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The Locarno Settlement and Financial Readjustment in Europe.

Now that the Locarno treaties have been signed, and the dread of renewed war which has haunted western Europe for more than six years has been displaced by international agreements providing for arbitration and security, the States that were involved in the World War find themselves for the first time in a position to give united and undistracted attention to their financial problems. How serious those problems are the front pages of the newspapers tell us almost every morning, and the story is continued almost every evening. The financial condition of France is admittedly the most desperate of all, and omission to meet the crisis which has developed there cannot fail to have disastrous repercussions elsewhere, but the recent rapid decline in Polish exchange is a disturbing event, and neither in Germany, nor in Italy, nor in Great Britain is the financial outlook free from apprehension. What is needed in France is immediate relief from the pressure of ill-adjusted domestic and foreign debt, and ready money with which to meet large immediate obligations which will not wait for the slow processes of increased taxation and the stabilization of currency. Italy, which has just concluded a debt settlement with the United States and hopes soon to negotiate a similar settlement with Great Britain, is mortgaging the future for a surplus of revenue which its budget does not yet show, while

Germany, which met four-fifths of its first year's payment under the Dawes plan by means of an external loan, is expected to meet the whole of the increased payments of the second, or present, year from its own resources. Back of all these national conditions, however, is a common problem of how best to cope with extreme financial necessity. The Locarno treaties have been praised for implanting a new spirit of peace and good-will in Europe. Is there no practical way in which that new spirit of accord and mutual helpfulness may be capitalized for the relief of France, which is financially in distress, and for the benefit of all the other nations whose financial situation is a matter of concern?

Thanks to the Dawes plan, the acute political and financial situation regarding reparations, which was vexing Europe when the plan was inaugurated, has been tided over, and the problem that then had to be faced does not seem likely to recur. The Dawes plan, however, has two important limitations which bear closely upon the present financial situation. The first is in the fact that it does not offer to any of Germany's creditors, either now or at any time during the first five years of its operation, sufficient revenue in the form of reparations payments to meet their imperative need of ready money. The amount available from Germany for treaty payments during the first year of the plan was 1,000,000,000 gold marks, of which 800,000,000 came from a foreign loan. The amounts available for subsequent years, assuming that the plan works without interruption, are for the second, or present, year 1,220,000,000 gold marks, for the third year the same amount, for the fourth year 1,750,000,000 gold marks, and for the fifth, or normal year, 2,500,000,000 gold marks. Of these several amounts, as of any further payments that may be made after the fifth year, France is entitled, under the agreement made at the Spa Conference in 1920, to 52%, Great Britain to 22%, Italy to 10% and Belgium to 8%, the remaining 8% being allotted in varying proportions to Greece, Rumania, Jugoslavia, Portugal and Japan. It is obvious that these payments, although constituting, when the maximum is reached, appreciable additions to the revenues of those countries which are entitled to the larger shares, are of relatively small consequence at the moment, particularly in the case of France, where the need of immediate cash revenue is imperative.

The second limitation of the Dawes plan is that it does not undertake to determine the aggregate amount of reparations which Germany shall eventually pay. The facts at this point may appropriately be recalled. In April 1921 the Reparations Commission, acting in conformity with the duty imposed upon it by the Treaty of Versailles, announced what is known as the London schedule of reparations payments. The plan provided for the issuance by Germany of three series of bonds, designated, respectively, as "A," "B" and "C." The "A" bonds, to the amount of 12,000,000,000 gold marks, were to be delivered by July 1 1921 and the "B" bonds, to the amount of 38,000,000,000 gold marks, by Nov. 1 of the same year. The bonds were to bear 5% interest, with 1% for sinking fund. The third series of "C" bonds, the maximum amount of which was fixed at 82,000,000,000 gold marks, were to be issued only as and when the Commission was satisfied of the ability of Germany to provide for interest and sinking fund. Nominally, then, the total of reparations expected was 132,000,000,000 gold marks, but all except 50,000,000,000 gold marks, the combined amount of the "A" and "B" bonds, was contingent upon the later decision of the Commission regarding the capacity of Germany to pay.

It was over this latter question that Great Britain and France, in the winter of 1922-23, found themselves at variance, and the breach was widened by the French occupation of the Ruhr. There was tacit agreement that it would be impossible ever to extract from Germany such a sum as 132,000,000,000 gold marks, but none of the compromises that were suggested proved acceptable, and a German proposal of 30,000,000,000 gold marks, made in 1923, fell to the ground. The only tangible sum, accordingly, to which the Spa agreement, made before the London schedule was announced, appeared to apply was the 50,000,000,000 gold marks of "A" and "B" bonds, and it is doubtless for that reason that that sum has often been mentioned as the maximum which Germany was to pay. As a matter of fact, France, while later agreeing to accept its 52% of the "A" and "B" bonds, insisted also upon so much of any additional sums as would be required to discharge its war debt to the Allies. The Dawes Committee, in turn, properly regarding the question as political and hence beyond its province, confined itself to working out a plan of graduated payments, the maximum of which, representing the then capacity of Germany to pay, was to be reached in the fifth year.

With friendly relations between Germany and the former Allies cemented by the Locarno treaties, the time seems ripe for a joint treatment of the reparations problem which shall make the German payments available for the immediate financial necessities of Europe, and particularly for those of France. M. Loucheur, the new French Minister of Finance, is reported to have proposed that Germany, which has the right under the Dawes plan to anticipate its reparations payments, shall at once issue some 11,000,000,000 gold marks of railway bonds, selling

them, with the aid of its creditors, in the European and American markets, and turning over the proceeds to the reparations account. The 52% of the proceeds which France would receive, if the Spa agreement were followed, would go a long way toward extricating France from its present financial difficulties, and presumably neither Great Britain nor Italy would be averse to receiving so considerable an addition to their cash resources. The suggestion might well, however, be given a much wider application. Why should not the creditor Governments agree with Germany upon the maximum amount of reparations to be paid, capitalize the amount at its present value, and unite in aiding the flotation of a German bond issue to the aggregate of the amount agreed upon? The elaborate and costly machinery of the Dawes plan could then be dispensed with, very large sums of money would be made available for the Treasuries that are now depleted or badly strained, and Germany would be relieved of the uncertainty which still hangs over it regarding the length of time in which it must continue the maximum payments which the Dawes plan contemplates. It is not improbable, further, that once the matter were taken up in conference, some figure materially less than 50,000,000,000 gold marks might be accepted, but the precise amount to be paid is in practice of far less importance than putting an end to uncertainty and clearing the air.

None of the objections which may be urged to such a procedure as has just been indicated appear to be insuperable. The volume of German State, municipal and private loans which have lately been floated in this country testifies to the favor with which German credit is in general regarded by American investors, and it is unlikely that the flotation here of a proper share of a German national loan of the kind contemplated would meet with opposition either from bankers or from Washington. The displacing of the Dawes plan need not cause hesitation, for that plan is obviously only a device for enforcing upon Germany the demands of its creditors, and now that there are no longer "Allies" and "former enemies" to be considered or mentioned (it is a French statesman, M. Briand, who has relegated that distinction to oblivion), any plan that offers greater mutual benefit may properly be substituted. Most practical of all arguments, however, is the fact that such a funding of the entire reparations obligation would mean cash, and it is cash, in very large amounts, that France, Italy and other claimants need. One gold mark applied today to the relief of the French Treasury is worth a dozen gold marks which may possibly be received five, ten or fifteen years hence. It would be an impressive illustration of the Locarno spirit, and a convincing proof of its genuineness, if the creditor Governments, at odds for years over reparations and agreed only in accepting a temporary arrangement, should now set that vexing question at rest by agreeing with Germany about the aggregate amount to be paid, and at the same time so frame the settle-

ment as to make the amount immediately available for their own financial necessities and the general financial and economic needs of Europe.

The Financial Situation.

On Thursday morning of this week announcement was made that the Bank of England had raised its rediscount rate from 4 to 5%, bringing the differential between New York and London rates up to 1½%. The directors of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York meeting on Thursday took no action in respect to the rate here, which remains at 3½%. Great Britain has recently lost \$110,000,000 in gold through exports, which has reduced reserves to a point requiring care. Notwithstanding this, the prohibition on export of capital was recently lifted, throwing the British money market open to the borrowers of the world. It was expected that this would draw off from New York to London a considerable portion of the large volume of borrowing now being done by Europe. This situation has been accentuated by failure to receive approval at Washington of the proposed \$45,000,000 loan to a German potash syndicate, so that the bulk of this financing will be done in London. The higher rediscount rate in London may act as a deterrent to certain foreign borrowing, and may attract liquid funds from New York and elsewhere.

The New York stock market opened quietly Thursday morning after announcement of the advance in the British rate but later displayed considerable strength and yesterday the bull movement was again in full swing, notwithstanding the experience of the past month. Secretary Mellon expressed himself to the effect that the increase in the British rate in itself probably would not be enough to influence the New York Bank, where there appeared to be no pressure for increase in discounts. He was of the opinion that if the New York rate should be raised from 3½% to 4% the effect on speculation would be negligible, in which he is certainly right.

During the week prices of investment bonds have hardened slightly, indicating increasing confidence in the continuation of normal money rates. Indices of the general business situation continue to show improvement, notably in the steel industry. Car loadings remain at record figures. The annual report of Secretary Hoover, of the Department of Commerce, has received much editorial comment during the week, because it points out some of the fundamental causes underlying the prosperity which the country is now enjoying. Secretary Hoover said: "Thanks to the elimination of waste and other contributing factors (among which he mentioned prohibition) we can as a nation show one of the most astonishing transformations in economic history." As evidence of this he pointed out that whereas money wages are higher than in 1920, wholesale prices are considerably lower, so that real wages as respects purchasing power are higher, and not only so, but the highest in our history. Study of the figures shows that the actual purchasing power of wages is 52% greater than in 1914 and very materially higher than in 1920, when, owing to the fact that prices had advanced more rapidly than wages, the real purchasing power was only 88% of the 1914 level. During the past three years there has been a steady advance. When this fact is taken in connection with the full employment of labor, the cause of

the prosperity now enjoyed in this country is plain. Furthermore, Mr. Hoover pointed out that we have had three years of remarkable price stability, which has reduced speculation in commodities to a minimum. This gives us a more than ordinarily sound business situation, which has been evidenced very clearly during the past month, when a sudden and heavy decline in the stock market brought about by an unsound speculative position failed to disturb business confidence.

It is expected that when Congress convenes on Monday the Ways and Means Committee of the House will immediately introduce the new tax bill, which is understood to have the approval of the Administration. Early action by the House and Senate on this bill would be of the greatest benefit to the country. It is also understood that a bill in respect to railroad consolidation is ready for early presentation and that the matter of changing the labor provisions of the present railroad law will be left for action later on in order to expedite action in the matter of consolidations. In the meantime there are evidences of preparation for several consolidations. It is not improbable that many plans will be brought to rapid maturity in case Congress makes it possible legally to proceed in this matter on a sound economic basis.

Commercial failures during November, according to the records of R. G. Dun & Co., make a rather satisfactory showing as compared with earlier months this year and with the corresponding months of preceding years, particularly as to the number of defaults. There were 1,672 insolvencies in commercial lines in the United States last month with \$35,922,421 of liabilities, as against 1,581 defaults in October for \$29,543,870 of indebtedness, and 1,653 failures in November last year, involving \$31,123,910. There are only two months this year, August and October, in which there were fewer failures than are reported for last month, and with the exception of March, July, September and October, each month this year shows liabilities in excess of November. Omitting November 1924, the indebtedness shown for that month this year is considerably less than appears in November of previous years back to 1920. Of last month's defaults, 442 were manufacturing concerns with liabilities of \$13,993,701; 1,146 were trading concerns owing \$18,907,091, and 84 were agents and brokers, with an indebtedness of \$3,021,629. In November 1924 there were 361 manufacturing failures for \$10,252,127; 1,193 trading defaults for \$15,781,521 and 99 of agents and brokers, owing \$5,090,262. The trading class report fewer failures in November this year than a year ago; also the class embracing agents; on the other hand, there was an increase in the number of defaults this year over a year ago among manufacturing concerns. Up to October, trading failures this year had been in excess of 1924 in each month, and liabilities for that class were heavier than last year, but for October and November this year the reverse is the case. In contradistinction, both the number and the indebtedness of the manufacturing defaults for the first seven months of 1925 were less than for the corresponding period of 1924. The November manufacturing insolvencies are again considerably above those of a year ago, both in number and liabilities. The increase in number last month over November

1924 is largely among manufacturers of clothing, lumber and bakers, and while the number of makers of machinery and tools was practically the same in both years, there were some large defaults in these lines in November this year, which swelled very materially the indebtedness reported. Large clothing failures last month, also some in the lumber division, increased the indebtedness over November 1924.

In the trading class there were fewer failures last month among general stores, clothing dealers, dry goods, leather goods, including shoes, furniture and drug stores. For groceries, another gain in number appears for November this year over a year ago, but the liabilities last month were somewhat less than in November 1924. A small increase this year also is shown in the number of defaults among hotels and restaurants and dealers in hardware. The liabilities for the jewelry class last month were very much larger than a year ago; also for dry goods failures. On the other hand, some decrease is shown in the indebtedness reported last month for hotels and restaurants, and for dealers in clothing. The large failures last month, that is, those defaults where the liabilities in each instance exceed \$100,000, number 48, against 43 in November 1924, and the total amount involved this year was \$17,229,212, against \$12,357,862 last year, an increase this year of \$4,871,350, which, as noted above, accounts for all of the increase in indebtedness for November this year over a year ago. There were 20 large manufacturing failures last month, against 18 a year ago, and the liabilities were, respectively, \$7,025,156 and \$4,726,272. As to the large trading failures, 20 this year compares with 17 a year ago, with the indebtedness \$8,268,212, against only \$3,549,290 in November 1924. There were several quite large failures last month in both the manufacturing and trading divisions. There have been 19,436 failures for the eleven months this year, with liabilities of \$407,216,112, against 18,575 for the corresponding period of 1924 owing \$497,946,168. The 1925 insolvencies will exceed in number every year excepting 1922 and 1915.

Aristide Briand was able last Saturday to announce to President Doumergue the complete personnel of the Cabinet that he finally succeeded in forming. It will be recalled that this was his second attempt within a week, the first having resulted in failure. According to the Paris representative of the New York "Times," he worked from 8 o'clock in the morning of Friday, Nov. 27, until nearly midnight before he was able to select men even for the most important Ministries. They were noted briefly in the "Chronicle" of Nov. 28. In addition to heading the Cabinet as Premier, M. Briand is serving as Minister of Foreign Affairs. Louis Loucheur is Minister of Finance and Paul Painlevé holds the portfolio of War Minister. The Premier presented his new Ministry to Parliament on Dec. 2.

In a dispatch to his paper on the evening of Nov. 28 the Paris representative of the New York "Times" gave a particularly interesting and striking pen picture of M. Briand, the way he came to accept the Premiership finally and something about his policies and purposes. In part he said: "Paris now has a picture, rare in the annals of the history of this or any other country, of a man becoming Premier who does not wish to do so. Aristide Briand,

who now heads the Government of his country for the eighth time, would have much preferred to remain simply Minister of Foreign Affairs under another Premier than to become Chief of the Cabinet he finally formed and presented to the President of the Republic this afternoon after vexatious difficulties that beset him up to the last moment." Significantly, the correspondent asked, "What are the reasons for this attitude, which seems so strange on the part of a politician? The chief reason is that the veteran statesman would like to give his whole time to the task of bringing peace to Europe, which task, so far as France is concerned, is the job of the Quai d'Orsay. Then again he feels that the financial problem, which is the central problem of any French Government now, had better be handled by others. Furthermore, M. Briand's health is poor, he is suffering from arterio-sclerosis—and he dreads the strain of conducting the fierce Chamber debates sure to come in connection with fiscal reform." As to why M. Briand finally consented to accept the Premiership, the "Times" representative said: "When called to the Elysee yesterday for the second time in one week, M. Briand repeated these reasons to President Doumergue and insisted that the task be given to another. The President of the Republic explained that M. Briand seemed to be the only man able to form a Government which had a chance of a majority and that if he refused conditions might force a Socialist Government. M. Doumergue is said to have added that if M. Briand refused he would resign the next day. In face of this appeal M. Briand agreed to form a Government and thus sacrifice his two days' weekly fishing trip prescribed by his doctor and his wish to give his whole time to the Foreign Office task of bringing a new international regime to Europe." Relative to the motives and ideas which are shaping the policies of the new Premier, it was asserted that "with M. Briand the spirit of Locarno has become a religion. He believes firmly that the time is ripe to wipe out the aftermaths of the war and, further, he believes that with the co-operation of Austen Chamberlain, Britain and France can bring about that result. Everyone wants him at the Quai d'Orsay. Among all the Premiership possibilities mentioned in the last week each accepted M. Briand as Foreign Minister. He was sure of his job. Now he faces the danger of being thrown out of office on some angle of the financial situation, about which he knows and cares little beyond his academic interest as a patriotic Frenchman."

Continuing, the correspondent suggested that "his Finance Minister may any day make a mistake which will cost the whole Government its tenure of office, and while his successor might keep M. Briand as Foreign Minister, he might not. And certainly any interruption or change at the Quai d'Orsay might dampen the Locarno spirit. That is what M. Briand fears. That is why it is possible that if once he gets his new Government established with a solid majority he may turn over the Premiership to some one else, so that he can concentrate on the Quai d'Orsay. Not only does M. Briand wish to concentrate on his work as a disciple and preacher of the religion of Locarno, but he has other Foreign Office plans he would like to work upon tranquilly without having to pass most of his working hours in the Chamber or Senate quarreling with the Opposition. One of these plans is a settle-

ment of the French debts to America and Britain. He has always believed that to be a job for the Foreign Minister rather than the Finance Minister, and when M. Caillaux undertook the task it was against his wishes. Before the Government crisis he was actively planning to reopen the negotiations with Washington, and if his Government gets well into the saddle it may be expected that it will be the Foreign Office, and not the Finance Ministry, which will resume the conversations with Washington. This does not mean that M. Briand thinks he is a financial expert. Not at all. To him the fiduciary inflation or any other kind of inflation means about the same thing. As he says, he does not know the difference between a stock and a bond, for the simple reason that he never owned any of either. But he regards France's foreign debts as an issue of international politics rather than as a strictly financial issue. He feels France does not have a politically free hand internationally so long as she is under the shadow of unadjusted debts. And from that standpoint comes his interest in the matter. Surrounding himself with experts to handle technical points, he would like to deal with the debts himself. Of course, for the moment he realizes that a final settlement must await adjustment of France's domestic fiscal troubles, but in the meanwhile he will seek to keep the conversations warm."

Commenting upon some of the other important Ministers in the new Briand Cabinet, the Paris representative of the Associated Press asserted that "the most important of the new Ministers is Louis Loucheur, Minister of Finance, inasmuch as he is in accord with the Socialists on the consolidation of short-term bonds. But his views go no further in their direction and certainly he holds no brief for a capital levy." He added that "M. Loucheur had been reluctant to accept the finance portfolio, but M. Briand convinced him after a long conference that it was his duty to use his marked talents in straightening out the growingly serious financial tangle." Continuing, he said: "Paul Painleve had been asked previously to take the Finance Ministry, but he refused, and becomes War Minister, which post he held jointly with the Premiership in his Government of last April. Joseph Caillaux also had conferred with M. Briand, but there is no reliable information that he was offered his old place. With M. Loucheur in the Finance Ministry there will be no Minister of Budget, all duties of the department falling under one head." As to some of the problems with which Premier Briand was confronted, the Associated Press correspondent said: "The Socialists, who have resumed freedom of action, are M. Briand's chief source of worry. Instead of a single roaming group of twenty-six Communists, the Chamber of Deputies has now this new unattached body of 104 Socialist seceders from the Left bloc. The Communists and Socialists will either vote en bloc or abstain. M. Briand's difficulty is to frame a Ministerial program that will attract the votes of enough Deputies to withstand the attacks of the solid opposition. To get a Cabinet that would insure this safety—some 300 votes are necessary—was his problem, for there were not enough portfolios by half to distribute to all the political groups. His canvass revealed that the Right Deputies were less adamant than M. Herriot found the Socialists. A count of noses assured a small majority, in which the Radi-

cal Socialists would participate upon a promise of the presence of M. Painleve in the new Ministry."

The new Ministry lost no time in getting at its many and troublesome tasks. In a special Paris cable dispatch to the New York "Times" on Nov. 29 it was stated that "the new French Government held its first Council of Ministers to-day at the Elysee with the President of the Republic, M. Doumergue, presiding, and discussed the policies which it will announce to Parliament on Wednesday. The final touches to the Ministerial declaration will be made in a further sitting of the Council to-morrow morning before Premier Briand leaves for London to sign the Locarno agreements. The Minister of Finance, Louis Loucheur, brought up the financial question in the course of to-day's meeting and to-morrow will organize a committee of experts to prepare a new finance bill which, it was announced to-night, would not necessitate consolidation of any part of the public debt." As to the new financial program, the Paris representative of the Associated Press added that "M. Loucheur, the Finance Minister, will require about ten days to prepare his financial restoration plan, but the Under Secretary of Finance, Paul Morel, is already at work studying what proposition can be made to the United States for a settlement. M. Loucheur is said to have realized right along, owing to his intimate knowledge of American financial affairs gained through his association with such men as the late Henry P. Davison, Dwight W. Morrow, Bernard Baruch and Thomas W. Lamont during and after the Peace Conference, that if the French franc is to improve in international exchange the first requisite is an agreement on debts." Continuing, the correspondent asserted that "M. Loucheur has long since repudiated or retracted an alleged speech in which he was quoted as saying: 'The American debt need not be paid,' and the American debt settlement is one of the earliest moves on his program. M. Briand is in full accord with his Finance Minister on that point, and it is said that at his meeting with Winston Churchill while in London Tuesday he will deal with the debt settlement and the effect which the proposed American agreement will have on the British." With respect to the policies of the Cabinet, speaking broadly, the Associated Press representative said that "immediate ratification of the Locarno compact, reform of the electoral law, one-year military service and a plan for the restoration of French finances, of which prompt funding of the American debt is one of the most important features, are the four main points in the Ministerial declaration of the new Briand Cabinet discussed at the first Council of Ministers held under the presidency of M. Doumergue this evening."

There appears to be considerable doubt as to the ability of M. Briand to hold his Cabinet together longer than a few months. In a special Paris dispatch to "The Sun" on Nov. 30 it was claimed that political prophets see but a short life for the new Briand Government and dissolution before spring. Doumergue is reported to have said that if Briand failed to form a Ministry he would resign the Presidency of the Republic, in view of the impossibility of getting a stable Government with the Chamber as at present constituted." The situation was discussed further as follows: It is generally felt that

President Doumergue looks upon Briand as the man most likely to be able to conduct the delicate operation of dissolution without causing trouble. The importance given by Briand to a reform of the franchise indicates he also has that necessity in view. Under the present system proportional representation and voting by lists led to the electoral alliance of the Socialists with the Liberals, which placed the former in a position of political power to which their numbers did not entitle them. By a return to the old method of voting by constituency Briand hopes to free the Liberals from bondage to the Socialists and recreate the old steady-going Liberal majority, which in the past has been the most reliable governing factor in the Republic."

The new Briand Ministry continued to act promptly. On Nov. 30 the Paris correspondent of the New York "Times" cabled that "M. Loucheur made a good start this morning at the Cabinet meeting which before the departure of Premier Briand for London decided upon the text of the Ministerial declaration which is to be read to Parliament on Wednesday. He insisted on the insertion of a demand that next year's budget be voted by the end of this year as the beginning of all financial wisdom and good order." The correspondent declared that "half the troubles of the Herriot and Painlevé Governments came from the fact that the June budget was not passed until the middle of July this year, with the result that over a sixth of the year's revenue is not yet collected. M. Loucheur wants the new scale of taxation for 1926 to come into operation on Jan. 1 to avoid voting provisional credits and all the consequent disarray of national finance. Before even discussion of his bill for the creation of a sinking fund, M. Loucheur places in importance the voting of the budget as an integral part of his campaign to re-establish public confidence." It was claimed also that "with the same object the Government purposes to recommence at once discussion with Britain and the United States of the debt question."

As to the reported plan of the new Government to meet the nearby and most pressing financial requirements, it was stated in the same dispatch that "it was reliably reported in Parliamentary circles tonight that the Government intended to have voted immediately inflation of 6,500,000,000 francs, guaranteed by additional taxes to be collected not later than Feb. 1 next year. With 1,500,000,000 already voted, this would bring the total to 8,000,000,000 francs, or enough to take care of the obligations due Dec. 8, the expenses of the Government, including the colonies, until Jan. 1, and 1,500,000,000 francs which the Bank of France requires for the needs of commerce the first of the year." The "Times" correspondent added that "the increased taxes would be placed on incomes, other direct taxes and numerous indirect taxes. Through this so-called 'guaranteed inflation' the Government is said to believe that it could prevent widespread speculation on the franc." Regarding his stand on inflation, Finance Minister Loucheur was quoted in an Associated Press message on Dec. 1 as saying, "I remain an anti-inflationist, vigorously, emphatically," the Finance Minister continued, referring to reports he would recommend an increase in currency in circulation of from six to eight billion francs. "I cannot see how we can proceed to any kind of inflation without vigorous con-

trol and without limiting it strictly to the minimum required for the State's needs. The final figure probably will be less than the highest one mentioned' (meaning less than eight billion francs.)" It was added that "M. Loucheur criticized the requirement that the Government consult Parliament whenever an increase in the bank note circulation was needed for commerce and industry, saying he thought the Bank of France should have a special statute covering such eventualities. Concerning the talk of 'gauged inflation,' M. Loucheur remarked 'all inflation is gauged—gauged upon the country's economic future.'"

It was reported in the same dispatch that "quick settlement of France's debt and a 10% levy on capital, payable in thirty annuities, are among the ideas considered by Louis Loucheur, Finance Minister in the new Briand Cabinet, essential to the restoration of France's economic situation." The correspondent further stated that "he emphasized that balancing of the budget must be the first act in cleaning up France's finances. He said he hoped to bring his measures before the Senate and Chamber finance committees to-morrow night and lay the definite bills before Parliament next Monday or Tuesday. 'The present crisis must be dispelled; if it is not, it will lead to a new crisis,' he concluded. 'In this case there are not many solutions. I am open to all suggestions from all sources, for good ideas have no particular complexion.'" According to the dispatch, "the levy on capital will be used to finance a sinking fund and to extinguish short term debts. M. Loucheur will have none of a moratorium or forced conversion of bonds which mature Dec. 8. He will, however, be forced to borrow some eight or nine billion francs."

The Associated Press representative maintained also that "the immediate needs of the Treasury between now and the end of December leave M. Loucheur no option except to resort to inflation for from six to eight billions. The measure Parliament will be asked to vote for him will not call it plain inflation, but 'secured inflation,' the plan being, it is understood, to guarantee the temporary nature of the operation by securing the amount of the yield from increases in certain existing taxes, such as the income tax and other direct taxation, and also on some indirect taxes. This will give the Government time to turn around and take steps to balance the budget and begin work on the redemption of the floating debt and the establishment of a stable currency."

Premier Briand made his declaration of policy on Dec. 2. According to the Associated Press representative in Paris, "Premier Briand, although coolly received when he read the declaration of policy of his new Ministry before the Chamber of Deputies today (Dec. 2) won a partial victory by inducing the Chamber to change its methods of procedure and consider the proposed increase of 7,500,000,000 francs in the monetary circulation before discussing interpellations." He added that "the bill framed by Finance Minister Loucheur, raising the limit of the issue of paper money from 51,000,000,000 to 58,500,000,000 francs, was introduced at once and referred to the Finance Committee, which demanded a suspension of the session until 9 p. m. Upon the required vote between this hour and postponement to

to-morrow, the Finance Committee's demand was carried by 415 to 154. The Ministerial declaration admitted the situation is particularly grave, but says it cannot have irreparable consequences, provided the Government has the confidence of the entire country and the collaboration of both Houses of Parliament." Continuing his synopsis of the declaration, the correspondent said: "The declaration asserts the Government is ready to assume its immediate responsibilities and to enforce the necessary measures to meet the Treasury bonds which fall due Dec. 8. It promises inflation will be limited to the immediate needs of the Treasury, but does not mention the exact amount of new issue which will be embodied in a special bill. The declaration says that, realizing the restoration of French finances cannot be accomplished without loyal agreement with the great nations which are France's creditors, 'the Government will continue earnestly and promptly the negotiations with the Allies concerning debts.' The Government expresses the hope that France's Allies and friends will take into consideration in the forthcoming settlement of France's precarious financial situation the necessity for them to collaborate in the revaluation of the French franc, thus rendering possible the fulfillment of the undertakings entered into by France." According to the dispatch, "the Ministry's declaration was received by the Chamber in impressive silence. The Premier's delivery of it was extremely grave and the Deputies seemed to realize the seriousness of the situation. M. Briand's reference to the Locarno Security Treaty was applauded, but his mention of the necessity of inflation threw a chill over the assembly. The same effect was noticed when he mentioned the proposal to return to the system of district polling."

It was related also that "Joseph Caillaux, former Minister of Finance, a candidate for membership in the Finance Committee of the Senate, was defeated to-day by A. Schrameck, former Minister of the Interior, by 34 votes to 33. M. Caillaux's defeat, however, is considered to be only temporary, as it is expected he will be nominated for the committee without opposition to succeed Senator Henry Berenger, when the latter is appointed Ambassador to Washington. The official announcement of this appointment is expected soon."

It became known through subsequent dispatches that the Chamber was in session the greater part of the time from 4 p. m. Wednesday until 5 o'clock Thursday morning. It was explained that the vote to which reference has been made was not on the declaration of the Ministry. After a stormy all-night session such a vote finally was taken. It stood 298 in favor of the Government to 113 opposed. According to all the dispatches, Premier Briand addressed the Chamber, not only in earnest but even impassioned language. He was quoted as saying that "if the Government falls under your vote it will be received as the utmost tragedy by the country," and also, "if you want to overthrow me do it now." The New York "Herald Tribune" representative said that "the debate was interspersed with bitter wrangling, which included an attack on the Finance Minister. It was evident that the Chamber was reluctant to adopt such a heavy 'padding' of the national currency. Several opposition Deputies insisted that the additional issue of francs would

send the cost of living soaring upward and might result in even graver consequences."

In an Associated Press cable message on Dec. 3 it was stated that "Premier Briand's new Cabinet has won its first victory. After an all-night and all-forenoon fight in the Chamber of Deputies for his financial measures, the Premier succeeded in forcing the adoption of new advances from the Bank of France to the Government of 6,000,000,000 francs and a new paper money issue of 7,500,000,000." It was added that "the final vote on the bill as a whole was made a question of confidence and was carried by 257 to 229, a majority of 28. It was the fifth vote of confidence during the lengthy session. M. Briand made it plain during the debate that the Government was staking its existence on the measure in its entirety and that if the financial program as outlined by Finance Minister Loucheur was rejected the Ministry would step down immediately." It was further explained that "the bill now goes to the Senate, the Finance Committee of which, under Senator Doumer, is meeting this afternoon to examine it. The inflation voted to-day is the fourth measure of the kind in a year to be passed by the Chamber. Before the final vote this morning the Premier in a speech in which he rose to heights of eloquence he has never surpassed, excoriated those Deputies who were unwilling in a national crisis to forget petty political considerations and think only of their country."

The proceedings at the protracted and critical session were dramatically described in part as follows by the Paris representative of the New York "Times" in a dispatch on Dec. 3: "Magnificently, though on one ballot his majority numbered only six, Premier Briand this morning won a victory on the issue whether France should put up the shutters and declare bankruptcy, or whether she would draw another draft on the future, on her own courage to meet taxation, on her own power to work and on the wisdom and rectitude of her leaders. No one living has experienced such a moving session of the Chamber. It began yesterday afternoon at 4 o'clock. Twice during the night it seemed inevitable that the Government would fall. But it ended near noon to-day with a final vote on M. Loucheur's measure of inflation and taxation which gave the Government a majority of 28. In all five votes of confidence were cast. This evening the bill was taken up by the Finance Committee of the Senate, which, after listening to an urgent appeal from Premier Briand to adopt it without modification, did so by a vote of 18 to 3. The higher Chamber will discuss it to-morrow afternoon, when it is expected that it will be approved." The New York "Herald Tribune" correspondent added that "it was common talk in Paris political circles to-night that Premier Briand is the only man in France who could hope to pilot such an audacious proposal into a safe legislative harbor, in view of the present effervescent state of party politics. Only the magnetism of Premier Briand during the continuous debate in the Chamber of almost fourteen hours ended at noon to-day saved France from another spasm of dangerous political bedlam, with the bankruptcy of the Treasury in its wake." Discussion of the financial bill in the Senate began yesterday afternoon. It was predicted in Paris dispatches last evening that it certainly would be adopted.

Both Premier Briand and Finance Minister Loucheur have indicated that the French Government was desirous of taking up negotiations for a settlement of its external war debts. Partly as an aid to making this desire effective in the case of the United States a change has been made in the French Ambassador at Washington. On Dec. 1 the Paris representative of the New York "Herald Tribune" cabled that "Senator Victor Henri Berenger is preparing to sail for Washington to succeed Emile Daeschner as French Ambassador to the United States. Although Senator Berenger has told his friends of his impending appointment, it was stated at the Foreign Office this afternoon that the official announcement would be deferred until the return of Premier Briand from London to-morrow." He explained that "M. Berenger's chief mission will be to reopen the negotiations for funding France's war debt to the United States. With Louis Loucheur, Finance Minister, he has made a thorough study of the problem and is equipped with first-hand knowledge gained as a member of the recent Caillaux mission to Washington. He is expected to have his course of procedure well defined when he sails in the near future for his new post." As to the chief reason for the change, the correspondent further stated that, "according to members of the new Briand Cabinet, M. Berenger's present task will be to occupy himself almost solely with the debt question, and it was said that he had been selected for the appointment because he was considered the best man in France to carry out such a mission. His qualifications are many and it was undoubtedly because he wished to become Ambassador that he declined M. Briand's offer a few days ago to be Finance Minister. He has held many important Government positions relating to financial and economic matters and he will resign his present post as Chairman of the Senate Finance Commission as soon as his diplomatic appointment is officially announced."

The following bits of information regarding the new Ambassador will be of interest: "M. Berenger is 58 years old and speaks and writes English fluently. Though his Senatorial mandate is from the French West Indian colony of Guadeloupe, which he has represented since 1912, he is a native Frenchman. He is a graduate of the University of Paris and outside of politics his chief avocation is writing. His hobbies are fencing and swimming and his recreations are traveling, reading and walking. His literary works include 'The Intellectual Aristocracy,' 'The Intellectual Proletariat,' and 'The National Conscience.' He also has edited several reviews and contributed to many newspapers, including his recent series for 'Le Matin.'"

On Dec. 3 M. Daeschner, French Ambassador to the United States, notified Secretary of the Treasury Mellon that he was in receipt of a cablegram from Minister of Finance Loucheur stating that "when assuming the post of *Ministre des Finances* he has the strongest desire to have the debt question settled as soon as possible on a basis acceptable to both nations." The Washington representative of the New York "Times" said in a dispatch on the evening of Dec. 3 that "so important was M. Daeschner's communication considered that the subject of the French debt was discussed at some length at a meeting of the American Commission which was called unexpectedly for 3 o'clock this afternoon. It was re-

ported that the American officials had received additional information through their diplomatic agents in France, but they refused to discuss such details. The understanding here is that the Briand Government will adopt quite different tactics than those followed by M. Caillaux and his commission of experts which came to this country and that much of the discussion probably will be through the ordinary diplomatic channels."

Military rule in Spain, which had been in effect since September 1923, when the Alhucenas Ministry was overthrown by a military coup, came to an end on Dec. 2. General Primo de Rivera, "who was President of the military directorate, remains at the head of the Government as Premier." The Associated Press representative in Madrid cabled on Dec. 2 that "the return to civilian rule, while expected, came with dramatic suddenness. Immediately upon the announcement of the new Government the Cabinet list was given out." Professor Yanguas is Foreign Minister and the Minister of Finance is Senor Calvo Sotelo. The new Government actually took the oath of office at 11 a. m. on Dec. 3. It was stated that it is "one-half military men and one-half civilians." In explanation of the return to a civilian Government the new Premier was quoted as asserting that the situation had been sufficiently cleared since the installation of the military dictatorship to permit the formation of a new Government. "We have the country with us and with the sovereign's approval we can do nothing better for Spain," he declared."

It was stated in an Associated Press dispatch from Madrid on Dec. 3 that "the new Cabinet to-day sent a circular to all the civil Governors, saying that the military Directorate has been discontinued at the 'height of its power' and that the new Government would continue its work. The circular added that Spain during the twenty-six months of the Directorate regime had enjoyed more peace and prosperity than it had known in the twentieth century." It was added that "the first meeting of the new Ministry was held at 6 o'clock to-night."

The same day, Dec. 2, word came from Madrid through a special cable dispatch to the New York "Herald Tribune" that President Manuel Teixeira Gomes of the Portuguese Republic has presented his resignation to Parliament to take effect next Monday. Reports from Lisbon say that Duart Leite or Bernardino Machado probably will be candidates to succeed him. The political situation in Portugal presents great difficulties and it is believed a Ministerial crisis is imminent."

The Treaty of Locarno and the accompanying arbitration pacts have been legalized and "the nations involved have sworn faithfully to observe the historic compacts." This was accomplished in London on Dec. 1 by the affixing of the signatures of the duly accredited representatives of the participating Powers. The ceremony took place in the famous golden reception room of the Foreign Office. The signing began at 11.25 a. m. and took only six minutes. It was stated in an Associated Press dispatch, however, that afternoon that "in a brief ten minutes the efforts of months of negotiations had been legalized, and the nations involved had sworn faithfully to observe the historic compacts." The foreign statesmen were welcomed by Foreign Secretary

Chamberlain, while Chancellor Luther of Germany was the most prominent of those who spoke in reply. Premier Briand was quoted as saying: "I can see across the table the German Chancellor and I am sure I can tell him that I have remained a good Frenchman, just as he in coming here has remained a good German—but both of us are Europeans." It was stated that "the treaty was first handed to Chancellor Luther and then to Foreign Minister Stresemann, Foreign Minister Vandervelde of Belgium, Premier Briand of France and Premier Baldwin of Great Britain. All these used ordinary pens, but Foreign Secretary Chamberlain took up a gold quill to add his name. Signor Scialoja for Italy, Count Skrzynski for Poland and Dr. Benes for Czechoslovakia, completed the signatures. Then the arbitration pacts negotiated at Locarno were rapidly passed to the delegates." It was added that "the final act of the delegates was to send a telegram of thanks to the municipality of Locarno for its hospitality during the negotiation of the documents."

In further describing the ceremony the Associated Press correspondent in Paris gave the following human interest touches: "The room was crowded at the ceremony, the assemblage including Great Britain's leading statesmen, her Ambassadors at the capitals of the signatory Powers, the diplomatic corps and the privileged representatives of the press. On a raised platform sat the wives of plenipotentiaries. On another side of the room was a family group of the Chamberlains, Lady Chamberlain, her son and her brother-in-law, Neville Chamberlain, watching the conclusion of the diplomatic triumph of the head of their family. In the background hovered the Earl of Balfour and Lord Cecil, who almost for the first time since the beginning of their political careers, were witnessing a signing ceremony in which they were not the principal actors."

As to subsequent events during the day, the correspondent said: "After the signing the German plenipotentiaries proceeded to Buckingham Palace to sign the register. Afterward they joined the other plenipotentiaries as guests at a luncheon given by Lady Chamberlain. As a manifestation of women's part in the cause of peace several women were invited, including Lady Astor and Mrs. Baldwin, wife of the Prime Minister. King George later received all the pact signatories at Buckingham Palace." The Associated Press correspondent added that, "in a brief statement Mr. Chamberlain said the conclusion of the Locarno pact had settled the problem of security, while the peace of Europe had been consolidated by the adhesion of Great Britain and Italy. The treaties, he said, were the outcome of a sincere desire on the part of the nations concerned for peace and reconciliation. They banished war, he declared, and provided for the automatic ostracism of any eventual aggressor. To those thinking the pact did not go far enough, he remarked, he would answer that it led straight to disarmament by creating a new sense of security, and said proof of this was that the Council of the League of Nations would prepare a disarmament plan for presentation to the next Assembly."

Following the adoption of the Locarno treaties by the German Reichstag on the evening of Nov. 27, by a vote of 300 to 174, President von Hindenburg, the very next evening, Nov. 28, signed the Act making them German law. In commenting upon the

departure of Chancellor Luther and Foreign Minister Stresemann for London to sign the treaties in behalf of the German Government, the Berlin correspondent of the New York "Times" said that "Wilhelmstrasse is hopeful that this ceremony will be coincident with negotiations leading to further Allied concessions in the Rhineland and removal of present limitations on German air activity."

The point was stressed in Berlin cable advices that, having signed the treaty the German Government would make renewed efforts to lessen the number of foreign troops in the Rhineland. The Berlin representative of the New York "Herald Tribune" cabled on Nov. 27, "that Locarno is the beginning and not the end, and that the Government intends energetically to obey the Reichstag's order to continue efforts to lighten the Rhineland occupation, were suggested by a dispatch from Mainz and by significant comment in Stresemann's newspaper to-night. The dispatch from Mainz says that while the Allied withdrawal from Cologne reduces the total number of troops to 30,000, a regrouping in the Mainz region leaves the total number of French troops there practically the same. The German request that troops in the occupation area be no more than the German troops formerly there when it was a fortified area was not granted. The French will keep three army corps there, or more than twice as many men as Germany formerly maintained in the same region."

The Reichstag, on Nov. 27 also approved a proposal for the entry of Germany into the League of Nations. The vote in this instance was 278 to 183. According to a special Geneva dispatch to the New York "Times" on Nov. 27, "League of Nations officials said to-day that Germany would not apply for admission to the League before February, despite the fact that the Locarno accords were ratified by the Reichstag. As regulations require the elapse of a month between the convocation of a special Assembly and the holding of the Assembly, this would mean that the extraordinary meeting of the League members to admit Germany will not be held before March. Then, presumably, both the Council and Assembly will concurrently elect Germany to a permanent seat in the League of Nations' Council."

Announcement was made in a special cable dispatch from the Geneva correspondent of the New York "Times" on Dec. 1 that "Germany on the day of the signing of the Treaty of Locarno has filed with the League of Nations eleven conventions and commercial accords with eight countries. The agreements are with Austria, Spain, Portugal, Belgium, Esthonia, Sweden, Poland and Czechoslovakia."

After several weeks of renewed controversy the Irish boundary question "has been settled between the British Government and the representatives of the Free State and Ulster." The London representative of the New York "Herald Tribune" cabled on the evening of Dec. 3 that "Premier Baldwin interrupted a tariff debate in the House of Commons to-night to announce the terms, which follow the lines anticipated by political observers. The present boundary between north and south Ireland will stand and the powers of the Boundary Commission will be revoked." He outlined the terms as follows: "The Free State will be released from its liabilities under Article 5 of the Anglo-Irish treaty, Mr. Bald-

win said, under which it had agreed to assume its share of the public debt of the United Kingdom and the payment of war pensions. On the other hand, a new agreement provides that the Free State will assume the British Government's liability for mischievous damage in Free State territory since January 1919. The Free State also agrees to promote legislation to increase by 10% the compensation for malicious damage to property within its territory. The Governments of both north and south Ireland agree to meet to consider matters of common interest. Any agreement they may reach will be subject to confirmation of the British Government. A bill will have to be introduced in the House of Commons in order to abrogate the powers of the Boundary Commission and make necessary amendments in the Anglo-Irish treaty. The new Irish agreement was signed to-night just as Big Ben, the famous clock on the House of Parliament, was striking eight. It was initialed in the Premier's room in the House of Commons by Stanley Baldwin, Winston Churchill, Sir William Joynson-Hicks, Lord Birkenhead and Lieutenant-Colonel L. S. Amery, for the British Government; by Sir James Craig and Secretary Blackmore of the Northern Ireland Parliament, for Ulster, and by President Cosgrave and Ministers O'Higgins, Blythe and O'Byrne for the Free State."

According to cable advices received this week several changes have taken place in official bank rates at leading European centres. The Bank of England on Thursday announced an advance to 5%, as against 4%, the rate established on Oct. 1, when it was reduced from 4½%, the level prevailing since the previous Aug. 6. Another advance was that of the Bank of Belgium, which has raised its discount rate ½ of 1% to 7%; the previous 6½% rate having been in effect only since Nov. 5, while the Bank of India on Thursday reported an advance from 5% to 6%. The Bank of Czechoslovakia reduced its rate from 7 to 6½%, this being the first change since March 25. Aside from these alterations, bank rates continue to be quoted at 9% in Berlin; 7% in Italy; 6% in Paris; 5½% in Denmark; 5% in Madrid and Norway; 4½% in Sweden, and 3½% in Holland and Switzerland. In London open market discount rates were higher for both long and short bills, the closing quotation in each instance being 4-9-16%, against 3⅞@4% last week. Call money also was firmer and closed at 3%, as compared with 2⅞% a week ago. At Paris and Switzerland open market discounts have not been changed from 4⅝% and 2⅞%, respectively.

Another substantial contraction in gold holdings (£1,074,305) was shown by this week's Bank of England statement, and this was accompanied, moreover, by further expansion in note circulation of £1,330,000, so that reserve of gold and notes in the banking department declined £2,404,000, while the proportion of reserve to liabilities fell to 15.98%, which compares with 19.51% last week and 21.54% the week before that. At this time a year ago the ratio stood at 17% and in 1923 at 14½%. There were again striking changes in the deposit and loan items. Public deposits were reduced £5,748,000, while "other" deposits expanded £18,483,000. Loans on Government securities increased £20,840,000, although loans on "other" securities fell £5,653,000. The Bank's stock of gold is down to £145,659,957, as

against £128,494,720 a year ago (before the transfer to the Bank of England of the £27,000,000 gold formerly held by the Redemption Account of the Currency Note issue), and £127,873,230 a year earlier. Reserve amounts to £22,129,000, which compares with £24,448,655 in 1924 and £21,511,440 the year before. Note circulation is £143,284,000, in comparison with £123,796,065 and £126,111,790 one and two years ago, respectively, while loans aggregate £71,695,000, as against £72,851,663 last year and £74,361,605 in 1923. As shown elsewhere in this section, the Bank of England governors on Thursday announced an advance of 1% to 5% in the official discount rate, for the purpose of stemming the drain upon its gold reserves and preventing further depletion of foreign balances. We append herewith comparisons of the different items of the Bank of England return for a series of years:

	1925. Dec. 2.	1924. Dec. 3.	1923. Dec. 5.	1922. Dec. 6.	1921. Dec. 7.
	£	£	£	£	£
Circulation.....	143,284,000	123,796,065	126,111,790	123,063,855	124,961,865
Public deposits.....	8,526,000	10,399,575	11,209,522	11,142,202	11,995,996
Other deposits.....	129,925,000	133,269,701	136,601,297	126,553,624	142,742,660
Govt'm't securities	62,438,000	64,152,363	69,724,056	66,892,091	70,064,254
Other securities.....	71,695,000	72,851,663	74,361,605	65,830,847	80,636,460
Reserve notes & coin	22,129,000	24,448,655	21,511,440	22,839,912	21,921,711
Coin and bullion.....	145,659,957	128,494,720	127,873,230	127,446,768	128,433,570
Proportion of reserve to liabilities.....	15.98%	17%	14½%	16½%	14½%
Bank rate.....	5%	4%	4%	3%	5%

* Raised from 4% to 5% on Thursday Dec. 3.

a Includes, beginning with April 29 1925, £27,000,000 gold coin and bullion previously held as security for currency note issues and which was transferred to the Bank of England on the British Government's decision to return to the gold standard.

b Beginning with the statement for April 29 1925, includes £27,000,000 of Bank of England notes issued in return for the same amount of gold coin and bullion held up to that time in redemption account of currency note issue.

The Bank of France in its return the present week showed an expansion of 1,098,214,000 francs in note circulation, bringing the total outstanding up to a new high level at 49,183,657,555 francs. Last year at this time note circulation stood at 40,447,011,195 francs and the year before at 37,939,332,650 francs. The French Government borrowed 1,550,000,000 francs from the Bank during the week, raising the total of advances to the State to 33,450,000,000 francs. The maximum of advances was on Nov. 23 fixed by the French Parliament at 33,500,000,000 francs. The gold item continues to record small gains. This week's gain, namely 21,550 francs, brings the total of the gold holdings up to 5,547,806,000 francs in comparison with 5,544,777,794 francs for the corresponding date last year and 5,539,875,630 francs the year before. Of these amounts, 1,864,320,907 francs were held abroad in each of the years. Increases were registered in the various other items as follows: Silver, 1,628,000 francs; bills discounted, 1,113,292,000 francs; advances, 60,558,000 francs; treasury deposits, 31,633,000 francs, and general deposits, 233,390,000 francs. Comparisons of the different items in this week's return with the statement of last week and corresponding dates in both 1924 and 1923 are as follows:

	Changes for Week. Francs.	Dec. 3 1925. Francs.	Status as of Dec. 4 1924. Francs.	Dec. 6 1923. Francs.
Gold Holdings—				
In France.....Inc.	21,550	3,683,485,093	3,680,456,886	3,675,554,722
Abroad.....Unchanged		1,864,320,907	1,864,320,907	1,864,320,907
Total.....Inc.	21,550	5,547,806,000	5,544,777,794	5,539,875,630
Silver.....Inc.	1,628,000	316,767,016	304,650,037	296,194,474
Bills discounted.....Inc	1,113,292,000	4,701,703,524	5,595,056,009	3,173,588,403
Advances.....Inc	60,558,000	2,622,259,821	2,715,056,897	2,426,579,507
Note circulation.....Inc	1,098,214,000	49,183,657,555	40,447,011,195	37,939,332,650
Treasury deposits.....Inc.	31,633,000	40,758,708	17,659,218	15,417,449
General deposits.....Inc.	233,390,000	7,996,043,730	1,976,471,061	2,097,671,527

The weekly statement of the German Reichsbank, issued under date of Nov. 30, revealed some impor-

tant changes, reflecting the strain of meeting Dec. 1 settlements. Note circulation expanded 347,032,000 marks, which contrasts with a decline last week. However, other maturing obligations were brought down 380,976,000 marks and other liabilities 11,956,000 marks. On the assets' side, the Bank reported an increase in holdings of bills of exchange and checks of 270,231,000 marks, while advances moved up 12,241,000 marks and reserve in foreign currencies 9,924,000 marks. Silver and other coins decreased 2,095,000 marks, and holdings of notes of other banks 23,527,000 marks. Other assets fell heavily, declining 312,907,000 marks. Investments were increased nominally 271,000 marks. Gold and bullion holdings remained almost stationary, there having been a gain of only 62,000 marks, to 1,207,262,000 marks. This total compares with 695,487,000 marks a year ago and 467,025,000 in 1923. Note circulation outstanding amounts to 2,770,882,000 marks.

The Federal Reserve banks' statements that were issued at the close of business on Thursday, continued to reflect increased demands for funds. Expansion was shown in rediscounting operations, although there was a moderate contraction in open market dealings. The report of the System showed a loss in gold of \$3,200,000. Rediscounts of bills secured by Government paper fell \$31,800,000. "Other" bills, however, gained \$50,900,000, so that total bills discounted for the week expanded \$19,100,000. Holdings of bills bought in the open market decreased \$1,700,000. Total bills and securities (earning assets) were larger by \$26,300,000, while deposits gained \$22,200,000. An increase was also reported in Federal Reserve notes in actual circulation by \$11,200,000 and in member bank reserve accounts by \$15,900,000. The New York Bank reported an addition to gold of \$4,800,000. Rediscounting operations followed a parallel course with those of the banks as a group, namely a drop (\$32,700,000) in Government secured paper, and a gain of \$27,900,000 in "other" bills. Open market purchases remained almost stationary, declining \$600,000. Total bills and securities increased \$4,700,000 and deposits \$14,300,000. Federal Reserve notes in actual circulation decreased \$900,000, but member bank reserve accounts expanded \$18,500,000. The immediate effect of the additions to deposits, in the absence of heavier gold reserves, was to lower reserve ratios slightly. The ratio of the combined System declined 0.6%, to 70.5%; locally there was also a drop of 0.6%, to 79.0%.

Last Saturday's statement of New York Clearing House banks and trust companies indicated a further reduction in surplus, notwithstanding the fact that deposits decreased. In detail the figures reveal that loans expanded moderately, \$1,037,000, but that net demand deposits were reduced \$57,737,000, to \$4,439,947,000, which is exclusive of \$10,004,000 in Government deposits. As against this, time deposits were added to in amount of \$11,125,000, to \$575,652,000. Cash in own vaults of members of the Federal Reserve Bank were again increased, \$2,482,000, to \$51,220,000. This total, however, is not counted as reserve. State bank and trust company reserves in own vaults were augmented \$432,000 and reserves held by these institutions in other depositories were augmented by \$11,000. Member banks drew down

their reserves at the Federal Reserve Bank by \$19,897,000, with the result that although deposits decreased, surplus reserve fell \$12,317,540, to \$10,061,440. The above figures for surplus are based on legal reserve requirements of 13% against demand deposits for member banks of the Federal Reserve System, but not including \$51,220,000 cash in vault held by these member banks on Saturday last.

The fact that call money ruled at 5% was regarded in most circles as indicative of the evenness more than the firmness of the local money market. The most significant fact was that there were sufficient funds to meet all requirements. Yesterday, for instance, although it was Friday and the sales of stock on the Stock Exchange were substantially in excess of 2,000,000 shares, the demand was not excessive. Call money in the outside market was said to have been obtainable at 4½%. It had been predicted that, with the return of the Dec. 1 disbursements to the usual channels, call money would drop below 5% before the end of this week. That it did not easily may have been due to the large collateral loans already outstanding, the renewed speculative activity in the stock market and to the expansion in general business. It is rather freely predicted that the volume of trade will increase throughout this month and probably in the early part of next year. Car loadings for the 18th consecutive week were in excess of 1,000,000 cars. Another substantial increase in the unfilled orders of the United States Steel Corporation as of Nov. 30 is looked for. The investment market, in anticipation of the large Jan. 1 disbursements, has been more active. New offerings have been on a larger scale. Apparently several good-sized foreign loans are soon to be brought out in this market.

Referring to money rates in detail, the call loan varied little the entire week. Although there was a range of 5@5½%, with the exception of a brief period on Monday when a high point of 5½% was touched, the only quotation named was 5%, so that on the four remaining business days of the week, from Tuesday to Friday, 5% was the high, the low and the renewal basis at which call funds were negotiated. This compares with last week's range of 4½@5%. For fixed date maturities the situation was not greatly changed. The undertone of the market was firm with offerings less plentiful; hence at the end of the week, the longer periods from ninety days to six months were quoted at 5%, the trading rate, against 4⅞@5% a week ago; the sixty day rate was not changed from 4⅞%. The volume of business passing was small.

Mercantile paper rates have not been changed from 4¼@4½% for four to six months' names of choice character, with 4½% required for names not so well known. New England mill paper and the shorter choice names are still being dealt in at 4¼%. Trading was moderately active with most of the business furnished by out of town institutions.

Banks' and bankers' acceptances ruled quiet with nothing new to report. A firm tone prevailed. Country banks were the principal buyers, but the aggregate turnover was limited, since the inquiry was light in keeping with the stiffening in the call division. For call loans against bankers' acceptances the posted rate of the American Acceptance Council was advanced and is now 4½%, against 4¼% last

week. The Acceptance Council makes the discount rate on prime bankers' acceptances eligible for purchase by the Federal Reserve banks $3\frac{3}{8}\%$ bid and $3\frac{1}{4}\%$ asked for bills running 30 days, $3\frac{1}{2}\%$ bid and $3\frac{3}{8}\%$ asked for 60 days, $3\frac{5}{8}\%$ bid and $3\frac{1}{2}\%$ asked for 90 days, $3\frac{3}{4}\%$ bid and $3\frac{5}{8}\%$ asked for 120 days, $3\frac{7}{8}\%$ bid and $3\frac{3}{4}\%$ asked for 150 days, and 4% bid and $3\frac{7}{8}\%$ asked for 180 days. Open market quotations are as follows:

SPOT DELIVERY.			
	90 Days.	60 Days	30 Day.
Prime eligible bills.....	$3\frac{3}{4}$ @ $3\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$ @ $3\frac{3}{4}$	$3\frac{1}{4}$ @ $3\frac{1}{2}$
FOR DELIVERY WITHIN THIRTY DAYS.			
Eligible member banks..... $3\frac{3}{4}$ bid		
Eligible non-member banks..... $3\frac{5}{8}$ bid		

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

DISCOUNT RATES OF FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS IN EFFECT
DECEMBER 4 1925.

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK.	Paper Maturing—					
	Within 90 Days.				After 90 Days, but Within 6 Months.	After 6 Months.
	Com'otal Agricul & Livestock Paper. n.e.s.	Secured by U. S. Govern't Obligations.	Bankers' Acceptances.	Trade Acceptances.	Agricul. and Livestock Paper.	Agricul and Livestock Paper
Boston.....	4	4	4	4	4	4
New York.....	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$
Philadelphia.....	4	4	4	4	4	4
Cleveland.....	4	4	4	4	4	4
Richmond.....	4	4	4	4	4	4
Atlanta.....	4	4	4	4	4	4
Chicago.....	4	4	4	4	4	4
St. Louis.....	4	4	4	4	4	4
Minneapolis.....	4	4	4	4	4	4
Kansas City.....	4	4	4	4	4	4
Dallas.....	4	4	4	4	4	4
San Francisco.....	4	4	4	4	4	4

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

The outstanding event of the week as regards the sterling exchange market was the marking up of the English Bank rate on Thursday, after a week or more of contradictory and conflicting rumors on the subject. For the second time in the space of less than two months the Bank of England took action suddenly and without warning. The advance to 5% caused a small ripple in sterling exchange circles and resulted in an advance of about $\frac{3}{4}$ c. to $4\ 84\frac{7}{8}$ for demand, accompanied by a moderate increase in trading activity. Prior to this development, the sterling market was all but stagnant and prices displayed a sagging tendency, with demand selling between $4\ 84\ 1-16$ and $4\ 84\ 3-16$. In a general way, however, a growing feeling of optimism prevailed and some predictions were heard that sterling was due for a rise to 4.85, or over, independent of what the British banking authorities might do; hence few attempts were made to ship gold, even when sterling had dipped sufficiently to make such transactions profitable. The advance in the Bank of England rate naturally turned attention to the question as to whether the New York Federal Reserve Bank would follow suit. Opinion was divided on this point, but it was almost unanimously conceded that if an advance were to be announced, it would only be $\frac{1}{2}\%$, thus preserving the "differential" between the rates of the two institutions. As it turned out, no change was made. The least favorable aspect of the increase in the English Bank rate will of course be its adverse affect on British trade and industry. But this is not expected to make itself felt for sometime. Good buying developed on Thursday on the part of banks who were adding to their London balances, also buying for short term investments and this sent prices up to the highest level of

the week. Improvement, on the surface at least, in France's political status, and the ratification of the momentous Locarno pacts lent buoyancy to the undertone of the market.

Referring to the more detailed quotations, sterling exchange on Saturday last was easier and demand sold down to $4\ 84\ 3-16$ (one rate), cabled transfers to $4\ 84\ 9-16$ and sixty days to $4\ 80\ 15-16$; trading was dull. On Monday there was a recession to around the gold shipment point and the range was $4\ 84\ 1-16$ @ $4\ 84\ 3-16$ for demand, $4\ 84\ 7-16$ @ $4\ 84\ 9-16$ for cable transfers and $4\ 80\ 13-16$ @ $4\ 80\ 15-16$ for sixty days. Sterling moved within narrow limits on Tuesday, with demand at $4\ 84\ 1-16$ @ $4\ 84\frac{1}{8}$, cable transfers at $4\ 84\ 7-16$ @ $4\ 84\frac{1}{2}$, and sixty days at $4\ 83\ 15-16$ @ $4\ 84$; the market continued inactive. Wednesday's market was dull and prices not changed from $4\ 84\ 1-16$ @ $4\ 84\frac{1}{8}$ for demand, $4\ 84\ 7-16$ @ $4\ 84\frac{1}{2}$ for cable transfers, and $4\ 80\ 13-16$ @ $4\ 80\frac{7}{8}$ for sixty days. On Thursday sterling responded to the rise in the Bank of England rate to 5%, by an advance of 3-16c. to $4\ 84\frac{1}{4}$ @ $4\ 84\ 9-16$ for demand, while cable transfers ranged between $4\ 84\frac{5}{8}$ @ $4\ 84\ 15-16$ and sixty days at $4\ 81$ @ $4\ 81\ 15-16$; trading was quite active for a time. Increased activity developed on Friday, so that demand bills rose fractionally to $4\ 84\frac{1}{2}$ @ $4\ 84\frac{7}{8}$, cable transfers to $4\ 84\frac{7}{8}$ @ $4\ 85\frac{1}{4}$ and sixty days to $4\ 81\frac{1}{4}$ @ $4\ 81\frac{5}{8}$; the market was quieter. Closing quotations were $4\ 81\frac{5}{8}$ for sixty days, $4\ 84\frac{7}{8}$ for demand and $4\ 85\frac{1}{4}$ for cable transfers. Commercial sight bills finished at $4\ 84\frac{3}{4}$, sixty days at $4\ 81\frac{1}{8}$, ninety days at $4\ 80\frac{1}{8}$, documents for payment (sixty days) at $4\ 81\frac{3}{8}$ and seven-day grain bills at $4\ 83\frac{5}{8}$. Cotton and grain for payment closed at $4\ 84\frac{3}{4}$.

No gold engagements for this country have been reported the present week, although the Bank of England exported the precious metal heavily, mainly to the Straits Settlements, Holland and India. The Holland shipments were said to be in part payment of Great Britain's purchase from Holland of the Allied Sumatra Rubber Estates. The Japanese Government is shipping \$2,000,000 in gold to San Francisco via the S. S. Shinyo Maru, making the fifth shipment of gold from Japan to this country inside of three months.

Movements in the Continental exchanges continued to show irregularity, and while the general trend was toward higher levels, net gains were moderate, and restricted to a few currencies only. French affairs were again a dominating influence in the European exchange markets and francs moved alternately up or down in response to the kaleidoscopic political happenings in that distracted Republic. Franc exchange opened firm at a few points above the high of last Friday, namely $3.88\frac{1}{4}$, then advanced to 4.01, but later in the week dropped back to $3.75\frac{1}{4}$, though closing at 3.90. In the early dealings the rally was predicated on M. Briand's success in forming a new Cabinet headed by popular leaders, also announcement by this Cabinet that one of its first actions would be to press settlement of France's war debts. Confidence in the ability of M. Loucheur as a financier aided in the advance. This was largely sentimental, however, and in part due to short-covering operations, and it soon developed that important banking institutions were not buying. Sober second thought brought a realization of the fact that little short of a miracle will be re-

quired to tide the Treasury over the approaching year-end crisis, at least without resort to further material inflation, also that M. Briand is still faced with the task of passing his new measures through the French Senate. By Wednesday, therefore, a heavy break occurred, carrying the franc more than 25 points down, mainly on reports that the Briand Ministry contemplated the advocacy of sundry inflationary measures and the hated capital levy. M. Loucheur's proposals to increase the legal limit of note circulation 7,500,000,000 francs and at the same time raise direct taxation 50% at first, met with an unfavorable reception and exercised a sharply depressing effect, with the usual ineffectual rush to sell francs and renewed exportation of capital. Toward the latter part of the week some of the losses were regained, partly in sympathy with the advance in sterling and partly because the Bank of France statement proved more favorable than had been expected, and also acceptance by the French Chamber of the Loucheur proposals.

Most of the activity in French exchange emanated from abroad, and local dealers continued to maintain an attitude of aloofness. Other branches of the market were also inactive. Italian lire were comparatively steady, ruling at around 4.03 the greater part of the week, on a small volume of trading. Antwerp francs were likewise unaffected by the variations in Paris exchange and were held at close to 4.52. German and Austrian exchanges are still nominal, in the absence of trading activity. Greek currency was dull but stable at around 1.33. In the minor exchanges of the Central European group, no important changes occurred save in Polish zlotys, which again crashed violently, establishing another sensationally low point at 10, or an additional loss in value of 4.60 from the low of last week. This was the direct result of a renewal of heavy speculative selling, also the flight of capital out of Poland due to nervousness over the political crisis that has arisen from the overthrow of the Grabski cabinet, together with lack of confidence in Poland's currency, and banking difficulties generally. It is stated that Poland has completely exhausted its banking credits in the United States and will have to seek aid elsewhere. Loss of the German market for Polish coal, as well as a prolonged tariff war with Germany are believed to have been at bottom of Poland's troubles, which have been aggravated by the restrictions in both foreign and domestic credits that followed the first collapse in the price of the zloty and attended by serious disorganization of the banking of the country. It is claimed that an attempt will be made to secure American aid for support of Polish currency and at the close there was a recovery to 13.

The London check rate on Paris closed at 126.92, which compares with 125.56 a week ago. In New York, sight bills on the French centre finished at 3.87, against 3.86 $\frac{1}{4}$; cable transfers at 3.88, against 3.87 $\frac{1}{4}$; commercial sight bills at 3.86, against 3.85 $\frac{1}{4}$, and commercial sixty days at 3.81 $\frac{1}{2}$, against 3.80 $\frac{3}{4}$ last week. Antwerp francs closed at 4.52 for checks and at 4.53 for cable transfers, in comparison with 4.51 $\frac{1}{2}$ and 4.52 $\frac{1}{2}$ the previous week. Final quotations on Berlin marks were 23.81 (one rate) for both checks and cable transfers, against 23.81 $\frac{1}{4}$ a week ago. Austrian kronen continue to be quoted at 0.0014 $\frac{1}{8}$, without change. Lire finished the week at 4.02 $\frac{3}{4}$ for bankers' sight bills and at 4.03 $\frac{3}{4}$ for cable remittances. Last week the close

was 4.03 and 4.04. Exchange on Czechoslovakia closed at 2.96 $\frac{3}{8}$, against 2.96 $\frac{1}{4}$ on Bucharest at 0.46 $\frac{1}{8}$, against 0.45 $\frac{1}{4}$, and on Finland at 2.52 $\frac{1}{4}$ against 2.52 $\frac{1}{2}$. Polish zlotys finished at 13, against 14.60 a week earlier. Greek drachmae closed at 1.33 for checks and at 1.33 $\frac{1}{2}$ for cable transfers, which compares with 1.32 and 1.33 on Friday of last week.

Trading was quiet and rate variations comparatively narrow in the former neutral exchanges this week. Guilders held their own and gained a couple of points, though losing it at the close. Swiss francs hovered around 19.26 $\frac{3}{4}$ @19.27 and closed at 19.28. The Scandinavians were neglected. Danish exchange receded about 6 points, to 20.84, and Norwegian krone eased off to 20.26, a loss of 5 points, on small dealings. In the late trading, however, a partial recovery took place. Swedish exchange remained practically unchanged. Spanish pesetas moved in the same direction and after ruling within a point or two of 14.17, declined to 14.13, but rallied sharply on Friday to 14.29 before the close on short covering. The sharp up and down movements in some of the major Continentals apparently had no influence on values of neutral exchange.

Bankers' sight on Amsterdam closed at 40.18, against 40.17 $\frac{1}{2}$; cable transfers at 40.20, against 40.19 $\frac{1}{2}$; commercial sight bills at 40.10, against 40.09 $\frac{1}{2}$, and commercial sixty days at 39.74, against 39.73 $\frac{1}{2}$ last week. Closing rates on Swiss francs were 19.28 for bankers' sight bills and 19.29 for cable transfers, which compares with 19.26 and 19.27 a week ago. Copenhagen checks finished at 24.98 and cable transfers at 25.02, against 24.82 and 24.86. Checks on Sweden closed at 26.71 and cable transfers at 26.75, against 26.72 and 26.76, while checks on Norway finished at 20.35 and cable transfers at 20.31, against 20.39 and 20.34 $\frac{1}{2}$ the preceding week. Spanish pesetas closed the week at 14.29 for checks and at 14.31 for cable transfers. A week ago the close was 14.16 $\frac{1}{2}$ and 14.18 $\frac{1}{2}$.

As to South American exchange, irregularity again prevailed, though trading was not especially active. Argentine pesos continue to appreciate and finished at 41.51 for checks and at 41.56 for cable transfers, against 41.43 and 41.48. Brazilian milreis on the other hand, were heavy, reaching a new low level of 13.87, mainly as a result of preparations to meet forthcoming interest payments abroad. The close was at 13.95 for checks and at 14.00 for cable transfers, as against 14.16 and 14.21 last week. Chilean exchange was strong and advanced to 12.32, though closing at 12.24, against 12.25, while Peru remained at 3 98, unchanged.

Far Eastern exchange was favorably affected by buoyancy in the silver market; that is, so far as the Chinese division was concerned, while Japanese yen advanced to as high as 44 $\frac{1}{4}$ for a time. Hong Kong finished at 58 $\frac{3}{8}$ @58 $\frac{3}{4}$, against 58 $\frac{1}{8}$ @58 $\frac{5}{8}$; Shanghai at 77 $\frac{3}{8}$ @78, against 78@78 $\frac{1}{4}$; Yokohama at 43 $\frac{1}{4}$ @43 9-16, against 43 $\frac{1}{4}$ @43 $\frac{5}{8}$; Manila at 50@50 $\frac{1}{4}$ (unchanged); Singapore at 57@57 $\frac{3}{8}$ (unchanged); Bombay at 36 $\frac{1}{4}$ @37 (unchanged), and Calcutta at 36 $\frac{3}{4}$ @37 (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 coun-

tries 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. NOV. 28 1925 TO DEC. 4 1925, INCLUSIVE.

Country and Monetary Unit.	Noon Buying Rate for Cable Transfers in New York Value in United States Money.					
	Nov. 28.	Nov. 30.	Dec. 1.	Dec. 2.	Dec. 3.	Dec. 4.
EUROPE—						
Austria, schilling*.....	1.4057	1.4060	1.4054	1.4062	1.4053	1.4059
Belgium, franc.....	.0452	.0453	.0453	.0453	.0452	.0453
Bulgaria, lev.....	.007272	.007300	.007288	.007300	.007284	.007294
Czechoslovakia, krone.....	.029614	.029617	.029613	.029615	.029611	.029615
Denmark, krone.....	.2491	.2488	.2486	.2488	.2490	.2500
England, pound sterling.....	4.8454	4.8452	4.8441	4.8446	4.8474	4.8502
Finland, marka.....	.025216	.025223	.025215	.025213	.025225	.025223
France, franc.....	.0383	.0397	.0391	.0384	.0380	.0383
Germany, reichsmark.....	.2380	.2381	.2380	.2381	.2381	.2381
Greece, drachma.....	.013313	.013320	.013292	.013277	.013291	.013279
Holland, guilder.....	.4020	.4020	.4020	.4020	.4021	.4019
Hungary, krone.....	.000014	.000014	.000014	.000014	.000014	.000014
Italy, lira.....	.0404	.0404	.0403	.0402	.0403	.0403
Norway, krone.....	.2034	.2035	.2031	.2030	.2031	.2038
Poland, zloty.....	.1371	.1347	.1008	.0969	.0981	.1144
Portugal, escudo.....	.0511	.0512	.0512	.0510	.0510	.0511
Rumania, leu.....	.004530	.004551	.004526	.004517	.004528	.004556
Spain, peseta.....	.1419	.1418	.1417	.1415	.1416	.1430
Sweden, krona.....	.2676	.2676	.2675	.2675	.2675	.2675
Switzerland, franc.....	.1927	.1927	.1927	.1927	.1927	.1927
Yugoslavia, dinar.....	.017701	.017713	.017699	.017698	.017697	.017702
ASIA—						
China—						
Chefoo, tael.....	.7829	.7846	.7854	.7846	.7854	.7883
Hankow, tael.....	.7719	.7741	.7741	.7731	.7734	.7744
Shanghai, tael.....	.7567	.7575	.7575	.7571	.7580	.7608
Tientsin, tael.....	.7933	.7950	.7950	.7942	.7950	.7967
Hong Kong, dollar.....	.5754	.5768	.5758	.5736	.5767	.5779
Mexican dollar.....	.5540	.5552	.5543	.5546	.5550	.5565
Tientsin or Pelyang, dollar.....	.5600	.5538	.5542	.5538	.5542	.5567
Yuan, dollar.....	.5733	.5671	.5675	.5671	.5675	.5740
India, rupee.....	.3661	.3662	.3663	.3663	.3663	.3662
Japan, yen.....	.4315	.4306	.4308	.4319	.4308	.4288
Singapore (S.S.), dollar.....	.5658	.5658	.5658	.5658	.5658	.5654
NORTH AMER.—						
Canada, dollar.....	1.001049	1.001031	1.000404	1.000357	1.000323	1.000070
Cuba, peso.....	.999688	.999563	.999563	.999188	.999750	.999500
Mexico, peso.....	.488500	.488667	.487500	.487167	.486333	.486162
Newfoundland, dollar.....	.998406	.998206	.998125	.997844	.998250	.997594
SOUTH AMER.—						
Argentina, peso (gold).....	.9418	.9419	.9418	.9441	.9443	.9441
Brazil, milreals.....	.1405	.1403	.1393	.1398	.1399	.13.95
Chile, peso (paper).....	.1215	.1225	.1226	.1221	.1211	.1212
Uruguay, peso.....	1.0213	1.0214	1.0204	1.0217	1.0212	1.0167

The New York Clearing House banks, in their operations with interior banking institutions, have gained \$4,912,477 net in cash as a result of the currency movements for the week ended Dec. 3. Their receipts from the interior have aggregated \$6,536,477, while the shipments have reached \$1,624,000, as per the following table:

CURRENCY RECEIPTS AND SHIPMENTS BY NEW YORK BANKING INSTITUTIONS.

Week Ended November 27.	Into Banks.	Out of Banks.	Gain or Loss to Banks.
Banks' interior movement.....	\$6,536,477	\$1,624,000	Gain \$4,912,477

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, Nov. 28.	Monday, Nov. 30.	Tuesday, Dec. 1.	Wednesday, Dec. 2.	Thursday, Dec. 3.	Friday, Dec. 4.	Aggregate for Week.
\$ 94,000,000	\$ 103,000,000	\$ 74,000,000	\$ 96,000,000	\$ 101,000,000	\$ 86,000,000	Cr 554,000,000

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 Systems' 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	Dec. 3 1925.			Dec. 4 1924.		
	Gold.	Silver.	Total.	Gold.	Silver.	Total.
England	£ 145,659,957	£ —	£ 145,659,957	£ 128,494,720	£ —	£ 128,494,720
France a	147,339,404	12,640,000	159,979,404	147,217,135	12,160,000	159,377,135
Germany c	50,492,500	d994,600	51,487,100	22,740,050	994,600	23,734,650
Aus.-Hung	b2,000,000	b —	b2,000,000	b2,000,000	b —	b2,000,000
Spain.....	101,467,000	26,001,000	127,468,000	101,397,000	26,071,000	127,468,000
Italy.....	35,646,000	3,358,000	39,004,000	35,583,000	3,425,000	39,008,000
Netherl'ds.	38,153,000	1,953,000	40,106,000	40,019,000	1,020,000	41,039,000
Nat. Belg.	10,954,000	3,653,000	14,607,000	10,819,000	2,750,000	13,569,000
Switzerl'd.	18,233,000	3,634,000	21,867,000	20,217,000	3,757,000	23,974,000
Sweden.....	12,812,000	—	12,812,000	13,280,000	—	13,280,000
Denmark.....	11,630,000	1,050,000	12,680,000	11,640,100	1,244,000	12,884,000
Norway.....	8,180,000	—	8,180,000	8,180,000	—	8,180,000
Total week	582,566,861	53,283,600	635,850,461	541,586,905	51,421,600	593,008,505
Prev. week	684,919,104	53,068,600	737,987,704	541,696,167	51,212,600	592,908,767

a Gold holdings of the Bank of France this year are exclusive of 574,572,836 held abroad. b No recent figures. c Gold holdings of the Bank of Germany this year are exclusive of £9,867,500 held abroad. d As of Oct. 7 192

A Proposed Joint Trade Relations Committee.

On Dec. 15, in Washington, at a National Distribution Conference, to be held under the auspices of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, an effort will be made to establish a Joint Trade Relations Committee that is expected to aid in banishing unethical trade practices in business, together with those regarded as economically unsound and those that produce waste. The committee, according to the plan, is to consist of an equal number of producers and distributors, with representation of the consumer. A forecast of the functions of the committee states the following: "1. To act as a clearing house for charges of trade abuses and to assist in the elimination of unethical practices. 2. To conduct research into existing trade abuses and existing codes set up among trades to cure these abuses, and so serve as a gradually expanding repository for what might be expressed as the common law of business. 3. To stimulate the development of codes and methods of settling disputes within trades where they do not really exist. 4. To bring about joint action by producers and distributors to accomplish the elimination of business wastes for the existence of which each has a responsibility."

As this Joint Trade Relations Committee does not appear to be a tribunal for the trial of specific cases, acting only in a general advisory capacity, it may well be welcomed as a serious effort to assist in formulating and proclaiming the best business practices. If it adheres to the lines of clearing house registration of charged evils, research into abuses, stimulation to the amicable settlement of disputes, and the furthering of joint action in the elimination of waste, it will have a wide and useful field of work. Any attempt, however, to fasten its findings in an arbitrary way upon producers and distributors, as we see it, will tend to destroy its usefulness, for the way to profit through initiative and enterprise must in any event be left free. The danger is that in its efforts to cure supposed bad practices and wastes it will lean too much toward standardization that will stifle individual efforts at improvements.

Nevertheless, it is to be acclaimed as an earnest effort to help business from the inside and thus to diminish the untimely call upon Government for regulation and control. What actually may be accomplished remains to be demonstrated. An enumeration of factors in "unethical trade practices," to come within the purview of the committee has been given as follows: "Fluctuations in price; lack of sound business methods, adherence to trade customs that have outgrown their original justification, the disrupting influence of the "fly-by-night" business organizations, fluctuations in style, discrimination among customers, lack of standard practices in trade transactions, lack of standardization in products, lack of machinery for adjusting disputes." This is an ambitious program, though if carried out with zeal and system for continuing years may prove a great boon. The principles of good business conduct are not hard to discover. They consist in upright dealing, the progressive development of trade, the careful and wise use of capital, and in the faithful and helpful service that brings success. Behind these elements, shaping and moulding, always lies the natural law. There are old sayings that never lose their power. "You can-

not make a silk purse out of a sow's ear," is one of them. Much of failure, much of fraud, in business is due to trying to force profit out of a business that is contrary to the conditions and the resources of the time and in opposition to the legitimate wants and needs of men and communities. The growth and success of industries as a whole is the foundation of all study. Secondary to this is a study of the elements of success over long periods by those firms and companies that have adhered to one line.

This matter of waste goes beyond the mere conduct of business. It originates in the people themselves, and there will always be a supply to meet such a demand. A writer has been at pains to show that half the things we use we do not need. And he calls it wasted energy to produce them. The estimate is large; and it must be shown that the things that we can do without we ought to do without. No doubt we waste our substance in foolish living. No doubt we are tempting fate in such experiments as conquering the air. We do not need the radio; yet it spreads joy and thought over the world to our betterment from a social and an intellectual standpoint. We could do with half the sugar we produce; and possibly have better health. We do not need "canned" music; possibly our artistic standards would be improved by the larger education of individual performances. We eat too much starchy bread; and most of the doctors tell us we eat too much meat. And so, when it comes to "fluctuations in style," we may at once conclude that no Business Committee will ever accomplish anything as long as people are the slaves of fashion. In the matter of dress, as in most things, if the law of use is to be the law of beauty the creators of change are to be condemned only when they force upon the people something that violates the laws of good taste. Carried a little further afield, we may conclude that new fashions, new implements and utensils, new articles of use and beauty, and new uses for old things, will never be regulated and controlled by the edicts of the makers and distributors, and perhaps ought not to be, since they elevate the minds and hearts of the people.

There is a difference between department stores and those that sell a single line. The former succeeds by variety and cheapness and the latter by a form of standardization. It is not difficult to believe that in the social economy the department store fills the greater need and serves better the public. The chain stores that handle a single article or "line" may well serve by the economies of large purchases and systematized sales. But the chain of small-price stores may do this also with the added benefit of gathering articles of *all* kinds, that can be sold within the price, from all the world. Neither of these innovations in the modern mercantile world can in these particulars interfere with the freedom of initiative or the right to individual enterprise. But when they reach the point where they absorb the available locations (they have not yet reached that point) then they attain a form of "standardization" that must be questioned as to its ultimate effect. This is illustrated more specifically in chain restaurants. When these absorb all the available locations, and then standardize the bill of fare they serve, they will begin to disintegrate. They will have violated the fundamental law that the "appetite grows by what it feeds on." People cannot be forced to eat what they do not want simply because

it is standardized; and may be cheap—often it is not, for here is where the temptation to use the power of monopoly begins. And so we develop the large truth that to standardize anywhere along the line is to make stationary, to thwart development and progress, to lower the taste, and to destroy the benefits of a service which fills a want or a need.

We do not know what is meant by "fluctuations in price." The reprehensible custom of marking goods up simply to mark them down at a so-called "reduction sale," or some such device, is already discounted by the trade. It destroys confidence in the merchant, and it discloses to the customer the range of profit-making. The custom is curing itself. Price will, on the contrary, always fluctuate. And it will be a long time before a committee can show that a merchant has not a right, within reasonable bounds, to take advantage of scarcity when he is himself stocked up, or any other adventitious circumstance connected with his business, if perchance that is what is meant. Matters of fraud in sizes, weights and measures offer a different problem. Conveniences in the administration of business are always subjects of concerted action. Here, again, the old law, however, obtains. Before any finding of allied merchants is this older and more fundamental law of honest service. There is a phrase, "all wool and a yard wide," that covers the ground. An inch board is an inch in thickness—and when it is not the seller who so represents it suffers. It is idle to talk about establishing a fraud or an evil by custom. *Dependable* merchants are the only ones who succeed in the long run. And the buyers are the dictators; and are themselves to blame when they carelessly condone an imposition. All of these things go to show that the committee itself must follow the law of the merchant, which is the law of the land.

It has been remarked by a commentator that "It is easier to bring the statutes into conformity with the common law than to revolutionize the common law by statutes." It is here that the proposed committee can perform its greatest service. In all that it does it is looking from the inside out, while the Government must always look from the outside in. If it does no more than point out the lack of "sound business methods" in the broad, comprehensive sense, it will have performed an inestimable service. Of course, there are many men and firms attempting to do business who do not know how. Well-conducted business and the public pay the cost of this ignorance. But it will never be wholly eradicated. A large proportion of business failures is due to mismanagement. But management is and always will be an individual problem. On the other hand, the proportion of customer-buyers who do not know *what* they are buying is very large. This ignorance, which also can never be wholly eradicated, is no less to the all-wool-and-a-yard-wide merchant. If he is capable *he* knows *quality* and he is entitled to a just profit for knowing. Every man to his trade. The professional man desires no more than to be honestly advised. The good housewife seeks only a fair price. The jobber and retailer will not long patronize a wholesaler who does not come up to specifications. Business is always in process of expunging evil practices. Unfortunately, the greed for bargains among individual and ignorant buyers hampers the process.

We come back, therefore, to standardization of practices, processes and products. Speaking gen-

erally, we should beware of standardized products. The machine and mass production does enough of this without any outside aid. Standardization of products plays into the hands of monopoly. All national resources should be developed by the freedom of individuals to engage in lawful trade. As for old customs in mining and manufacturing, they are sloughing off all the time. You cannot say, as union labor is now trying to say, to New England textiles, that they are losing because the South is using newer and better machinery. They can easily get this, and will get it, when other things are equal. And if they never get it and prefer to go down with old customs they are but filling the law of the maker and merchant. What we perceive in this whole question is that the mind of man impinging upon the resources of earth is so vast in its ramifications that neither a committee from the inside nor a Government from the outside can formulate in maxims or methods the fundamental law that governs. And in so far as it does, it will merely promulgate the "best methods" because they have already established themselves by common precept and experience. There is room for even this—but it is by education rather than rule.

Trade is a kaleidoscope; the patterns are infinite; the causes are simple, original, steadfast, controlling. While there is much that seems irresponsible in our search for wealth, fame, enjoyment, we do very little by deliberate chance save in our gambling on the turn of prices. And in all that we do silent and unseen forces move us. We adventure far in industrial production, we try to supply to the full needs and wants, even try to create them, but the demand is hidden in the social and individual nature. For this reason there will always be a modicum of waste and unethical practice. What is important is not so much rules as a result of studied regulation, as an understanding that in all the large and wholesome movements conformity to the codes, laws and practices that are common because they have evolved through long experience is wise and profitable. The man who tries to borrow from many banks, the man who undersells in one line and overcharges in another, the man who tries to make marketable cloth on out-of-date machines, the fly-by-night who does not think three removes are equal to a fire, the maker of shoddy and one who skimps in measurements, must all meet the inexorable law of failure. And a committee that can make clear the cause and effect in business will serve a good cause. Beyond this there must be an accounting by all efforts at regulation and standardization to the tastes and desires of the people. Trade is a river that sometimes runs dry and often overflows. Out of the efforts of the multitude come the multitude and variety of products and processes by which we sustain and advance the common life. Herein is the common, controlling law, though unwritten.

The Memoirs of Sir Edward Grey.

It is hard to realize that the men whose names will be associated with the history of the first quarter of the 20th century are rapidly passing off the stage. The new knowledge and the new methods in science, in industry, in business and in government which characterized the 19th century, increasing toward its close, precipitated upon the new century the volume of conflicting interests and confusing problems which made the immediate future dif-

ficult to guide or even forecast. The statesmen carried over with it were naturally governed by their established conceptions and attached to their individual aims. It was inevitable that they should conflict with one another and pursue radically different policies. The nations would be powerfully affected, and some chief figures would be lost in the melee. A few had vision and a faith in all that makes for righteousness. These men will be the guides of the new generation.

We have at hand the story of one of these statesmen whom none will be likely to surpass, as it is given the accuracy and the clarity of the transparently simple, truthful and deeply sympathetic narrative of Sir Edward Grey, the British Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.*

In the various European courts there were individuals upon whom the full weight of the greatest crisis of modern history rested, but among them all there was no one who was more deeply conscious of his responsibility, whose testimony will carry more weight, or whose example is more to our purpose.

In the spring of 1914 peace existed in Europe, but in international relations two facts prevailed. Fear and suspicion were ever present; great armies, with all that pertains to them, stood prepared; and no outside relations could influence either situation. France did not desire war with Germany, but thought it inevitable. Germany, with no limitation of cost or effort, had created the most perfectly prepared army the world had ever seen and was under control of her military staff. Russia, with vast resources and confirmed consciousness of power, looked on; and Belgium felt safe only in the guaranty of Germany, England and France.

Sir Edward Grey entered the Foreign Office a young man in 1892. He realized at once the dangers of the existing situation. The great nations were contending for special advantages, and to defeat one another's similar attempts. Crises constantly occurred, with several wars in the Balkans, and three or four close approaches to war and constant ill-will among the greater States. Suspicion was in the air. No event was too small or remote to create extreme danger. Siam, the Nile, the Congo, South Africa, the Far East, were in turn the scene of such occurrences. However little known to the public, these events made the chief business of the Foreign Office. The new century opened with the Kruger telegram, Algeciras, and eventually, Agadir. Whatever the good intentions of individuals or the States, the conditions did not change; the tension tightened. Counter-alliances, ripening at last in the Entente, were made to hold back the universal pressure. In connection with the call for the Algeciras Conference, Lord Ripon, Grey's superior, said, "that a European war should come out of it seemed almost impossible," but with his knowledge of influences at work, he "could feel no security." Under pressure, Britain sacrificed various interests in the Near East; Germany gave way about Casablanca, and again at Agadir, and France accepted humiliation after Algeciras, and paid a price for peace at Agadir. But there was no substantial improvement. Germany years irritated, and up to the months immediately preceding the war, was exacting and inimical.

As one issue after another was settled, a third would quickly be created. The British Foreign Office, under Sir Edward Grey, with the aid of in-

*"Twenty-five Years, 1892-1916," by Viscount Grey of Falloden. F. A. Stokes Co.

dividual diplomats in other courts, was able to obtain peace in the Balkan War of 1912-13; and the Ambassadors' Conference in London was characterized by good faith, good will and freedom from personal rivalries and self-interest, which have found a counterpart to-day at Locarno. But the record is that "it made none but a passing impression upon the Governments of Europe." The situation was persistently evil. When 1914 came, the same Ambassadors were at their posts in London, but "no one in Berlin or Vienna seems to have remembered the past or found in the recollection of 1912-13 any hope of the future." When the suggestion was again made to settle the great issue by the same agency as before it was peremptorily dismissed by Germany and Austria. The German Ambassador in London at one with the British Foreign Minister, had no support at home and could accomplish nothing. The current of European affairs had set toward war. Austria was fascinated by the strength of the German army. France and Russia were held by fear of it.

The assassination of the Archduke of Sarajevo came suddenly. At first Austria was not alarmed; but acrimonious accusations soon followed. Then came in quick succession the anxious days, the efforts of the Ambassadors to secure peace and their failure, the Austrian ultimatum sharpened in its terms at Berlin, the Kaiser's marginal note, "Stamp upon this rabble," Serbia's abject surrender, and the Kaiser's second note, "There is now no cause of war," with his silence when his officials vetoed the proposal for a Conference and made no response to the Tsar's appeal for a reference to the Hague Tribunal. The control was not with the Kaiser or his Ministers. Neither he nor they desired war, despite his earlier proclamation of a "vice-regency from God," and "shining armor and a glittering sword," and his brave personal display in Constantinople.

The immovable organized authority was the military. The last preparation had been made, save that the naval authorities would prefer to wait another year. They were now to be held back till the "insignificant little British army" should be permitted to cross the Channel, where they could be quickly annihilated, and the way opened directly to Paris and the French army held while the whole German army could be turned against Russia.

The full detail of this history, with quotations from the original documents, is given at length in the same quiet, convincing tone of a strong man who saw his immediate efforts fail, and, to-day, after ten years since his surrendering his place to others, can

behold the approach of his heart's desire in the growing assurance of the international peace and goodwill to which his life has been devoted. He has treated those who were opposed to him with careful consideration. He holds the German Emperor not as typical, but as a man *sui-generis*, possessed of his own peculiar characteristics, one who believed the German a chosen people, a belief which leads to much inevitable assumption. Obviously, their Kultur ought to dominate the world.

Europe had become an armed camp. Force seemed the one thing that would count; it was not reasonable that the strongest and best equipped nation should wait until others would be equally, or still more weightily equipped. Her conduct raises the question whether it is wise or right to precipitate a crime because one thinks that someone else will sooner or later commit it. This brings the issue clearly before all the European States and is the question to-day. How far did each share this feeling and join in the common purpose? In the last analysis the war occurred because of the universal lack of the will to peace. The inveterate and ineradicable distrust which poisoned European diplomacy had made normal life and healthy growth impossible.

It is true, as others have said, that war and modern civilization cannot co-exist; and if competitive armaments are not destroyed civilization itself is doomed. Nothing can save us but a new world-relationship; that is, a new allegiance of the people to the Golden Rule. The gathering last week of a great people in a national Thanksgiving, expressing the attitude of the nation no less than that of the individual citizens, is witness to the progress, slow but real, that the world is making toward that goal.

Amid the murk and darkness of the four terrible years the figure of Sir Edward Grey stands out pre-eminent among the men in high position as the man who from first to last, with his feet on the ground of the actual situation, sought in entire forgetfulness of himself and under the burden of the sorrow that crushed his heart, to be true to the highest ideals of right and truth and to do to others as he would have them do to him. In full confidence that this was the only way to an enduring peace he gave himself with undivided purpose to winning Europe to the same conviction. His story should have a wide reading, as no one can turn from it without an uplift of heart from the thought that amid the confusion and anxieties of these crowded days there are still men in all lands who can respond to his spirit and be inspired by his example.

Indications of Business Activity

THE STATE OF TRADE—COMMERCIAL EPITOME.

Friday Night, Dec. 4 1925.

There has been some seasonal decrease in wholesale trade, but jobbing business is active, and the spur of Christmas buying is felt in retail lines. It is true that there has been some temporary interruption to retail business on the Atlantic seaboard for several days past from severe storms of wind and rain. But in the nature of things this is only for the moment. It is a sign of the times, perhaps, that the big retail establishments are doing better than the smaller ones. But taken as a whole the gratifying fact is that throughout the big avenues of American trade there is greater activity than there was a year ago. Mail order and wholesale business, it is true, showed some increase in November as compared with October. But there is a very noticeable increase

in November as compared with the same month last year. No progress has been made in settling the anthracite strike. Governor Pinchot and the miners have made certain proposals to the operators which have been rejected. Meanwhile the trade in bituminous is naturally fostered by the big hard coal strike, and the soft coal output has risen to very large proportions, not only in Pennsylvania, but also in the West and South. The tendency of coal prices is naturally upward, but it is noticeable that Scotch and Dutch coke is arriving at Boston as well as Welsh anthracite coal and the tendency is to increase the importations of both. Coke has declined. The big industries taken as a whole are in better shape than they were a year ago. They are doing more business on a better margin of profit. The iron trade shows no marked improvement; in fact, it has latterly, as a

rule, slowed down, something which is not unusual at this time of the year. The general situation in steel is better, with good buying by the railroads and construction interests. The sheet and tin plate mills are working, it is understood, close to 100%. Most of the minor metals are lower. Copper is down to 14 cents. They have all been declining very noticeably in London.

The grain markets are higher, especially wheat, which has advanced some 10 to 12 cents per bushel, mainly under the stimulus of bad crop news from Argentina and the fact that the Soviet Russian Government appears to have greatly over-estimated the grain crops in that country. At this time Canada is getting the benefit of the marked increase in European demand for wheat, because it can undersell the United States. Corn has advanced some 5 cents a bushel, partly in response to the rise in wheat, but more because of the fact that a credit of \$5,000,000 has been subscribed to help the Iowa farmers who found themselves burdened with an extraordinary crop and now wish to market it gradually through the help of Government machinery. This may do very well for the present year, but in the end the corn farmers of Iowa and other States will simply have to regulate their acreage to the market. A great deal of the corn crop can be fed to live stock. But of course there is a limit to that outlet. Diversification of crops is the only thing that will help the West in the end, not paternalism in any form, even if Government aid may be a not altogether unjustifiable expedient at very rare intervals. Cotton has declined as the trend of crop estimates is upward, and speculation in that commodity is largely neglected for stocks and grain. The consumption is evidently large. Crop estimates are now crystallizing around 15,500,000 bales. But in the meantime everybody is awaiting the Government report next Tuesday, which will be the last for the season except the final ginning report on March 21 1926. It is not too much to say that the trade will breathe a sigh of relief when the report of Dec. 8 has come and gone and it can go ahead for the rest of the season without vexatious reports on the crop from Washington twice a month. They have kept the trade on tenterhooks for many months past and it is hoped that at the approaching session of Congress an Act will be passed providing for reports not oftener than once a month. In former years no crop estimates were given until the first week in December.

Bad weather hereabouts has interfered with building, but the tendency is towards as active a season in that line as the weather will permit this winter. Automobile output tends to decrease somewhat, but the November production was a high record for that month. It is said that 70,000 more workers are employed in that industry at Detroit than at this time last year. In the East the shoe factories are finding trade a little slow. The manufacture of furniture is brisk. The holiday trade helps the jewelry industry. Coffee has declined here and in Brazil, partly because of the inability of the Brazilian Government to secure a loan for the purpose of aiding valorization of coffee prices. Raw sugar advanced early in the week, but has latterly reacted, with British markets lower. Refined sugar business is none too active. Car loadings show a steady increase over last year in spite of the falling off in grain, coal, live stock and lumber shipments, as compared with a year ago. Wool has been dull and depressed. The English and Australian auction sales are not turning out so well as was expected. The trade in woolen and worsteds in this country is rather slow. The silk industry is still active. Some of the North Carolina cotton mills are running at 100%, and the tendency of the cotton manufacturing industry in New England is towards better times.

In the stock market to-day several railroad shares reached new high levels for the year, although industrial shares were for the moment in the van in the matter of activity. The remarkable activity in the stock market is still one of the most striking features of the business times. The New York Federal Reserve Bank has not raised its rediscount rate from 3½%, although one of the events of the week was the advance in the Bank of England rate from 4 to 5%. But London regards this move for once with great satisfaction as being a conservative measure, and the market there to-day was strong. The boom in rubber stocks there continues, despite the announcement that there will be an increase of 15% in the exports from the region controlled by the British beginning Feb. 1. London was braced by the favorable response of the dollar and other exchanges to the rise in the Bank rate and also by some moderate im-

portations of gold. The French financial situation is still deplorable, but the new Premier, M. Briand, shows a commendable disposition to take up the question of the French debt with the United States at once and it is to be hoped that no further inflationary measures such as are now under way in France will be necessary. The Government of India has suspended the 3½% excise duty on Indian woven cotton cloth Dec. 1 and promises its complete abolition in the budget next March. The import duty of 11% continues, however. The Manchester "Commercial-Guardian" says the adverse effect upon the Lancashire trade cannot fail to be important. A meeting of spinners, manufacturers and merchants was held in Manchester on Dec. 1 to discuss the effects. The trade was disturbed over the action of the Government of India, which deprives British manufacturers of a tariff preferential. The abolition of the tax was promptly followed by the ending of the strike for two months past of 135,000 cotton mill workers in Bombay. It may mean increased consumption of Indian cotton in Bombay and therefore a better market for American cotton in Europe and Japan.

At Fall River there has been a fair business. Edward F. Greene of Boston thinks the textile industry has weathered a crisis and is now justified in looking forward to satisfactory conditions. Manchester, N. H., wired that the Amoskeag Manufacturing Co. will start night work immediately in its rayon department, beginning with 200 looms and increasing the number until 1,200 are in operation. The Amoskeag Manufacturing Co. paid its Manchester, N. H., municipal tax to-day for 1925, amounting to \$932,870, which is approximately one-quarter of the entire tax of the city of Manchester. It is declared to be too heavy a tax. At Biddeford, Me., on Dec. 1 the weavers of the Pepperell Manufacturing Co. decided not to accept the multiple loom arrangement which has recently been worked out in conjunction with State and national conciliation bodies and representatives of the weavers themselves. The weavers thereupon went out on strike, throwing some 3,500 operatives out of employment. The move to introduce the multiple loom system was made at the plant a month ago. The weavers complained that the company called upon each man to operate 22 looms, although the agreement reached between the workers and plant management a few days ago called for each weaver to operate 18 looms, with the assistance of a helper. An effort is being made to settle the dispute. At Natick, R. I., the Natick mill of B. B. & R. Knight, Inc., after being idle practically a year and a half, will open and may run at full capacity in a short time. As with workers in the Royal mill, weavers are to run 16 looms at a 10% reduction in wages, but weavers have a choice of running either 16 or 32 at their option and without disadvantages of any sort.

At Charlotte, N. C., the Carl Stohm Co., Inc., which has for some time operated a weaving plant making jacquard specialties will double its capacity. At Ranlo, N. C., the Ranlo Manufacturing Co. will increase its capacity. It will weave the output of the Harden Manufacturing Co. of Worth, N. C., in addition to the yarns from the Modena mills, of Gastonia, and the spindles in its own plant. The company manufactures tire cords, and with the installation of the new equipment will have a capacity of 120,000 pounds per week. In Eastern North Carolina mills are running at full time. The Southern Power Co. allows power to South Atlantic mills for five days a week with the streams higher after recent rains.

Rayon, it is stated, is being used not as a subsidiary textile fibre, but, as a distinct addition. The result is that cotton and woollens are coming off the looms excelling anything heretofore known. Some take the ground that the increasing use of rayon in cotton mills does not mean a reduction of the cotton yarn consumption. The very attractive appearance of the new fabric has, it is declared, noticeably increased cloth sales. Also, the cost of rayon is double that of cotton yarn.

Sears, Roebuck & Co.'s sales for November amounted to \$25,823,970, an increase of 14.8% over November 1924. Sales for the first 11 months of this year amounted to \$227,820,578, an increase of 16.2% over the corresponding period of 1924. Montgomery Ward & Co.'s sales for November amounted to \$18,794,362, an increase of 10.2% over November 1924. Sales for the first 11 months of this year amounted to \$161,306,980, an increase of 13.1% over the corresponding period of 1924. The production of cars and trucks in November was 21% larger than in November last year. For 11

months it is 16½% over the same period last year. "Hardware Age" said: "Hardware jobbers are very busy shipping winter goods, staple lines and special merchandise, designed for holiday selling campaigns. Prices are stronger in all cities and there are persistent rumors that tools and possibly wrought goods will be advanced soon."

While plasterers and masons want \$14 to \$16 a day in this city, which is suffering from a scarcity of labor through the sharply restricted immigration, it is of interest to notice that Prime Minister Bruce of Victoria has removed the ban against immigration from Germany, Austria, Bulgaria and Turkey.

The weather here was cold on Nov. 29 with the temperature down to 24 in the morning. In Chicago and Cincinnati it was 32, in Cleveland 28, in Duluth 20, in Milwaukee 30, in Minneapolis 24 and Portland, Me., 16, and Montreal 6. It was cold at the South, especially east of the Mississippi; the weather was milder west of the river in the cotton belt. Miami, Fla., on Nov. 30 had nearly 15 inches of rain, with floods that stopped business, interfering with the city utilities and the publication of newspapers. A tropical storm was centered Tuesday night about 150 miles east of South Carolina coast and moving rapidly northward. Rains occurred in South Atlantic Coast sections. The tropical storm was central on Wednesday night off Cape Hatteras and moving slowly northward. Winds of hurricane force prevailed on the Carolina coast. There have been rains in Atlantic States from Florida to New York. There were reports of a "norther" in northwest Texas on Dec. 3. It rained here all day Wednesday and Thursday and this morning and also to the southward along the Atlantic seaboard. A northeast gale of 70 miles an hour struck New York on the 3d inst. and did a great deal of damage in and around the city, including Coney Island. The high winds were accompanied by a driving rain. It was not cold here; the lowest temperature was 39 at 2 a. m. on the 3d inst. and the highest 48 at 3.40 p. m. Boston had rain and 42 to 46 degrees; Chicago 34 to 42; Cincinnati 30 to 54; Cleveland 36 to 46; Kansas City 48 to 64 and St. Paul 32 to 46. In New York it has rained most of to-day, but the temperature was 52 at 4 p. m. The forecast is for rain to-night and to-morrow, with warmer temperatures.

Domestic Business Conditions, According to the Government.

Further reports on business conditions to the Department of Commerce for the month of October made public today (Dec. 5) show increases over September in production of malleable castings, shipments of hydraulic pumps, common brick, steel furniture and pyroxylin-coated textiles, consumption of wool in textile mills, sales of loose-leaf tobacco from warehouses, bookings of foundry equipment, foreign assemblies of American automobiles and real estate conveyances, while the production of explosives, North Carolina pine and walnut lumber declined.

In comparison with October, 1924, increases occurred in production of malleable castings and North Carolina pine lumber, shipments of steel furniture, common brick, pyroxylin-coated textiles and hydraulic pumps, sales of loose-leaf tobacco and foundry equipment and real estate conveyances, while production of explosives and walnut lumber, consumption of wool and assemblies of American-made automobiles abroad declined.

Financial indicators recently received all showed increases both over September and a year ago, these items including life insurance premium collections, savings deposits, sales of real estate securities and outstanding loans of the Federal and Joint Stock land banks.

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

Reporting that "industrial activity and the volume of wholesale and retail trade increased in October," the Federal Reserve Board in its monthly summary of general business conditions in the United States, made public Nov. 27, says:

Wholesale prices declined somewhat to the level prevailing at mid-year.

Production.

The Federal Reserve Board's index of production in basic industries, which makes allowance for seasonal changes, rose by about 4% in October, reflecting increases in the output of most of the 22 commodities included in the index. Particularly large increases in activity were shown for the iron and steel and textile industries, and the output of bituminous coal and of lumber was in large volume. Production of automobiles in October was

the largest on record. Payrolls at factories, including industries not covered by the production index, increased in October to the highest level since early in 1924. The value of building contracts awarded declined further in October, but the total was considerably larger than in the corresponding month of any other year.

Estimates by the Department of Agriculture in November indicate a corn crop of 3,013,000,000 bushels and a cotton crop of 15,298,000 bales, compared with 2,437,000,000 bushels and 13,628,000 bales in 1924. Marketing of crops was seasonally larger in October than in September, but averaged nearly 10% less than a year ago.

Trade.

Wholesale trade, according to the Federal Reserve Board's combined index of sales in six leading lines, reached a seasonal peak in October and was in larger volume than for any month of the past five years. Sales at department stores and mail order houses, owing partly to favorable weather conditions, showed considerably more than the usual increase in October and were the largest on record for that month. Stocks of dry goods, shoes and hardware at wholesale firms were smaller at the end of October than on Sept. 30, but stocks of groceries were larger. Merchandise stocks at department stores showed slightly more than the usual increase in October, and were somewhat larger than at the end of October a year ago.

Freight car loadings reached a seasonal peak in October and totaled more than in any previous month, notwithstanding reduced shipments of anthracite and of grains and grain products.

Prices.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics index of wholesale prices, after remaining relatively constant for three months, declined from 160 in September to 158 in October, reflecting declines in the prices of agricultural products, particularly grains, live stock, meats, cotton and sugar. Since Nov. 1 prices of grains, wool, sugar, pig iron and rubber have increased.

Bank Credit.

Between the middle of October and the middle of November, loans for commercial and industrial purposes at member banks in leading cities continued in a volume about \$450,000,000 larger than at midsummer. Loans on securities increased further and total loans on Nov. 11 were about \$1,000,000,000 larger than at the opening of the year. Demand deposits increased further during October and early November to a level near the high point of last January.

At the Reserve banks total bills and securities in November were in the largest volume for the year and about \$200,000,000 larger than a year ago. Member bank borrowings declined somewhat from the high point reached early in October, while acceptance holdings continued to increase and on Nov. 18 were larger than at any previous time for the year. The growth in Reserve bank credit since midsummer was chiefly in response to the seasonal increase of money in circulation, which on Nov. 1 was about \$180,000,000 larger than on Aug. 1.

During the latter part of October and early part of November open market rates for commercial paper and bankers' acceptances remained substantially unchanged at the levels reached during the early autumn. Discount rates at the Federal Reserve banks of Boston, Cleveland, Philadelphia and San Francisco were advanced from 3½ to 4% during November.

National Industrial Conference Board, Inc., on Changes in the Cost of Living Between July 1914 and October 1925.

The monthly cost of living index number of the National Industrial Conference Board was 0.9% higher on Oct. 15 1925 than on Sept. 15 1925. Clothing, shelter, light and sundries showed no change while the average prices of the other items showed increases. Food increased 1.9% and the average price of coal advanced only 1.1% during this period, bituminous coal prices for domestic use advancing more than anthracite. The report by the Board, made public Nov. 21, says:

Between July 1920, when the peak of the rise in the cost of living since 1914 was reached, and October 1925, the cost of living decreased 17%.

The increase in the cost of living since 1914 was 69.7%.

The following table shows the index numbers of the cost of living as compared with average prices in July 1914, and also the percentage changes on Oct. 15 1925 as compared with previous months:

Item.	Relative Importance in Family Budget.	Index Numbers of the Cost of Living (Average Prices July 1914=100.)			P. C. of Increase in the Cost of Living on Oct. 15 1925 from Ave. Prices in—	
		July 1920.	Sept. 1925.	Oct. 1925.	July 1920.	Sept. 1925.
Food.....	43.1	219	159	162	26.0	1.9
Shelter.....	17.7	158	178	178	12.7	(c)
Clothing.....	13.2	266	176	176	33.8	(c)
Fuel and light.....	5.6	166	168	170	2.4	1.2
Fuel.....	3.7	192	181	183	4.7	1.1
Light.....	1.9	115	144	144	25.2	(c)
Sundries.....	20.4	185	174	174	6.0	(c)
Weighted average of all items	100.0	204.5	168.2	169.7	17.0	0.9

a Food price changes are obtained from the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics. b Decrease. c No change.

The purchasing value of the dollar, based on the cost of living in October 1925, was 58.9 cents as contrasted with one dollar in July 1914.

Survey of Current Business by United States Department of Commerce—Increases in October in Principal Industrial Indicators.

The following from the Department of Commerce was made public Nov. 16:

Further reports on business conditions to the Department of Commerce covering the month of October show increases over September in the production of steel ingots, bituminous coal, cement, zinc, oak flooring and redwood lumber and receipts of corn, corn grindings, magazine advertising and unfilled orders of the U. S. Steel Corp., while contracts awarded for concrete pavements, receipts of flaxseed, wheat, oats, turpentine, rosin and iron ore declined. Fire losses were less than in the previous month. Postal receipts at both the industrial and selected cities, debts to individual accounts, savings deposits in New York State, the amount

of money in circulation and stock prices increased over September, while bond prices declined.

In comparison with October 1924, increases occurred in the production of steel ingots, bituminous coal, cement, zinc, oak flooring, magazine advertising, receipts of iron ore, corn grindings, unfilled steel orders, car-loadings, and receipts of flaxseed, turpentine and rosin, while receipts of corn, wheat and oats, the production of redwood lumber and contracts awarded for concrete pavements declined. Fire losses declined from a year ago. Postal receipts, debits to individual accounts, bank savings in New York State, the amount of money in circulation, the prices of stocks and bonds, all showed increases over October 1924.

BUSINESS INDICATORS.
(Relative Numbers—1919 Monthly Average=100.)

	1924.		1925.		Per Cent Increase (+) or Decrease (-)	
	Sept.	Oct.	Sept.	Oct.	Oct. 1925 from Sept. 1925.	Oct. 1925 from Oct. 1924.
Fig-iron production	81	97	107	119	+11.2	+22.7
Steel ingots, production	101	111	124	139	+12.1	+25.2
Unfilled steel orders	58	59	62	69	+11.3	+16.9
Locomotives:						
Shipments	47	43	42	35	-16.7	-18.6
Unfilled orders*	29	35	27	38	+40.7	+8.6
Postal receipts:						
50 largest cities	141	158	155	177	+14.2	+12.0
50 industrial cities a	117	135	129	144	+11.6	+6.7
Mail-order sales (2 houses)	106	138	117	176	+50.4	+27.5
Ten-cent-stores sales (4 chains)	170	204	192	238	+24.0	+16.7
Car loadings	119	156	123	159	+29.3	+1.9
Commercial-paper interest rates	58	58	77	81	+5.2	+39.7
Stock prices:						
25 industrials	110	111	154	170	+10.4	+53.2
25 railroads	113	112	137	138	+0.7	+23.2
Federal Reserve banks:						
Bills discounted	13	12	33	30	-9.1	+150.0
Total reserves	144	143	131	132	+0.8	-7.7
Ratio	160	157	144	144	0.0	-8.3
Business failures:						
Number of firms	343	315	272	294	+8.1	-6.7
Liabilities	363	382	325	313	-3.7	-18.1

* 1920 monthly average equals 100. b 1922 monthly average equals 100.

Department Store Sales in New York Federal Reserve District Active.

The Dec. 1 Monthly Review of Credit and Business Conditions by the Federal Reserve Agent at New York will contain the following item on retail trade:

Department store sales in this district were 15% larger in October than a year previous, the largest gain in any month in the last three years. After allowance for seasonal variations and price changes, the October volume of business appears to be substantially above the estimated normal or trend of growth. Apparel store sales showed an increase of 19% over the previous year—after the comparatively dull business of September.

Following the heavy sales of October, stocks of merchandise in department stores at the end of the month were less than 1% larger than a year ago, and the rate of stock turnover was therefore higher than in October of last year. Apparently as a result of the high level of sales and relatively small stocks, outstanding orders for additional merchandise at the end of the month showed a smaller seasonal decline than usual, and were substantially larger than at the end of October in the last two years.

	Net Sales		Stock on Hand	
	Percentage Change from October 1925	from October 1924	Percentage Change from October 31 1925	from October 31 1924
New York	+15.3	+0.9		
Buffalo	+8.5	+0.1		
Rochester	+16.8	+1.1		
Syracuse	+11.1	+0.4		
Newark	+21.3			
Bridgeport	+20.1	+3.8		
Elsewhere	+13.9	+1.0		
Northern New York State	+12.0			
Central New York State	+11.3			
Southern New York State	+11.9			
Hudson River Valley District	+11.5			
Capital District	+27.3			
Westchester District	+4.3			
All department stores	+15.1	+0.8		
Apparel stores	+19.5	-0.7		
Mail order houses	+29.3			

The largest percentage increase in sales over last year was in radio sets, but a more important element in the high level of total sales was a large increase in all of the main apparel departments, following quiet business in several of these lines in September. Substantial gains were reported in toilet articles and drugs, toys and sporting goods, furniture and home furnishings, luggage and other leather goods, cotton and silk goods, and books and stationery. In consequence of large sales stocks in some of these lines were much reduced at the end of the month.

The average amount of the individual sales transaction in October was \$3.48 compared with \$3.21 a year ago.

	Net Sales		Stock on Hand	
	Percentage Change from October 1925	from October 1924	Percentage Change from October 31 1925	from October 31 1924
Musical instruments and radio	+33.7	-13.8		
Men's and Boys' wear	+29.7	+3.6		
Women's and Misses' ready-to-wear	+24.4	-8.0		
Men's furnishings	+22.7	+0.8		
Hosiery	+21.4	+8.6		
Toilet articles and drugs	+20.6	+4.1		
Toys and sporting goods	+19.8	-5.1		
Furniture	+16.4	+4.6		
Shoes	+16.1	+3.0		
Home furnishings	+15.3	+0.7		
Luggage and other leather goods	+14.8	+5.6		
Cotton goods	+14.6	+8.4		
Books and stationery	+13.3	+1.2		
Silks and velvets	+12.6	-10.1		
Women's ready-to-wear accessories	+12.4	-6.5		
Silverware and jewelry	+9.7	-3.5		
Linens and handkerchiefs	+6.1	+3.4		
Woolen goods	-10.7	-6.3		
Miscellaneous	+8.6	-7.5		

Large Sales in New York Federal Reserve District by Chain Stores.

The Dec. 1 Monthly Review of Credit and Business Conditions by the Federal Reserve Agent at New York will contain the following item on chain store sales:

Chain stores shared with other lines of retail trade in unusually large sales in October. Variety stores reported a gain of more than 40% over October last year and grocery stores showed the largest increase in sales in recent years. Sales of shoe and ten cent stores also were unusually large and the increases in other types of chain stores compared favorably with those in most earlier months this year.

New stores opened showed an increase over last year ranging from 6% in drug chains to 24% in groceries. While this accounts for a considerable part of the gain in total sales, sales per store for several lines showed large gains over a year ago and for all chains combined averaged 4% higher.

Type of Store	Percentage Change		Sales Per Store
	Number of Stores	Total Sales	
Variety	+18.4	+40.6	+18.8
Grocery	+23.7	+31.1	+6.1
Shoe	+18.6	+18.5	-0.1
Ten Cent	+6.5	+16.8	+9.6
Drug	+5.7	+14.3	+8.1
Candy	+8.6	+8.7	+0.2
Tobacco	+12.4	+5.3	-6.4
Total	+20.5	+25.4	+4.1

Continued Increase in Wholesale Trade in Federal Reserve District of New York.

The Dec. 1 Monthly Review of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York reports that "a further increase in wholesale trade, partly seasonal, occurred in October, and sales in a majority of lines were larger also than a year ago. The largest increase, as in other recent months, was in machine tool sales, which reached the highest level for any October since 1920. Silk goods sales showed a large increase, and cotton goods sales were somewhat larger than a year ago, notwithstanding sharp fluctuations in raw cotton. Hardware sales were larger than in any other month in the last five years, and sales of stationery, shoes, paper and drugs also showed considerable increases." The Review continues:

Due, however, to the failure of wholesale groceries to show an increase, and to decrease in sales of women's clothing and of jewelry and diamonds, this bank's weighted index of trade increased only 3% over October 1924.

Stocks of merchandise on hand continued to show about the same changes from a year ago as at the end of September. Stocks of cotton goods, hardware and jewelry and diamonds remained smaller, grocery stocks were little changed, while stocks of shoes and silk goods were substantially larger than in October 1924.

Commodity	Net Sales		Stock at End of Month	
	Percentage Change from Oct. 1925	from Oct. 1924	Percentage Change from Oct. 1925	from Oct. 1924
Groceries	+16.1	0	+11.8	+0.9
Men's clothing	-12.7	+0.9		
Women's dresses	-15.6	-11.5		
Women's coats and suits	+47.3	-2.1		
Cotton jobbers	+2.6	+8.8	-10.0	-13.2
Cotton commission houses	-5.3	+5.8		
Silk goods	-2.4	+20.1	+11.2	+28.5
Shoes	+2.6	+6.3	-8.8	+19.9
Drugs	+34.1	+3.9		
Hardware	+13.2	+7.0	-5.0	-9.6
Machine tools	+2.4	+51.0		
Stationery	+17.7	+7.5		
Paper	+15.1	+6.3		
Diamonds	+20.1	-4.2	-4.3	-4.0
Jewelry	+30.2	-4.0		
Weighted average	+7.2	+2.6		

* Stock at first of month; quantity, not value.

Federal Reserve Bank of Boston Reports Business Activity in New England Above That of Year Ago.

According to the Dec. 1 issue of the Monthly Review of Industrial and Financial Conditions in the New England District by Frederic H. Curtiss, Chairman and Federal Reserve Agent, the rate of business activity now prevailing in New England is not only high, but it compares favorably with the average reported for the entire country. The summary of the business situation continues:

The New England Business Activity Index compiled by the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston was slightly lower in October than in September, but remains higher than in any month since the early part of this year. The amount of business transactions settled through check payments is exceptionally large, which tends to confirm the rate of activity shown by the index. New England textile industries report a far better condition, when a comparison is made with activity a year ago, than do the same industries in other sections of the country. This district consumed a considerably larger volume of cotton in October than a year ago, but mills in the cotton-growing States consumed less. New England woolen mills did not use as much wool as in October 1924, but the loss was not as great as that suffered by mills in the Middle Atlantic States. The New England shoe industry, on the other hand, did not do as well in October as in either of the two previous months. The metal trades are not only active, but are expanding their output. Contracts awarded for new building construction during October and November have been much in excess of those awarded a year ago, but they have not maintained their favorable position, as compared with last summer, if allowance is made for the usual changes in the volume of contracts awarded from month to month. This decline, in fact, accounts in large measure for the recession in the New England Business Activity Index during October. For example, in October there is customarily a larger volume of contracts awarded than in September, but this year there was a decline. An identical condition was reported for the building industry of the country as a whole. Retail trade of New England department stores during October was the most favorable of any month in over a year and a half. The temperature was somewhat cooler than normal, which probably caused some of the usual November purchases of seasonal merchandise to be made a few weeks earlier. This seems to be borne out by the fact that trade during the second and third weeks in November did not maintain the gains reported in October. The Federal Reserve Bank of Boston changed its rediscount rate from 3 1/2 to 4%, effective Nov. 10.

Real Estate Market Activity Reaches Highest October Point in Ten Years.

National real estate market activity for October reached the highest point made for that month during the past ten years, according to the index of activity compiled by the National Association of Real Estate Boards. The index, which is the only quantitative measure of real estate activity that has been made, is based on the official figures of the total number of transfers and conveyances in 41 typical cities of the United States. Under date of Nov. 21 the Board states:

The index for October did not deviate from that for the month previous, remaining on the same level with September's market at 167 points. This number, based on the average real estate market activity of these 41 cities for the month of October, between 1916 and 1924, means that the real estate market reached a point of activity 67% above that average during the month of October.

The present calculations, the Association points out in making an interpretation of the index figures, are adjusted to eliminate seasonal fluctuations, but are not adjusted to eliminate the influence of the longtime trend. Since the normal increase in population should bring a measurable, constant, month by month increase in the volume of real estate transfers, the fact that the index number for October is identical with that for September indicates a slight decrease from the normal upward trend of activity.

Building construction during the month underwent a reaction, according to an index compiled by the F. W. Dodge Corporation from building statistics. The index indicates approximately the same decrease in construction of industrial buildings as in other non-residential types with a smaller drop in residential construction.

A record volume of contemplated work was reported in October, according to the report of the corporation, influenced probably by the speculative tendencies in evidence during the past few months.

Actual building activity is not expected to fall off to any serious extent while general business continues its upward trend or remains at about its present level of prosperity.

Increase in October of Earnings of Factory Workers in New York State, as Well as Employment.

In his review covering factory employment, made public Nov. 30, James A. Hamilton, Industrial Commissioner of the New York State Department of Labor, reports that factory workers in New York State averaged \$28 57 in October; slightly more than in September, when Labor Day was included in some of the reports. Metals and apparel industries led in the increase, says Commissioner Hamilton, who goes on to say:

The marked improvement in the metals, which was evident in larger forces employed this month, also meant longer working time in many of the factories, particularly those making steel and heating apparatus and in the shops engaged in railroad repair work. Increased hours were reported by modistes and furriers and holiday business caused manufacturers of men's furnishings, leather goods, jewelry and novelties to institute overtime. Earnings are a dollar higher than they were at this time in 1924. Workers in practically all the industries of the State are receiving more than a year ago. The exceptions are operatives in the cotton mills, shoe factories and heating apparatus shops. In shoes this was the result of a reduction of \$1 35 in October, as both up-State and New York City plants were less active. The difference of one dollar in the earnings of the cotton operatives was partly explained by the high earnings last year, when production shot upward for a brief period in the winter. This statement was issued to-day by Industrial Commissioner James A. Hamilton.

Metal workers, taken together, averaged about \$31, 55 cents more than in September. Automobile factories and structural iron workers showed higher earnings as well as the metal industries previously mentioned.

In the textiles the only workers who received more in October were in the cotton and knitting mills. Silk goods workers felt a small reduction, partly because Columbus Day was observed in some of the plants, but operatives in the woolen and worsted mills averaged about the same as in the preceding month, although many more employees were taken on.

Seasonal activity was responsible for the gain of almost three dollars in the weekly pay of those engaged in the manufacture of women's clothing. This was the largest advance for the sewing trades, but in the men's furnishing shops the increase reached \$1 70. This was shared by the up-State shirt factories as well as by the neckwear and hat factories in New York City. In the food industries the seasonal element tended to send earnings downward, particularly in the sugar refineries, canneries and beverage plants, but in all of these the average is above last year. The observance of Columbus Day in New York City caused the pay of workers making paints and varnishes to drop, but in the up-State industrial chemical plants average earnings went up after the holiday in September. There was a seasonal loss of over a dollar in the petroleum refineries.

Earnings of Both Men and Women Show Slight Increase.

The weekly pay of the men engaged in factory work averaged \$32 50 in October, 40 cents more than in the preceding month. Women's earnings of \$18 made an equal gain over September. The large number of men who benefited by increased working time in the metal industries, as well as a smaller group who shared in the activity in women's clothing shops and other sewing trades affected by Christmas demands were responsible for sending the average up. Metal workers in all but hardware and stamped ware factories and instrument and appliance plants were able to earn more than in September.

In the women's clothing shops men averaged about \$53, as the modiste shops continued to be busier and cloak and dress factories increased operations. There was a loss of \$1 30 for the men employed in the shoe factories due to seasonal reductions.

The most important gains for the women were in the sewing trades. The seasonal reduction in men's clothing meant lower earnings, but this was the only division in which the women failed to average more than in September.

Columbus Day caused earnings of the women employed in the manufacture of brass and copper goods to drop to \$15 35, almost two dollars less than in the preceding month, but the larger group of women in the electrical equipment and apparatus plants earned slightly more in October.

Earnings rose in four of the six up-State cities. Only in Binghamton and Rochester did seasonal reductions serve to pull down the average below

September. There was a slight gain in New York City, where holiday trade is so important.

Dun's Report of Mercantile Failures for November.

Insolvencies in the United States for the month just closed, as compiled from the records of R. G. Dun & Co., numbered 1,672 with liabilities of \$35,922,421, these figures contrasting with 1,581 similar defaults in Oct., with an indebtedness of \$29,543,870 and 1,653 for Nov. 1924, owing \$31,123,910. With the exception of Nov. 1924 insolvencies last month were fewer in number than for any corresponding month since Nov. 1920 and the increase this year over Nov. 1924 is trifling—only about 1%. The increase last month over the preceding month was 5.8% but such increase in Nov. is usual as the end of the year approaches. The indebtedness involved continues heavy, due mainly to some large defaults. The liabilities for Nov. this year are larger than they were a year ago, but with that exception are less than for Nov. in any preceding year back to 1920.

For the eleven months of this year there have been 19,436 commercial failures with liabilities of \$407,216,112, against 18,575 for eleven months of 1924 owing \$497,946,168. An increase this year over last year appears in each month excepting May, August and October, while the increase for November as noted above was very small. For the year 1925, however, the indications point to the largest number of commercial failures for any year excepting only 1922 and 1915.

Monthly and quarterly reports of business failures, showing number and liabilities, are contrasted below for the periods mentioned:

	Number			Liabilities	
	1925	1924.	1923.	1925.	1924.
November.....	1,672	1,653	1,704	\$35,922,421	\$31,123,910
October.....	1,581	1,696	1,673	29,543,870	36,098,804
September.....	1,465	1,306	1,226	\$30,687,319	\$34,296,276
August.....	1,513	1,520	1,319	37,158,861	55,153,981
July.....	1,685	1,615	1,231	34,506,191	36,813,238
Third quarter.....	4,663	4,441	3,776	\$102,351,371	\$126,263,496
June.....	1,745	1,607	1,358	\$36,701,496	\$34,099,031
May.....	1,767	1,816	1,350	37,026,552	36,590,905
April.....	1,939	1,707	1,520	37,188,622	48,904,452
Second quarter.....	5,451	5,130	4,408	\$110,916,670	\$119,594,388
March.....	1,859	1,817	1,682	\$34,004,731	\$97,651,026
February.....	1,793	1,730	1,508	40,123,017	35,942,037
January.....	2,317	2,108	2,126	54,354,032	51,272,508
First quarter.....	5,969	5,655	5,316	\$128,481,780	\$184,865,571

FAILURES BY BRANCHES OF BUSINESS—NOVEMBER 1925.

	Number			Liabilities	
	1925.	1924.	1923.	1925.	1924.
Manufacturers—					
Iron foundries and mills..	4	11	5	\$52,258	\$1,120,606
Machinery and tools.....	28	26	55	2,891,933	1,162,762
Woolens, carpets and knit goods.....	--	--	4	-----	-----
Cottons, lace & hosiery....	1	1	8	24,000	650,000
Lumber, carpenters and cooper.....	56	27	41	3,070,170	438,296
Clothing and millinery....	65	45	56	1,244,072	911,521
Hats, gloves and furs....	7	12	28	115,700	165,000
Chemicals and drugs.....	9	2	6	148,424	27,800
Paints and oils.....	1	2	1	3,000	51,300
Printing and engraving....	16	12	17	316,999	130,389
Milling and bakers.....	48	41	51	247,628	271,448
Leather, shoes & harness..	14	14	19	518,077	156,696
Liquors and tobacco.....	11	6	11	196,858	68,300
Glass, earthenware & brick	2	8	5	12,000	648,586
All other.....	180	154	188	5,152,582	4,449,423
Total manufacturing....	442	361	495	\$13,993,701	\$10,252,127
Traders—					
General stores.....	97	120	140	\$1,515,300	\$1,370,005
Groceries, meat and fish..	297	259	248	2,035,632	2,353,287
Hotels and restaurants....	104	67	89	1,127,904	1,671,873
Liquors and tobacco.....	20	36	38	123,386	144,445
Clothing and furnishings..	137	164	123	1,926,569	2,024,556
Dry goods and carpets....	62	95	72	4,397,794	1,072,949
Shoes, rubbers & trunks..	41	36	66	428,870	839,952
Furniture and crockery....	41	48	35	548,826	699,380
Hardware, stoves & tools..	26	30	32	476,177	394,026
Chemicals and drugs.....	42	48	43	490,263	485,577
Paints and oils.....	6	7	7	55,111	73,438
Jewelry and clocks.....	28	26	16	2,275,002	684,651
Books and papers.....	9	8	9	65,700	55,373
Hats, furs and gloves....	6	8	10	177,100	161,504
All other.....	230	221	203	3,263,457	3,750,505
Trading.....	1,146	1,193	1,131	\$18,907,091	\$15,781,521
Other commercial.....	84	99	78	3,021,629	5,090,262
Total.....	1,672	1,653	1,704	\$35,922,421	\$31,123,910

Advance Report for October on Electric Power in Philadelphia Federal Reserve District.

In its advices on electric power, the Department of Statistics and Research of the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia says:

Output of electric power by central stations in the Philadelphia district and sales to all classes of consumers were seasonally larger in October and also showed substantial advances over the totals for the same month of 1924. Total sales were nearly 21% ahead of last year, while sales to industries increased 15%. Nearly all sections reported advances except the anthracite, where there has been some slackening.

ELECTRIC POWER.

	October.		Change from Sept. '25. ^a	Change from Oct. '25. ^b
	886,600 k. w.			
Rated generator capacity	301,752,000 k. w. h.	301,752,000 k. w. h.	+9.4%	+13.3%
Generated output	956,000 k. w. h.	956,000 k. w. h.	+7.7%	+15.9%
Hydro-electric	258,411,000 k. w. h.	258,411,000 k. w. h.	+7.2%	+15.9%
Steam	42,385,000 k. w. h.	42,385,000 k. w. h.	+23.2%	+37.8%
Purchased	251,854,000 k. w. h.	251,854,000 k. w. h.	+6.6%	+20.7%
Sales of electricity	49,037,000 k. w. h.	49,037,000 k. w. h.	+20.3%	+16.2%
Lighting	7,686,000 k. w. h.	7,686,000 k. w. h.	+15.5%	+12.2%
Municipal	41,351,000 k. w. h.	41,351,000 k. w. h.	+21.2%	+17.0%
Residential and commercial	172,916,000 k. w. h.	172,916,000 k. w. h.	+2.6%	+15.1%
Power	1,718,000 k. w. h.	1,718,000 k. w. h.	+12.0%	+37.6%
Municipal	41,669,000 k. w. h.	41,669,000 k. w. h.	+6.8%	+13.6%
Street cars and railroads	129,529,000 k. w. h.	129,529,000 k. w. h.	+1.2%	+15.4%
Industries	29,900,000 k. w. h.	29,900,000 k. w. h.	+11.2%	+93.6%
All other sales				
Eleven systems.				
Ten systems.				

Preliminary Report on the Hosiery Industry in Federal Reserve District of Philadelphia.

The following table, compiled by the Bureau of the Census, showing the activities of the hosiery mills in the Third Federal Reserve District in October and presenting a comparison with those of September, is made public by the Department of Statistics and Research of the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia:

(In Dozen Pats.)	Men's.				Women's.			
	Full-fashioned		Seamless.		Full-fashioned.		Seamless.	
	Oct.	P. C. Change from Sept.	Oct.	P. C. Change from Sept.	Oct.	P. C. Change from Sept.	Oct.	P. C. Change from Sept.
Production	30,422	-5.2	308,817	+12.4	466,150	+15.1	226,617	+1.2
Shipments	32,325	-8.3	279,802	-0.3	472,296	+13.9	230,358	+7.8
Finished stock end of month	28,229	+0.2	309,690	+2.4	344,147	-3.5	235,747	-0.7
Orders booked	28,903	-47.2	309,391	+5.9	977,923	+298.6	199,473	-12.0
Cancellations rec.	1,079	-78.8	13,105	+26.1	16,092	+212.4	3,543	-28.3
Unfilled orders end of month	83,180	-16.6	585,504	+5.0	1,904,686	+36.1	1,67,653	-18.4

(In Dozen Pats.)	Boys' and Misses'		Children's and Infants'		Athletic and Sport.		Total.	
	Oct.	P. C. Change from Sept.	Oct.	P. C. Change from Sept.	Oct.	P. C. Change from Sept.		
	Production	32,330	+2.0	142,669	+9.2	53,149		+34.2
Shipments	26,046	-2.3	111,845	+86.5	40,794	-5.8	1,193,466	+11.1
Finished stock end of month	61,091	+1.1	389,231	+4.6	82,584	+19.6	1,450,719	+1.8
Orders booked	30,839	-0.9	121,683	-29.4	48,038	-36.0	1,716,250	+56.4
Cancellations rec.	120	+100.0	4,656	+142.2	2,580	+72.0	41,175	+41.6
Unfilled orders end of month	49,615	+6.5	849,978	+0.4	179,108	+5.1	3,618,424	+15.7

Advance Report for October on Automobile Trade in Philadelphia Federal Reserve District.

Sales of new cars by 17 reporting distributors in the Philadelphia Federal Reserve District were smaller in October than in the preceding month, according to the Department of Statistics and Research of the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia. This decline is of a seasonal nature and was not surprising in view of the heavy sales in September, following announcements of new models and price reductions, says the Bank, which also states:

The decline in both wholesale and retail business in October was accompanied by an accumulation of stocks of new cars in the hands of local distributors. Business in used cars was better in October than in September, although stocks of these cars were also larger.

AUTOMOBILE TRADE—PHILADELPHIA FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICT

	October 1925.	
	Number.	Value.
17 Distributors—		
Sales of new cars at wholesale	-11.7%	-8.2%
Cars selling under \$1,000	-8.9%	+0.2%
Cars selling from \$1,000 to \$2,000	-18.6%	-19.7%
Cars selling over \$2,000	-20.2%	-14.2%
Sales of new cars at retail	-7.3%	-6.1%
Cars selling under \$1,000	-8.0%	-8.7%
Cars selling from \$1,000 to \$2,000	-7.7%	-8.4%
Cars selling over \$2,000	0.0%	-1.3%
Stocks of new cars	+7.4%	+10.8%
Cars selling under \$1,000	+3.7%	+5.0%
Cars selling from \$1,000 to \$2,000	+22.8%	+16.5%
Cars selling over \$2,000	+13.0%	+15.3%
Sales of used cars	+2.8%	+2.6%
Stocks of used cars	+10.8%	+4.7%
Retail sales on deferred payment	-8.7%	-10.3%

Automobile Models and Price Changes.

An outstanding feature of the motor industry during the past week was the reduction announced by the Reo Motor Car Co. which on Nov. 27 cut the price of its sport touring model \$200 to \$1,395. It was reported from Detroit on Dec. 3 that the Chrysler Corp. intends starting production on a new four-cylinder roadster, built along the lines of their six-cylinder model. Another new model just announced is the new 2-passenger coupe which the Olds Motor Works is adding to its line. The production of the new model will start about Dec. 15, and it is expected that 1,000 or more cars of the new type will be run off the assembly line by the end of the month. Previously only the coach, sedan and touring car in the present line have been produced. Dodge Bros., Inc., are also offering a new model—a sedan in their B line listing at \$1,200. The car is blue gray, is upholstered

in morocco leather throughout, has one-piece windshield, new visor, cowl ventilator, disc wheels, bumpers and balloon tires.

Weekly Lumber Movement Indicates Increase in Production

For the week ended Nov. 28, the National Lumber Manufacturers Association received telegraphic reports of the status of the lumber industry from 379 of the larger softwood mills of the country. The 347 comparably reporting mills indicated considerable decreases in production and shipments, and a slight increase in new business, as compared with reports from 351 mills the week earlier. Increase in production and decreases in shipments and new business were noted in comparison with the same period of last year. The hardwood operations reports were not received in time for compilation in this summary.

The unfilled orders of 231 Southern Pine and West Coast mills at the end of last week amounted to 631,479,022 feet, as against 616,598,456 feet for 231 mills the previous week. The 127 identical Southern Pine mills in the group showed unfilled orders of 281,344,896 feet last week, as against 286,573,728 feet for the week before. For the 104 West Coast mills the unfilled orders were 350,134,126 feet, as against 330,024,728 feet for 104 mills a week earlier.

Altogether the 347 comparably reporting mills had shipments 99%, and orders 114%, of actual production. For the Southern Pine mills these percentages were respectively 120 and 112; and for the West Coast mills 94 and 123.

Of the reporting mills, the 339 with an established normal production for the week of 212,919,372 feet, gave actual production 99%, shipments 96% and orders 113% thereof.

The following table compares the national lumber movement as reflected by the reporting mills of seven regional associations for the three weeks indicated:

	Week Ended Nov. 28	Corresponding Week 1924	Preceding Week 1925 (Revised)
Mills	347	358	351
Production	210,264,968	196,757,916	222,551,846
Shipments	209,030,282	215,342,051	231,291,483
Orders (new business)	239,010,839	264,829,994	237,833,954

The following revised figures compare the lumber movement of the seven associations for the first forty-eight weeks of 1925 with the same period of 1924:

	Production	Shipments	Orders
1925	11,573,906,233	11,413,572,756	11,266,973,947
1924	11,052,663,187	10,992,030,292	10,827,927,585

The mills of the California White and Sugar Pine Manufacturers Association make weekly reports, but for a considerable period they were not comparable to orders with those of other mills. Consequently, the former are not represented in the foregoing tables. Eighteen of these mills reported a cut of 12,473,000 feet, shipments 15,810,000 and orders 11,317,000. The reported cut represents 46% of the total of the California Pine region.

The Southern Cypress Manufacturers Association of New Orleans, (also omitted from above tables because only recently reporting) for the week ended Nov. 25, reported from 14 mills a production of 5,087,825 feet, shipments 5,040,000 and orders 9,300,000. In comparison with reports for the previous week when two more mills reported, this Association showed some decreases in production and shipment, and a marked increase in new business.

Weekly Lumber Review of West Coast Lumbermen's Association.

One hundred and four mills reporting to West Coast Lumbermen's Association for the week ending November 21, manufactured 104,847,909 feet of lumber; sold 108,594,417 feet; and shipped 98,248,042 feet. New business was 4% above production. Shipments were 10% below new business.

Forty-seven per cent of all new business taken during the week was for future water delivery. This amounted to 50,991,411 feet, of which 36,537,182 feet was for domestic cargo delivery; and 14,454,229 feet export. New business by rail amounted to 1,769 cars.

Forty-seven per cent of the lumber shipments moved by water. This amounted to 46,015,036 feet, of which 33,824,231 feet moved coastwise and intercoastal; and 12,190,805 feet export. Rail shipments totaled 1,590 cars.

Local auto and team deliveries totaled 4,533,006 feet. Unfilled domestic cargo orders totaled 110,671,535 feet. Unfilled export orders 120,713,193 feet. Unfilled rail trade orders, 3,288 cars.

In the first forty-seven weeks of the year, production reported to West Coast Lumbermen's Association has been 4,709,275,122 feet, new business 4,807,488,579 feet; and shipments 4,852,657,718 feet.

Crude Oil and Gasoline Prices Continue to Rise in Certain Sections.

Changes in price continued during the week in the crude oil and gasoline markets, although the changes were not so widespread as those of the preceding week. On Nov. 30 it was announced at Pittsburgh that the price of Ragland crude oil had been advanced 5 cents a barrel to \$1.15. Effective Dec. 1 the Simms Petroleum Co. is paying a premium of 10c. a barrel for North Texas crude oil of 40 gravity and below and a premium of 5c. a barrel for crude of more than 40 gravity.

The price of fuel oil has also been rising during the week, according to reports from Pittsburgh and Chicago. Fuel oil dealers in the former city have marked prices up to 7.28c. per gallon, which compares with 6.75c. per gallon a few weeks ago. In Chicago fuel oil prices were advancing steadily, with 24-26 gravity quoted around \$1.30 a barrel on Dec. 2. Some dealers asked higher prices for delivery over December. Figure of \$1.25 is considered bottom price for 18-22 gravity. The tank wagon price of fuel oil was increased 1/2c. to 7c. for 24-26 in lots of 400 gals. or more in the market.

The price of gasoline also rose in certain sections of the country, the chief advance being announced Nov. 30 by the Standard Oil Co. of New York to take effect Dec. 1. The company advanced the wholesale and retail price of gasoline 1c. a gallon throughout New England and New York State, excepting Greater New York, Long Island and Westchester. This advance made the wholesale price 17c. and the retail price 20c., prices which have prevailed in the metropolitan district for some time. The advance was the first general rise in gasoline in the East since June, and the first change Aug. 27, when there was a reduction of 1c. a gallon. The Gulf Refining Co. on Dec. 1 advanced the price of gasoline 1c. a gallon to 17c., meeting the increase in prices announced by the Standard Oil Co. of New York in New England and New York State. Among other companies which met the advance were the Jenney Mfg. Co., Atlantic Refining and Texaco.

The Standard Oil Co. of Louisiana on Dec. 4 advanced its quotation of gasoline 1/2c. a gallon in its entire territory with the exception of Memphis, Tenn., where the price was raised 1 1/2c. The new price is 18 1/2c. a gallon retail and 15 1/2c. tank wagon. The Gulf Refining Co. followed the advance in gasoline announced by the Standard Oil Co. of Louisiana.

The Standard Oil Co. of N. J. on Dec. 4 advanced export kerosene in cases 1/4c. Standard white is now 17.90 c. and water white 18.90c. a gallon.

Decline Reported in Crude Oil Production.

A decrease of 6,600 barrels per day was reported this week in the output of crude oil. According to the American Petroleum Institute, the estimated daily average gross crude oil production in the United States for the week ended Nov. 28 was 2,045,250 barrels, as compared with 2,051,850 barrels for the preceding week. The daily average production east of California was 1,408,250 barrels, as compared with 1,412,850 barrels, a decrease of 4,600 barrels. The following are estimates of daily average gross production by districts for the weeks indicated:

DAILY AVERAGE PRODUCTION.

(In Barrels.)	Nov. 28 '25.	Nov. 21 '25.	Nov. 14 '25.	Nov. 29 '24.
Oklahoma	489,650	499,350	486,200	531,950
Kansas	105,650	106,050	107,250	87,250
North Texas	83,300	81,450	78,450	89,150
East Central Texas	67,650	68,350	70,250	124,300
West Central Texas	73,850	73,550	72,700	51,150
Southwest Texas	44,850	45,200	46,300	55,600
North Louisiana	205,400	198,350	192,450	114,450
Arkansas	85,750	84,650	85,550	82,400
Gulf Coast	105,000	106,000	105,000	108,000
Eastern	78,850	82,900	82,000	78,800
Wyoming	18,750	15,950	15,650	6,600
Montana	4,850	5,200	5,850	1,350
Colorado	5,200	5,600	6,050	600
New Mexico	637,000	639,000	644,500	595,500
California				
Total	2,045,250	2,051,850	2,039,100	1,975,800

The estimated daily average gross production of the Mid-continent field including Oklahoma, Kansas, north, east central, west central and southwest Texas, north Louisiana and Arkansas, for the week ended Nov. 28 was 1,109,850 barrels, as compared with 1,112,550 barrels for the preceding week, a decrease of 2,700 barrels. The Mid-continent production, excluding Smackover, Arkansas, heavy oil, was 937,200 barrels, as compared with 946,800 barrels, a decrease of 9,600 barrels.

In Oklahoma production of South Braman is reported at 5,750 barrels, against 6,200 barrels; Thomas, 16,700 barrels, against 16,600 barrels; Tonkawa, 39,300 barrels, against 44,900 barrels; Garber, 66,050 barrels, against 72,150 barrels; Burbank, 48,300 barrels, against 48,400 barrels; Davenport, 20,550 barrels, against 19,050 barrels; Bristow-Slick, 31,000 barrels, against 31,100 barrels; Cromwell, 22,250 barrels, against 23,100 barrels, and Papoose, 14,000 barrels, against 13,450 barrels.

The Mexia pool, east central Texas, is reported at 15,300 barrels, against 15,150 barrels; Corsicana-Powell, 36,600 barrels, against 36,800 barrels; Wortham, 12,300 barrels,

against 12,800 barrels; Reagan County, west central Texas, 31,200 barrels, against 30,800 barrels; Haynesville, north Louisiana, 11,900 barrels, against 12,000 barrels; Cotton Valley, 9,050 barrels, against 8,450 barrels; and Smackover, Ark., light, 21,600 barrels, against 21,450 barrels; heavy, 172,650 barrels, against 165,750 barrels. In the Gulf Coast field Hull is reported at 14,300 barrels, against 13,950 barrels; West Columbia, 9,600 barrels, against 9,650 barrels; Orange County, 15,650 barrels, against 13,050 barrels; South Liberty, 10,200 barrels, against 9,950 barrels, and in the southwest Texas field, Luling is reported at 21,900 barrels, against 22,100 barrels; Lytton Springs, 8,200 barrels, against 8,600 barrels.

In Wyoming, Salt Creek is reported at 58,900 barrels, against 64,250 barrels.

In California, Santa Fe Springs is reported at 53,000 barrels, no change; Long Beach, 108,000 barrels, against 106,000 barrels; Huntington Beach, 45,500 barrels, against 47,000 barrels; Torrance, 32,000 barrels, no change; Dominguez, 26,000 barrels, against 26,500 barrels; Rosecrans, 25,000 barrels, against 25,500 barrels; Inglewood, 69,000 barrels, against 69,500 barrels, and Midway-Sunset, 99,500 barrels, no change.

Petroleum Exports in October—Exports of Coal.

The Department of Commerce at Washington on Nov. 24 issued its monthly report showing the exports of petroleum for October and the ten months ended with October for the years 1925 and 1924. The exports of crude petroleum are behind those of last year for both the month of October and the ten months' period ended with October, 53,672,732 gallons having been exported in October 1925, as compared with 57,787,463 gallons in October 1924, and for the ten months ended with October this year only 483,449,706 gallons were exported, as against 638,652,228 gallons in the corresponding period last year. The exports of refined petroleum also show a decrease from last year both for the month of October and for the ten months ending with October, 332,508,376 gallons having been shipped in October this year, against 342,084,764 gallons in October last year, while for the ten months ending with October 3,203,534,729 gallons were sent out in 1925, as against 3,286,739,226 gallons the preceding year. The detailed report as furnished by the Department is as follows:

DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF COAL AND PETROLEUM.

	Month of October.		Ten Months Ended October.	
	1924.	1925.	1924.	1925.
Coal—				
Anthracite, tons	362,118	45,915	2,984,246	2,802,110
Value	\$4,109,348	\$397,334	\$33,217,170	\$31,414,823
Bituminous, tons	1,534,459	1,243,460	13,197,853	12,716,831
Value	\$6,801,630	\$5,281,244	\$61,233,990	\$55,919,027
Coke, tons	55,759	70,603	475,171	633,716
Value	\$420,927	\$550,223	\$4,009,974	\$4,884,691

DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF PETROLEUM AND REFINED PRODUCTS.

Petroleum—				
Crude, gals.	57,787,463	53,672,732	638,652,228	483,449,706
Value	\$1,831,444	\$2,241,880	\$22,882,521	\$21,218,389
Total refined petroleum, gals.	342,084,764	332,508,376	3,286,739,226	3,203,534,729
Value	\$32,623,433	\$33,874,441	\$331,645,866	\$347,590,956
Gasoline, naphtha & other light products, gals.	91,153,320	102,465,644	989,219,579	1,039,399,558
Value	\$11,752,949	\$14,690,837	\$142,110,476	\$161,941,603
Oils				
Illuminating, gals.	89,676,041	87,373,006	763,154,305	722,598,212
Value	\$3,779,031	\$8,202,535	\$74,348,760	\$69,275,474
Gas and fuel, gals.	130,225,111	111,026,860	1,213,669,322	1,106,625,076
Value	\$4,569,575	\$3,768,455	\$41,237,334	\$41,077,632
Lubricating, gals.	31,030,292	31,642,866	320,696,026	334,571,883
Value	\$7,521,978	\$7,212,614	\$73,949,296	\$75,296,247
Paraffine wax, lbs.	30,814,323	32,960,945	322,562,612	270,628,660
Value	\$1,621,185	\$1,869,437	\$15,270,977	\$15,053,378

Proposed International Fur Conference.

Plans are being made for an International Fur Conference, in which the leading fur men of twenty-three nations will participate, according to an announcement by David C. Mills, Director of the National Association of the Fur Industry. The idea for the conference is the outgrowth of a number of discussions between the leading fur men of America, England, France, Germany and other countries. In explaining the purpose of the conference, Mr. Mills said:

So great and widespread has the fur industry become that it is essential that there be a common understanding among the many nations which are concerned in it, and I believe the conference will produce this result.

Outstanding among the matters to be discussed will be that of conservation. Wild life is so abundant now that the end of the supply seems nowhere in sight, but the fur business is taking a lesson from other industries which had confidence in everlasting supply and were disappointed.

For the present, and a good many years to come, the supply is abundant, for the trappers touch all corners of the earth, but it is the purpose of this conference to assure that the supply for the future generations will also be ample.

Weavers' Strike at Royal Mill (R. I.) Ends—Permitted to Operate 16 Looms at Reduction of 10% in Pay—32-Loom System Optional.

According to the "Providence Journal" an agreement, under which operation of the weaving department of the B. B. & R. Knight, Inc., Royal Mill, West Warwick, would be resumed Nov. 24, was ratified on Nov. 23 by a vote of 30 to 18 at a mass meeting of weavers who went out on strike Nov. 12 in protest against the inauguration of the 32-loom system.

The "Journal" said:

The agreement was formulated yesterday afternoon by a committee representing the strikers and representatives of the mill management at an adjourned session of the conference called by Miss Anna Weinstock, Commissioner of Conciliation of the Department of Labor.

Under the agreement weavers are permitted to operate 16 looms at a reduction of 10% in pay; the company agrees not to force any weaver to operate more than 16 looms; the workers agree not to molest, interfere with or intimidate anyone desiring to operate 32 looms, and the management agrees to give preference, when additional workers are needed, to those who are employed at the plant on Aug. 15, the date preceding the curtailment in production which necessitated a reduction in the operating force.

Text of Agreement

The text of the agreement follows:

"It is mutually agreed to by the undersigned representatives of the striking weavers employed by the Royal Mill, and by the undersigned representatives of the mill management that all of the 90 weavers who left their employment on Nov. 12 may return to work on the basis of a 10% reduction, operating 16 looms. It is understood that this reduction, offered by the weavers, does not apply to any other group of operatives in the mill.

"The company management agrees that no weaver shall be forced to operate more than 16 looms.

"The workers' committee agrees that, if any weaver desires to operate more than 16 looms, he or she shall not be molested, intimidated or interfered with by the other workers.

"The company management further agrees that any additional weavers to be employed shall be given their choice of 16 or 32 looms.

"It is understood that, as additional weavers are needed, preference will be given to weavers who were regularly employed in Royal Mills on Aug. 15, 1925."

Large Exports of Cotton, Cotton Cloths, Yarns, Thread and Hosiery.

The Department of Commerce at Washington on Nov. 24 issued its monthly report on the domestic exports of cotton, cotton cloths, yarns, thread and hosiery for the month of October and the ten months ending with October 1925, with comparisons for the corresponding periods in 1924.

The exports of raw cotton were larger this year in quantity and value, both for the month and the ten months period than last year, 1,421,482 bales having been shipped out in October 1925, as compared with 946,506 bales in October 1924, and 6,341,396 bales in the ten months of 1925, against 4,412,448 bales in the ten months of 1924. In value, the exports of raw cotton for the month of October this year were also larger, being \$176,184,602, as compared with \$123,303,475 in October last year. For the ten months ending with October this year the value was \$808,958,014, as against \$649,874,892 last year. Cotton cloths and manufactures have increased both in quantity and value in the ten months of this year as compared with the ten months of last year. Below is the report in detail:

DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF COTTON, COTTON CLOTHS, YARN, THREAD HOSIERY.

	Month of October.		10 Months ended October.	
	1924.	1925.	1924.	1925.
Raw cotton, incl. linters, bales	946,506	1,421,482	4,412,448	6,341,396
Value	\$123,303,475	\$176,184,602	\$649,874,892	\$808,958,014
Cotton manufactures, total	\$13,532,046	\$11,776,824	\$109,735,452	\$124,864,348
Cotton cloths, total sq. yds.	53,113,456	44,888,557	387,941,066	453,359,205
Value	\$8,429,416	\$7,013,048	\$64,543,627	\$71,551,119
Cotton duck, sq. yds.	899,723	1,016,311	7,667,907	9,627,421
Value	\$455,197	\$453,003	\$3,508,388	\$4,211,826
Other cotton cloths—				
Unbleached, sq. yds.	12,564,657	13,639,931	85,383,177	104,186,095
Value	\$1,553,746	\$1,648,278	\$11,012,078	\$12,426,424
Bleached, sq. yds.	8,277,558	6,867,173	66,777,270	77,558,998
Value	\$1,216,567	\$1,012,074	\$9,895,928	\$11,176,939
Printed, sq. yds.	10,706,138	7,478,723	\$1,864,914	95,142,601
Value	\$1,430,898	\$994,602	\$11,884,170	\$12,801,279
Piece dyed, sq. yds.	10,322,366	8,392,217	78,778,226	90,750,882
Value	\$1,872,614	\$1,573,564	\$15,265,830	\$17,152,927
Yarn dyed, sq. yds.	10,343,014	7,492,202	67,469,572	76,093,208
Value	\$1,900,394	\$1,331,527	\$12,977,233	\$13,781,724
Cotton yarn, thread, &c.:				
Carded yarn, lbs.	1,010,268	738,659	5,630,281	11,032,813
Value	\$424,764	\$322,329	\$2,564,517	\$4,697,246
Combed yarn, lbs.	733,145	560,614	4,547,707	7,020,842
Value	\$456,960	\$454,308	\$3,092,553	\$5,176,394
Sewing thread, crochet, darning & emb'r'y, lbs.	138,409	80,941	1,296,591	885,100
Value	\$173,849	\$96,902	\$1,507,441	\$988,277
Cotton hosiery, doz. prs.	457,852	430,070	4,034,378	4,582,634
Value	\$887,294	\$832,114	\$7,586,244	\$8,657,826

Steel Companies Report Favorable Business Conditions—Pig Iron Market Slackens Somewhat.

From steel company sales departments reports are favorable, new orders and specifications being still in excess of

shipments. Producers in the Chicago district found it the most active week of the year with the exception of early January, according to the "Iron Age's" weekly summary of market conditions. December opened with daily pig iron production 6% greater than on Nov. 1, though the daily average for November was but 3% more than that of October. The steel companies started up a good many blast furnaces in the past week as they became more convinced of the substantial character of the recent demand and of the good prospect for steel consumption in the early weeks of 1916, continues the "Age," adding:

December is not expected to equal November in amount of business booked, seeing that many manufacturing consumers are covered well into the first quarter, but the indications are that most of the metal-working industries will operate through the winter on substantially their present scale.

While but 53,000 freight cars were ordered in the first 11 months of the year, against 133,000 in all of 1926, a fair amount of winter buying is looked for. The Sante Fe has ordered 2850 freight cars and other roads are inquiring for a total of 2,140, including 1,000 gondolas for the Pittsburgh & West Virginia. The Pacific Fruit Express has authorized the purchase of 3,000 refrigerator cars.

Railroad buying in other directions is still considerable, including scattered rail orders and a good volume of track supplies. The International-Great Northern has placed 17,000 tons of rails at Sparrow's Point for water shipment to Galveston and 7,000 tons with the Colorado mill.

The wire trade has shown some improvement in the buying of both manufacturers and jobbers, but there is little prospect of such a January advance in prices as was attempted this year.

Sheet and tin plate mills are running at a high rate. The leading interest has 95% of its sheet mills going this week, with the Gary plant at 100%.

The curtailment thus far made in automobile production has caused no suspension of steel shipments and there are some plans at Detroit for an increased output in January.

Three of the five Eastern makers of plates have advanced prices \$4 a ton, from 1.60c. to 1.80c., Pittsburgh, for prompt delivery or first quarter contracts. The other two makers have made no definite decision. At 1.80c. plates in the East are still \$1 to \$2 a ton below prices quoted by Pittsburgh mills.

The pig iron market has grown quieter, but consumption and prices are well maintained. Two sales of basic iron in the East totaling close to 10,000 tons have established a slightly higher price. Foundry iron from eastern Pennsylvania furnaces is strong at \$23 base. Sales of about 15,000 tons of pipe iron have been made to two companies.

The anthracite operators' rejection of the Pinchot proposal is not taken as necessarily pointing to a long extension of the deadlock. The coke market does not point that way. Blast furnace operators now expect to get first quarter coke at \$4.25 to \$4.50 and spot business has been done at \$3.85, as against \$8.50 a month ago.

Lake Superior ore shipments this year by water amounted to 54,074,079 tons, or 27% more than in 1924 and about 1,000,000 tons more than predicted.

Newfoundland and North Africa will supply iron ore for the new blast furnace in Massachusetts. A total of 200,000 tons, including 50,000 tons on option, has been divided equally between the two sellers.

German pig iron producers have adopted the German steel makers' system of granting rebates on iron to be converted into products for export.

The price of steel remained unchanged but that of pig iron showed an advance as the following tables indicate:

Finished Steel Dec. 1 1925—2.439c. Per Lb.			
	1925	1924	1923
Based on prices of steel bars, beams, tank plates, plain wire, open-hearth rails, black pipe and black sheets, constituting 88% of the U. S. output.	2.439c.	2.424c.	2.531c.
	One week ago	One month ago	10-year pre-war average
	2.439c.	2.424c.	1.689c.
Pig Iron Dec. 1 1925—\$21.54 Per Gross Ton.			
	1925	1924	1923
Based on average of basic and foundry irons, the basic being Valley quotation, the foundry an average of Chicago, Philadelphia and Birmingham.	\$21.29	\$20.79	\$20.71
	One week ago	One month ago	10-year pre-war average
	\$21.29	\$20.79	15.72
	1923	1924	1923
Finished steel	High 2.560c. Jan. 6	2.789c. Jan. 15	2.824c. Apr. 24
	Low 2.396c. Aug. 18	2.460c. Oct. 14	2.446c. Jan. 2
Pig iron	High \$22.50 Jan. 13	\$22.88 Feb. 26	\$30.86 Mar. 20
	Low \$18.96 July 7	\$19.21 Nov. 3	\$20.77 Nov. 20

November proved to be another month of heavy bookings in steel and has added both in tonnage and strength to the position of the mills, observes the "Iron Trade Review" this week. In some finished lines the incoming tonnage totaled the largest of the year, exceeding both October and January, the previous ranking months. In other products it was slightly less, reflecting seasonable changes and previous heavy purchases. Generally, unfilled tonnage with producers has been increased as the result of the month's market, despite the material expansion of shipments, declares the "Review" in summarizing conditions in the market. Further details from the report are as follows:

On the basis of orders on hand and the rate at which consumers are specifying, present activity in the industry is considered assured through January and probably well through the first quarter. With the mills falling back in deliveries, specifications to-day usually mean shipment after Jan. 1, which is acceptable to most consumers for inventory reasons. Moreover, contracting by buyers for first quarter requirements has been active and is continuing so.

Steel production is moving ahead at high speed, with some companies running close to the highest rate of tonnage in their history. While the industry as a whole is operating at 80% to 85%, based on the numerical rating of furnace capacity, a number of companies, including some of the largest, actually are producing tonnage in excess of their theoretical maximums. This illustrates the unusual pitch of efficiency that characterizes present operations.

A gain of 11 blast furnaces in the active list is the outstanding fact in pig iron production figures for November. This brings the number of furnaces in commission to 220, or 57.2% of the total number, against 54.1% in October. Because most of the stacks resumed the second half of the month, the increases in tonnage was not marked. The average daily production went from 97,351 tons to 100,620 tons, a rise of 3.3%.

anthracite substitutes was practically nil and no resumption was expected until real cold weather arrives.

Rumors of the anthracite strike being settled shortly, coupled with warm weather, depressed the Philadelphia market for anthracite substitutes and anthracite last week and dealers were buying only on a hand-to-mouth basis.

The demand for prepared bituminous at Baltimore was fair, but outside of that the market as a whole was rather flat. No export shipments were reported.

Last week the demand for coal and coke from the central Pennsylvania territory fell off and prices dropped in consequence. It was reported that there were many cars held without sale in New England.

Prices in Pittsburgh territory softened last week, due to the let-up in demand from New England and other anthracite consuming districts, on account of mild weather.

There have been some inquiries received in the Fairmont district of northern West Virginia during the past week for December railroad fuel, but no prices were given out.

Southern West Virginia mines were still keeping up their record of over two million tons a week; stabilized lower temperatures at the end of the week stabilized prices.

In the Upper Potomac and western Maryland fields the demand for all grades was better balanced than formerly, resulting in firmer prices. The movement through the Cumberland gateway has assumed such proportions that it has been necessary for the railroads to put on extra crews.

The acceptance by John L. Lewis, United Mine Workers' President, of Governor Pinchot's proposal to end the hard coal strike and the operators' flat rejection of the plan were easily the outstanding events of the last week.

Soft coal production continues at almost record-breaking levels, and the market is absorbing the tonnage remarkably well, though prices, it is true, show a softening tendency under the influence of unseasonably mild weather.

Scarcely a field or division of the trade escaped the continued reaction, West Virginia smokeless, Kentucky, Indiana, Illinois, southern and eastern Ohio and central Pennsylvania coals of all sizes and qualities partaking in the decline.

Transportation difficulties have been pretty well cleared up on the Louisville & Nashville RR. Movement of coal through the Cincinnati gateway last week totaled 14,318 car loads, which was 119 less than the previous week.

The "Coal Age" index of spot prices of bituminous coal on Nov. 30 stood at 187, the corresponding price being \$2 26, compared with 192 and \$2 32 on Nov. 23.

Bituminous Production Reaches Peak—Anthracite Strike Continues—Coke Output Declines.

With a gain of 457,000 net tons over the preceding week, the output of bituminous coal during the week ended Nov. 21 reached the peak of production per week since 1920.

Output of coke declined, continued the Bureau, giving the following details:

During the week ended Nov. 21 the production of bituminous coal, including lignite and coal coked at the mines, is estimated at 12,624,000 net tons.

Estimated United States Production of Bituminous Coal, Including Coal Coked (Net Tons) a

Table with 4 columns: Week Ended (Nov 7, 14, 21), Week, Cal. Yr. to Date, and 1924 (Week, Cal. Yr. to Date). Rows include November 7, Daily average, November 14, Daily average, November 21, and Daily average.

a Original estimates corrected for usual error, which in past has averaged 2%. b Minus two days' production first week in January to equalize number of days in the two years. c Subject to revision.

Total output during the calendar year 1925 to Nov. 21 is 456,339,000 net tons. This is approximately 33,074,000 net tons, or 7.8%, more than that during the same period of 1924.

Years of Activity vs Years of Depression table comparing net tons for 1918-1923 and 1919-1924.

ANTHRACITE.

Production of anthracite for the week of Nov. 21, based on reports received from the principal carriers, is estimated at 46,000 net tons, an increase of 14,000 tons compared with the preceding week.

Estimated United States Production of Anthracite (Net Tons).

Table with 4 columns: Week Ended (Nov 7, 14, 21), Week, Cal. Yr. to Date, and 1924 (Week, Cal. Yr. to Date). Rows include November 7, November 14, and November 21.

a Less two days in January to equalize the number of days in the two years.

BEEHIVE COKE.

Production of beehive coke during the week ending Nov. 21 is estimated at 283,000 net tons, a decrease of 12,000 tons, or 4%, compared with the preceding week.

Estimated Production of Beehive Coke (Net Tons).

Table with 6 columns: Region (Pennsylvania & Ohio, West Virginia, Ala., Ky., Tenn. & Ga., Virginia, Colorado & New Mexico, Washington & Utah), Nov. 21 1925, Nov. 14 1925, Nov. 22 1924, 1925 (Week, Cal. Yr. to Date), and 1924 (Week, Cal. Yr. to Date).

United States total. 283,000 295,000 158,000 9,064,000 8,531,000

Daily average. 47,000 49,000 26,000 33,000 31,000

a Adjusted to make comparable the number of days covered in the two years. b Subject to revision. c Revised since last report.

Domestic Exports of Canned and Dried Foods.

The report of the exports of canned and dried foods, released by the Department of Commerce, at Washington, on Nov. 24, covers the month of October and the ten months' period ending with October for the years 1925 and 1924.

Table with 4 columns: Item, 1924, 1925, 10 Mos. Ended October 1924, 10 Mos. Ended October 1925. Rows include Total canned meats, Total dairy products, Total canned vegetables, Total dried and evaporated fruits, Beef, Sausage, Milk, Apples, Apricots, Peaches, Pears, and Pineapples.

Production of Soft Coal in October.

The table below presents estimates of bituminous coal production during the month of October, the distribution

being based on figures of railroad loadings courteously furnished by the American Railway Association. Total production during the month amounted to 53,203,000 net tons, the highest monthly production recorded since Dec. 1920. The average daily output was greater than that in September by 127,000 tons, or 6.9%, according to estimates issued by the U. S. Bureau of Mines.

The figures in the table below show that with the exception of Alabama, Kentucky, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia, every coal-producing State in the country maintained a higher rate of daily output in October than in September. For the great Appalachian field as a whole, this increase was approximately 5.4%; for the Eastern interior region, consisting of Illinois, Indiana and Western Kentucky, about 14%, and in the States west of the Mississippi, increases ranged from one to about 34%, continues the Bureau, from which we quote the following:

ESTIMATED MONTHLY PRODUCTION OF SOFT COAL BY STATES (NET TONS)a.

Table showing monthly production of soft coal by states for August, September, and October 1925. Includes columns for Production and Daily Avg for each month.

a Subject to revision. b Includes Georgia, California, Oregon and South Dakota.

Domestic Exports of Meats and Fats.

The Department of Commerce at Washington gave out on Nov. 23 its monthly report on the domestic exports of meats and fats for October. This shows that in October the total quantity and value of meats and meat products exported was less than in the corresponding month last year, 42,643,630 lbs. being exported in October 1925, against 59,440,912 lbs. in October 1924. The value of these exports in October this year amounted to \$8,883,537, against \$9,370,273 in October last year. The total of animal oils and fats for October was also smaller than last year. For the ten months ended with October the exports of meats and fats have been generally less than in the corresponding period last year, both in quantity and value. The report is as follows:

DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF MEATS AND FATS.

Table showing domestic exports of meats and fats for October 1924 and 1925, and ten months ended October 1924 and 1925. Includes categories like Total meats & meat prod. lbs., Beef and veal, fresh, etc.

Current Events and Discussions

The Week With the Federal Reserve Banks.

The consolidated statement of condition of the Federal Reserve banks on Dec. 2, made public by the Federal Reserve Board, and which deals with the results for the twelve Federal Reserve banks combined, shows an increase of \$26,400,000 in bills and securities and of \$11,200,000 in Federal Reserve note circulation and a decrease of \$3,000,000 in cash reserves. Holdings of discounted bills went up \$19,200,000 and of Government securities \$7,100,000, while holdings of acceptances purchased in open market went down \$1,700,000.

The Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago shows an increase of \$9,200,000 in discount holdings, San Francisco an increase of \$8,500,000, Boston \$6,900,000, Atlanta \$4,100,000, and Philadelphia \$4,000,000. Discount holdings of the St. Louis bank declined \$6,200,000 and those of New York \$4,900,000. After noting these facts, the Federal Reserve Board proceeds as follows:

An increase of \$9,700,000 in open-market acceptance holdings is reported by the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis and an increase of \$2,900,000 by Dallas, while Boston reports a decline of \$6,300,000, and Chicago and Kansas City report declines of \$2,700,000 and \$2,500,000, respectively. Treasury notes on hand increased \$10,400,000, while Treasury certificates of indebtedness were reduced \$3,300,000, and holdings of U. S. bonds remained unchanged.

Federal Reserve note circulation increased at all Federal Reserve banks except Boston, New York and St. Louis, which show a total reduction of \$1,200,000. The principal increases during the week were \$2,800,000 each reported by the Atlanta and Chicago reserve banks.

The statement in full, in comparison with the preceding week and with the corresponding date last year, will be found on subsequent pages—namely, pages 2724 and 2725. A summary of changes in the principal assets and liabilities of the Reserve banks during the week and the year ending Dec. 2 1925 follows:

Summary table showing increases (+) or decreases (-) during the week and year for various assets and liabilities.

The Week With the Member Banks of the Federal Reserve System.

The Federal Reserve Board's weekly statement of condition of 722 reporting member banks in leading cities as of Nov. 25 shows reductions of \$56,000,000 in loans and discounts, \$5,000,000 in investments and \$202,000,000 in net demand deposits. These reductions were accompanied by increases of \$39,000,000 in time deposits and \$40,000,000 in borrowings from the Federal Reserve banks. Member banks in New York City reported reductions of \$11,000,000 in loans and discounts and \$78,000,000 in net demand deposits, together with increases of \$1,000,000 in investments, \$20,000,000 in time deposits and \$37,000,000 in borrowings from the Federal Reserve banks. It should be noted that the figures for these member banks are always a week behind those for the Reserve banks themselves.

Loans on U. S. Government obligations fell off \$3,000,000, a decline of \$5,000,000 in the New York district being partly offset by an increase of \$2,000,000 in the St. Louis district. Loans on corporate stocks and bonds show a net decline of \$2,000,000. The principal changes in this item include increases of \$22,000,000 in the New York district and of \$7,000,000 in the San Francisco district, and reductions of \$16,000,000 and \$15,000,000 in the Boston and Chicago districts, respectively. All other loans and discounts declined by \$51,000,000, decreases of \$31,000,000 in the New York district and \$20,000,000 each in the Boston and Chicago districts being offset in part by increases in other districts, particularly Philadelphia, Dallas and San Francisco. Further comments regarding the changes shown by these member banks are as follows:

Investments in U. S. Government securities changed but little outside the Chicago district which reported an increase of \$8,000,000. Holdings of other bonds, stocks and securities declined \$6,000,000 in the New York district and \$5,000,000 in the Chicago district, and increased \$4,000,000 in the San Francisco district.

Net demand deposits fell off \$202,000,000, the largest declines being as follows: New York district \$94,000,000, Chicago district \$47,000,000, Boston district \$18,000,000, San Francisco district \$12,000,000, and the Philadelphia, Atlanta and Kansas City districts \$7,000,000 each.

Time deposits increased \$39,000,000, of which \$21,000,000 was reported by banks in the New York district and \$7,000,000 by those in the Chicago district.

The principal changes in borrowings from the Federal Reserve banks include increases of \$41,000,000 in the New York district, and of \$13,000,000

and \$10,000,000 in the Chicago and San Francisco districts, respectively, and a reduction of \$11,000,000 in the Boston district.

On a subsequent page—that is, on page 2725 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 and with last year:

	Increase (+) or Decrease (—)	
	Week. During	Year.
Loans and discounts, total.....	-\$56,000,000	+\$1,089,000,000
Secured by U. S. Govt. obligations.....	-3,000,000	-22,000,000
Secured by stocks and bonds.....	-2,000,000	+935,000,000
All other.....	-51,000,000	+176,000,000
Investments, total.....	-5,000,000	-212,000,000
U. S. bonds.....	+1,000,000	+223,000,000
U. S. Treasury notes.....	+5,000,000	-283,000,000
U. S. Treasury certificates.....	-1,000,000	-197,000,000
Other bonds, stocks, and securities.....	-10,000,000	+45,000,000
Reserve balances with F. R. banks.....	-39,000,000	+31,000,000
Cash in vault.....	+11,000,000	-6,000,000
Net demand deposits.....	-202,000,000	-40,000,000
Time deposits.....	+39,000,000	+503,000,000
Government deposits.....	-5,000,000	-94,000,000
Total accommodation at F. R. banks.....	+40,000,000	+361,000,000

Weekly Digest of Cables Receives from Foreign Offices of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce.

ARGENTINA.

The trade is estimating the total wheat production for this year at 210,000,000 bushels. A large linseed yield is expected. The seasonal export movement of cereals is just starting, wheat trading being mostly speculative as yet. American interest in linseed for December and January delivery is evident. The new wool clip is being taken readily by Italian, French, and Belgian buyers, but to a lesser extent by the United States. The import trade is sluggish, stocks are normal, and the internal business situation remains unchanged. Increasing commercial failures are not alarming, but credits are being closely scrutinized. Collections are difficult where weaker houses bought too heavily. October bank statements show a decrease in deposits and cash in banks. Loans have increased by 24,000,000 pesos and rates are higher. The national revenues continue greater than last year by approximately 6½%.

BOLIVIA.

General business conditions show no change from October. Exchange averaged 2.89 bolivianos to the dollar for the month. Tin quotations have averaged approximately £ 282 1-3 sterling. November imports consisted chiefly of flour from the United States and Chile; sugar from the United States and Peru; iron goods and lubricants from the United States and Germany; lumber and water mains, hardware and textiles from Great Britain, the United States and Germany; construction materials from Great Britain; steel rails and mining machinery from the Netherlands, and rice and dyes from Germany.

BRAZIL.

Present prospects are for a gradual weakening of exchange, but tightness of money continues unabated. There were increasing failures in Sao Paulo during the month. The coffee market is dull with lack of orders. A new agreement has been signed between Sao Paulo and Minas coffee defense interests. U. S. conference rates for coffee are to be increased January 1 to 70 cents per bag from cargo and 80 cents for mail steamers. The import market is characterized by hand to mouth buying. Importers are either afraid or unable to take advantage of present exchange conditions. Improvement is probable before the end of December. The domestic textile business is dead and dealers still hesitate to place large import orders. All dealers are trying to liquidate stocks to the best advantage. The Santos shipping situation is improved, with 35 ships along side and none in stream.

COSTA RICA.

Coffee crop estimated locally at 35,000,000 pounds. Early dry season has set in and picking started. Large crops are expected to cause drop in prices of most agricultural commodities. Importations are slightly diminishing due to overstocking in retail establishments.

GUATEMALA.

The coffee crop is estimated locally at from 750,000 to 800,000 hundred weight as compared with 890,000 last year. Prime grades are bringing 25½ cents a pound. Banana shipments have been resumed on the Pacific Coast at the rate of 15,000 bunches monthly. Money has tightened due to demands in financing coffee transactions. Retail trade is improving.

PANAMA.

October imports showed an increase of 25% over September. The condition of the coffee and sugar crops is said to be satisfactory. Building and construction activities are above normal and retailers are looking for considerable

increase in sales with the advent of the tourist trade in December.

SALVADOR.

The rains have ceased and there is no longer any danger to the coffee crop. An unusually large crop is expected according to local authorities, which has caused a drop in local prices, and a stimulation of immediate trading. Business conditions have been quiet.

COLOMBIA.

Exchange rates are steady. Commercial conditions are good, and much improved as compared with last year. There have been few recent business failures. Coffee shipments are around 30,000 sacks a week. The department of Caldas is discussing a loan for \$10,000,000, and the Municipality of Medellin is seeking one of \$2,000,000. There is much Congressional opposition to the President's plan for a foreign loan. Amendment to the petroleum law has been passed by Congress and now awaits the President's signature.

GUIANA (BRITISH).

No improvement in the general situation has occurred during November, and the depression in all lines of business has been marked. The outlook for the 1926 sugar crop is very poor, but the production of rice and diamonds has shown improvement. It is estimated that 1925 diamond production will amount to 10,000 carats over 1924.

MEXICO.

The general situation throughout Mexico remains dull to the same depressing causes evidenced for several months past. There has been a small increase in oil production due to activity of the National Railways and offset wells sunk by private concerns. Trade in staples, is poor while certain specialties, such as automobiles and typewriters, are holding their own. Collections are reported as bad.

PARAGUAY.

While the commercial movement is still slow, the trade depression is lifting. Agricultural conditions are favorable. The loan market is inactive and bank deposits are falling. Collections are difficult. Interior orders for textiles are improving, with a good movement of American goods as Argentine gold exchange remains favorable. An official of the Government has sailed for Rome to confer regarding Italian colonization in Paraguay.

PERU.

General business conditions show some improvement, due to rising exchange, better cotton and sugar prices, and the replenishing of stocks by importers. The Government has floated a bond issue of \$7,500,000 in the New York market, secured by the petroleum revenues. This had some effect on exchange although the movement of funds to Peru will not take place until December. Much of the proceeds of this issue will be devoted to irrigation works in the north. A special stamp tax of 5 cantavos on all domestic mail and a sugar consumption to have been imposed for the purpose of raising funds to meet the plebiscite expenses. A slight increase in cotton and sugar prices is having some beneficial effect on exports but due to the reduced exportable quantities at the present season of the year, there is little activity in export trading. Copper and silver shipments are increasing. Many foreign commercial travelers visited Peru during the month. Lumber sales were heavy and the Government placed several orders for California redwood ties. The textile trade is fair with a slightly increasing retail demand due to the summer season now commencing. Foodstuff imports are good but there have been numerous complaints arising from the bad condition of recent arrivals of perishable goods. The manufacture of some industrial chemicals and insecticides has been undertaken in Lima. Automotive sales were slightly better, although the market is disturbed by the large number of cars returned to dealers for failure to maintain installment payments. The sales of accessories is fair. The trade in the Lima district has been disturbed by price-cutting on the part of several dealers.

URUGUAY.

Business is generally quiet with little improvement likely before the end of the year, due to the elections and annual stock taking. Sale of the new wool clip is developing slowly and buyers are displaying caution. Frigorifico operations have been restricted due to cattlemen withholding their stock on account of low prices.

VENEZUELA.

General conditions are good, notwithstanding some fear that importations have been excessive. Foreign trade is breaking records. The coffee market is dull and while the December crop will be small it is of good quality. Cacao

stocks are small. Crop prospects are fair, but balata and cotton crops will be small. Heavy automobiles, oil-well materials and flour are making up a considerable part of American shipments to this country. Much of the flour is from Canadian wheat milled in the United States. Additional docks at Maracaibo and a slaughtering and freezing plant at Maracay will be constructed by the Department of Public Works, and the Public Health Service will construct two garbage incinerators at once at Caracas. American firms interested should send representatives to study the projects.

Petroleum production is good. An American company has developed a well in a new field in eastern Venezuela, pumping several hundred barrels daily. It is reported that representatives of a Venezuelan company holding gold and diamond concessions in Venezuela and Guiana are going to England to interest British capital.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Retail business has continued at a satisfactory level although local consumption has declined. Merchants have been meeting their accounts but there are less active funds now available. Unemployed labor is expected to be absorbed shortly with the beginning of the sugar crop. The proposed amendment to the Dominican law 190, imposing additional taxes on 102 imported articles which affects practically only American trade, was enacted on November 24, effective immediately. The Dominican Chamber of Commerce and merchants have begun an extensive protest against the new law.

HAITI.

The Presidential campaign continues to be a disturbing element to general conditions while the decline of the franc in connection with coffee contracts has had a particular unsettling effect on export houses, causing several failures. Over importation of cotton goods and flour is generally recognized. Credit inflation is evident with a tendency to curtail bank credits. The coffee, cotton and sugar crops all promise greater yields than last year but with unfavorable prices for the latter two. The financial position of the Government is strong.

PORTO RICO.

Business is quiet in most lines, with the outlook somewhat improved as a result of the slight strengthening of sugar prices, good coffee and fruit crops, and the anticipation of the holiday trade. Permanence of the improvement is largely dependent upon the trend of the sugar market.

The banks report considerable exchange business as a result of heavy imports, chiefly of Spanish olive oil, garlic and nuts for the Christmas trade, and codfish and jute bags. There has been considerable transshipment trade to the Dominican Republic, chiefly shoes and cotton piecegoods.

Collections are fair in San Juan but generally tight in agricultural districts.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The trend of British business in November is encouraging. October and November experienced the usual seasonal demand, plus orders accumulated during the August coal difficulty. Forward buying is more general but caution is intensified by the uncertainties of the coal situation next spring. Unemployment is decreasing steadily and for the first time in months the figures are lower than corresponding figures for last year. The upward movement in ordinary shares continued but wholesale prices have not advanced. Easier money and cheaper coal, iron, steel and raw materials for many industries are helpful factors but severe competition continues to narrow profit margins materially. The Edinburgh Motor Show was well attended with both English and foreign passenger and commercial vehicles represented. British light car manufacturers are reported working day and night shifts, with some factors extensions necessary in the Coventry District. The budget now shows an abnormal deficit but the Chancellor predicts a balance except for the coal subvention. The British Dyestuffs Corporation shareholders have approved the reorganization proposals for a general writing down of share values, the Government to sell its interest and relinquish control, with the proviso that not more than 25 per cent of the voting power shall be foreign.

SOUTH AFRICA.

South African business showed an improvement in November over October. The gold mines are still experiencing a shortage of native labor. The production of refined gold in November was 15,585 ounces above the October figure. There was a high output of coal during November while

diamond turn-out increased slightly. Progress is reported in platinum developments. Imports were well sustained and exports heavy. Local industries were active during the month and clearing house returns show large gains over last year. Building continues at a high level. The revenue of the Union for the first half of the year is well ahead of the corresponding period of last year. Prospects are bright for wholesale and retail Christmas trade. October indexes remain unchanged. Port Elizabeth wool prices are easier with large receipts and slackening demand for low grades. Mohair is quiet and stocks are small. Feathers are dull and weaker.

DENMARK.

The Danish industrial crisis is growing and direct Government relief is being sought, especially for the textile, iron, and metal industries. The grave situation is being reflected in the high unemployment figure, which now totals 47,600 as against 24,000 a year ago. The labor situation is quiet, but the outlook is somewhat clouded owing to the downward wage reductions, which will be necessary in the early spring. The freight market shows a slight improvement which is reflected in the decreased idle steam and motor tonnage. Danish exports of butter, bacon, and eggs continue at a satisfactory volume with firm prices, but the financial returns are lower. Indications point to increased bacon production and sustained butter production. Agricultural wages have been reduced 10%.

NORWAY.

There have been no noteworthy changes in the Norwegian situation during the past month. Conditions remain somewhat depressed from the effects of the exchange appreciation with the attendant dullness in industry and trade. With the constant fall in price levels deflation is progressing rapidly. Industrial operations are decreasing with further curtailment of working hours in some cases and closing down in others. Foreign trade diminished somewhat during October, but the unfavorable balance was greatly reduced. Exports to the United States are maintained at a high level.

Gold and Silver Imported Into and Exported From the United States, by Countries, in October.

The Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce of the Department of Commerce at Washington has made public its monthly report, showing the imports and exports of gold and silver into and from the United States during the month of October 1925. It will be noted that the gold exports reached \$28,039,190. The imports were \$50,740,649, the bulk of which, namely, \$41,890,643, came from the United Kingdom. Of the exports of metal \$22,474,883 went to Canada, and Hongkong took \$3,458,950.

GOLD AND SILVER IMPORTED INTO AND EXPORTED FROM THE UNITED STATES, BY COUNTRIES.

Countries—	GOLD.		SILVER.			
	Total Value.		Refined Bullion.		Total Value.	
	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.
	\$	\$	Ounces.	Ounces.	\$	\$
Belgium	-----	2,542	-----	-----	-----	4,032
France	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	2,325
Germany	238,149	-----	760,918	-----	543,183	-----
Italy	-----	2,563	-----	-----	-----	5,274
Spain	-----	9,340	-----	-----	-----	17,376
Sweden	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	4,377
United Kingdom	-----	41,890,643	300,639	-----	213,666	1,709
Canada	22,474,883	3,451,477	117,752	444,254	189,482	649,084
Costa Rica	-----	45,425	-----	-----	-----	9,001
Guatemala	-----	23,502	-----	-----	79,700	-----
Honduras	-----	5,789	-----	154,156	-----	113,703
Nicaragua	-----	36,498	-----	-----	-----	6,978
Panama	-----	4,896	-----	46	-----	2,358
Salvador	50,000	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Mexico	326,479	534,527	-----	3,709,074	91,596	4,195,598
Newfoundland & Labrador	-----	2,853	-----	-----	-----	391
Trinidad & Tobago	1,125	5,914	-----	7	-----	775
Other Brit. W. I.	-----	414	-----	1	-----	1
Cuba	-----	1,246	-----	8	1,000	8,945
Dutch West Ind's	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	1,050
Haiti	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	441
Argentina	51,000	-----	11,391	-----	8,155	864
Brazil	35,170	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Chile	-----	5,682	-----	-----	-----	103,965
Colombia	-----	117,859	2,220	2,152	1,604	1,555
British Guiana	-----	-----	500	-----	374	-----
Dutch Guiana	-----	1,571	-----	4	-----	3
Peru	-----	82,734	-----	54,421	28,700	367,029
Venezuela	-----	92,834	-----	321	-----	227
British India	13,910	-----	6,217,397	-----	4,432,576	-----
Straits Settlements	663,278	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
China	501,236	-----	4,514,260	-----	3,193,340	-----
Dutch East Indies	220,010	154,565	-----	-----	-----	90,314
Japan	3,458,950	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Hongkong	-----	4,000,000	-----	-----	-----	-----
Philippine Islands	5,000	171,184	-----	-----	-----	1,531
Australia	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	1,140
New Zealand	-----	26,975	-----	-----	-----	35
Portuguese East Africa	-----	69,616	-----	-----	-----	11,770
Total	82,039,190	50,740,649	11,925,077	4,366,700	8,783,376	5,601,851

J. P. Morgan Returns From Abroad.

J. P. Morgan, who had been abroad since the latter part of September, following the death of Mrs. Morgan in August, returned on the White Star Line steamer Majestic, which docked in New York on Dec. 1. Mr. Morgan refrained from commenting on his trip.

J. P. Morgan & Company and Guaranty Trust Company Participating in Advancement of Credits to Belgium.

Last night's edition of the New York "Evening Post" (Dec. 4) carried the following news item:

J. P. Morgan & Co. and the Guaranty Trust Co. of New York are participating in an advancement of credits to Belgium to stabilize Belgian exchange rates. It was announced to-day.

Although the amount of the credit was not given out, it was generally believed that the first sum would be \$25,000,000 and that additional advances would be made available whenever needed. These credits are to be refunded upon completion of arrangements for a long term loan next spring, it is believed.

British, Dutch and Swiss banks are joining in the international group that will lend aid to the Bank of Belgium, and this arrangement is expected to enable Belgium to return to a gold basis with a devaluation of the franc to around current levels of 5 cents.

It is hoped that credit conditions in Europe will improve in the winter sufficiently to enable Belgium to float an international loan before next summer. Negotiations for a long-term loan had been in progress in London for several weeks, but these fell through when the Bank of England advanced its discount rate from 4 to 5%.

According to the "Sun" of last night, the American bankers' share in the arrangement was arranged, it is understood, by Baron Hautain, Governor of the Bank of Belgium, and the Belgian Minister of Agriculture when they were here as guests of Governor Benjamin Strong of the New York Federal Reserve Bank. These visitors, says this account, sailed for home on Tuesday of this week.

The following Associated Press cablegram was reported from Brussels Dec. 3:

The Belgian Telegraphic Agency's London correspondent announces that all arrangements for foreign credits to Belgium in different financial markets have been completed and that the contract was signed at the Bank of England Tuesday night in the presence of the Belgian Finance Minister, Albert E. Janssen, and M. Lepreux, Vice-Governor of the Bank of Belgium.

Representatives of the various foreign banks took part in the operation to stabilize Belgian currency.

Banco Espanol de Chili Closes Temporarily Incident to Study of New Banking Law.

The Associated Press announces the following advices from Santiago, Chili, under date of Dec. 1:

The Banco Espanol de Chill, one of the most important financial institutions of the country, closed its doors to-day.

The bank issued a statement saying the suspension was only temporary, as the condition of the bank was being studied in accordance with the new banking law drawn up by Professor E. W. Kemmerer of Princeton University, who returned to America recently after directing a reorganization of Chili's financial system. The bank has branches throughout Chili.

Agreement Reached for Funding of Rumania's Debt to United States.

An agreement for the funding of Rumania's war debt to the United States was reached this week. The Rumanian Debt Mission arrived in this country on Nov. 6, but the conversations with the American Debt Commission were not brought under way until Nov. 13, having been deferred pending the settlement of the Italian indebtedness. On Nov. 21 the American Debt Commission declined to accept the first formal offer for a funding of Rumania's debt, and submitted to the Rumanian Commission a counter-proposal, embodying substantially the terms of the British-American settlement, with modifications to meet Rumania's particular situation. The acceptance of the American proposals by the Rumanian Commission was announced on Dec. 1. The agreement reached is indicated in the following Washington advices to the New York "Herald Tribune":

Similar to British Terms.

Under the agreement reached with the Rumanian commission headed by Nicholas Titulesco, Rumania is held rather strictly to the terms of the British debt settlement, agreeing to pay interest at the rate of 3% for the first ten years after a moratorium and 3½% thereafter.

A partial moratorium of ten years is granted to Rumania, during which period the nation will be required to make comparatively small payments ranging from \$200,000 on June 15 1926 to \$1,400,000 in 1935. After that the payments increase materially. During the moratorium period the payments are fixed arbitrarily without regard to interest, the amounts being made up in the subsequent payments.

The ten-year period of leniency, it was explained by Secretary of the Treasury Mellon, head of the American Debt Commission, was agreed to by the American commission because of the tangled state of Rumania's Treasury. Rumania's capacity to pay in resources is good, but the Government fiscal system is not getting the revenue that should be derived from those resources. This is being adjusted, but it will take some time for the Government to get its revenues in shape to meet the larger payments required on the American debt.

The official statement on the debt settlement issued to-night by the World War Foreign Debt Commission follows:

"An agreement has been reached in settlement of the Rumanian debt to the United States, subject to the approval of Congress and the Rumanian Parliament. The settlement has been approved by the President. The original indebtedness of Rumania amounted to \$36,128,494.94. Interest on this amount has been calculated as in recent settlements, making the principal of the debt to be funded as of June 15 1925 \$44,590,000.

Interest 3% and 3½%.

"The Rumanian Government agrees to repay the principal of the funded debt over a period of sixty-two years, with interest at 3% a year for the first ten years and 3½% a year thereafter. During the first fourteen years the following total annual payments are to be paid, the balance of each annuity at the above interest rates to be funded over the remaining forty-eight years:

June 15 1926-----	\$200,000	June 15 1933-----	\$1,000,000
June 15 1927-----	300,000	June 15 1934-----	1,200,000
June 15 1928-----	400,000	June 15 1935-----	1,400,000
June 15 1929-----	500,000	June 15 1936-----	1,600,000
June 15 1930-----	600,000	June 15 1936-----	1,600,000
June 15 1931-----	700,000	June 15 1938-----	2,000,000
June 15 1932-----	800,000	June 15 1939-----	2,200,000

"A debt-funding agreement will be prepared for signatures and submission to the President."

The arrival of the Rumanian Debt Commission was noted in these columns Nov. 7, page 2220.

Italian Chamber of Deputies Approves \$100,000,000 Loan Recently Floated in New York—Italy's Gratification Voiced by Finance Minister Volpi.

The Italian Chamber of Deputies approved on Nov. 28 the Italian Government loan of \$100,000,000 recently floated in the United States by the syndicate headed by J. P. Morgan & Co., the First National Bank of New York and the National City Co. The loan was referred to in these columns Nov. 21, page 2469. Following the immediate placing of the issue, Count Volpi, Finance Minister of Italy, sent the following letter to J. P. Morgan & Co., expressing to the offering group of bankers the Italian Government's satisfaction upon the success of the loan and pointing out its constructive character:

Messrs. J. P. Morgan & Co.

Dear Sirs: In behalf of Prime Minister Mussolini, I beg to express to you and to those associated with you in the issuance of the Italian Government loan, the Government's gratification upon its success and its appreciation of the co-operative spirit manifested towards Italy by the American investment community. Italy has balanced her budget. Her current income shows a material surplus. Inflation is at an end. Our budget for the military establishment is below even the moderate pre-war figures. Industry is on the up-grade. Those same measures of economy and efficiency in Government administration, as were dwelt upon by President Coolidge in his notable address last evening, have been put into effect in Italy, bringing contentment to its people and stable economic and political conditions. The loan which you and your associates have arranged is a logical step following the debt settlement at Washington, for the proceeds of this loan will be devoted to the stabilization of our currency, an end hardly less in the interest of American trade with Italy and of the American Government as a creditor than it is of Italy itself. We return to Italy with every appreciation of the great friendliness expressed to us, both officially and unofficially, by the American people.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) VOLPI.

November 20 1925.

Count Volpi, who headed the Italian debt mission, which last month concluded negotiations for the funding of Italy's debt to the United States, left a week ago, with other members, for Italy.

Progress in Economic Readjustment in Japan.

In a speech delivered at Osaka, Nov. 25, before the Western Japan Bankers' convention, Japanese Finance Minister Hamaguchi touched upon the important economic problems confronting Japan. The Japanese Financial Commission, in this city, has received a cablegram outlining the speech, a translation of which follows:

Our economic readjustment has made a steady progress. And yet, until its completion, there is more to be done both by the Government and by the public. Principal measures now under contemplation by the Government for this purpose are tax reform, tariff reform, improvement of our trade balance, etc. Both the tax reform bill and the tariff reform bill will be laid before the Diet at its coming session. Recent remarkable improvement of our dollar exchange is chiefly due to the favorable turn of our foreign trade. Compared with the corresponding period of last year, our total (including colonies) export in the first ten months of this year increased about 444 million yen and import, 139 million yen; while the excess of import decreased, indeed, about 305 million yen.

The exchange rate, though being on an upward trend, is still about 16% below par. The Government, realizing the urgent necessity of its recovery, is strenuously endeavoring for the decrease of import; resorting to, for instance, such methods as encouragement of thrift, hard work and the use of home products. On the other hand, it is sparing no effort for the promotion of export. Despite the general economy exercised in framing the coming fiscal year's budget, any expenditure which might lead to the increased export has been treated as an exception to the budget policy. Wider application of the rebate system on the re-exported goods is another example. The gold shipment, which has already amounted to 14 million yen since the first shipment in September, will be continued in the future.

Owing to the higher money rates in the home market and the low price of yen, there has been an apparent tendency of foreign capital importation. The total amount of loans floated abroad in these twelve months amounted to nearly 70 million dollars, and it is said there are more under contemplation. Such importation may, as advocated by some, contribute to the

improvement of our trade balance, but, unless the loan terms are favorable and the proceeds are adequately used, it may, I am afraid, result in increase of our foreign payment and ultimately induce an adverse trade balance. Moreover, the effect which any sudden inflow of a large foreign capital might bring to our present financial world, cannot be minimized. I should like, therefore, to ask our citizens to exercise, especially at present, self-control in the utilization of foreign capital and co-operate with the Government for the sake of our economic rehabilitation and ultimate improvement of our trade balance.

In an earlier speech (Nov. 19) at the annual meeting of the Associated Clearing Houses Throughout the Empire, Finance Minister Hamaguchi outlined the Government's financial policy for the coming year, and a translation of his remarks at that time is furnished as follows:

Economy in Government Finance.

In framing the budget for the coming fiscal year 1926 (ending March 31 1927) it has been decided to pursue the same retrenchment policy as was adopted for the present fiscal year's budget.

The expenditures in the general account are estimated to total about 1,598 million yen, consisting of 1,079 million yen in the ordinary and 519 million yen in the extraordinary. Out of this total about 220 million yen are incurred by various expenditures necessitated by the earthquake of 1923.

There will be an increase of about 48 million yen over the total of the present fiscal year's budget, one of the principal causes of which is the 20 million yen subsidy to local Governments for salaries of grammar school teachers.

Tax Reform.

To reorganize the present taxation system with a view to insure a more equitable distribution of the tax burden among various social classes, but with due consideration on the present economic and financial conditions, the Government has decided to propose a tax reform bill in the coming session of the Diet. Generally speaking, the present direct taxation system will be allowed to remain on the whole, but with some minor alterations. The business tax is to be revised so as to strengthen general business foundations and to promote industries. In the case of the income, land, inheritance and business taxes, the minimum amount liable to taxation will be raised in order to relieve the tax burden on the middle and lower classes. Various indirect taxes, such as consumption tax on cotton textiles, the traveling tax, taxes on soy and stamp duties on patent medicines will be abolished. On the other hand, to cover, to a certain extent, the deficit in the revenue to be caused by the foregoing abolitions or reductions, proposals will be made for higher progressive rates in the inheritance tax and higher tax on liquors and soft drinks. At any rate over 30 million yen reduction on the nation's tax burden is under contemplation.

No Loan in Open Market.

The contemplated loans to be issued in the coming fiscal year for the purpose of earthquake reconstruction works, public works in the colonies and construction and improvement of the national railroads amount to 150 million yen. None of them will be floated in the open market, but will either be offered for subscription at post offices or be subscribed by the funds belonging to certain special accounts of the Government. The policy of no loan in the open market, which has been adopted since the last fiscal year (1924), has gradually brought out an easier tone in our money market, resulting in lower money rates. The terms of new bond issues have, consequently, much improved, enabling longer terms and lower yield. It also prompted the time of our economic readjustment and is constructing step by step the foundation for better business.

United States Bankers Reject Coffee Value Loans— Action Taken at Instance of Secretary Hoover to Keep Price Down.

The following Associated Press dispatch from Washington, Nov. 12, appeared in the New York "Journal of Commerce":

American loans sought by Brazilian authority to support coffee price valorization have been refused by New York bankers at the instance of the Administration, it appeared today in the publication of a statement by Secretary Hoover.

Amounts of loans sought and the identity of the banking houses and borrowers concerned were not mentioned by Mr. Hoover, but the Government's interest was revealed as that of preventing any use of American money to increase the price of coffee to American consumers above a point which the Government considers fair.

"The Administration," said Mr. Hoover's statement, "does not believe the New York banking houses will wish to provide loans which might be diverted to support the coffee speculation which has been in progress for the past year at the hands of the coffee combination in Sao Paulo, Brazil. Such support would simply bolster up the extravagant prices to the American consumer."

"I understand that the speculation which has been in progress at Sao Paulo is disapproved by important elements in the Brazilian coffee industry, and among the Brazilian people, as likely in the end to injure a very important industry."

"Some of the New York banking houses have been approached for these loans and, I understand, have refused to entertain them. The Administration is solicitous that no harm should be done to the Brazilian coffee planting industry and our information is that whereas the price of coffee is held at about 22c. by the combination, many of the planters themselves are not receiving more than 14c. a pound. The average price before this recent speculation, which carried raw coffee as high as 32c. was about 12c. to 14c. a pound."

"Total coffee imports into the United States are about 1,400,000,000 pounds per annum."

Excise Cotton Duty Suspended by India—Strike of 135,000 Workers Ends—British Fear Loss of Trade.

Under date of Dec. 1 a special cablegram from London to the New York "Journal of Commerce" said:

The Government of India has suspended the 3½% excise duty on Indian woven cotton cloth from to-day, and promises its complete abolition in the budget next March. The import duty of 11% continues, however.

The Manchester "Commercial-Guardian" says the effect upon the Lancashire trade cannot fail to be important adversely.

The same paper reported the following advices from Manchester, Eng., Dec. 1:

An "urgency" meeting of spinners, manufacturers and merchants was held here to-day to discuss the effects of the suspension of the excise duty on cotton goods by India.

The trade here is considerably disturbed over the action of the Government of India, which deprives British manufacturers of a tariff preferential heretofore accorded them.

From Bombay, India, Dec. 1, it announced the following Associated Press cablegram:

The decision of the Government to suspend the cotton excise duty, announced yesterday, has had the effect of terminating the strike of cotton mill operatives which began in mid-September.

By the abandonment of the duty the mill owners were enabled to restore wages to their old level and the owners' association issued an invitation, which was quickly accepted, for the strikers to resume work.

About 135,000 operatives were involved in the strike.

Commenting on the above, the paper quoted said:

Japanese Competition Keen.

British cotton manufacturers have been encountering some difficulties recently in connection with their trade with India because of the growing competition of Japan and other countries that offer low quality and low price goods, some of which are made from Indian-grown cotton.

The new move has a political side in India that is little understood at the moment, and the Manchester trade proposes to take the matter up with the Imperial Government to see that justice is done to them. The suspension came unexpectedly, and if it is persisted in it will be followed by other matters sure to have a very adverse effect upon the British cloth trade.

India is Lancashire's greatest market. At present the English industry is quiet, and only recently cables stated that unsuccessful attempts were made to curtail production by vote of mills spinning American cotton.

Redemption of Argentine Government Bonds of 1925

J. P. Morgan & Co. and the National City Bank, as fiscal agents, issued the following notice December 1 regarding the redemption of the Government of the Argentine nation. External sinking fund 6% gold bonds issue of June 1, 1925.

The undersigned, acting as Fiscal Agents in respect of the above Bonds, hereby give notice that \$225,000 in cash is available for the purchase of the Sinking Fund of so many of said Bonds as shall be tendered and accepted for purchase at prices below par, and tenders of Bonds at such prices are hereby invited.

Tenders of such Bonds with coupons due on and after June 1, 1926 should be made at a flat price, below par, to be stated in the tender, and must be delivered in the Borough of Manhattan, City of New York, either at the office of J. P. Morgan & Co., 23 Wall Street, or the principal office of the National City Bank, 55 Wall Street, on a form obtainable on application at either of said offices, enclosed in an envelope and marked "Tender of Government of the Argentine Nation External Sinking Fund 6% Gold Bonds, Issue of June 1, 1925, for the Sinking Fund." The tenders received before 3 p. m., January 5, 1926, will be opened, and as soon as possible thereafter announcement will be made of the amount of the tenders then accepted. If the tenders so accepted are not sufficient to exhaust the available moneys aforesaid, additional purchases upon tender, below par, may be made up to March 1, 1926.

The right is reserved to reject any or all tenders.

J. P. MORGAN & CO.,
NATIONAL CITY BANK,
Fiscal Agents.

Redemption of Poland External Gold Bonds of 1925

Dillon, Read & Co. as Sinking Fund Trustees for the Republic of Poland 25 Year Sinking Fund External 8% Gold Bonds dated January 1, 1925, announce that they have designated by lot for redemption on January 1, 1926 out of monies paid to them by the Republic of Poland as and for a sinking fund, \$700,000 principal amount of the Bonds. The Bonds designated for redemption are payable on January 1, 1926 at the office of Dillon, Read & Co., Nassau and Cedar Streets, New York City, upon presentation and surrender of the Bonds at 105% of the principal amount of the Bonds, and the interest accrued to January 1, 1926. The numbers of the \$1,000 pieces drawn range from M-160 to 33379. The numbers of the \$500 pieces drawn range from D-14 to 2743 and the \$100 pieces from C-4 to 2030.

Great Britain Concludes Peace in the Hedjaz—Agrees to Pay Sultan Ibn Saud \$1,000,000 for Army Beside \$300,000 Yearly.

The New York "Times" printed on Dec. 1 the following cablegram (copyright) from Paris:

Prince Lotfollah, Ambassador in France of the Hedjaz, confirmed in Paris today reports from Cairo that Great Britain had just concluded a peace agreement with Sultan Ibn Saud, the conqueror of Mecca. One of the conditions reported imposed by the Sultan was the payment by Britain of \$1,000,000 for development of his army—a condition which the British Government is said to be willing to meet when peace is finally restored in the Hedjaz.

Prince Lotfollah asserted emphatically that the money settlement was outside the political settlement.

"If England pays \$1,000,000 for a peace which would mean the evacuation of Mecca, among other things, it is the private affair of Sultan Saud," said the Prince. "The same can be said for \$300,000 annually which has been paid to the Sultan for the upkeep of his army. Great Britain is very well informed about the Arabian question and there is no doubt that the time has come to establish peace throughout that region."

According to the terms of the agreement Britain has the sole right to represent the Hedjaz abroad and Britain will have a permanent official at Sultan Saud's court.

The rise of Sultan Saud to fame and power has been rapid. The chief of the Wahabis—the Anastere, a religious tribe of Bedouin—recently attacked the Hedjaz, seized the Mohammedan holy cities of Mecca and Medina and Drove King Hussein into exile. Three hundred thousand dollars was really paid annually by the British on condition that he refrain from war like activities.

Income Tax Ruling Bearing on City of Vienna 4½% Bonds of 1917

Holders of the City of Vienna 60 year 4½% Bonds issued February 23, 1917 cannot make any deduction for income tax purposes for a loss in them until the bonds are sold or are otherwise disposed of. That is the ruling just released by the Income Tax Department, according to M. L. Seidman, tax expert of Seidman & Seidman, Certified Public Accountants. "It seems that many taxpayers," Mr. Seidman explained, "deducted in their income tax returns the amounts they paid for these bonds because of the fact that the Austrian crown depreciated and became practically worthless. The Department held, however, that such a deduction cannot be taken since it reflects merely fluctuation in the market value of the securities and that until a sale takes place and the loss can be accurately determined, no deduction may be claimed."

Pending South American Loans.

In making public, Nov. 27, a list of pending South American issues, as compiled by Max Winkler, Vice-President of Moody's Investors' Service, a statement thereon says:

The apparent popularity of European loans has led to the concentration on the part of our underwriting fraternity upon the financing of European enterprises. Although one may confidently expect the continuance of the efflux of American capital to the Old World on practically the same large scale as witnessed within recent months, it appears that American banking institutions are neglecting the opportunities afforded through the reasonably safe investment of funds in the countries on the southern half of our hemisphere. With the resumption by the Brazilian State of Santa Catharina of payments at an early date of interest and sinking fund on its 8% Dollar bonds which went into default on Feb. 1 this year, not one single loan issued in this market on behalf of South American Governments, States or municipalities, will be in default with respect to either interest or amortization payments. It is therefore reasonable to expect that prospective South American loans will receive a cordial reception in this market.

The list compiled by Dr. Winkler follows:

Amount	Amount
Argentine (Consolidation) \$140,000,000	Baranquilla, City of 3,500,000
Argentine (Sanitary Works) 80,000,000	Chile (Railway Loan) 45,000,000
Buenos Aires, Province of 14,000,000	Chile (Treasury Notes) 3,000,000
Buenos Aires, City of 4,500,000	Valparaiso, City of 4,000,000
Tucuman, Province of 10,000,000	Uruguay 45,000,000
Mendoza, Province of 3,000,000	Montevideo, City of 7,500,000
Concordia, City of 500,000	Porto Alegre, City of 5,000,000
Colombia 50,000,000	Pernambuco, State of 2,000,000
Caldas, Department of 6,000,000	Pernambuco, City of 1,000,000
Antioquia, Department of 17,000,000	Maranhao, State of 3,000,000
Bogota, City of 4,000,000	
	Total \$448,000,000

In the event that the above loans should materialize, our investments in South America will aggregate \$1,912,500,000, as compared with only \$100,000,000 in 1913.

Over One Billion Rubles in Circulation in Soviet Union Oct. 1.

The volume of currency in circulation in the Soviet Union Oct. 1, at the beginning of the present Soviet fiscal year, was 1,142,884,700 rubles (about \$588,580,000), according to a bulletin received by the Russian Information Bureau at Washington. The Bureau says:

Currency in circulation nearly doubled during the year. On Oct. 1 1924 the amount was 622,700,000 rubles, and on Oct. 1 1923 it was 271,000,000 rubles. The par value of the ruble is \$0.5146, and during the past year it has held consistently at slightly above parity on the European exchanges.

The Oct. 1 circulation was made up of the following classes of currency:

Class of Currency	Amount in Gold Rubles
Bank notes of State Bank	651,969,500
Treasury bills	340,550,200
Silver coin	136,114,000
Copper coin	6,806,000
Small change paper tokens	7,444,100
Total	1,142,884,700

German Government, Conversion of Mark Loans.

From the London Stock Exchange "Weekly Official Intelligence" of Nov. 2 we take the following notice issued by the Reichsbank-Direktorium, Berlin, under date of Oct. 26 1925:

The Reichsbank has been designated as the place for the lodgment of claims upon the German Government for the conversion of mark loans of the German Government into "Loan Liquidation Debt" under the terms of the law of July 16 1925, on the Liquidation of Public Loans. With a view, however, to the convenience of holders in the United Kingdom and in the Irish Free State, arrangements have been made whereby such holders may, at their own risk and expense, lodge their claims, accompanied by the relative securities, at the Bank of England in London, for dispatch to the Reichsbank after examination by a "Special Commissioner for Loans of the German Reich." Claims, together with the relative securities, must be lodged at the Bank of England Loans Office, 5 & 6, Lombard Street, E.C.3. claims will not be received at the branches of the Bank of England. A "Special Commissioner for Loans of the German Reich" will be present at the Bank of England Loans Office for the purpose of answering inquiries and for the purpose of examining claims on behalf of the German Reich. The Bank of England will only act as a medium for the receipt of claims from holders and for the delivery of new securities.

The terms for the conversion of the loans are laid down in Part I, Sections 1 and 2, Subsections 1-17, inclusive, of the Law on the Liquidation of Public Loans. The main provisions may be summarized as follows:

1. The Loan Liquidation Debt is in reichsmarks; the debt is in the form of bonds to bearer which may, however, be exchanged into stock registered in Germany.

2. Twenty-five reichsmarks nominal of the Loan Liquidation Debt will be allotted in exchange for—

(a) 1,500 marks nominal of the Savings Premium Loan (Sparprämienanleihe);

(b) 16,700,000 marks nominal of the 8 to 15% "K" Treasury Bonds, 1923;

(c) 50 milliard marks nominal of the 8 to 15% "K" Treasury bonds, 1924;

(d) 1,000 gold marks of the non-interest-bearing bonds issued in compensation for war damages (special rate fixed for conversion to gold marks in Annex to Revalorization Law of July 16 1925);

(e) 1,000 marks nominal of all other mark loans of the Reich with the exception of certain categories of debt excluded under Section 1, Subsection 3, of the Law.

3. Allotments of the Loan Liquidation Debt will only be made in nominal amounts of 12.50 reichsmarks or multiples thereof.

4. Except on account of drawn "Redemption Rights" issued in respect of "Old Holdings" (as hereafter defined):

(a) Holders of Loan Liquidation Debt cannot demand repayment thereof;

(b) The Loan Liquidation Debt will not bear interest until the Reparation liabilities have been redeemed (such date to be determined by legislative enactment).

"Old Holdings" are given the following special terms:

The right to participate in drawings ("Redemption Rights") spread over 30 years up to the nominal amount of Loan Liquidation Debt allotted; but if a holder (other than a company incorporated under the Companies Acts or other corporation actually owning the securities) is entitled to receive in exchange for his "Old Holdings" more than 12,500 R. M. Loan Liquidation Debt, then

In the case of the first 25,000 R. M., or part thereof, over and above 12,500 R. M. Loan Liquidation Debt, he will receive redemption rights to the nominal amount of one-half of the Loan Liquidation Debt;

For the next 25,000 R. M. Loan Liquidation Debt, or part thereof, he will receive redemption rights to the nominal amount of one-third of the Loan Liquidation Debt; and

In respect of any further amount of Loan Liquidation Debt he will receive redemption rights to the nominal of one-quarter of the Loan Liquidation Debt.

Companies incorporated under the Companies Act and other corporations actually owning the securities will be entitled to redemption rights up to the full nominal amount of Loan Liquidation Debt allotted even though such allotment of Loan Liquidation Debt exceeds 12,500 R. M.

Redemption rights will only be allotted in nominal amounts of 12.50 R. M. or multiples thereof.

5. Drawings of redemption rights will take place annually over thirty years, commencing in the year 1926.

6. On surrender of drawn redemption rights, together with a nominal amount of Loan Liquidation Debt equivalent to the nominal amount of such redemption rights, the Loan Liquidation Debt will be redeemed, at the end of the year in which the drawing has taken place, by payment of five times the nominal value of the redemption rights, plus interest on the redemption payment of 4½% from Jan. 1 1926 until the date fixed for redemption.

7. Redemption rights will be negotiable by delivery.

An abridged list of mark loans of the German Government is appended. A list of all mark loans of the German Government covered by the terms of the law may be obtained on application; included in this list are State, railway and other loans taken over by the German Government. At present, conversion claims will only be received on account of "Old Holdings," viz., securities of which the holders can prove that they have had uninterrupted possession from a date prior to July 1 1920. The exceptions allowed to this definition of an "Old Holding" are set out in Part I, Section 2, Subsections 10 and 11 of the Law of July 16 1925, on the Liquidation of Public Loans, and in a decree of the Finance Minister, dated Sept. 8 1925, issued as a supplement to the law. Claims for the conversion of "New Holdings," viz., securities acquired on and after July 1 1920, will not be received until a date some months hence, of which notice will be given in due course. Claims for the conversion of "Old Holdings," together with the relative securities, should be lodged forthwith; the latest date for the receipt of such claims at the Bank of England has been fixed as March 1 1926. Claims must be made upon the printed forms. A holder may only put forward one claim; if he possesses securities of more than one loan, the securities must all be listed on the same form.

Securities will be accepted for conversion whether accompanied by coupon sheets or talons exchangeable therefor. Bonds of the Loan Liquidation Debt and also redemption rights will not bear any revenue stamp when delivered by the Bank of England; if subsequently negotiated or transferred, any liability for revenue stamp will rest with the holder. A commission of 2s. 6d. per 500 reichsmarks redemption rights allotted will be allowed to bankers and stock brokers in respect of accepted claims for a conversion of "Old Holdings" made on forms bearing their stamp; and also a commission of 1s. in respect of each accepted claim.

Copies of this notice, lists of German Government loans covered by the law and copies of a translation of Part I, Sections 1 and 2, Subsections 1-17, inclusive, of the law, together with the following forms:

Form for the conversion of "Old Holdings" and allowance of redemption rights.

Form for information and documentary evidence in support of "Old Holding" claim may be obtained at the Bank of England Loans Office, 5 and 6, Lombard Street, E.C.3. or at any of the branches of the bank; at the Bank of Ireland, Dublin, or at the Bank of Ireland, Belfast; of Messrs. Mullens, Marshall, Steer, Lawford & Co., 13, George Street, Mansion House, E.C.4; at any stock exchange in the United Kingdom and at the stock exchanges, Dublin and Cork.

Abridged list of mark loans of the German Government:

German 3% loans	Interest Jan. and July or April and Oct.
German 3½% loans	do do
German 4% loans	do do
Prussian 3% Cons. State loans	do do
Prussian 3½% Cons. State loans	do do
Prussian 4% Cons. State loans	do do

Deposit of German Securities Under Revaluation Law—Dr. Friedrichs, Awaiting Arrival of High Commissioner.

Announcement is made by Zimmermann & Forshay, under date of Oct. 20, that they have been informed that the German Commissioner, Dr. Friedrichs, who arrived in New York on Sept. 25, is not ready to take deposits of German securities under the Revaluation Law, but is awaiting the

arrival of a High Commissioner, who is expected within a few weeks. Zimmermann & Forshay state:

These gentlemen will probably be ready for business after the middle of November, and will only take care of the loans of the German Government, and certain State loans of Prussia (Consols), Saxony, Baden, Hessen, Wuerttemberg and Bavaria, which the German Government has assumed to partially revalue.

We understand that "old" holders, i. e. those who held their securities uninterruptedly since June 3 1920, will first be required to list their holdings, while "new" holders, i. e. those who purchased their bonds thereafter, will be attended to later on. The exchange will be made in strict accordance with the law, as enacted in Germany.

Rate of exchange is $2\frac{1}{2}\%$, or 25 Reichsmarks for each 1,000 marks par value of the old bonds. The new bonds bear no interest until reparations payments are fully provided for. Old holders receive in addition the same amount in drawing certificates, limited, however, to 12,500 Reichsmarks to each holder. After that a sliding scale is provided for on these drawing certificates which will be repaid by annual drawings within thirty years, beginning Jan. 1 1926. Drawn certificates will be payable at five times their face value, plus $4\frac{1}{2}\%$ interest from Jan. 1 1926.

The 4-5% German Forced Loan of 1922 (Zwangsanleihe) is excluded from the Revaluation Law.

The 8-15% Treasury Notes "K" II issue of 1923 (Schatzanweisungen) will be revalued at the rate of M 25 and M 12.50 for each M 16,700,000 and half this amount, respectively; hence, more than 8 million marks are required to receive the minimum revaluation of M 12.50 in new bonds.

The 8-15% Treasury Notes of 1924 will be revalued at M 25 and M 12.50 for each 50 billion marks and 25 billion marks, respectively.

Regarding pre-war municipal bonds, a minimum rate of $2\frac{1}{2}\%$ has been fixed. The ability and the extent of paying in excess of this minimum rate (Mark 25—in new bonds for each Mark 1,000—of present holdings), will be determined by an official trustee.

With reference to post-war bonds, their gold revaluation will be based upon the value of the mark currency at time of issue or otherwise.

The City of Hamburg informs us that their revaluation plan is expected to be published before the end of the year.

Industrial obligations and similar bonds are revalued at the rate of 15% of their gold mark value at the time of issue, whether secured by mortgage or otherwise, or whether only a debenture bond. The debtor corporation may request a reduction of the revaluation rate, if this seems imperative with regard to its financial position.

Mortgage bonds and similar obligations are revalued in proportion to realization on outstanding mortgages, plus a contribution by the issuing company from other assets, but less deduction of administrative charges, which are not to exceed 10% of the distribution.

Holders of industrial and similar obligations, who have held their bonds uninterruptedly since June 30 1920, are entitled to a share of the profits and will receive beneficiary certificates (approximately 10% of the company's assets) in addition to the general ratio.

Some of the companies have already set time limits for filing of claims as holders since June 30 1920. Owners of bonds should immediately notify the respective companies of their holdings and protest against discrimination between old and new owners. Some time limits expire on Dec. 28 1925.

No immediate cash payment has been offered and provided for in this Revaluation law, but only an exchange from old into new securities will be made.

In case it will be necessary to forward the bonds to Europe, we shall be glad to place our services at your disposal.

Bank notes and savings deposits in other banks than authorized savings banks are not subject to revaluation under this law.

The present revaluation law with its discrimination between old and new holders is very objectionable to American citizens, since the Treaty of Friendship, Commerce and Consular Rights with Germany, concluded Dec. 11 1923, approved by the United States Senate on Feb. 10 1925, and signed by the Secretary of State, Mr. Kellogg, and the German Ambassador, von Maltzan, on Oct. 14 1925, provides in Article 1, Paragraph 4, that:

"The nationals of each high contracting party shall receive within the territories of the other, upon submitting to conditions imposed upon its nationals, the most constant protection and security for their persons and property, and shall enjoy in this respect that degree of protection that is required by international law. Their property shall not be taken without due process of law and without payment of just compensation."

According to advices received from abroad, the Stock Brokers' Association of Amsterdam, Holland, heeding numerous protests received, have decided that the German revaluation is an absolutely insufficient settlement of debts. Therefore, the Stock Exchange authorities of Amsterdam resolved to bar German public or private securities from official trading on the Exchange. These resolutions will also affect the recent loan of the Rentenbank-Kreditanstalt which was sold in this country.

Our firm is making strong efforts to protect the interests of our customers and friends in the matter of securing higher revaluation, eliminating the distinction between "old" and "new" holders, and prevent the absolute exclusion from the Revaluation Law of the 4-5% Forced Loan of 1922. To this effect our protest has been forwarded to the German Government, and communicated to the various Stock Exchanges in Germany.

Details regarding provisions of the Revaluation Law were given in our issue of Sept. 26 (page 1525) and earlier references to the law appeared in these columns July 25, page 402 and Sept. 12, page 1299.

American Bankers Association Warns Against New German Mark Fraud.

A warning against a new form of fraud in German mark transactions based on a misrepresentation of the application of the German Revaluation Law to holdings of paper mark bonds, especially post-war bonds, in the United States was issued on Dec. 3 by the Commerce and Marine Commission of the American Bankers Association. The warning says that certain firms in all parts of the country are promoting sales of German securities by representing that both pre-war and post-war paper mark bonds can be revalued on the basis of 15% or more of their face value, whereas as a matter of fact the computation must be based on an infinitesimal fraction of this amount. The activities of these firms is detrimental not only to the investing public, but also to the honest and legitimate dealers in German securities.

An instance, the statement says, is that of United German mortgage bonds of 1923. It is being made to appear that in the case of a bond of this issue, with a face value of 10 million marks, the 15% revaluation can be computed on this amount, whereas under the German Revaluation Law the computation is to be based on the gold mark valuation of the bonds, which would be only 237 for each 10 million of face value in paper marks. The bankers' commission announced that at its request the German Consulate General in New York has prepared the following statement:

Certain firms throughout the country are offering German post-war paper mark bonds, as for instance, United German mortgage bonds of 1923, stating that these bonds, according to the German Revaluation Law would be converted into Reichsmark bonds at the rate of at least 15%, or even considerably more, of their face value. As the value of the paper mark shortly after the war became very low and went down incessantly until a new German currency in November 1923 was created, such offers would involve a considerable gain.

The calculation, however, on which these offers are based is entirely mistaken. The German Revaluation Law clearly prescribes that the rate of revaluation is to be computed on the gold mark value of the respective securities. This gold mark value, according to the law, is considered the same as the face value only as far as the bonds were issued before Jan. 1 1918. As to bonds issued after this date the gold mark value is to be computed individually according to the value the paper mark had at the date of issue.

In order to facilitate the determination of the rate of revaluation, a schedule has been published with the revaluation law showing the gold mark value of the paper mark during the period from January 1918 to November 1923. Consequently, if, for instance, a revaluation of 15% is taking place and certain bonds with a face value of 10 million marks have been issued on July 2 1923, when 100,000 paper marks, according to the above-named schedule, were worth 2.73 gold marks, the 15% revaluation is not to be computed on 10 millions, but on 273 gold marks.

Persons inclined to consider such offers as mentioned above should be advised to ask their own bank for particulars about the German Revaluation Law.

The Commerce and Marine Commission further points out that since the revaluation law assigns definite values to all German securities, the speculative element is entirely lacking, because the exact value of all German bonds can be determined. Also, in view of preferences given to certain classes of holders of securities it would be to the disadvantage of many of them to dispose of them at this time. The German Consulate General in New York has available at his office the most important provisions of the law and a special commissioner is at work here relative to the matter of adjustments of the bonds issued by the Reich, the German States and the German municipalities, the Commission says.

Booklet on Work of Trust Company Issued by Trust Company Division of A. B. A.

A booklet presenting in the form of dramatic dialogue the work of the trust company in handling the estate of an average well-to-do citizen has been issued by the Trust Company Division of the American Bankers Association under the title "Squaring Promise With Performance: An Act From Life." The book contains the text of a playlet presented before the Division's meeting at the American Bankers Association convention held in Atlantic City in September. The text shows how many perplexing business and financial matters are handled in behalf of the widow unused to such transactions. Copies can be obtained from Leroy A. Mershon, Secretary, Trust Company Division, American Bankers Association, 110 East 42d Street, New York City.

Completion of Achinsk-Minusinsk RR. in South Central Siberia.

A bulletin received by the Russian Information Bureau at Washington from the Soviet Commissariat for Transport announces the completion of the Achinsk-Minusinsk RR. in south-central Siberia, and the opening of regular service on Nov. 7. The road, 200 miles long, connecting with the Trans-Siberian RR. at Achinsk, opens up the Minusinsk area, hitherto almost undeveloped, though it is one of the richest regions in Siberia and possesses extensive deposits of high-grade coal, iron ore, copper, gold, and other mineral wealth. It is stated that during the current fiscal year the new line will be called on to transport 60,000 metric tons of grain. The road will also act as a feeder for the projected South Siberian RR., 1,250 miles long, now under construction.

Soviet Russia's Large Agricultural Production.

The proportion of the Soviet Union's agricultural production available for the market this year is estimated to amount to \$1,600,000,000, according to a bulletin of the Commissariat for Agriculture, received by the Russian Information Bureau at Washington. The agricultural exports will amount to \$283,000,000, it is stated, according to the Commissariat, of which grain exports will represent \$230,000,000. Grain exports are calculated at 7,380,000 short tons, or up-

wards of 300,000,000 bushels. Russian grain exports from the crops of various years are given as follows:

Year—	Short tons.
1907-12 (average) -----	11,763,000
1914 -----	6,696,000
1916 -----	738,000
1923 -----	3,294,000
1924 -----	1,296,000
1925 (estimate) -----	7,380,000

Formation of Missouri-Kansas Farms Company— Offering of Class A Common Stock

Following the announcement on Dec. 1 of the formation of the Missouri-Kansas Farms Company,—a new character of form loan organization,—9,000 shares of Class A Common stock of the company, of no par value, was offered Dec. 2 at \$100 per share by a syndicate headed by Guy Huston & Co., Inc. and including Geo. W. York & Co., Inc. and Pearson, Erhard & Co. It is announced that Class "A" stock will be entitled to cumulative dividends at the rate of \$6 per share per annum. Class "B" stock will be entitled to cumulative dividends at the rate of \$6 per share per annum, after payment of dividends at the same rate upon Class "A" stock. Additional earnings declared for dividends in any year shall be distributable in the ratio of 2-3 of such dividends to Class "A" stock and 1-3 to Class "B" stock. The company's capitalization consists of 9,000 shares authorized no par class A stock and 3,000 shares authorized no par class B stock. The class B stock has been purchased for cash, at the same price the company receives for its class A shares, by the organizers of the company. The company is sponsored by interests closely identified with the Kansas City Joint Stock Land Bank and other farm credit organizations of the middle west. The Missouri-Kansas Farms Company, it is stated, is designed to supplement the efforts of country bankers and certain Joint Stock Land Banks in the secondary financing of farmers. It will operate particularly in the territory served by the Kansas City Joint Stock Land Bank. The principal operations of the company will consist in the making of short-term loans to farmers for carrying crops and live stock to maturity, the purchase of mortgages on farms already carrying first mortgages with Joint Stock Land Banks and the purchase of equities in farms on which Land Banks have loans.

It is further announced:

This corporation will take over the sales organizations and the farms departments of the Cravens Mortgage Co. of Salina, Kansas, and the Kansas City Finance Co. of Kansas City, Missouri. The Cravens Mortgage Co. was organized by R. P. Cravens in 1878. The Kansas City Finance Co. was organized early in 1922. These two companies combined have loaned over \$40,000,000 to farmers in short time loans, secondary financing and crop loans.

The corporation will take over none of the assets or liabilities of either company—only the organizations and clientele, without cost.

The permanent officers and directors will be as follows: President, Walter Cravens; Vice-Presidents, R. P. Cravens and R. W. Street; General Manager, Charles R. Cravens; Assistant General Manager, Harry Hale; Secretary-Treasurer, A. B. Todd; Attorneys, C. H. Ewald and W. E. Suddath. Directors, Walter Cravens, President, Kansas City Joint Stock Land Bank; R. P. Cravens, Vice-President and Chairman of the Board, Kansas City Joint Stock Land Bank; R. W. Street, Vice-President, Kansas City Joint Stock Land Bank; Charles R. Cravens, Farm Loan Expert; C. E. Maxwell, Loan Supervisor, Kansas City Joint Stock Land Bank; J. I. Callahan, Geo. W. York & Co., Inc.; B. Earle Appleton, Pearson, Erhard & Co. Executive committee, Walter Cravens, R. P. Cravens, and R. W. Street.

The company is incorporated under the laws of Massachusetts; the stock will be tax free in Ohio, the company electing and agreeing to pay the applicable Ohio franchise tax; it is also free of present normal Federal income tax and free of Massachusetts income tax.

Debts and Taxes of State and Local Governments —An Inadequately Appreciated Cause of High Cost of Living for the Public and for the Railroads.

Referring to the joint conference on state and local taxation between industry, agriculture and transportation was held in New York City, November 18-19, during the occasion of the annual convention of the National Founders Association "Railroad Data" dated Nov. 20, published by the Committee on Public Relations of the Eastern Railroads, says:

The purpose of the conference was to focus public attention on the need for economy in state and local governmental expenditures. The following facts are based on the report drafted by a sub-committee representing the various organizations co-operating in the movement. This report was used as a basis for round-table discussion. The sub-committee was composed of the following:

O. E. Bradfute, President, American Farm Bureau Federation.
Charles Clifton, President, National Automobile Chamber of Commerce.
Walter Drew, Counsel, National Erectors' Association.
John E. Edgerton, President, National Association of Manufacturers.
Alba B. Johnson, President, Railway Business Association.
A. M. Loomis, Secretary, National Dairy Union.

W. W. Nichols, President, American Manufacturers' Export Association.
I. J. Taber, Master of the National Grange.
Robert S. Binkerd, Vice-Chairman, Committee on Public Relations of the Eastern Railroads.

I. Public Debt.

1. From January 1 1920, to January 1 1925, the National debt was reduced by about 5¼ billion dollars.
2. During the same time the debts of state and local governments increased by about 6¼ billion dollars.
3. During this period our state governments contracted new debts 20 times as fast as they paid off old debts.
4. During this same period state and local governments combined were going into debt more than 4½ times as fast as they were before the war.
5. The total public debt of all forms of government in this country is higher now than when our war debt was at its peak in 1919.
6. The National debt is being reduced at the rate of about ¼ billion dollars a year.
7. State and local debt is being increased at the rate of nearly 1¼ billion dollars a year.

II. Public Expenditure.

1. From January 1 1920, to January 1 1925, National governments expenditures were reduced about 3 billion dollars.
2. During the same period current expenditures by state and local governments increased nearly 2 billion dollars.
3. At the present rate of increase—over 300 million dollars a year—in three more years the growth of state and local expenditures will eat up the entire saving so far effected in the expenditures of the National government.
4. Almost 40% of National expenditures, 20% or more of local expenditures and about 10% of state expenditures are now required to pay interest and amortization on existing public debt.
5. The general property tax (the main support of state and local government) is now about as high as the total cost of all government—National, state, city, county and local—before the war (about 4 billion dollars).
6. The per capita cost of government now exceeds the per capita cost of food, at least for the inhabitants of our cities.

In addition to the above facts which were brought out by the sub-committee's report the following facts are published to show how necessary tax reduction is to the railroads.

III. Taxation and Railroads.

1. 1924 was the fourth year since 1919 in which railroad taxes exceeded railroad dividends by a substantial margin.
Taxes, \$340,000,000. Dividends, \$320,000,000.
2. 1925 will apparently be the fifth year since 1919 in which railroad taxes exceed dividends by a substantial margin.
Taxes, \$365,000,000. Dividends, \$330,000,000 (estimated)
3. Railroad taxes now are running at the rate of a million dollars a day—\$42,000 every hour of the twenty-four. Sundays and holidays included.
4. More than 75% of railroad taxes are levied by state and local governments.
5. Applied to freight receipts alone, present taxes would take more than 8% of every freight rate paid.
6. Applied to passenger receipts alone, present taxes would take more than one-third of every passenger fare paid.
7. Every element of cost under the control of railroad management has been materially decreased since 1920, as a result of which rates have been decreased to the extent of about 700 million dollars a year.
8. The one big element of expense which shows no sign of decreasing in taxes, which are subject only to the control of an enlightened public opinion.

Arrangements for Providing \$5,000,000 Corn Credit in Behalf of Iowa Farmers Made at Conference of Government Officials Held in Chicago.

At a conference held in Chicago, Dec. 1, called to consider ways and means of assisting Iowa farmers in financing the orderly marketing of this year's corn crop, a \$5,000,000 agricultural credit to aid in the marketing of the crop was subscribed. At the conference Iowa and Illinois bankers, business men and farm leaders met with Secretary of Agriculture Jardine. Two Intermediate Credit banks to be located at Des Moines and Fort Dodge with a capital stock of \$250,000 each, were organized and the stock subscribed for, says Chicago Associated Press advices, Dec. 1, which also give the following information in the matter:

The agricultural and financial representatives of the heart of the corn belt met here to-day with Secretary William M. Jardine of the Department of Agriculture and other Government officials to discuss ways and means of enabling the farmers to cash in on their record-breaking corn crop of this year by a process of orderly marketing.

Government machinery to expand credit facilities so that the farmer might hold or feed his corn instead of sacrificing it at 50 cents a bushel was set in motion.

President Coolidge sent his greetings to the Conference and expressed through Secretary Jardine "the hope and expectation that out of the Conference will come constructive help."

The Iowa bankers, business men and farmer leaders adopted resolutions "re-affirming their faith in the richest agricultural State in the Union again normal in business and its banks stronger than ever before in cash resources and liquid assets."

Two national agricultural credit corporations, to be located at Fort Dodge and Des Moines, Iowa, with capital stock of \$250,000 each, were organized and granted charters, and the stock all subscribed at the meeting. These two banks, under the Federal Intermediate Credit Bank, will be able to take farm paper up to \$5,000,000 with corn in the crib or live stock in the feeding pen as collateral.

The resolutions adopted by the Iowa bankers at the Conference said: "Resolved, That this group of Iowa bankers, business men and farmers take advantage of this opportunity to re-affirm their faith in Iowa; that richest agricultural State in the Union is again normal in business and its banks stronger than ever before in cash resources and liquid assets."

"Resolved, That this gathering has been glad to start to-day the organization of properly financed national agricultural credit corporations to operate in Iowa under the Federal Intermediate Credit System, which will be able to take care of all necessary credit for the orderly marketing of this year's corn crop in sections that may need additional credit facilities."

"Resolved, That we commend President Coolidge, Secretary Jardine and the agencies of the Federal Government for their outstanding interest in the State of Iowa and their desire to co-operate in the stabilization of conditions in this great agricultural State."

Under date of Nov. 23 Nils A. Olsen, Assistant Chief, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, and Albert C. Williams, Member of the Federal Farm Loan Board, in a report to Secre-

tary of Agriculture Jardine on the credit and farm storage conditions in Iowa, indicated that more credit would be needed for quite a number of farmers, and the belief was expressed that "the time is opportune for a wider use of the facilities afforded by the Federal Intermediate Credit System." The report follows:

In keeping with your request, the undersigned visited Iowa for the purpose of surveying credit and farm storage conditions in that State as they relate to the orderly marketing of the 1925 corn crop, and respectfully submit the following report:

The question of credit to aid the orderly marketing of Iowa corn has been brought into prominence by the recent severe drop in prices. The estimated average price of old corn received by producers in Iowa was \$1.01 in October 1924 and 98 cents in August 1925. By October of this year the average price had dropped to 70 cents. In the first half of November sales of new corn were reported at from 50 to 60 cents, with an average price of around 55 cents. It should be remembered, of course, that the new corn sells at a discount because of its high moisture content. The decline in corn prices is viewed with concern by the people of the State, and especially by farmers who sell for cash a large part of their crop. That such farmers represent no inconsiderable number of the producers in Iowa is indicated by the fact that shipments of corn out of the counties where grown average about 20% of the crop, and in years of large production sometimes reached 30 to 35%. While the movement of corn out of some counties is relatively small, in other counties, it amounts to as much as 40 to 50% of the crop.

The recent break in prices is a result, primarily, of the large corn crop produced this year. Recent estimates place the crop for the United States at 3,013,000,000 bushels, and for Iowa at 477,386,000 bushels, which is the largest yield in the history of that State. An analysis of the situation, however, indicates that several factors will tend to offset the increased crop. The low carry-over of old corn from last year, short feed crops in some sections of the country, relatively higher prices for hogs and cattle as compared with corn prices and a probable increased feeding demand, a prospective increase in the number of hogs to be fed next summer, generally good business conditions—all are strengthening factors in the price situation. On the other hand, there are influences which may have a weakening effect on prices, such as the size of the corn crop, some reduction in the number of live-stock, and the low prices of other feed grains.

Ordinarily the lowest prices for corn are reached during the winter months. The price trend is usually upward from March to July. After July prices are influenced by the prospects for the new crop. The producer who has corn to sell has the problem of deciding whether the seasonal rise in price is likely to yield him a profit over the cost of holding.

There is much to support the view held more or less generally by farmers and other conversant with conditions that at present prices farmers who have live stock to feed or are equipped to obtain and efficiently handle live stock should realize good returns by feeding corn, and that corn sold for cash should go to market in an orderly manner. Many bankers and business men of the State are encouraging this policy.

In order to carry out a program of increasing live stock holdings, feeding, and orderly marketing, it appears that quite a number of farmers will need more credit. In the main, farmers will probably receive adequate assistance from their local banks. Reports indicate improvement in the Iowa banking situation, but bank failures have been numerous in the State and there appear to be spots where existing credit agencies are not able to meet present legitimate demands for credit. We believe, therefore, that the time is opportune for a wider use of the facilities afforded by the Federal Intermediate Credit System, which was established for the express purpose of aiding local banks and other credit institutions in financing the production and orderly marketing of live stock and other agricultural products. The Federal Intermediate Credit Bank at Omaha stands ready to co-operate with farmers, bankers and business men in providing sound credit for the orderly marketing of the corn crop. It can not, under the law, make loans direct to farmers, but it can rediscount properly secured farmers' notes, having a maturity of not less than six months and endorsed by an eligible bank or sound and well-managed credit corporation. The present rediscount rate of the Federal Intermediate Credit Bank is 5% per annum. The bank or credit corporation is permitted to charge in addition thereto not more than 1½%, making the present maximum interest rate to the farmer 6½% per annum. It is expected that some banks in position to do so will utilize the facilities of the Federal Intermediate Credit Bank in meeting the needs of the farmers. In regions where adequate credit accommodations are not available through local banks, conditions can be improved through the organization of properly capitalized agricultural credit corporations which may rediscount paper with the Federal Intermediate Credit Bank.

The Iowa State Warehouse Act was passed in 1923 for the purpose of making grain stored on the farm more acceptable collateral for loans. The Act has been in operation for too short a period to permit a fair appraisal of its merits. Experience will indicate improvements needed in the system. The measure should be given a fair test. Many of the banks in the State have expressed their willingness to make loans on farm storage certificates issued under this Act, and the Federal Intermediate Credit Bank serving the State of Iowa likewise is prepared to accept them as collateral to notes of solvent farmers when submitted for rediscount by an eligible bank or sound and properly-managed agricultural credit corporation.

While our mission was to survey credit and farm storage conditions in Iowa, we feel it should be added that deep interest was expressed in the problem of stabilizing the prices of farm products and in bringing about a better relationship between the prices of the things farmers buy and the things they sell. The agricultural situation has improved since 1921, but it is apparent that many Iowa farmers still labor under the handicaps of large debts, high operating expenses, high taxes, high interest rates on short-term loans, and also widely fluctuating and often unsatisfactory prices for their products.

Respectfully submitted,

NILS A. OLSEN,
Assistant Chief, Bureau of Agricultural
Economics.

ALBERT C. WILLIAMS,
Member, Federal Farm Loan Board.

Washington, D. C., Nov. 23 1925.

The United States Government and Agricultural Co-operation—Address of Secretary of Agriculture William M. Jardine.

The relationship of the Government to a movement like agricultural co-operation must depend upon the purposes of the movement and its importance in the national life, said

William M. Jardine, Secretary of Agriculture, in an address before the National Co-operative Milk Producers' Federation at Philadelphia, Pa., on Nov. 24. "Co-operation aims to go beyond the mere selling of the farmers' product and the distribution of the proceeds. It aims to eliminate wastes in marketing and distribution, to set up standards by which farm products will be graded and sold, and to adjust production to demand. This means not only the adjustment of the quantity of products to market demands, in so far as that is possible, but, what is perhaps more important, the production of products of such kinds and qualities as meet the requirements of the consumers, and as can be marketed with a minimum of waste. The very fact that farmers are able to organize in a business-like way to market farm products points to other accomplishments through co-operation. Insurance and the purchase of farm supplies are established co-operative activities. Farmers are learning also that they can meet their credit problems more effectively through co-operation." At the same time, said the Secretary, the social significance of the co-operative movement should not be overlooked. "One of the great needs in country life is a community consciousness. An organized community will seek to improve not only economic conditions, but the educational opportunities and social life of the people. Co-operation means working together not for one object, but for many objects. It should add dignity to country life and the business of farming. In other words, co-operation contemplates a stabilized agriculture that will give every opportunity for the development of a high type of rural civilization, and at the same time will produce and distribute economically the products necessary to supply our cities with food." Mr. Jardine then proceeded as follows:

The co-operative associations in the United States are engaged in a far-reaching undertaking which we believe to be vital to the welfare of agriculture. From this point of view, there should be no question of the attitude of the Federal Government toward co-operation. The movement deserves encouragement and support, and this encouragement and support must be dynamic and positive. The co-operatives demand, and from their position in the scheme of production and marketing have a right to expect, active assistance from the Federal Government, particularly from the Department of Agriculture.

The responsibility for the development of a satisfactory and helpful service, however, does not rest entirely with the department. In other words, I should not regard it as a healthy situation, from the point of view of either the co-operatives or the department, for the associations to accept passively such services as are offered them. They should be partners in the enterprise, and should make their wants known.

The policy of the Department of Agriculture in this as in other enterprises has been and will continue to be one not of direction but of service in the lines in which farmers themselves have become convinced that service is needed. The department was established for promotion of American agriculture and it seeks to give farmers constantly the service which they themselves have found essential to progress. Marketing problems have been studied in the department for some time. The Office of Markets was established in 1913 and one of its first projects dealt with problems of co-operative marketing and purchasing organizations. This project has expanded slowly. Research has been carried on in the fundamental problems of co-operation. Historical and statistical data regarding agricultural co-operation have been collected from all parts of the United States. The material available deals with marketing and operating problems of associations, the cost of doing business, and the economic and legal factors under which they operate, as well as the broad questions involved in the relationship of the members to the associations.

Services of the Department.

The department has also made various surveys of conditions surrounding the production and marketing of particular products in specific areas with a view to determining the possible advantages of a system of marketing the products co-operatively, thus assisting co-operative organizations in obtaining knowledge of the basic factors which are involved in both production and marketing.

Various other services of the department, not directly based on the co-operative marketing studies, are nevertheless of value to co-operative organizations. Estimates, forecasts, and statistics of crop and livestock production are provided. A comprehensive market news service is given, reporting shipments, receipts, prices, and condition of commodities. Well defined and generally accepted standards for farm products have been established, and shipping point inspection is being extended rapidly. This type of service is vital to the fullest development of co-operative marketing. The licensing of public warehousemen under the United States Warehouse Act administered by the department has assisted co-operative marketing organizations in enabling them to secure improved credit facilities and to develop more orderly marketing. Studies of cost of production and cost of marketing are likewise of value, while closely akin to these are studies in accounting systems adapted to agricultural needs.

Recently intensive surveys and analyses of the operating, financial, and marketing problems of particular co-operative associations have been carried on. These studies have been of value not only in themselves, but because they have proved a valuable guide to co-operative organizations in setting up operating standards and methods. In short, it is a method of developing in the agricultural field the scientific business study which has proved so valuable in corporations and other industrial organizations.

Growth of Co-operative Movement.

Although the department has made these and various other studies which have proved distinctly useful to the co-operative movement, the work has not grown as fast as have co-operative organizations. From 1919, when a wave of organization activity began to sweep agricultural America, until the present time, co-operation has grown among farmers until this year it is conservatively estimated that \$2,500,000,000 worth of farm products will be marketed co-operatively. This is a phenomenon of which no one interested in American agriculture or in the American nation can fail to take cognizance. Investigations, services, and theories sufficient for past

conditions must be modified and expanded in the light of contemporary circumstances.

The co-operative movement demands the increasingly thoughtful attention of those governmental agencies which are directed toward the end of agricultural service. For a long time a great group expression of our agricultural population has been needed, and this, I believe, we have found in the co-operative movement. Here is a common meeting ground on which farmers of various training, various viewpoints, and various economic and social interests may meet together. It is obvious that the Department of Agriculture, which has already been deeply interested in the co-operative movement, should greatly expand its work in this field.

Group Action the Desideratum.

As I have pointed out before, however, the Government should not, and cannot effectively, impose its services and assistance upon any group. Particularly absurd would it be for the Government to attempt to do this in the case of the co-operative movement, which itself is dependent on group intelligence, interest, and action. What the co-operative movement needs is a pooling of the resources and intelligence of the farmers themselves, of the leaders of their organizations, of the State colleges and experiment stations, of public and semi-public institutions, and all individuals that have anything to contribute to the movement. Only in this way will we manifest the fundamental basis of all co-operation, namely the will to work together. United action is the basis of co-operation, and we who are interested in the movement must set to all men the example of united action. I am greatly encouraged by the development of institutions like the American Institute of Co-operation, which met in this city last July and August.

It is because of my firm conviction that we shall accomplish nothing in promoting co-operation unless we co-operate among ourselves in every respect from the very beginning that I should be unwilling to suggest any program for this important field unless it were based on conference with co-operative leaders and others who have a background of study and experience. Such a program has been worked out in this way during the past few weeks. It proposes nothing revolutionary. It is not sensational. What it contemplates doing is simply to ascertain facts useful to co-operative organizations, to supply these facts, and, when necessary, interpretation of them, to the organizations, and to afford a means whereby representatives of co-operative organizations can come together efficiently for conference with each other and with specialists in the Department of Agriculture and in other institutions.

Government Does Not Contemplate Direct Financial Aid.

The plan does not contemplate direct financial aid to co-operative associations by the Government. The experience of foreign agricultural co-operatives has shown that direct financial aid from the Government, and the control that goes with it, are not desirable. Financial aid has a tendency to bolster up weak concerns and conceal their defects. Money offered for organization purposes may bring associations into existence where they are not needed, and may attract persons into the movement whose chief desire is to tap the treasury rather than to effect improvement in marketing. On the other hand, strong, efficient co-operative associations would be inclined to reject financial aid, from a wish to avoid the supervision and control that would necessarily go with it. Thus the movement would tend to divide into an efficient part capable of standing on its own feet, and an inefficient part nursed by subsidies and in constant danger of collapse.

Furthermore, it is my firm conviction, and in this I believe that members of co-operatives generally agree with me, that an essential to success in co-operation is a fundamental belief in its advantages. People who do not believe in co-operation sufficiently to testify to their belief by financial and other support will not be able to form vigorous and effectual organizations. Government aid would tend to develop co-operation among people without convictions as to its desirability.

Nor do regulations and restrictions by the Government help in fostering co-operative organizations. Co-operation in the United States has developed from the needs and experiences of the farm people. It rightly begins as an economic movement of the rural communities, and should be free to develop in accordance with their needs and the opportunities for service. The experience in European countries also points to this fact. It is improbable that the Danish Government, for example, at any time during the history of the co-operative movement in that country, could have developed a plan of co-operation as admirably adapted to the needs of the Danish farmers as is the present system. Neither is it likely that the Danish Government, by decrees or regulations, could have made co-operation the important part of the national life that it has come to be through spontaneous, untrammelled growth.

Government Aims to Be Helpful.

On the other hand, it is clear to co-operative leaders that the movement is of so much present and potential significance to agriculture that the Government would be failing to fulfill its duty to the farming population were it to adopt a mere "let alone" policy, or even were it to refrain from expanding its present efforts to serve the co-operative movement.

The request has come from the co-operative organizations themselves that the research, educational and service work of the Department in co-operation should be strengthened. In conference with co-operative leaders, it has been decided that this can be done by the establishment of a Division of Co-operative Marketing. The establishment of such a division will give to the co-operative study of the Department stability and permanence that it has not possessed heretofore. The plan provides for a personnel in the Division of Co-operative Marketing to carry on research in co-operation, and render service to co-operative organizations.

I have already outlined the work of the present co-operative project, and the services that the Department offers to co-operatives. On the work and services of the new and enlarged division we shall to a large extent be guided by the counsel of the co-operative associations.

Scientific Studies and Dissemination of Information the Aim.

The needs are twofold. On the one hand is the necessity of greatly strengthening our scientific studies not only in co-operative problems themselves but in production, distribution and other problems that are of special interest to co-operatives. This information, however, can not be of value unless it is made clear and actually applied by the agricultural population. For this reason we need to carry on a second line of work—that of disseminating fundamental information so that it is actually effective.

Among the scientific problems to which we need to give further attention is the problem of marketing and distributing the products that the co-operative associations handle. Studies in this field must be specific, thoroughgoing, and based on completely authenticated facts.

The business organization and management of co-operative associations will always be of great importance. The business analysis studies that have been begun may be profitably extended. If the co-operative associations are to reach the same plane of efficiency as private organizations, they must have the advantage of studies similar to those made by great corporations.

The Department can not undertake to do this work for the co-operatives, but it can, very properly, outline the field and develop methods in this important and difficult undertaking.

Our scientific investigations must not be confined exclusively to problems directly under the control of farmers or farmers' organizations. The co-operative organizations are interested likewise in every problem which concerns, on the one hand, the building up of their own membership, and on the other hand the marketing of farm products.

Better Financing of Small Farmers the Need.

To strengthen the potentialities of co-operative organizations, better financing of small farmers is of great importance. Although credit agencies are being developed to take care of the commodities handled by co-operatives, still greater attention must be given to this phase of agricultural finance. There is a great need, moreover, to give the right sort of assistance to the small one-crop farmer like the cotton grower. This is a weak place in our financial system. In considering this problem, unbiased studies must be made and definite facts secured which may be presented to the proper agencies for providing remedies. In this particular field much must be done through the States if the problem is to be solved, but this does not relieve us, who are interested in co-operation and in agriculture generally, from our obligation to obtain the necessary data.

Better Terminal Facilities Required.

In connection with the marketing of farm products, the other point which I mentioned, congestion in the terminal markets and inadequate and antiquated terminal facilities, have greatly increased the cost of handling the products. There is loss of time; there is waste of perishable commodities. This cannot continue. The neck of the bottle must be made larger. Agricultural products must have adequate access to the public that wants them. The Department of Agriculture has begun the study of these problems, carrying on research, for instance, in co-operation with the Port of New York Authority. I feel that this work should be expanded in order that valuable recommendations may be made. The co-operative associations of themselves cannot solve this problem, but once the facts are ascertained they can get behind proposals to remedy the situation. This is one of the ways in which the co-operatives may greatly help in reducing the spread of price between farmer and consumer.

To make our scientific studies of direct use to the organizations, we need a much closer link than we now have between the research workers and the leaders and members of the co-operative associations. The plan which has been worked in conference with representatives of co-operative organizations contemplates the employment of commodity specialists, who would be familiar with the needs of the co-operative organizations on the one hand and with the research and service work of the Department on the other. These men would form a link between the associations and the Department and would disseminate correct crop and market information and data regarding price trends, conditions of supply and demand, and other important matters. At the same time they would be instrumental in guiding the research work of the Department toward a closer study of the special problems of co-operative associations.

It is important not merely to disseminate crop, market and similar information, but also to supply facts regarding the principles and aims of co-operation. This is necessary in order to forward the development of sound co-operation, and to prevent the spread of spurious and doubtful schemes masquerading under the name of co-operation. The Department can make an important contribution in this field. The employment of specialists in co-operative education, to work with the State agricultural colleges and the associations in developing special courses for members, officials and employees of co-operative organizations, as well as non-member farmers, is included in the proposed plan, and should be helpful in promoting a sound point of view toward the movement.

I have made no effort to outline in detail the problems that should be dealt with. There are many important problems other than those which I have mentioned and still others will arise as co-operation advances. What we now need and what we now contemplate is a definite plan which involves the securing of all the facts possible that may be of value and interest to co-operatives and the interpretation of these facts and the placing of them before the co-operative associations. A further essential factor of the plan provides for close correlation, for close contact between the co-operative associations and the Department of Agriculture. It provides that the Secretary of Agriculture may call advisors to counsel with him regarding the needs of any agricultural product marketed by co-operative associations or regarding the legal, financial, or any other phases of co-operation.

Thus the Department is not made a superior institution, handing down facts and opinions and regulations, but an organization coordinate with the other institutions which are working for the betterment of agriculture. The relation of the Department to the co-operatives will be in itself a co-operative relationship. Moreover, as I have suggested, it is my intention that the Department shall work in co-operation not only with the co-operative organizations, but with the State colleges and experiment stations and with other agencies.

The State institutions have been given, through the Purnell Act, additional funds which they may use in investigations of incalculable value to co-operative associations. They also have facilities, through their extension work, for carrying valuable information to the farmers of their respective States. Certain of the work that is contemplated can be best done by these institutions, certain of it by the co-operatives themselves, and certain of it by the United States Department of Agriculture. By correlating our efforts we shall all be brought together, which will lead both to sounder and more economical results in our studies, investigations and dissemination of information, and to a better knowledge of each other, an end perhaps equally important. We shall go slowly, carefully, but we shall go surely and we shall go together.

By these means co-operative effort will be built on the basis of ascertained facts rather than preconceived theory. It will be worked out in the last analysis by the people who are most deeply interested in it and most thoroughly concerned with it, namely, the farmers themselves. Not only should their experience in applying facts to definite situations build up a significant marketing system, but it should also lead to the application of the co-operative spirit to every avenue of rural life. Co-operation, it must be constantly kept in mind, is not merely a method, a technique, a mechanism; it is a way of living. It is a group expression of our agricultural population which can find an increasing place for itself in every phase of agricultural and country life.

Co-Operative Leaders Approve Plan to Extend Work of United States Department of Agriculture—Proposed Farm Relief Measure.

On Oct. 29 and 30 Secretary of Agriculture Jardine was in conference with a representative group of national leaders of co-operative marketing associations to determine

their wishes as to how the United States Department of Agriculture might more effectively serve the co-operative movement in its many aspects. For several weeks Secretary Jardine has conferred with co-operative leaders from different sections of the country with the desire to determine how the work of the Department might be directed to be more helpful to this important farm movement. The conference of some twenty leaders at the end of October heartily approved the idea of extending the work of the Department and worked out a definite plan to bring this about. Among other things, it is proposed that the work of the Department should be strengthened by the establishment of a Division of Co-operative Marketing. According to a statement made at the Department of Agriculture on Nov. 1, this plan meets the unqualified approval of Secretary Jardine. It is pointed out, however, that this plan is in its formative stage and will be discussed with other co-operative leaders during the next few weeks with the idea in mind that a definite proposal, with the support of all co-operative organizations, will be presented at the coming session of Congress.

While only the above meagre information was made available by the Department of Agriculture, the New York "Times" in advices from Washington, Oct. 31, indicated that the terms of a new co-operative marketing bill, which will be presented to Congress the present month, was agreed upon by the representatives of farm organizations at the October conference. We quote the following from the paper:

The measure will be the major item on President Coolidge's program of relief for Agriculture. Its approval by Secretary Jardine means that no further consideration will be given by the Administration to the marketing proposals of the Coolidge Farm Commission that failed of action in the last Congress.

The new bill is the product of a conference here this week, in which about twenty of the larger farm co-operative organizations of the United States, as well as the Department of Agriculture, were represented. It reconciles, in large measure, conflicting views as to just what steps the Federal Government should take in encouraging co-operation by farmers in the marketing of their goods.

Government officials said to-day that the organizations represented in the Conference speak for 2,000,000 farmers who raise annually products valued at \$2,500,000,000. Among those who were in attendance were the following:

John Brandt, President of the Minnesota Co-operative Creameries; J. S. Montgomery, General Manager of the Central Co-operative Commission Association; J. W. Shorthill, Secretary of the Farmers' National Grain Dealers' Association; C. O. Moser, General Manager of the American Cotton Growers' Exchange; Carl Williams, editor of the "Oklahoma Farmer-Stockman and Vice-Chairman of the National Council Farmers' Co-operative Associations; A. U. Chaney, General Manager of the American Cranberry Exchange; Richard Pattee, Manager-Director of the New England Milk Producers and Chairman of the American Institute of Co-operation; William H. Settle, President of the Indiana Farm Bureau; Herman Steen, Secretary-Treasurer of the Indiana Wheat Growers; C. A. Stewart, General Manager of the National Live Stock Producers' Association; Seward H. Miller, Assistant Counsel of the Dairymen's League; Charles W. Holman, Secretary of the National Co-operative Milk Producers' Federation; Walton Peteet, Secretary of the National Council Farmers' Co-operative Marketing Associations; Dan Wallace, Director of the Minnesota Potato Growers' Exchange; Lee Palmer, President of the Ohio Farm Bureau, and C. B. Denman, President of the National Live Stock Producers' Association.

Would Merely Give Advice.

The proposed Division of Co-operative Marketing would act in a purely advisory capacity and not have any powers of regulation or supervision over the co-operatives, such as was proposed in previous Administration measures and to which violent objection was made by the co-operatives themselves.

In addition to the authority to advise with co-operatives in times of emergency the new division would disseminate the mass of information now collected by the Department of Agriculture and other Government bureaus as to crops, markets, methods of organization and the financing of co-operatives. Congress will be asked for an appropriation sufficient to enable the Secretary of Agriculture to employ experts to work out problems that may arise from time to time in the extension of the co-operative principle as applied to farming.

The fundamental idea underlying the new plan, it was suggested to-day, is to set up an agency within the Department of Agriculture that will make itself generally useful to co-operatives now in existence and those that it is expected that such a law would bring into being.

For example, if a dairy co-operative association in New York gets into difficulties, it can call upon the Division of Co-operative Marketing for aid. An expert or several of them will be sent into the territory to study the situation and make recommendations. That will only be done upon the express request of the co-operative organization involved. The plan is to have the Government keep on hand, or be prepared to call in, the most expert co-operative advisers in the country. It is emphasized that aid will be extended only when asked for.

Want Bill Passed This Winter.

Farm legislation will have a prominent place in President Coolidge's annual message to Congress. It is the general expectation that as a result of that message the appropriate committees of the two Houses will give immediate consideration to the question. In view of the fact that a new Congress will be elected in the fall of 1926, Republican leaders regard it as imperative that a farm bill shall be passed this winter.

The program outlined here to-day by the Secretary of Agriculture is expected to be the outstanding feature of the President's recommendations for the farmer, although other phases of the problem may be touched upon later, dependent upon the advice given the Administration by authorities in close touch with the subject. It is known that the President looks with disfavor upon plans for an export commission or any legislation designed to confer price-fixing authority upon a Government agency.

A good deal of significance is attached to the fact that in calling the Conference the Administration dealt directly with representatives of co-operative organizations. Many of the conferees, representing large bodies

of farmers, have never appeared here before when proposed farm relief legislation was under consideration.

The prominence taken by Secretary Jardine in the Conference, and his announcement of the purposes contemplated by the bill adopted is interpreted as a notice on the part of the Administration that it will take up this plan of co-operative marketing with a view to legislative action, and not give countenance to such measures as the McNary-Haugen bill and others providing for the establishment of commissions clothed with broad powers of supervision.

Agricultural Conference Board Not to Be Called Back Into Session by President Coolidge.

President Coolidge has approved the recommendation of Hon. Robert D. Carey of Wyoming, Chairman of the President's Agricultural Conference, to the effect that the Conference should not be called back into session, according to a statement issued at the United States Department of Agriculture on Nov. 6. This decision was definitely reached upon announcement that co-operative leaders in conference with Secretary of Agriculture Jardine had unanimously agreed upon a definite plan to give assistance and encouragement to the co-operative movement in its many aspects. In a letter to the President, dated Oct. 17, Chairman Carey said:

The records show that most of the recommendations made by the Conference have been favorably acted upon. The principal legislative recommendation of the Conference upon which favorable action was not taken by Congress had to do with co-operative marketing. After a thorough survey of the situation, however, I am confident that farm leaders, both in and out of Congress, will agree upon steps which should be taken to foster and promote the co-operative movement.

I feel that in the Secretary of Agriculture, Hon. William M. Jardine, agriculture is represented by one who thoroughly understands agricultural problems and conditions. He served as a member of the Conference, and knows the views of the different members regarding agricultural questions. It would seem that the Department of Agriculture as now functioning is in a position to both assist agriculture and help in the solution of its problems. Furthermore, there is a growing disposition on the part of leading farm organizations to get together on agricultural recommendations.

Under these rather favorable circumstances, and after careful consideration of the whole situation, it is my opinion that Congress, the Department of Agriculture and agricultural leaders are making progress to work out a satisfactory solution of farm problems. In view of this situation I do not feel that the Conference should be called back into session.

The first report of the Conference, according to the statement issued by the Department of Agriculture Nov. 6, had to do with the serious emergency in the cattle industry. The Conference found that the condition of the cattlemen was caused largely by a serious shortage of credit facilities. It recommended that the Farm Loan Board should make every effort to bring about the organization of the necessary rediscount agencies. Immediate action in this direction was taken following the recommendation of the Conference. The Department's statement also says:

It was also recommended that the Agricultural Credit Act should be amended by eliminating the provision that prohibited the rediscounting by the Federal Intermediate Credit banks of loans negotiated by Federally chartered agricultural credit agencies. Favorable action on this recommendation was taken by the Sixty-eighth Congress.

The Conference went on record to the effect that the unappropriated public domain should be placed under lease and that there should be a uniform policy agreed upon for the administration of grazing on the public lands and the national forests. Upon adoption of this recommendation the Secretary of Agriculture gave immediate consideration to the matter of grazing on national forests, and representatives of the leading live stock associations recently met at Salt Lake City and submitted their recommendations to the Senate Committee on Public Lands.

Believing that an early and thorough revision of the freight structure as pertaining to agricultural products was necessary, the Conference recommended the passage of House Joint Resolution No. 94, which directed the Inter-State Commerce Commission to take action whereby the lowest possible rates could be granted to agricultural products. This resolution was enacted and hearings are now being conducted by the Inter-State Commerce Commission.

Among other things, the Conference approved the Purnell bill providing additional funds for the study and investigation of agricultural problems the various land grant colleges. This measure was endorsed by the Conference for the reason that it believed funds should be available for the investigation of the business aspects of agriculture, particularly its marketing problems.

Wool Men Attack Installment Sales—Say We Deny Ourselves Clothes to Buy Radio Sets and Autos by Deferred Payments.

The following is from the New York "Times" of Dec. 3:

The American people are denying themselves clothes to buy radio sets, motor cars and other things offered for sale on the installment plan, according to speakers who undertook to diagnose the trouble with the woolen and clothing industry yesterday at the nineteenth annual meeting of the American Association of Woolen and Worsted Manufacturers at the Waldorf. More than 600 members were present. Plans to meet installment-plan competition were outlined.

William Goldman, President of Cohen, Goldman & Co., and President of the Clothing Manufacturers' Research Board, said that both the installment plan and the chain store had cut into the business formerly realized by the dealer in better grades of clothes. He told how clothing merchants in the West were adopting the installment plan to sell to customers who were buying many articles of luxury and necessity by that method.

Sir James Elder Speaks

Sir James Elder, Commissioner for Australia in the United States, in an address on "The Position and Prospects of Wool and the American Situation," also referred to the cut into the wool business made by the demand

for motor cars and radios. He mentioned still another cause of the slump in the formerly enormous American demand for wool. He said the central heating plant in American homes and business buildings enabled persons to enjoy indoors a Summer temperature the year round.

Sir James said that "Australia does not need and from recent appearances will not have any Government assistance or control of her great national industry of wool production."

After speaking of the widespread use of central heating plants and the radical changes in women's clothing the speakers said the increased use of heavy topcoats for outdoors was not sufficient to compensate for the slump. He cited the widespread use of automobiles which, he said, outnumbered by several millions the total of telephones in use.

Among the factors that should contribute to increased business, Sir James mentioned restriction of immigration to America and the increased earning power of the workmen, normal increase in population in America, stimulation of national savings in European countries by the Locarno agreements.

Robert T. Francis, who was elected President of the association, said that the outstanding evil in the industry was the insecurity of contracts. He brought up again the matter of organizing a law committee for the industry to which members of the association could assign their claims for collection when contracts were broken.

N. Y. Federal Reserve Bank's Inquiry Into Installment Sales By Department Stores.

In view of the increase in the past few years in the use of installment credit in merchandising, the Federal Reserve Bank of New York recently sought information as to the amount of installment credit in use in the department store trade in this city. The Bank makes this known in its Monthly Review dated Dec. 1 in which it says:

While the practise of granting installment credit has spread during the past year to a number of stores heretofore on a cash basis, in general the results of the inquiry did not indicate any recent considerable growth in the use of this form of credit in department store trade. A wide variance in the practise was revealed; some stores are trying it experimentally, while others have fully adopted the plan and are pushing it.

A few of the stores have carried on an installment business for several years in such articles as furniture, rugs, pianos, and other household articles. Information secured from some of these stores indicated that while installment sales have shown a somewhat greater increase over a year ago than cash sales in particular lines, the total amount of installment sales and accounts outstanding has not expanded more rapidly than total cash sales. In general installment sales in this city are still only a small part of the total volume of department store business.

Secretary Mellon Sees Little Sign of Inflation in New York Stock Market—Thinks Prices of Shares and Commodities Preserve Unchanged Ratio—Uncertainty Over Bank Rate Policies.

The following from Washington is taken from yesterday's issue (Dec. 4) of the New York "Journal of Commerce":

The action of the Bank of England in increasing its discount rate to 5% need not be considered as presaging an increase in the rediscount rate of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, according to Secretary of the Treasury Mellon.

Mr. Mellon believes that local conditions must be largely responsible for rate levels in different banking centres and that on this basis there is no particular reason why the Federal Reserve Bank of New York should increase its rate. On the other hand, according to the Secretary's belief, no particular harm would be done if the New York bank did increase its rate.

Effect of Uncertainty.

Mr. Mellon finds that uncertainty over the New York rate has had more effect on prices and the money market than an actual increase of the suggested one-half of 1% could possibly have had. The existing rate, he indicated, does not tend to encourage speculation and the effects of a change of one-half of 1% would be virtually negligible.

As far as the stock market is concerned Mr. Mellon seems to be of the opinion that the extent to which it is characterized by inflation has been considerably overestimated. Speculation always accompanies increases in stock prices, the Secretary pointed out, but it is his opinion that average prices on the stock market to-day and average commodity prices preserve about the same ratio that prevailed several years ago when the buying power of the dollar was considerably lower. Generally speaking he has found no outstanding inflation. There has been an orderly advance which has not been at a greater rate than the advance in commodity prices, he believes.

Bank Rate Discussion.

Even before it became known that no announcement of an increase in the New York Federal Reserve Bank rediscount rate had been made Mr. Mellon indicated that such action was doubtful.

Jackson E. Reynolds and Owen D. Young Elected Directors of Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

Jackson E. Reynolds of New York, N. Y., has been elected a Class A director, and Owen D. Young of New York, N. Y., as a Class B director of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, representing Group 1. Each will serve for a term of three years from Jan. 1 1926. The total number of votes cast for each candidate is as follows:

<i>Class A Director.</i>	<i>Class B Director.</i>
Jackson E. Reynolds.....60	Owen D. Young.....59
Total number of votes cast.....60	Total number of votes cast.....59

Mr. Reynolds succeeds Gates W. McGarragh, Chairman of the Mechanics & Metals National Bank, whose term of office expires Dec. 31. Mr. Young has been re-elected. Reference to the nominations was made in these columns Oct. 10, page 1748.

No Decision by Supreme Court in Proceedings Involving Federal Reserve Board's Regulations on Par Collection of Checks—Case Transferred to Circuit Court of Appeals.

Notwithstanding the positive statement contained in last week's Associated Press advices that the United States Supreme Court had upheld on Nov. 25 the regulations of the Federal Reserve Board requiring member banks to pay at par checks drawn upon them, we learn that no ruling at all was handed down by the Supreme Court on that day, and that this week (Nov. 30) the Court transferred the case to the Circuit Court of Appeals for trial on its merits. Telegraphic advices to this effect have come to us as follows under date of Nov. 30 from the National & State Bankers' Protective Association at Atlanta:

Associated Press story on par clearance suit, published in your issue 28th, was in error; no decision handed down then, but Supreme Court to-day transferred case to Circuit Court of Appeals for trial on its merits. Therefore nothing upheld or overthrown until Circuit Court hears and acts. Meantime, Associated Press story has created tremendous amount of misinformation and done injustice to large number of banks supporting Pascagoula bank's views. We hope you will publish facts in this week's issues.

The item in which we printed the Associated Press account appeared on page 2595 in our issue of last week. With reference to the Supreme Court's action this week, we quote the following from Washington Nov. 30, published in the New York "Journal of Commerce" and credited to the Associated Press:

The Pascagoula case, involving the validity of regulations requiring par clearance of checks, was sent back to-day by the Supreme Court to the Court of Appeals.

The order was based upon the technical ground that the appeal had been improperly brought by the bank from the Federal District Court to the Supreme Court, instead of having gone to the Court of Appeals.

The Supreme Court did not go into the merits of the controversy which had been a hard-fought issue in the banking world. The Pascagoula, Miss., National Bank asserted that it had the right to make a charge for cashing checks drawn upon it by its depositors, even though the checks were sent through the Federal Reserve Bank at Atlanta for collection. It asked the Federal Court for Northern Georgia to enjoin the Reserve Bank at Atlanta from continuing the practices complained of, but its application was refused.

Commenting editorially on the issue on Dec. 2, the "Journal of Commerce" says:

Delaying an Important Issue.

The Supreme Court of the United States, in sending back to the lower Courts the latest par clearance case that has come before it, has doubtless acted in accordance with the requirements of precedent and practice. It is regrettable, however, that this action appears to have been merely the outgrowth of technicalities, the decision dealing in no way with the merits of the issue.

Par clearance litigation has now been dragging slowly along through the Courts for over eight years, and it is the opinion of learned counsel that there may be a great many more years still to live through in connection with it, since every State may, and many probably will, enact restrictive legislation which will require decision on the part of the Supreme Court to determine its status from the standpoint of the Federal constitutional law. Of course, the various rehearings and reopenings of such cases necessarily draw out the process of adjustment still longer.

It ought to be possible for the Bankers Associations of the several States and of the United States to reach a basis of common understanding on this subject, "get together" as to practical policies and arrive at an understanding with the Federal authorities.

New York Federal Reserve Bank on Italian Debt Agreement—Total Obligations Thus Far Funded.

The New York Federal Reserve Bank of New York refers as follows in its Dec. 1 monthly review to the Italian debt agreement:

As a result of the conclusion on Nov. 14 of an agreement for the funding of the Italian debt to the United States, subject still to the approval of Congress, ten countries have now funded their debts to the United States. By this agreement Italy agrees to pay a principal amount of \$2,042,000,000 in annual installments over a period of sixty-two years, together with interest beginning after 1930 and ranging upward from 1/2 of 1% annually from 1930 to 1940 to 2% annually in the last seven years from 1981 to 1987. Payments of \$5,000,000 are to be made in each year up to June 15 1930, and thereafter amounts gradually rising from \$12,100,000 in 1931 to \$79,400,000 in 1987. This method of payment is different from that of the British and Belgian debt settlements which call for payments of practically constant amounts after the first ten years.

Obligations now funded total about \$7,400,000,000, including the debts of Great Britain, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Estonia, Finland, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland. Under these agreements payments due in 1926 are as follows:

Great Britain.....	\$160,900,000
Italy.....	*5,000,000
Belgium.....	3,840,000
Czechoslovakia.....	3,000,000
Poland.....	†1,500,000
Finland.....	314,890
Lithuania.....	‡209,550
Estonia.....	†100,000
Hungary.....	‡67,588
Latvia.....	160,000
Total.....	\$174,992,028

* Paid in advance in November 1925. † Optional. ‡ Partly payable in bonds.

The reaching of an agreement for the funding of Italy's debt to the United States was noted in these columns Nov. 14, page 2351, and Nov. 21, page 2472. The conversations between the Italian and American debt commissions had been opened in Washington Nov. 2, following the arrival on Nov. 1 on the steamer Duilio, of the Italian delegation headed by Count Volpi, the Italian Minister of Finance. Prior to these conversations, which led to the reaching of an agreement on Nov. 13, preliminary conversations had been held earlier the present year, and these were referred to in our issue of July 4, page 31—The five members of the Italian commission accompanying Count Volpi are Dino Grandi, Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs; Count Lelio Bonin Longare, Senator and former Ambassador to France; Dr. Alberto Pirelli, Honorary Minister Plenipotentiary; Dr. Mario Alberti, Honorary Minister Plenipotentiary, and Commendatore Gino Buti, First Legation Secretary. In addition the following acted as advisers to the commission: Professors Corrado Gini, Francesco Paolo Cantelli, Gino Ravenna, Ricciotti Armanni; Comm. R. Angelone; Ugo Carnera; Mario Lavatelli; Cav. Andrea Scalvini; Cav. Paride Formentini.

Count Volpi gave out a prepared statement with his arrival in New York Nov. 1 in which he said that "Italy undertakes this important discussion in a spirit of full loyalty and sincere determination; the fact that capacity to pay is the acknowledged basis of the negotiations represents undoubtedly a good promise for a successful conclusion." Count Volpi's statement (which we have not heretofore found room for) was as follows:

"As I said on leaving Italy, I am proud of the task entrusted to me by the Hon. Benito Mussolini, head of the Italian Government, and am glad to reconfirm this statement on my arrival in the United States on my first visit to a country I have long desired and planned to see.

"As a business man, I have always followed with the greatest interest the development of the economic and political life of the United States, and my friendship for your country is of long standing. For many years I have known and admired your people and I hope to draw from my present visit personal impressions which will be of great value to me in the future.

"After the outbreak of the European war, Italy and the United States, the most significant expressions of the old and the new civilizations, joined together, although at different dates, in a voluntary act of idealism, entering the war when the struggle was fiercest and the result most doubtful. A bond such as this cannot but establish an everlasting tie in the relations of the two countries.

"I must excuse myself from making any more precise statement because I must reserve all the details of the negotiations to the time when I will have the pleasure, together with my colleagues, of meeting the members of the American War Debt Funding Commission whom I know to be men of wide, practical knowledge and highly gifted.

"Italy undertakes this important discussion in a spirit of full loyalty and sincere determination: the fact that capacity to pay is the acknowledged basis of the negotiations, represents undoubtedly a good promise for a successful conclusion.

"It is with the most cordial warmth that I greet the people of the United States, in the person of President Coolidge, and I trust that the friendly willingness of our two peoples will now join in bringing about a satisfactory agreement."

On Nov. 2, when greetings were exchanged between Secretary Mellon and Count Volpi, the latter presented monographs relative to Italy's capacity to pay, and expressed the belief "that once relations as of debtor and creditor existing between Italy and the United States are definitely settled, a new and larger basis will be created, for the development of fruitful economic relations between Italy, a young nation, poor in natural resources, but rich in capacity to work and to produce, and the wealthy American republic, which has already contributed so much to the economic development of all the world."

Secretary Mellon, in receiving Count Volpi, stated that "in negotiating with you a settlement of the debt this Commission will apply the principle of Italy's capacity to pay and will give due weight to the special conditions, existing in your situation." Secretary Mellon spoke as follows:

The American commission wishes to express to you our pleasure in meeting you here in Washington around the table for a frank discussion of the matters involved in the debt settlement.

We thank you for the complete economic, fiscal and social studies of the condition of Italy which were prepared for us as the result of our preliminary conferences with your Ambassador and Mr. Alberti last Summer. We are studying your documentation in connection with similar investigations by ourselves. I wish to express our appreciation of the exhaustive nature of the documents you have furnished us and of the prompt arrival in America of your commission with authority to settle the war debt of our two nations.

We recognize fully Italy's efforts during and since the war. It is especially in the after-war period that Italy's constructive ability has drawn to her the attention of the world. Sound policies under the forceful direction of Premier Mussolini have radically reduced Government expenditures, increased revenue and balanced Italy's budget. This is a Government achievement worthy of the highest praise. We know, too, something of the difficulties Italy must face, owing to natural conditions and the heavy fiscal burden imposed by the war. We believe, however, that, with a continuance of your present political and economic stability, Italy is assured its position as a great nation.

In negotiating with you a settlement of the debt this commission will apply the principle of Italy's capacity to pay, and will give due weight to the special conditions existing in your situation. We will, I am sure, come to terms which will be within Italy's power to fulfill without undue pressure upon

her or her people, and which will also recognize the sacrifices made by the American taxpayer in the advances of our Treasury. We two nations desire a just settlement which will insure economic peace.

Count Volpi, in replying, laid stress upon the help given Italy by America in the war and the burden of the war upon Italy and her people, and said:

When peace, with America, with such great authority, helps protect all over the world, was assured, Italy notwithstanding her extremely difficult financial situation, offered to settle her war debt with the United States within the limits of her capacity to pay.

This acknowledgment of her debt constituted an obligation of honor which Italy intended and intends to absolve; and to this end she resolved that the head of the delegation sent to the United States should, aside from my modest self, be her own Minister of Finance, in order to add to the solemnity of her pledge.

Upon starting the present negotiations Italy accepts the principle laid down by the American Debt Commission and each debtor nation shall be considered independently and shall repay its debt within its particular capacity to pay.

In determining capacity of a nation the report of the Dawes Commission has shown that there are two principal elements—first, the capacity to collect in a country from its people the necessary money, and, second, the transfer of the money so collected in the national currency to the creditor country in the currency of the latter.

In order to show the American commission Italy's capacity to pay in these two regards there has been prepared and submitted to the American commission a documentation of twenty-four monographs composed of material gathered along scientific lines by the most prominent Italian statisticians and economists. These monographs show:

1. Italy's burden in the war was equal to 30% of her total national wealth. She lost 652,000 men and 458,000 of her youths were disabled.
2. Italy received no valuable colonies out of the war.
3. Italy's share of reparations is 10% as against 52% allotted to France and 22% to Great Britain.
4. Italy, by immense sacrifices, has balanced her budget, reduced her governmental expenditures and is the only great power whose military expenditures are today less than they were before the war.
5. Italy has been the only nation to tax war profits at 100% and to levy a capital tax.
6. The burden of taxation in Italy, taking into account the national wealth and the national income, is higher than that of any other country—38% of her net income after deducting a minimum of subsistence.
7. Italy has none of the principal raw materials. She must import food and all her requirements in oil, coal, cotton, iron and copper.
8. With her constantly increasing population it is doubtful if Italy's industrial development keeps pace with the increased demands of her population.
9. Italy's balance of trade has always been adverse. During the past nine months she exported 13,000,000,000 of lire and imported 20,000,000,000 a balance against her of 7,000,000,000. During this period Italy imported from the United States 5,000,000,000 of lire and exported to the United States 1,331,000,000 of lire; that is to say, her imports from America were nearly four times her exports to this country.

In fact, I believe that, once relations as of debtor and creditor existing between Italy and the United States are definitely settled, a new and larger basis will be created for the development of fruitful economic relations between Italy, a young nation, poor in natural resources but rich in capacity to work and to produce, and the wealthy American republic, which has already contributed so much to the economic development of all the world, under the enlightenment and wise guidance of its President, Calvin Coolidge, and of the Government which assists him in his worthy endeavors.

During the negotiations President Coolidge on Nov. 3 discussed the debt issue at the White House with Secretaries Mellon, Kellogg and Hoover, all members of the American commission, and Under-Secretary Winston of the Treasury, Secretary of the commission. That night, it was learned from the New York Times, the President entertained the Italian Commissioners at a state dinner attended by seven members of the Cabinet, the American representatives in the debt exchanges and members of the House and Senate. Senator William E. Borah, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, was one of those in attendance.

Two joint sub-committees were named on Nov. 4, as to which the Associated Press accounts said:

Distinct phases of the problem of dealing with the debt, which is approximately \$2,138,543,000, were assigned to each of the two groups to facilitate the negotiations.

The full text of the agreement reached was given in our Nov. 21 issue, page 2472.

Signing at London of Locarno Treaties Guaranteeing Security of Rhineland—Ratification By Germany and Great Britain

The treaties growing out of the security conference held in October at Locarno, Switzerland, were brought a step nearer fulfilment on December 1, when the representatives of Germany and the other European Nations, parties to the pacts, signed the accords. The signing of the treaties, which had been initiated at Locarno on Oct. 16 by the delegates of the seven Nations participating in the Conference, took place at London. In all seven or eight pacts have developed from the Locarno Conference—the Rhineland security treaty between Germany and the other powers, and several Arbitration Conventions. All of these were referred to at length in our issue of Oct. 24, pages 1984 to 1988. To quote from the Associated accounts from London Dec. 1, "Germany really got back into the European family today when Chancellor Luther and the German Foreign Minister, Gustav Stresemann signed the Locarno pact." The same advices went on to say:

The absence of the Soviet Government from today's gathering was mentioned informally by many of the delegates, and M. Briand expressed the hope that Russia might soon decide to enter the League of Nations and speed Europe in the restoration of normal economic and political conditions.

The nations affixing their signatures to the treaty and their representatives were: Great Britain, Austen Chamberlain and Stanley Baldwin; Germany, Chancellor Luther and Gustav Stresemann; Belgium, Emile Vanderveide; France, Aristide Briand; Italy, Vittorio Scialoja; Poland, Count Skrzynski; Czecho-Slovakia, Eduard Benes.

The German Chancellor and Dr. Stresemann had an informal conference with M. Briand, in which they discussed at length the changed problems which will arise in the Rhineland control and the relations generally between the two nations since the Locarno pact has become a fact. Disarmament possible reduction of the limitations on German aviation, the admission of Germany to membership in the Rhineland Control Commission and the evacuation of German territory by Allied troops were discussed.

The conference was all-friendly, and M. Briand said at its conclusion that no decisions were reached, but that the Locarno spirit prevailed throughout. After the ceremony in the Foreign Office, Chancellor Luther of Germany gave out the following statement:

"This day of the signing of the Locarno pact is a milestone in the history of European nations. It shows the will of all the partners to the treaty to restore peace. Readjustment to normal economic and political relations will be the ultimate outcome of our endeavors.

"I consider that this pact is the first step, but a decisive one, in that direction. The pacification of the world and in its wake the prosperity of nations, is the final aim. There are still obstacles to overcome, but we are at last so far advanced that I can say with assurance the goal is attainable."

During the ceremony at the Foreign Office Dr. Stresemann said nothing would serve greater purpose in these days of difficulty than the spirit of good will which the treaty evoked. He looked to the future and the fruition of the work they had done with great hope.

Premier Briand of France in a solemn voice declared there was not a person in the world who was not interested in the proceedings of the day.

"I can see across the table the German Chancellor," he said, "and I am sure I can tell him that I have remained a good Frenchman just as he in coming here remained a good German—but both of us are Europeans."

Comments on the significance of the day's events was also made as follows by other participants, according to the Associated Press advices.

"The Locarno Treaty," declared Dr. Eduard Benes, the Czechoslovak Foreign Minister, "has solved the international problems of Europe. It is up to the nations to put their internal affairs on a solid basis, and when this is accomplished the prosperity of western Europe is assured."

Emile Vanderveide, Belgian Foreign Minister, thought that the house-cleaning of Europe through the Locarno Treaty probably would allow a resumption of closer relations between Europe and the United States, without the United States running the danger of being committed to take a hand in any European affairs.

"The Locarno pact," declared Count Alexander Skrzynski, the Polish Premier and Foreign Minister, "offers the European states an opportunity for peace and disarmament, which they have never had before. I have no doubt that in conformity with the treaties a new international feeling of peace and security will be brought about which will make for disarmament and prosperity."

The New York "Times" copyright account from London Dec. 1 said:

The last of the speakers was the British Premier, Stanley Baldwin, who said, speaking in English, that he desired to sign the treaty along with Sir Austen Chamberlain in order to show the importance the British Government attached to it.

"I am confident," said Mr. Baldwin, "that it is the firm intention of all the nations represented here—just as it is the firm intention of his Majesty's Government—to carry out scrupulously and loyally the solemn obligations which they have here undertaken."

After this speech Sir Austen Chamberlain formally declared the ceremony over.

The same paper in a copyright cablegram from London Nov. 30 observed:

On the boat crossing from France this afternoon, M. Briand said he counted tomorrow the happiest day of his life.

"I am going to sign for France the Locarno treaties, which mean the beginning of a new era of peace in Europe," he said. "The spirit of Locarno which is consecrated in these treaties means coming co-operation among the European nations; it means a common effort by those who confronted each other in the World War now to restore the old Continent to solidity and tranquility."

"I am proud of my part in the task and certainly her role in this great work shows that France is pacifist and conciliatory. Every nation which has had anything to do with this accomplishment can but be proud of what has been done."

The New York "Herald-Tribune" London cablegram of Nov. 30 (copyright) reported M. Briand as saying to newspaper men:

"The treaties are only a beginning. They must be the starting point of close collaboration between France and Germany."

German Chancellor Luther pronounced the Locarno pacts to be the "foundation of peace" while his colleague, Foreign Minister Stresemann, hailed them as the scrapping of the war after the war, says United Press advices from London in the "Wall Street Journal" of Dec. 1 which reported the Chancellor as saying:

"In my opinion, the significance of the Locarno agreement above all rests in the fact that the idea of arbitration, for the first time applied to the reparations question in the Dawes plan upon American suggestion, now finds the widest possible application to all ramifications of European politics through the new treaty. The principal of arbitration simultaneously embodies justice and equal rights, and therefore this is the foundation of peace."

The "Times" advices from London No. 30 in referring to the ceremonies attendant to the signing of the treaties the following day, also stated in its copyright advices:

Ratification of the treaties must follow their signature, and with the ratifications they will then be deposited at Geneva with the League of Nations.

The process of ratification by Great Britain demanded that a special copy of the treaty affecting Great Britain be printed, and that there be inserted an instrument by which the King makes solemn declaration approving, accepting and confirming all its articles. This is printed on vellum and signed by the King. To it the great seal is attached and the whole is bound in a special cover of blue morocco. This bears the royal arms, and attached to it are four ribbons with the colors of the principal British orders of chivalry, namely, the Garter, blue; Thistle, green; St. Patrick, pale blue, and the Bath, red.

It is this volume which will be deposited with the League of Nations by Great Britain.

Italy's attitude toward the Conventions was referred to as follows in Associated Press cablegrams from Rome Dec. 1.

Without minimizing the vast pacific potentialities symbolized in the signing of the Locarno pact at London to-day, Italy, as reiterated in responsible government circles and leading Fascist newspapers, does not intend to be swept off her feet by too idealistic sentimentality. She intends faithfully to live up to the letter and spirit of her signature, but intends above all to keep a clear-headed realistic attitude in future international relations.

In this connection influential Italians recall passages in Mussolini's Armistice Day address, when he declared: "We look with one eye upon the dove of peace if it rises on the distant horizon, but with the other eye we look to the concrete necessities of life."

At the same time Geneva Associated Press advices stated:

Simultaneously with the signing at London of the Locarno treaties, Germany to-day showed her desire to fall in line with the obligations of a member of the League of Nations. She registered eleven international engagements entered into with eight different powers.

As Germany is not yet a member of the league, she is not bound by the Covenant's call to file copies of treaties with the object of making their contents known to the world.

The German Reichstag ratified the security pact and Arbitration Conventions on Nov. 27, and on Nov. 28 President von Hindenburg signed the bill ratifying the treaties. The Reichsrath's approval, 34 to 4, was recorded Nov. 21. With regard to the action of the Reichstag we quote the following from the New York "Herald-Tribune" advices from Berlin Nov. 27 (copyright).

Sanction of the Locarno security treaties was voted by the Reichstag to-night. The proposal of Germany's entry into the League of Nations was likewise approved, as was the Center party's motion that the Government use every means to obtain further improvements in the Rhineland before entering the league.

Each of the proposals was voted on separately, the security pact vote standing 300 to 174 and the league vote 278 to 183. The Nationalists and Communists strenuously opposed these two measures. The whole procedure took nearly two hours, but the result was assured before the warning bells began to ring through the Reichstag corridors, calling members to their seats.

Members and Speech Makers

The "big" day dragged along rather slowly. A mountain of words had been written and spoken during the last two months, leaders saying everything possible it was to say about the security pact and the effects hoped or feared from it. For the larger part of the afternoon the Chamber was only half filled during speeches on various viewpoints.

Frau Clara Zetkin was listened to with more interest than most of those who ascended the tribune, not because of the arguments she presented, but because she is the indomitable firebrand of the Communist movement who takes a whack at every head in sight. It was a picturesque relief after a procession of more or less dreary orators to see this white-haired woman expostulate for more than an hour, now shaking her clenched fists and again leaning forward and in low insinuating tones talking to the crowd of men of all sorts of political opinions as if they were only small boys.

Herr Breitscheid, Socialist, one of the best speakers in the Reichstag, had his turn, as did Herr von Graefe, from the Fascist wing, just up from the members' restaurant and a friendly glass of beer with General Ludendorff and his cronies. Count Westarp followed Von Graefe and read a formal declaration of the Nationalists, restating for the last time their objections to the pact.

Luther Silent During Debate

Neither Chancellor Luther, who sat all afternoon as the Government's solitary spectator to the debate, nor Foreign Minister Stresemann thought it necessary to add further arguments. The Nationalists thus were given the last word to the long argument over the Locarno pact.

By a vote of 291 to 174 the Reichstag approved on Nov. 27 the measure providing for Germany's entrance into the League of Nations. From Associated Press advices it is learned that by a rising vote the Reichstag also adopted a motion submitted by the three middle parties, whereby the Government is requested to use every effort in the time intervening between now and Germany's formal admission to the League to obtain from the Allies a greater measure of alleviation in the Rhineland and other concessions than already granted.

With regard to the signing by President von Hindenburg of the bill ratifying the Locarno pact, we quote the following Associated Press cablegram from Berlin Nov. 28:

President von Hindenburg put the seal of his approval to-night upon the Locarno treaties by affixing his signature to the bill which legalizes the security pact, and arbitration treaties and Germany's entry into the League of Nations. Previously the Federal Council, or Reichsrath, passed the entire Locarno ratification bill by a vote of 49 to 15. The law, which goes into effect immediately, will be proclaimed in the official Gazette Monday.

By giving executive approval to the law less than twenty-four hours after it was ratified by the Reichstag the President administered a rebuke to the pact's reactionary opponents, who hoped he would refrain from approving it on constitutional grounds.

His action smothered the last embers of the fiery opposition kindled by the German Nationalists, and it is also received in Parliamentary circles as a compliment to Chancellor Luther and Foreign Minister Stresemann, with

whose peace policies Germany's soldier-President was known to be in full accord.

Although the Locarno treaties were initiated by the various delegates to the conference on Oct. 16, only the British Parliament and the German Reichstag thus far have ratified them. The nations yet to ratify them prior to their signature in London next Tuesday are France, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Italy and Poland.

The British House of Commons ratified the security pact on Nov. 18. In voting its action the New York "Herald Tribune" London copyright cablegram stated:

The House of Commons to-night, by a 375-to-13 vote, ratified the Locarno security treaty for Great Britain. Reservations offered by the Labor party were defeated 332 to 130.

That Parliament's sanction would be obtained for the work at Locarno was a foregone conclusion, and interest centered largely on the criticisms from the opposition. These, as set forth by Ramsay MacDonald and David Lloyd George, leaders of the Labor and Liberal parties, respectively, were:

1. That the security pact made no provisions for disarmament.
2. That it was aimed at isolating Russia.
3. That the British dominions had not participated in it.

Chamberlain Answers Critics

By his frank admission that the government regarded Locarno not as the end but the beginning of the work of appeasement and conciliation, Austen Chamberlain, the Foreign Secretary, took much of the sting out of the reproaches of his critics. There was a little confusion at the beginning of the debate because the Foreign Secretary was not present. A few minutes later Mr. Chamberlain hurried in and before the crowded House and galleries moved the ratification of the pact.

Dealing first with the question of disarmament, Mr. Chamberlain said: "Locarno was neither the time nor the place to produce a scheme for general disarmament, nor were the representatives there competent to produce such a scheme. What we did was to bring new assurance of peace and security to many nations which felt themselves more insecure."

Passing to the Russian question, Mr. Chamberlain elicited cheers from the Conservative benches by declaring:

"The admission of Russia into the league depends upon Russia herself. It is not for the league to go begging. The will to join the league must be spontaneous in the government concerned and Russia is not prepared to join on any terms whatever."

MacDonald Welcomes Pact

MacDonald, leading off for the Labor party, welcomed the pact because it is not a military alliance, because it brings Germany into the league and because it advances the principle of arbitration. The former Premier declared that throughout his recent Continental tour he had found the pact accepted as the first step toward the Geneva protocol.

This protocol was framed during the meeting of the league Assembly last year, at which MacDonald, then Premier and Foreign Secretary, represented Great Britain.

"Is it the government view that Locarno was engineered for the purpose of uniting western civilization against Russia?"

"No, I have persistently repudiated any idea of isolating Russia," Mr. Chamberlain retorted.

MacDonald closed with a reproach that the dominions were not represented at Locarno.

Lloyd George in Good Humor

Lloyd George began his address in a good-humored vein: "The Foreign Secretary has received flowers from many nations, to which I should like to add a humble leek. I noticed that the leader of the Opposition, however, put a good many thistles into his bouquet."

"The one thing which mars the triumph of the treaty and introduces a new peril into the empire when we are undertaking liabilities and responsibilities full of perils themselves," Lloyd George concluded, "is the failure to consult the dominions."

League Entry in March—Geneva Officials Do Not Expect German Application Until February

The New York "Times" reports the following copyright cablegram from Geneva Nov. 27:

League of Nations officials said to-day that Germany would not apply for admission to the League before February, despite the fact that the Locarno accords were ratified by the Reichstag. As regulations require the elapse of a month between the convocation of a special Assembly and the holding of the Assembly, this would mean that the extraordinary meeting of the League members to admit Germany will not be held before March.

Then, presumably, both the Council and Assembly will concurrently elect Germany to a permanent seat in the League of Nations' Council.

Officials incidentally believe that Argentina will participate in this special session, the first time since she withdrew from the League several years ago, advices having been received indicating that the Argentine Parliament will soon vote again to join the League.

\$2,000,000 Subscribed in Italy Toward Paying War Debt to United States.

The following message from Rome (Dec. 1 copyright) is from the New York "Times":

Though the final results of the voluntary subscriptions toward paying Italy's war debt to the United States, which closed last night, are not yet known, it is surmised from preliminary returns that the total will exceed \$2,000,000. This is thought highly satisfactory and is greatly in excess of expectations.

The northern industrial and commercial cities contributed most heavily. Milan heads the list with 11,000,000 lire, followed by Turin with almost 9,000,000. Then come Genoa with 5,000,000 and Rome with 4,000,000, followed by Trieste, Naples, Venice and other cities with lesser amounts.

Over \$30,000,000 Paid Out During Year by American Industry for Employees' Pensions.

More than \$30,000,000 was spent during the past year by American industry, including railroad and public utility companies, for employees' pensions, according to an estimate based on a study of industrial pension plans now in effect, made by the National Industrial Conference Board, 247 Park Avenue, New York. In making this known Nov. 30 the Board says:

The study covers 248 formal pension plans, conducted by 245 companies and embracing 2,815,512 employees; in addition, 148 informal plans, operated on an individual merit basis, were studied and their results compared with those of the formal type. Of the 245 companies operating formal plans, 164 report now having pensioners on their rolls. These, numbering 35,953 as of December 1924, were paid a total of \$18,192,250, or an average of about \$506, during the year. The proportion of male to female employees covered, as far as reported, is about three to one, and census figures indicate that a similar proportion holds for the rest.

Pension plans are broadly divided into formal and informal plans. The present tendency among the larger employers seems to favor the formal, inasmuch as the awarding of pensions on the individual merit plan, which is the principle of the informal programs, becomes impractical where there are hundreds or thousands of employees, making impossible close personal contact between employer and employee. The formal plans, on the other hand, again fall into two main groups, the "contributory," under which the employee contributes a percentage or fixed amount out of his pay, and the "non-contributory" plan, under which the entire cost of the pensions is borne by the company. Out of the total of the 248 formal pension plans found in operation, only 28 were of the contributing type. Participation by the employees in contributory plans may be optional or may be compulsory.

As concerns the obligations undertaken by the employer, pension plans are divided into "contractual" and "discretionary" types, the obligation under the contractual plan being fixed, and requiring most rigidly sound financing, while the discretionary type by its nature is more flexible both as to its financial requirements as well as in its individual application. There are, furthermore, "limited-contractual" plans, under which the employer reserves the right to reduce or even abrogate his obligations toward future pensioners should business conditions or other considerations make it advisable. While all informal plans of necessity are discretionary, formal plans may be either of contractual, limited-contractual or discretionary character.

The Conference Board found the 248 formal pension programs now in effect divided under the various classifications as follows:

Contributory, optional to employees	10
Of these, limited-contractual	5
Contractual	5
Contributory, but compulsory	18
Of these, discretionary	4
Limited-contractual	12
Contractual	2
Non-contributory	211
Of these, discretionary	168
Limited-contractual	43
Not specified types	9
Total plans studied	248

While the Conference Board repeatedly warns that sound financing on a scientific basis and adequate funding is necessary lest pension programs result in grief, the Board in its report evidently does not share the grave apprehension uttered in other quarters of late that nothing but financial disaster confronts all efforts of the industries to operate their own pension programs privately without State or other outside help. Emphasis is given, however, to the fact that pension plans to a large extent are still in an experimental stage, and that particularly formal, discretionary as well as contractual or limited-contractual types have not been in effect over a long enough period of time in sufficient number of cases as to afford sufficient evidence accurately to measure the cumulative character and rising costs of pension payments. How long the formal pension programs now in existence have been in effect, can be seen from the following table given the year of adoption of the plans by five-year periods:

Before 1885	1	1911 to 1920	68
1885 to 1890	1	1921 to 1925	40
1891 to 1895	2	Not reported	20
1896 to 1900	2		
1901 to 1905	16		
1906 to 1910	26	Total	248

In its study the Conference Board has had the co-operation of an advisory committee composed of the following: C. S. Ching, United States Rubber Co.; William B. Foster, E. I. DuPont de Nemours & Co.; E. K. Hall, American Telephone & Telegraph Co.; M. Harrison, Hammermill Paper Co.; C. J. Hicks, Standard Oil Co. of New Jersey; J. M. Larkin, Bethlehem Steel Co.; Louise Moore, Dutchess Manufacturing Co.; Thomas G. Spates, Richard Hellman, Inc.; A. H. Young, Curtis, Fosdick & Belknap; Jarrett Morford, National Industrial Conference Board, Committee Secretary.

Annual Convention of American Mining Congress to Be Held at Washington Dec. 9-11.

Members of the President's Cabinet, prominent Government officials, members of Congress, a former Labor Minister of Canada and leading mining men from all parts of the United States are scheduled to discuss important questions affecting the production and distribution of mine products at the 28th annual convention of the American Mining Congress at the New Willard Hotel at Washington next week—Dec. 9, 10 and 11. Secretary of Labor James J. Davis, Secretary of Commerce Herbert Hoover, Federal Trade Commissioner William E. Humphreys, Representative Joe J. Manlove of Missouri, and James Murdock, former Minister of Labor of Canada, will address the convention, which will consider a national labor policy, mine taxation, joint selling agencies in the distribution of mine products, and other important mining problems.

The convention will be opened on the morning of Dec. 9 by Louis S. Cates, of Salt Lake, Vice-President of the Utah Copper Co., who will deliver his annual address as President of the Congress. A number of metal and coal mining operators will present a survey of the requirements of the

mining industry in the various mining districts of the country. These will include Stanley Easton, of the Bunker Hill and Sullivan Mining Co., of Kellogg, Idaho; C. B. Lakenan, of the Nevada Consolidated Copper Co., of McGill, Nev.; former Governor Jesse F. McDonald, of Leadville, Col., Chairman of the Colorado Metal Mining Fund, and Chairman of the Western Division of the American Mining Congress, and M. L. Gold, of Indianapolis, Ind., President of the National Coal Association.

An afternoon session on Dec. 9 will be devoted to a discussion of Federal and State taxation of mines. This will be the annual national mine tax conference, in charge of McKinley W. Krieh, of Washington, D. C., Chairman of the Tax Division, and Paul Armitage, of New York, Chairman of the General Tax Committee of the American Mining Congress. At this conference the effect of taxation on development of Western mineral industries will be discussed by Charles R. Howe, State Tax Commissioner of Arizona. Representative Manlove, of Missouri, will speak on the relation of Federal tax laws to the welfare of the mining industry. These addresses will be followed by a consideration of mining provisions in the new tax bill to be considered by Congress at the coming session. Secretary of Commerce Hoover is expected to address the convention on the new policies of the Bureau of Mines since its transfer from the Interior Department to the Commerce Department.

In view of the present anthracite strike and the threat of the miners' union to call a bituminous strike, the proceedings of the convention on Dec. 10 promise to be of public interest, as they will be devoted to a consideration of plans for the peaceful settlement of labor disputes under a broad national labor policy. "The Mining Industry and Labor," will be the topic upon which this subject will be discussed. Secretary of Labor Davis will give his views on proposals to adjust mine strikes, based on his activities in attempting to settle mine disputes during the past four years as head of the Department of Labor. Former Minister of Labor Murdock, of Canada, will speak on the protection of public rights in industrial disputes, giving a summary of the operation of the Canadian Industrial Investigation Act, which provides for compulsory arbitration of labor disturbances. The views of mine operators will be presented by S. D. Warriner, of the Lehigh Coal & Navigation Co. of Philadelphia and one of the outstanding anthracite operators; Sidney J. Jennings, of New York, of the United States Smelting, Refining & Mining Co., and former President of the American Mining Congress, who will speak on the question, "What Is a Fair Wage?" and Harry N. Taylor, President of the United States Fuel Distributing Co. of New York, representing the views of bituminous operators in the central competitive field. The afternoon session will be devoted to group conferences. The annual banquet of the American Mining Congress will be held on the evening of Dec. 10, to which President Coolidge has been invited.

The value of joint selling agencies in all branches of mining, looking to stabilization of industry through voluntary co-operation of industrial groups designed to economize in the distribution of mine products for the benefit of producer and consumer, will be considered at the session on Dec. 11. The attitude of the Government toward such joint selling agencies will be outlined by Federal Trade Commissioner William E. Humphreys. The Mining Congress will then define its policies in resolutions reported by a committee representing mining men from each State. The convention will be the first to be held by the American Mining Congress in Washington.

Meeting of Investment Bankers Association of America at St. Petersburg, Florida, Next Week.

Investment bankers representing upwards of 600 of the country's principal banking houses will be present when the fourteenth annual convention of the Investment Bankers Association of America opens its sessions on Dec. 7 next in St. Petersburg, Fla. The Eastern bankers, including New England and New York members, left for Florida last night (Dec. 4) by special trains. The gathering will bring together in Florida the leaders among the men who handle the bulk of the corporate and public financing in the United States. While the actual convention sessions will be held in St. Petersburg, the bankers will be given an opportunity of visiting most of the important points of interest in Florida, including Jacksonville, St. Augustine, Miami, Tampa and Key West. As a side trip part of the delegates will visit,

Havana, Cuba, via a steamship chartered specially for the occasion.

In many respects the convention is expected to be one of the most important in the history of the Investment Bankers Association. Many matters of great importance to the investment public will be considered by the bankers in the course of the sessions. Special transportation arrangements have been worked out to carry the bankers to Florida. Special trains are being operated from both Chicago and New York. Delegates in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland and the District of Columbia will join the New York specials, which left last night. The Chicago specials also left for Florida yesterday and will pick up cars bearing the St. Louis delegates. Arrangements have been made whereby the Pacific-Northwest delegates may go direct to Chicago while the California delegates may join the Chicago specials either via St. Louis or Chicago, or if they prefer the southern route, may join with New Orleans and operate a car or cars direct to Jacksonville, Fla. The special trains will be made up of solid compartment and drawing room cars, with observation cars, club cars, dining and baggage cars.

The itinerary of the New York specials include stops at Charlotte, Columbia, Jacksonville, and Winter Park. At the latter city the New York bankers will detrain for a 140 mile cross State motor trip through the Florida citrus fruit belt and the Lake region. Pullman buses will leave Winter Park stopping at Orlando, Kissimmee, Davenport, Haines City, Mountain Lake Club, Lake Hamilton, Winter Haven, Lake Alfred, Lakeland and Tampa, thence across Gandy Bridge and Causeway. This will bring the bankers into St. Petersburg at 5.30 p. m. to-morrow (Sunday).

Returning from Havana the vessel will stop at Key West where the delegates may take special trains for the return home. These specials will proceed over the Florida Keys to Miami. The New York special will arrive in New York at 6:15 p. m. Dec. 18, and the Chicago train will arrive in Chicago at 8:45 p. m. on the same date.

ITEMS ABOUT BANKS, TRUST COMPANIES, &C.

The board of directors of the Lawyers Title & Guaranty Co. of New York has recommended to the stockholders an increase of the capital stock of the company from \$8,000,000 to \$10,000,000, the additional stock to be offered for cash at \$200 per share to stockholders of record on Dec. 22 1925 pro rata of their holdings on that date. A special meeting of the stockholders to be held Dec. 14 has been called for the purpose.

The World Exchange Bank of this city celebrated on Nov. 28 its first anniversary at the Commodore Hotel by a dinner and entertainment. At the present time the bank has 10,000 depositors and over \$2,000,000 in deposits.

The American Trust Co., of this city, opened this week the completed portion of its remodeled quarters, with entrance at Broadway and Cedar Street. The new banking space provides a concourse 150 feet in depth from Broadway to Temple Street, with a banking screen of Juane Nile Italian marble with architectural bronze grille. Additional space, 115 feet long, from Cedar Street to Liberty Street, is now being reconstructed to match the completed portion. When this is finished the American Trust Co. will have a banking floor with a total area of 7,434 square feet, with entrances on Broadway at Cedar Street and on Liberty Street. Harry A. Kahler, President of the company, received many visitors, who commented on the architectural excellence and practicability of the new banking arrangements. Mr. Kahler explained that the recent acquisition by an associate company of the Washington Life Building, 141 Broadway, which gives possession of the entire block from Liberty Street to Cedar Street, has enabled the company to develop its banking quarters, to meet the requirements of its growing business, by extending on the street floor without the necessity of moving or interrupting banking operation. The American Trust Co. was founded in 1919. Besides its Broadway and Cedar Street offices, it has offices at Madison Avenue and 41st Street, New York; 209 Montague Street, Brooklyn; 161-19 Jamaica Avenue, Jamaica; Bridge Plaza North, Long Island City. Resources are approximately \$50,000,000.

At a meeting of the board of directors of the United States Mortgage & Trust Co. of New York held Nov. 27, Harry W. Hadley was elected Vice-President and Assistant Treasurer.

The capital stock of the Lebanon National Bank, of this city, will be increased from \$250,000 to \$500,000. The stockholders will pass upon the question Dec. 10 1925. The new stock will be issued at \$140, par \$100.

Jacob Adler and Sam Lewis have been elected directors of the American Union Bank, of this city.

The directors of the Broad Street National Bank of Trenton, Trenton, N. J., announce the death of William G. Howell on Monday, Nov. 16. Mr. Howell served as Vice-President of the institution twenty-eight years.

On Monday, Nov. 30, the Guaranty Trust Co., a new financial institution, began business in Newark, at Belmont Avenue and Court Street. The main banking room was filled with flowers, the gifts of friends, including several banks, sent for the occasion, and former Judge Edward Schoen, who heads the trust company, was reported in the Newark "News" of Nov. 30 as saying that the first hours of business exceeded even his sanguine expectations. Jacob Bamberger is Secretary and Treasurer of the new bank. The previous Tuesday evening (Nov. 24) the opening of the institution was celebrated by a banquet given at Krueger Auditorium, Newark, at which State Senator J. Henry Harrison, Edward D. Duffield, President of the Prudential Insurance Co. and E. W. Wollmuth, Secretary of the Newark Chamber of Commerce, were among the speakers of the evening.

What is said to be the largest consolidation of financial interests in the history of Buffalo banking was consummated this week when the Marine Trust Co. of Buffalo and the Buffalo Trust Co. were united to form a new organization under the title of the Marine Trust Co. The new trust company, with its combined invested capital of \$30,000,000, deposits of almost \$200,000,000 and combined resources of approximately \$250,000,000, is said to be one of the twenty-five largest banks in the United States and the fifth largest in the country outside of the city of New York. "By the merger" (we quote from the Buffalo "Courier" of Nov. 29) "the new institution's capital stock will be \$10,000,000, consisting of 200,000 shares with a par value of \$50 each. The combined capitalization of the two institutions before the merger was \$14,000,000. By reduction of the capital stock, the value of the new shares of stock will be increased in proportion. The amount by which the capital stock is to be reduced will be added to surplus. The merger will give the new institution surplus and undivided profits of between \$15,000,000 and \$20,000,000, with nearly \$200,000,000 in deposits. According to plans announced yesterday (Nov. 28), each share of the existing stock of the former Marine Trust Co. will be worth one and four-tenths shares of the new stock, while each share of the existing stock of the Buffalo Trust Co. will be worth one and seven-tenths shares of the new company's stock." George F. Rand, the former President of the Buffalo Trust Co., is President of the new bank, while Elliott C. McDougal, heretofore President of the Marine Trust Co. of Buffalo and Walter P. Cooke, formerly Chairman of the Board of that institution, are Chairman and Vice-Chairman, respectively. The board of directors of the new bank, it is understood, will consist of forty members, made up of the directors of the two institutions. In explaining the reasons for the consolidation of the institutions, Mr. McDougal was quoted in the "Courier" as saying:

The merger of these two large financial institutions is a natural and logical development in their growth. George F. Rand, President of the Buffalo Trust Co., and a number of his officers and directors have heretofore been associated with and are some of the largest stockholders of the Marine Trust Co., so for some years there has been a close affiliation between the two institutions.

The need of obtaining new officers to fill existing vacancies in the staff of the Marine Trust and the need of increased room at the head office of the Buffalo Trust Co., coupled with its need for frequent increases in its capital stock, because of the constant rapid growth of its business, while at the same time the unusually large capital stock of the Marine Trust Co. is more than sufficient for both, seemed, in the opinion of the officers of both institutions, to make the present the opportune time for the merger.

The combined company will be one of the strongest financial institutions in the country, capable of transacting any banking business which it may be offered and of rendering every possible financial service required by the people of this locality.

The bringing into the Marine organization of Mr. Rand and the group of younger men who, as officers and directors, under his leadership, have made such a splendid success of the Buffalo Trust Co., is desirable and advantageous. I am very glad to be able to announce this merger and believe it to be for the best interests of the stockholders and depositors as well as for the community at large, and that it will enable the Marine Trust Co. to render to the people of this locality even a finer service than it has rendered for the 75 years of its existence.

A special meeting of the stockholders of the Meriden Trust & Safe Deposit Co., Meriden, Conn., has been called

for Dec. 22 to vote on a proposal to increase the capital stock of the institution from \$50,000 to \$100,000 by the issuance of 500 new shares of the par value of \$100 per share, according to a special dispatch from that place on Nov. 20 to the Hartford "Courant." The new stock, it was said, would be offered to present stockholders at par. W. B. Church is President and Charles F. Linsley, Vice-President of the institution.

An Associated Press dispatch from Boston on Nov. 28, which appeared in the New York "Times" of Nov. 29, states that sums aggregating \$210,000 were on that day allowed liquidating agents of four Boston trust companies by Judge Wait of the Supreme Court of Massachusetts for services covering nearly five years. The amounts were recommended by Joseph C. Allen, former Bank Commissioner. W. Rodman Peabody, liquidating agent of the Tremont Trust Co., is to receive \$70,000; Henry P. Cushman of the Cosmopolitan Trust Co., \$65,000; John E. Hannigan of the Prudential Trust Co., \$35,000, and Fitz Henry Smith of the Hanover Trust Co., \$40,000. Part compensation has already been paid these agents at different times, it is said.

We are informed by the Girard Trust Co. of Philadelphia that the amount of their contemplated special cash distribution (payable March 1 next) is to be 20% and not 2%, as erroneously reported in our issue of Nov. 28, page 2601.

A special dispatch from Farrell, Pa., to the "Wall Street Journal," printed in its Dec. 1 issue, stated that a syndicate of local business and professional men had purchased the People's Bank of Farrell from the McDowell National Bank interests of Sharon, Pa. Borough Burgess Frederick Fish has been named President under the new regime, with John Fitzpatrick, Vice-President, and H. G. Moore, Cashier. The bank was organized about ten years ago and has resources, it is understood, of more than \$900,000.

A press dispatch from East Liverpool, Ohio, on Nov. 30, appearing in the Cleveland "Plain Dealer" of Dec. 1 stated that plans had been completed for the consolidation, effective Jan. 5, of the First National Bank, the city's oldest and largest financial institution, and the Citizens' National Bank under the name of the former. The merger, which is subject to approval of the stockholders Dec. 28, will give the consolidated bank resources of \$4,500,000, it is said. J. J. Purington is President of the First National and John W. Vodrey, President of the Citizens' National Bank.

Announcement was made on Nov. 25 that the Licking Bank & Trust Co. of Newark, Ohio, and the Citizens' Building & Loan Association of that city, with combined resources in excess of \$3,750,000, had consolidated under the title of the former, according to an Associated Press dispatch from Newark on that date, printed in the Columbus "Ohio State Journal" of Nov. 26. The dispatch further stated that Frank W. Elliott and A. A. Haines would continue as President and Cashier, respectively, of the enlarged Licking Bank & Trust Co., and that the directorate of the bank would be increased to eighteen members by the addition of the directors of the absorbed institution.

The absorption of the Guaranty Trust Co. of Cincinnati by the Bank of Commerce & Trust Co., of that city, is reported in the following special dispatch from Cincinnati to the New York "Times" under date of Dec. 3:

The bank of Commerce & Trust Co., 118 East Fourth Street, has purchased the entire assets of the Guaranty Trust Co., 16 East Seventh Street, according to an announcement to-day by E. H. Matthews, President of the Bank of Commerce. The absorption also includes the acquisition of the two branches of the Guaranty Co. All of the Guaranty banks will be operated as branches of the Bank of Commerce.

Melville Ritchie, President of the Guaranty Co., will become a member of the board of directors of the Bank of Commerce. The total resources will be doubled, officials said. The bank's capital stock will be doubled soon, it was added.

According to the "Wall Street Journal" of Nov. 30, the directors of the Bank of Detroit, Detroit, have approved and will recommend to the stockholders at their forthcoming annual meeting, a proposal to increase the institution's capital stock from \$2,000,000 to \$4,000,000 and its surplus from \$500,000 to \$1,000,000, through the issuance of 20,000 shares of new stock, to be offered to present shareholders in the proportion of one share of new for each share of old stock held. If the proposition is approved, it will be the third time the Bank of Detroit has doubled its capital, it is said.

We understand a proposed consolidation of the Highland Park Savings & Loan Association, Highland Park, Mich., and the Society for Savings, of Detroit, was recently approved by the shareholders of the institutions. The consolidated organization will be known as the Society for Savings and will have an authorized capital of \$5,500,000, it is said.

Edwin J. Phelps, Chairman of the board of directors of the Kalamazoo National Bank of Kalamazoo, Mich., died on Nov. 20. Mr. Phelps was the founder of the bank and served as its President until 1923, when he assumed the Chairmanship, the position he held at the time of his death.

William F. Grimes, the oldest employee of the Chicago Title & Trust Co., of Chicago, died Nov. 19. He would have been 92 years old next February. He was born in Alexandria, Va. During the Civil War he was Deputy County Clerk there, and in 1868 located in Chicago and entered the employ of Shortall & Hoard, one of the three early abstract companies. At the time of the fire of 1871 he was one of that little band of young men who loaded the tract indices and maps and other valuable title records belonging to his firm upon trucks furnished by General Joseph Stockton and removed them out of danger. In 1888 he became part of the organization of the Title Guarantee & Trust Co., which initiated in Chicago the insurance of titles to real estate. He remained in that branch of the business until he retired in 1923 after 55 years' continuous service. He was a rapid and accurate examiner of titles and for twenty years had charge of all title guarantees issued on lands in other States. He leaves a widow and one son, Charles F. Grimes, who is one of the legal representatives of the Chicago Title & Trust Co.

Morris Berger, Assistant Secretary of the Illinois Merchants Trust Co., of Chicago, died in Los Angeles, Cal., on Nov. 29, after an illness of several months. Mr. Berger was 64 years of age and for the past 37 years had been associated with the Illinois Trust & Savings Bank, now the Illinois Merchants Trust Co., leaving a record of many years of useful and faithful service.

On account of its expanding business, the Chicago Morris Plan Bank of Chicago has found it necessary to enlarge its banking quarters at 21 North La Salle Street. The remodeling program has included greatly increasing the facilities offered on the first floor occupied by the bank's tellers. An entire new floor in the Morris Plan Bank Building is also necessitated to handle clerical work. The month of October was the largest month in the bank's history, it having loaned to 2,152 people \$534,000, and there was an increase in savings deposits of \$150,000. It is interesting for the bank officials to observe a slight falling off in requests for loans during the period of the disbursement of Christmas savings funds. The Christmas savings fund is built up on the Morris Plan idea, namely, periodic installment deposits for a definite purpose or objective. By the accumulation of some \$20,000,000 through Chicago banks, many people in moderate circumstances have provided for themselves a fund for Christmas purchases and other things which very happily relieves the necessity of their seeking credit accommodation.

The following Associated Press dispatch from Prescott, Ariz., on Nov. 26, which appeared in the New York "Journal of Commerce" of Nov. 27, reports the closing of the Prescott State Bank of Prescott (capitalized at \$100,000) and its affiliated institution, the Commercial Trust & Savings Bank (capitalized at \$80,000):

The Prescott State Bank and an affiliated institution, the Commercial Trust & Savings Bank, failed to open yesterday (Nov. 25). The closing was by the State Superintendent of Banks, who gave "frozen paper" as the cause. Branches of the Prescott State Bank in Humboldt and Jerome also failed to open.

The directors of the Atlantic National Bank of Jacksonville, Fla., at a recent meeting unanimously decided to recommend a stock dividend of approximately 43% to be paid to shareholders, increasing the capital of the institution from \$1,400,000 to \$2,000,000. When the increase is effective the surplus and undivided profits of the bank will amount to \$700,000, making the capital resources of the institution \$2,700,000, and when to this is added the capital resources of the American Trust Co. of Jacksonville (owned exclusively by the stockholders of the Atlantic National Bank, pro rata) and of the Fairfield, Springfield and River-

side Atlantic banks of Jacksonville (controlled by the stockholders of the Atlantic National Bank) the capital resources of the financial group, thus constituted, will be more than \$3,000,000. The Atlantic National Bank is adding a 10-story building on Adams Street and is completing arrangements to operate, it is understood, as two indirect branches, the Springfield Atlantic Bank and the Riverside Atlantic Bank, in addition to the Fairfield Atlantic Bank, which is now in operation.

The "Wall Street Journal" of Dec. 3 published a press dispatch from Houston which stated that negotiations are pending for the merger of the Public National Bank of that city with the Houston National Bank. As reported in the "Chronicle" of Nov. 14 last, page 2368, controlling interest in the latter institution was recently acquired by R. S. Sterling and associates.

In order to foster co-operation and increase efficiency in service within the organization, the Citizens National Bank and the Citizens Trust & Savings Bank, of Los Angeles, last year voted to distribute as additional compensation 10% of the net profits after making reasonable provision for dividends and reserves, among the employees and junior officers. At a recent dinner, attended by over 600 members of the staff of the banks, President J. Dabney Day made the statement that under this plan there will be a substantial sum to distribute when the holiday season arrives. A large number of Citizens bank's employees are now stockholders. When the capital was increased about two years ago, arrangements were made under which stock might be purchased by them on easy terms.

That the Bank of Montreal has had a prosperous year is evidenced by the annual report of the institution, the 108th, covering the twelve months ended Oct. 31 1925. It reflects trade improvement in the Dominion. The statement shows net profits for the period, after deducting charges of management and making full provision for all bad and doubtful debts, of \$4,604,963. This amount when added to \$761,586, representing the balance to credit of profit and loss brought forward from the previous year, made a total of \$5,366,549 available for distribution, and which was allocated in the following way: \$4,161,671 to pay four quarterly dividends at the rate of 12% per annum (\$3,563,337), together with a bonus of 2% (\$598,334); \$291,390 to provide for Dominion Government taxes, and \$316,700 transferred to rest account, leaving a balance of \$596,788 to be carried forward to next year's profit and loss account. Total assets are given as \$755,147,876 (as compared with \$718,194,797 at the end of the previous six months' period), of which \$450,459,068 is liquid assets, or equivalent to 66.37% of the bank's liabilities to the public. For the half year the deposits show considerable growth, the total now standing at \$631,454,429, as compared with \$604,851,116 on April 30 1925. Total current loans are shown in the report as \$270,087,144. Owing to the absorption of Molsons Bank at the close of 1924, the capital stock of the Bank of Montreal was increased from \$27,250,000 to \$29,916,700; the rest account (also formerly \$27,250,000) likewise was increased to the same figure, this by transferring \$2,350,000, representing "estimated surplus assets of Molsons Bank in excess of the value at par of the capital stock of the Bank of Montreal issued and cash paid therefor" to that account and the addition of the \$316,700 transferred from the balance of profit and loss account, as before indicated.

The Irving Bank-Columbia Trust Co. announced on Nov. 28 the receipt of a cablegram from Paris reporting that the stockholders of the Societe Francaise de Gerance de la Banque Industrielle de Chine have approved an increase in the capital of that institution to 20,000,000 francs and a change in its name to Banque Franco Chinoise pour le Commerce et l'Industrie.

Announcement was made last week by the New York agency of the Standard Bank of South Africa, Ltd., at 67 Wall Street, of the receipt of the following cablegram from its head office in London regarding the operations of the bank for the six months ended Sept. 30 1925:

Subject to audit, the board of directors have resolved to pay the shareholders an interim dividend for the half year ended Sept. 30 last at the rate of 14% per annum, subject to income tax. Dividend warrants will be mailed on Jan. 29 next. The bank's investments stand in our books at less than market value as at Sept. 30 and all other usual and necessary provisions have been made. Transfer books will be closed from Dec. 30 to Jan. 19, both inclusive.

THE CURB MARKET.

Trading on the Curb Market this week was active and strong, with the oil shares showing decided improvement. Continental Oil sold up from 24 to 25 $\frac{3}{4}$. Humble Oil & Refg. gained about seven points to 81 and eased off finally to 79 $\frac{1}{2}$. Magnolia was conspicuous for an advance from 180 to 190, the close to-day being at 185 $\frac{1}{2}$. Standard Oil (Indiana) rose from 64 $\frac{1}{4}$ to 66 $\frac{3}{8}$ and ends the week at 66 $\frac{1}{8}$. Standard Oil (N. Y.) advanced from 45 to 47 $\frac{1}{8}$, reaching finally to 46 $\frac{3}{4}$. Gulf Oil of Pa. ran up from 83 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 87, but reacted to 85 $\frac{1}{8}$. Among industrials American Rayon Products sold down from 39 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 33 $\frac{1}{2}$ and at 33 $\frac{7}{8}$ finally. Cleveland Automobile, com., was heavily traded in up from 28 to 32, the close today being at 30 $\frac{3}{4}$. Continental Baking, class A com., gained about eight points to 123, while the class B stock advanced from 27 $\frac{1}{8}$ to 32. Electric Auto-Lite improved from 76 to 79 and reacted finally to 77 $\frac{3}{4}$. Glen Alden Coal dropped from 144 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 140 and sold finally at 141. Gotham Silk Hosiery, com., rose from 33 $\frac{7}{8}$ to 38 $\frac{3}{4}$ and finished to-day at 38 $\frac{1}{4}$. Land Co. of Florida dropped from 65 to 51 and recovered finally to 54 $\frac{1}{4}$. Singer Manufacturing sold up from 367 to 405. Stutz Motor improved from 19 to 25. Public utilities were quiet and without material change.

DAILY TRANSACTIONS AT THE NEW YORK CURB MARKET.

Week Ended Dec. 4.	STOCKS (No. Shares).			BONDS (Par Value).	
	Ind. & Mts.	Oil.	Mining.	Domestic.	For'n Govt.
Saturday	120,390	74,540	37,000	\$502,000	\$291,000
Monday	263,980	106,105	33,680	581,000	660,000
Tuesday	245,950	164,820	73,490	902,000	153,000
Wednesday	287,555	213,370	34,360	1,049,000	301,000
Thursday	247,370	160,005	33,340	1,117,000	247,000
Friday	305,600	277,100	42,980	1,081,000	162,000
F Total	1,470,845	995,940	255,450	\$5,232,000	\$1,814,000

CURRENT NOTICES.

—Adams & Peck, specialists in guaranteed stocks, 20 Exchange Place, New York City, are distributing a circular offering blocks of the following stocks: Lackawanna Railroad Co. of New Jersey, 4% stock; United New Jersey Railroad & Canal Co., 10% stock; Gold & Stock Telegraph Co., 6% stock; and Hartford & Connecticut Western Railroad Co., 2% stock. Brief descriptions containing pertinent and important facts are furnished for each stock. In addition to the foregoing there is also a long list of other guaranteed stocks.

—C. King Woodbridge, President of the Associated Advertising Clubs of the World, returned this week from an official tour of Western and South-western cities which brings his total mileage in the interest of organized advertising since May, when he was elected to his present office, well past the 20,000 mark. Among the cities where Mr. Woodbridge spoke before local advertising groups were San Francisco, Palo Alto, Petaluma, Long Beach, Hollywood, Los Angeles, Fort Worth and Oklahoma City.

—Donald J. Smith, Russell McCormick and Leland E. Smith, trading under the name of Donald J. Smith & Co., announce a change of name to Smith Brothers & McCormick, who will continue business at their present address, Packard Building, Philadelphia. They also announce the opening of a Trading Department under the supervision of Charles H. B. Phillips, who will have associated with him Thomas J. Love, both formerly with Wheeler & Company.

—The F. H. Smith Co., first mortgage bond house, of Washington, D. C., has leased the second floor of the building at 562 Fifth Ave., in the uptown financial district of New York. The premises are being remodeled for immediate occupancy as the company's New York office. Branch offices are maintained also in Philadelphia, Pittsburgh & Minneapolis.

—Minsch, Monell & Co., Inc., 115 Broadway, New York, announce that the 1925 edition of their annual publication "Water Power Bonds" is now ready. This booklet covers 58 hydro-electrics—foreign as well as domestic—and is the only published collection of data on any considerable number of Water Power Companies.

—G. M.-P. Murphy & Co. have prepared a circular analyzing the earnings of the Missouri Pacific R.R., and giving a description of its properties, &c.

—Fenner & Beane, members of the New York Stock Exchange, have issued for free distribution their regular fortnightly comment on the Security and Commodity Markets.

Course of Bank Clearings

Bank clearings for the present week will again show an increase as compared with a year ago but the ratio of gain is moderate. 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, Dec. 5) bank exchanges for all the cities of the United States from which it is possible to obtain weekly returns will aggregate 5.8% more than in the corresponding week last year. The total stands at \$11,216,460,618, against \$10,600,992,689 for the same week in 1924. At this centre there is an increase for the five days of 3.1%. Our comparative summary for the week is as follows:

Clearings—Returns by Telegraph. Week Ended December 5.	1925.	1924.	Per Cent.
New York	\$5,369,000,000	\$5,205,804,529	+3.1
Chicago	587,073,247	584,000,541	+0.3
Philadelphia	320,000,000	500,000,000	+4.0
Boston	442,000,000	401,000,000	+10.2
Kansas City	124,928,385	124,640,184	+0.2
St. Louis	144,800,000	133,607,080	+8.4
San Francisco	184,054,000	155,300,000	+18.5
Los Angeles	*145,000,000	127,400,000	+13.5
Pittsburgh	169,960,706	144,110,761	+17.9
Detroit	150,521,489	122,384,837	+23.0
Baltimore	125,413,143	93,746,235	+33.8
Cleveland	103,822,370	93,125,143	+11.5
New Orleans	75,143,475	79,435,804	-5.4
Thirteen cities, five days	\$8,141,716,815	\$7,764,555,114	+4.9
Other cities, five days	1,205,333,700	1,151,211,955	+4.7
Total all cities, five days	\$9,347,050,515	\$8,915,767,069	+4.8
All cities, one day	1,869,410,103	1,685,225,620	+10.9
Total all cities for week	\$11,216,460,618	\$10,600,992,689	+5.8

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 previous week—the week ended Nov. 28. For that week there is an increase of 4.7%, the 1925 aggregate of the clearings being \$8,457,665, 531 and the 1924 aggregate \$8,074,687,179. Outside of New York City the increase is 9.1%, the bank exchanges at this centre recording a gain of 1.3%. We group the cities now according to the Federal Reserve districts in which they are located and from this it appears that in the Boston Reserve District the totals are larger by 6.5%, in the New York Reserve District (including this city) by 1.4% and in the Philadelphia Reserve District by 8.6%. The Cleveland Reserve District has a gain of

11.1%, the Richmond Reserve District of 14.7% and the Atlanta Reserve District (chiefly by reason of the increase at Miami) of 32.1%. In the Chicago Reserve District the improvement is 4.6% and in the St. Louis Reserve District 2.2% but the Minneapolis Reserve District shows a falling off of 13.8%. In the Kansas City Reserve District the totals are better by 3.7%, in the Dallas Reserve District by 8.8% and in the San Francisco Reserve District by 24.3%.

In the following we furnish a summary by Federal Reserve districts:

SUMMARY OF BANK CLEARINGS.

Week Ended Nov. 28 1925.	1925.	1924.	Inc. or Dec.	1923.	1922.
Federal Reserve Districts.	\$	\$	%	\$	\$
1st Boston.....12 cities	434,862,677	408,204,692	+6.5	378,261,312	345,732,662
2nd New York.....11 "	4,776,206,908	4,711,367,100	+1.4	4,191,213,829	4,204,083,466
3rd Philadelphia.....10 "	510,524,038	470,266,812	+8.6	455,817,974	439,622,090
4th Cleveland.....8 "	347,301,174	312,525,018	+11.1	302,430,101	333,928,680
5th Richmond.....6 "	200,357,575	174,852,892	+14.7	154,014,833	152,716,480
6th Atlanta.....13 "	247,105,422	187,117,005	+32.1	165,390,801	152,676,393
7th Chicago.....20 "	809,437,066	773,729,253	+4.6	708,706,153	685,251,514
8th St. Louis.....8 "	197,114,519	192,906,456	+2.2	180,851,146	65,015,353
9th Minneapolis.....7 "	128,505,113	149,014,617	-13.6	106,339,251	106,025,163
10th Kansas City.....12 "	231,265,186	223,025,896	+3.7	203,598,665	209,053,693
11th Dallas.....5 "	81,479,826	74,863,250	+8.8	66,711,823	53,008,574
12th San Francisco.....17 "	493,506,030	397,026,189	+24.3	416,097,647	366,828,828
Grand total.....129 cities	8,457,665,531	8,074,687,179	+4.7	7,349,143,655	7,130,002,191
Outside New York City.....	3,774,239,461	3,469,757,612	+9.1	3,253,749,428	3,013,132,863
Canada.....29 cities	376,884,694	348,512,289	+8.1	355,296,771	330,220,285

We also furnish to-day a summary by Federal Reserve districts of the clearings for the month of November. For that month there is an increase for the whole country of 6.8%, the 1925 aggregate of the clearings being \$42,693,897,574, and the 1924 aggregate \$39,882,954,098. This total of \$42,693,897,574 for November 1925 establishes a new high record for that month, even though it does not come up to the totals of some other months. Outside of New York City the increase for the month is 9.5%, the bank exchanges at this centre showing a gain of 4.6%. The Boston Reserve District shows an improvement of 4.9%, the New York Reserve District (including this city) of 5.0% and the Philadelphia Reserve District of 12.8%. In the Cleveland Reserve District the totals are larger by 10.3%, in the Richmond Reserve District by 12.8% and in the Atlanta Reserve District by 12.7%. The Chicago Reserve District has a gain of 8.7% and the St. Louis Reserve District of 5.0%, but the Minneapolis Reserve District falls 10.5% behind. The Kansas City Reserve District has an increase of 5.8%, the Dallas Reserve District of 2.5% and the San Francisco Reserve District of 19.2%.

We now add our detailed statement, showing last week's figures for each city separately, for the four years:

Table showing Federal Reserve Districts (1st to 12th) and Total for 189 cities, with columns for November 1925, November 1924, Inc. or Dec., November 1923, and November 1922.

We append another table showing the clearings by Federal Reserve districts for the eleven months back to 1922:

Table titled 'Eleven Months' showing Federal Reserve Districts (1st to 12th) and Total for 189 cities, with columns for 1925, 1924, Inc. or Dec., 1923, and 1922.

The following compilation covers the clearings by months since Jan. 1 in 1925 and 1924:

Table titled 'MONTHLY CLEARINGS' showing Clearings, Total All and Clearings Outside New York, with columns for Month, 1925, 1924, %, 1925, 1924, and %.

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

CLEARINGS FOR NOVEMBER, SINCE JANUARY 1, AND FOR WEEK ENDING NOV. 28.

Large table showing Clearings at various cities (First Federal Reserve District - Boston, Second Federal Reserve District - New York, etc.) with columns for Month of November, Since January 1, and Week Ended November 28, including sub-columns for 1925, 1924, Inc. or Dec., and 1923, 1922.

BANK CLEARINGS AT LEADING CITIES.

Table showing Bank Clearings at Leading Cities (New York, Chicago, Boston, Philadelphia, St. Louis, Pittsburgh, San Francisco, Baltimore, Cincinnati, Kansas City, Cleveland, New Orleans, Minneapolis, Louisville, Detroit, Milwaukee, Los Angeles, Providence, Omaha, Buffalo, St. Paul, Indianapolis, Denver, Richmond, Memphis, Seattle, Hartford, Salt Lake City) with columns for 1925, 1924, 1923, 1922, 1925, 1924, 1923, 1922, and Jan. 1 to Nov. 30.

Summary table for Bank Clearings at Leading Cities, showing Total and Other cities with columns for 1925, 1924, 1923, 1922, and Jan. 1 to Nov. 30.

Our usual monthly detailed statement of transactions on the New York Stock Exchange is appended. The results for November and the eleven months of 1925 and 1924 are given below:

Table showing transactions on the New York Stock Exchange, with columns for Description, Month of November (1925, 1924), and Eleven Months (1925, 1924).

The volume of transactions in share properties on the New York Stock Exchange each month since Jan. 1 in 1922 to 1925 is indicated in the following:

Table showing volume of transactions in share properties, with columns for Month, 1925, 1924, 1923, and 1922, and sub-columns for No. Shares.

We now add our detailed statement showing the figures for each city separately for November and since Jan. 1 for two years and for the week ending Nov. 28 for four years:

CLEARINGS—(Continued.)

Table with columns for 'Clearings at—', 'Month of November.', 'Since January 1.', and 'Week Ended November 28.'. Rows include various federal reserve districts such as Third Federal Reserve District (Pa., Altoona, Bethlehem, Chester, Harrisburg, Lancaster, Lebanon, Norristown, Philadelphia, Reading, Scranton, Wilkes-Barre, York, N. J.—Camden, Trenton, Del.—Wilmington), Fourth Federal Reserve District (Ohio—Akron, Canton, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus, Dayton, Hamilton, Lima, Lorain, Mansfield, Springfield, Toledo, Youngstown, Pa.—Beaver County, Erie, Franklin, Greensburg, Pittsburgh, Ky.—Lexington, W. Va.—Wheeling), Fifth Federal Reserve District (W. Va.—Huntington, Va.—Newport News, Norfolk, N. C.—Asheville, Raleigh, Wilmington, S. C.—Charleston, Columbia, Md.—Baltimore, Frederick, Hagerstown, D. C.—Washington), Sixth Federal Reserve District (Tenn.—Chattanooga, Knoxville, Nashville, Georgia—Atlanta, Augusta, Columbus, Macon, Savannah, Fla.—Jacksonville, Miami, Tampa, Ala.—Birmingham, Mobile, Montgomery, Miss.—Hattiesburg, Jackson, Meridian, Vicksburg, La.—New Orleans), Seventh Federal Reserve District (Mich.—Adrian, Ann Arbor, Detroit, Flint, Grand Rapids, Jackson, Lansing, Ind.—Ft. Wayne, Gary, Indianapolis, South Bend, Terre Haute, Wis.—Madison, Milwaukee, Oshkosh, Iowa—Cedar Rapids, Davenport, Des Moines, Iowa City, Mason City, Sloux City, Waterloo, Ill.—Aurora, Bloomington, Chicago, Danville, Decatur, Peoria, Rockford, Springfield), and Eighth Federal Reserve District (Ind.—Evansville, New Albany, Mo.—St. Louis, Springfield, Ky.—Louisville, Owensboro, Paducah, Tenn.—Memphis, Ark.—Little Rock, Ill.—Jacksonville, Quincy). Each row lists clearing amounts in dollars for 1925 and 1924, percentage change, and weekly totals for 1923 and 1922.

CLEARINGS—(Concluded.)

Main table of clearing data for 1925-1926, categorized by federal reserve district (Ninth, Tenth, Eleventh, Twelfth) and grand total. Columns include month of November, since January 1, and week ended November 25/26, with sub-columns for 1925 and 1924 values and percentage changes.

CANADIAN CLEARINGS FOR NOVEMBER, SINCE JANUARY 1, AND FOR WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 26.

Table of Canadian clearing data for November, since January 1, and for the week ending November 26. Columns include month of November, since January 1, and week ended November 26, with sub-columns for 1925 and 1924 values and percentage changes.

a No longer report clearings. b Do not respond to requests for figures. c Week ended Nov. 25. d Week ended Nov. 26. e Week ended Nov. 27. * Estimated. f No clearings; all banks closed. g Not included in total.

THE WEEK ON THE NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE.

The stock market was unsettled during the forepart of the week but moved rapidly forward again the latter part. Interest has centred largely in railroad shares, industrial issues and oil stocks, though several of the active specialties have again been sharply boosted upward. The short session on Saturday was noteworthy for the sharp break in Coca Cola, which slipped back in the first hour nearly 11 points from its previous close, though it recovered a part of its loss in the brief rally near the end of the day. The market generally was lower, many issues receding from two to ten points. Motor stocks were weak, Hudson Motor dropping below par and General Motors receding nearly 3 points to 115 $\frac{1}{2}$ %. Chrysler moved independently of the general trend and closed with a moderate gain, and Mack Trucks yielded 5 points to 215. Railroad shares were the dominating feature of the market on Monday, Atlantic Coast Line moving briskly upward 4 points, followed by Louisville & Nashville with a gain of two points. Kansas City Southern and Chesapeake & Ohio were also in strong demand at improving prices, and St. Louis-San Francisco moved forward more than 2 points to 98 $\frac{1}{2}$ %. The trend of the market was confused on Tuesday, though stocks were generally higher at the close. Steel industrials moved vigorously forward, Sloss-Sheffield making a new high with a net gain of 2 $\frac{3}{8}$ points and United States Steel common crossed 130. Railroad stocks were again in demand, New Haven advancing 2 points to 42 $\frac{1}{2}$, followed by Lehigh Valley, Union Pacific and Pittsburgh & West Virginia. Oil shares improved, Pan-American "B" making a vigorous advance to 75 $\frac{3}{4}$, followed by Marland Oil, Standard Oil of New Jersey, and International Petroleum, the latter making a net gain of three points. Stocks were generally strong on Wednesday and attained their best prices in the late trading. A new high record was made by Southern Railway. Motor stocks were in strong demand at improving prices, Chandler Motors surging forward 3 $\frac{3}{8}$ points and Mack Trucks scoring a gain of 3 points. Industrial Alcohol was the weak feature of the day and sold as low as 72 $\frac{1}{2}$. Prices continued to improve on Thursday. Baldwin Locomotive crossed its high of the preceding day and American Can moved forward to 262 $\frac{1}{2}$ at its high for the day, though it slipped back to 258 $\frac{1}{2}$ at the close. New high levels were registered by Porto Rico Sugar, American Zinc preferred and Indian Refining common and preferred, the latter moving forward about 5 points. Motor stocks improved, particularly in the final hour, as Hudson Motors swung upward 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ points to 100 $\frac{3}{4}$ and Jordan Motors followed with a gain of 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ points to 47 $\frac{3}{4}$. Chrysler Motors also recorded a substantial advance. Under the leadership of United States Steel common, the market again moved upward on Friday and new high records for the year were registered by several of the more important stocks, including Atlantic Coast Line, Louisville & Nashville, American Ice, and American Sugar. The upswing in United States Steel common carried that stock forward 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ points to 135, and Sloss-Sheffield advanced 5 points to 141. Railroad issues made further gains and the oil shares, under Pan-American "B," moved to higher levels. Substantial advances were also scored by du Pont, Continental Can, General Electric, United States Cast Iron Pipe & Foundry, Mack Truck, Hudson Motor, Electric Storage Battery and American Locomotive. The final tone was good.

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

Week Ended Dec. 4.	Stocks, Number of Shares.	Railroad, &c. Bonds.	State, Municipal & Foreign Bonds.	United States Bonds.
Monday	1,617,950	6,679,000	3,017,500	1,044,400
Tuesday	1,778,335	7,552,000	2,191,000	1,144,350
Wednesday	1,721,315	9,260,000	2,131,500	674,250
Thursday	2,011,147	6,819,000	1,953,000	698,000
Friday	2,288,700	7,610,000	1,373,000	1,066,000
Total	10,222,459	\$41,505,000	\$12,261,000	\$5,035,500

Sales at New York Stock Exchange.	Week Ended Dec. 4.		Jan. 1 to Dec. 4.	
	1925.	1924.	1925.	1924.
Stocks—No. shares	10,222,459	11,807,918	411,933,794	249,207,419
Bonds				
Government bonds	\$5,035,500	\$12,901,650	\$321,623,366	\$836,465,965
State & foreign bonds	12,261,000	23,397,500	651,211,500	524,713,500
Railroad & misc. bonds	41,505,000	71,974,000	2,747,842,875	2,155,359,000
Total bonds	\$58,801,500	\$108,273,150	\$3,720,677,735	\$3,516,538,465

DAILY TRANSACTIONS AT THE BOSTON, PHILADELPHIA AND BALTIMORE EXCHANGES.

Week Ended Dec. 4 1925.	Boston.		Philadelphia.		Baltimore.	
	Shares.	Bond Sales.	Shares.	Bond Sales.	Shares.	Bond Sales.
Saturday	x19,313	\$76,000	16,085	\$6,500	*912	\$6,300
Monday	x23,927	27,000	19,217	31,300	*1,045	27,000
Tuesday	x26,800	28,500	19,910	39,200	2,533	11,400
Wednesday	x30,997	42,000	11,094	53,600	3,251	21,700
Thursday	x31,648	24,600	9,060	69,900	5,347	66,600
Friday	35,339	11,000	14,556	12,000	10,438	57,000
Total	168,034	\$209,100	90,922	\$212,500	23,526	\$190,000
Prev. week revised	142,912	\$82,900	90,479	\$125,100	9,540	\$300,500

* In addition, sales of rights were: Saturday, 194; Monday, 6. x In addition, sales of rights were: Saturday, 2,315; Monday, 2,035; Tuesday, 1,918; Wednesday, 1,824; Thursday, 3,200.

THE ENGLISH GOLD AND SILVER MARKETS.

We reprint the following from the weekly circular of Samuel Montagu & Co. of London, written under date of Nov. 18 1925:

GOLD.

The Bank of England gold reserve against notes on the 11th inst. amounted to £146,255,365, as compared with £147,230,350 on the previous Wednesday.

The moderate amount of gold (about £500,000) offered in the open market this week was readily absorbed at 84s. 11d., the Netherlands being the principal buyer.

The following movements of gold to and from the Bank of England have been announced since our last letter:

	Nov. 12.	Nov. 13.	Nov. 14.	Nov. 16.	Nov. 17.	Nov. 18.
Received	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Withdrawn	£62,000	£54,000	-----	£101,000	£81,000	£80,000

The destinations of the 88,000 sovereigns withdrawn were announced as follows: £41,000 to Singapore, £19,000 to Straits Settlements, £12,000 to India, £11,000 to West Indies and £5,000 to Holland. During the week under review £378,000 has been withdrawn from the Bank, increasing the net efflux since the resumption of an effective gold standard to £8,294,000.

The United Kingdom imports and exports of gold during the week ending the 11th inst. were:

Imports—	Exports—
Belgian Congo	Germany
British West Africa	Netherlands
British Guiana	Switzerland
Other countries	United States
	Straits Settlements
	Other countries
	£67,020
	£1,869,421

The following figures show the gold imports and exports of the United Kingdom during the month of October last:

	Imports.	Exports.
Netherlands	£3,800	£1,404,376
France	-----	162,821
Switzerland	-----	1,247,905
Egypt	-----	68,698
West Africa	93,858	-----
Java and other Dutch Possessions in the Indian Seas	-----	26,500
United States of America	-----	6,444,429
Argentina, Uruguay and Paraguay	-----	14,000
Rhodesia	289,473	-----
Transvaal	2,880,039	-----
British India	-----	291,678
Straits Settlements	-----	121,258
Other countries	a2,145,181	b393,589
	£5,412,401	£10,175,254

a Incl. about £1,640,000 from Poland. b Incl. about £320,000 to Germany. It is officially announced that the value of output of the Ontario gold mines for September 1925 amounted to \$2,546,852, as compared with \$2,686,559 for the previous month. The value of the total output for the nine months ending September 1925 was \$22,395,163.

The following is taken from a press bulletin of the Ontario Department of Mines dated the 5th inst.: "Crude gold bullion recovered by Ontario mines is marketed both in Canada and the United States. Export of gold is permitted under license by the Federal Government, and heretofore the bulk of the bullion has been consigned to branches of the United States Mint. In October an arrangement was made between the Royal Mint at Ottawa and the Ontario Mining Association, whereby gold bullion will in future be received at the Royal Mint, coined and transferred to Canadian banks to the credit of the producers. The desirability of this method of marketing bullion has been emphasized by the return of Canadian currency to par and further by the fact that American exchange has recently been selling at a slight discount. Advantage has been taken of Clause 5 (1) of the Royal proclamation of 1907 establishing the Mint by which any person may bring bullion to the Mint and have it struck into gold coin. Under this scheme a saving of approximately \$46,800 per year will be made by the Ontario gold mines on express rates; the calculated saving being based on an estimated output of \$30,000,000. The Finance Department has agreed to allow the Mint to sell the silver contents of the bullion and to account to the owners for the sales receipts."

SILVER.

Business in silver has been on a small scale and, the market remaining narrow, prices have been easily influenced. The quotations gained 3-16d. on the 12th inst. following some inquiry from the Indian bazaars and the quotations thus reached—32 3-16d. and 32d.—were maintained the following day. Sales on account of America and China contributed to a fall of 3-16d. on the 16th inst., when prices were fixed at 31 15-16d. and 31 13-16d. for cash and forward deliveries, respectively. Yesterday forward fell 1-16 to 31 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. The figures of 31 15-16d. and 31 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. are the lowest fixed for cash since Aug. 7 last and for forward since July 6 last. To-day, following firmer advices from the East, sellers were not in evidence and the market recovered 1-16d. in the price for cash and $\frac{1}{4}$ d. in that for forward delivery, quotations being fixed at 32d. and 31 $\frac{3}{4}$ d., respectively. The tone of the market is quiet.

United Kingdom imports and exports of silver during the week ending the 11th inst. were as follows:

Imports—	Exports—
United States of America	Bengal
Other countries	Other countries
	£77,708
	£69,614

No fresh Indian currency returns have come to hand. The stock in Shanghai on the 14th inst. consisted of about 54,500,000 ounces in sycee, 65,000,000 dollars and 5,980 silver bars, as compared with about 56,100,000 ounces in sycee, 66,500,000 dollars and 5,400 silver bars on the 7th inst.

Table with columns for Quotations, Bar Silver, Per Oz. Std., Bar Gold, Per Oz. Fine. Rows include Nov. 12, 13, 14, 16, 17, 18, Average.

The silver quotations to-day for cash and two months' delivery are, respectively, the same as and 1-16d. 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 for London, Sat, Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri. Rows include Silver, Gold, Consols, British 5 per cents, French Rentes, French War Loan.

The price of silver in New York on the same day has been:

Table with columns for Silver in N. Y., per oz. (cts.), Foreign, Ex-Interest. Rows include 69, 69 1/4, 69 1/2, 69 3/4, 69 1/2, 69 1/4.

Commercial and Miscellaneous News

Breadstuffs figures brought from page 2778.—The statements below are prepared by us from figures collected by the New York Produce Exchange.

Table with columns for Receipts at, Flour, Wheat, Corn, Oats, Barley, Rye, W. Rows include Chicago, Minneapolis, Duluth, Milwaukee, Toledo, Detroit, Indianapolis, St. Louis, Peoria, Kansas City, Omaha, St. Joseph, Wichita, Sioux City.

Summary table for Total wk 1925, Same wk '24, Same wk '23.

Table with columns for Since Aug. 1, 1925, 1924, 1923.

Total receipts of flour and grain at the seaboard ports for the week ended Saturday, Nov. 28, follow:

Table with columns for Receipts at, Flour, Wheat, Corn, Oats, Barley, Rye. Rows include New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Newport News, New Orleans, Galveston, Montreal, Boston.

Summary table for Total wk 1925, Since Jan. 1 '25, Same wk '24, Same Jan. 1 '24.

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

The exports from the several seaboard ports for the week ending Saturday, Nov. 28 1925, are shown in the annexed statement:

Table with columns for Exports from, Wheat, Corn, Flour, Oats, Rye, Barley. Rows include New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Newport News, New Orleans, Montreal.

The destination of these exports for the week and since July 1 1925 is as below:

Table with columns for Exports for Week and Since July 1 to, Flour, Wheat, Corn. Rows include United Kingdom, Continent, So. & Cent. Amer., West Indies, Other countries, Total 1925, Total 1924.

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:

By Adrian H. Muller & Sons, New York:

Large table listing Shares, Stocks, \$ per sh. with various company names like 250 Audition Corp., 400 Aquatone Corp., etc.

Table with columns for Shares, Stocks, \$ per sh. listing various companies like 2nd National Bank, Atlantic National Bank, etc.

By Wise, Hobbs & Arnold, Boston:

Table with columns for Shares, Stocks, \$ per sh. listing various companies like 17 Boston National Bank, 15 National Shawmut Bank, etc.

By Barnes & Lofland, Philadelphia:

Table listing various stocks and bonds with columns for Shares, Stocks, \$ per sh., and company names like 10 West Phila. Title & Tr. Co., par \$50.

By A. J. Wright & Co., Buffalo:

Table listing various stocks and bonds with columns for Shares, Stocks, \$ per sh., and company names like 5 Niagara Share Corp., 7 Buff. Niag. & East. Pow. Cl. "A".

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

APPLICATIONS TO ORGANIZE RECEIVED.

Table listing applications to organize banks, including Nov. 27—The Eastside National Bank of Paterson, N. J., and Nov. 28—The Moshola National Bank of the Bronx in New York, N. Y.

APPLICATIONS TO ORGANIZE APPROVED.

Table listing approved applications to organize banks, including Nov. 27—The American National Bank of Bradenton, Fla., and Nov. 27—The Allenhurst National Bank, Allenhurst, N. J.

CHARTERS ISSUED.

Table listing issued charters for banks, including Nov. 27—12853—The First National Bank of Gackle, No. Dak., and Nov. 28—12854—Haledon National Bank, Haledon, N. J.

CHANGE OF TITLE.

Table listing changes of title for banks, including Nov. 24—12220—The Grand Ave. National Bank of St. Louis, Mo., to "The Grand National Bank of St. Louis."

VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION.

Table listing voluntary liquidations, including Nov. 27—6186—The Manufacturers & Traders National Bank of Buffalo, N. Y.

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:

Table listing dividends for various companies, including Railroads (Steam), Public Utilities, and other sectors, with columns for Name of Company, Per Cent., When Payable, and Books Closed Days Inclusive.

Large table listing dividends for various companies, including Public Utilities (Concluded), Banks, Trust Companies, and Miscellaneous, with columns for Name of Company, Per Cent., When Payable, and Books Closed Days Inclusive.

Table with columns: Name of Company, Per Cent., When Payable, Books Closed Days Inclusive. Includes entries like 'Miscellaneous (Concluded)', 'Kresge Dept Stores, pref. (quar.)', 'Kresge (S. S.) Co., common (quar.)', etc.

Table with columns: Name of Company, Per Cent., When Payable, Books Closed Days Inclusive. Includes entries like 'Public Utilities (Concluded)', 'Consolidated Gas, New York (quar.)', 'Preferred (quar.)', 'Consumers Power, 6% pref. (quar.)', etc.

Below we give the dividends announced in previous weeks and not yet paid. This list does not include dividends announced this week, these being given in the preceding table.

Table with columns: Name of Company, Per Cent., When Payable, Books Closed Days Inclusive. Includes entries like 'Railroads (Steam)', 'Alabama Great Southern, ordinary', 'Preferred', 'Atlantic Coast Line R.R., com', etc.

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

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

Table with columns: Name of Company, Per Cent., When Payable, Book's Closed Days Inclusive. Lists various companies and their dividend details.

* From unofficial sources. † The New York Stock Exchange has ruled that stock will not be quoted ex-dividend on this date and not until further notice.

Weekly Returns of New York City Clearing House Banks and Trust Companies.

The following shows the condition of the New York City Clearing House members for the week ending Nov. 28. The figures for the separate banks are the averages of the daily results.

NEW YORK WEEKLY CLEARING HOUSE RETURNS. (Stated in thousands of dollars)—that is, three (000) ciphers omitted

Table with columns: Week Ending, Net Capital, Profits, Loans, Cash in Vault, Reserve with Legal Depositaries, Net Demand Deposits, Time Deposits, Bank Circulation, Average. Lists various banks and their financial data.

Note.—U. S. deposits deducted from net demand deposits in the general totals above were as follows: Average total Nov. 28, \$10,042,000. Actual totals Nov. 28, \$10,004,000; Nov. 21, \$10,092,000; Nov. 14, \$17,200,000; Nov. 7, \$18,999,000; Oct. 31, \$19,000,000.

* Includes deposits in foreign branches not included in total footings as follows: National City Bank, \$153,182,000; Chase National Bank, \$10,770,000; Bankers Trust Co., \$32,197,000; Guaranty Trust Co., \$65,673,000; Farmers' Loan & Trust Co., \$6,705,000; Equitable Trust Co., \$64,292,000.

The reserve position of the different groups of institutions on the basis of both the averages for the week and the actual condition at the end of the week is shown in the following two tables:

STATEMENT OF RESERVE POSITION OF CLEARING HOUSE BANKS AND TRUST COMPANIES.

Table with columns: Averages, Cash Reserve in Vault, Reserve in Depositaries, Total Reserve, Reserve Required, Surplus Reserve. Lists various banks and their reserve data.

* Not members of Federal Reserve Bank. † This is the reserve required on the net demand deposits in the case of State banks and trust companies, but in the case of members of the Federal Reserve Bank includes also amount in reserve required on net time deposits, which was as follows: Nov. 28, \$15,052,110; Nov. 21, \$14,701,440; Nov. 14, \$14,587,560; Nov. 7, \$14,349,780; Oct. 31, \$14,498,910.

Weekly Return of the Federal Reserve Board.

The following is the return issued by the Federal Reserve Board Thursday afternoon, Dec. 3, 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.

COMBINED RESOURCES AND LIABILITIES OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS AT THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS DEC. 2 1925.

Table with columns for dates from Dec. 2 1925 to Dec. 3 1924 and rows for RESOURCES and LIABILITIES. Includes sub-sections for F. R. notes, Deposits, and Total resources.

NOTE.—Beginning with the statement of Oct. 7 two new items were added in order to show separately the amount of balances held abroad and amounts due to foreign correspondents. In addition, the caption, "All other earning assets," now made up of Federal Intermediate Credit Bank debentures, has been changed to "Other securities," and the caption, "Total earning assets" to "Total bills and securities."

WEEKLY STATEMENT OF RESOURCES AND LIABILITIES OF EACH OF THE 12 FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS AT CLOSE OF BUSINESS DEC. 2 1925.

Table with columns for 12 Federal Reserve Banks (Boston, New York, Phila., Cleveland, Richmond, Atlanta, Chicago, St. Louis, Minneapolis, Kan. City, Dallas, San Fran.) and Total. Rows for RESOURCES and LIABILITIES.

Bankers' Gazette

Wall Street, Friday Night, Dec. 4 1925.

Railroad and Miscellaneous Stocks.—The review of the Stock Market is given this week on page 2717.

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 Ended Dec. 4, Sales for Week, Range for Week (Lowest, Highest), Range Since Jan. 1. (Lowest, Highest). Rows include various stocks like Railroad, Industrial & Misc., and others.

Table with columns: STOCKS, Week Ended Dec. 4, Sales for Week, Range for Week (Lowest, Highest), Range Since Jan. 1. (Lowest, Highest). Rows include various stocks like India & Mis., Reld Tea, etc.

Foreign Exchange.—Sterling ruled firm and advanced on the raising of the Bank of England rate; trading however was only moderately active.

To-day's (Friday's) actual rates for sterling exchange were 4.81 1/4 @ 4.81 1/4 for sixty days, 4.81 1/4 @ 4.81 1/4 for cheques and 4.81 1/4 @ 4.85 1/4 for cables.

To-day's (Friday's) actual rates for Paris bankers' francs were 3.75 1/2 @ 3.84 1/2 for long and 3.80 @ 3.89 for short. German bankers' marks are not yet quoted for long and short bills.

Domestic Exchange.—Chicago, par. St. Louis, 15 @ 25c. per \$1,000 discount. Boston, par. San Francisco, par. Montreal, \$1.512 1/2 per \$1,000 premium. Cincinnati, par.

United States Liberty Loan Bonds and Treasury Certificates on the New York Stock Exchange.—Below we furnish a daily record of the transactions in Liberty Loan bonds and Treasury certificates on the New York Stock Exchange.

Table with columns: Daily Record of U. S. Bond Prices, Nov. 21, Nov. 23, Nov. 24, Nov. 25, Nov. 26, Nov. 27. Rows include First Liberty Loan, Second Liberty Loan, Third Liberty Loan, Fourth Liberty Loan, and Treasury.

Note.—The above table includes only sales of coupon bonds. The transactions in registered bonds were: 27 1st 3 1/2s, 16 1st 4 1/2s, 17 2d 4 1/2s, 453 3d 4 1/2s.

Quotations for U. S. Treas. Cfts. of Indebtedness, &c.—New York City Banks and Trust Companies. New York City Realty and Surety Companies. See page 2742.

New York Stock Exchange—Stock Record, Daily, Weekly and Yearly 2727

OCCUPYING FIVE PAGES.

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

HIGH AND LOW SALES PRICES—PER SHARE, NOT PER CENT.

Table with columns for days of the week (Saturday Nov. 28, Monday Nov. 30, Tuesday Dec. 1, Wednesday Dec. 2, Thursday Dec. 3, Friday Dec. 4) and sales for the week. It contains stock prices for various companies including Ann Arbor, A.T. & T., and others.

STOCKS NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

Table listing various stocks such as Railroads, C. C. & St. Louis, Chicago & North Western, etc., along with their share prices.

PER SHARE Range for Year 1925. On basis of 100-share lots.

Table showing the highest and lowest share prices for various stocks during the year 1925.

PER SHARE Range for Previous Year 1924.

Table showing the highest and lowest share prices for various stocks during the previous year, 1924.

* Bid and asked prices. # Ex-dividend. * Ex-rights.

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

Table with columns for dates (Saturday Nov. 28 to Friday Dec. 4), High and Low Sale Prices per share, and a list of stocks with their respective prices and exchange information.

* Bid and asked prices, no sales on this day. a Ex-rights. s Ex-dividend.

New York Stock Record—Continued—Page 3

For 7 aies during the week of stocks usually inactive, see third page preceding.

HIGH AND LOW SALE PRICES—PER SHARE, NOT PER CENT.

Table with columns for days of the week (Saturday to Friday) and price ranges per share. Includes sub-headers for 'Sales for the Week' and 'PER SHARE Range for Year 1925'.

Main table listing various stocks and companies (e.g., Col Gas & Elec, Commercial Solvents, etc.) with their respective share prices and ranges for 1925 and 1924.

* Bid and asked prices, no sales on this day. † Ex-dividend, ‡ Par value changed from \$100 to \$50 and prices on that basis beginning June 3. § Ex-rights.

For sales during the week of st cks usually inactive, see fourth page preceding

HIGH AND LOW SALE PRICES—PER SHARE, NOT PER CENT.

Table with columns for Saturday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday (Nov. 28). Rows list various stock symbols and their corresponding price ranges.

Table titled 'STOCKS NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE' with columns for 'PER SHARE Range for Year 1925' and 'PER SHARE Range for Preceding Year 1924'. Rows list various stock symbols and their price ranges.

* Bid and asked prices, no sales on this day. z Ex-dividend. d Ex new rights. n No par. s Ex-rights. t Trading on New York Stock exchange suspended because of small amount of stock outstanding.

New York Stock Record—Continued—Page 5

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

HIGH AND LOW SALE PRICES—PER SHARE, NOT PER CENT.

Sales for the Week.

STOCKS NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

PER SHARE Range for Year 1925. On basis of 100-share lots

PER SHARE Range for Previous Year 1924.

Main table with columns for dates (Saturday to Friday), sales for the week, stock names, and price ranges for 1925 and 1924.

* Bid and asked prices, no sales on this day. Ex-dividend. a Ex-rights. s New stock on the basis of 1 new share for 3 old shares.

Jan. 1 1909 the Exchange method of quoting bonds was changed and prices are now "and interest"—except for income and defaulted bonds

Main table containing bond listings for U.S. Government, State and City Securities, and various international bonds. Columns include Bond Name, Interest, Price, Week's Range, Bonds Sold, and Range Since Jan. 1.

§1. a Due Jan. b Due July. c Due Aug. d Due Nov. e Option Sale.

Table with columns: BOND, Price Friday Dec. 4, Week's Range or Last Sale, Range Since Jan. 1, and various bond details. Includes entries like Chicago & East Ill 1st 6s, O & E III RR, and various municipal bonds.

Table with columns: BOND, Price Friday Dec. 4, Week's Range or Last Sale, Range Since Jan. 1, and various bond details. Includes entries like Erie & Pitts gu g 3 1/2s, Fla Center Ry 1st ext g 5s, and various corporate bonds.

a Due Jan. b Due Feb. c Due June. d Due May. e Due July. f Due Sept. g Due Oct. h Due Dec. i Option sale.

Table with columns: BONDS N. Y. STOCK EXCHANGE Week Ended Dec. 4., Interest Period, Price Friday Dec. 4., Week's Range or Last Sale, Range Since Jan. 1., Bonds Sold. Includes entries like Manilla RR (South Lines) 4s 1939, Mid of N J 1st ext 5s, Milw L S & West Imp g 5s, etc.

Table with columns: BONDS N. Y. STOCK EXCHANGE Week Ended Dec. 4., Interest Period, Price Friday Dec. 4., Week's Range or Last Sale, Range Since Jan. 1., Bonds Sold. Includes entries like Nor & West gen gold 6s, Improvement & ext 6s, New River 1st gold, etc.

a Due Jan. b Due July. p Due Nov. s Option sale.

Table of N.Y. Stock Exchange Bonds, Week Ended Dec. 4. Columns include Bond description, Interest Period, Price Friday Dec. 4, Week's Range or Last Sale, Range Since Jan. 1, and Range Since Jan. 1.

Table of N.Y. Stock Exchange Bonds, Week Ended Dec. 4. Columns include Bond description, Interest Period, Price Friday Dec. 4, Week's Range or Last Sale, Range Since Jan. 1, and Range Since Jan. 1.

a Due May e Due June d Due May k Due August = Option sale

Main table containing bond listings with columns for Bond Description, Interest Period, Price (Bid/Ask), Week's Range, Bonds Sold, Range Since Jan. 1, and various other details. Includes sub-sections for 'BONDS N. Y. STOCK EXCHANGE' and 'BONDS N. Y. STOCK EXCHANGE'.

a Due Jan. d Due April. p Due Dec. o Option sale.

BOSTON STOCK EXCHANGE—Stock Record

BONDS See Next Page

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HIGH AND LOW BALK PRICES—PER SHARE, NOT PER CENT.

Table with columns: Saturday, Nov. 28; Monday, Nov. 30; Tuesday, Dec. 1; Wednesday, Dec. 2; Thursday, Dec. 3; Friday, Dec. 4. Contains bid and asked prices for various stocks.

Table with columns: Sales for the Week; STOCKS BOSTON STOCK EXCHANGE; Range for Year 1925 (Lowest, Highest); PER SHARE Range for Previous Year 1924 (Lowest, Highest). Lists various stocks and their performance.

Table with columns: Range for Year 1925 (Lowest, Highest); PER SHARE Range for Previous Year 1924 (Lowest, Highest). Continuation of stock performance data.

* Bid and asked prices, no sales on this day. Ex-rights. Ex-div. and rights. Ex-div. Ex-stock div. Assessment paid. Price on new basis.

Quotations of Sundry Securities

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

Table of Sundry Securities including Standard Oil Stocks, Railroad Equipments, and Public Utilities. Columns include stock names, prices, and various codes.

* No par value. † No par value. ‡ Bas. d Purchaser also pays accrued dividends. t New stock. / Flat price. & Last sale. n Nominal. z Ex-dividend. y Ex-rights. † Ex-stock dividend. s Sale price. r Canadian quotation. e Ex-interest.

Outside Stock Exchanges

Boston Bond Record.—Transactions in bonds at Boston Stock Exchange Nov. 28 to Dec. 4, both inclusive:

Table of Boston Bond Record with columns for Bonds, Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices, Sales for Week, and Range Since Jan. 1.

* No par value. Baltimore Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at Baltimore Stock Exchange Nov. 28 to Dec. 4 both inclusive, compiled from official sales lists:

Table of Baltimore Stock Exchange with columns for Stocks, Par, Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices, Sales for Week, and Range Since Jan. 1.

* No par value. Cincinnati Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at Cincinnati Stock Exchange Nov. 28 to Dec. 4, both inclusive, compiled from official sales lists:

Table of Cincinnati Stock Exchange with columns for Stocks, Par, Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices, Sales for Week, and Range Since Jan. 1.

Table of Philadelphia Stock Exchange transactions, Nov. 28 to Dec 4, 1925. Columns include Stock Name, Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week, and Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High).

Philadelphia Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at Philadelphia Stock Exchange, Nov. 28 to Dec 4, both inclusive, compiled from official sales lists:

Table of Philadelphia Stock Exchange transactions, Nov. 28 to Dec 4, 1925. Columns include Stock Name, Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week, and Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High).

Chicago Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at Chicago Stock Exchange Nov. 28 to Dec. 4, both inclusive, compiled from official sales lists:

Table of Chicago Stock Exchange transactions, Nov. 28 to Dec. 4, 1925. Columns include Stock Name, Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week, and Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High).

Table of Pittsburgh Stock Exchange transactions, Nov. 28 to Dec 4, 1925. Columns include Stock Name, Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week, and Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High).

Pittsburgh Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at Pittsburgh Stock Exchange Nov. 28 to Dec. 4, both inclusive, compiled from official sales lists:

Table of Pittsburgh Stock Exchange transactions, Nov. 28 to Dec 4, 1925. Columns include Stock Name, Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week, and Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High).

Table of stock prices for St. Louis Stock Exchange, including columns for Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices, Sales for Week, and Range Since Jan. 1.

Table of stock prices for St. Louis Stock Exchange (continued), including columns for Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices, Sales for Week, and Range Since Jan. 1.

St. Louis Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at St. Louis Stock Exchange Nov. 28 to Dec. 4, both inclusive, compiled from official sales lists:

Table of stock prices for New York Curb Market, including columns for Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices, Sales for Week, and Range Since Jan. 1.

Table of stock prices for New York Curb Market (continued), including columns for Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices, Sales for Week, and Range Since Jan. 1.

New York Curb Market.—Official transactions in the New York Curb Market from Nov. 28 to Dec. 4, inclusive:

Table of stock prices for New York Curb Market, including columns for Week Ended Dec. 4, Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices, Sales for Week, and Range Since Jan. 1.

Table of stock prices for New York Curb Market (continued), including columns for Week Ended Dec. 4, Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices, Sales for Week, and Range Since Jan. 1.

Table with multiple columns: Stocks (Continued) Par., Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices, Range Since Jan. 1., Stocks (Continued) Par., Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices, Range Since Jan. 1. Includes various stock listings such as Kraft Cheese, Kroger Grocery, and others.

Table of Mining Stocks (Continued) with columns for Stock Name, Par, Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week (Shares), and Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High).

Table of Bonds with columns for Bond Name, Maturity, Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), and Range since Jan. 1. (Low, High).

Table of Bonds (Continued) with columns for Bond Name, Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week, and Range since Jan. 1. (Low, High).

Table of Foreign Government and Municipalities with columns for Location, Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week, and Range since Jan. 1. (Low, High).

* No par value. † Correction. ‡ Listed on the Stock Exchange this week, where additional transactions will be found. § New stock. ¶ Option sale. ** When issued. †† Ex-dividend. ‡‡ Ex-rights. §§ Ex-stock dividend.

Quotations for U. S. Treas. Cdfs. of Indebtedness, &c.

Table of U.S. Treasury Cdfs of Indebtedness with columns for Maturity, Int. Rate, Bid, Asked, and other financial data.

New York City Realty and Surety Companies.

Table of New York City Realty and Surety Companies with columns for Company Name, Bid, Ask, and other financial data.

New York City Banks and Trust Companies.

Table of New York City Banks and Trust Companies with columns for Company Name, Bid, Ask, and other financial data.

* Banks marked (*) are State banks. (z) Ex-dividend. (y) Ex-rights.

Table with 6 columns: Company Name, Gross from Railway 1925, Gross from Railway 1924, Net from Railway 1925, Net from Railway 1924, Net after Taxes 1925, Net after Taxes 1924. Includes Reading Company, Richmond Fredericksburg & Potomac, Rutland, St Louis-San Francisco, St Louis-Southwestern, St Louis Transfer, Seaboard Air Line, Southern Pacific System, Atlantic Steamship Lines, Galveston Harrisburg & San Antonio, Houston & Texas Central, Louisiana Western, Morgans La & Texas, Texas & New Orleans, Southern Ry System, Ala Great Southern, Cin N O & T P, Georgia So & Florida, N Orleans & Northeast, North Alabama, Spokane International, Spokane Port & Seattle, Staten Island R T, Tennessee Central, Terminal Railway Assn of St Louis, Term Ry Assn of St Louis, Texas & Pacific, Ulster & Delaware, Union Pacific, Oregon Short Line, Ore-Wash Ry & Nav Co, St Jos Gd Island, Union RR (Penn), Utah, Vicksburg Shreveport & Pacific, Virginia.

Table with 6 columns: Company Name, Gross from Railway 1925, Gross from Railway 1924, Net from Railway 1925, Net from Railway 1924, Net after Taxes 1925, Net after Taxes 1924. Includes Western Maryland, Western Pacific, Western Ry of Alabama, Wheeling & Lake Erie, St Louis Southwestern (incl St Louis Southwestern of Texas).

Table with 5 columns: Company Name, Gross Earnings, Net after Taxes, Fixed Charges, Balance. Includes Fonda Johnstown & Gloversville.

Table with 5 columns: Company Name, Gross Earnings, Net after Taxes, Interest & Taxes, Balance. Includes Gulf Coast Lines, Bellefonte Central.

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

Table with 5 columns: Company Name, Gross Earnings Current Year, Net after Taxes Previous Year, Fixed Charges Current Year, Balance Previous Year. Lists numerous utility companies like Barcel Trac, L & P, Ltd., Braz Trac, L & P, Ltd., Community P&L & Subs., So Can Pow, Ltd. & Subs., cSouthw Pow & Lt Co., Winnipeg Electric Co., Amer Water Works & Elec Co & Sub Cos, Atl Gulf & W I SS Lines & Sub SS Cos, Binghamton Light, Heat & Power Co, Boston Elev Ry, Eastern SS Lines, Inc, Federal Light & Tract., Florida Public Service Co, Fort Worth Power & Light Co, Kansas Gas & Electric Co, Lake Shore El Ry System, Metropolitan Edison Co & sub cos, Nebraska Pow Co, Nevada Calif Elec Corp & sub elec, New Bedford Gas & Edison Lt Co, New Jer Pr & Lt Co, Nor Caro Pub Serv Co, Inc, & subs.

Table with 5 columns: Company, Date, Gross Earnings, Net after Taxes, Fixed Charges, Balance, Surplus. Lists companies like Northern Ontario, Pacific Power & Light Co, etc.

* Includes other income. a After depreciation and rentals. b After rentals. c After depreciation. f Includes preferred dividends of subsidiaries. g Includes depreciation.

Table with 5 columns: Company, Date, Gross, Net, Surplus After Chgs., 12 Months Ended Oct. 31 (Gross, Net, Surplus). Lists companies like Blackstone Valley Gas & Electric Co, Cape Breton Electric Co, etc.

Table with 5 columns: Company, Date, Gross, Net, Surplus After Chgs., 12 Months Ended Oct. 31 (Gross, Net, Surplus). Lists companies like Fall River Gas Works Co, Galveston Houston Elec Co, etc.

FINANCIAL REPORTS.

Financial Reports.—An index to annual reports of steam railroads, public utility and miscellaneous companies which have been published during the preceding month will be given on the last Saturday of each month. This index will not include reports in the issue of the "Chronicle" in which it is published. The latest index will be found in the issue of Nov. 28. The next will appear in that of Dec. 26.

Punta Alegre Sugar Co.

(10th Annual Report—16 Months Ended Sept. 30 1925.)

The remarks of President Edwin F. Atkins reviewing the operations of the company for the 16 months ended Sept. 30 1925, together with the income account and comparative balance sheet, will be found in our advertising columns, page XXI. Our usual comparative tables follow:

INCOME ACCOUNT FOR YEAR ENDED MAY 31.

Table with 4 columns: 16 Mos. End. (Sept. 30 '25, Sept. 30 '24, Sept. 30 '23), Years Ended May 31 (1922-23, 1921-22). Rows include: Estimated oper. revs., Operating cost, Operating profit, Depreciation on plant, Interest on loans, etc.

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET.

Table with 4 columns: Date (Sept. 30 '25, May 31 '24), Assets, Liabilities. Rows include: Fixed assets, Organizational expenses, Stock in other cos, Live stock, Supplies in warehouse, Sugar in process, etc.

Note.—Contingent liability for \$2,063,795 being notes given by planters to banks for advances made, repayment of which is guaranteed by the company or its subsidiaries.

x Mill buildings and machinery, \$13,444,523; railroad and shipping equipment, \$9,344,020; houses and buildings, &c., \$3,099,173; steam plows, carts, tools, furniture, &c., \$759,180; total \$26,646,896. Less reserve for deprec., \$5,702,603; plant under construction, \$325,968; lands, pastures, a is and walls, \$3,147,510; cane fields and other plantings, including itches, \$3,201,726.—V. 121, p. 470

Fajardo Sugar Co. of Porto Rico.

(7th Annual Report—Fiscal Year Ended July 31 1925.)

The income account and balance sheet covering the fiscal year ended July 31 1925 will be found under "Reports and Documents" on a subsequent page.

RESULTS FOR FISCAL YEARS ENDED JULY 31.

Table showing financial results for Fajardo Sugar Co. for fiscal years ended July 31, comparing 1925, 1924, 1923, and 1922. Categories include cane, sugar, molasses, and net profit.

BALANCE SHEET JULY 31.

Balance sheet for Fajardo Sugar Co. as of July 31, 1925, listing assets and liabilities.

a After deducting \$1,310,281 reserve for depreciation. b After deducting reserve for depreciation.—V. 121, p. 2409, 1795.

British Empire Steel Corporation, Ltd.

(Report for Fiscal Year Ended Dec. 31 1924.)

President R. M. Wolvin in his remarks to stockholders says:

The net cost of the properties of the constituent and subsidiary companies increased during the year by the sum of \$1,065,534. The total expenditure for additions and improvements was \$2,190,195, and the amount reserved for depreciation, depletion and renewals was \$1,124,660, bringing the total amount of these reserves up to \$29,266,918, which is approximately 21 1/2% of the net cost of properties as shown on the balance sheet.

The aggregate amount of the funded and mortgage debts against these properties was reduced during the year by the sum of \$117,900. New securities in the form of ten-year serial equipment bonds were issued for the \$450,000, to provide part of the cost of necessary new rolling stock for the Sydney & Louisburg Rv., and bonds of the several sinking funds. The total deemed through the operation of the debt and debenture stock outstanding on Dec. 31 1924 was \$37,682,295, or slightly less than 28% of the net cost of properties as shown by the balance sheet.

Inventories have been reduced \$3,685,783, by a gradual and satisfactory process of realization, and directors are assured that the amount appearing under this heading on the balance sheet, \$11,421,377, is fully represented in the current value of the materials in stock.

The aggregate earnings of the constituent companies for the year after deducting all manufacturing, selling and administration expenses was \$923,775. This amount added to the balance carried forward from last year left available for disposal the sum of \$1,954,805. Provision for depreciation and exhaustion, discount and interest on bonds and debenture stock, dividends paid on First Preference stock of the corporation and the Preferred stocks of the constituent companies, created a debit balance of \$1,326,589, which is the deficit upon operations since the formation of the corporation.

Deducting this amount from the consolidated surplus at the date of organization, \$21,784,870, there was left to be carried forward in surplus account a balance of \$20,458,281.

These are the results of a year of depressed business and unsatisfactory operating conditions. No relief was obtained from competition with iron and steel imported from abroad and especially in the currency of those countries in which wages are low and are paid in the currency of those countries, where it has a value for domestic transactions greatly in excess of its value here or in any country whose transactions are done on a gold basis, and additions to the list of materials which may be imported free or subject to rebate of duty have intensified the otherwise unfavorable market conditions.

The quantity of coal produced was less than the previous year's output by over 715,000 tons. The output of pig iron decreased 100,603 tons, and steel ingots 112,443 tons. These serious reductions in output running from 35 to 40% affected costs adversely and, coupled with the low prices, made profitable results impossible.

The output of iron ore was somewhat increased and a part of the surplus produced in previous years was disposed of, chiefly by export to Germany.

The hope which directors expressed in their last annual report, that more sympathetic relations would exist between the management and the working force, was not realized, although the operations of a works council, which was adopted at the steel works at Sydney and at the Pender works at St. John, have been productive of much good, and relations at these works were satisfactory throughout the year.

CONSOLIDATED INCOME ACCOUNT.

Consolidated Income Account for British Empire Steel Corporation, Ltd., comparing years ended Dec. 31 from 1922 to 1925.

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET DEC. 31.

Consolidated Balance Sheet for Dec. 31, 1925, listing assets and liabilities for Fajardo Sugar Co.

Total ----- 155,789,546 158,209,355. Total ----- 155,789,546 158,209,355. x Representing the ore and coal properties, plant, buildings, machinery and equipment, &c., of the constituent companies, the aggregate value of which is supported by independent appraisals (less reserves for depreciation and exhaustion of minerals). z Preference stock of constituent companies includes: 7% Dominion Coal Co., Ltd., \$2,799,400; 7% Dominion Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., \$3,336,300; 6% Dominion Steel Corp., Ltd., \$4,705,500; 8% Nova Scotia Steel & Coal Co., Ltd., \$808,000; 6% Eastern Car Co., Ltd., \$107,100. z Capital stock reserve: Par value of 7% Cum. 1st Pref. stock, Series "B," reserved for exchange of outstanding Preference stocks of constituent companies, \$11,917,900, less par value of Pref. stock of these companies outstanding, \$11,756,300.—V. 121, p. 1793.

Guantanamo Sugar Co. (Cuba), New York City.

(20th Annual Report—Year Ending Sept. 30 1925.)

The remarks of Pres. James H. Post, together with income account and balance sheet as of Sept. 30 1925 will be found under "Reports and Documents" on a subsequent page.

INCOME ACCOUNT FOR FISCAL YEARS ENDING SEPT. 30.

Income Account for Guantanamo Sugar Co. for fiscal years ending Sept. 30, comparing 1925, 1924, 1923, and 1922.

* After deducting sea freight, commissions, &c. a Also includes shipping and general expenses. b Transferred to no par value stock.

BALANCE SHEET SEPT. 30.

Balance Sheet for Guantanamo Sugar Co. as of Sept. 30, 1925, listing assets and liabilities.

x After adding \$35,526 for machinery and apparatus purchased to be installed, and after deducting \$1,492,662 reserves for depreciation, replanting and extraordinary repairs. y Common stock authorized 405,000 shares of no par value, issued and outstanding 397,435 shares of no par value. z \$50 par value.

RESULTS OF OPERATIONS OF THE GUANTANAMO RR. FOR YEARS ENDING JUNE 30.

Results of Operations of the Guantanamo RR. for years ending June 30, comparing 1925, 1924, 1923, and 1922.

GENERAL INVESTMENT NEWS

STEAM RAILROADS.

Inter-State Commerce Commission Reduces Freight Rates on Fresh Meats.—Basic rate on carload shipments of fresh meats from Chicago to destinations in the New York rate group is reduced from 87 to 79 cents per 100 pounds. New York "Times" Dec. 3, p. 40.

New York Central RR. Has Automatic Stop Device on 871 Miles of Road.—System adopted is result of years of experiments. New York "Times" Nov. 29, Sec. 2, p. 11.

Repair of Freight Cars.—Freight cars in need of repair on Nov. 15 totaled 166,704, or 7.2% of the number on line, according to reports filed by the carriers with the Car Service Division of the American Railway Association. This was an increase of 1,223 cars over the number reported on Nov. 1, at which time there were 165,481, or 7.1%, a decrease of 1,928 cars compared with Nov. 1. Freight cars in need of repair totaled 40,952, or 1.8%, an increase of 3,151 compared with Nov. 1.

Repair of Locomotives.—Locomotives in need of repair on Nov. 15 totaled 10,709, or 16.8% of the number on line, according to reports filed by the carriers with the Car Service Division of the American Railway Association. This was an increase of 476 locomotives compared with Nov. 1, at which time there were 10,233, or 16.1%, but a decrease of 928 locomotives compared with the number in need of repair on Nov. 15 last year. Of the total number in need of repair on Nov. 15, 5,681, or 8.9%, were in need of classification repairs, an increase of 294 compared with Nov. 1, while 5,028, or 7.9%, were in need of running repairs, an increase of 182 locomotives within the same period. Class I railroads had 4,282 serviceable locomotives in storage on Nov. 15, a decrease of 168 compared with the number of such locomotives on Nov. 1.

Car Surplus.—Class I roads on Nov. 14 had 112,572 surplus freight cars in good repair and immediately available for service, according to reports filed by the carriers with the Car Service Division of the American Railway Association. This was an increase of 8,603 cars above the number reported

Preferred shares—except in each such case as may be necessary in order to permit the other provisions of this plan to be carried out...

Common Shares.—The Common shares will be without par value and each share will be entitled to one vote.

Water Powers.—The interests affiliated with International Paper Co. and interests affiliated with the Power Corporation of New York have extensive interests in water powers, and Stone & Webster, Inc., are interested in water powers on the upper Connecticut River.

The New England Co. is to sell to International Securities Co. or its nominee and International Securities Co. or its nominee to purchase the stock of the Bellows Falls Canal Co. and the mill powers and other rights, titles and interests directly or indirectly owned or controlled by the New England Co.

International Securities Co. proposes after consummating the foregoing purchase to develop the Bellows Falls power. The New England Co., if the price and the terms can be hereafter mutually agreed upon, is to purchase or cause one of its subsidiary companies to purchase this power at the switchboard...

Company may purchase from the Deerfield Co., which company is largely owned by a few large shareholders of the company, including Malcolm G. Chace, a former trustee, and Henry I. Harriman, a present trustee...

Method for Carrying Out Plan.—The plan may be carried out by use of the present company or by the transfer of all or substantially all of its assets to a new voluntary association and the termination of the present company...

New Jersey Water & Light Co.—Sale Approved.—The New Jersey P. U. Commission has authorized the company to sell its distribution system in Deal Borough and Ocean Township (N. J.) to the Tintern Manor Water Co. for \$120,000.—V. 121, p. 1021.

New York & Richmond Gas Co.—\$1 Gas Ruling Upheld.—Federal Judges Martin T. Manton, Marcus L. Campbell and Robert A. Inch, sitting as a special statutory court, approved Nov. 28 the report of Special Master Appleton L. Clark, declaring the dollar gas law unconstitutional and confiscatory.

New York Telephone Co.—New Construction.—The directors have authorized an additional expenditure of \$4,180,365 for new construction. This brings the total of appropriations since Jan. 1 to \$60,981,935, of which \$53,953,090 was set aside for the enlargement of plant facilities in the metropolitan area.—V. 121, p. 2403.

New York Westchester & Boston Ry.—Notes Called.—Certain 6% Collateral Gold notes, aggregating \$65,000, have been called for payment Jan. 1 at 101 and int. at the National Bank of Commerce, 31 Nassau St., N. Y. City.—V. 121, p. 1348.

North American Co. (& Subs.).—Earnings.—12 Months Ended Sept. 30—1925. 1924. Gross earnings \$87,032,448 \$78,513,133 Operating expenses and taxes 53,405,857 49,658,757

Northern Connecticut Light & Power Co.—President. Walter P. Schwabe of Thompsonville, Conn., has been elected President of this company, succeeding Harrison B. Freeman. Loring N. Farnum of

New York has been elected President of the Thompsonville Water Co., succeeding Mr. Schwabe. Control of this company was recently acquired by J. G. White & Co., Inc., of N. Y. See V. 121, p. 2638.

Northern Michigan Public Service Co.—Bonds Sold.—True, Webber & Co., Chicago, and Hayden, Van Atter & Co., Chicago, have sold at 97 and int., yielding over 6 1/4%, \$200,000 1st Mtge. 20-Year Sinking Fund 6% Gold bonds, Series "A."

Dated Oct. 1 1925; due Oct. 1 1945. Interest payable A. & O. at Guardian Trust Co., Detroit, trustee. Denom. \$100, \$500 and \$1,000. Red. all or part on any int. date on 30 days' notice up to and incl. Oct. 1 1940 at 105 and int.; thereafter at 102 1/2 and int. Company agrees to pay interest without deduction for any Federal income tax not exceeding 2% of personal property taxes of any State, under any present law, not in excess of 5 mills, and Mass. income tax on int. not exceeding 6% of such int. per annum, refundable. Tax-exempt in State of Michigan.

Data from Letter of E. J. Condon, President of the Company. Company.—Incorp. in Michigan in 1925. Is successor to Boardman River Electric Light & Power Co., which has operated since 1894. Company will own and operate 2 hydro-electric plants on the Boardman River, and does an electric light and power business in Traverse City, Mich., which has an estimated population of 14,000 people.

Table with columns: 1924, 1925. Rows: Gross earnings, Operating expenses, Net earnings before depreciation and Federal taxes, Interest on \$200,000 First Mortgage bonds, Balance, Sinking Fund.

Ohio Bell Telephone Co.—Expenditures.—The directors have authorized \$2,760,000 for extensions. The program for the next four years in Youngstown, Ohio, involves \$2,540,000 and an increase in the number of telephones to 29,000 from 25,000.—V. 121, p. 1790.

Table with columns: 1925, 1924. Rows: Gross operating revenue, Net income, Bond interest and discount, Reserve for depreciation, Accrued Dividends for 12 Months, On Preferred stock (6%), On Common stock (8%), Balance.

Penn Central Light & Power Co.—Initial Dividend.—The directors have declared an initial quarterly dividend of \$1 25 per share on the 25 Series Preferred stock, no par value, payable Jan. 2 to holders of record Dec. 15.

Penn-Ohio Edison Co.—Debentures Offered.—Bonbright & Co., Inc., Eastman, Dillon & Co. and Harper & Turner are offering at 96 1/2 and int., to yield over 6 1/4% \$6,000,000 6% Gold Debentures, Series A (with option warrants.)

Dated Nov. 1 1925; due Nov. 1 1950. Principal and int. (M. & N.) payable at the office or agency of the company in New York. Red. all or part at any time, upon at least 30 days' notice, at 105 on or before Oct. 31 1940, at 1/2% less each succeeding year up to and including Oct. 31 1949, and thereafter at par, in each case with int.

Option Warrants.—These debentures will be accompanied by option warrants in the ratio of 20 warrants to each \$1,000 debenture. Each of these warrants will entitle the holder to purchase one share of the Common stock of the company at any time at \$25 per share, up to and including Nov. 1 1935, and these debentures will be accepted at their principal amount and accrued interest in lieu of cash in payment for such stock.

Data from Letter of Pres. R. P. Stevens, New York, Nov. 24. Company.—Incorp. in Delaware in July, 1923. Through ownership of Common stocks it controls a group of companies supplying the entire electric power and light, street and interurban railway business in an important industrial district of eastern Ohio and western Pennsylvania.

Principal Subsidiary Companies.—The Pennsylvania-Ohio Power & Light Co. supplies electricity for lighting and power to the cities of Youngstown, Hubbard, Girard, and Struthers, Ohio, and Sharpsville, Farrell, Wheatland, Ellwood City and Sharon, Pa. It also operates the interurban railway line between Youngstown, Sharon and New Castle.

Ohio River Edison Co. has completed the first section of a modern, steam electric power plant on the Ohio River near Toronto, O., with an initial installed capacity of 88,000 h.p. Plant is being operated and the output distributed by Pennsylvania-Ohio Power & Light Co. under a 999-year lease.

Capitalization.—Authorized, Outstanding. 6% Gold Debentures, Series A \$6,000,000 Prior Pref. stock (7% cum.) \$15,000,000 Preferred stock, 6% cum. 7,500,000 Common stock (no par value) 400,000 shs. 248,240 shs.

Additional debentures may be issued in one or more series, bearing such rates of interest, maturing on such dates and redeemable on such terms, and containing all such rights and limitations as directors may determine, prior to the issue thereof. No additional debentures may be issued, except for refunding debentures of another series, par for par, unless the consolidated net income, after all expenses and taxes and all interest and dividends on securities of subsidiary companies held by the public, for 12 consecutive months within the 15 preceding calendar months,

Investment while at the same time keeping all of the Common stock which they otherwise receive by virtue of their subscriptions...

General, Prospects, &c.

On July 4 1925, the creditors committee sent to Paraguay its representative Charles I. Bell, as Vice-Pres. of the company in charge of its affairs in Paraguay...

Based on the cost of quebracho given in Mr. Bell's report and the actual sale prices up to Nov. 10 of this year, the net operating earnings before the depreciation are expected for the calendar year 1925 to be \$628,000.

If the company can make this showing during the present depressed condition of the leather trade—which has now continued since the close of the war—the earnings from this source should materially increase when normal conditions in that industry are finally restored...

The new company will have assets which cost the old company upwards of \$17,000,000 consisting of lands, plants, cattle, railways, equipment, &c. It would be difficult to duplicate the forest and cattle lands of the company.

J. F. Tippet has been elected Pres. of the International Products Co. and will be the President of the new company.

Mr. Tippet, in Feb., 1925, examined the Colombian packing plant, cattle and pastures of the Colombia Products Co., 50% of the stock of which is owned by the company...

On Nov. 9 1925, the suit of Richardson Hill & Co. of Boston against the company and certain directors was decided adversely to Richardson Hill & Co. (See V. 121, p. 2411.)

The committee are working entirely without compensation. It is hoped that every stockholder will co-operate in carrying out this plan by subscribing for the whole or at least a substantial part of his proportion of the new stock...

All communications should be addressed to Henry B. Price, Chairman International Products Co., 120 Broadway, New York.

International Paper Co.—New England Power Plan.—See New England Power Co. under "Public Utilities" above.—V. 121, p. 2411, 2281.

International Securities Co.—To Subscribe to 86,667 Shares of Stock Under New England Power Co. Plan.—See New England Power Co. under "Public Utilities" above.

International Projector Corp., New York.—Pref. Stock Sold.—Pynchon & Co., West & Co., and W. S. Hammons & Co. have sold at \$100 per share and divs. 25,000 shares \$7 Div. Pref. (a. & d.) stock.

\$7 Div. Pref. stock included in this offering will be deliverable in the form of Pref. stock allotment certificates. Under the terms of the allotment certificates there will be delivered with each share of Pref. stock one share of Common stock, and certificates for Pref. stock and certificates for Common stock will be deliverable upon surrender of the allotment certificates...

Entitled to receive cumulative divs. at the rate of \$7 per share per annum, payable Q-J. Has priority in liquidation or dissolution up to \$100 per share and divs., plus a premium of \$15 per share, if such liquidation or dissolution be a voluntary one, before any distribution shall be made to the holders of Common stock.

Capitalization—Authorized. Outstanding. \$7 Dividend Preferred stock (no par) 50,000 shs. 25,000 shs. Common stock (no par) 200,000 shs. 200,000 shs.

Data from Letter of V.-Pres. B. A. Squire, New York, Nov. 24. Company.—Incorporated in Delaware, and has acquired the business and assets of the Nicholas Power Co., Inc., Precision Machine Co., Inc., both of New York, and the Acme Motion Picture Projector Co. of Chicago...

The plants acquired from the Nicholas Power Co., Inc., and the Precision Machine Co., Inc. will upon completion of this financing, be located in a 10-story fireproof building, situated at Gold and Ferry Sts., N. Y. City.

Earnings.—Combined earnings of the Nicholas Power Co., Inc., the Precision Machine Co., Inc., and the Acme Motion Picture Projector Co. have been as follows:

Table with columns: Years Ended Dec. 31, 1922, 1923, 1924, 9 Mos. End. Sept. 30 '25. Rows: Sales, Cost of sales, Gross mfg. profit, Gen., adm., shipping & selling costs, Selling profits, Other income, Total inc. before int., deprec., taxes, &c., Annual dividend requirement for 25,000 shares \$7 Div. Pref. stock is \$175,000.

Pro Forma Balance Sheet June 30 1925.

[After giving effect to the acquisition of above properties; also entire capital stock of Cinema Building Corp., and sale of 25,000 shares of Pref. stock and 200,000 shares of Common stock.]

Assets: Prop. plant & equip., &c., Machinery & equipment, Tools, dies, fixt's, &c., Patents & patent rights, Good-will, Cash, Notes receivable, Accounts receivable, Inventories, Deferred assets, Deferred charges. Liabilities: Capital stock, Accounts payable, Accrued taxes, commiss-stons, &c., Int. received in advance, Reserve for depreciation, doubtful accounts, &c., Total (each side).

a Represented by an excess of assets over liabilities. Pref. stock, 25,000 shares (no par); Common stock, 200,000 shares (no par).

International Shoe Co., St. Louis.—Dividend Rate on Common Stock Increased.—The directors on Dec. 1 declared four quarterly dividends of \$1.50 each, payable Jan. 1, April 1, July 1 and Oct. 1 1926 to stockholders of record on the 15th day of each month preceding.

Kardex Rand Co.—Name Changed.—The company has filed a certificate at Dover, Del., changing its name to Kardex Rand Sales Corp., Erie, N. Y.—V. 121, p. 2412.

Kardex Rand Sales Corp.—New Name.—See Kardex Rand Co. above.

Kaufmann Department Stores, Inc.—Tenders.—The directors on Nov. 11 1925 decided that the capital stock be reduced from \$9,000,000 to \$8,925,000 by the purchase and cancellation of \$75,000 Preferred stock.

Ladenburg, Thalmann & Co., 25 Broad St., N. Y. City, will until Dec. 10 receive bids for the sale to it of \$75,000 of Pref. stock at the lowest prices at which the same may be obtained.

Kelly-Springfield (Ohio) Motor Truck Co.—Sale.—A Springfield, Ohio, dispatch says that a New York group of financiers, represented by S. W. Torney, Charles J. Jamieson, Edward L. W. Site and Philip Farley, have purchased the property at receiver's sale.—V. 121, p. 2048.

Kelvinator Corp. (Mich.).—Extra Dividend of 50c.—The directors have declared an extra dividend of 50c. per share, payable Jan. 6 to holders of record Dec. 11. See also V. 121, p. 2165, 1916.

Kilburn Mills, New Bedford.—Bal. Sheet Sept. 30.—Assets—Oct. 3 '25, Sept. 30 '24. Liabilities—Oct. 3 '25, Sept. 30 '24. Real est. & mach., Inventory, Cash & accts. rec., Tot. (each side), William M. Wood, formerly president of the American Woolen Co., has resigned as president of Kilburn Mills.

King Philips Mills (Fall River).—20% Extra Dividend.—An extra dividend of 20% has been declared on the outstanding \$2,250,000 capital stock, par \$100, payable Dec. 22 to holders of record Dec. 3.

Kraft Cheese Co.—Capital Stock Increased.—The stockholders have approved the increase in the authorized Common stock from 320,000 shares to 350,000 shares, par \$25.

Kruse-Wierk Manufacturing Co.—Receiver's Sale.—Pursuant to an order of the U. S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio, Western Division, August M. Kruse, receiver, will offer at public auction sale on Dec. 14 at the premises of the company at Defiance, Ohio, the plant and personal property of the company.

Lehigh & Wilkes-Barre Corp.—Bonds Called.—All of the outstanding 5 1/2% Serial Collateral Trust bonds, Series "D" and Series "E," due Jan. 1 1928 and 1929, respectively, have been called for payment Jan. 2 at the First National Bank, 2 Wall St., N. Y. City.

Leverich Towers (Brooklyn Construction Co., Inc.), Brooklyn, N. Y.—Bonds Offered.—American Bond & Mortgage Co. are offering at prices to yield from 6% to 6 1/2% according to maturity, \$2,500,000 6 1/2% 1st Mtge. bonds.

Dated Nov. 10 1925; due serially, 2 1/2 to 10 years. Normal Federal income tax up to 2% on the annual interest paid when claimed. Penna., Conn. and Vermont 4-mills tax, Mich. and District of Columbia 5-mills tax, Mass. and N. H. income tax up to 6% of the int. refundable. Callable at 102 and int. Int. payable M. & N.

Security.—Secured by a direct closed first mortgage on the land owned in fee fronting 20 1/2 ft. on Willow St. by 100 ft. 4 in. on Clark St. and 100 1/2 ft. on Pineapple St., Brooklyn, N. Y. Also covered by this first mortgage is the 15-story hotel now being constructed and to be known as Leverich Towers. The land and building (when completed) have been appraised at \$3,765,000.

Leverich Towers will be 15 stories and basement in height of steel frame fireproof construction and will contain approximately 626 rooms divided into 1 and 2-room suites. The hotel will contain a ball room and banquet hall with a seating capacity of about 1,600.

Hotel Leased.—Leverich Towers has been leased from date of completion for a term of 21 years with renewal privilege for a similar period. Terms of this lease, which is subordinate to this first mortgage bond issue are as follows: 1st year, \$200,000 per annum; 2d year, \$240,000 per annum; 3d to 18th years incl., \$310,000 per annum; 19th to 21st years incl., \$300,000 per annum.

The heaviest annual interest and principal payments are more than amply covered by the yearly rental obtained from the lease above mentioned.

Libby, McNeill & Libby, Chicago.—Initial Dividend.—The directors have authorized an initial semi-annual dividend of 3 1/2% on the Preferred stock, payable Jan. 2 to holders of record Dec. 15. This stock was issued in May 1922 (V. 114, p. 1659).—V. 120, p. 2156.

McClintic-Marshall Construction Co.—Bonds Sold.—Union Trust Co. of Pittsburgh have sold at 100 and int. \$12,000,000 Collateral Trust 5 1/2% Serial Gold bonds.

Dated Dec. 1 1925; to mature \$2,000,000 each Dec. 1, from 1932 to 1937 incl. Denom. \$1,000. Principal and int. (J. & D.) payable at Union Trust Co. of Pittsburgh, trustee, without deduction for normal Federal income tax not exceeding 2%. Red. as a whole only on any int. date, on 4 weeks' notice at 102 1/2 and int. Free of Penn. 4 mill tax.

Data From Letter of C. D. Marshall, President of the Company.

Company.—Incorp. in Penn. March 20 1900. Is engaged in the fabrication and erection of structural steel bridges, buildings, blast furnaces, gas holders, oil storage tanks, and steel barges.

The earnings of the company (including Bartlett Hayward Co.), after taxes and depreciation, available for the payment of interest, averaged for the 5 years ended Dec. 31 1924 in excess of \$2,500,000 per annum.

Purpose.—Proceeds will be used for the payment of bank loans and for other corporate purposes.—V. 121, p. 1576.

McCroy Stores Corp.—November Sales.—1925—Nov.—1924. Increase. 1925—11 Mos.—1924. Increase. \$2,668,647 \$2,244,147 \$424,500 \$24,240,715 \$20,941,309 \$3,299,406

Mack Trucks Real Estate, Inc.—Definitive Notes.—The Chase National Bank announces that it is prepared to exchange the outstanding temporary 6% Secured Gold Notes, Series A, for the definitive notes.

Magnolia Petroleum Co.—Offer Made Minority Holders. In connection with the acquisition of the minority stock of the Magnolia Petroleum Co. by the Standard Oil Co. of New York (see V. 121, p. 2417) the trustees of the Magnolia company have sent a notice to stockholders that should they decide to accept cash in lieu of four shares of Standard Oil Co. of New York stock in exchange for one share of Magnolia, \$181.2296 will be paid in cash for each share of Magnolia stock.

Under the terms whereby the Standard Oil Co. of New York was to acquire Magnolia's minority holdings, the latter company gave its stockholders the option of receiving cash or stock. It was pointed out on Nov. 30, however, that when the Standard Oil Co. of New York announced its recent capital increase a stock dividend would be paid out of the increased stock. It was further added that this stock dividend would not be paid until all of the Magnolia stock had been turned over to the Mechanics & Metals National Bank, which represented the Magnolia trustees.

Mathieson Alkali Works (Inc.)—Resumes Dividend on Common Stock.—The directors have declared a quarterly dividend of \$1 per share on the Common stock, no par value, payable Jan. 2 to holders of record Dec. 18.

Mountain Producers Corp.—Extra Div. of 4%.—The directors have declared an extra dividend of 4% (40 cents a share) in addition to the regular quarterly dividend of 2% (20 cents a share), both payable Jan. 1 to holders of record Dec. 15.

Munson Steamship Line.—Acquires Control of New York Canal & Great Lakes Corp.—The company on Nov. 28 acquired a controlling interest in the New York Canal & Great Lakes Corp., which has been operating about two-thirds of the tonnage through the New York State barge canal system.

Murray Body Corp.—Receiver.—Federal Judge Charles C. Simons on Dec. 3 appointed the Guardian Trust Co. of Detroit as receiver. A statement issued by the receiver follows: "The Guardian Trust Co. was appointed receiver by order of the Federal Court. The receiver will take immediate possession of the plant and, under the orders of the Court, the company will be continued as a going concern, pending receivership, without any interruption of its manufacturing program.

National Baking Co.—Pref. Stock Offered.—Baker, Simons & Co., New York, and Livingstone, Higbie & Co., Detroit, are offering at 100 (carrying 1 1/2 shares of Common stock) \$900,000 7% Cum. Pref. stock (par \$100).

Data from President Wm. J. Coad, Nov. 18. Company.—Incorporated in Delaware Nov. 18 1925 to acquire all of the outstanding Common stock, except directors' qualifying shares, of the Omaha (Neb.) Flour Mills Co., City Baking Co. of Indianapolis and Donaldson Baking Co. of Columbus, Ohio.

Mill Factors Corp.—Extra Dividend of 1/2 of 1%.—The corporation has declared an extra dividend of 1/2 of 1% and the regular quarterly dividend of 1 1/2%, both payable Jan. 2 to holders of record Dec. 19.—V. 109, p. 2176.

Missouri-Kansas Farms Co.—Stock Offered.—For details see under "Current Events and Discussions" on a preceding page.

Montgomery Ward & Co., Chicago.—Sales.—Sales for—1925. 1924. 1923. Month of November—\$18,794,362 \$17,053,151 \$14,112,312 First 11 months of year—161,306,980 142,570,298 119,581,723

Mortgage Bond Co. of Maryland, Inc.—Bonds Offered.—Robert Garrett & Sons, Tucker, Anthony & Co., Gillet & Co. of Baltimore, and Mercantile Trust & Deposit Co., of Baltimore, are offering \$1,000,000 First Mtge. Guaranteed 5 1/2% certificates at 100 and interest.

Mortgage Security Corp. of America, Norfolk, Va.—Listing.—The Baltimore Stock Exchange has authorized the listing of \$700,000 1st Pref. stock (7% cum.) with authority to add up to \$1,500,000 upon official notice of issuance.

Motion Picture Capital Corp.—Bal. Sheet Oct. 31, 1925. Assets—Furnit& fixtures (less deprec.) \$4,685 Inv. Picture Holdings Inc. (500 shares) 500 Due from subser. Pref. stk. 8,000 Cash 771,924 Notes, accts. & com. rec. 5,122,810 Acct. int. receivable 48,910 Deferred charges 131,879

Liabilities—8% cum. pref. stock \$613,400 Com. (141,634 shs., no par) 1,573,113 Cap. stock of Cinema Finance Corp. not held 2,280 Accounts payable 13,179 Bank loans 3,329,656 Accrued int. payable 4,823 Guaranteed deposits 54,000 Reserve for Fed. tax 31,475 Reserve for commission adj. 13,368 Deferred credits 318,310 Surplus 125,707

Total (each side) \$6,084,312 —V. 121, 2530, 2049.

Mt. Vernon-Woodberry Mills, Inc.—2 1/2% Dividend.—A dividend of 2 1/2% has been declared on the 7% Cumul. Pref. stock, payable Dec. 31 to holders of record Dec. 15. This will make a total of 5% paid during the present calendar year, as compared with 2 1/2% total in 1924.—V. 121, p. 717, 209.

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Reports and Documents.

PUBLISHED AS ADVERTISEMENTS

GUANTANAMO SUGAR COMPANY

TWENTIETH ANNUAL REPORT—FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30 1925.

DIRECTORS

ERNEST BROOKS
GEORGE R. BUNKER
ARTHUR COPPELL

THOMAS A. HOWELL
GEORGE E. KEISER
C. LEWIS

JAMES H. POST

OFFICERS

President - - - - - JAMES H. POST
Vice-President - - - - - GEORGE R. BUNKER
Vice-President and General Manager - - - - - GEORGE H. BUNKER
Treasurer - - - - - JOHN WOLLPERT
Secretary - - - - - MALCOLM McDUGALL

New York, November 25 1925.

To the Stockholders of the Guantanamo Sugar Company:

Your Board of Directors submit herewith the Annual Report for the Fiscal Year ended September 30 1925. The Balance Sheet and the Profit and Loss Account of the Sugar Company, as of the above date, and the Balance Sheet of the Guantanamo Railway as of June 30 1925, have been audited by Messrs. Price, Waterhouse & Company.

The amount of cane ground was 509,193 short tons, from which 346,495 bags were produced. This production compares with 124,980 bags for the crop of 1922-1923, and 197,693 bags for the crop of 1923-1924.

Your Company has come through a period of trying conditions, but the cane fields have now fully recovered from the effects of the prolonged drought of 1922 and 1923. The extent of the recovery is indicated by the production, which was 75% greater than for 1923-1924. Over 34,000 acres are now in an excellent state of cultivation and will this season yield a high average tonnage. There is an ample cane supply to assure capacity operation of the mills for the coming grinding season. Excellent progress is being made in eradicating the Mosaic disease, which has been found to exist in practically all parts of Cuba.

Weather conditions have been about normal, with more than average spring, and less than average fall rain.

The larger cane supply made it necessary to operate the Ysabel mill, and it is expected that this factory will be run to capacity for the full grinding season this year. No extensive changes have been made in factory equipment, but there has been a steady improvement in operation, and machinery and buildings have been well maintained.

In January the Company offered for sale 6,000 shares of its Preferred Stock, together with 30,000 shares of its No Par Value Stock. These shares were all purchased by the stockholders. It will be noted on the Balance Sheet that surplus account has been charged \$270,000 00 to adjust the difference between the amount received for the No Par Value Common Stock issued and the value of \$10 00 per share, at which all this stock is carried on the Company's books. As will be seen from the Balance Sheet, our Bank borrowings have been reduced and financial position improved. The profits for the past year have been small, but are satisfactory in view of the extremely low prices which prevailed in the market.

Additional Preferred Stock has been purchased since September 30th, and sufficient funds have been segregated to fully cover the Sinking Fund requirements for the years 1923 and 1924.

It will be noted that Colonos Accounts have increased considerably during the last two years, but the increases represent very materially larger plantings. For the 1924 crop there were 17,200 acres of Colono cane for harvesting; for 1925, 20,900 acres, and for the coming year the area will be over 25,000 acres. Of the Colono debt over \$700,000 00 is secured by conservative first mortgages. The reserve of \$290,000 00 set up against these accounts is believed to be ample to cover any possible bad debts.

Your Company's properties are located within a radius of 20 kilometers (12½ miles) of the City of Guantanamo, near the south coast of Oriente Province. The three factories, Soledad, Ysabel and Los Canos, are within a short distance of the deep water port of Deseo, on Guantanamo Bay, to which the sugars are shipped over the lines of the Guantanamo Railway, which is controlled by the Sugar Company. The Sugar Company owns over 100,000 acres, and controls some 17,000 acres through first mortgages and cane contracts. Over 60,000 acres of the holdings are in virgin forests. No present development of these areas is contemplated or necessary, but they have been proved to be very fertile, and add greatly to the Company's future security.

The transportation system of the Sugar Company in connection with the Guantanamo Railroad which it controls, is fully adequate to handle our large tonnage of cane and sugar and to transport our fuel oil and other supplies to the mills. Over 100 kilometers of standard gauge road are operated, in addition to two narrow gauge cane roads.

It is believed that your Company may be considered a complete producer, well equipped for efficient work, and with large land reserves to protect its future.

It is desired to express appreciation of the excellent services rendered by the Officers and Employees during the past year. By order of the Board of Directors.

JAMES H. POST, *President.*

GUANTANAMO SUGAR COMPANY.

BALANCE SHEET, SEPTEMBER 30 1925.

ASSETS.	
Real Estate, Cane Lands, Buildings, Equipment and other Permanent Investments	\$6,498,100 47
Add—Machinery and apparatus purchased to be installed	35,526 28
	\$6,533,626 75
Less—Reserves for depreciation, replanting and extraordinary repairs	1,492,662 01
	\$5,040,964 74
Advances for Purchase of Additional Sugar Land	473,500 00
Investment in Guantanamo Railroad Co.:	
Notes	\$1,086,956 53
Advances	26,595 87
Stock—7,859 shares	1 00
	1,113,553 40
Stock of Guantanamo Sugar Company purchased for sale to employees—2,500 shares of common stock at \$10 per share	25,000 00
Current and Working Assets:	
Growing crop carried over to 1925-1926 season	\$200,749 63
Inventories (as certified by responsible officials):	
Raw sugar on hand	\$342,500 40
Molasses	40,551 80
Stores and supplies in stock and in transit	309,650 96
Materials and spare parts	103,052 76
	795,755 92
Prepaid insurance, interest, &c	43,150 00
Advances to Colonos (1925-1926 crop and prior years), less reserve	1,751,867 14
Miscellaneous accounts receivable, less reserve	114,509 37
Cash in banks and on hand (New York and Cuba)	167,023 44
	3,073,055 50
	<u>\$9,726,073 64</u>

LIABILITIES.

Capital Stock:	
Preferred 8% cumulative:	
Authorized—20,250 shares of \$100 each	\$2,025,000 00
Less—912 shares purchased for sinking fund	91,200 00
	\$1,933,800 00
Note.—Arrears of sinking fund for the retirement of preferred stock amount to \$19,875 02. A further provision of \$101,250 00 falls due on October 1 1925.	
Common:	
Authorized—405,000 shares of no par value.	
Issued and outstanding 397,435 shares of no par value	\$3,974,350 00
1,513 shares of unconverted \$50 par value stock (old issue)	75,650 00
	4,050,000 00
	\$5,983,800 00
Current Liabilities:	
Notes payable (secured)	\$1,387,500 00
Accounts payable	204,037 29
Taxes and contingencies	39,037 07
	1,630,574 36
Unexpended Funds:	
For repairs and maintenance following 1925 crop	\$75,000 00
For maintaining soil fecundity	92,514 09
	167,514 09
Surplus:	
Balance at September 30 1924	\$2,310,270 48
Add—	
Profit on operations for the year	\$159,568 46
Discount on preferred stock purchased for sinking fund	12,426 25
	171,994 71
	\$2,482,265 19
Deduct—	
Additional provisions for advances to Colonos and inventories	\$130,000 00
Transferred to no par value capital stock	270,000 00
Dividends on preferred stock	138,080 00
	538,080 00
	1,944,185 19
	<u>\$9,726,073 64</u>
PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT, YEAR ENDING SEPT. 30 1925.	
Gross sugar sales, less sea freight, commissions, etc.	\$2,625,915 39
Molasses sales	314,795 65
	\$2,940,711 04
Other income—Interest and miscellaneous (net)	178,747 80
Total income	\$3,119,458 84
Deduct—Producing and manufacturing costs, and shipping and general expenses	2,676,489 61
Profit and other income before providing for depreciation and income taxes	\$442,969 23
Deduct—	
Provision for depreciation and replanting of cane	\$264,400 77
Provision for income taxes	19,000 00
	283,400 77
Profit for year	<u>\$159,568 46</u>

THE FAJARDO SUGAR COMPANY OF PORTO RICO

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE STOCKHOLDERS FOR 1925.

To the Stockholders of The Fajardo Sugar Company of Porto Rico:

The Board of Directors hereby begs to submit its seventh annual report of the Fajardo Sugar Company of Porto Rico. The grinding season commenced January 8 1925 and ended July 11 1925, covering a period of 182 working days. Total cane ground amounted to 477,553 tons, and the factory output was 53,157 tons of sugar (342,950 bags of 310 lbs. each). Attached will be found consolidated balance sheet and statement of profits and loss duly certified by Public Accountants.

For the Directors,

JAMES BLISS COOMBS, *President.*

THE FAJARDO SUGAR COMPANY OF PORTO RICO and Associated Organizations.

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET JULY 31 1925.

ASSETS.

Property and Plant.....	\$4,577,283 08	
Less—Reserve for Depreciation.....	1,310,280 95	\$3,267,002 13
Work Animals, Live Stock and Equipment (Less Reserve for Depreciation).....		560,800 38
Investments:		
United States and Insular Government Securities, at Cost (Market Value \$1,443,293 75).....	\$1,428,890 50	
First Mortgage Bonds.....	409,200 00	
Miscellaneous.....	100,000 00	1,938,090 50
Current Assets and Growing Cane:		
Planted and Growing Cane.....	\$638,096 31	
Materials and Supplies.....	310,187 99	
Mortgages and Agricultural Loans.....	181,443 54	
Planters' Accounts.....	144,331 51	
Miscellaneous Accounts and Bills Receivable (Less Reserve).....	117,690 23	
Raw Sugar on Hand, at net prices subsequently realized.....	544,398 02	
Molasses on Hand, at net prices subsequently realized.....	12,019 63	
Accounts Receivable for Sugar Sold.....	401,810 85	
Cash in Banks and on Hand.....	1,183,040 60	3,533,018 68
Deferred Charges to Profit and Loss:		
Prepaid Insurance, Taxes, Rent, &c.....		11,586 10
		\$9,310,497 79

LIABILITIES.

Common Stock—Authorized:		
Common—70,000 Shares of \$100 00 each.		
Preferred—15,000 Shares of \$100 00 each.		
Issued: 57,601 shares of Common Stock of \$100 00 each.....		\$5,760,100 00
The Fajardo Development Company—Outstanding Stock.....		1,000 00
Current Liabilities:		
Planters' Accounts.....	\$17,934 78	
Sundry Accounts Payable.....	167,880 33	
L. W. & P. Armstrong.....	251,189 89	
Dividend distributable to Stockholders August 1 1925.....	144,002 50	581,007 50
Reserves for Insurance, Contingencies and Replacements.....		430,498 46
Surplus: Balance at August 1 1924.....	\$2,093,194 55	
Add—Profit for the year ended July 31 1925, before providing for Taxes (per annexed account).....	1,303,398 28	
	\$3,396,592 83	
Deduct:		
Dividends Declared.....	\$809,643 50	
Payments in respect of prior years' Income Taxes.....	49,057 50	858,701 00
		2,537,891 83
		\$9,310,497 79

CONSOLIDATED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED JULY 31 1925.

Sugar and Molasses Produced.....	\$5,000,787 27	
Miscellaneous Income.....	230,576 58	\$5,231,363 85
Less—Expenses of Producing, Manufacturing, Selling, &c.....		3,696,145 22
Provision for Depreciation.....	\$211,501 30	\$1,535,218 63
Interest Paid.....	20,319 05	231,820 35
Net Profit for the year before providing for Taxes.....		\$1,303,398 28

CURRENT NOTICES.

—Guaranty Trust Co. of New York has been appointed Trustee, Paying Agent, and Registrar under the Southern Gas and Power Corp. Indenture dated as of Nov. 15 1925, securing an issue of \$1,000,000 par value 6% 5-Year Convertible Gold Notes due Nov. 15 1930.

—Merrill, Oldham & Co., Incorporated, 35 Congress St., Boston, has taken over the assets and business of the partnership and will continue its former policies in the purchase and sale of municipal and corporation bonds and other high-grade investment securities.

Rich & Clark, members of the New York Stock Exchange, announce that their telephone number has been changed to Hanover 0030 to 0035 inclusive.

—Noble & Corwin, 25 Broad Street, New York, dealers in Bank Stocks and Unlisted Securities, announce that their telephone number has been changed to Hanover 1040 to 1059 inclusive.

—Eastman, Dillon & Co. announce the appointment of Anderson McLeod as representative in Eastern New York State with headquarters at 90 State St., Albany.

—Farr & Co., members of New York Stock Exchange and specialists in Sugar Securities, have issued a circular discussing the investment position of the Capital stock of the National Sugar Refining Co. of New Jersey.

—Farr & Co., members of the New York Stock Exchange, announce that Frederick S. Whitlock has been admitted to their firm as a general partner.

—The assets and business of the partnership of Merrill, Oldham & Co. of Boston have been acquired by a corporation under the same name.

—Citizens and Southern Co., Savannah, Georgia, have moved to their new building located on Bay and Drayton Streets.

—Eastman, Dillon & Co. announce that Howard G. Keogh has become associated with their organization.

—Clark, Childs & Co., members New York Stock Exchange, announce that Mr. Russell E. Sard will become a general partner on Dec. 1 1925.

—Irving Bank-Columbia Trust Co. has been appointed Registrar of the Common stock of Eitington Schild Co., Inc.

—Gardner & Co., 20 Broad Street, New York, have become members of the New York Stock Exchange.

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 this paper immediately following the editorial matter in a department headed "INDICATIONS OF BUSINESS ACTIVITY."

Friday Night, Dec. 4 1925.

COFFEE on the spot was in moderate demand with No. 7 Rio off to 17½c., No. 4 Santos 22¾ to 23c.; fair to good Cucuta 28½ to 29c. Trujillo 24½ to 25c. Honda 30 to 30¾c. To-day spot Rio was quoted at 16½c. Later spot coffee was dull and nominal at 17c. for Rio 7s and 22¾ to 23c. for Santos 4s. Mild grades weakened with new crop receipts nearer. Cost and freight offers from Brazil were irregular and mostly lower. Prompt shipment bourbon 3s-4s 21.60 to 21.80c.; 3s-5s at 21 to 21½c.; 6s at 20¾c.; bourbon grinders 6s at 20.40c.; 7s-8s at 18.35 to 19.70c.; part bourbon 2s-5s at 21¾c.; 3s-4s at 21½c.; 3s-5s at 21c. to 21¾c.; 6s at 21c. Santos peaberry 3s-5s ranged from 21.10 to 21.60c., and 4s-5s at 21¼c. Victoria 6s-7s were quoted at 16½c.; 7s-8s from 16 to 16.40c. Future shipments December-February Santos peaberry 3s-5s at 21c., 90 days; 3s-5s part bourbon at 20.80c., and February-April bourbon 4s at 21c. Spot coffee later was still dull with Rio 7s quoted at 17c. and Santos 4s at 22½ to 23c. Santos cost and freight offers were unchanged to a shade higher, with Rio a little lower from certain shippers. Offers included prompt shipment bourbon 3s at 22¾c.; 3s and 4s at 21½ to 21.80c.; 3s-5s at 21.10 to 21¾c.; 4s-5s at 21¼c.; 6s at 20¾c.; 6s-8s at 19.65c.; 7s-8s at 20.60 to 20.80c.; part bourbon 2s at 23¼c.; 3s at 22½c.; 3s-4s at 21½c.; 3s-5s at 21¼c.; Santos peaberry 3s at 22¼c.; 4s-5s at 21¼c.; 5s at 21c.; Rio 4s at 17.60c.; Rio 7s at 16¾ to 16.85c.; Victoria 7s-8s at 16¼ to 16.35c. Future shipment Santos, December-January, part bourbon 3s-5s at 21¼c.; January-February, 3s-5s at 21½c.; January-March, part bourbon, 5s-3s at 20¾ to 21c.; April-June, part bourbon, 4s at 20¾c.

With increasing arrivals Rio 7s later were quoted at 16¾c.; Santos 4s at 22½ to 23c. A good demand was reported on the 3rd inst. for shipment up to next March on a basis of 20 to 20½c. c. & f. for Santos 4s. Recent quotations ranged from 20¾ to 21.50c. and the latter is the only one mentioned while offers for prompt shipment are at 21 to 22c. Victoria 7s-8s were offered at 16.25c. The total of Brazil in sight for the United States is 1,197,757 bags against 1,028,803 a year ago. New York has 486,622 bags against 378,951 last year. New Orleans 125,435 against 127,352; Rio 244,000 against 489,000; Santos 1,208,000 against 1,788,000 last year. Futures declined with Santos terme prices irregular or lower, cost and freight offers dropping 10 to 15 points and a disposition to liquidate. World's stocks are called moderate and there is some tendency to lower Brazilian crop estimates. But for all this and the big consumption Brazil prices have been depressed. Its finances are not in good shape; money is scarce; as money rises merchandise naturally depreciates.

E. Laneville of Havre stated the world's visible supply on Dec. 1 at 5,017,000 bags, compared with 5,030,000 on Nov. 1 and 5,572,000 on Dec. 1 1924. Total world's deliveries for five months, 8,973,000 bags, compared with 9,443,000 in 1924-25 and 8,841,000 bags two years ago. Total deliveries during November of all kinds, 1,709,000 bags, against 1,817,000 in 1924-25 and 2,119,000 two years ago.

The New York Coffee & Sugar Exchange makes the world's visible supply of coffee 5,035,432 bags on Dec. 1, a decrease of 46,540 bags for November. Thirty-two Rio notices were issued this morning. Even at very high rates, money is said to be almost unobtainable in Brazil. Some Brazilian advices say the crop will be larger than the last one. The question is asked whether European consumption may not decrease with francs about 26 to the dollar, Germany hampered by insufficient currency, and Poland partially barring importations of coffee. Recently the world demand for coffee outside of the United States is declared to have slackened. Some Haitian and Jamaican coffee under such conditions has been shipped to the United States, an unusual thing. The lack of a duty on coffee invites importations into the United States.

Following a sharp decline on the 2d inst. came a rise on the 3d. Offerings decreased. Brazilian cables reported advanced rates for exchange. December shorts covered. There had been few delivery notices. Some private settlements of December shorts had been reported on the 2d inst. by an exchange of March for December. They were denied. The Rio rate on London advanced 3-32d. to 7½d. and the dollar rate fell 180 reis to 68860. The rise in exchange neutralized declines of 200 to 300 reis in the Rio terme market and 50 to 300 reis in Santos. To-day futures were 11 to 15 points lower, owing to the issuance of 32 notices. Later came a rally on covering of shorts. There was said to be a good demand for future shipment of Santos coffee with bids of 20¼ to 20½c. for No. 4. Future trading to-day involved 83,000

bags. Final prices show a rise in December for the week of 40 points, with other months off 10 to 27 points, except September, which is up 25 points. Prices closed as follows:

Spot (unofficial) 16½c.	March.....16.00a	July.....15.50a
December...15.94a	May.....15.85a	September...15.20a

SUGAR.—Raw early in the week was up to 2½c. Cuban c. & f. with a fair demand from refiners, with reduced stocks. Sales were at 4.21 to 4.27c. delivered to the amount of some 60,000 bags at 2½c., later 25,000 bags at 2 7-16c. Prompt shipment or from store was as a rule held at 2½c. Sugar futures were higher by 2 to 6 points early in the week. Europe seemed to be buying and Wall St. selling. Cuba was buying Dec. and Jan. and selling July. The Cuban Dept. of Agriculture estimated the next crop at 4,800,000 tons. The rise in futures affected prompt raws. Eleven mills were grinding the Cuban crop as against one a year ago. At New Orleans 15,000 tons of La. refining grades were said to have been sold for immediate shipment to New Orleans refiners on a basis of 4.14c. delivered. But later in the week Dec. shipment sold at 2¾c. for Cuban to the amount of 3,000 tons, or at 4.14c. duty paid. Offerings increased very noticeably. The demand fell off. Refined was quiet at 5.35 to 5.50c. It was stated that 15 mills were grinding. Heavy rains prevailed in Cuba., and they were supposed to interfere with grinding but were favorable to the crop. In spite of the rains, however, the number of mills grinding was increasing. The London terminal market was 1½d to 3d lower. Some 1,500 tons of Surinam centrifugal for prompt trans-shipment from New York to the United Kingdom sold at 11s 9d. Later futures fell 5 to 9 points here. Some 4,550 tons were delivered on contracts. Some take the ground that after the turn of the year when the new crop is beginning to make itself more plainly felt there will be lower prices. The course of prices will admittedly hinge largely on crop news from producing countries in general. At the same time the fact is stressed that around 2½c. there is no profit in producing sugar. Nobody needs to be told that this state of things cannot go on forever. The consumption is increasing. If the production is outrunning it so much as to keep prices down to an unprofitable basis the unavoidable inference is that production will sooner or later be curtailed. Naturally this is a rather slow process. But in the long run it will tell.

Cuban shipments were quiet on Dec. 3 at 2 7-16c. c. & f. Futures were unchanged to 4 points higher, with sales of 77,750 tons. Foreign selling held back the price. Trading in Dec. 1926 contracts formed nearly 33 1-3% of the day's transactions. There was heavy European selling of Dec. 1926. Receipts at U. S. Atlantic ports for the week ending Dec. 2 were 47,603 tons, against 47,868 in previous week, 39,255 same week last year and 32,127 two years ago; meltings were 46,000 tons, against 49,000 previous week, 35,000 last year and 44,000 two years ago; total stock, 58,688 tons, against 57,085 previous week, 23,964 last year and 36,171 two years ago. H. A. Himely cabled that exports of raw sugars from Cuba for the week ended Nov. 30 were 65,860 tons, including 32,793 tons to north of Hatteras, 1,107 tons to New Orleans, 1,286 tons to Savannah, 86 tons to interior, 7,624 tons to Canada, 19,335 tons to England, 486 tons to France and 3,143 tons to Holland. Later, 17 mills were grinding in Cuba. London Jan.-Feb. shipment was 11s. 7½d. c.i.f., as against 11s. 10d. recently. To-day Cuban raws were quiet at 2¾ to 2 13-32c. British prices on Cuba were 11s. 4½d. to 11s. 7½d. Futures here to-day ended 3 to 12 points lower with sales of 61,500 tons. Final prices show a decline for the week of 11 to 16 points but with Dec. up 2 points. Spot raws were about where they were a week ago. Prices were as follows:

Spot (unofficial) 2¾c.	March.....2.38a	July.....2.66a
December...2.38a	May.....2.53a	September...2.69a

TEA.—In London on Nov. 30 offerings of Indian tea 31,600 packages, of which 29,000 sold. Prices irregular without marked change. In London on Dec. 1, of Ceylon, 12,900 packages were offered and 12,000 sold at full prices as follows: Medium pekoe, 1s. 7d. to 1s. 10½d.; fine pekoe, 1s. 11d. to 2s. 6d.; medium orange pekoe, 1s. 7½d. to 1s. 11½d.; fine orange pekoe, 1s. 11½d. to 2s. 6½d. In London on Dec. 2 of Indian teas 26,000 packages offered and 25,000 sold at firm prices. Medium pekoe, 1s. 6½d. to 1s. 9½d.; fine pekoe, 1s. 10d. to 2s. 10d.; medium orange pekoe, 1s. 7d. to 1s. 10½d.; fine orange pekoe, 1s. 10½d. to 3s. 2d.

LARD on the spot declined at one time; prime western 15.55 to 15.65c.; city lard, in tierces 15c. nominal; in tubs 16 to 16½c.; compound carlots in tierces 12¾c.; refined Continent 16¼c.; South America 18c.; Brazil 19c. Today spot lard was in moderate demand with prime Western 14¾c.; refined Continent 15¼c.; South America 17¾c.; Brazil 18¾c. Futures declined sharply at the opening of the week, that is 20 to 28 points. November longs sold out. Later

tons of coke; Rotterdam, 8,868 tons of coke; England, 2,987 tons of coke; Westphalia, Germany, 5,000 tons of coal. Three cargoes of Westphalian coal are en route here, one of which is to go to Providence.

TOBACCO.—Havana seed has been in fair demand and steady. Broad leaf has sold on a fair scale at Hartford. Other tobacco had a moderate sale. Richmond, Va., advices stated that the Tobacco Growers' Co-operative Association had practically completed the largest sale of South Carolina tobacco ever made. It is said that over 15,000,000 lbs. of this season's deliveries from the South Carolina belt have been sold at fair prices. Binder, 20 to 22c.; Northern, 38 to 50c.; Southern, 25 to 35c.; New York State seconds, 35 to 50c.; Ohio Gebhardt, 25 to 28c.; Little Dutch, 25 to 28c.; Zimmer Spanish, 28 to 32c.; Havana, 1st Remedios, \$1 to \$1 10; 2d Remedios, 80 to 85c.

COPPER has been quiet at a decline to 14½¢. delivered in Connecticut Valley. London fell sharply on the 2d inst., i. e., 10s. on electrolytic and 5s. on standard. Shipments from Lake smelters have been large, especially to Chicago, Detroit and Flint. Only about 20% of the shipments are going abroad and they chiefly to France. The Seneca Copper Co. after a year and a half of idleness has resumed operations, 100 men being employed. Copper dropped to 14c. That is a fall of nearly a cent in three weeks. London standard £59 5s. spot and £60 5s. futures. London has latterly fallen 10s. to 15s.

TIN has been quiet and lower, influenced by a decline in London and an increase in the world's visible supply of 2,429 tons. London on the 2d inst. fell £1 15s. on spot standard to £286 5s. and futures declined £1 7s. 6d. to £281, with sales of 100 tons of spot and 900 tons of futures. The pack of corn was double normal according to announcement made this week. The packs of other vegetables were also unusually large this year. This is taken to mean in some quarters that less tin will be used for packing purposes in 1926, as many cans of vegetables will hold over a season. Tin dropped £2 in London and ¼ to ½c. in New York. Spot Straits here sold at 62¾c.; first quarter 62¼c. Spot Standard in London £284 5s.

LEAD quiet and rather easier. The American Smelting & Refining Co. still quoted 9.50c. New York while the St. Joseph Lead Co. sold at 9.35c. East St. Louis. Stocks in the Middle West are smaller and prices are relatively stronger there than in the East. London has been lower. On the 2d inst. prices there declined 5s. to £34 18s. 9d. for spot and futures fell 3s. 9d. to £34 8s. 9d. Later prices were still weak with London falling. Nominal prices here are 9.35 to 9.50c. London dropped 3s. to £35 2s. 6d. spot.

ZINC quiet and weaker. Here 8.50c. to 8.60c. was quoted East St. Louis. Zinc ore was \$58 a ton. Output in the Tri-State district last week was 17,000 tons. London on the 2d inst. dropped 8s. 9d. on the spot to £38 6s. 3d. and futures fell 7s. 6d. to £37 5s. Later prices moved up \$1 per ton. Prompt sold at 8.55 to 8.60 East St. Louis. Yet London dropped 2s. 6d. for spot, touching £38 8s. 9d. and futures declined 3s. 9d. to £37 8s. 9d.

STEEL has been in increasing demand with new orders outrunning shipments. That was not the case earlier in the year by any means. Some are talking of the possibility of over-production. At the same time, it is admitted that the output is only at 85% of capacity and that the production merely keeps pace with consumption. There is a big demand for tin plate, largely from food packing companies. After a favorable trade in November the mills are in a better position. Sales for that month of some finished steel exceeded those of any month in 1925. Unfilled orders have increased. And it is significant that shipments have expanded. The point is that they have not overtaken the new business. That is not unnaturally considered a very hopeful feature. There is a steady demand from the railroads and also from the construction companies. Building this winter is expected to be very large, even if some financial institutions are said to be less ready with loans to builders because of the big expansion in building which seemingly for the time has outrun the demand. Specifications, it is stated, are the promptest for many months past.

PIG IRON has been quiet here but the composite price is up within a week 25 cents per ton. In Cleveland, England, the price has advanced for the first time in months. In this district consumers are pretty well supplied for the time being. It is not the time of year when transactions are likely to increase much. Quite the contrary. Lower coke prices have naturally not tended to brace pig iron prices. In the East there is a large supply of fuel. Foreign iron has been very firm. Pig iron output in this country in November increased 3% and some 220 furnaces are now in blast, the increase being the greatest in the last half of the month. The increase in output will naturally become more apparent in the figures for December. November's output was at the rate of 100,516 tons daily as against 97,528 in October. Pittsburgh stresses the fact that the average price of pig iron in November was higher than in October. But as a rule the week has been devoid of features of striking interest. There was a hopeful feeling but it would not surprise anybody to see trade rather quiet for a time. Philadelphia has latterly been the most active; 30,000 tons of basic sold there, partly at \$23 delivered. The decline in coke has less effect on iron than might have been expected. Continental

recently sold at \$21 50 duty-paid seaboard. Was it of the best grade? it is asked. Eastern Pennsylvania, \$23 to \$24; Buffalo, \$21 to \$22; Virginia, \$24 to \$25; Birmingham, \$21 to \$22; Chicago, \$22 50 to \$23; Valleys, \$20 50 to \$21; Cleveland delivered, \$22 to \$23; basic, valleys, \$19 50 to \$20; eastern Pennsylvania, \$21 50 to \$22. Coke, Connellsville furnace, \$3 50 to \$4; Connellsville foundry, \$4 50 to \$5.

WOOL has been in only moderate demand and weaker, with larger foreign supplies and lower prices at the foreign auctions. New York prices:

Ohio & Penn. fine delaine, 55 to 57c.; ½-blood, 53 to 55c.; ¾-blood, 53 to 55c.; ¼-blood, 53 to 54c. Territory, clean basis, fine staple, fine medium, French combing, \$1 25 to \$1 30; fine medium, clothing, \$1 16 to \$1 20; ½-blood staple, \$1 20 to \$1 22. Texas, clean basis, fine 12 months, \$1 28 to \$1 30; 10 months, \$1 23 to \$1 25; pulled, scored basis, A super, \$1 40 to \$1 15; B, 90 to 95c. Foreign clothing wools, Australian, clean basis, in bond, 64-70s combing, \$1 18 to \$1 22; 64-70s, clothing, \$1 10 to \$1 15. New Zealand, grease basis, in bond, 56-58s, super, 54 to 56c.; 50-56s, super, 46 to 48c.; 48-50s, super, 43 to 45c. Montevideo, grease basis, in bond, 58-60s, 50 to 51c.; I (56s), 47 to 49c.; II (50s), 44 to 46c.; III (46-48s), 41 to 43c.; IV (40-44s), 38 to 39c.

The rail and water shipments of wool from Boston from Jan. 1 1925 to Nov. 26 1925 inclusive were 160,355,300 lbs., against 154,264,000 lbs. for the same period last year. The receipts from Jan. 1 1925 to Nov. 26 1925 inclusive were 289,354,300 lbs., against 284,670,400 lbs. for the same period last year.

Ohio and Penn. fleeces: Delaine, unwashed, 55 to 56c.; ½-blood combing, 55c.; ¾-blood combing, 55c. Michigan and New York fleeces: Delaine unwashed, 53 to 54c.; ½-blood combing, 56c. Wisconsin, Missouri and average New England, ½-blood, 51 to 52c.; ¾-blood, 53 to 54c. Scoured Texas, fine 12 months (selected), \$1 30 to \$1 35; fine 8 months, \$1 20. California, northern, \$1 25 to \$1 28; middle country, \$1 10 to \$1 15; southern, \$1 to \$1 05.

At Liverpool about 27,000 bales are to be offered at the low-end sales to open on Tuesday Dec. 8, continuing to Dec. 11 and on Dec. 14 and 15. At Auckland, N. Z., on Nov. 27, 16,000 bales were offered and 12,000 sold. Demand not satisfactory. Prices averaged about 5% lower than at Wanganui on Nov. 24. At Adelaide recently, 30,000 bales offered and 10% withdrawn. Buyers declined to pay prices asked. Yet compared with the sales of Oct. 30, they were generally down 5 to 10%. Inferior and wasty wools showed the greatest decline. France bought but moderately. At London on Nov. 27 offerings were 11,331 bales. Merinos slow; crossbreds active. Prices steady at opening quotations. Details:

New South Wales, 1,548 bales; scoured merinos, 31 to 43d.; crossbreds, 22 to 37d.; greasy merinos, 18 to 27d.; crossbreds, 10 to 21½d. Queensland, 1,303 bales; scoured merinos, 37 to 54d.; crossbreds, 32 to 40d.; greasy merinos, 19 to 27½d.; crossbreds, 15½ to 22d. Victoria, 1,107 bales; scoured merinos, 35 to 51d.; crossbreds, 24 to 54d.; greasy merinos, no sales; crossbreds, 15 to 21d. South Australia, 574 bales; scoured merinos, 26½d. to 47d.; crossbreds, 19 to 37d.; greasy merinos, no sales; crossbreds, 8 to 20d. West Australia, 1,414 bales; scoured merinos, 36 to 49d.; crossbreds, no sales; greasy merinos, 14 to 28½d.; crossbreds, no sales. New Zealand, 4,884 bales; scoured merinos, no sales; crossbreds, 21 to 35d.; greasy merinos, 18 to 25½d.; crossbred, 7 to 22½d. Cape Colony, 501 bales; scoured merinos, 29 to 48½d.; crossbreds, no sales; greasy merinos, 15 to 22½d.; crossbreds, no sales.

In London on Nov 30 offerings were 10,500 bales. Attendance large. Demand good for better grades; poor for inferior. Details:

New South Wales, 1,541 bales; scoured merinos, 30 to 48d.; crossbreds, 21 to 42d.; greasy merinos, 18 to 31d.; crossbreds, 9½ to 22d. Queensland, 877 bales; scoured merinos, 36 to 46d.; crossbreds, 24 to 39d.; greasy merinos, 18 to 29d.; crossbreds, 14 to 21d. Victoria, 1,643 bales; scoured merinos, 34 to 55d.; crossbreds, 20 to 41d.; greasy merinos, 17 to 29; crossbreds, 13 to 21½d. South Australia, 65 bales; greasy merinos, 18½ to 28d. West Australia, 1,914 bales; greasy merinos, 16 to 27d.; crossbreds, 9 to 21d. Tasmania, 93 bales; greasy merinos, 22½ to 27½d.; crossbreds, 18½ to 24d. New Zealand, 3,717 bales; scoured merinos, 34 to 47d.; crossbreds, 20 to 37d.; greasy merinos, 15½ to 22½d.; crossbreds, 12 to 19½d. Cape Colony, 188 bales; scoured merinos, 32 to 43d.; greasy merinos, 15 to 26d. River Plate, 301 bales; no sales. Falkland Islands, 166 bales; greasy crossbreds, 11 to 17d.

In London on Dec 1 prices very steady. Demand fair to good for higher grades. Buying chiefly British and Continental, but some American. Details:

New South Wales, 1,456 bales; scoured merinos, 31 to 47d.; crossbreds, 24 to 27d.; greasy merinos, 18 to 28½d.; crossbreds, 8 to 20d. Queensland, 2,162 bales; scoured merinos, 40 to 54½d.; crossbreds, 22 to 38d.; greasy merinos, 20 to 30d.; crossbreds, 16 to 20½d. Victoria, 1,057 bales; scoured merinos, 33 to 45½d.; crossbreds, 25½ to 37d.; greasy merinos, 17 to 29d.; crossbreds, 10 to 20½d. South Australia, 211 bales; scoured merinos, 23 to 45d.; crossbreds, no sales; greasy merinos, no sales; crossbreds, 9 to 14½d. West Australia, 430 bales; scoured merinos, 30 to 42d.; crossbreds, 22 to 31d.; greasy merinos, 16 to 27d.; crossbreds, 8 to 20d. New Zealand, 1,240 bales; scoured merinos, no sales; crossbreds, 16 to 33d.; greasy merinos, 17 to 24d.; crossbreds, 9½ to 20d. Cape Colony, 953 bales; scoured merinos, 32 to 46d.; crossbreds, no sales; greasy merinos, 15 to 25½d.; crossbreds, no sales. River Plate, 359 bales; scoured merinos, no sales; crossbreds, no sales; greasy merinos, no sales; crossbreds, 10 to 29d. Punta Arenas, 3,523 bales; scoured merinos, no sales; crossbreds, no sales; greasy merinos, no sales; crossbreds, 11 to 23½d.

In London on Dec. 2, 10,633 bales offered. Good-conditioned merinos firm; lower grades irregular; crossbreds slow. Details:

New South Wales, 2,758 bales; scoured merinos, 30 to 45d.; crossbreds, 20 to 37d.; greasy merinos, 16½ to 36½d.; crossbreds, 8½ to 19½d. Queensland, 1,456 bales; scoured merinos, no sales; crossbreds, 22 to 39d.; greasy merinos, 20 to 29½d.; crossbreds, no sales. Victoria, 355 bales; scoured merinos, 30 to 46½d.; crossbreds, 25 to 38½d.; greasy merinos, 17½ to 27d.; crossbreds, 14 to 20½d. South Australia, 691 bales; greasy merinos, 13 to 24d.; crossbreds, 8 to 17½d. West Australia, 73 bales; greasy merinos, 19 to 25d. New Zealand, 2,635 bales; scoured merinos, no sales; crossbred, 13 to 30½d.; greasy merinos, 15½ to 23d.; crossbreds, 12 to 19½d. Cape Colony, 570 bales; scoured merinos, 36 to 42½d.; crossbreds, no sales; greasy merinos, 16 to 25d.; crossbreds, no sales. English, 2,095 bales; scoured merinos, no sales; crossbreds, 15 to 19½d.; greasy merinos, no sales; crossbreds, 5½ to 18d.

In London on Dec. 3, 11,228 bales offered. Attendance good. Demand lessened. Greasy crossbreds unchanged. Slips wools were a little lower. Details:

New South Wales, 1,455 bales; scoured merinos, 28 to 46d.; crossbreds, 20 to 34d.; greasy merinos, 15½ to 29d.; crossbreds, 10 to 19½d. Queensland, 251 bales; scoured crossbreds, 25 to 35d.; greasy merinos, 18 to 28½d. Victoria, 1,267 bales; scoured merinos, 26 to 48½d.; greasy merinos, 16½ to 34d.; crossbreds, 15 to 19d. West Australia, 460 bales; scoured merinos, 24 to 39d.; crossbreds, 17 to 30½d.; greasy merinos, 18 to 26½d. Tasmania, 722 bales; scoured merinos, 28 to 46½d.; crossbreds, 20 to 39d.; greasy merinos, 15 to 23½d.; crossbreds, 12½ to 20d. Cape Colony, 6,752 bales; scoured merinos, 26 to 39½d.; crossbreds, 20 to 32d.; greasy merinos, 14½ to 26d.; crossbreds, 10½ to 21d. River Plate, 321 bales; scoured merinos, 32 to 40d.; crossbreds, 11½ to 31d.; greasy merinos, 14 to 25d.; crossbreds, no sales.

Table with columns for location (La., Ala., Ga., S. C., N. C.), Rain, Rainfall, and Thermometer (high, low, mean) readings.

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:

Table showing river heights at New Orleans, Memphis, Nashville, Shreveport, and Vicksburg for Dec. 4 and Dec. 5, 1925.

RECEIPTS FROM THE PLANTATIONS.—The following table indicates the actual movement each week from the plantations. The figures do not include overland receipts nor Southern consumption; they are simply a statement of the weekly movement from the plantations of that part of the crop which finally reaches the market through the outports.

Table with columns for Week Ended, Receipts at Ports (1925, 1924, 1923), Stocks at Interior Towns (1925, 1924, 1923), and Receipts from Plantations (1925, 1924, 1923).

The above statement shows: (1) That the total receipts from the plantations since Aug. 1 1925 are 7,016,221 bales; in 1924 were 6,357,221 bales, and in 1923 were 4,954,766 bales. (2) That although the receipts at the outports the past week were 396,275 bales, the actual movement from plantations was 448,455 bales, stocks at interior towns having increased 52,180 bales during the week. Last year receipts from the plantations for the week were 409,106 bales and for 1923 they were 239,525 bales.

WORLD 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.

Table with columns for Cotton Takings (Week and Season) for 1925 and 1924, including visible supply, American receipts, and total takings.

* Embraces receipts in Europe from Brazil, Smyrna, West Indies, &c. a This total embraces since Aug. 1 the total estimated consumption by Southern mills, 1,470,000 bales in 1925 and 1,412,000 bales in 1924—takings not being available—and the aggregate amounts taken by Northern and foreign spinners, 5,773,665 bales in 1925 and 4,589,615 bales in 1924, of which 4,050,465 bales and 2,954,815 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:

Table showing India Cotton Movement with columns for Receipts at Dec. 3, Exports from (Great Britain, Continent, Japan & China, Total), and For the Week / Since August 1.

According to the foregoing, Bombay appears to show an increase compared with last year in the week's receipts of 30,000 bales. Exports from all India ports record a decrease of 43,000 bales during the week, and since Aug. 1, show an increase of 74,000 bales.

ALEXANDRIA RECEIPTS AND SHIPMENTS.—We now receive weekly a cable of the movements of cotton at Alexandria, Egypt. The following are the receipts and shipments for the past week and for the corresponding week of the previous two years.

Table with columns for Alexandria, Egypt, December 2, Receipts (cantars) since Aug. 1, and Exports (bales) since Aug. 1 for 1925, 1924, and 1923.

Note.—A cantar is 99 lbs. Egyptian bales weigh about 750 lbs. This statement shows that the receipts for the week ending Dec. 2 were 280,000 cantars and the foreign shipments 17,000 bales.

MANCHESTER MARKET.—Our report received by cable to-night from Manchester states that the market in both cloths and yarns is steady. Demand for India is improving. We give prices to-day below and leave those for previous weeks of this and last year for comparison.

Table showing Manchester Market prices for 1925 and 1924, including 32s Cop Twists, 8 1/4 Lbs. Shirts, and Cotton Middling.

SHIPPING NEWS.—As shown on a previous page, the exports of cotton from the United States the past week have reached 376,697 bales. The shipments in detail, as made up from mail and telegraphic returns, are as follows:

Table listing shipping news with columns for destination (NEW YORK, HOUSTON, GALVESTON, etc.), ship name, and date.

Table of freight rates for various ports including Savannah, Charleston, Norfolk, San Pedro, San Francisco, Mobile, Baltimore, Boston, and Pensacola.

COTTON FREIGHTS.—Current rates for cotton from New York, as furnished by Lambert & Burrows, Inc., are as follows. quotations being in cents per pound:

Table showing cotton freight rates for various destinations like Liverpool, Manchester, Antwerp, Ghent, Havre, Rotterdam, and Genoa.

LIVERPOOL.—By cable from Liverpool we have the following statement of the week's sales, stocks, &c., at that port: Table with columns for sales of the week, actual exports, forwarded, total stock, total imports, and amount afloat.

The tone of the Liverpool market for spots and futures each day of the past week and the daily closing prices of spot cotton have been as follows:

Table showing daily market conditions for Liverpool from Saturday to Friday, including market status, mid-upt's prices, and futures market details.

Prices of futures at Liverpool for each day are given below:

Table showing futures prices for Liverpool from November 28 to December 4, with columns for each day and two price columns.

BREADSTUFFS

Friday Night, Dec. 4 1925.

Flour was firm, with a business that still kept within comparatively moderate bounds. Yet consumers did, for a time at least, buy more freely. Stocks had dwindled after prolonged abstention from buying on anything like a liberal scale.

estimate the exportable surplus at 100,000,000 bushels, the lowest estimate thus far. Cash markets were for a time unsettled. The weather was clear and cold at the Northwest, favoring a continued good crop movement in Canada. Buenos Aires declined, despite reports of black rust in western Argentina.

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF WHEAT IN NEW YORK and DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF WHEAT FUTURES IN CHICAGO. Tables with columns for delivery dates and prices.

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF WHEAT FUTURES IN WINNIPEG.

Table with columns: Sat., Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri. and rows for various wheat delivery types (November, December, May, July).

Indian corn declined with wheat and on the fear of big receipts. Predictions that receipts in Chicago on Nov. 30 would reach 900 cars was a depressing factor on both corn and oats. But later, as the receipts were smaller than expected, prices rallied, after December, however, had touched the lowest price of the season.

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF CORN IN NEW YORK.

Table with columns: Sat., Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri. and rows for No. 2 yellow corn.

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF CORN FUTURES IN CHICAGO.

Table with columns: Sat., Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri. and rows for various corn delivery types (December, May, July).

Oats declined early in the week with corn. Also, fair December deliveries were expected on the 1st inst. December went to the lowest price seen this season.

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF OATS IN NEW YORK.

Table with columns: Sat., Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri. and rows for No. 2 white oats.

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF OATS FUTURES IN CHICAGO.

Table with columns: Sat., Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri. and rows for various oat delivery types (December, May, July).

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF OATS FUTURES IN WINNIPEG.

Table with columns: Sat., Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri. and rows for various oat delivery types (November, December, May).

Rye declined like everything else on the grain list, but rallied on Nov. 30 before the close. Rye exports are supposed to have been prohibited by Russia. Shorts covered. Export business, however, was lacking.

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF RYE FUTURES IN CHICAGO.

Table with columns: Sat., Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri. and rows for various rye delivery types (December, May, July).

Closing quotations were as follows:

Table listing prices for flour and rye products, including Spring patents, Clear first spring, Soft winter straights, etc.

GRAIN.

Table listing prices for Wheat, New York and Oats, New York, including various grades and types.

For other tables usually given here, see page 2718.

The world's shipments of wheat and corn, as furnished by Broomhall to the New York Produce Exchange, for the week ending Friday, Nov. 27, and since July 1 1925 and 1924, are shown in the following:

Table comparing Wheat and Corn shipments for 1925 and 1924, broken down by region (North America, Black Sea, Argentina, Australia, India, Oth. countries).

The visible supply of grain, comprising the stocks in granary at principal points of accumulation at lake and seaboard ports Saturday, Nov. 28, were as follows:

GRAIN STOCKS.

Table showing grain stocks in bushels for various locations (New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Newport News, New Orleans, Galveston, Buffalo, Toledo, Detroit, Chicago, Milwaukee, Duluth, Minneapolis, Sioux City, St. Louis, Kansas City, Wichita, St. Joseph, Mo., Peoria, Indianapolis, Omaha, On Lakes, On Canal and River).

Summary table for grain stocks as of Nov. 28 1925, Nov. 21 1925, and Nov. 29 1924.

Note.—Bonded grain not included above: Oats, New York, 132,000 bushels; Buffalo, 215,000; Duluth, 105,000; Canal, 29,000; total, 481,000 bushels, against 1,136,000 bushels in 1924.

Table showing Canadian grain stocks (Montreal, Ft. William & Pt. Arthur, Other Canadian) for Nov. 28 1925, Nov. 21 1925, and Nov. 29 1924.

CROP BOARD ANNOUNCES CHANGES IN RELEASE DATES.

The following changes in release dates of Government crop reports were announced by the United States Crop Reporting Board on Dec. 3:

The crop report scheduled for release on Wednesday Dec. 16 at 4 p. m. will be released on Tuesday Dec. 22 at 4 p. m., and the report scheduled for release on Friday Dec. 18 at 3 p. m. will be released instead on Thursday Dec. 24 at 12 o'clock noon.

WEATHER BULLETIN FOR THE WEEK ENDED DEC. 1.

The general summary of the weather bulletin issued by the Department of Agriculture, indicating the influence of the weather for the week ended Dec. 1, follows: At the close of last week an extensive area of high pressure prevailed over the Southeast and unseasonably low temperatures were reported from that section.

all of the week, the temperatures being considerably above normal in most sections.

Chart I shows that the temperature for the week, as a whole, averaged below normal in nearly all sections east of the Mississippi River, except in some central Gulf districts. It was coolest from the Lake region eastward where the deficiencies in temperature ranged from 4 degrees to 9 degrees. It was also cooler than normal locally in the Pacific Northwest, but elsewhere throughout the country the temperature was above normal, decidedly so in some sections, with plus departures running as high as 8 degrees or more. The line of freezing did not extend as far south as during the preceding week, and subzero temperatures were reported from only a few points in the more northern States.

Precipitation was of a local character and mostly light during the first days of the week, but on the 25-27th a depression of rather wide influence moved from Texas to the upper St. Lawrence Valley and was accompanied by widespread precipitation from the Mississippi Valley eastward, being in the form of rain in southern and central districts and snow in the more northern States. The falls in the Ohio Valley during the passage of this storm were rather heavy, but were mostly light in the Atlantic coast area. Excessive local rains occurred in parts of southern Florida near the close of the week, Miami reporting 5.74 inches for the 24 hours ending at 8 a. m. November 30, and 9.38 inches during the succeeding 24 hours. West of the Rocky Mountains dry weather was again the rule, except for light showers in the far Southwest, and rather frequent rainfall in the north Pacific area.

Chart II shows the totals and the geographic distribution of precipitation for the week as a whole. The largest amount reported was 15.2 inches at Miami, Fla., but the amounts ran as high as an inch or more in parts of the Ohio Valley and Lake region. West of the Mississippi Valley very little precipitation occurred, except for some substantial falls in the Pacific Northwest. There was an excessive amount of cloudiness in the Lake region and in north Pacific districts, but otherwise considerable sunny weather prevailed during the week.

The cold, cloudy, and rainy or snowy weather that prevailed from the upper Mississippi Valley eastward was unfavorable for field work, and very little was possible in that area, but in nearly all other sections of the country the weather was generally favorable for seasonal farm operations. In the Lake region there are still some crops that have not been harvested, and fall plowing has been abandoned. The ground is covered with from 1 to 4 inches of snow from Minnesota eastward over the Lake region, and grass and grain crops are fairly well protected.

In the South the mostly fair and mild weather made good conditions for farming interests, and pastures at the end of last week killed or injured tender vegetation in some east Gulf districts. Throughout the Great Plains States the weather was nearly ideal for the season of the year, the warm, sunny, and generally fair conditions being especially favorable for outside work and for livestock and the range. Livestock grazed freely over the northern Plains region, with a consequent saving of much feed. West of the Rocky Mountains conditions were also favorable, except that more moisture is still needed in parts of the Pacific Northwest. Rains near the close of the week in California were especially welcome, as plowing and seeding of grains, which have been delayed by dry soil, were facilitated.

SMALL GRAINS.—In the western portion of the Winter Wheat Belt this crop is generally in very good condition, but is small for the season in Kansas and Nebraska and some is yet to be planted in Oklahoma. In the Ohio Valley early-seeded wheat is still in excellent condition and that planted late is coming up to a good stand. In Illinois a little more was sown during the past week, but in Missouri this crop is in only fair condition and is making slow growth. In the Southeast wheat is generally doing well; planting is nearly completed in Georgia and South Carolina. In the upper Lake region winter grains are well protected by snow. Harvesting grain sorghums is about finished in Oklahoma and rice threshing continued under favorable conditions in Louisiana. Wheat is needing rain in portions of the west coast region.

CORN.—Rains about the middle of the week caused some further delay in corn husking in parts of the Ohio Valley, while conditions for gathering the crop were generally unfavorable in Iowa where corn is again spoiling in crib. Husking is well along, however, in most parts of the belt and the weather was favorable for drying out the crop and for cribbing throughout the Great Plains area. It was also favorable for husking in the Atlantic Coast States where the bulk of the crop has now been housed.

COTTON.—Favorable weather for picking and ginning cotton continued in the western and northwestern portions of the belt, with mostly ideal conditions for field work prevailing in Texas and Oklahoma. In Texas the picking has been nearly completed, except in the northwest, while the crop is nearly out in most sections of Oklahoma. There is much unpicked cotton remaining on the lowlands of Arkansas, but that which is still out is generally badly stained and of a low grade; cotton is mostly picked elsewhere in the States. There is still considerable to pick in parts of Tennessee, and some remains in the fields in North Carolina. There was some damage by rain in the Imperial Valley of California.

The Weather Bureau also furnishes the following resume of the conditions in the different States:

North Carolina.—Raleigh: Week cold; rainfall light. Favorable for farming activities. Good progress housing crops, but still some cotton and corn remaining in fields. Winter grain and hardy truck doing fairly well. Seeding lettuce completed in southeast.

South Carolina.—Columbia: Winter cereals in good condition and late plantings coming up to good stands; planting practically finished. Hardy vegetables in interior improved and spinach, turnips, and cabbage on coast doing well, but warmer weather needed. Streams continue low.

Georgia.—Atlanta: Light rains, with moderately cold weather most of week, and some frost. Wheat, oats and rye well advanced and affording good grazing. Planting cereals nearing completion. Cool weather favorable for ripening of sugar cane; grinding making good progress. Plowing for spring crops backward on account of considerable precipitation during October and November.

Florida.—Jacksonville: Frost damaged truck in west last week, and track, berries, and other tender plants suffered fore part of current week in north and central divisions. Low temperatures benefited citrus fruits. Oats fair progress; local planting continued. General farm work advanced. Shipments truck increased from south. Torrential rains last days in portions of south and south-central divisions, with gales, unfavorable.

Alabama.—Montgomery: Rainfall general and locally heavy beginning of week; remainder fair. Cotton and corn practically all gathered; an insignificant amount of cotton unginning. Sowing oats progressed slowly; early-sown doing well. Digging sweet potatoes progressing; some rotting in ground in scattered areas. Planting winter cabbage in coast region progressed well. Frost at close of previous week killed or injured tender vegetation in coast region. Remaining pastures mostly poor. Sugar cane grinding continues in south. Shipments of satsuma oranges well advanced for season.

Mississippi.—Vicksburg: Generally fair, except light precipitation in south Friday, and light to moderate in north Thursday and Friday. Seasonable farm work made good progress. Some cotton remaining in fields in north considerably damaged. Pastures checked by cold in north, but good progress in south.

Louisiana.—New Orleans: Favorable weather for all fall work. Much cane cut and ground; some damaged cane windrowed to retard deterioration; sugar content somewhat improved, but still low. Rice threshing continued. Considerable fall plowing and road work done. Oats and truck doing well.

Texas.—Houston: Warm, and generally fair with excessive sunshine; ideal for harvesting, seeding, and plowing. Progress and condition of pastures, winter wheat, and oats mostly very good; of truck good. Citrus and truck shipments large. Progress in picking cotton rapid and about completed, except in northwest.

Oklahoma.—Oklahoma City: Mild and pleasant; light scattered rain 1 day. Very good progress picking and ginning cotton which is nearly completed most sections; practically all low grade. Harvesting corn and grain sorghums about finished. Wheat good to excellent, but some yet to be planted. Native pastures fair; wheat pasture good.

Arkansas.—Little Rock: Moderate temperature and light precipitation 1 to 2 rainy days. Favorable for picking cotton and gathering fall crops; much unpicked cotton on lowlands, but most of it picked elsewhere; cotton that opened late excellent, but mixed with dirty, stained fiber, making grade very poor. Corn nearly all gathered. Favorable weather for growing crops.

Tennessee.—Nashville: Temperature nearly normal, and rain only on 1 or 2 days gave fairly good weather. Wheat, oats, rye, and barley fair to very good. Clover poor to fair. Pastures fairly good, and livestock about normal. Considerable cotton yet unpicked in some localities.

Kentucky.—Louisville: Corn gathering continued until stopped by rains middle of week; fields rather soft. Wheat made some growth, but checked later by freezes; rye and grass pastures fair, but moderate feeding necessary; stock in good condition. Favorable for tobacco stripping.

THE DRY GOODS TRADE

Friday Night, Dec. 4 1925.

With the approaching holidays, demands for merchandise of a novelty and gift nature have become more insistent in the markets for textiles. Consumers have begun their Christmas shopping and as a result, sales in retail channels were claimed to be the best in the history of many stores. Both rayon and silk mixtures have been receiving the bulk of this business. This has encouraged a number of cotton and wool mills to add rayon equipment, with the result that fabrics are coming off the looms which cannot be compared with anything heretofore produced. It was announced that a movement was under way by a research committee for the standardization of the quality of rayon, so that inferior merchandise will be kept out of the market. In regard to the floor covering division, with the passing of the fifth week of the 1926 spring season, it was reported that considerably more orders were on the books than at any similar period in several years. Business continued to be done in quite a liberal way, with the bulk of the orders coming from men on the road. A source of much satisfaction from the sellers' point of view is the fact that the demand included all grades and was received from all parts of the country. Extensive building operations in the South, especially Florida, has been reflected in the increased demand for rugs. A development of unusual interest was the first "Made-in-America" Lace Exposition, which opened Tuesday at the roof garden of the Waldorf-Astoria. The purpose of the display was to demonstrate that American made laces were not only equal, but in many cases superior, to those manufactured abroad. Laces ranging from the narrow Valenciennes to the most elaborate gold and silver effects were included in the showing.

DOMESTIC COTTON GOODS: It would seem that the markets for domestic cotton goods have had nothing but a succession of Government crop reports to contend with. The next estimate, due this coming Tuesday, will give the total production, ginnings prior to Dec. 1, yield per acre, revised estimates of area planted and abandoned. This will be the final report until the middle of next year, and it is hoped that with these frequent and disturbing estimates out of the way, buyers will be encouraged to proceed along more normal lines. During the week, while purchasers bought more seasonal merchandise, they maintained their attitude of indifference in regard to the matter of anticipating future requirements. However, the general disposition of sellers at this time of the year is to look for nothing unusual until after the holidays. Nevertheless, some items have been in better demand than others. Notably among these were chambrays, supplies of which were said to be scarce. Cutters have been taking them in a fair way, while demand from the jobbing trade was said to be better than it has been for some time past. Cretonnes, challies, and other printed goods were likewise claimed to have moved in fair proportions. A good distribution of gingham was also reported. Elsewhere in the cotton goods market interest has been listless. As a result, it was claimed that certain items could be obtained at close prices provided substantial lots were wanted. Branded brown goods were being gradually revised to a basis to conform with the recent decline in gray goods. Print cloths, 28-inch, 64x64's construction, are quoted at 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ c., and 27-inch, 64x60's, at 6 $\frac{1}{4}$ c. Gray goods in the 39-inch, 68x72's construction, are quoted at 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ c., and 39-inch, 80x80's, at 12 $\frac{3}{4}$ c.

WOOLEN GOODS: There was little in the way of new developments in the markets for woolens and worsteds. Consumption, however, has maintained satisfactory proportions, and in fact increased slightly, as was shown by Government statistics. Official reports of the quantity of wool consumed during October was placed at 40,367,482 pounds, compared with 37,853,609 pounds during September. Nevertheless, the total failed to equal that of the same month a year ago, when 47,927,000 pounds were consumed. The trade has been watching the trend of the foreign wool sales, particularly that of the London auction, with much interest and concern. Factors generally were apprehensive that in the event of any weakness developing it would curtail year-end business. The women's wear division would probably be affected more than the men's by any turn in the situation, as a great deal of the light weight business has been completed in the men's wear division, which is not the case in regard to the women's.

FOREIGN DRY GOODS: The movement of seasonal goods continued to feature the markets for linens. Opinion, however, was mixed as to whether the cheaper or finer grades of merchandise were in more active demand. While some importers found that their finer grades were being very much neglected, others reported a satisfactory movement. It was claimed that the bulk of consumer demand was confined to goods that would show off well, but not represent any appreciable investment. This appears to have hurt the Irish mills most, owing to the fact that mills elsewhere in Europe supply most of this type of merchandise. While various factors have been doing a fair business, profit margins continue to be more or less restricted. Distribution of handkerchiefs continued full. Both road and house orders have reached satisfactory totals. Burlaps have ruled dull and uninteresting. Light weights are quoted at 9.00-9.05c., and heavies at 12.00-12.05c.

Table listing bond issues with columns: Page, No., Name, Rate, Maturity, Amount, Price, Basis. Includes entries for Hinds County, Miss., Hollister Sch. Dist., Mo., Holyoke, Mass., Hood River County, Ore., etc.

Table listing bond issues with columns: Page, Name, Rate, Maturity, Amount, Price, Basis. Includes entries for Royal Drain. Dist., Mich., Salem, Ind., Sallsbury, N. C. (2 iss.), etc.

Total bond sales for November (230 municipalities, covering 335 separate issues) ----- \$63,250.071

d Subject to call in and during the earlier years and to mature in the later year. & Not including \$37,251,596 temporary loans. r Refunding bonds. y And other considerations.

BONDS OF UNITED STATES POSSESSIONS.

Table listing bond issues with columns: Page, Name, Rate, Maturity, Amount, Price, Basis. Includes entry for Porto Rico (Govt. of).

The following items included in our totals for previous months should be eliminated from the same. We give the page number of the issue of our paper in which reasons for these eliminations may be found.

Table listing bond issues with columns: Page, Name, Amount. Includes entries for Bradenton, Fla. (June list), Fayette County, Tenn. (June list), etc.

We have also learned of the following additional sales for previous months:

Table listing bond issues with columns: Page, Name, Rate, Maturity, Amount, Price, Basis. Includes entries for Alliance, Neb. (July), Astoria, Ore., Bay Village, Ohio, etc.

