company, prepared by Haskins & Sells, certified public accountants.

There is also submitted the consolidated income account of Northern States Power Company of Delaware and subsidiaries for the year ended December 31 1923, prepared by Arthur Andersen & Company, certified public accountants, which does not include any earnings of Wisconsin-Minnesota Light & Power Company, St. Anthony Falls Water Power Company, or Minneapolis Mill Company, which latter properties did not become a part of the Northern States Power Company financial structure until December 29 1923.

However, as a matter of information, earnings of Northern States Power Company System, including the newly acquired properties, for the twelve months ended December 31 1923, and comparative statement of earnings of the properties for the period operated, as well as for the full period, together with statistical information covering population, consumers, connected load and installed capacity, are also appended.

Northern States Power Company of Delaware owns all the capital stock of Northern States Power Company of Minnesota except qualifying Directors' shares, and any changes in the outstanding stocks of the two companies are identical.

The Company has outstanding 67,610 option warrants, issued April 1 1916, due April 1 1922, which have been extended to October 1 1925.

Certain of the affiliated and subsidiary companies have securities issued not shown on the balance sheet; however, none of these are in the hands of the public, but are pledged as collateral to the bonds shown outstanding.

Since December 31 1923 the outstanding \$594,500 underlying bonds and \$1,067,000 Ottumwa Railway & Light Company bonds have been retired with the cash shown deposited for that purpose on the certified balance sheet.

Respectfully yours,
J. J. MOLYNEAUX, Treasurer.

NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY OF DELAWARE AND SUBSIDIARIES.

CONSOLIDATED INCOME ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31 1923, AND SUMMARY OF SURPLUS ACCOUNT.

Particulars—	Amount.
Gross Earnings—	
Electric Department.....	\$13,684,365 24
Gas Department.....	714,869 66
Steam Department.....	667,270 25
Street Railway Department.....	333,919 36
Telephone Department.....	89,366 25
Total Gross Earnings.....	\$15,489,790 76
Operating Expenses and Taxes:	
Operation.....	\$6,686,993 54
Maintenance.....	992,252 80
Taxes.....	1,229,552 43
Total Operating Expenses and Taxes.....	8,908,798 77
Net Earnings.....	\$6,580,991 99
Interest Charges (Net).....	2,345,292 51
Net Income Available for Amortization of Debt Discount and Expense, Depreciation and Dividends.....	\$4,235,699 48
Deduct:	
Preferred Stock Dividends.....	2,161,775 41
Remainder.....	\$2,073,924 07
Common Stock Dividends.....	493,600 00
Remainder.....	\$1,580,324 07
Appropriations for:	
Retirement (Depreciation) Reserve.....	\$650,000 00
Amortization of Debt Discount and Expenses.....	350,000 00
	1,000,000 00
Balance—Carried to Surplus Account.....	\$580,324 07
Surplus January 1 1923.....	1,843,233 52
Total Surplus Dec. 31 1923, per Balance Sheet.....	\$2,423,557 59

ARTHUR ANDERSEN & CO.,
Certified Public Accountants.

CONSOLIDATED GENERAL BALANCE SHEET, DEC. 31 1923, OF NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY OF DELAWARE AND SUBSIDIARIES AND WISCONSIN-MINNESOTA LIGHT & POWER COMPANY.

(After Giving Effect to the Sale of \$8,500,000 First Lien and General Mortgage Bonds of Northern States Power Company of Minnesota on February 13 1924 and the Application of the Proceeds as Set Forth in the Accompanying Certificate.)

ASSETS.

Capital Assets:		
Plant, Property, Rights, Franchises, &c., including Preferred Stock Discount and Expense.....		\$116,357,125 23
Special Cash Deposits:		
Deposit to Retire Ottumwa Railway & Light Company bonds, per contract.....	\$1,067,000 00	
Deposit to Retire Other Underlying Bonds.....	594,500 00	
	\$1,661,500 00	5,987 18
Sinking Funds and Other Deposits.....		498,026 44
Investments:		
Investments in and Advances to Affiliated Companies.....	\$356,808 69	
Stocks and Bonds of Other Companies, Associations, &c.....	141,217 75	
		7,840,443 82
Debt Discount and Expense in Process of Amortization.....		18,186 97
Deferred Charges and Prepaid Accounts:		
Unexpired Insurance.....	\$67,532 10	
Prepaid Interest and Taxes.....	18,186 97	
Rate Investigation Expense.....	255,302 42	
Expenses and Advances on Purchase of Properties.....	40,996 15	
Miscellaneous and Unadjusted Items.....	70,833 96	
		452,851 60
Current Assets:		
Cash in Banks and on Hand.....	\$4,072,312 65	
Cash on Deposit to be Withdrawn against 1923 Construction Expenditures.....	1,272,000 00	
Cash Deposited for Bond Interest.....	29,120 00	
Investment in Marketable Securities.....	287,545 75	
Notes Receivable.....	\$1,551,536 08	
Less—Notes Receivable Discounted.....	1,500,000 00	
		51,536 08
Accounts Receivable.....	\$1,700,409 69	
Less—Reserve for Uncollectible Accounts.....	144,248 45	
		1,556,161 24
Unbilled Electricity and Gas.....	651,689 07	
Receivable on Sales of Preferred Stock.....	346,012 88	
Inventories.....	1,904,451 67	
		10,170,829 34
Total.....		\$135,325,263 61

LIABILITIES.

Capital Stock of Northern States Power Company of Delaware:		
Authorized:		
7% Cumulative Preferred, 500,000 shares, \$100 00 each	-----	\$50,000,000 00
Common, 500,000 shares, \$100 00 each	-----	50,000,000 00
		<u>\$100,000,000 00</u>
Issued and Outstanding:		
7% Cumulative Preferred Issued	-----	\$33,740,000 00
Less—In Treasury	-----	72,900 00
		<u>33,667,100 00</u>
Common Issued	-----	\$16,170,000 00
Less—Amount Deposited with Trustee of the Convertible 6½% Gold Notes to provide for Conversion of these Notes	-----	10,000,000 00
		<u>6,170,000 00</u>
Cumulative 7% Preferred Stock of Wisconsin-Minnesota Light & Power Company in Hands of Public	-----	4,766,800 00
Common Stock of Subsidiaries in Hands of Public	-----	2,000 00
		<u>\$44,605,900 00</u>
Total Capital Stock Outstanding in Hands of Public		
Funded Debt:		
Northern States Power Company of Minnesota:		
25-Year 5% First and Refunding Mortgage Gold Bonds, due April 1 1941	-----	\$26,560,500 00
25-Year 6% First and Refunding Mortgage Gold Bonds, due April 1 1941	-----	7,492,500 00
25-Year 6% First Lien and General Mortgage Gold Bonds, due November 1 1943	-----	8,500,000 00
10-Year Convertible 6½% Gold Notes, due November 1 1933	-----	10,000,000 00
The Minneapolis General Electric Company 30-Year 5% First Mortgage Bonds, due December 1 1934	-----	7,100,000 00
		<u>\$59,653,000 00</u>
Ottumwa Railway & Light Company First and Refunding 5% Bonds, due January 1 1924, see Deposit, per contra	-----	\$1,067,000 00
Other Underlying Bonds, see Deposit, per contra	-----	594,500 00
		<u>\$1,661,500 00</u>
Total Funded Debt Covered by Deposit		
Wisconsin-Minnesota Light & Power Company:		
First and Refunding Mortgage 5% Gold Bonds, due May 1 1944	-----	\$10,549,000 00
General and Refunding Mortgage 7% Gold Bonds, due January 1 1947	-----	3,096,000 00
Underlying Bonds	-----	1,260,500 00
		<u>14,905,500 00</u>
		<u>74,558,500 00</u>
Current Liabilities:		
Notes Payable	-----	\$2,967,273 31
Accounts Payable to Affiliated Companies	-----	2,651,304 73
Other Accounts Payable	-----	1,633,320 88
Accrued Interest	-----	760,396 69
Accrued Taxes	-----	1,594,569 79
Accrued Preferred Stock Dividends	-----	618,518 43
Common Stock Dividends Payable	-----	123,400 00
Consumers' and Other Deposits	-----	215,145 23
Sundry Current Liabilities	-----	136,095 79
		<u>10,700,524 85</u>
Reserves:		
Retirement (Depreciation) Reserve	-----	\$405,173 32
Retirement (Depreciation) Reserve on books of companies acquired at date of acquisition thereof	-----	1,509,395 37
		<u>\$1,914,568 69</u>
Other Operating Reserves	-----	306,768 97
		<u>2,221,337 66</u>
Capital Surplus:		
Surplus on books of companies acquired at date of acquisition thereof	-----	815,443 51
Surplus	-----	2,423,557 59
		<u>\$135,325,263 61</u>

NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY AND SUBSIDIARIES CONSOLIDATED INCOME ACCOUNT—TWELVE MONTHS ENDED DECEMBER 31 1923.	
(New properties, including Wisconsin-Minnesota Light & Power Company for the full period.)	
Gross Earnings:	
Northern States Power Company and Subsidiaries	-----
Wisconsin-Minnesota Light & Power Company and Affiliated Companies	-----
Total	-----
Less Inter-Company Billing	-----
Total	-----
Operating Expenses, Maintenance and Taxes:	
Northern States Power Company and Subsidiaries	-----
Wisconsin-Minnesota Light & Power Company and Affiliated Companies	-----
Total	-----
Less Inter-Company Billing	-----
Total	-----
Net Earnings:	
Northern States Power Company and Subsidiaries	-----
Wisconsin-Minnesota Light & Power Company and Affiliated Companies	-----
Total	-----
Interest Charges (Net):	
Northern States Power Company and Subsidiaries	-----
Wisconsin-Minnesota Light & Power Company and Affiliated Companies	-----
Total	-----
Net Income Available for Amortization, Retirement Reserve and Dividends:	
Northern States Power Company and Subsidiaries	-----
Wisconsin-Minnesota Light & Power Company and Affiliated Companies	-----
Total	-----
Preferred Stock Dividends:	
Northern States Power Company and Subsidiaries	-----
Wisconsin-Minnesota Light & Power Company and Affiliated Companies	-----
Total	-----
Balance of Net Income for Amortization, Retirement Reserve and Dividends on Common Stock, etc.	-----

AUDITOR'S CERTIFICATE.

We have prepared and submit herewith:

(a) Consolidated Balance Sheet as of December 31 1923 of the Northern States Power Company of Delaware and Subsidiaries and Wisconsin-Minnesota Light & Power Company, and

(b) Consolidated Income and Surplus Accounts for the year ended December 31, 1923, of the Northern States Power Company of Delaware and Subsidiaries, but excluding the Wisconsin-Minnesota Light & Power Company, the investment in the latter being made on December 29 1923.

We have audited the books and records of the Northern States Power Company of Delaware and Subsidiaries, the accounts of which have been consolidated, as indicated above, with those of the Wisconsin-Minnesota Light & Power Company, which were audited by Haskins & Sells, Certified Public Accountants.

The Consolidated Balance Sheet is stated after giving effect to the sale of \$8,500,000 00 First Lien and General Mortgage 6% Gold Bonds of the Northern States Power Company of Minnesota, and the application of the proceeds, in part, in the reduction of liabilities, and in the making of certain escrow deposits.

On the above basis, we hereby certify that, in our opinion, the attached Consolidated Balance Sheet and Consolidated Income and Surplus Accounts correctly reflect the financial condition of the Company at December 31 1923, after giving effect to the financing noted, and the results from operations for the year ended that date.

ARTHUR ANDERSEN & CO.,
Certified Public Accountants.
Chicago, Illinois, April 14 1924.

Utah-Idaho Sugar Co.—Bonds Called.—All of the 1st Mtge. Serial 7% Gold bonds of Series "E," Nos. 2121 to 2590 inclusive (total \$470,000) and Nos. 2591 to 2650 (total \$30,000), maturing July 1 1925, will be redeemed July 1 at 101 and int. at the Bankers Trust Co., 16 Wall St., N. Y. City.—V. 118, p. 2067.

Valdosta Lighting Co.—To Issue Bonds, &c.—The Georgia P. S. Commission has authorized the company to issue \$225,000 Ref. Mtge. bonds, and \$75,000 capital stock. The proceeds, it is understood, are to be used to replace money already expended on additions and improvements.—V. 104, p. 1806.

Victor Talking Machine Co., Canada, Ltd.—Incorp.—This company has been incorporated in Canada with an authorized capital stock of \$1,000,000, par \$100.—V. 117, p. 2662.

(V.) Vivaudou, Inc.—Defers Common Dividend.—The directors have voted to defer the quarterly dividend of 50c. a share on the outstanding 300,000 shares of Common stock, no par value, due at this time, until it is seen what the profits for the first six months will be. On March 15 last a quarterly dividend of 50c. per share was paid on the Common stock in 7% Cumul. Conv. Pref. stock.

The directors have declared an initial quarterly dividend of 1¼% on the Preferred stock payable June 15 to holders of record June 1.—V. 118, p. 2067.

Wisconsin Telephone Co.—Annual Report Year Ended Dec. 31 1923.

Telep. oper. revs., \$10,664,261; telep. oper. exp., \$7,597,836;	
net telep. oper. rev	\$3,066,425
Uncollectible oper. revs., \$18,858; taxes assignable to oper., \$336,268.	855,126
Operating income	\$2,211,298
Non-operating income	84,127
Total gross income	\$2,295,426
Deduct—Rent and misc., \$52,342; bond int., \$13,991; other int., \$215,513.	281,846
Dividends—Pref. stock, \$318,979; common dividends, \$380,000	1,198,979
Balance, surplus	\$814,600

—V. 118, p. 215.

Western States Gas & Electric Co.—Bonds Offered.—H. M. Byllesby & Co., Blyth, Witter & Co. and Peirce, Fair & Co. are offering at 95 and int. \$850,000 1st & Unified Mtge. Gold bonds, 6%, Series "A," dated March 1 1922; due March 1 1947. A circular shows:

Company—Owns and operates electric and gas properties in central and northern California, supplying 35 communities, including the cities of Stockton, Richmond and Eureka. Population estimated in excess of 116,000. Company operates three hydro-electric generating plants having a combined installed capacity of 26,470 kw., and two steam-electric generating plants having a combined installed capacity of 8,500 kw. Artificial gas plants are operated in Stockton and Eureka, operations in Stockton being in conjunction with natural gas wells. Included in the hydro-electric installed capacity mentioned is an installation of 20,000 kw. which has recently been completed as the first unit of what is known as the El Dorado project. Completion of this unit enables company to provide for immediate and future power demands and to replace power purchased from other companies.

Purpose.—Proceeds will be used to reimburse the company in part for additions, betterments, &c., heretofore made.

Capitalization Outstanding (Giving Effect to Present Financing)

1st & Unified Mtge. 6s. Series "A," due 1947 (incl. this issue)	-----	\$3,850,000
1st & Ref. (now 1st) Mtge. 5s. due 1942 (closed)	-----	4,012,500
15-Year 6% Gold notes, due 1937	-----	5,000,000
7% Cumulative Preferred stock	-----	3,648,000
Common stock	-----	3,981,500

*Additional 1st & Ref. Mtge. 5% bonds in the amount of \$1,724,000 are deposited as additional security for the 1st & Unified Mtge. bonds.

Earnings—Years Ended Dec. 31.

	Gross.	Oper. Exp.	Maint. & Taxes.	Net Earnings.	Interest Charges.
1913	\$1,085,647	\$596,883	\$488,764	\$259,149	
1915	1,183,834	611,469	572,365	280,584	
1917	1,402,869	768,938	633,931	325,348	
1919	1,901,303	1,115,555	785,748	378,860	
1921	2,547,164	1,685,981	861,183	420,376	
1923	2,984,670	1,931,932	1,052,738	554,980	
1924 (March 31 year)	3,096,455	1,903,272	1,193,183	563,974	

—V. 118, p. 919.

Westinghouse Air Brake Co.—Moves Office.—

The company on May 1 moved its New York office from the Benenson Building, 165 Broadway, to the new Westinghouse Building, 150 Broadway.—V. 118, p. 1663, 1413.

Westinghouse Electric & Manufacturing Co.—Listing.

There have been authorized for the Boston Stock Exchange list, on notice of issuance, 574,560 additional shares (par \$50) Common stock.—V. 118, p. 2070, 1926.

Wheeling Steel Corp.—Mining Accident.—

According to a dispatch from Bentwood, W. Va., 114 men lost their lives in an explosion at the Bentwood mine of the company on April 28.—V. 118, p. 2070, 1769.

West Kentucky Coal Co.—Bonds Sold.—Lee, Higginson & Co., New York; Drexel & Co. and Cassatt & Co., Phila., have sold, at 100 and interest, \$5,000,000 First Mtge. 7% Sinking Fund Gold Bonds, Series A (see adv. pages).

Dated May 1 1924. Due May 1 1944. Interest payable M. & N. in New York, Boston and Chicago. Demom. \$1,000 and \$500 c^s. Callable on 30 days' notice, as a whole at any time or in part on any interest date, at 105 and interest during the first four years, with successive reductions of 1% in call price during each four years' period thereafter, without deduction of normal Federal income tax up to 2%. Conn. and Penn. 4 mills taxes, Maryland 4½ mills securities tax and Mass. income tax up to 6% refundable. Bank of North America & Trust Co., Philadelphia, trustee.

Sinking Fund.—Sinking fund of 10 cents per ton of coal mined, to be used for retirement of First Mtge. bonds, minimum sinking fund payments for each series to be sufficient to retire entire series in equal annual installments by maturity. Minimum sinking fund for Series A bonds sufficient to retire \$250,000 bonds per annum and for retirement of entire \$5,000,000 Series A bonds by maturity.

Data from Letter of President C. F. Richardson, Sturgis, Ky., Apr. 29

Company.—Incorp. in New Jersey in 1905. Acquired at its organization properties of previously existing companies in western Kentucky, which it has successfully operated and further extensively developed. It is now acquiring the properties of St. Bernard Mining Co., with an operating history extending over a period of more than 50 years, and Kentucky Block Coal Corp. Including the properties now being acquired, company will be the largest coal operator in the western Kentucky field, with 22 mines and present developed annual capacity in excess of 3,200,000 tons. Average annual sales for last six years 2,510,192 tons: 1923 sales, 2,861,449 tons.

Company's product in 1923 was sold in 15 different States in this country, as follows: North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, Nebraska, Iowa, Wisconsin, Illinois, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, Arkansas, Missouri, Indiana, Texas and Louisiana.

Purpose.—Proceeds will be used to retire the entire funded debt of company now outstanding and for part of the cost of the properties of St. Bernard Mining Co. and Kentucky Block Coal Corp.

Capitalization.—

	Authorized	Outstanding
First Mortgage Sinking Fund Gold Bonds.....	\$10,000,000	\$5,000,000
Preferred Stock, 7% Cumulative.....	11,000,000	6,000,000
Common Stock.....	7,000,000	7,000,000

Net Earnings Available for Depreciation, Depletion, Interest and Federal Taxes, Properties to Be Owned, Calendar Years.

1918.....	\$1,884,365	1920.....	\$2,690,007	1922.....	\$2,894,652
1919.....	1,261,707	1921.....	716,032	1923.....	1,127,368

Net earnings available for depreciation, depletion, interest and Federal taxes for the six years ended Dec. 31 1923 averaged \$1,762,438 a year, or nearly three times the \$600,000 combined maximum interest and minimum sinking fund requirements on these bonds.

Control.—Company is controlled by North American Co. through ownership of entire Common stock except directors' qualifying shares. North American Co. will have an actual cash investment in the equity of more than \$6,000,000.

Properties.—Company will own mineral rights underlying more than 73,000 acres of coal lands, and will hold favorable leaseholds of additional mineral rights underlying 2,400 acres, in Union, Webster and Hopkins Counties, Ky., with sufficient surface lands for mining operations. The total recoverable coal is estimated at more than 400,000,000 tons, sufficient for more than 100 years operations at present rate of output. These properties have been developed by 22 mines, of which 9 are shaft-mine operations and 13 drift-mine operations, modern and well equipped, with present annual capacity in excess of 3,200,000 tons.

Railroad transportation from the company's properties is available over The Illinois Central and Louisville & Nashville railroads, and water transportation from the company's properties in Union and Webster Counties is available by the Ohio River. Company also owns and operates a fleet of steamers and barges with auxiliary equipment. The river transportation equipment is capable of handling more than 500,000 tons a year.

Company also owns and operates a large barge building plant at Paducah, Ky., and coal yards at Evansville, Jeffersonville and New Albany, Ind.; Louisville and Paducah, Ky.; and Memphis and Nashville, Tenn.; elevators, storage facilities, shops, more than 1,100 miners' houses, 12 large commissaries or stores, a modern steel and concrete tipple (having a daily loading capacity of 3,000 tons) on the Ohio River, river unloading tips at Paducah, Ky., and Memphis, Tenn., connecting the river transportation department at those points with practically all the railroads of the South and Southwest, and 21 miles of standard gauge steam railroad (with three consolidation type locomotives and 175 railroad cars) by which deliveries are made to the company's tipple from its mines.

Officers are: C. F. Richardson, Pres. & Gen. Mgr.; Edwin Gruhl, V.-Pres.; James F. Fogarty, V.-Pres.; T. E. Jenkins, V.-Pres.; H. L. Richardson, V.-Pres.; Robert Sealy, Treas.; and F. H. Piske, Sec.

Directors.—C. F. Richardson, Frank L. Dame, Edwin Gruhl, Edwin M. Bulkley, James F. Fogarty, John Foster Dulles, and John I. Beggs.—V. 116, p. 1661.

Western Power Corp.—Earnings for Calendar Years.—

[The income statement for 1923, already noted in V. 118, p. 1926, has been restated to show changes in income charges and provision for renewals and replacements.]

	1923.	1922.	1921.
Operating revenues.....	\$7,123,970	\$7,199,472	\$6,382,162
Other income credits.....	104,956	503,583	991,565
Gross revenues.....	\$7,228,926	\$7,703,055	\$7,373,726
Operating expenses.....	2,359,031	2,767,167	2,350,770
Income charges.....	373,263	329,957	365,418
Bond interest.....	2,513,945	2,574,119	2,402,152
Prov. for renewals and replacement.....	502,453	360,000	360,000
Dis.—Calif. El. Gen. Co. 6% Pref.....	150,000	150,000	150,000
Gt. Western Pr. Co. of Cal. Pref. (7%).....	461,468	339,209	173,448
Western Power Corp. 6% Pref.....	442,292	424,569	424,541
Balance, surplus.....	\$426,473	\$758,034	\$1,147,399

—V. 118, p. 2070, 1926.

Worthington Pump & Machinery Corp.—Sale, etc.

The Allis-Chalmers Mfg. Co. has purchased the business and machinery of the above corporation's plant at Cudahy, Wis. The plant and real estate was not included in the purchase. The machinery will be transferred to the West Allis plant of the Allis-Chalmers Co. and business will be continued from there.

It is stated that sale of the plant is in line with a policy of concentrating the activities of the Worthington Co. The Allis-Chalmers Co. takes over production of mining, cement, crushing and crosscutting machinery lines. The Worthington Pump & Machinery Corp., it is stated, has obtained a \$500,000 contract for the delivery of engine and pumping equipment for the proposed McCorkle pipe line, which is to be laid in the West.—V. 118, p. 1926.

CURRENT NOTICES.

—"The Stock Exchange Official Intelligence" for 1924 (Vol. 42) has just been received. This volume, containing 1,866 pages, is a carefully revised compendium of information regarding British, American and foreign

securities. The volume also contains special articles on Indian finance and company law decisions; statistics relating to municipal finance, county finance, colonial finance, and British and foreign finance; a list of brokers who are members of the London Stock Exchange; also information as to stamp duties, trustee investments, company registrations, &c., &c. The book is published in London, under the sanction of the Committee of the London Stock Exchange, by Spottiswoode, Ballantyne & Co., Ltd., 1 New Street-Square, E. C. 4.

—The announcement of the formation of a big new Stock Exchange firm under the name of Kinkead, Florentine & Co., coming as it does, at a time when the financial columns are filled with announcements of mergers and consolidations of brokerage firms necessitated by high overhead costs, has created considerable interest in financial and business circles. The members of the new firm are Eugene F. Kinkead, Leo J. Florentine and James A. Healy, general partners, and Thomas J. Maloney, special. The new firm began business May 1 with main offices at 120 Broadway and a branch at the Hotel Pennsylvania, the latter under the management of E. Martin Whitton, formerly a partner in the firm of Morrison & Townsend.

—Fred Emert & Co. Inc., of St. Louis, announce the enlargement of their organization to include, as Vice-President, C. E. Keplinger, for the past six years Vice-President of Stern Brothers & Co. of Kansas City, and as Secretary, Burt D. McConnell, formerly a partner in the firm of Crosby, McConnell & Co. of Denver. Fred Emert & Co., Inc., was organized in December 1923, Fred Emert, President, having been previously a partner in the firm of Kauffman, Smith, Emert & Co. and Sam L. Jones, Treasurer, formerly St. Louis representative of the Guaranty Trust Co. of New York.

—The co-partnership heretofore existing between Edward C. Hartshorne, Seavey Battelle, Frederick W. Ludwig and Stanley L. Roggenburg, under the firm name of Hartshorne & Battelle, has been dissolved as of April 30 1924. Seavey Battelle, member New York Stock Exchange; Frederick W. Ludwig, member New York Curb Association, and Stanley L. Roggenburg have formed a co-partnership under the firm name of Battelle, Ludwig & Co. to conduct a commission business in bonds and stocks, at 25 Broad Street, beginning May 1 1924.

—Henry Morgan, Clarence L. Howland, George C. Slein and Malcolm McBurney, special partner, have formed a co-partnership for the transaction of a general investment and commission business in securities under the firm name of Morgan, Howland & Co., members New York Stock Exchange, with offices at 120 Broadway, New York.

—Colonel Henry D. Lindsley, former head of the American Legion, and who has been associated with Potter & Co., members of the New York Stock Exchange of 5 Nassau St., has retired from that firm. He is forming his own firm, which will start business about May 15 and will specialize in the underwriting of securities.

—Owing to the rapid growth of their business, Brandon, Gordon & Waddell, municipal bond dealers, have moved from their quarters in the Singer Building, which they have occupied for the past five years, to larger offices on the 17th floor of the Equitable Building, 120 Broadway, New York.

—The firm of Dawson, Lyon & Co. has been dissolved by mutual consent as of May 1. A new partnership has been formed by W. Wallace Lyon and Northrop Dawson under the name of Dawson, Lyon & Co., with offices at 25 Broad Street, New York.

—Harry I. Tuttle, formerly head of the unlisted securities department of Markoe, Morgan & Co., has joined the New York office of Laird, Bissell & Meeds, members of the New York Stock Exchange, as manager of their unlisted securities department.

—Russell, Miller & Carey, members New York Stock Exchange, 52 Broadway, New York, announce that John D. Wing has been admitted to general partnership in their firm, and that Walton A. Green retires as a general partner.

—Bortle & Co. announce that Eldon H. Earle has joined their organization. Mr. Earle has been associated with W. A. Harriman, Inc., for several years past and prior to that time was connected with the National City Co.

—Kraus Bros. & Co., members New York Stock Exchange, 149 Broadway, New York, announce that Daniel H. Kassell, who has been associated with them for twenty-two years, has been admitted to partnership in their firm.

—A. E. Pitkin & Co. announce that Mr. N. P. Zech has become associated with them as of May 1 and that he will be principally identified with the operations of their public utility and industrial properties.

—Macartney & McLean announce the dissolution of their firm, as of May 1, and the formation of a new firm under the name of Macartney, McLean & Dawson, with offices at 52 Broadway, New York.

—Boland & Preim, 49 Wall St., New York, announce that Paul S. Roura, formerly associated with the Equitable Trust Co., and Myron S. Hall & Co., has been admitted to partnership in their firm.

—F. W. Wright, formerly of the Bankers Trust Co., has become identified with the New York office of Taylor, Ewart & Co., as manager of their statistician department.

—Sylvester W. Lawson announces the opening of offices under the name of Lawson & Co. at 115 Broadway to conduct a general brokerage business in unlisted securities.

—Pask & Walbridge announce that William B. Smith, 2d, formerly connected with Messrs. Schatzkin, Bernstein & Co., has become associated with them.

—Edwin A. Riehle, for many years associated with the New York office of Wm. R. Compton Co., has joined with sales organization of C. W. McNear & Co.

—Ware & Co., members New York Stock Exchange, have removed their offices to larger quarters in the Westinghouse Bldg., 150 Broadway, New York.

—Ross, Pogue & Willard announce the change of their firm name to Pogue, Willard & Co. and the removal of their New York office to 150 Broadway.

—A. D. Braham & Co., 1 Broadway, New York, announce that Arthur I. Heyman is now associated with them in their unlisted securities department.

—Pyncheon & Co. announce that M. M. Mattison, formerly of George H. Watson & Co., has become associated with them in their bond department.

—Johnson & Wood announce that Charles Maury Jones, member of the New York Stock Exchange, has been admitted as a general partner in their firm.

—Bortle & Co. announce that Henry H. Hay has joined their organization. Mr. Hay has been district sales manager for the National City Co. in the State of Ohio for the past four years.

The Commercial Markets and the Crops

COTTON—SUGAR—COFFEE—GRAIN—PROVISIONS
 PETROLEUM—RUBBER—HIDES—METALS—DRY GOODS—WOOL—ETC.

COMMERCIAL EPITOME

[The introductory remarks formerly appearing here will now be found in an earlier part of the paper immediately following the editorial matter, in a department headed "INDICATIONS OF BUSINESS ACTIVITY."]

Friday Night, May 2 1924.

COFFEE on the spot has been in fair demand with No. 7 Rio 15 to 15¼c. No. 4 Santos 18¾ to 19½c.; fair to good Cucuta 20½ to 21½, Bogota 24½ to 25c.; Medellin 26 to 27c. Today trade was dull with No. 7 Rio 15 to 15¼, No. 4 Santos 19¼ to 20c., according to the views in some quarters. Futures declined with weakness in Brazilian markets or less steadiness than had been expected. Cost and freight offers declined. Wall Street sold. Also there was general commission house selling and no speculative life. People were cautious. On Thursday prices declined after an early slight advance. It was a rather cool response to better cables. It took little selling to cause a decline later. Some of the cable news indeed was not altogether favorable. An early special dispatch, it is true, reported the Santos terme market 425 to 250 reis higher, with exchange on London unchanged and the dollar rate 50 reis lower. But private cables showed some anxiety to sell low grade Santos coffee for prompt shipment even though the better selections were firm. That was blowing hot and cold and the result was not inspiring. Local bulls, it is true, had supporting orders but Europe sold and this outweighed the buying. Speculation still flagged.

To-day prices advanced after an early decline. Santos closed unchanged but Rio advanced 75 to 200 reis. Exchange on London was 1-32d. higher at 6 5-16d. The dollar rate was 10 reis lower at \$8600. Very few firm offers were received. The visible supply shows an increase for April for the first time this season, owing to a decrease in warehouse deliveries here and in Europe. The New York Exchange puts the total at 4,351,037 bags against 3,891,886 on April 1. Duuring & Zoon put the increase at 481,000 bags for April. Luneville makes the total 4,369,000 bags against 3,893,000 on April 1 and 6,104,000 a year ago. So that there is still a marked disparity between the supply now and that held at this time last year. World's deliveries, however, during April were only 1,506,000 bags against 1,718,000 in March and 1,919,000 in April last year. On the other hand, the deliveries for ten months are 18,684,000 bags against 16,342,000 for the same time last season. And net changes for the week show a decline of 39 to 44 points.

Spot (unoffl) -15-¼c. | July -12.82@nom | December -11.90@
 May -13.26@nom | September -12.26@nom | March -11.60@nom

SUGAR.—Cuban raws advanced to 4½c. asked for first half of May on news of a revolt of troops in Santa Clara Province of that island. On the 30th inst. open revolt broke out. Some 25 soldiers in the city of Santa Clara deserted with their arms, two machine guns and their horses and attacked the city hall and seized the safe in the nearby town of San Juan de los Yeras. The Government immediately sent soldiers in pursuit of the rebels and ordered the arrest of leaders of the Veterans' and Patriots' Association, which has been threatening a revolution since it was organized last August. Buyers were cautious on Tuesday, however. The new British budget reduces the duty from 25s. 8d. per cwt. to 11s. 8d., or 14s., which, at the current rate of sterling exchange, is about 2.73c. per pound. European demand may be much stimulated by this decided change in the British tariff. It is true the stock of raw sugar in Liverpool is now 75,288 tons, which looks ample for the time being. Later Cuba fell to 5¼c. as the Cuban revolt was quelled. Many are bearish, taking the ground that there seems to be no likelihood of a scarcity in raw sugar for the rest of the season and that until a better demand arises for refined sugar there is little prospect of sustained higher prices. Early on May 1 Cuba was said to have sold at 4¼c. to the amount of 25,000 bags, though this was not fully confirmed. Later when futures advanced Cuban raws moved up to 4¾c., with small sales reported. Private cables were far from confirming President Zayas's assertion that the revolt had been suppressed. The New York stock in public warehouses was 259,019 bags. Futures were erratic with sharp rallies now and then, attributed partly to Cuban buying. Trade and commission interests sold.

The American Sugar Bulletin said: "While it is true that the sugar crops of the world after nine years of decline and recovery are now reported to be regaining their pre-war size, this increase has been accomplished by a jump of almost 1,000,000 tons in one year. In pre-war days, on the other hand, the large crops were but an incident, there being three years in succession of crops of over 18,000,000 tons. It is apparent, therefore, that while in those days a large

accumulation resulted from the three record crops, there is no reason to expect such excessive stocks from the current crop. We are now just completing nine years in which the world's production of sugar has been below pre-war needs, and during which time many countries have been on short rations. The great increase in the consumption of the United States during the last few years and the natural increase in the consumption of the world during a period of ten years preclude the possibility that any crop, little larger than those of pre-war days, should not be readily absorbed." Receipts at Cuban ports for the week were 94,472 tons against 138,888 last week, 122,662 in the same week last year and 198,664 two years ago; exports, 81,483 tons against 73,889 last week, 121,140 last year and 157,391 two years ago; stock, 917,954 tons against 904,965 last week, 756,155 last year and 997,291 two years ago. Centrals grinding numbered 134 against 146 last week, 87 last year and 163 two years ago. Of the exports, 53,790 tons were destined for United States Atlantic ports, 11,313 for New Orleans, 2,785 for Galveston, 6,020 for Savannah and 7,575 for Europe. Havana cabled: "Weather dry."

One firm remarked on Thursday: "We have had drought, and floods and fires and strikes, and now a 'revolution' in Cuba as incentives to bull sugar, but there is no scarcity of offerings of Cuban raws and apparently no lack of supplies. In the refined sugar market the consumer is content to let things drift and to buy his supplies without rush." General Crowder says the Cuban revolt is sporadic and without effective leadership and that the Cuban Government will be able to control it. To-day Cuban raws were rumored to have sold at as low as 4¼c., but this was not confirmed. Recently, however, it appears that big operators sold some 85,000 to 100,000 bags of Cuba at 4¼c. According to the general idea, information about trading in actual sugar is in some cases being withheld. Transactions, according to this idea, have been larger than was generally supposed. It appears, too, that about 15,000 bags sold on Thursday at 4 5-16c. To-day the market was believed to be about 4¼c. Refined was 7.70 to 7.80c. European markets were weaker. Some sales were reported at 23s. to 23s. 3d., c. i. f. Futures were lower. It is believed that the Cuban revolt cannot last. Prices for the week show a decline of 25 to 30 points.

Spot unoffical 4 | July -4.42@4.43 | December -4.12@nom
 May -4.28@nom | September -4.46@ | March -3.55@

LARD on the spot was in fair demand. At times it was rather liberal; at others, small. Prime Western, 11.25 to 11.35c.; refined Continent, 11.75c.; South America, 12.25c.; Brazil, 13.25c. Futures were rather weaker with May liquidation and selling of distant months, lower hogs, depression in Liverpool, some decline in grain markets and export demand small. Packers and shorts bought; also houses with cottonseed oil trade connections. On the 3d inst. prices opened a little higher, with better prices for hogs, firmer cables, and Western receipts moderate, being 127,000 against 131,000 last week and 124,000 a year ago. But later liquidation caused new low levels for the season. Smaller packers and commission houses sold. Weakness in cottonseed oil and disappointing cash lard demand accounted for some of the selling. Also the export demand continued light. A rather liberal increase was expected in the monthly lard stock statement at Chicago. Chicago May deliveries included 550,000 lbs. of lard and 100,000 lbs. of bellies. Lard stocks during April at Chicago showed an increase of about 9,000,000 lbs., or more than was generally expected. Yet on May 1 lard prices advanced seven points. To-day prices advanced about eight points, closing unchanged for the week on May and three to five points higher on other months.

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF LARD FUTURES IN CHICAGO.

	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.
May delivery	10.60	10.52	10.60	10.50	10.57	10.65
July delivery	10.82	10.77	10.85	10.75	10.82	10.90
September delivery	11.07	11.02	11.10	11.00	11.07	11.15

PORK dull; mess, \$24 75 to \$25 25; family, \$27; short clears, \$22 to \$26. Beef firmer; mess, \$16 to \$17; packet, \$17 to \$18; family, \$20 to \$22; extra India mess, \$32 to \$34, nominal; No. 1 canned corned beef, \$2 35; No. 2, \$4; 6 lbs., \$15; pickled tongues, \$55 to \$65, nominal per bbl. Cut meats quiet; 10 to 24 lbs., 13¾ to 16c.; pickled bellies, 6 to 12 lbs., 11c. Butter, creamery, lower grades to high scoring, 32 to 38c. Cheese, flats, 19 to 25c. Eggs, fresh gathered to extras, 22 to 28½c.

OILS.—Linseed advanced 1c. a gallon to 91c. for May car lots. The demand shows some improvement but business in the main is along conservative lines. Stocks are rather small. Spot car lots 91c.; tanks 84c.; less than car loads 92c.; less than 5 bbls., 95c. Coconut oil, Ceylon, bbls., 9½c. Corn, crude, tanks, mills, 9c.; edible, 100 lbs., 12¼c. Olive, \$1 25@1 30. Cod, domestic, 61@63c. Newfoundland, 63@65c. Lard, prime, 13¾c.; extra strained, New York, 12¼c. Spirits of turpentine, 91c.

Rosin, \$5 50@7 70. Cottonseed oil sales to-day including switches, 6,500. P. Crude S. E., 8.50@8.62 1/2c. Prices closed as follows:

Table with 4 columns: Month, Price, Month, Price. Rows include Spot, July, August, September, October, November, December.

PETROLEUM.—Bunker oil in good demand and firmer, owing to the advancing market for Panuco crude, which recently sold at \$1 20 per barrel, exclusive of taxes. Stocks of bunker oil are rather small. Prices range from \$1 75 to \$1 85. Diesel oil has been in good demand and firm at \$2 31 to \$2 73 per barrel at refinery. Stocks of this oil are also light. Of late gasoline has been firmer, owing to the better weather prevailing. Jobbers are more inclined to buy more freely and export business has picked up a little. Kerosene has been quiet and easier. Gas oil though rather quiet has been firm. Stocks, however, are not very large and offerings have been rather scarce. Leading refiners quote 5c. a gallon locally for 26-28 at the Gulf and 6c. for 36-40. Later on gasoline became rather easier. Mid-Continent was reported available at 10 1/4c. from jobbers and local refiners were offering at 14 3/4c. Even this price, it is said, could be shaded. Of late the weather has been unfavorable and this has caused a rather unsettled condition in the gasoline market. There were rumors late in the week that the Standard Oil Co. of Indiana was to cut prices. Waxes have been rather quiet and easier. Western refiners, it is reported, will shortly reduce operations, owing to the depression in refined oils.

New York prices: Gasoline, cases, cargo lots, 28.15. U. S. Navy specifications, 14; naphtha, cargo lots, 15.25; 63-66 degrees, 17; 66-68 degrees, 18.50; kerosene in cargo lots, cases, 16.90; petroleum, refined, tank wagon to store, 15; motor gasoline, garages, steel bbls., 20. Tulsa, Okla., reports on April 29 stated that refined products prices were cut owing to rumors of an impending tank wagon reduction by the Standard Oil of Indiana. New navy brought 10 1/2c. for resale, or 10 1/4c. from jobbers direct. The Titus Norris & Bird's No. 3 in the Northeast of Section 6-21-11 has made 4,000 bbls. daily from Wilcox sand. The Barnsdall Oil Corporation's No. 17 in the northeast section of 32-21-12 in southeastern Osage County has started at 60 bbls. per hour. The Jarvis & Holms' No. 2 Harjo in southwest of section 22-10-8 Cromwell pool was completed for 60 bbls. per hour. In the week ended April 26 the number of new wells started in California was 32, against 38 in the preceding week. In the Torrance field 7 were started in Dominguez and Santa Fe Springs 3 each; in Kern County 8, Long Beach and Coalinga 2 each; Huntington Beach and Newhall fields and Alameda, Ventura, Santa Barbara, Lake and San Luis counties 1 each. The last few weekly reports indicate that there has been much wildcatting activity in northern California.

Table with 3 columns: Region, Price, Price. Rows include Oklahoma, Kansas and Texas; Pennsylvania; Corn; Cabell; Somerset; Wyoming; Smackover; Bradford; Corsicana; Lima; Indiana; Princeton; Canadian; Illinois; Crichton; Plymouth; Mexia; Calif.; Gulf Coastal.

RUBBER has been rather quiet and lower. There was some business done for the tire trade at one time at 23 1/4c. for April and 23 1/2c. for May. The premium on April over other months was wiped out when some large interests liquidated most of their holdings. A report in London early in the week was to the effect that the Stevenson Committee would leave the rate unchanged at 60%. The general expectation, however, was that it would be reduced to 55% in view of the 2 1/2d. difference in the present London spot price and the value set by the committee as profitable market. Later in the week prices declined further on the action of the Stevenson Committee in allowing the export allowance rate of 60% to stand. An encouraging feature, however, was the buying by rubber manufacturers at the lows on April 30. Smoked ribbed sheets, spot, 22 3/4c.; May, 22 5/8c.; June, 22 3/4c.; July-Sept., 23c.; Oct.-Dec., 23 5/8c. First latex crepe, spot, 23 3/4c.; May, 23 1/2c.; June, 23 1/4c.; July-Sept., 23 1/2c.; Oct.-Dec., 24 1/2c. London on the 1st was dull and 1/2d. c. i. f. lower; spot, 12 1/4 to 12 3/8d.; June, 12 3/8 to 12 5/8d.; July, 12 1/2 to 12 5/8d. Singapore weaker with London; spot, 11 3/4d.; June, 12d.; July-Sept., 12 1/4d.

HIDES.—River Plates have been very quiet. Last sales were on a basis of 13 1/2c. c. & f. and 11 1/2c. for cow-hides. Some 800 Tumacos sold at 18c. Common dry hides have been quiet. City packer has also been slow. Two cars of native steers sold lately, it seems, at 10 1/2c. Country hides early in the week were neglected and quoted nominally at 7 to 9 1/2c. In Chicago liberal trading in packer hides was reported, including sales of about 20,000 April light native cows at 9 1/2c., or 1/2c. advance. A block of about 10,000 Colorado and light Texas steers brought 10c., taking in the takeoff of January to April. Tanners bid 9c. for heavy native cows and holders asked 9 1/2c. Unsold April stocks were held at 9 1/2c. for all weight native cows and steers, or 1/4c. advance. Calfskins were active. One packer sold 120,000 at 19c. Liberal sales were made of

city stock with collectors now asking 18c. or 1/2c. advance. Kipskins were scarce with packers' last sales at 15c., and first salted city kipskins nom. at 14 to 14 1/2c. Country hides were more active. Sales of good quality extreme weights were made at 10c. Some buyers bid for badly grubby lots 9c. and for slightly better quality 9 1/2c. Buff-weights were wanted and while some talk of 8 1/2c. for good buffweights, the top was 8c., with badly grubby, 7c. All-weight hides were active with sales of stock running about one-fourth grubs at 7 3/4c. selected, freight paid, Chicago. Later city packer hides were rather more active and 6,000 Colorado branded hides sold, it was stated, at 9c. and butt brands at 10c. Country hides were later reported in better demand and firmer. Later a sale was reported of 5,000 Campana frigorifico steers at \$38, or 13 1/2c.; also 4,000 Artiga steers at the same price. Some 1,500 Colorados sold at 9c. and 1,400 April butt brands at 10 1/2c.

OCEAN FREIGHTS have been quiet here and active in London. Rates have been fairly steady here, but lower on the Pacific Coast, where tonnage is plentiful. The lumber trade with Japan has subsided on the Pacific. A larger tonnage is therefore expected here and not improbably lower rates. Sugar and coal trades were quiet. Though generally quiet, of late a somewhat better business has been done in grain tonnage.

Charters included coal from Atlantic range to Montreal, 95c. prompt; one round trip, 2,875-ton steamer in United States and West Coast South America trade basis, 95c. May; Insee from Rosario to New York, \$5 60. May; one round trip, 2,355-ton steamer in United States and East Coast South America trade, 95c. May; coal from Virginia to Rio de Janeiro, \$3 35. prompt; coal from Virginia to Rio de Janeiro, \$3 50. April loading; grain from Montreal to Italy, 4s. 4 1/2d., June loading; grain from Montreal to West Atlantic, 15c. May loading; grain from Montreal to Genoa and Naples, 5s., May loading; grain from Montreal to West Italy, 19 1/2c. June loading, option Greece, 22c.; from Montreal to Genoa or Naples, 4s. 7 1/2d., May loading; grain from Montreal to West Italy, 19 1/2c., option Greece, 22c., July loading; grain from Montreal to United Kingdom, basis Bristol Channel, 4s., May-June loading.

COAL.—Soft coal was dull. Hard coal was firm. Soft coal stocks have fallen off, but so has demand. Anthracite made a better showing; deliveries are good. There is an expectation of an advance of 10 to 15c. per ton on domestic to be made by the railroad companies. Independents are likely to follow. The new schedule was put into effect May 1, it was stated.

TOBACCO has been very quiet, as it has been for months past. Some do not take an altogether cheerful view of the outlook. The dullness has been so prolonged that it has given rise to a certain tendency towards a pessimistic view of the general situation. This perhaps is not unnatural. But the protracted dullness argues depleted stocks. At any rate, that is usually the inference, and it seems logical enough. Also, there is said to be no great supply of tobacco here. What stock of leaf tobacco there is here is said to be held by very strong interests. Also, there seems to be no pessimistic note in the manufacturing trade. People go on smoking cigars and pipe tobacco, and will. Wages are high and the buying power of the labor population is correspondingly high. A man will do without a good deal before he will give up his tobacco. Also, it is now said that there will be a reduced acreage in shade-grown tobacco in Florida and Georgia. Some manufacturers, it seems, will begin the use of Florida wrappers.

COPPER declined to 13 1/4 to 13 3/8c. for electrolytic. The inability of producers to make profits at the present level is indicated by the placing of the Seneca Copper Co. in the hands of a receiver. The Calumet & Hecla smelter has closed down another furnace owing to the dullness of business. Sales of copper in the Michigan district have been smaller than expected at this time. The American Brass Co. reduced sheet brass and sheet copper 1/2c. a pound.

TIN though higher early in the week declined to 48c. for spot. London has also been lower, as has sterling exchange of late. Business has been quiet. Tin deliveries last month were 7,590 tons, of which 90 tons were made from Pacific ports. The stock on April 30 was 392 tons and the amount landing 3,930. Imports totalled 10,110 tons, of which 8,450 came from the Straits and 525 from England.

LEAD has been quiet and easier. Spot New York, 7.75 to 8c.; East St. Louis, 7.55 to 7.60c. Receipts at East St. Louis for the week were 65,980 pigs, against 63,280 last week; since Jan. 1, 1,001,470, against 1,042,460 last year. Shipments were 42,870 pigs, against 54,140 the week previous; since Jan. 1, 663,390, against 534,830 in the same time last year.

ZINC has been quiet and lower at 6.15@6.20 spot New York and 5.80 to 5.85c. for East St. Louis. Consumption is falling off. Considerable postponements of shipments are being asked. Production in some instances is being reduced, however. East St. Louis receipts for the week were 70,470 slabs, against 61,040 last week; since Jan. 1, 1,145,800 slabs, against 1,083,430 last year. Shipments were 43,390 slabs, against 42,110 last week; since Jan. 1, 982,390, against 841,000 last year.

STEEL has been quiet and there is no attempt to disguise the fact that recently prices were eased. Overproduction and reduced trade are the outstanding factors. The ratio of production per year is about 10,000,000 tons less than a month and a half ago. Yet there are few cancellations and postponements are not numerous. Some consumers want prompt deliveries on recent orders. Steel and iron scrap is reported 50c. lower. Heavy melting steel is \$14 delivered to Eastern mills. Is a steel strike ahead? It seems a queer

time even to think of it. But it is said that may happen this summer through a walkout of the members of the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel & Tin Workers and the possible date is July 1, when the present wage agreement between the employers and the union expires. A wage increase is asked of 15 to 43%, which producers pronounce "fantastic." The plants referred to are outside of the Steel Corporation and embrace 32 makers of black sheets, 17 rollers of blue annealed sheets, 21 makers of galvanized sheets, 18 rollers of full-finished sheets, 10 electrical sheet makers, 5 tin plate makers and 6 producers of terne plate, also 40 companies making muck bar. A meeting to consider the matter will be held shortly at Atlantic City. It is believed that the mills will close down rather than pay such demands. Meanwhile it is reported that some of the large steel companies contemplate laying off at least 25% of their workers because of the dullness of trade. Finally, there is little export demand. Japanese business is hit hard by the fall in yen exchange. What Japanese buying is being done is said to be at sharp cuts in prices. The composite price of steel of 2.65c. is the lowest since February 1923. Bids of late on steel for railroad cars are said to have been in some cases only 2 to 2.10c. Pittsburgh. But the American Sheet & Tin Plate Co., it is said, will quote for second half on tin plate at \$5 50 per box, which is the old price.

PIG IRON has been dull and depressed. Chicago's price has fallen 50c. At other centres quotations if unchanged are mostly nominal. Output lessens and shipments are large. These things, especially of course decreased output, it stands to reason will sooner or later remedy existing drawbacks. There is not much reselling. But practical working first hand prices are now supposed to be about \$21 50 to \$22 base eastern Pennsylvania and \$20 51 to \$20 Buffalo. Now and then more is paid. It is the exception, however, that proves the rule, according to current opinion. In the Pittsburgh and nearby districts 95 furnaces are now going as against 114 in March. This decrease of 19 will soon, it is believed, be increased to 30. Keystone coke fell 50 to 75 cents per ton, making it \$5 75 to \$6 per ton owing to wage cuts at the coke ovens. There may be a strike but that remains to be seen. Ordinary foundry coke is \$5 to \$5 50.

WOOL has been quiet with American prices if anything weak or at best, as a rule, only barely steady. Foreign markets, on the other hand, have recently been firm. The trade here and elsewhere have been awaiting the sales at Liverpool of Thursday and Friday this week in London, when the "Bawra" was to offer its 40,000 bales of medium to low crossbreds. On May 6 the Colonial wool auctions will commence in London with offerings of only 93,500 bales net, of which about 30,000 bales are South American wool, including a fair percentage of Puntas. The sale will last nine days. Some stress the belief that this third Colonial series brings out in striking relief the scarcity of wool as compared with other recent years when offerings usually were 150,000 bales or more during March and May. Meantime Western trading has been, as a rule, nothing noteworthy. It is noted to be sure, that in Nevada recently the Jenkins clip of 200,000 lbs. sold at 40c., or about 43c. landed Boston for wool estimated to shrink about two-thirds. In Wyoming the Lee Simonson clip of about 250,000 lbs. has been sold at 41c., it is stated. The Snyder clip, mainly 1/2-blood, sold at 43 1/2c. In Idaho and Utah sales have been made at very similar prices, it is said. In Texas some sales are reported in the vicinity of 46c. for 12 months and 41 to 42c. for 8 months wools. Australian merinos, 64-70s good combings wool sold recently in Boston, it is stated, at \$1 25 to \$1 27 with average wools of this grade and staple at \$1 23 to \$1 24. Some short combing 64s have been sold in the neighborhood, it seems, of \$1 18 to \$1 20. Of pulled good Eastern Bs sold at 95c. to \$1, some of the better Western Bs at 92 to 93 c., with \$1 10 to \$1 15 for fine and \$1 25 for choice double As.

New York admits that domestic wool is weaker. Mills are not buying at all freely, either here or at the West. Shearing in Washington is estimated to be about 75% completed. Southern California is practically finished. In most States little shearing has been done. In Texas, Idaho, Oregon, New Mexico and Wyoming it should begin shortly. Prices, based on a few actual sales made, are stated as follows: California, 42c. to 47 1/2c.; New Mexico, 30 to 45c.; Oregon, 35 to 40c.; Texas, 8 months, 40c., and 12 months, 45c.; Washington, 35 to 37 1/2c., and Wyoming, 40 to 41 1/2c. Washington wired: "Few sales of this season's wool clip in the Western range States had been made, according to reports received by the Department of Agriculture from its field representatives. Bids have been considerably under growers' ideas as to values. Shearing in Washington is estimated about 70 to 75% complete, but little shearing has been done to date in most of the range States."

At Liverpool on April 25, 1,227 bales of River Plate and 2,431 bales of Peruvians were offered. Attendance fair. Plate merinos were quiet. Fine crossbreds were firm. Coarse grades were rather firmer. Compared with the March sale, Peruvian demand was smaller, with prices equal to recent private treaty prices. On May 1 prices were firm at the opening of the last sale of Bawra wools in Liverpool. Fine crossbreds and comebacks ruled very steady. Yorkshire and Germany bought in rather sharp competition for the finer wools. Bradford was braced by the Liverpool news.

COTTON

Friday Night, May 2 1924.

THE MOVEMENT OF THE CROP, as indicated by our telegrams from the South to-night, is given below. For the week ending this evening the total receipts have reached 64,783 bales, against 69,435 bales last week and 60,709 bales the previous week, making the total receipts since the 1st of August 1923, 6,224,637 bales, against 5,394,543 bales for the same period of 1922-23, showing an increase since Aug. 1 1923 of 830,094 bales.

Receipts at—	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Total.
Galveston	1,226	2,145	4,027	1,275	2,284	2,479	13,436
Houston		8,520	4,153		2,595		15,268
New Orleans	2,520	2,726	4,195	8,330	556	1,249	19,576
Mobile			832	3		6	841
Pensacola					250		250
Savannah		1,582	2,464	1,340	552	873	6,811
Charleston	227	43	999	190	75	41	1,575
Wilmington	98	269	154	256	176	152	1,105
Norfolk	757	859	1,295	141	537	1,280	4,869
New York						364	364
Boston	76	142	120	72	85	100	595
Baltimore					93		93
Totals this week.	4,904	16,286	18,239	11,607	7,203	6,544	64,783

The following table shows the week's total receipts, the total since Aug. 1 1923 and stocks to-night, compared with last year.

Receipts to May 2.	1923-24.		1922-23.		Stock.	
	This Week.	Since Aug 1 1923.	This Week.	Since Aug 1 1922.	1924.	1923.
Galveston	13,436	2,767,168	88,85	2,250,850	113,157	97,201
Texas City		18,606		69,790	19	164
Houston	15,268	1,031,190		702,452		
Port Arthur, &c.						
New Orleans	19,576	1,202,332	9,421	1,286,459	102,569	110,763
Gulfport						
Mobile	841	55,407	836	82,461	4,224	2,473
Pensacola	250	11,477		8,820		
Jacksonville		3,875		9,149		4,964
Savannah	6,811	370,320	3,120	401,299	33,272	36,721
Brunswick		880		27,912	37	152
Charleston	1,575	180,198	1,690	109,765	22,105	36,889
Georgetown						
Wilmington	1,105	118,970	353	89,626	10,745	11,446
Norfolk	4,869	394,049	1,268	261,915	62,687	59,462
N'port News, &c.						
New York	364	9,182	350	6,535	91,634	61,570
Boston	595	34,905	2,450	65,696	4,960	10,346
Baltimore	93	24,754	145	10,872	1,524	2,369
Philadelphia		1,324	71	4,942	3,788	4,525
Totals	64,783	6,224,637	28,589	5,394,543	453,254	439,045

In order that comparison may be made with other years, we give below the totals at leading ports for six seasons:

Receipts at—	1924.	1923.	1922.	1921.	1920.	1919.
Galveston	13,436	8,885	28,316	60,262	16,792	39,226
Houston, &c.	15,268		1,230	7,109	2,829	1,435
New Orleans	19,576	9,421	28,798	23,475	16,469	26,993
Mobile	841	836	4,676	3,278	2,058	1,597
Savannah	6,811	3,120	15,457	17,218	13,846	16,153
Brunswick			500		500	3,000
Charleston	1,575	1,690	7,069	5,176	2,379	4,714
Wilmington	1,105	353	853	3,266	583	1,231
Norfolk	4,869	1,268	4,593	9,188	2,704	8,727
N'port N., &c.				36	28	
All others		3,016	2,966	4,239	2,353	1,554
Tot. this week	64,783	28,589	94,458	133,247	60,541	104,230
Since Aug. 1.	6,224,637	5,394,543	5,153,971	5,358,204	6,371,225	4,574,984

The exports for the week ending this evening reach a total of 132,966 bales, of which 31,063 were to Great Britain, 16,479 to France and 85,424 to other destinations. Below are the exports for the week and since Aug. 1 1923.

Exports from—	Week ending May 2 1924.				From Aug. 1 1923 to May 2 1924.			
	Great Britain.	France.	Other.	Total.	Great Britain.	France.	Other.	Total.
Galveston	8,836	4,839	11,192	24,867	524,643	299,325	1,129,453	1,953,421
Houston	8,520	2,345	4,403	15,268	347,414	182,921	496,486	1,026,821
Texas City					1,754			1,754
New Orleans	5,946	5,270	26,787	38,003	255,228	64,942	396,323	716,493
Mobile					12,873	1,050	5,657	19,580
Jacksonville					1,519		400	1,919
Pensacola	250			250	10,080	290	800	11,170
Savannah		2,418	13,023	15,441	93,554	14,497	148,802	256,853
Brunswick					50		50	50
Charleston					74,237	300	67,550	142,187
Wilmington					8,300	9,600	59,650	77,550
Norfolk	1,131		600	1,731	93,577	4,437	87,329	185,343
New York	5,980	907	29,109	35,996	113,960	69,570	218,670	402,260
Boston			279	279	1,581		6,639	8,220
Baltimore		700		700	106	2,463		2,569
Philadelphia			31	31	1,183	66		1,249
Los Angeles	400			400	16,513	600	10,186	27,299
San Fran.							77,886	77,886
San Diego					1,231			1,231
Seattle							47,134	47,134
Total	31,063	16,479	85,424	132,966	1,557,803	650,061	2,754,275	4,962,139
Total '23-'23	5,445	7,207	19,147	31,799	1,229,873	564,522	2,327,718	4,122,113
Total '21-'22	50,854	24,947	50,047	125,848	1,348,581	613,803	2,861,175	4,823,559

NOTE.—Exports to Canada.—It has never been our practice to include in the above table exports of cotton to Canada, the reason being that virtually all the cotton destined to the Dominion comes overland and it is impossible to get returns concerning the same from week to week, while reports from the customs districts on the Canadian border are always very slow in coming to hand. In view, however, of the numerous inquiries we are receiving regarding the matter, we will say that for the month of March the exports to the Dominion the present season have been 13,035 bales. In the corresponding month of the preceding season the exports were 18,540 bales.

For the eight months ending Mar. 31 1924 there were 120,027 bales exported, as against 150,481 bales for the corresponding eight months in 1922-23.

In addition to above exports, our telegrams to-night also give us the following amounts of cotton on shipboard, not cleared, at the ports named.

May 2 at—	On Shipboard, Not Cleared for—					Leaving Stock.
	Great Britain.	France.	Germany.	Other Cont'nt.	Coast-wise.	
Galveston	2,995	2,558	9,000	12,567	2,800	83,237
New Orleans	5,442	1,263	8,468	7,283	784	79,329
Savannah	---	---	---	---	200	33,072
Charleston	---	---	---	---	---	22,105
Mobile	270	---	---	---	---	3,954
Norfolk	---	---	5,547	---	---	5,198
Other ports*	5,000	1,500	3,500	2,000	500	154,682
Total 1924--	13,707	5,321	26,515	21,850	4,284	381,577
Total 1923--	4,774	1,891	11,513	13,585	9,114	398,168
Total 1922--	20,126	11,226	22,076	17,071	5,071	818,491

* Estimated.

Speculation in cotton for future delivery has been quiet as a rule but showed more life on Thursday. Prices declined in the fore part of the week owing to continued stagnation in cotton goods, the favorable weather which increased selling of the new crop and a lower stock market. Also, Liverpool at times was dull and heavy. It reported selling by big importers. Recent rains in Texas were said to have been very beneficial. The black lands of that State were sending very favorable reports. Liverpool, Wall Street and the South sold here. Curtailment was spreading in New England and was very noticeable at the South. On both sides of the water bearish sentiment for a time predominated. In Liverpool there was heavy liquidation of May and a good deal of short selling. Support was lacking. Liverpool sold partly, too, in fear of May notices. May notices here, by the way, reached 15,200 bales on the 29th inst. The premium on May fell to 145 points at one time. One report put the acreage as .06% larger than last year. In the main for a time the crop seemed to be doing well. The idea was persistent that Texas would endeavor to raise one of the largest crops in its history, with reasonable prospects of success. Speculation fell off. That of itself was a depressing factor. Say what they will about the speculator, he helps to carry the crop; he helps to carry supplies; he is a useful if much abused individual. But one of the worst features was prostration in the textile industry. It suffered from high costs of material and labor and from big importations, from what somebody at the convention of cotton manufacturers the other day termed "the cut-throat competition of England." And the big Amoskeag mills closed on Wednesday for the rest of the week. The Nashua mills in New Hampshire will also curtail. They will close for the week beginning May 5, owing to dulness of trade. Curtailment is slowly spreading in Rhode Island. Some ten big mills in Rhode Island are now said to be entirely closed. Also, spot trade at the South fell off noticeably for a time. Everybody was inclined to be cautious, with general trade in this country reported quiet and Wall Street especially in a despondent mood. Another thing that was not without a certain influence, though its importance could easily be exaggerated, was the fact that Utica, N. Y., mills sold spot cotton here. Also, it was said that some half a dozen other mills have recently been offering some of their spot cotton at New York. Mills now and then do this in almost every season. But taken in connection with the dulness of goods, it made at the time a rather unfavorable impression, as giving additional color to reports of the general slowness of business.

But of late it has been another story. Shorts have become alarmed over big rains and hurricanes on both sides of the river, and reports of much replanting being necessary in Texas and elsewhere. This has given rise to fears of a late crop, and consequently a late movement of new cotton. Shorts in July therefore took the alarm. They covered freely. Large local operators took in big lines. Prominent New Orleans operators who had sold freely on Wednesday in New Orleans were good buyers, it was understood in New York on Thursday. Atlantic points were also buying July here. July came to the front as practically the leader on Thursday. From being at a premium over October on Wednesday of 355 points it advanced the next day to 385 and there are predictions that the difference between the two months will widen considerably more than this under the stress of the statistical position. July shorts were alarmed also by the stronger spot situation at the South. And May cotton has been in steady demand. Its premium at times has been 165 points over July. The low point of the week was 145 pounds. A week ago it was 175; the high thus far on this movement was 180. There began to be talk at one time to the effect that the May interest was pretty well liquidated. But Thursday developments did not bear out that view. It ended 161 points over July on that day. Contracts became scarcer. The technical position was stronger. The market acted oversold. Everybody had been impressed, perhaps unduly, by the persistent reports of dulness of general business in the United States. Everybody had had it dinned into their ears that a general business reaction was ahead. The result was that it seemed as though everybody had got short of cotton. All the commodity markets as well as stocks declined. Then on Wednesday suddenly came great storms in the cotton belt, both east and west of the Mississippi River. Hailstorms occurred in Texas. Frost was predicted for the panhandle of Texas and also for Oklahoma and Arkansas. These predictions were not fulfilled. But one fact is undeniable. The nights for some time past have been too cold. The temperatures accompanying the big storm dropped to the 40's in some States

and in others were in the low 50's. In Texas it has been as low recently as 32. That, of course, is not growing weather. Another bad feature was persistent reports that replanting would be necessary in Texas, Arkansas and other parts of the belt. The storms, of course, delayed field work and planting. Another feature was the steady exportation of cotton. Exports are some 750,000 bales above the total at the corresponding date last year. Not a little of the cotton lately exported has gone from New York. Bremen has been a steady buyer. Much cotton has recently gone to that port. It is supposed that some of it will be trans-shipped to Russia. And of late the spot sales in Liverpool have been larger, reaching 18,000 bales in a few days. London has been buying there. Offerings fell off there. The trade was buying. Manchester persistently reported a good demand for cloths from India. The other day, too, there was a report that Manchester spinners were considering the question of increasing working hours on American cotton. The MacDonald budget, so much dreaded by the political and commercial world of Great Britain, turned out to be more or less of a compromise, certainly it was not radical, and therefore was on the whole an agreeable surprise. And the opinion grows that the Dawes plan will be adopted. On Thursday a Washington dispatch was quoted as saying that Secretary Mellon looked for the passage of a tax bill by the United States Senate which would be satisfactory to President Coolidge and the supporters of the Administration. President Coolidge forges steadily ahead in the State primaries. But while all these things were more or less influential, the technical position, after all, had much to do with shaping the upward course of prices. On Thursday the old crop advanced 70 to 75 points and the new about half as much. There is believed to be a large short account in both May and July, both for speculative and trade interests. Also in the next crop.

To-day prices opened higher, but closed lower, after a sharp break from the early high amounting to some 50 to 62 points on the old crop and 35 to 50 on the new. The ending was weak, at a net loss of some 22 to 25 points. It was a narrow affair. Uptown, Wall Street and local selling caused a decline in the afternoon, after the more urgent demand to cover shorts had subsided. Besides, the weather map was better. It was too cool, but on the other hand it was generally clear. And the forecast was in the main rather favorable than otherwise. Spinners' takings were relatively large and exports were good. But on the other hand there were afternoon rumors of an easier spot basis in Texas, which had an effect, even though they were not fully confirmed. The cables were on the whole rather unsatisfactory. Worth Street was dull, Fall River sales for the week were only 30,000 pieces and Manchester seemed a little less active. And finally the stock market weakened. This encouraged Wall Street selling. Some crop reports were favorable. They say that all that is needed is warmer weather. Replanting has to be done every year. Final prices show a decline for the week of 95 points on May, 77 on July, 65 on October, 62 on December and 65 on January. Spot cotton closed at 30.15c. for middling, a loss for the week of 85 points.

The official quotation for middling upland cotton in the New York market each day for the past week has been:

April 26 to May 2—	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.
Middling upland	30.50	29.80	29.80	29.80	30.30	30.15

NEW YORK QUOTATIONS FOR 32 YEARS.

1924	30.15c.	1916	12.60c.	1908	10.20c.	1900	9.81c.
1923	27.95c.	1915	10.40c.	1907	11.55c.	1899	6.12c.
1922	19.90c.	1914	13.00c.	1906	11.75c.	1898	6.31c.
1921	12.90c.	1913	11.85c.	1905	7.90c.	1897	7.75c.
1920	41.45c.	1912	11.40c.	1904	13.65c.	1896	8.25c.
1919	29.15c.	1911	15.45c.	1903	10.75c.	1895	6.81c.
1918	27.75c.	1910	15.25c.	1902	9.69c.	1894	7.31c.
1917	20.50c.	1909	10.85c.	1901	8.31c.	1893	7.25c.

FUTURES.—The highest, lowest and closing prices at New York for the past week have been as follows:

	Saturday, April 26.	Monday, April 28.	Tuesday, April 29.	Wednesday, April 30.	Thursday, May 1.	Friday, May 2.
May—						
Range	30.07-30.70	29.10-29.65	29.35-29.78	29.05-29.75	30.08-29.35	29.70-30.20
Closing	30.12-30.19	29.40-29.45	29.44	29.47	29.96-29.98	29.70-29.79
June—						
Range	---	---	---	---	29.55-29.60	---
Closing	29.64	28.91	28.95	28.98	29.40	29.20
July—						
Range	28.38-28.90	27.42-28.00	27.69-28.28	27.56-28.07	27.74-28.50	28.12-28.75
Closing	28.41-28.45	27.75-27.78	27.85-27.88	27.85-27.90	28.35-28.35	28.13-28.15
August—						
Range	26.70-26.70	26.00-27.00	---	---	26.30-26.50	26.16-26.16
Closing	26.25	27.00	26.60	26.60	26.60	26.16
September—						
Range	---	---	---	---	---	---
Closing	25.25	24.95	25.00	25.05	25.20	24.95
October—						
Range	24.47-24.84	23.90-24.21	24.18-24.54	24.09-24.42	24.23-24.65	24.25-24.75
Closing	24.47-24.54	24.15-24.19	24.25-24.29	24.30	24.50-24.55	24.25-24.30
November—						
Range	---	---	---	---	---	---
Closing	24.11	23.72	23.89	23.89	24.11	23.87
December—						
Range	23.90-24.25	23.31-23.63	23.62-23.95	23.55-23.84	23.68-24.05	23.68-24.08
Closing	23.92-23.98	23.53-23.60	23.70-23.71	23.70-23.71	23.92	23.68-23.70
January—						
Range	23.62-23.87	23.08-23.32	23.33-23.57	23.25-23.53	23.40-23.63	23.35-23.70
Closing	23.60	23.30-23.32	23.38	23.35	23.57-23.58	23.35-23.43
February—						
Range	---	---	---	---	---	---
Closing	23.65	23.35	23.40	23.40	23.62	23.40
March—						
Range	---	23.40-23.40	23.50-23.80	---	23.47-23.55	23.60-23.70
Closing	23.70	23.40	23.50	23.46	23.67	23.45
April—						
Range	---	---	---	---	---	---
Closing	---	---	---	---	---	---

Range of future prices at New York for week ending May 2 1924 and since trading began on each option.

Option for	Range for Week.		Range Since Beginning of Option.			
April 1924.			27.70	Oct. 1 1923.	36.40	Dec. 3 1923
May 1924.	29.05	April 30	30.70	April 26	29.73	July 30 1923
June 1924.			23.10	Aug. 11 1923	35.75	Nov. 28 1923
July 1924.	27.42	April 28	28.90	April 28	22.05	Aug. 4 1923
Aug. 1924.	26.00	April 28	27.00	April 28	25.25	Mar. 27 1924
Sept. 1924.			24.20	Mar. 28 1924	31.00	Nov. 30 1923
Oct. 1924.	23.90	April 28	24.84	April 26	23.45	Mar. 27 1924
Nov. 1924.			23.84	Mar. 27 1924	28.60	Dec. 31 1923
Dec. 1924.	23.31	April 28	24.25	April 26	23.15	Mar. 27 1924
Jan. 1925.	23.08	April 28	23.87	April 26	22.47	Apr. 9 1924
Feb. 1925.			23.85	April 8 1924	23.85	April 8 1924
Mar. 1925.	23.40	April 28	23.80	April 29	23.19	April 22 1924
			23.19	April 22 1924	25.06	April 5 1924

THE VISIBLE SUPPLY OF COTTON to-night, as made up by cable and telegraph, is as follows. Foreign stocks, as well as the afloat, are this week's returns, and consequently all foreign figures are brought down to Thursday evening. But to make the total the complete figures for to-night (Friday), we add the item of exports from the United States, including in it the exports of Friday only.

	1924.	1923.	1922.	1921.
Stock at Liverpool	569,000	688,000	907,000	986,000
Stock at London	4,000	4,000	4,000	2,000
Stock at Manchester	93,000	71,000	68,000	91,000
Total Great Britain	662,000	763,000	975,000	1,079,000
Stock at Hamburg	7,000	35,000	25,000	25,000
Stock at Bremen	150,000	85,000	329,000	199,000
Stock at Havre	121,000	107,000	126,000	161,000
Stock at Rotterdam	17,000	15,000	7,000	13,000
Stock at Barcelona	57,000	106,000	82,000	124,000
Stock at Genoa	15,000	18,000	28,000	37,000
Stock at Ghent	2,000	2,000	10,000	32,000
Stock at Antwerp	12,000	10,000	2,000	---
Total Continental stocks	381,000	343,000	619,000	591,000
Total European stocks	1,043,000	1,106,000	1,594,000	1,670,000
India cotton afloat for Europe	188,000	121,000	100,000	58,000
American cotton afloat for Europe	266,000	134,000	366,000	246,783
Egypt, Brazil, &c., afloat for Europe	56,000	57,000	72,000	79,000
Stock in Alexandria, Egypt	161,000	236,000	295,000	252,000
Stock in Bombay, India	909,000	762,000	1,204,000	1,314,000
Stock in U. S. ports	453,254	439,045	894,061	1,492,837
Stock in U. S. interior towns	443,328	572,660	955,883	1,545,200
U. S. exports to-day	800	---	8,174	3,075
Total visible supply	3,520,382	3,427,705	5,499,118	6,660,895

Of the above, totals of American and other descriptions are as follows:

American—				
Liverpool stock	311,000	356,000	508,000	596,000
Manchester stock	76,000	41,000	48,000	78,000
Continental stock	284,000	270,000	534,000	511,000
American afloat for Europe	266,000	134,000	366,000	246,783
U. S. ports stocks	453,254	439,045	894,061	1,492,837
U. S. interior stocks	443,328	572,660	955,883	1,545,200
U. S. exports to-day	800	---	8,174	3,075
Total American	1,834,382	1,812,705	3,324,118	4,472,895
East Indian, Brazil, &c.—				
Liverpool stock	258,000	332,000	399,000	390,000
London stock	4,000	4,000	4,000	2,000
Manchester stock	17,000	30,000	20,000	12,000
Continental stock	97,000	73,000	85,000	80,000
India afloat for Europe	188,000	121,000	100,000	58,000
Egypt, Brazil, &c., afloat	56,000	57,000	72,000	79,000
Stock in Alexandria, Egypt	161,000	236,000	295,000	252,000
Stock in Bombay, India	909,000	762,000	1,204,000	1,314,000
Total East India, &c.	1,686,000	1,615,000	2,175,000	2,188,000
Total American	1,834,382	1,812,705	3,324,118	4,472,895
Total visible supply				
Middling uplands, Liverpool	17.35d.	14.78d.	11.00d.	7.71d.
Middling uplands, New York	30.15c.	26.95c.	19.80c.	13.00c.
Egypt, good Sakel, Liverpool	24.55d.	17.80d.	20.25d.	18.75d.
Peruvian, rough good, Liverpool	23.75d.	18.75d.	12.75d.	12.90d.
Broach, fine, Liverpool	14.30d.	12.00d.	11.05d.	7.55d.
Tinnevely, good, Liverpool	15.20d.	13.15d.	10.95d.	8.05d.

Continental imports for past week have been 58,000 bales. The above figures for 1924 show a decrease from last week of 83,417 bales, an increase of 92,677 from 1923, a decline of 1,978,736 bales from 1922, and a falling off of 3,140,513 bales from 1921.

AT THE INTERIOR TOWNS.—

Towns.	Movement to May 2 1924.				Movement to May 4 1923.			
	Receipts.		Shipments.		Receipts.		Shipments.	
	Week.	Season.	Week.	May 2.	Week.	Season.	Week.	May 4.
Ala., Birmingham	325	31,348	533	2,878	29	40,167	139	4,871
Eufaula	---	9,369	---	3,957	20	8,307	120	3,400
Montgomery	61	49,417	938	10,296	202	58,780	328	7,047
Selma	26	33,348	254	4,145	11	54,203	564	1,706
Ark., Helena	5	14,615	515	3,214	1	34,404	238	10,587
Little Rock	133	110,805	1,992	12,516	484	169,928	1,572	24,679
Pine Bluff	1,094	59,391	2,560	17,716	890	128,881	1,533	34,031
La., Albany	---	2,073	16	2,083	---	6,255	---	2,109
Athens	253	43,684	949	9,763	194	44,553	620	18,735
Atlanta	2,543	144,829	2,588	17,894	1,267	269,689	8,020	47,442
Augusta	590	182,960	1,691	19,690	580	279,710	2,026	27,755
Columbus	932	76,315	900	9,818	1,028	121,663	612	7,499
Macon	478	28,245	808	5,012	70	55,064	230	11,802
Rome	12	29,521	---	3,781	388	43,489	250	5,130
La., Shreveport	500	142,800	900	13,800	---	72,500	100	2,500
Miss., Columbus	2	19,187	219	1,564	---	24,676	---	2,308
Clarksdale	125	78,341	1,666	15,009	258	128,530	1,709	31,154
Greenwood	64	97,389	714	24,309	35	106,177	1,976	26,520
Meridian	19	20,647	423	2,150	25	34,014	932	3,474
Natchez	8	31,117	311	3,240	21	32,418	---	4,127
Vicksburg	12	17,133	345	3,059	83	23,092	231	5,302
Yazoo City	---	19,299	344	6,514	4	28,107	784	10,704
Mo., St. Louis	8,438	533,476	8,880	8,588	6,622	660,482	7,126	14,326
N.C., Greensboro	433	59,816	1,542	11,817	105	104,149	1,745	26,982
Raleigh	282	11,264	250	193	9	11,105	50	187
Okla., Altus	78	118,962	1,554	16,721	---	102,723	119	4,484
Chickasha	30	98,454	532	4,778	100	81,357	197	2,024
Oklahoma	31	62,185	281	8,600	7	78,097	285	5,110
S. C., Greenville	1,711	143,407	4,976	18,463	1,237	163,081	4,025	46,576
Greenwood	---	10,752	---	10,291	---	8,100	---	7,260
Tenn., Memphis	7,237	870,811	11,839	62,074	4,069	1,052,713	6,878	74,644
Nashville	---	---	---	---	---	291	---	62
Texas, Abilene	---	63,534	---	208	29	45,797	232	772
Brenham	48	26,407	49	5,206	14	18,373	34	3,868
Austin	17	39,735	---	442	---	35,596	20	828
Dallas	340	122,362	511	4,257	---	82,999	11	4,936
Houston	11,732	3,417,726	30,710	97,720	3,538	2,639,891	7,907	83,074
Paris	86	76,729	74	100	---	71,639	---	908
San Antonio	---	49,416	---	513	---	41,143	---	152
Fort Worth	873	90,011	1,189	949	147	62,949	684	3,475
Total, 40 towns	38,542	7,006,880	81,053	443,328	21,467	7,025,102	51,297	572,660

The above total shows that the interior stocks have decreased during the week 42,871 bales and are to-night 129,332 bales less than at the same time last year. The receipts at all towns have been 17,075 bales more than the same week last year.

MARKET AND SALES AT NEW YORK.

The total sales of cotton on the spot each day during the week at New York are indicated in the following statement. For the convenience of the reader we also add columns which show at a glance how the market for spot and futures closed on same days.

	Spot Market Closed.	Futures Market Closed.	SALES.		
			Spot.	Contr't.	Total.
Saturday	Quiet, 50 pts. dec.	Easy	---	---	---
Monday	Quiet, 70 pts. dec.	Very steady	---	---	---
Tuesday	Quiet, unchanged	Steady	---	---	---
Wednesday	Quiet, unchanged	Barely steady	---	---	---
Thursday	Steady, 50 pts. adv.	Easy	1,800	---	1,800
Friday	Quiet, 15 pts. dec.	Weak	---	---	---
Total			1,800	---	1,800

OVERLAND MOVEMENT FOR THE WEEK AND SINCE AUG. 1.—We give below a statement showing the overland movement for the week and since Aug. 1, as made up from telegraphic reports Friday night. The results for the week and since Aug. 1 in the last two years are as follows:

	1923-24		1922-23	
	Shipped—	Since Aug. 1.	Week.	Since Aug. 1.
Via St. Louis	8,880	552,561	7,126	656,761
Via Mounts, &c.	2,620	178,700	2,340	220,668
Via Rock Island	64	19,955	---	7,393
Via Louisville	632	24,881	678	53,251
Via Virginia points	3,093	173,588	3,216	148,501
Via other routes, &c.	9,829	374,315	9,562	378,528
Total gross overland	25,118	1,324,000	22,922	1,465,102
Deduct Shipments—				
Overland to N. Y., Boston, &c.	1,052	70,277	3,016	94,465
Between interior towns	519	22,152	473	22,714
Inalnd, &c., from South	7,460	574,543	6,225	436,401
Total to be deducted	9,031	666,972	9,714	553,580
Leaving total net overland*	16,087	657,028	13,208	911,522

* Including movement by rail to Canada.

The foregoing shows the week's net overland movement this year has been 16,087 bales, against 13,208 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 254,494 bales.

	1923-24		1922-23	
	In Sight and Spinners' Takings.	Since Aug. 1.	Week.	Since Aug. 1.
Receipts at ports to May 2	64,783	6,224,637	28,589	5,394,543
Net overland to May 2	16,087	657,028	13,208	911,522
Southern consumption to May 2	76,000	3,223,000	98,000	3,263,000
Total marketed	156,870	10,104,665	139,797	9,569,065
Interior stocks in excess	*42,871	184,045	*29,830	209,335
Excess of Southern mill takings over consumption to April 1	---	326,053	---	605,068
Came into sight during week	113,999	---	109,967	---
Total in sight May 2	---	10,614,763	---	10,383,468
North. spinners' takings to May 2	20,250	1,625,853	38,503	2,115,226

* Decrease.

LARGE COTTON HOUSE WITHDRAWS FROM SPOT BUSINESS.—Harriss, Irby & Vose, members of the New York Cotton Exchange and the New Orleans Cotton Exchange and associate members of Liverpool Cotton Association, Ltd., announce that at the close of the present cotton season (July 31 1924) they will withdraw from the spot cotton business and thereafter devote their attention exclusively to the execution of orders for the purchase and sale of contracts for the future delivery of cotton in New York, New Orleans and Liverpool. They feel that through their years of activity in the spot business their partners have acquired an intimate knowledge of these markets, as well as of their relationships and parities, such as will enable them to offer to shippers, merchants and spinners a service of practical experience in placing their hedges and executing their orders for future delivery. They also announce that on July 31 1924 they will turn over and transfer to the employees of their spot sales department the entire European selling organization that they have been building up and perfecting for years. This

QUOTATIONS FOR MIDDLING COTTON AT OTHER MARKETS.—Below are the closing quotations for middling cotton at Southern and other principal cotton markets for each day of the week:

Week ending May 2.	Closing Quotations for Middling Cotton on—					
	Saturday, April 26.	Monday, April 28.	Tuesday, April 29.	Wednesday, April 30.	Thursday, May 1.	Friday, May 2.
Galveston	30.75	30.25	30.25	30.00	30.50	30.30
New Orleans	30.38	29.75	29.75	29.75	30.25	29.88
Mobile	---	29.50	29.50	29.50	29.75	29.50
Savannah	---	29.05	29.15	29.15	29.67	29.45
Norfolk	30.50	29.75	29.75	29.88	30.38	30.13
Baltimore	---	30.50	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00
Augusta	30.19	29.38	29.31	29.31	29.63	29.38
Memphis	30.25	29.50	29.75	29.75	30.25	30.25
Houston	30.50	29.75	29.75	29.75	30.25	30.00
Little Rock	30.25	29.50	29.75	29.75	30.00	30.00
Dallas	29.80	29.10	29.10	29.10	29.45	29.25
Fort Worth	---	29.10	29.10	29.10	29.60	29.35

NEW ORLEANS CONTRACT MARKET.—The closing quotations for leading contracts in the New Orleans cotton market for the past week have been as follows:

	Saturday, April 26.	Monday, April 28.	Tuesday, April 29.	Wednesday, April 30.	Thursday, May 1.	Friday, May 2.
April	29.95-30.00	29.36-29.38	29.32-29.33	29.30-29.38	29.88	29.56-29.60
May	28.02-28.06	27.42-27.47	27.52-27.55	27.45-27.48	27.95-27.99	27.65-27.69
July	23.90-23.94	23.50-23.53	23.62-23.70	23.65-23.69	23.90-23.92	23.64-23.68
October	23.60-23.61	23.18-23.23	23.44	23.35-23.37	23.60-23.62	23.38-23.42
January	23.47	bid	23.07-23.11	23.27	23.28	bid
Options	Quiet	Quiet	Quiet	Steady	Quiet	Quiet
Spot	Barely st'y	Steady	Steady	Steady	Steady	Barely st'y

WEATHER REPORTS BY TELEGRAPH.—Reports to us by telegraph from the South this evening denote that rain has fallen in nearly all sections of the cotton belt, and precipitation in many cases has been heavy. In the eastern section of the cotton belt the weather has been too wet and cool for the best germination of the seed, and some damage has resulted from the heavy rains and high winds, which in many places proved to be small cyclones.

Galveston, Texas.—Progress of early planted cotton and germination of the seed of later planted cotton have both been very good. Planting has been extended to the extreme Northwest. Chopping and cultivation have proceeded satisfactorily on the lower coast section where rain is now needed.

Mobile, Ala.—There has been considerable damage in scattered localities from heavy rains and small cyclones. Bad stands of cotton are feared on account of cool nights. Planting has made good progress.

	Rain.	Rainfall.	Thermometer		
Galveston, Texas	1 day	0.18 in.	high 78	low 60	mean 69
Abilene	2 days	2.08 in.	high 78	low 44	mean 62
Brenham	2 days	2.33 in.	high 85	low 53	mean 69
Brownsville	1 day	0.02 in.	high 86	low 60	mean 73
Corpus Christi	1 day	0.01 in.	high 86	low 62	mean 74
Dallas	2 days	1.20 in.	high 85	low 50	mean 68
Henrietta	2 days	0.82 in.	high 85	low 45	mean 65
Kerrville	3 days	0.14 in.	high 86	low 42	mean 64
Lampasas	2 days	0.92 in.	high 85	low 43	mean 64
Longview	3 days	1.71 in.	high 87	low 47	mean 67
Luling	4 days	1.02 in.	high 88	low 53	mean 71
Nacogdoches	3 days	4.35 in.	high 88	low 48	mean 68
Palestine	1 day	1.20 in.	high 84	low 50	mean 67
Paris	3 days	1.91 in.	high 89	low 39	mean 64
San Antonio	4 days	2.27 in.	high 90	low 54	mean 72
Taylor	4 days	2.60 in.	---	low 52	---
Weatherford	1 day	2.51 in.	high 84	low 46	mean 63
Ardmore, Okla.	3 days	2.43 in.	high 76	low 43	mean 60
Altus	3 days	2.43 in.	high 85	low 39	mean 63
Muskogee	4 days	5.03 in.	high 85	low 41	mean 63
Oklahoma City	4 days	3.28 in.	high 82	low 42	mean 62
Brinkley, Ark.	5 days	3.06 in.	high 85	low 48	mean 67
Eldorado	3 days	2.35 in.	high 82	low 50	mean 65
Little Rock	5 days	2.82 in.	high 80	low 50	mean 65
Pine Bluff	5 days	2.48 in.	high 87	low 47	mean 67
Alexandria, La.	3 days	1.77 in.	high 86	low 54	mean 70
Amite	2 days	0.18 in.	high 82	low 52	mean 67
New Orleans	1 day	0.42 in.	---	---	mean 73
Shreveport	4 days	2.60 in.	high 83	low 50	mean 67
Okolona, Miss.	5 days	2.08 in.	high 89	low 49	mean 69
Columbus	2 days	1.30 in.	high 87	low 49	mean 68
Greenwood	2 days	1.00 in.	high 86	low 50	mean 68
Vicksburg	3 days	0.77 in.	high 84	low 48	mean 67
Mobile, Ala.	1 day	0.04 in.	high 83	low 55	mean 70
Decatur	2 days	2.69 in.	high 87	low 58	mean 71
Montgomery	1 day	1.04 in.	high 85	low 56	mean 68
Selma	2 days	0.65 in.	high 84	low 49	mean 67
Gainesville, Fla.	1 day	0.65 in.	high 89	low 54	mean 72
Madison	dry	---	high 87	low 55	mean 71
Savannah, Ga.	5 days	0.05 in.	high 84	low 54	mean 69
Athens	4 days	1.37 in.	high 88	low 41	mean 65
Augusta	4 days	0.70 in.	high 85	low 51	mean 68
Columbus	2 days	0.89 in.	high 90	low 53	mean 72
Charleston, So. Caro.	2 days	0.22 in.	high 54	low 54	mean 70
Greenwood	4 days	0.75 in.	high 83	low 50	mean 67
Columbia	4 days	0.28 in.	high 82	low 52	mean 67
Conway	3 days	0.44 in.	high 86	low 40	mean 63
Charlotte, No. Caro.	4 days	2.44 in.	high 85	low 47	mean 62
Newbern	3 days	0.24 in.	high 89	low 39	mean 64
Weldon	2 days	0.56 in.	high 84	low 40	mean 62
Memphis	2 days	2.17 in.	high 82	low 50	mean 66

The following statement we have also received by telegraph, showing the height of rivers at the points named at 8 a. m. of the dates given:

	May 2 1924.	May 4 1923.
	Feet.	Feet.
New Orleans	Above zero of gauge.	12.6
Memphis	Above zero of gauge.	23.1
Nashville	Above zero of gauge.	20.1
Shreveport	Above zero of gauge.	23.9
Vicksburg	Above zero of gauge.	36.7

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.

Week ending	Receipts at Ports.			Stocks at Interior Towns.			Receipts from Plantations		
	1923-24	1922-23	1921-22	1923-24	1922-23	1921-22	1923-24	1922-23	1921-22
Feb. 1	116,104	138,820	66,553	944,868	1,150,906	1,488,284	83,709	65,667	38,081
8	104,226	87,381	81,990	898,190	1,089,756	1,450,778	57,548	26,231	44,484
15	101,244	83,079	82,273	884,918	1,017,565	1,418,643	37,972	10,888	50,128
22	78,924	83,536	76,269	823,836	943,669	1,391,466	17,842	9,640	49,082
29	69,338	96,326	86,817	789,313	876,948	1,360,134	34,815	29,605	55,485
Mar. 7	69,374	83,369	84,833	736,133	835,175	1,047,828	16,194	41,596	44,416
14	43,809	82,005	123,593	696,682	800,678	1,261,591	4,358	47,508	65,467
21	56,871	68,644	102,691	662,025	775,517	1,048,057	22,214	43,543	71,259
28	49,783	62,634	90,932	623,832	742,998	1,203,182	11,540	30,115	63,962
Apr. 4	55,370	63,854	115,100	586,349	690,625	1,145,068	17,887	11,481	56,986
11	60,709	84,990	114,106	555,542	665,834	1,096,517	29,902	10,199	65,555
18	69,435	64,681	101,999	517,534	631,756	1,043,889	31,427	67	48,571
25	58,548	35,743	86,760	486,199	604,340	1,008,857	28,821	10,436	52,528
May 2	64,783	28,589	94,458	443,328	572,660	965,883	21,912	---	51,484

The above statement shows: (1) That the total receipts from the plantations since Aug. 1 1923 are 6,336,972 bales; in 1922-23 were 5,494,183 bales, and in 1921-22 were 4,905,482 bales. (2) That although the receipts at the outports the past week were 64,783 bales, the actual movement from plantations was 21,912 bales, stocks at interior towns having decreased 42,871 bales during the week. Last year receipts from the plantations for the week were nil bales and for 1922 they were 51,484 bales.

WORLD'S SUPPLY AND TAKINGS OF COTTON.—The following brief but comprehensive statement indicates at a glance the world's supply of cotton for the week and since Aug. 1 for the last two seasons, from all sources from which statistics are obtainable; also the takings, or amounts gone out of sight, for the like period.

Cotton Takings, Week and Season.	1923-24.		1922-23.	
	Week.	Season.	Week.	Season.
Visible supply April 25	3,603,799	---	3,568,890	---
Visible supply Aug. 1	---	2,024,671	---	3,760,450
American in sight to May 2	113,999	10,614,763	109,967	10,383,468
Bombay receipts to May 1	73,000	2,954,000	82,000	2,995,000
Other India Ship'gs to May 1	23,000	528,000	7,000	267,550
Alexandria receipts to April 30	10,000	1,248,600	19,000	1,300,800
Other supply to April 30	9,000	330,000	8,000	304,000
Total supply	3,832,798	17,700,034	3,794,857	19,011,268
Deduct—	---	---	---	---
Visible supply May 2	3,520,382	3,520,382	3,427,705	3,427,705
Total takings to May 2	312,416	14,179,652	367,152	15,583,563
Of which American	221,416	9,634,052	175,152	10,535,013
Of which other	91,000	4,545,600	192,000	5,048,550

* Embraces receipts in Europe from Brazil, Smyrna, West Indies, &c. a This total embraces since Aug. 1 the total estimated consumption by Southern mills, 3,223,000 bales in 1923-24 and 3,263,000 bales in 1922-23—takings not being available—and the aggregate amounts taken by Northern and foreign spinners, 10,956,652 bales in 1923-24 and 12,340,563 bales in 1922-23, of which 6,411,052 bales and 7,292,013 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 Aug. 1, as cabled, for three years, have been as follows:

May 1. Receipts at—	1923-24.		1922-23.		1921-22.			
	Week.	Since Aug. 1.	Week.	Since Aug. 1.	Week.	Since Aug. 1.		
Bombay	73,000	2,954,000	82,000	2,995,000	82,000	2,755,000		
For the Week.								
Exports from	Great Britain.	Continent.	Japan & China.	Total.	Great Britain.	Continent.	Japan & China.	Total.
Bombay—	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
1923-24	28,000	34,000	62,000	133,000	771,000	1,312,000	2,216,000	
1922-23	4,000	28,000	110,000	142,000	103,000	538,500	1,646,500	
1921-22	4,000	23,000	92,000	119,000	30,000	391,000	1,390,000	
Other India:	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	
1923-24	6,000	17,000	---	23,000	116,000	412,000	528,000	
1922-23	1,000	6,000	---	7,000	62,000	205,550	267,550	
1921-22	---	5,000	---	5,000	9,000	148,000	175,000	
Total all—	6,000	45,000	34,000	85,000	249,000	1,183,000	1,312,000	
1923-24	6,000	45,000	34,000	85,000	249,000	1,183,000	1,312,000	
1922-23	5,000	34,000	110,000	149,000	165,000	744,050	1,646,500	
1921-22	4,000	28,000	92,000	124,000	39,000	539,000	1,408,000	

According to the foregoing, Bombay appears to show a decrease compared with last year in the week's receipts of 9,000 bales. Exports from all India ports record a decrease of 64,000 bales during the week, and since Aug. 1 show an increase of 188,450 bales.

ALEXANDRIA RECEIPTS AND SHIPMENTS.

Alexandria, Egypt, April 30.	1923-24.	1922-23.	1921-22.
Receipts (cantars)—	---	---	---
This week	50,000	95,000	50,000
Since Aug. 1	6,246,548	6,512,745	4,941,267

Exports (bales)—	1923-24.		1922-23.		1921-22.	
	Week.	Since Aug. 1.	Week.	Since Aug. 1.	Week.	Since Aug. 1.
To Liverpool	---	190,486	4,000	215,366	5,000	142,377
To Manchester, &c.	---	8,000	184,168	5,750	155,696	5,000
To Continent and India.	---	4,000	321,097	4,950	270,6	

BREADSTUFFS

Friday Night, May 2 1924.

Flour was quiet, but as a rule steady, early in the week. Mills in some cases were in a rather belligerent mood. They had gone as far as they in reducing prices. Good milling wheat was firm. It was none too easy to get. And the export demand for flour was fair. Business increased somewhat with Danzig. Clearances on old transactions reached the liberal total from New York last week of 307,947 sacks and 190 barrels. But when it came to the domestic trade it was the old story. Buyers stuck to their old plan of buying a little at a time for immediate needs. It was the old waiting game. Also, is a change in the method of trading being gradually introduced? Is overproduction having its logical effect in the adoption by the mills in some cases at least of the maxim "Every man for himself"? In this case is every mill for itself? The amount of business done direct between mill and large consumer is said to be increasing. Small bakers at the same time buy less. Are they being gradually pushed to the wall? And mills compete more sharply. More or less cutting at prices is supposed to be done from time to time, whatever may be said about cost of production, margin of profits, etc. Certain high standard brands are naturally better sustained than others. But a noticeable feature is the evident disposition, not to say anxiety, of mills to do business if bids are at all worthy of consideration. Later in the week, though trade was still sluggish, many of the mills were firm in maintaining prices. Mills that cut prices are not getting large orders. Export sales were fair, but in small lots, with the business mostly in Canadian. Hamburg and Danzig were the chief buyers. Clearances from New York on Wednesday made no bad showing, being 90,285 sacks, mostly to Hamburg, Bremen and Rotterdam. Clearances from New York on May 1 were 1,525 barrels and 42,499 sacks to Hamburg and the Near East. Stocks of flour at the terminals here are 1,180 cars, against 1,280 a week ago and 1,978 last year. Recent purchases for Danzig are estimated at 25,000 barrels. Wheat export business, however, outruns that in flour.

Wheat advanced somewhat with a better export business in Manitoba, buying by elevators and covering of shorts with offerings smaller. Also, some emphasized the fact that there is a total of 80,000,000 bushels increase in the East Indian and Italian crops as compared with last year. The outlook for the American new winter wheat crop is good, but the chances usually favor some deterioration before very long. And on Wednesday the export sales were stated at from 1,000,000 to 1,500,000 bushels of Manitoba at the seaboard. England and Italy took the most. This woke up the trade. Has export business been concealed? Is it larger than has been suspected? On April 1 Canada had 119,000,000 bushels of wheat available for export, according to an official report, against 80,600,000 last year. Farm reserves are 70,000,000 bushels, or 21,000,000 more than in 1923. But if Europe is taking it faster than had been imagined these figures lose some of their force. Also, about 40,000 bushels of American new hard wheat were sold at the Gulf, and a little durum. Ocean freight room was wanted. It is pointed out that since Saturday five full cargo steamers have been chartered, including three to Italy, one to the Bordeaux-Hamburg range and one to Sweden. The American visible supply last week decreased no less than 2,043,000 bushels, against 1,074,000 in the same week last year. This looked a bit suggestive. It is true that the total is still 52,781,000 bushels, against 44,521,000 last year. The McNary-Haugen bill was again to come up. Bears chose to be a little nervous over it. Yet there was no disguising the fact that of real snap and old-time life and push the speculative market had none at all. Whatever may be said, stocks are large and the United States is practically shut out of Europe. Chicago charters were made on Wednesday for 300,000 bushels of wheat to Buffalo at 1 1/2 c. per bushel, a new "low." On Wednesday an enormous business was done at Chicago in switching, from May to July and the reverse. Elevator interests bought, it was said, some 35,000,000 bushels of the May and sold an equal quantity of the July. May ended that day 2 3/4 c. under July. Hedges taking off 1,250,000 bushels of Manitoba at the seaboard kept Winnipeg firm on April 30, with May there about 3 1/2 c. under Chicago. In about two days sales of Manitoba were 2,500,000 bushels. France is said to have been a large buyer. Nat. C. Murray, of Clement, Curtis & Co., puts the winter wheat condition at 85%, compared with the 10-year average of 86.3. The abandonment is estimated at 7.4%, which is somewhat more than the estimate of 6% a month ago, owing to heavy abandonment in Illinois, but smaller than the 10-year average of 10.6%. The area for harvest is put at 37,200,000 acres, against 39,522,000 last year, a reduction of 6%. On the Government basis the crop is 559,225,000 bushels. The Government has lowered materially its basis of May 1 condi-

	1922-23.						1921-22.					
	32s Cop Twst.		8 1/4 lbs. Shrtngs, Common to Finest.		Col'n Mid. Upl's		32s Cop Twst.		8 1/4 lbs. Shrtngs, Common to Finest.		Col'n Mid. Upl's	
Feb. 8	d.	d.	s. d.	s. d.	d.	d.	d.	s. d.	s. d.	d.	d.	
26	@ 27 1/4	19 2	@ 19 5	18 89 22	@ 23	17 0	@ 17 4	15 74	17 0	@ 17 4	15 74	
15	@ 26 3/4	19 0	@ 19 3	17 74 21 1/4	@ 22 3/4	17 0	@ 17 4	16 34	17 0	@ 17 4	16 34	
22	@ 26 1/4	18 4	@ 18 7	17 65 22	@ 22 3/4	17 0	@ 17 4	16 34	17 0	@ 17 4	16 34	
29	@ 26	17 7	@ 18 2	17 18 22	@ 22 3/4	16 7	@ 17 3	16 7	16 7	@ 17 3	16 44	
Mar 7	@ 26 1/4	17 7	@ 18 2	16 76 22 1/4	@ 23 1/4	17 1	@ 17 6	16 60	17 1	@ 17 6	16 60	
14	@ 26 1/4	17 6	@ 18 1	16 75 17	@ 23 1/4	17 0	@ 17 6	16 75	17 0	@ 17 6	16 75	
21	@ 26 1/4	17 5	@ 18 1	17 09 23 1/4	@ 24 1/4	17 1	@ 17 6	16 08	17 1	@ 17 6	16 08	
28	@ 26 1/4	17 4	@ 17 7	16 01 23 1/4	@ 24 1/4	17 1	@ 17 6	14 80	17 1	@ 17 6	14 80	
Apr 4	@ 25 1/4	17 6	@ 18 0	17 68 23 1/4	@ 24 1/4	17 0	@ 17 6	15 88	17 0	@ 17 6	15 88	
11	@ 25 1/4	18 1	@ 18 4	18 96 23 1/4	@ 24 1/4	17 0	@ 17 4	15 95	17 0	@ 17 4	15 95	
18	@ 26 3/4	18 3	@ 18 6	18 35 22 3/4	@ 23 3/4	17 0	@ 17 9	15 18	17 0	@ 17 9	15 18	
25	@ 26 3/4	18 4	@ 19 0	17 70 22 3/4	@ 24 1/4	17 0	@ 17 4	15 46	17 0	@ 17 4	15 46	
May 2	@ 26 1/4	18 3	@ 18 7	17 35 22 3/4	@ 23 3/4	16 6	@ 17 2	14 76	16 6	@ 17 2	14 76	

SHIPPING NEWS.—Shipments in detail:

	Bales.
NEW YORK—To London—April 25—Albania, 25	25
To Havre—April 25—Waukegan, 907	907
To Rotterdam—April 25—Schodack, 247	247
To Bremen—April 25—President Harding, 9,126; Republic, 10,200	19,326
To Bilbao—April 26—Angela, 100	100
To Liverpool—April 25—Scythia, 2,705; Baltic, 3,250	5,955
To Trieste—April 26—Lucia, 1,570	1,570
To Venice—April 26—Lucia, 200	200
To Antwerp—April 30—Somland, 360	360
To Gothenburg—April 29—Kungsholm, 301	301
To Barcelona—April 29—Skijssea, 4,235; April 30—Cabo Villano, 1,817	6,052
To Genoa—April 30—City of Eureka, 653	653
To Naples—April 30—City of Eureka, 300	300
NEW ORLEANS—To Venice—April 24—Victoria, 1,637	1,637
To Trieste—April 24—Victoria, 652	652
To Murransk—April 24—Eda, 5,896	5,896
To Port Barrios—April 26—Suriname, 200	200
To Port Colombia—April 26—Heredia, 200	200
To Rotterdam—April 26—Maasdam, 300; Valedam, 600	900
To Japan—April 26—Heffron, 4,350	4,350
To China—April 26—Heffron, 250	250
To Bremen—April 29—Raymond, 5,834	5,834
To Liverpool—April 26—West Caddoa, 5,746	5,746
To Manchester—April 26—West Caddoa, 200	200
To Barcelona—April 30—West Chetola, 775	775
To Havre—May 1—West Errol, 5,270	5,270
To Antwerp—May 1—West Errol, 1,470	1,470
To Murransk—May 1—Eidshorn, 4,623	4,623
GALVESTON—To Bremen—April 24—West Camak, 5,771	5,771
To Hamburg—April 24—West Camak, 250	250
To Venice—April 30—Victoria, 1,469	1,469
To Trieste—April 30—Victoria, 50	50
To Liverpool—April 30—Narcissus, 6,425	6,425
To Manchester—April 30—Narcissus, 2,411	2,411
To Havre—April 30—West Cheswald, 4,839	4,839
To Antwerp—April 30—West Cheswald, 310	310
To Ghent—April 30—West Cheswald, 732	732
To Barcelona—May 1—Infanta Isabel, 2,610	2,610
HOUSTON—To Liverpool—April 26—Narcissus, 8,520	8,520
To Bremen—April 28—West Camak, 3,199	3,199
To Venice—April 28—Victoria, 854	854
To Trieste—April 28—Victoria, 100	100
To Havre—April 30—Saccarappa, 2,345	2,345
To Rotterdam—April 30—Saccarappa, 250	250
BALTIMORE—To Havre—April 16—Waukegan, 700	700
BOSTON—To Hamburg—April 17—Napierian, 279	279
NORFOLK—To Liverpool—April 30—London Corporation, 931; May 2—Westlake, 200	1,131
To Rotterdam—May 2—West Cherow, 600	600
PENSACOLA—To Liverpool—April 25—Antinoas, 250	250
PHILADELPHIA—To Genoa—April 15—Elcasco, 31	31
SAN DIEGO—To Liverpool—April 26—Selma City, 400	400
SAVANNAH—To Havre—April 28—Kentucky, 2,418	2,418
To Bremen—April 29—Lulse Hemsoth, 11,267	11,267
To Rotterdam—April 30—Ruth, 693	693
To Antwerp—April 30—Ruth, 100	100
To Hamburg—April 30—Ruth, 963	963
Total	132,966

LIVERPOOL.—Sales, stocks, &c., for past week:

	April 11.	April 18.	April 25.	May 2.
Sales of the week	60,000	26,000	28,000	39,000
Of which American	37,000	14,000	15,000	21,000
Actual export	5,000	2,000	5,000	7,000
Forwarded	51,000	28,000	55,000	62,000
Total stock	617,000	599,000	588,000	569,000
Of which American	355,000	342,000	326,000	311,000
Total imports	19,000	22,000	42,000	36,000
Of which American	5,000	9,000	12,000	15,000
Amount afloat	121,000	107,000	115,000	132,000
Of which American	33,000	36,000	44,000	51,000

The tone of the Liverpool market for spots and futures each day of the past week and the daily closing prices of spot cotton have been as follows:

	Spot.	Saturday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.
Market, 12:15 P. M.	Quiet.	Moderate demand.	Moderate demand.	More demand.	A fair business doing.	Quiet.	17.35
Mid. Upl'ds	17.80	17.33	17.21	16.95	17.21	5.000	
Sales	6,000	7,000	7,000	10,000	8,000		
Futures.		Barely st'y	Quiet, 3 pts	Quiet, 8 to 18 pts.	Steady at 19 to 24 pts. adv.	Steady, 12 to 18 pts. adv.	
Market, 4 P. M.	Barely st'y	Steady at 16 to 33 pts. dec.	Quiet, 3 pts dec. to 2 pts. adv.	East at 4 to 20 pts. dec.	Quiet but st'y, 8 to 15 pts. adv.	Quiet but st'y., unchanged, to 7 pts. adv.	

Prices of futures at Liverpool for each day are given below:

	Sat.		Mon.		Tues.		Wed.		Thurs.		Fri.	
	12 1/4	4:00	12 1/4	4:00	12 1/4	4:00	12 1/4	4:00	12 1/4	4:00	12 1/4	4:00
April 26 to May 2.	p. m.	p. m.	p. m.	p. m.	p. m.	p. m.	p. m.	p. m.	p. m.	p. m.	p. m.	p. m.
April	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
May	17.66	17.33	17.24	17.21	17.25	16.88	16.87	17.11	17.02	17.00	17.08	17.08
June	17.45	17.12	17.04	17.02	17.06	16.69	16.67	16.31	16.30	16.30	16.36	16.36
July	17.21	16.96	16.83	16.82	16.87	16.31	16.31	16.90	16.80	16.80	16.97	16.86
August	16.79	16.53	16.42	16.42	16.47	15.58	15.58	16.53	16.43	16.43	16.61	16.50
September	15.99	15.75	15.64	15.64	15.69	14.83	14.84	15.78	15.68	15.68	15.85	15.72
October	15.20	14.99	14.83	14.84	14.93	14.17	14.19	15.03	14.92	14.92	15.05	14.94
November	14.49	14.31	14.16	14.17	14.26	14.83	13.86	14.39	14.29	14.41	14.42	14.29
December	14.15	13.98	13.83	13.83	13.92	13.70	13.74	14.06	13.96	14.08	13.96	13.96
January	13.99	13.83	13.69	13.70	13.79	13.56	13.60	13.94	13.85	13.98	13.86	13.86
February	13.85	13.68	13.54	13.56	13.64	13.46	13.50	13.81	13.72	13.85	13.73	13.73
March	13.75	13.58	13.44	13.46	13.54	13.44	13.48	13.72	13.63	13.76	13.64	13.64
April	13.72	13.56	13.43	13.45	13.52	13.39	13.43	13.70	13.61	13.74	13.62	13.62

tion. On the par basis used last year, the forecast would be 575,000,000 bushels. The meaning of this difference is that the basis used this year makes a more liberal allowance for damage after May 1. The three States, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois, forecast 92,644,000 bushels, against a production of 137,310,000 last year; the three States of Nebraska, Kansas and Oklahoma 231,566,000 bushels, against 148,198,000 last year. The spring wheat area is estimated at about 16,222,000 acres, against 18,786,000 last year, a reduction of 13.7%. Primary receipts in the United States on a given day were 410,000 bushels, against 434,000 a week previous and 643,000 last year. Shipments were 707,000 bushels, against 452,000 a week before and 548,000 last year. The Kansas weekly weather and crop report said: "Wheat continues in good condition and is growing rapidly. It is six inches to a foot high over most of the southern half of the State except the extreme western counties and four to six inches high in the northern half and jointing from the Kaw Valley south. In the Northwest counties it will not begin to joint for two or three weeks yet." Washington wired: "Heavy increases in imports of bonded wheat from Canada during the week ended April 19 were reported by the Commerce Department. Figures for imports duty paid wheat from Canada for the week were not available, but imports into bonded mills for grinding into flour for export were 98,652 bushels, compared with 9,997 bushels during the week ended April 12." Minneapolis wired: "Our traveling man, after covering a large part of the north half of Dakota says that the acreage in corn, barley and flax will be double that of last year and at the expense largely of wheat. He thinks the shortage in summer fallow and the increase in other crops may represent a 20% decrease in the wheat acreage. In the territory covered, however, wheat is seeded under the best of conditions except along the extreme northern border, where only about half the proposed acreage has been sown." Kansas City wheat deliveries on May 1 were 1,750,000 bushels. On May 1 May deliveries at Chicago reached the large total of 3,851,000 bushels; at Winnipeg 1,915,000 bushels. Yet the effect was only momentary. An upturn followed, at both Chicago and Winnipeg, especially at Winnipeg, which rose 1 to 1½c., which held up Chicago. Export sales were reported of 600,000 bushels. The total may have been larger, as ocean freights were said to be unusually active. Berth business with the United Kingdom was said to be good. Montreal shipped to the British Channel a cargo of 265,000 bushels. Some Canadian crop reports were not good. To-day prices advanced on better cables, light receipts, lessened disposition to sell, and reports of a large export business. Liverpool advanced in the teeth of clearances from Argentina for the week of 6,868,000 bushels and from Australia of 2,984,000 bushels. India, to be sure, shipped only 8,000 and the Danube 472,000. Liverpool advanced ½ to 1½d., and Buenos Aires shot upward 2¼ to 2¾c., owing to fears of a strike and the necessity of making prompt deliveries on sales to exporters. Chicago prices show a rise for the week of 2 to 2¼c.

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF WHEAT IN NEW YORK.

No. 2 red	Sat. 120¼	Mon. 120	Tues. 121	Wed. 120½	Thurs. 120½	Fri. 122
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DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF WHEAT FUTURES IN CHICAGO.

May delivery in elevator	Sat. 103¼	Mon. 102½	Tues. 103¼	Wed. 103¼	Thurs. 103¼	Fri. 105¼
July delivery in elevator	105¼	105¼	106	105½	105½	107½
September delivery in elevator	106¼	106	106¼	106¼	107¼	108¼

Indian corn drifted to a somewhat lower level early in the week. It got little or no encouragement from wheat. In fact, wheat at times declined. The American visible supply of corn decreased last week 1,960,000 bushels, against 2,284,000 a year ago, making the present total 19,707,000 bushels, against 22,339,000 in 1923. This excited comment, and even had some momentary effect. But it was only momentary. For trade was slow, the receipts increased and liquidation was very apparent. Later most of the business was in switching from near to later deliveries. On a given day receipts were 713,000 bushels, against 606,000 a week previous and 646,000 last year. Shipments were 842,000 bushels, against 828,000 a week previous and 462,000 last year. Murray estimates an increase of 3.7% in the acreage, the same as the Government report of farmers' intention. Argentina's corn crop now being harvested is estimated at 270,000,000 bushels, against 176,000,000 last year, according to a cable to the Department of Agriculture. This is the largest crop harvested since 1914. There were Western rumors early in the week that 300,000 bushels had been bought for export. New York could not confirm this, but it was a fact that freight room for about 80,000 bushels was taken for Antwerp. The Kansas weekly weather and crop report stated that corn planting was in full swing last week in the eastern half of the State until the rains began in the closing days. From 50 to 75% of it is finished in the south central and southeastern counties, where much of it is coming up. In the northwestern and north central counties 10 to 20% is planted and is beginning this week in the extreme north-eastern counties. On May 1 at Chicago May deliveries were 1,105,000 bushels. Wheat supported corn, though it was not firm itself. The cash demand was poor. Still, big deliveries were powerless to put corn down and keep it down. To-day prices advanced 1 to 1½c. in sympathy with the rise in wheat, and also because of light receipts. Concluding prices show a rise for the week of ¾c.

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF CORN IN NEW YORK.

No. 2 mixed	Sat. 96	Mon. 96	Tues. 96½	Wed. 96½	Thurs. 96½	Fri. 98
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DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF CORN FUTURES IN CHICAGO.

May delivery in elevator	Sat. 76¼	Mon. 76¼	Tues. 77	Wed. 76¾	Thurs. 77	Fri. 78¾
July delivery in elevator	78¼	78	78¼	78¼	78¾	79¾
September delivery in elevator	77¾	78	77¾	78¼	78¾	79

Oats declined a little, but only a little, early in the week on general liquidation. The American visible supply, it is true, fell off last week 924,000 bushels, against 821,000 last year, and it is now only 11,749,000, against 21,932,000 last year. But nobody paid much attention to this. Wheat was a kind of drag. Oats heeded that and little or nothing else. Heavy rains in Illinois and Indiana benefited the crop there. Murray puts the acreage increase at about 2%, which compares with the Government report of farmers' "intention" to increase of 7%. St. Louis reported a fair cash demand for oats. Some export business was reported in Canadian oats. Kansas City wired that oats showed an improvement during the week and alfalfa is looking fine. On May 1 May deliveries at Chicago were 1,775,000 bushels, but there was a good demand and prices stood up very well. To-day prices were higher with other grain, though the advance was fractional. Last prices were ¼ to ½c. higher for the week. Chicago reported support to-day by prominent people.

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF OATS IN NEW YORK.

No. 2 white	Sat. 59	Mon. 59	Tues. 59	Wed. 59	Thurs. 58½	Fri. 58½
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DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF OATS FUTURES IN CHICAGO.

May delivery in elevator	Sat. 46¼	Mon. 46¼	Tues. 46¼	Wed. 46¼	Thurs. 46¼	Fri. 47¼
July delivery in elevator	44¼	44¼	44¼	44¼	44¼	44¼
September delivery in elevator	40¼	39¾	39¾	40	40	40¾

Rye declined for May delivery at one time and advanced slightly on later months. Liquidation at times, however, was very apparent. At no time early in the week did the market show any real life and animation. Yet the American visible supply decreased last week 568,000 bushels, against an increase in the same week last year of 66,000 bushels. It is now not much larger than a year ago, i. e. 20,991,000 bushels, against 19,459,000 in 1923. But statistics counted for nothing. On the 1st inst. 100,000 bushels were reported taken for export. Chicago deliveries in May contract were 1,646,000 bushels, which the market took very well, following the example of other grain. To-day prices advanced with wheat some 2c. This left final quotations % to 1½c. higher than a week ago.

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF RYE FUTURES IN CHICAGO.

May delivery in elevator	Sat. 65¼	Mon. 65¼	Tues. 64¼	Wed. 63¼	Thurs. 63¼	Fri. 65¼
July delivery in elevator	67¼	67¼	67¼	66¼	66¼	68¼
September delivery in elevator	69¼	69¼	69¼	68¼	68¼	70¼

The following are closing quotations:

FLOUR.

Spring patents	\$6 00@	\$6 50	Eye flour, patents	\$4 00@	\$4 40
Clears, first spring	5 00@	5 50	Seminola No. 2, lb.		4
Soft winter straights	5 00@	5 30	Oats goods	2 80 @	2 90
Hard winter straights	5 50@	6 00	Corn flour	2 22¼ @	2 25
Hard winter patents	6 00@	6 50	Barley goods		
Hard winter clears	4 85@	5 15	Nos. 2, 3 and 4		3 60
Fancy Minn. patents	7 45@	8 10	Fancy pearl, Nos. 2, 3 and 4		6 00
City mills	7 55@	8 05			

GRAIN.

Wheat, New York:		Oats:	
No. 2 red, f.o.b.	122	No. 2 white	58¼
No. 1 Northern	139¼	No. 3 white	57¼
No. 2 hard winter, f.o.b.	121¼	Rye, New York:	
		No. 2 c.f.	77¼
Corn:		Chicago, No. 2	
No. 2 mixed	98	Barley, New York:	
No. 2 yellow	99	Malting	91 @96
		Chicago	70 @88

For other tables usually given here, see page 2149.

WEATHER BULLETIN FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 29.—The general summary of the weather bulletin issued by the Department of Agriculture, indicating the influence of the weather for the week ending April 26, is as follows:

Moderate temperatures were the rule during the week, although it was cool for the season in the south Atlantic area and in the western half of the country. Warmer weather overspread the Great Plains and interior valleys during the first few days, but it was much cooler in the central valley States the latter part of the week. Rainfall was widespread, but in most cases was light to moderate east of the Mississippi River, while very little occurred in the more western States.

Chart I, page 4, shows that, for the week, as a whole, the temperature averaged above normal throughout the Mississippi Valley and in central-northern districts. The week was cooler than the seasonal average from the eastern Lake region southward, and from the western Plains westward to the Pacific Coast States. The minus temperature departures from normal ranged from 5 to 8 degrees throughout the Rocky Mountain area. East of the Plains freezing weather was confined to extreme northern localities from the upper Great Lakes eastward, but freezing was general in the west southward to northwestern Texas and in the northern portions of New Mexico and Arizona.

Chart II, page 4, shows that rainfall was moderately heavy to heavy in nearly all sections between the Mississippi River and the Rocky Mountains. East of the Mississippi the falls were generally light to moderate, while from the Rocky Mountains westward very little precipitation occurred.

The generous rains that occurred during the week from the upper Mississippi Valley and western upper Lake region westward to the Rocky Mountains were very beneficial in improving the soil condition and the starting of vegetative growth, as the soil had become dry in most of the area. It was rather too wet for field work in much of this section, but at the same time fairly good progress was reported in plowing and planting of spring crops. Rain was beneficial also in the Southwestern States, particularly in western Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona, where the range was becoming dry in many localities.

Good growing weather prevailed in the lower Great Plains and the central and lower Mississippi Valley where the temperatures were moderate, ranging mostly somewhat above normal, and soil moisture was ample, though rain was needed in parts of Iowa and Missouri. Better growing conditions prevailed also in most Eastern States, except that the nights were too cool for warm-weather crops in the Southeast. The dry, sunny weather was favorable for drying out lowlands in the Florida Peninsula.

Drought was becoming rather severe, however, in much of the far Northwest, and at the same time unseasonably low temperatures did considerable damage to fruit. There was also frost damage in Nevada and New Mexico, while some harm was done by low temperatures in central Rocky Mountain

States. Warmer weather is needed generally in the West and in the Eastern States where the season continues late.

SMALL GRAINS.—Winter wheat made satisfactory progress in the Ohio Valley States, except those portions where there was heavy winter-killing; the crop deteriorated in central and southern Illinois. Good wheat growing weather prevailed throughout the trans-Mississippi States and generally good to excellent progress was reported from that area. The plants are from 6 to 12 inches high and jointing in south-central and south-eastern Kansas, and about ready to joint in Missouri. Conditions were unfavorable, however, in the more northwestern States, where wheat was adversely affected by the cold, dry weather, though rain near the close of the week was beneficial in Montana. General improvement was noted in the condition of wheat in the middle Atlantic area, but the crop was still spotted in some localities.

The week was rather unfavorable for field work in the Spring Wheat Belt, but seeding has been well advanced and the increased moisture favorably affected early-seeded grain. Germination has been satisfactory. The lateness of the season in Montana will probably result in the seeding of a smaller acreage of spring wheat than was intended.

Oat seeding made satisfactory progress in the Northern States; this work was about completed in central valley districts. Oats did well in the earlier sections, but there was some frost damage in the North Pacific States. Winter oats were heading in the Gulf area.

CORN.—The preparation of ground for planting made satisfactory progress in the northern portion of the Corn Belt, especially in the upper Mississippi Valley and the north-central Plains States. Much ground is now ready for seeding in Iowa and some local planting has been done. Planting was general in Missouri and well along in the southern half of Kansas. The early-planted corn is reported as germinating satisfactorily in the southern portion of the belt with generally good stands. Early corn was favorably affected by the weather in the Southern States, except for the cool nights in the south Atlantic area.

COTTON.—The temperatures were too low for best germination of cotton in the eastern portion of the belt, but they were moderate in most other sections, while less rainfall in the Southeast was favorable. Planting progressed well during the week and has been extended to the northern portions of the belt in all sections. The cool, wet weather at the close of the week in the northwestern portion of the belt was unfavorable.

The germination of late-planted cotton in Texas and the progress of early-planted were very good, and chopping and cultivating advanced in the southern portion of the State. It was too cool and wet the latter part of the week in Oklahoma, which will probably necessitate considerable replanting. Conditions were favorable in Arkansas, and early-planted cotton shows good stands, while the warmth and ample moisture were beneficial in Louisiana. Most of the crop has been seeded in the central and southern portions of the east Gulf States, while about one-half has been planted in Tennessee; chopping out was in progress in the southern parts of Alabama and Georgia, where the stands were mostly good. The nights were too cool for best germination and growth in the south Atlantic coast area.

The Weather Bureau also furnishes the following resume of the conditions in the different States:

Virginia.—Richmond: Week was favorable and preparation of soil for corn, tobacco and cotton made good progress. Planting of corn and cotton begun where condition of soil favorable. Wheat improved; potatoes coming up in southeastern counties. Abundant fruit bloom with prospects very satisfactory.

North Carolina.—Raleigh: A favorable week, though nights rather cool. Planting of cotton and corn proceeding actively; early-planted cotton coming up to good stands. Light rain would be beneficial, especially for transplanting tobacco. Truck improved, but late; carlot shipments of lettuce. May peas blooming; potatoes and beans doing well. Fruit reports favorable. Wheat good.

South Carolina.—Columbia: A generally favorable week, but nights too cool for good germination of cotton and corn; planting practically completed many sections of Coastal Plain. Winter cereals poor to good; spring oats very good. Gardens and truck improved, but backward; potatoes growing nicely. Fruits and berries developing favorably. Warmer weather needed.

Georgia.—Atlanta: Week quite favorable. Plowing and planting made excellent progress everywhere. Growth of cotton slow and considerable killed by cool nights, necessitating replanting; good stand in south, where chopping made good progress. Much lowland corn to be planted. Early-planted receiving first cultivation. Fall oats heading. Potatoes, forage crops and truck late; growth rather slow. Orchards in good condition in Fort Valley district.

Florida.—Jacksonville: Progress and condition of cotton fair; planting continued. Late corn made good progress, but much early poor. Cane doing well. Oats fair to good with some rust. Melons late, but improved. Digging early potatoes continued in Peninsula and begun in west; some fungus damage, but dry weather retarding it. Tobacco made good progress generally; local planting continued. Setting sweet potatoes. Groves good condition; satsumas west and peaches south improved.

Alabama.—Montgomery: Cotton planting general under favorable conditions; nearly finished some sections in south and good progress in north. Coming up to mostly good stands in south, though bad locally, and chopping beginning. Corn planting made good progress; growing well. Oats and potatoes mostly doing well. Transplanting sweet potatoes beginning in south. Growth and condition of truck and pastures good. Fruits made mostly good progress, though satsumas slow.

Mississippi.—Vicksburg: Weather generally favorable. Planting of cotton and early corn mostly completed in south and central; excellent progress in north. Progress fruit, gardens, pastures and truck generally good.

Louisiana.—New Orleans: Weather very favorable for growth of all crops. Cotton planting continued, but generally well advanced, with fair stands; chopping early-planted in south. Corn made excellent progress; generally well cultivated. Some rice still to plant; early fields ready to flood. Sugar cane improved. Strawberry shipments heavy; quality excellent.

Texas.—Houston: Week favorable for vegetation and germination of seed, except freeze 26th in Panhandle injured fruit, and heavy rains and hail damaged locally. Progress of ranges, truck, fruit, corn, winter wheat and oats generally excellent and condition averages good. Winter oats heading in south and corn planting about completed. Progress of early-planted cotton and germination of later plantings very good; condition of early fair; planting extended to extreme northwest and chopping and cultivation made fair progress on lower coast, where rain now needed. Truck shipments continue large. Amarillo: Ranges greening rapidly and livestock improved.

Oklahoma.—Oklahoma City: Heavy to excessive rains were generally beneficial but will necessitate considerable replanting of cotton and corn. Progress of winter wheat generally excellent; condition fair to excellent. Good progress in planting corn; early-planted up to good stand. Planting cotton under way in all sections; well advanced in southeast. Oats, potatoes, alfalfa and pastures good.

Arkansas.—Little Rock: Cotton planting made excellent progress under very favorable conditions; planting completed in many localities and well along elsewhere; good stands where planted early. Planting corn about completed, except on lowlands; much of it up and some cultivated; condition very good. Weather favorable for small grains, meadows, truck, fruit and berries, which are all in good to excellent condition. Picking strawberries begun in central portion.

Tennessee.—Nashville: Week favorable. Corn and cotton planting rushed and about half finished; some of both up to good stands. Some early corn plowed. Wheat improved; condition poor to fair. Apples in full bloom and heavy crop of peaches set. Strawberries blooming and doing well generally.

Kentucky.—Louisville: Heavy rains north and central stopped plowing and planting; moderate and beneficial other districts. Farm work well advanced. Condition of winter wheat left standing poor to fair; progress very good. Oats mostly up. Tobacco plants small and late, but growing nicely. Potatoes coming up. Pastures improving slowly; young clover somewhat irregular stand, but generally good. Corn being planted south and cotton southwest with good prospects.

New Mexico.—Santa Fe: Rather cold with some frost damage. Apples still safe in southern valleys, but some loss to peaches, pears, plums and cherries in central and north. Precipitation benefited ranges, soil moisture, plowing and seeding. Ranges mostly fair and improving; stock fair, though much thin with minor losses. Planting corn, sugar beets and alfalfa in central and north, and cotton central and south.

Arizona.—Phoenix: Rain in east beneficial to ranges, which show general improvement. Cool nights delayed development of vegetation and melting of snow in high altitudes. Frost damage to fruit on foothills less than first reported; fair crop expected. Wheat and barley in valleys turning in. Cotton still going in; greater part planted. Local tomatoes in market in Yuma section.

THE DRY GOODS TRADE

Friday Night, May 2 1924.

Textile makets, taken as a whole, have displayed little activity during the past week. The desire on the part of consumers to buy from hand-to-mouth continues widespread, and small parcel purchases are the feature. Textile production has steadily declined since the beginning of the year, and it is now estimated that mills are not operating on an average of more than 75% of capacity. This gradual curtailment in production has been due to a falling off in demand, the latter being attributed to various causes. Prominent among these is the apprehension growing out of legislative conditions, together with doubt about the stability of raw material prices. Another reason advanced for the slackening demand is the wide belief that the rank and file of textile consumers are being pinched in their finances as a natural result of large expenditures for luxuries, such as automobiles, radios, theatres and various things for which extended credit payments have been arranged. Furthermore, there appears to be more or less uncertainty as to the accuracy of reports concerning great activity in building throughout the country as well as in the auto industry, and in many other lines whose prosperity stimulates business in textiles. Prolonged cool and unsettled weather in many sections of the country has also delayed business in textiles in a number of directions. However, should there be a week or two of seasonable weather it is believed that a substantial increase would be noted in demand for various lines of goods. As stocks are of moderate volume, owing to curtailed production, there is little apprehension felt that the movement will not be sufficient to take care of merchandise now in sight.

DOMESTIC COTTON GOODS: The past week has been another quiet one in markets for domestic cottons. Buying has continued of a hand-to-mouth character, with the tendency of prices easier. On most lines of domestic and fancy cotton products for dress year, buyers are said to be making the prices. They are confining purchases to very small lots, and as some sellers are anxious to trade, buyers have an added advantage. Jobbers continue to operate very close, while manufacturing trades are taking goods only as they need them for cutting to fill actual orders. To some extent the backward weather has been responsible for the quietness which appears to have been felt most in the wash goods departments. However, while the trade in wash fabrics has been disappointing with the jobbers, some business is being transacted every day. Black on white is a new style in wash fabrics and the offerings of new voiles are very enticing to visiting buyers. Gingham and percales, newly styled, are being purchased moderately, but on the whole the volume of staple trade is below normal. A few buyers are beginning to find that prolonged curtailment of production is telling on stocks of many standard goods. Agents nevertheless are not saying much about this phase of the situation, as many of them have reached the conclusion that jobbers are not likely to do much buying until June cotton crop reports come to hand. The curtailment in the South is varied, including not only print cloths and sheetings in a large way, but also many colored cottons and staples. Bleached cottons ruled quiet, while irregular prices in second-hand transactions were heard of frequently on denims, chambrays and other coarse colored cottons. Converters continue to sell specialties from day to day in moderate quantities. Print cloths, 28-inch, 64 x 64's construction, are quoted at 7c., and 27-inch, 64 v 60's, at 6 3/4c. Gray goods, in the 39-inch, 68 x 72's, are quoted at 10c., and 39-inch, 80 x 80's, at 13 1/2c.

WOOLEN GOODS: Markets for woollens and worsteds developed an irregular undertone during the week. The women's wear division continued to mark time, owing to the impending strike of garment workers scheduled for June 1. In many quarters it has been agreed that practically nothing stands in the way of a strike when existing agreements expire. Various meetings of committees from both sides have left the situation in a deadlock. Hence the prospect of a strike. On the other hand, the men's wear division appears to be in a much better position than the women's wear division. Demand for men's wear has been fairly active in several directions, although buyers are slow to commit themselves in regard to orders for deferred delivery.

FOREIGN DRY GOODS: Nothing of interest has developed in the linen markets during the week. At present the handkerchief division is experiencing a lessened amount of new business, while demand for other lines is quiet. Perhaps a little demand which has stood out in the prevailing dulness has been the requests for Continental damasks in the ripple and standard weaves. A moderate amount of cancellations on dress goods has been received from small manufacturers not in a position to accept the goods owing to the falling off in business. Burlaps, owing to the absence of buyers, together with the weakness of the Calcutta markets, ruled easy. Light weights were quoted at 5.60c. to 5.65c., and heavies at 7.50c. to 7.55c.

State and City Department

NEWS ITEMS

Indiana (State of).—McCray Resigns as Indiana Governor—*Found Guilty of Fraud.*—Following his conviction on April 28 by a jury in the Federal Court of using the mails to defraud, Warren T. McCray on April 28 resigned as Governor of Indiana, the resignation being effective 10 a. m. April 29. He was found guilty on thirteen counts. The Lieutenant-Governor, Emmett F. Branch, automatically became Governor. On the day the former Governor's resignation became effective he was sentenced by Judge A. B. Anderson in the Federal Court to serve ten years in the Atlanta Federal prison and in addition was fined \$10,000.

Kingdom of the Netherlands (Holland).—External Loan Floated Here.—Following the action by Rotterdam, one of her two principal cities, which about two weeks ago floated a loan of \$6,000,000 here, Holland has come into the United States market and negotiated through Kuhn, Loeb & Co. and the National City Co., both of New York, a loan of \$40,000,000. As in the case of the city loan, this is said to be the first time that Holland has gone outside her own boundaries for new money. Bonds in the amount of \$40,000,000, denominated "External Sinking Fund 6% Gold Bonds of 1924," are now being offered to the investing public at 98.50 and accrued interest to date of delivery, yielding over 6.10% on the investment if held to maturity. The bonds are coupon bearer bonds in denominations of \$1,000 and \$500 and mature April 1 1954. Principal and interest payable semi-annually (A. & O.) at the offices of Kuhn, Loeb & Co. and the National City Bank of New York, fiscal agents of the loan, in United States gold coin of the present standard of weight and fineness, free from all taxes, present and future, levied by the Government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, and payable as well in time of war as in time of peace, and whether the holder be a citizen or resident of a friendly or hostile State. On April 1 1929, or on any semi-annual interest date thereafter, the Government may, at its option, call for redemption all the bonds of this issue then outstanding, in whole but not in part (except as above provided for the sinking fund) at par and accrued interest. The offering circular says regarding the sinking fund:

A sinking fund is provided beginning April 1 1925 to retire annually, during the first five years, one-third of the original principal amount of the loan by purchase of bonds, if obtainable, below par. The unapplied balance of any installment shall revert to the Government. After 1929 the Sinking Fund shall retire annually by drawings at par one twenty-fifth of the aggregate principal amount of bonds outstanding on Jan. 1 1930.

The proceeds of this loan will be applied toward the redemption of floating debt included in the total debt as stated above. The dollars realized from this loan will be sold to the Netherlands Bank to be from time to time made available for payments to be effected in the United States for purchases and other purposes.

Further details of this offering may be found in an advertisement appearing on a preceding page of this issue and also in our "Department of Current Events & Discussions."

Pennsylvania (State of).—State Attorney-General Asks that Suit Against Soldier Bonus Amendment be Dismissed.—Attorney-General George W. Woodruff, in a brief presented to the Dauphin County Court, disputes the contentions of the applicants of the injunction suit brought there—V. 118, p. 1945—in which it is sought to restrain the Secretary of State from putting on the ballot at the coming November election the proposed constitutional amendment providing for the issuance of \$35,000,000 bonds for a State soldier bonus and has petitioned the above court to dismiss the suit. The Pittsburgh "Post" of April 25 sums up the situation as follows:

Attorney-General Woodruff April 25 petitioned the Dauphin County courts to dismiss the injunction suit brought by a group of taxpayers to prevent the Secretary of the Commonwealth from submitting the \$35,000,000 soldier bonus amendment to the voters of the State at the November elections.

A brief disputes the contention of the applicants for the injunction in which they stated that the wording of the soldier bonus amendment would in effect reduce the highway bond issue recently placed at \$100,000,000 by the action of the voters to \$50,000,000, as specified in the wording of the bonus amendment.

The brief cites that the \$50,000,000 highway bond clause of the soldier bonus amendment is inoperative because it would constitute an amendment that has not been passed upon by two successive Legislatures. The brief states that the only purpose of the bonus amendment is to increase the State borrowing capacity to provide for the bonus. It was never intended to alter in any way the borrowing capacity of the State in other respects, it is contended.

bids will be received until 7:30 p. m. May 7 by John Laubenthal, Clerk Bd. of Ed., for \$170,000 school bonds. Denom. \$1,000. Date May 1 1924. Int. M. & N. Interest rate not to exceed 5%. Due on Nov. 1 as follows: \$3,000, 1925 to 1929 incl.; \$4,000, 1930 to 1934 incl.; \$5,000, 1935 to 1939 incl.; \$6,000, 1940 to 1944 incl., and \$8,000, 1945 to 1954 incl. A certified check for 10% of bid required. Legality approved by Clay & Dillon, New York City.

AMSTERDAM, Montgomery County, N. Y.—BONDS NOT SOLD.—The issues of 4 1/4% registered bonds, aggregating \$1,020,000, offered on April 7 1924—V. 118, p. 1946—were not sold. E. O. Bartlett, City Treas., says: "Expect to readvertise serial 4 1/4% coupon bonds on May 8."

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY (P. O. Annapolis), Md.—BOND OFFERING.—George Fox, Superintendent of Schools, will receive sealed bids until 12 m. May 27 for \$225,000 4 1/4% coupon school building bonds. Denom. \$1,000. Date July 1 1924. Prin. and semi-ann. int., payable in Annapolis. Due \$9,000 July 1 1926 to 1950, inclusive.

ARCHER COUNTY ROAD DISTRICT NO. 4 (P. O. Archer City), Texas.—BONDS VOTED.—At the election held on April 12 (V. 118, p. 1707), the voters authorized the issuance of \$200,000 road improvement bonds by a vote of 5 to 1.

ARKANSAS CITY, Cowley County, Kan.—BOND SALE.—At the offering on April 29 (V. 118, p. 2090), \$38,153 11 5/8% internal improvement bonds were awarded to the Home National Bank of Arkansas City at par plus cost of bonds. Date Mar. 1 1924. Int. M. & S. Due 1 to 10 yrs.

ASHLAND, Aroostook County, Me.—BOND OFFERING.—Proposals will be received by Harry S. McGowan, Town Treasurer, until 2 p. m. May 3 for \$50,000 4 3/4% coupon refunding bonds. Denom. \$1,000. Date May 1 1924. Prin. and semi-ann. int. (M. & N.) payable at the Ashland Trust Co., Ashland. Due \$2,000 on May 1 from 1925 to 1949 incl. The official circular offering these bonds states that "these bonds are exempt from taxation in Maine and from all Federal income tax, and are issued under the supervision of and certified as to genuineness by Fidelity Trust Co., Portland, Maine, and their legality will be approved by Cook, Hutchison & Pierce, Portland, Maine, whose opinion will be furnished the purchaser. All legal papers incident to this issue will be filed with Fidelity Trust Co., where they may be inspected at any time. Payment for the loan may be made on or about May 5 1924, at which time definite bonds will be ready for delivery."

Financial Statement.	
Assessed valuation for 1923	\$1,045,753 00
Indebtedness (of which \$50,000 is to be refunded by bonds now offered)	50,886 97
Temporary loan in anticipation of 1924 taxes	9,000 00
Population (approximately), 2,000.	

ASTORIA, Clatsop County, Ore.—BOND SALE.—The Columbia Trust & Savings Co. has purchased \$20,000 5 1/2% city bonds at par.

ATLANTA, Fulton County, Ga.—BOND SALE.—R. W. Pressprich & Co. of New York and the Trust Company of Georgia of Atlanta have jointly purchased \$118,500 5% street improvement bonds at a premium of \$2,105, equal to 101.77.

BAKER, Baker County, Ore.—BOND SALE.—The Lumbermen's Trust Co. and Ladd & Tilton Bank, both of Portland, jointly purchased the following 6% bonds at 100.30:
\$43,000 sidewalk District No. 1-23 bonds.
6,000 sidewalk District No. 3-23 bonds.

BALDWIN, Jackson County, Iowa.—BOND ELECTION.—An election will be held on May 14 to vote on the question of issuing \$15,000 bonds.

BANGOR, Penobscot County, Me.—LOAN OFFERING.—Bids were received until May 1 by T. G. Donovan, City Treasurer, for the purchase at discount of a temporary loan of \$125,000 issued in anticipation of taxes for 1924. Date May 1 1924. Due Oct. 1 1924. Certification as to legality by the Eastern Trust & Banking Co. of Bangor.

BATTLE CREEK, Calhoun County, Mich.—BOND OFFERING.—Bids will be received until May 12 by Thos. H. Thoerne, City Clerk, for \$100,000 paving bonds.

BEEVILLE, Bee County, Tex.—BOND ELECTION.—On May 10 an election will be held to vote on a proposition to issue \$30,000 5% school building bonds. M. W. Bates, Secretary of the School Board.

BETHEL, Pitt County, No. Caro.—BOND OFFERING.—Sealed proposals will be received by J. W. Rork, Mayor, until 8 p. m. May 12 for \$25,000 coupon registerable as to principal and interest light and power bonds bearing interest at a rate not to exceed 6%. Denom. \$1,000. Date Jan. 1 1924. Prin. and semi-ann. int. (J.-J.), payable at the Hanover National Bank, N. Y. City. Due \$1,000 yearly on Jan. 1 from 1925 to 1949, incl. A certified check upon an incorporated bank or trust company, or cash, for 2% of amount of bonds bid for, payable to the above official required. The successful bidder will be furnished with the opinion of Chapman C. Cutler and Parker, of Chicago, Ill., that the bonds are valid and binding obligations of the town of Bethel, North Carolina.

BEVERLY, Essex County, Mass.—TEMPORARY LOAN.—A temporary loan of \$200,000, maturing on Nov. 6 1924, has been awarded to the Beverly National Bank on a 4% discount basis plus a \$5 25 premium. Other bidders were:
Blake Bros. & Co.—4% plus \$12 premium.
Old Colony Trust Co.—4.03% plus \$5.
Estabrook & Co.—4.03% plus \$1 25.
Grafton Co.—4.04% plus \$1 25.
S. N. Bond & Co.—4.05% plus \$1 25.

BEVERLY, Essex County, Mass.—BOND SALE OF 1923.—For record purposes only, we are now reporting the sale of \$321,000 4% school bonds to the Old Colony Trust Co. of Boston at 100.187, which took place on June 21 1923. The bonds are described as follows: Denom. \$1,000. Int. J.-J. Due serially on July 1 from 1923 to 1943, incl.

BEVERLY, Essex County (P. O. San Antonio), Texas.—BONDS REGISTERED.—The State Comptroller of Texas registered \$98,000 4 1/4% refunding bonds and \$173,000 4 3/4% bridge refunding bonds on April 23. Due serially.

BIG STONE SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 59, Williams County, No. Dak.—BOND OFFERING.—Sealed bids will be received until 2 p. m. May 12 by C. E. Burdick, District Clerk, at the County Auditor's office in Williston for \$10,000 5 1/2% building bonds. Date March 1 1924. Prin. and semi-ann. int. payable at the First National Bank of Minneapolis. Due March 1 1944. A certified check for 5% of bid required.

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF WILDROSE, Williams and Divide Counties, No. Dak.—BOND SALE.—The Drake-Jones Co. of Minneapolis has purchased the following 6% bonds offered on April 22 (V. 118, p. 1699) at par:

\$15,000 funding bonds maturing \$5,000 on April 1 in each of the years 1934, 1939 and 1944.
15,000 building bonds maturing \$5,000 on April 1 in each of the years 1934, 1939 and 1944.
Date April 1 1924. Denom. \$1,000.

BOISE, Ada County, Idaho.—BOND ELECTION.—The election that was scheduled to take place on May 20—V. 118, p. 1946—was postponed until June 3.

BOSTON, Mass.—BOND SALE.—The following issues of bonds, aggregating \$2,410,000, which consist of \$2,020,000 4 1/4% serial bonds and \$390,000 4% registered sinking fund bonds, offered on May 1 (V. 118, p. 2090), were awarded to a syndicate composed of R. L. Day & Co., Merrill, Oldham & Co., Estabrook & Co. and Harris, Forbes & Co., at 100.19, a basis of about 4.19%:

4% Sinking Fund Bonds.
\$390,000 East Boston Tunnel alterations. Chapter 373, Special Acts of Massachusetts, 1917. Payable May 1 1969.

4 1/4% Serial Bonds.
\$150,000 Chelsea Bridge South Loan (Acts of 1921). Order of the City Council of Boston of April 5 1921. Payable \$8,000 annually May 1 1925 to May 1 1934 incl., and \$7,000 annually May 1 1935 to May 1 1944 inclusive.

40,000 court house, Brighton. Order of the City Council of Boston, of March 25 1924. Payable \$2,000 annually May 1 1925 to 1944 inclusive.

25,000 William E. Carter playground, bleachers, &c. Order of the City Council of Boston of March 25 1924. Payable \$2,000 annually May 1 1925 to May 1 1929 incl., and \$1,000 annually May 1 1930 to May 1 1944 inclusive.

BOND PROPOSALS AND NEGOTIATIONS

this week have been as follows:

ABILENE, Taylor County, Texas.—BOND ELECTION.—An election will be held on May 26 to vote on the question of issuing \$100,000 5% school building and \$50,000 street improvement bonds.

ALAMO SCHOOL DISTRICT, Madera County, Calif.—BOND OFFERING.—Sealed bids will be received by L. W. Cooper, County Clerk (P. O. Madera) until 2 p. m. May 5 for \$20,000 6% school bonds. Denom. \$1,000. Due 1 to 20 years.

ALBANY COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1 (P. O. Laramie), Wyo.—BOND ELECTION.—A special election will be held on May 19 to vote on the question of issuing \$100,000 coupon school bonds bearing interest at a rate not to exceed 6%. E. E. Fitch, District Clerk.

ALLEGAN COUNTY (P. O. Allegan), Mich.—BOND OFFERING.—Sealed bids will be received until 1 p. m. May 7 by the Clerk Board of County Commissioners for \$49,600 road assessment district No. 9 bonds, bearing interest at a rate not to exceed 5 1/2%. Denom. to suit purchaser. Due on May 1 as follows: \$5,500 1926 to 1933 and \$5,600 1934. A certified check for 1% of bonds, payable to the Board of Commissioners required.

ALLEGHENY UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 3 (P. O. Allegheny), Cattaraugus County, N. Y.—BOND OFFERING.—Sealed

200,000 fire alarm signal station, Back Bay Fens (Chapter 309, Acts of 1923). Order of the City Council of Boston of May 14 1923. Payable \$10,000 annually May 1 1925 to May 1 1944 inclusive.

60,000 Dartmouth St. Bridge. Order of the City Council of Boston, March 11 1924. Payable \$3,000 annually May 1 1925 to May 1 1944 inclusive.

150,000 Columbus Park Impts. Order of the City Council of Boston of March 25 1924. Payable \$8,000 annually May 1 1925 to May 1 1934 incl. and \$7,000, annually May 1 1935 to May 1 1944 incl.

450,000 sewerage works. Order of the City Council of Boston of March 4 1924. Payable \$15,000 annually May 1 1925 to May 1 1954 incl.

500,000 highways, making of (Chapter 393, Acts of 1906). Order of the City Council of Boston of March 19 1924. Payable \$25,000 annually May 1 1925 to May 1 1944 inclusive.

25,000 garage, Albany St. Order of the City Council of Boston of Jan. 29 1924. Payable \$2,000 annually May 1 1925 to May 1 1929 incl., and \$1,000 annually May 1 1930 to May 1 1944 incl.

80,000 police station, Hyde Park. Order of the City Council of Boston of March 20 1923. Payable \$4,000 annually May 1 1925 to May 1 1944 incl.

100,000 Faneuil Hall Bldg. Orders of the City Council of Boston of June 2 1923 and March 11 1924. Payable \$5,000 annually May 1 1925 to May 1 1944 incl.

20,000 playground, Readville District. Order of the City Council of Boston of Jan. 2 1924. Payable \$1,000 annually May 1 1925 to May 1 1944 incl.

100,000 East Boston Ferry, Impts., &c. Order of the City Council of Boston of March 11 1924. Payable \$10,000 annually May 1 1925 to May 1 1934 incl.

60,000 Charities Administration Bldg. and Temporary Home. Order of the City Council of Boston of March 11 1924. Payable \$3,000 annually May 1 1925 to May 1 1944 incl.

60,000 court house, Dorchester, site and plans. Order of the City Council of Boston of March 25 1924. Payable \$3,000 annually May 1 1925 to May 1 1944 incl.

BOSTON, Suffolk County, Mass.—TEMPORARY LOAN.—A temporary loan of \$2,000,000, maturing Nov. 1 1924, has been awarded to the Old Colony Trust Co. of Boston on a 3.85% discount basis plus a \$24 75 premium. Other bidders were:

Bidder	Rate	Premium
S. N. Bond & Co.	3.89%	
National Shawmut Bank	3.94%	\$4 44
First National Bank	3.97%	26 00
Merchants National Bank	4.00%	

BOULDER COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 52 (P. O. Lafayette, Colo.)—BONDS VOTED.—At a recent election, \$63,000 5 1/4% 20-40-year (opt.) school building bonds were voted. These bonds had been sold, subject to being voted to Van Ripper, Day & Co. of Denver. Notice of the election and sale was given in V. 118, p. 1575.

BOWIE COUNTY ROAD DISTRICT NO. 1 (P. O. Boston), Tex.—BOND ELECTION.—On May 24 an election will be held to vote on the question of issuing \$490,000 road bonds.

BUFFALO, Johnson County, Wyo.—BOND OFFERING.—Bids will be received until 11 a. m. May 7 by Harley Fischer, City Clerk, for \$25,000 6% special assessment bonds. Denom. \$500.

CALIFORNIA (State of).—BOND SALE.—Of the remaining \$1,650,000 of the \$4,000,000 4 1/2% veterans welfare bonds, \$2,350,000 of which were awarded to E. H. Rollins & Sons and Phelps, Fenn & Co., both of New York, at par, as stated in V. 118, p. 1700, \$1,044,000 have been purchased as follows:

\$834,000 to a syndicate composed of the First National Bank of New York, Stevenson, Perry Stacy & Co. of Toledo; Barr Bros. & Co., Inc., of New York, and the Anglo-London-Paris Co. of Los Angeles at par. Mature on Feb. 1 as follows: \$195,000 1935, \$204,000 1936, \$213,000 1937 and \$222,000 1938.

210,000 to Dean, Witter & Co. of Los Angeles at par. Due 1939.

Of the total (\$4,000,000) there is now remaining \$606,000, maturing \$70,000 1931, \$171,000 1932, \$179,000 1933 and \$186,000 1934, still to be sold.

CAMBRIDGE, Middlesex County, Mass.—LOAN OFFERING.—Henry F. Lehan, City Treasurer, received bids until 12 m. yesterday (May 2) for the purchase at discount of a temporary loan of \$500,000, issued in anticipation of revenue for 1924. Notes will be dated May 6 1924 and payable Dec. 5 1924 at the National Shawmut Bank of Boston, in Boston, or at Chase National Bank, New York, at the option of the holder and will be ready for delivery on or about May 6 1924. These notes will be certified as to the genuineness of the signatures thereon by the National Shawmut Bank of Boston. The bank will further certify that the validity of the notes has been approved by Ropes, Gray, Boyden & Perkins of Boston. All legal papers incident to the issue will be filed with the National Shawmut Bank of Boston, where they may be inspected.

CAMPBELL COUNTY (P. O. Jacksboro), Tenn.—BOND OFFERING.—Sealed bids will be received until 11 a. m. May 3 by William Allen, County Judge, for \$160,000 road bonds, bearing interest at a rate not to exceed 6%. Date Feb. 1 1924. Prin. and semi-ann. int., payable at the Chase National Bank of New York City. Due Feb. 1 1954. A certified check for \$1,000 required.

CARROLLTON, Carroll County, Ohio.—BOND SALE.—On April 28 the Pearl Street Savings & Trust Co. of Cleveland was the successful bidder for the following two issues of bonds, offering a premium of \$886, equal to 101.75, a basis of about 5.22%:

\$10,300 6% corporation's portion streets, paving, curbing, grading and draining bonds (V. 118, p. 1946). Date April 1 1924. Due yearly on March 1 as follows: \$1,300, 1925, and \$1,000, 1926 to 1934 inclusive.

40,200 5 1/2% paving bonds (V. 118, p. 2901). Due yearly on March 1 as follows: \$4,200, 1925, and \$4,000, 1926 to 1934 incl. Date April 1 1924.

CASTLE PEAK SCHOOL DISTRICT, Madera County, Calif.—BOND OFFERING.—Sealed bids will be received by L. W. Cooper, County Clerk (P. O. Madera) until 2 p. m. May 5 for \$1,425 6% school bonds. Denom. \$475. Due in 2 to 4 years.

CHAMBERS COUNTY ROAD DISTRICT NO. 4 (P. O. Anahuac), Texas.—BOND ELECTION.—An election will be held on May 24 to vote on the question of issuing \$100,000 5 1/2% road bonds.

CHARLOTTEVILLE, Albemarle County, No. Caro.—BOND SALE.—Redmond & Co. and the Equitable Trust Co. of New York have jointly purchased \$440,000 5% coupon bonds at 100.55, a basis of about 4.97%, if allowed to run full term of years. The issue is composed of: \$125,000 impt. bonds. Date Sept. 1 1922. Due Sept. 1 1962; optional Sept. 1 1942. Int. M. & S.

315,000 school and armory bonds. Date Dec. 1 1923. Due Dec. 1 1963. Int. J. & D.

Denom. \$1,000. Prin. and semi-ann. int. payable in N. Y. City.

CHEROKEE COUNTY INDEPENDENT CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT (P. O. Cherokee), Iowa.—BOND ELECTION.—An election will be held on May 24 to vote on the question of issuing \$20,000 school building bonds.

CHEYENNE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 12 (P. O. Lodge Pole), Nebr.—BONDS VOTED.—At the election held on April 8 (V. 118, p. 1700), the voters authorized the issuance of \$7,500 school building bonds by a vote of 42 for to 28 against.

CLAY COUNTY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 13 (P. O. Dilworth), Minn.—BOND SALE.—The \$29,000 school building bonds offered on April 23—V. 118, p. 2091—were purchased by Wood Magraw-Kerfoot Co. of St. Paul as 5 1/4% for \$30,100, equal to 103.79, a basis of about 5.14%. Date April 1 1924. Due April 1 1939.

CLEMONS CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT (P. O. Clemens Grove), Marshall County, Iowa.—BOND ELECTION.—A special election will be held on May 17 to vote on the question of issuing \$15,000 school building bonds.

CLEVELAND HEIGHTS, Cuyahoga County, Ohio.—BOND OFFERING.—Chas. C. Frazine, Director of Finance, will receive sealed bids until 11 a. m. May 10 for \$127,380 5 1/4% coupon street improvement bonds. Date April 1 1924. Int. semi-ann. Due Oct. 1 as follows: \$12,380 1925, \$13,000 1926, \$12,000 1927, \$13,000 1928, \$12,000 1929 and \$13,000 1930 to 1934, incl. A certified check for 3% of bid, payable to the above official required.

CLYDE, Cloud County, Kan.—BOND OFFERING.—Sealed bids will be received until 8 p. m. May 14 by J. N. L'Ecuyer, City Clerk, for \$40,280 30 5% internal impt. bonds. Denom. \$1,000 and \$280 30. Date Nov. 16 1923. Int. J. & J. Due on July 1 as follows: \$3,280 30, 1925; \$5,000, 1926; \$4,000, 1927; \$5,000, 1928; \$4,000, 1929; \$5,000, 1930; \$4,000, 1931, and \$5,000, 1932 and 1933. A certified check for 2% of bid required.

COCONUT GROVE, Dade County, Fla.—BOND ELECTION.—An election will be held on May 27 to vote on the question of issuing \$200,000 water bonds.

COLFAX COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT (P. O. Schuyler), Neb.—BOND OFFERING.—B. F. Farrell, Secretary Board of Education, will offer at public auction about May 15 \$37,000 5% coupon building bonds. Denom. \$500. Date June 1 1924. Int. semi-ann. (J. & J.). Due 1944. A certified check for 10% of bid, payable to the School Treasurer, required.

COLETON COUNTY (P. O. Walthoro), So. Caro.—BOND SALE.—The \$250,000 5 1/4% coupon road bonds offered on April 25—V. 118, p. 1947—were purchased by the Providence Savings Bank & Trust Co. of Cincinnati and the Robinson Humphrey Co. of Atlanta at a premium of \$9,975, equal to 103.99, a basis of about 5.18% if called at optional date and 5.15% if allowed to run to maturity. Date May 1 1914. Due as follows on May 1: \$50,000, 1934, 1939, 1944, 1949 and 1953; opt. 1944.

COLUMBUS, Polk County, No. Caro.—BOND OFFERING.—Sealed bids will be received until May 5 for the purchase of \$16,000 water bonds. For details of this issue, see item under "Polk County, No. Caro." appearing on a subsequent page of this issue.

COLUMBUS, Franklin County, Ohio.—BONDS DEFEATED.—The proposition to issue \$800,000 bonds to enlarge the new city hall site, submitted to a vote of the people at the election held on April 29 (V. 118, p. 2092), failed to carry.

COMYN, Comanche County, Texas.—BOND ELECTION.—An election will be held on May 5 to vote on the question of issuing \$30,000 school building bonds.

CONROE, Montgomery County, Tex.—BONDS DEFEATED.—At the election held on April 15 (V. 118, p. 1305) the voters turned down the proposition to issue \$49,000 sewer bonds by a count of 95 for to 131 against.

CORTLAND, Cortland County, New York.—BOND OFFERING.—Sealed bids will be received until 8 p. m. May 6 by Ralph H. Ames, City Chamberlain, for the following coupon with privilege of registration as to principal only or both principal and interest bonds: \$130,000 Street Improvement bonds, series "A," maturing \$7,000 bonds on March 1 of each of the years 1927 to 1943, inclusive, and \$11,000 bonds on March 1 1944.

47,000 Street Improvement bonds, Series "B," maturing \$5,000 bonds on March 1 of each of the years 1925 to 1931, inclusive; and \$4,000 bonds on March 1 of each of the years 1932 to 1934, inclusive.

15,000 Sewer Extension (No. 10) bonds, maturing March 1 1943. Denom. \$1,000. Date March 1 1924. Prin. and semi-ann. int. (M. & N.) payable at the office of the U. S. Mortgage & Trust Co., New York City. Bidder to name rate of interest not to exceed 6%. A cert. check for 2% of amount of bonds bid for, payable to the City of Cortland, required.

The legality of the bonds will be examined by Caldwell and Raymond of New York City, whose favorable opinion will be furnished to the purchaser.

The bonds will be prepared under the supervision of the United States Mortgage & Trust Co., of New York City, which will certify as to the genuineness of the signatures of the city officials and the seal impressed thereon.

Bonds will be delivered to the purchaser on the 20th day of May 1924, or as soon thereafter as the bonds are ready for delivery, at the office of the United States Mortgage & Trust Co.

COTTAGE GROVE, Harris County, Tex.—BONDS VOTED.—At a recent election the voters approved the issuance of \$12,000 water and \$7,000 street bonds.

COTTONWOOD COUNTY (P. O. Windom), Minn.—CHANGE IN AMOUNT.—Because of payments made on the principal of liens for Judicial Ditches Numbers 10 and 18, the amount of bonds which can be issued in these proceedings has been reduced to \$11,000 and that amount will be sold on May 7 instead of \$16,000, as stated in notice of the offering given in V. 118, p. 2092.

CREEL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 23 (P. O. Devils Lake), Ramsey County, No. Dak.—BONDS NOT SOLD—WITHDRAWN FROM MARKET.—In answering our inquiry regarding the \$3,000 6% funding bonds offered on April 22 (V. 118, p. 1947), J. A. Kramus, County Auditor, says: "No bids were received for the foregoing bonds. I have been informed that the School Board discovered that they couldn't legally issue this amount in addition to the amount ahd had already been sold without first voting to increase the debt limit, so have given up the proposition of trying to dispose of any bonds at this time."

CROSBYTON, Crosby County, Texas.—BOND SALE.—The \$25,000 paving and \$23,000 water 6% bonds registered by the State Comptroller of Texas on March 17—V. 118, p. 1700—were purchased by Bosworth, Chanute & Co. of Denver at par and accrued interest. Denom. \$500. Date Feb. 1 1924. Int. F. & J. Due serially.

CUMBERLAND TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT, Greene County, Pa.—BOND OFFERING.—Sealed bids will be received by J. F. Gwynne, Secretary (P. O. Carmichaels) until 2 p. m. May 3 for \$60,000 5% school bonds. Denom. \$1,000. Date Jan. 1 1920. Due on Jan. 1 as follows: \$2,000 1932, \$5,000 1933 to 1943, incl., and \$3,000 1944; optional any time after Jan. 1 1935, provided the district gives notice of its intention to redeem bonds 30 days before day of redemption. A certified check for \$1,000 required.

CUYAHOGA COUNTY (P. O. Cleveland), Ohio.—BONDS DEFEATED.—Early returns indicate that at an election held on April 29 the voters defeated a proposition to issue \$1,300,000 site purchase and \$4,200,000 erection bonds. The vote being 11,226 for to 8,170 against, and 11,518 for to 7,602 against, respectively.

DANVILLE, Pittsylvania County, Va.—BOND ELECTION.—An election will be held on June 10 to vote on the question of issuing \$350,000 school bonds.

DARKE COUNTY (P. O. Greenville), Ohio.—BOND OFFERING.—Until 10 a. m. May 10 E. A. Goubeaux, Clerk Board of County Commissioners, will receive sealed bids for \$42,500 5 1/4% bonds, issued for the payment of the cost of construction of Byard Road, Small Road and Laberman and Schroeder Road, under authority of Sec. 6929 of General Code. Denom. \$500. Date May 15 1924. Int. M. & S. Due yearly on Sept. 1 as follows: \$8,000, 1925; \$8,500, 1926; \$9,000, 1927 and 1928, and \$8,000, 1929. Certified check for \$300 (or cash), payable to the Board of County Commissioners, required.

DAYTONA BEACH, Volusia County, Fla.—BOND OFFERING.—Sealed bids will be received until 12 m. May 27 by E. A. Donovan, Town Clerk, for \$174,000 6% 30-year bonds. Date July 1 1924. Due in 30 years. Legality approved by Reed, Dougherty & Hoyt, New York City. A certified check for 1% of bid, payable to the town, required.

DENVER (City and County of), Colo.—BOND SALE.—Our Western correspondent advises us in a special telegraphic dispatch that a syndicate composed of Newton & Co., Wm. R. Compton Co. and Estabrook & Co. has purchased \$1,000,000 4 1/4% water bonds offered on April 30 at 102.159. These bonds are part of the \$6,500,000 issued and voted at the election held on May 15 1923 (V. 116, p. 2300), of which \$1,000,000 has been sold, the sale of which was given in these columns when it took place.

DENVER INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT (P. O. Denver), Bremer County, Iowa.—BOND OFFERING.—Sealed bids will be received by J. L. Hartung, District Secretary, until 7 p. m. May 12 for \$40,000 school building bonds.

DE SOTO PARISH (P. O. Mansfield), La.—BONDS VOTED.—At a recent election the taxpayers voted to issue \$1,000,000 bonds to provide for a hard surface highway system.

DUVAL COUNTY (P. O. San Diego), Texas.—AMOUNT AND DATE OF ELECTION CHANGED.—A new election date has been set and the amount of bonds has been changed by this county. The new date is May 17 and the new amount is \$400,000. The date first set and the amount to be voted on was May 3 and \$300,000. Notice of this election was given in V. 118, p. 1947.

\$2,500 tourist camp site purchase bonds. A certified check for 5% required. Date June 1 1924. Interest rate not to exceed 5%.

WOBURN, Middlesex County, Mass.—BOND SALE.—The following issues of coupon or registered 4½% bonds offered on April 29—V. 118, p. 2098—were purchased by Merrill, Oldham & Co. of Boston at 100.72, a basis of about 4.11%:
 \$35,500 macadam pavement bonds, payable \$7,500 April 1 1925, \$7,000 April 1 1926 to 1929 inclusive.
 36,000 School Loan Act of 1924 bonds, payable \$3,000, April 1 1925 to 1930 incl.; \$2,000, April 1 1931 to 1939 incl.
 28,500 water mains bonds, payable \$2,500, April 1 1925; \$2,000, April 1 1926 to 1937 incl.; \$1,000, April 1 1938 and 1939.
 Date April 1 1924.

WOODVILLE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT (P. O. Woodville), Tyler County, Texas.—BONDS REGISTERED.—The State Comptroller of Texas registered \$30,000 5% school bonds on April 25. Due serially.

ZAVALLI COUNTY ROAD DISTRICT NO. 1 (P. O. Batesville), Tex.—BOND ELECTION.—An election will be held on May 17 to vote on the question of issuing \$125,000 road improvement bonds.

CANADA, its Provinces and Municipalities.

ATHENS, Ont.—BOND SALE.—Macneill, Graham & Co. have been awarded the \$40,000 6% 30-installment school bonds offered on April 25—V. 118, p. 1953—on a bid of 105.

BLLENHEIM, Ont.—DEBENTURE SALE.—An issue of \$29,000 5½% 20-installment school debentures was awarded to R. A. Daly & Co. at 100.11, the money costing the municipality about 5.48%. Tenders were as follows:
 R. A. Daly & Co.-----100.11 | Dymont, Anderson & Co.-----98.68
 Goss, Forgie & Co.-----100.10 | W. C. Brent & Co.-----98.63
 Municipal Bankers Corp.-----99.50 | Nesbitt, Thomson & Co.-----98.61
 Macneill, Graham & Co.-----99.11 | W. A. Mackenzie & Co.-----98.36
 C. H. Burgess & Co.-----98.89

CHATHAM, Ont.—DEBENTURE SALE.—An issue of \$90,112 5¼% 10-installment and \$42,623 5¼% 15-installment debentures has been sold to local investors at par.

CORNWALL, Ont.—BOND SALE.—An issue of \$69,572 5½% 20-installment bonds was awarded to Bain, Snowball & Co. of a bid of 100.697. Other tenders submitted were as follows: Goss, Forgie & Co., 100.50; Nesbitt, Thomson & Co., 100.65; A. E. Ames & Co., 100.34; Bell, Gouinlock & Co., 100.30; McLeod, Young, Weir & Co., 100.27; R. A. Daly & Co., 100.27; C. H. Burgess & Co., 100.22; Macneill, Graham & Co., 100.14; Matthews & Co., 100.13; Gairdner, Clarke, 99.92; Wood, Gundy & Co., 99.59; W. C. Brent & Co., 98.78.

GIFFARD SCHOOL COMMISSION, Que.—DEBENTURE OFFERING.—Tenders will be received by Joseph Draoin, Secretary-Treasurer, until May 5 for \$21,400 5½% 28-year serial bonds. Denom. \$100 and \$500. Date Nov. 1 1923.

GODERICH, Ont.—BOND SALE.—On April 25 A. E. Ames & Co. of Toronto purchased \$20,000 5½% 30-installment debentures at 101.07. Date April 15 1924. Int. ann. (April 15).

JOLIETTE, Que.—BOND SALE.—The \$77,100 5½% bonds offered on April 16—V. 118, p. 1824—were purchased by the Municipal Debentures

Corp. of Montreal at 99.27. Denom. \$500 and \$100. Date May 1 1924. Int. M.-N. Due May 1 1934.

KITCHENER, Ont.—DEBENTURE OFFERING.—Tenders were received until 12 m. May 1 by E. Huber, Treasurer, for \$280,000 5½% 10, 20 and 30 installment local improvement debentures, dated March 1 1924 and payable in Kitchener.

MERRITON, Ont.—BOND SALE.—Dymont, Anderson & Co. were the successful bidders for \$20,000 5½% 20-installment bonds paying 100.22. The following tenders were received:
 Dymont, Anderson & Co.-----100.22 | Bird, Harris & Co.-----99.78
 McLeod, Young, Weir & Co.-----100.19 | Gairdner, Clarke & Co.-----99.73
 Municipal Bankers Corp.-----100.18 | C. H. Burgess & Co.-----99.17
 R. A. Daly & Co.-----100.13

RENFREW, Ont.—BOND SALE.—Gairdner, Clarke & Co. were the successful bidders for \$11,753 5½% 20-installment bonds, paying 99.43, which means a cost basis of about 5.56%. Tenders were as follows:
 Gairdner, Clarke & Co.-----99.43 | C. H. Burgess & Co.-----99.00
 McLeod, Young, Weir & Co.-----99.40 | Macneill, Graham & Co.-----98.57

RENFREW COUNTY (P. O. Pembroke), Ont.—DEBENTURE OFFERING.—Tenders will be received until 12 m. May 5 by R. J. Roney, County Clerk, for \$100,000 5½% 20-year permanent highway work bonds. Date May 6 1924. Denom. \$1,000 and odd amounts. Due in 20 yearly payments, payable at the Bank of Nova Scotia, in Pembroke.

ST. JOHN, N. B.—DEBENTURE SALE.—An issue of \$600,000 5¼% 10, 15, 20 and 30 year debentures was recently awarded to the Royal Securities Corp. at 99.37. The following bids were received:
 Royal Securities Corp.-----99.37 | McLeod, Young, Weir & Co. & Eastern Securities Co.-----99.33
 Thomas, Armstrong & Bell.-----98.75
 Bell, Gouinlock & Co.-----99.17 | A. E. Ames & Co. and Johnston Macneill, Graham & Co. and C. H. Burgess & Co.-----98.56

SASKATCHEWAN (Province of)—BONDS AUTHORIZED.—The following, according to the "Monetary Times" of Toronto, is a list of authorizations granted by the Local Government Board from March 27 to April 3: School Districts—Manitou Plains, \$2,500, not exceeding 8%, 15 years; Kindersley, \$20,000, not exceeding 6½%, 20-years; Little Pine, \$2,500, not exceeding 8%, 10-years; Majestic, \$800, not exceeding 8%, 10-years; Town of Oxbow, \$2,500, 7%, 10-years.

SOREL, Que.—BOND OFFERING.—Tenders will be received by A. O. Cartier, City Clerk, until 8 p. m. May 10 for \$160,000 5½% bonds. Denom. \$100, \$500 and \$1,000. Date June 1 1924. Due June 1 1939, less an amount of \$49,400, to be refunded by annual amounts during the 15 years of the issue.

TORONTO TOWNSHIP (P. O. Dixie), Ont.—DEBENTURE OFFERING.—Tenders will be received by J. R. Kennedy, Township Clerk, until 12 m. May 3 for \$10,000 5½% 20-year installment debentures. Int. ann.

WATERLOO ROMAN CATHOLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT, Que.—BOND OFFERING.—Sealed bids will be received until May 6 by the Clerk Board of Education for \$35,000 5½% bonds maturing in 40 annual installments.

WOODSTOCK, Ont.—BOND SALE.—Two issues of bonds, amounting to \$37,500, bearing 5½%, were sold locally at par recently. The issues are \$28,800 bonds, comprising the city's share of Provincial Highway expenditure and \$8,500 bonds for local improvements.

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SEALED PROPOSALS will be received for all or any part of \$500,000 City and County of Honolulu, Territory of Hawaii Water Works Bonds, Series "B," 1924, of \$1,000 denomination, dated April 15, 1924, payable April 15, 1954, redeemable on or after April 15, 1944, bonds to be in coupon form, bearing interest at the rate of five per centum per annum, payable semi-annually April 15 and October 15; principal and interest payable in Honolulu, Hawaii, or New York City, at option of holder. The issuance of these bonds has been approved by the President of the United States of America. The proceeds of the sale will be used exclusively for the purpose of extensions, betterments and replacements to the water works and water systems of the City and County of Honolulu.

Each bid should set out clearly the total par value of the bonds desired and the amount, together with accrued interest to date of delivery, the bidder offers to pay therefor. Each bid must be accompanied by a certified check upon a solvent bank or trust company to the order of the Treasurer of the City and County of Honolulu in the amount of two per cent of the par value of the bonds for which application is made. Checks of unsuccessful bidders will be returned by mail after the opening of the bids. Checks of the successful bidders will be retained until delivery of the bonds awarded and payment therefor is made. The failure to make such payment will forfeit all right to the bonds and the check accompanying the bid will be collected and its proceeds retained as liquidated damages. Unless otherwise stated in the bid, each bid will be understood as an offer for all or any part of the total amount of bonds for which application is made, and no bid can be accepted for less than 98 per cent of the par of the bonds bid for.

The bonds have been prepared under the supervision of THE UNITED STATES MORTGAGE AND TRUST COMPANY OF NEW YORK CITY, which has certified as to the genuineness of the signatures of the officials and the seal impressed thereon, and the legality of the bonds will be approved by JOHN C. THOMSON, Esquire, of New York City, whose approving opinion will be furnished to the successful bidder. BIDS WILL BE RECEIVED at the office of the United States Mortgage & Trust Company, 55 Cedar Street, New York City, or at the office of the Treasurer of the City and County of Honolulu, Hawaii, until 12 o'clock of Thursday, May 15th, 1924. Bonds will be delivered as may be mutually agreed upon by the purchaser and the Treasurer of the City and County of Honolulu.

The right is reserved to reject any and all bids. Form of proposal to purchase bonds may be had on application to above.

D. L. CONKLING,
 Treasurer, City & County of Honolulu.
 April 10, 1924.

FINANCIAL

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